Comprehensive impatient rehabilitation services are provided to individuals with orthopedic, neurological and other medical conditions of recent onset or regression. These patients have experienced a loss of function in activities of daily living, mobility, cognition or communication. Types of patients admitted into the Brazosport RehabCare Center may include those with a diagnosis of stroke, spinal cord injury or dysfunction, brain injury, amputation, multiple trauma, hip fracture or joint replacement, arthritis, congenial deformity, burns or other progressive neuralgic syndromes such as Parkinson's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis and Gullian Barre.

The services Brazosport RehabCare Center provides include rehabilitation medicine, rehabilitation nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech/language pathology, social work, psychology and recreational activities. In addition, prosthetics/orthodics, vocational rehabilitation, audiology and driver education are provided when necessary through affiliate agreements with external organizations. The goal of each service is to maximize the individual's potential in the restoration of function or adjustment by integrating with other services.

By addressing the multiple effects that disability has on the patient and family and by integrating the combined resources of patient, family and interdisciplinary rehabilitation team, comprehensive rehabilitation programming can maximize the abilities and esteem of the patient and family and foster a healthy re-integration into the community. At the Brazosport RehabCare Center, patient outcomes are exceptionally positive. Eighty-six percent of their patients are able to return home and lead an independent lifestyle.

I am proud and honored to have the Brazosport RehabCare rehabilitation facilities at Brazosport Memorial Hospital, Lake Jackson, Texas. Please join me in recognizing the Brazosport RehabCare Center for its outstanding services and remarkable accomplishments as we celebrate National Rehabilitation Awareness week.

A THANK YOU TO ROY SHELTON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize Roy Shelton. Being a police officer was always a dream for him and, after 17 years, he is retiring from his dream job. He has been an asset to the Montezuma County Jail and Cortez, Colorado as a whole. He has shown himself to be a man who is always willing to go the extra mile.

After graduating from Hollywood High in Los Angeles, Roy was drafted into the Army. He spent two years in active duty and received an honorable discharge. He married his sweetheart, Ruth, in 1953. They have been married for 46 years and have one son and three grandchildren. His family is a source of constant delight.

Roy moved to Colorado in 1979 and built a log cabin in the beautiful countryside of Dolores, Colorado. He began working for the Montezuma County Sheriff's Office soon after moving there. At this time he also began attending the police academy in Delta, Colorado. After successful completion of his academy work he went to work for the Montezuma County Jail.

During his time there he put forth the extra effort that makes the difference between a good employee and a great one. He always arrived early and put in the extra effort that resulted in everyone counting on him. At Roy's retirement, his official title was ''detentions sergeant'' but he was more than that. He was an asset who will be greatly missed in his office by all who work with him and, indeed, all who ever have worked with him. We all owe Roy Shelton a thank you for his service to the community.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2670) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chairman, the Kucinich-Ros Lehtinen amendment would provide valuable and needed protection to state and local laws made vulnerable by NAFTA and the GATT Uruguay Round to assault by foreign corporations, investors and nations.

However, some domestic opponents of the Kucinich-Ros Lehtinen amendment argue that it is not necessary since it would protect laws that the commerce clause of the Constitution would prohibit.

In response to this argument, I would inform our critics that most of the state and local laws that are endangered by NAFTA and WTO are local economic development and public safety laws and have nothing to do with the commerce clause of the Constitution.

For instance, the amendment would protect Kentucky's small-business set-aside law, which the European Union has said is WTO illegal.

The amendment would also protect New Jersey's ''buy local'' requirements for state procurement, which the European Union has said is WTO illegal.

Also, the amendment would protect California's ban on a poisonous gasoline additive, which a Canadian company has challenged on the grounds that it is NAFTA illegal.

Some domestic opponents claim that the Kucinich-Ros Lehtinen amendment ''prohibits the federal government from challenging any state or local law on the grounds that it violates treaty obligations'' and would, therefore, put the United States in violation of treaties.

First of all, there is some confusion implicit in this objection to the amendment about the legal status of NAFTA and the WTO. Neither NAFTA nor the Uruguay Round of the GATT is a treaty. Neither received two-thirds vote of the other body, as the Constitution requires for treaties. They are Congressional-Executive agreements, not treaties.

Moving on to the question of preemption, in fact, the amendment is very narrowly crafted to protect state and local laws from preemption only by NAFTA and WTO bureaucrats. The state and local governments need the protection provided by the amendment since NAFTA and the WTO pose unique problems for them that treaties do not.

For instance, human rights and environmental treaties do not preempt state law. Congress has always made clear when implementing human rights treaties and environmental treaties that they are not to be construed as preempting state law.

But state and local law did not receive such protection under NAFTA and WTO. While the NAFTA and WTO implementing legislation clearly state that they do not preempt federal law, they do subject state law to direct preemption under trade rules.

The amendment does not limit Congress from preempting state and local law for any reason Congress chooses. It only limits the Department of Justice from using the courts to enforce a WTO-bureaucrat decision against a state or local law.

Therefore, Congress can pass the Kucinich-Ros Lehtinen amendment and the U.S. will still be in full compliance with all treaties.

Domestic opponents also claim that there is process for federal-state consultation to decide whether state law should be preempted under trade agreements, and so far no state laws have been struck down as violations of trade rules.

In response to this objection, I would remind critics that the consultation process does not give the states, or Congress, any control over the decision of whether to preempt state law. Instead the implementing legislation for both NAFTA and the WTO give the President the sole authority to decide whether to ask the federal courts to strike down state laws as a violation of trade rules.

No state laws have been struck down yet because the challenges to state law have been filed recently and the trade panels have not yet assessed damages against the United States based upon the state laws.

If you need to see realized the predictable consequences of the far-reaching and unprecedented rights given to foreign investors, corporations and nations by the NAFTA and WTO (at the expense of state and local governments), wait until the trade panels start awarding damages against the U.S. based upon state laws—$970 million in damages requested based on California's MBTE ban, $750 million asked by Loewen for Mississippi Jury award, and $40 million sought by a Canadian company that doesn't like Massachusetts state sovereign immunity statute.

Mr. Chairman, I hope that this helps to clarify the facts about the Kucinich-Ros Lehtinen amendment.

SAN DIEGO URBAN LEAGUE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AWARD: REVEREND GEORGE WALKER SMITH

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay respect and recognition to Reverend