

Finally, Mr. Speaker, while Congress continues fighting for open foreign markets, reducing unnecessary costs and regulations and promoting sales of American products abroad, the Jones Act continues to impose additionally artificial costs and burdens on Colorado's hard-working agriculture producers.

Senator Brown's fight to repeal the Jones Act was the right fight for Colorado farmers, and it still is.

□ 1700

GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION FOR WTO TURNAROUND RALLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, this November, representatives from 135 Nations are meeting in Seattle to decide the all-important global trading agenda for the World Trade Organization.

Unfortunately, these trade bureaucrats and their army of attorneys are not going to discuss the overwhelming need to reform the World Trade Organization before expanding it. They are not going to talk about fighting the spread of AIDS in Africa or stamping out slavery in Thailand. They are not going to talk about Mexican workers who are paid pennies an hour to work in shiny American factories or Indonesian children who work 18-hour days for less than a dollar a day to make a pair of shoes that sell in this country for \$120.

Rather than address the fact that so many of the world's people continue to live in grinding poverty and continue to barely survive, most of them on less than \$1 a day, the trade bureaucrats in Seattle are going to discuss how to sell them compact discs and cellular phones.

My colleagues can count on this, our own United States Trade Representative is not going to mention that millions of American children are growing up in poverty while their parents continue to struggle to find jobs that pay a livable wage. Our own U.S. Trade Rep. is not going to mention that, even though Wall Street is booming, 90 percent of its benefits go to the richest 5 percent of Americans, and our own United States Trade Rep. will not mention that the living wage for most Americans has not increased appreciably in nearly 30 years.

The WTO has weakened the standards we erected to ensure our children are not exposed to imported foods soaked with the same pesticides we banned in the United States. The WTO has undermined the laws and regulations we created in Congress that were intended to protect our privacy, our health, and our environment. The WTO has made improving the lives of workers less important than improving the rights of property holders and intellectual property rights.

Instead of creating a global super-market for America's goods and Services, we have created a system of rules that puts more emphasis on property rights than on human rights. So it is vital that we in Congress, that the American people, realize just what is at stake when the world's largest assembly of millionaires meets in Seattle this year.

We have got to keep fighting to make labor, standards, and environmental rights and human rights as important to our trade bureaucrats as intellectual property rights.

SECURITY ISSUES FACING OUR COUNTRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to discuss security issues facing this country and to focus the bulk of my discussion on the issue that is going to be, I think, a major issue for the rest of this year and well into the Presidential elections next year, and that is a national debate on who lost Russia. What caused the current economic and political instability that is occurring in that nation that still possesses a vast supply of nuclear material, weapons, weapons of mass destruction, and pose a significant security threat to America?

Before I talk about Russia and present some perspectives, I would like to first of all commend the Congress, Members on both sides of the aisle, for the passage today of the final conference report on the defense authorization bill. This bill, which passed the House with an overwhelming margin, is a tribute to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPENCE) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), the two leaders on defense issues in this Congress, and to all the Members who worked hard on giving our military the best possible support in terms of resources to meet the challenges and threats of the 21st Century.

I am concerned that the bill does not have enough in the way of resources to meet the level of deployments that have been entered into by this administration and by the President. In fact, the level of deployments over the past 7 years are now at 33, and that, in fact, compares to 10 deployments in the previous 40 years from World War II until 1990.

We cannot continue to have our troops stationed around the world, involved in harm's way in every possible place, from the Balkans and Kosovo to Macedonia and Somalia and Central America and now perhaps East Timor, and provide less resources to pay for all these deployments. That has been our big problem over the past several years.

So while this bill does not address all of our needs, it certainly is the best

possible legislation that we can come up with given the amount of dollars that the administration made available and the amount that we in the Congress were able to plus up above the President's request. I would hope the President would sign this bill into law as quickly as possible.

There was some last-minute controversy raised because of provisions dealing with changes in the management of our Department of Energy-run laboratories. But I can say this, Mr. Speaker, that those changes are needed. They are important, and they are critical.

We could not have passed DOE reform legislation in my mind that the President would have signed had it been in a freestanding bill, and, therefore, including it as a part of our defense authorization bill was extremely important.

The second issue I would discuss briefly, Mr. Speaker, is an announcement that is going to be made tomorrow by the administration regarding a change in the policy over encryption. Encryption is the technology that we use in the information age to protect and secure transmissions of data.

Up until this point in time, we have had strict limitations on the type and capability of encrypted software that we allow our companies to sell overseas. The reason is that we do not want terrorist groups in rogue States to be able to get the capability to classify their communications so that our national security agency and intelligence community cannot get into the kinds of transmissions involving illegal activities and drug sales and arms transfers that is so important to our security.

For the past several years, it has been a stalemate. Many of the software companies have been pushing very hard to pass legislation to remove all limitations on being able to sell encryption software abroad at any bit strength, any capability.

Many of us in the Congress who are concerned about security issues and Members of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence on both sides of the aisle have raised our voices and have said we cannot just in one fell swoop wipe away the controls that allow us to maintain the kind of access to secure systems that allow America to protect our troops abroad as well as our homeland here.

In fact, in each of the last two sessions of Congress, I have offered successfully amendments in the Subcommittee on Defense to the encryption bill, overwhelmingly supported by Democrats and Republicans, to slow down this process and to force us to look at the security concerns.

We have said during our opportunities to amend this bill, both last year and most recently in July or August, this past summer, that we were looking for a compromise, that we were looking for a way that we, in fact, could allow our companies to maintain