

in question: is higher than fares charged in similar markets; has been increased in excess of cost increases; and strikes a reasonable relationship between fares charged to passengers who are price sensitive and those charged to passengers who are time sensitive.

Under subsection (b)(3), if a fare is found to be unreasonably high, the Secretary may order, after providing the air carrier with an opportunity for a hearing, that it be reduced, that the reduced fare be offered for a specified number of seats and that rebates be offered.

Subsection (c) provides that if a dominant air carrier, on any route in interstate transportation to or from a hub airport, responds to low fare service by a new entrant by matching the low fare, and offering two or more times the low fare seats as the new entrant, the dominant carrier must continue to offer the low fare for two years, for at least 80 percent of the highest level of low fare seats it offered.

Subsection (d)(1) authorizes the Secretary to investigate whether a dominant carrier at a hub airport is charging higher than average fares at that airport. Subsection (d)(2) provides that the Secretary may determine that higher than average fares are being charged where an air carrier is offering fares that are 5 percent or more above industry average fares, in more than 20 percent of its routes that begin or end in its hub market. If higher than average fares are being charged, the DOT may, after providing the air carrier with an opportunity for a hearing, take steps to facilitate added competition at the hub, including measures to relating to the dominant carrier's gate, slots, and other airport facilities, travel agent commissions, frequent flyer programs and corporate discount programs.

Subsection (e) defines the terms "dominant air carrier," "hub airport," "interstate air transportation," and "new entrant air carrier." "Dominant air carrier" is defined, with respect to a hub airport, as an air carrier that accounts for more than 50 percent of the total annual boardings at the airport in the preceding 2-year period or a shorter period as specified by the Secretary. A "hub airport" means an airport that each year has at least .25 percent of the total annual boardings in the United States. "Interstate air transportation" is defined as including intrastate air transportation. A "new entrant air carrier," with respect to a hub airport, is defined as an air carrier that accounts for less than 5 percent in the preceding 2-year period or a shorter period as specified by the Secretary.

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#### SEND EDMOND POPE HOME

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

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart. On my left is a picture of Edmond and Cheri Pope, a lovely couple from State College, Pennsylvania. On March 14, Edmond left for Russia on a routine trip, a business trip. It would have been his 27th trip there. He was someone very involved in working with the Russians on business development, helping them market their declassified technology, someone who was very fond of the Russians and liked to help them economically in deals that were beneficial to both our countries.

For 115 days Edmond Pope, from April 3 on, has been in a Russian pris-

on. For 115 days Mrs. Pope has not had a husband, except for 2 hours that she spent with him several weeks ago. His children have had no father for 115 days. His aging parents do not understand why for 115 days they have not been able to talk to their son.

My colleagues, Edmond Pope was placed in prison unfairly. He is not a spy. He was charged with espionage. That is not true. And what is disturbing is for the first 11 weeks his wife and family had no chance to communicate with him; did not receive one note from him, one phone call from him, or able to get a note or a phone call or letter to him. That is 77 days he was absolutely separated from his family. They had no idea of his health, no idea if he had a lawyer; a good lawyer.

On June 19, Mrs. Pope, Cheri, and two of my staff, were leaving for Russia to attempt to visit him. That afternoon Cheri's mother passed away unexpectedly in San Diego, California. Mrs. Pope had to make the decision whether she went to bury her mother or she went to Russia to encourage her husband. She made the decision to go to Russia, and so she went. And several days later she had the chance to spend a few moments with him.

On Tuesday, June 20, they met for the first time in 3 months, just a few feet from a watchful prosecutor in Lefortovo prison. Edmond and Cheri Pope hugged and belatedly wished each other a happy 30th anniversary. Then Cheri Pope said, "The first thing he said to me was, 'Cheri, I didn't do anything wrong. I didn't.' And I said to him, I never thought for a minute you did."

In an emotional interview on Tuesday after that reunion, Cheri Pope said her husband, whom the Russians had accused of spying, was strikingly thin. He had a rash; he had lost a lot of weight; he had a pallor about him and some skin problems. She said, "Even though he didn't look well, he still looked handsome to me."

While they were there, Cheri and my staff were able to obtain a good lawyer for him. He did not have a good lawyer, and they had no way of knowing that. And since that time we have been working hard to obtain his release.

On June 26, we wrote President Putin a letter, and I will share with my colleagues some of the things we shared with him. "Mr. Putin, if you value our friendship, send Edmond Pope home. President Putin, if you value the growing business relationships beneficial to both of our countries, send Edmond Pope home." It said, "President Putin, if you value the many ways we aid you financially, send Edmond Pope home."

"Edmond Pope is a man who was there on sound financial business reasons. He is not a spy. He needs to be home with his family and with his grieving wife. He needs to be home to visit his father, who is seriously ill. He needs to be home to have his own health monitored, and he needs to be home so that our relationship between

the Russian Federation and America can grow and not be destroyed."

We have not heard from that letter, though we thought we would. Today, I wrote another letter to President Putin and it has been faxed to him. One hundred fifteen days have passed. This case has no merit. His new lawyer tells us he has shredded the evidence completely. On August 5, in just a few days, his son, Dusty Pope, plans to marry a young lady named Justin. It is only fitting that Edmond Pope be home to stand with his son and his future daughter-in-law and wish them into the world of matrimony.

I hope and believe that it is important that we get this issue resolved and that we get him home, because it is vital that we build a relationship between these two countries. I have a resolution that urges the President, with 109 signatures, and I could get many more, to discontinue our assistance to the Russian Federation, to approve no more loans to the Russian Federation, or no more technical assistance. I do not want to do that. I believe the future of Russia depends much on a friendship with this country. But it is time to send Edmond Pope home so that our relationship can grow to the benefit of both our countries. I ask President Putin to help us accomplish this today.

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#### CALLING ON RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT PUTIN TO FREE EDMOND POPE

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

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to reinforce the comments of my colleague, the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON), and to call on the Russian government and President Putin to free Mr. Ed Pope. We have heard he is an American businessman that they have held without trial for months, and I rise to assure Mr. And Mrs. Pope's family that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON) and I are doing everything we can to secure his release.

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Mr. Speaker, the Russian government's continued incarceration of Mr. Pope, an American citizen, is nothing short of outrageous. Not only was his arrest and subsequent imprisonment contrary to international law, but the treatment he has received while in custody has been appalling.

Until recently, I am told, he has been denied communications with his wife. We heard they went for 70-plus days without being able to exchange letters or any communication. He has been denied access to sufficient food and medical treatment by American standards and certainly every other basic right we associate with justice systems of civilized nations.