occurring due to carbon dioxide pollution. Even though that evidence has increased, unfortunately, so has the administration's willingness to follow the dictates of the oil and gas industry.

For a President who said that the reason he did this is that he is worried about an energy crisis, we find that laughable in the West, because for the last 2 months we have been asking the President of the United States to do something about energy prices, to impose a short-term wholesale price cap, and he has refused to even consider it.

We are going to urge him to reconsider that, because I can promise the Members this, this President broke his promise. It has not broken our spirit to bring Americans clean energy at a reasonable price.

THE QUALITY CHEESE ACT OF 2001

(Ms. BALDWIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, today I will introduce the bipartisan Quality Cheese Act of 2001, a bill that will prohibit the use of dry ultra-filtered milk, of cassein, and milk-protein concentrates in the making of standardized cheese.

□ 1015

The plight of our Nation's dairy farmers continues to worsen. In Wisconsin alone, dairy farmers lost $500 million last year because prices reached a 20-year low. My dairy farmers simply cannot stay in business with prices at these levels.

Dry ultra-filtered milk and its derivatives such as milk protein concentrates, MPCs, are allowed into our country basically duty free. In many countries, the costs of its production is subsidized, placing our dairy producers at a competitive disadvantage.

I do not want a cheap, subsidized import to take the place of our dairy farmers' wholesome milk in cheese vats in this country.

Please join me in supporting the Quality Cheese Act of 2001.

BUSH BREAKS PROMISE ON CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, President Bush has broken his promise. During his campaign and even until last week, President Bush had committed to reducing carbon dioxide emissions from power plants.

In a speech last September in Michigan, the President said, and I quote, ''We will require all power plants to meet clean air standards in order to reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, mercury and carbon dioxide.''

He made this promise to the American people to protect the health of our children and the environment and to protect them from the effects of climate change. Yet now he has given in to the oil and gas industries who were his biggest contributors.

The scientific community has concluded that climate change, global warming is real and serious. Mr. Speaker, I will soon reintroduce legislation to require oil and coal-fired power plants to clean up their emissions, including carbon dioxide.

In America today, dirty power is cheap power, and we need to act this year to pass my legislation to clean up these emissions, to clean up these old power plants and to get control of climate change carbon dioxide, which is threatening this country.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

MADE IN AMERICA INFORMATION ACT

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 725) to establish a toll free number under the Federal Trade Commission to assist consumers in determining if products are American-made, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 725

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Made in America Information Act''.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE NUMBER PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—If the Secretary of Commerce determines, on the basis of comments submitted in the rulemaking under section 3, that—

(1) interest among manufacturers is sufficient to warrant the establishment of a 3-year toll-free telephone number pilot program; and

(2) manufacturers will provide fees under section 3(c) so that the program will operate without cost to the Federal Government;

the Secretary shall establish such program solely to help inform consumers whether a product is ''Made in America''. The Secretary shall publish the toll-free telephone number by notice in the Federal Register.

(b) CONTRACT.—The Secretary of Commerce shall enter into a contract for—

(1) the establishment and operation of the toll-free telephone number pilot program provided for in subsection (a); and

(2) the registration of products pursuant to regulations issued under section 3; which shall be funded entirely from fees collected under section 3(c).

(c) USE.—The toll-free telephone number shall be used solely to inform consumers as to whether products are registered under section 3 as ''Made in America''. Consumers shall also be informed that registration of a product does not mean—

(1) that the product is endorsed or approved by the Government;

(2) that the Secretary has conducted any investigation to confirm that the product is a product which meets the definition of ''Made in America'' in section 5; or

(3) that the product contains 100 percent United States content.

SEC. 3. REGISTRATION.

(a) PROPOSED REGULATION.—The Secretary of Commerce shall propose a regulation—

(1) to establish a procedure under which the manufacturer of a product may voluntarily register such product as complying with the definition of ''Made in America'' in section 5 and have such product included in the information available through the toll-free telephone number established under section 2(a);

(2) to establish, assess, and collect a fee to cover all the costs (including start-up costs) of registering products and including registered products in information provided under the toll-free telephone number;

(3) for the establishment under section 2(a) of the toll-free telephone number pilot program; and

(4) to solicit views from the private sector concerning the level of interest of manufacturers in registering products under the terms and conditions of paragraph (1).

(b) PROMULGATION.—If the Secretary determines based on the comments on the regulation proposed under subsection (a) that the toll-free telephone number pilot program and the registration of products is warranted, the Secretary shall promulgate such regulation.

(c) REGISTRATION FEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Manufacturers of products included in information provided under section 2 shall be subject to a fee imposed by the Secretary of Commerce to pay the cost of registering products and including them in information provided under subsection (a).

(2) AMOUNT.—The amount of fees imposed under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) in the case of a manufacturer, not be greater than the cost of registering the manufacturer's product and providing product information directly attributable to such manufacturer; and

(B) in the case of the total amount of fees, not be greater than the total amount appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce for salaries and expenses directly attributable to registration of manufacturers and having products included in the information provided under section 2(a).

(3) CREDITING AND AVAILABILITY OF FEES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Fees collected for a fiscal year pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be credited to the appropriation account for salaries and expenses of the Secretary of Commerce and shall be available in accordance with appropriation Acts until expended without fiscal year limitation.

(B) COLLECTIONS AND APPROPRIATION ACTS.—The fees imposed under paragraph (1)—

(i) shall be collected in each fiscal year in an amount equal to the amount specified in appropriation Acts for such fiscal year; and

(ii) shall only be collected and available for the costs described in paragraph (2).

SEC. 4. PENALTY.

Any manufacturer of a product who knowingly registers a product under section 3 which is not ''Made in America''—

(1) shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than $7500 which the Secretary of Commerce may assess and collect, and

(2) shall not offer such product for purchase by the Federal Government.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act:

(1) MADE IN AMERICA.—The term ''Made in America'' has the meaning given unqualified ''Made in U.S.A.'' or ''Made in America'' claims for purposes of laws administered by the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) PRODUCT.—The term ''product'' means a product with a retail value of at least $250.

SEC. 6. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act or in any regulation promulgated under section 3 shall be construed to alter, amend, modify, or otherwise affect in any way, the Federal Trade Commission Act or the opinions, decisions, rules, or any guidance issued by the Federal Trade Commission regarding the use of unqualified ''Made in U.S.A.'' or ''Made in America'' claims in labels on products introduced, delivered for introduction, sold, advertised, or offered for sale in commerce.

Amend the title so as to read: ''A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to provide for the establishment of a toll-free telephone number to assist consumers in determining whether products are American-made.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include therein extraneous material on H.R. 725, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we are constantly reminded in our daily lives that knowledge is power. Under H.R. 725, the American consumer has the power to determine if a product is indeed ''Made in America.'' This bill, introduced by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT), my friend, will make ''Made in America'' product information more readily accessible to the consumer and without cost to the Federal Government.

Currently, my colleagues, there is no central repository for lists of American-made products. H.R. 725 establishes a 3-year pilot program creating such a repository entirely funded by fees assessed to manufacturers that choose to voluntarily list their products in this database.

Mr. Speaker, under this pilot program, a toll-free telephone number is established to facilitate consumer access to the database. It is important to note that participation in the program is voluntary and that the operation and maintenance of the toll-free number and database shall be contracted out to a third party by the Department of Commerce.

American consumers are increasingly sensitive as to whether a product is ''Made in America.'' Such sensitivity has certainly applied to the U.S. government procurement process. Since 1942, the so-called Berry amendment has prevented the use of any funds appropriated to the Department of Defense to be used to purchase an item of food or clothing not produced in the United States.

The Defense Logistics Agency can issue a waiver of the Berry amendment upon a determination of a nonavailability, meaning there is no available domestic producer. The Defense Logistics Agency decided to waive the Berry amendment requirement recently in order to procure 1.3 million berets for the Army at a cost of $26 million based on nonavailability.

The rationale for the waiver, we are told, is that Americans suppliers would not be able to supply the Army's needs to have the berets in time for its 225th anniversary on June 14. We are also told that American suppliers, even if given adequate time, if they are given adequate time, can meet the orders' requirements.

Personally, I believe that if a universal black beret is going to serve as a symbol for the United States Army in the 21st Century, it should not be made in China. Fortunately, the Pentagon decided yesterday to revisit this issue.

Early in the history of this country, we have had high tariffs to protect our industries. Now we have low tariffs and are part of a global economy. There must be a balance, my colleagues, if we are to preserve American jobs and industry, while also enjoying the benefits of world trade.

Americans have seen a proliferation of products from other countries. My colleagues, this simple bill gives Americans the knowledge to make an educated choice in the purchase of American-made goods.

Let me close my statement by commending the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) for his persistence and tenacious promotion of this bill and for introducing this bill so that we have this opportunity this morning.

Last Congress, the House passed this legislation almost identical to H.R. 725, so I do not believe we will have any trouble today, but I think it is important and particularly in light of what has happened in the Department of Defense and reading in the paper their decision to stop the procurement of the berets being manufactured in China.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 725, the Made in America Information Act. I commend the leadership of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS), my colleague, for this time on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I also commend the persistence of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT), my colleague, on this topic that we are dealing with today.

H.R. 725 provides for the Secretary of Commerce to establish a toll-free number to help consumers identify which products are ''Made in America.'' This new program would operate as a pilot program for 3 years. It would not cost taxpayers anything. It would be paid for entirely out of fees collected for manufacturers who wish to register their products as ''Made in America.''

This legislation is predicted on one simple premise and belief, that consumers will choose to buy products made right here in the United States by American workers, if they are given that opportunity.

In a 1997 rulemaking, the Federal Trade Commission reported that 84 percent of the respondents to a National Consumers League survey said that they were more likely to buy an item that was made in the USA than to buy an equivalent foreign-made product.

A majority of those surveyed also said that they find the made in U.S. label either frequently or always meaningful when they are shopping.

Congress also long ago recognized that made in the USA label is both meaningful and important.

Mr. Speaker, I want to cite the same example that my colleague did in pointing out that, out of respect and honor both for American workers as well as those who serve our country in uniform, Congress has required military uniforms to be ''Made in the USA'' for the past 50 years, except in time of crisis. That is why, Mr. Speaker, I was also shocked to learn that the Pentagon has recently awarded $26 million in contracts mostly to foreign producers for 2½ million black berets that are now to become the official new headgear of all of the Army troops. According to the Army, these new berets will be made in plants in China, Romania, and Sri Lanka, among other foreign countries.

I was also disturbed by press accounts that cited that awarding this contract to these foreign firms could even be more expensive for American taxpayers. It has been reported that the overseas beret is nearly twice as expensive as one which could be ''Made in America'' but could not be ready in time for the deadline that was imposed.

For the first time, most American men and women serving in the Army would soon see a ''Made in China'', for example, or other such label when they take off their berets, rather than a ''Made in the USA'' label.

This decision will harm U.S. companies and American workers and may, in fact, waste taxpayer dollars.

That is why the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER), my colleague, and I have been circulating a letter to the President asking that this short-sighted decision be reconsidered.

I hope all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will join me in this effort, and it is a way of underscoring the importance of H.R. 725 as a good

bill that will help consumers to buy American if they so choose.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to my colleague, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT).

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. TAUZIN), the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL), the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), certainly the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS), my good friend, and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) for bringing this resolution and bill out early in the session.

Mr. Speaker, I took to the floor several years ago when the Air Force was buying military boots made in China. The Pentagon was embarrassed, and that was stopped.

But I want my colleagues to understand, the prestigious elite Army Ranger force to remove their beret and to have a fellow tax-paying American seeing a ''Made in China'' label in it?

One thing America does not need is protectionism. We need fair trade policies for sure.

And remember this, for every billion dollars worth of trade deficit, we lose 20,000 jobs; and I would like the gentlewoman from Florida to realize that, last quarter, America's trade deficit was $119 billion. It is approaching $40 billion a month. Times that by 20,000 jobs, and they are not burger flippers, we have got a crisis. No one is really looking at this crisis; and my little bill simply says, look, I believe the American consumer will buy an American product if it is competitively priced.

The Traficant bill would work this way: A couple in Chicago setting up homekeeping is going to buy a refrigerator, stove, washer and dryer. They can call the 1–800 number and say, look, I would like to buy an American product. What American products are made in refrigerators, in washers and dryers, and could I please have a list of them?

My God, what is wrong with us? I am asking House leadership to now help with the Senate to get beyond this guise of protectionism and, for God's sake, look at America and our working people and our consumer habits and practices.

□ 1030

This is simply a very modest bill. There will be no more Federal workers needed to be hired. Any cost will be borne by American companies who will be proud to say, Yes, my product is made in America. Come see it.

Now, one will see more foreign manufacturers moving to America so they can say ''Our product is made in America.'' If that Japanese company moves to America and makes it in America, it will be listed on the first-time register of American-made products.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good common sense American bill. I ask for an overwhelming vote, and I certainly ask this chairman to do all he can in promoting it with the other body.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I have a few comments before I yield back my time. Obviously, years from now little will be remembered about this debate this morning. But in many ways, as my colleagues know, Mr. Speaker, there is a time and a moment when there is a sense of goodwill and a feeling in the House when we are doing something that makes all Americans feel patriotic. I think this bill that the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) is offering does just that.

I am so glad the Army, who is going to celebrate their 225th anniversary, has decided to hold off procuring the berets overseas and having them manufactured in China. I hope they will sense this feeling that we have this morning, that this bill does not cost anything and is symbolic, is important for the welfare of all Americans. I urge its adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I would comment also that I join my colleague in agreeing that this is a very timely topic to be discussing right now.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 725, the Made in America Information Act. The measure deserves our strong support to make sure the American worker can compete fairly with any competitor.

This bill requires the Commerce Department, if sufficient industry interest exists, to establish and operate for 3 years a toll-free telephone number to help U.S. consumers determine which consumer products are American-made. Under the measure, this hotline would be operated through a private contractor at no cost to the government, with the cost of operations to be paid for by fees from these manufacturers who voluntarily register their products with this hotline.

The measure allows only American-made products having a retail value of approximately $250 or more to be registered. Consumers calling the hotline would have to be informed that registration of a product on the hotline does not mean that the product contains 100 percent U.S.-made content, that the government does not endorse the product, and that the Federal Government has not conducted an investigation to confirm the definition of ''American made.'' Manufacturers who knowingly register a product that is not American-made would be subject to civil penalties, and the product in question could not be purchased by any unit of the Federal Government.

Passage of this legislation sends an important message to our workers. U.S. workers should not be shortchanged as they seek to compete in the global marketplace. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

Mrs. CAPPS. I have no further speakers, Mr. Speaker; and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 725, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution (H.R. 88) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 88

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

Committee on Agriculture: to rank immediately after Mr. Phelps of Illinois, Mr. Lucas of Kentucky; to rank immediately after Mr. Acevedo-Vilá of Puerto Rico, Mr. Kind of Wisconsin and Mr. Shows of Mississippi;

Committee on the Budget: Mr. Matheson of Utah.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MARJORY WILLIAMS SCRIVENS POST OFFICE

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 364) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5927 Southwest 70th Street in Miami, Florida, as the ''Marjory Williams Scrivens Post Office''.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 364

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5927 Southwest 70th Street in Miami, Florida, shall be known and designated as the ''Marjory Williams Scrivens Post Office''.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Marjory Williams Scrivens Post Office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS).