

to restructure and reorganize in response to the effects of the recent import surge.

Currently, there are nearly 2 million Americans who are directly or indirectly employed by the steel industry, or receive pensions and healthcare from current and former steel companies. Because of the current crisis situation in the industry, the \$1 billion that the steel companies spend annually on retiree health care is a significant impediment to the mergers and acquisitions that will need to occur for the steel industry to right itself.

This amendment would create a Steel Industry Legacy Relief Program to provide assistance to steel producers in meeting retiree health care costs. The program would be established in and administered by the Department of Labor.

The establishment of the Steel Industry Legacy Relief Program will go a long way in supporting our domestic steel industry in a time that we need it most. The steel industry is vital to our national defense, and especially now, we cannot afford to become dependent on foreign steel. I strongly support the establishment of this program in order to save the steel industry in this great Nation. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this amendment.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3338) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the rule to H.R. 3338, the Defense Appropriations bill. The rule precludes the House from considering the Obey amendment, which would provide needed increased funding for homeland security. While the underlying bill does increase funding for homeland security, it simply does not go far enough. It is homeland security on the cheap.

The rule precludes the Obey amendment, which, among other things, would provide \$150 million in grants for local firefighting units. In addition, the bill does not provide adequate funding to help local governments meet their increased police and emergency personnel needs since September 11th. This rule does not allow for increased funding for local law enforcement that is critical for the protection of Americans across the country.

Since September 11th, local governments have been carrying most of the burden of responding to the increased security and emergency needs of our citizens that include: periodic lengthened shifts, additional patrols at sensitive facilities and structures, and responding to the growing number of false alarms and hoaxes. This results in a higher rate of overtime for governments in order to pay for security and emergency personnel. These important responsibilities fall on local governments who had tight budgets prior to September 11th. Now they are even tighter.

The federal government must provide aid to local governments to insure that our first responders remain one of our strongest links.

Moreover, the bill does not provide any additional funds to increase port security. The Obey amendment would have provided an additional \$200 million in grants for port security upgrades. We must provide security measures at seaports to prevent the shipment of bombs and weapons of mass destruction through our seaports.

The bill does not provide increased funding to secure our vitally important Strategic Petroleum Reserves. The Obey Amendment would have provided \$5 million to secure our petroleum reserves. Several weeks ago, with the Administration's support, Congress passed a resolution urging the Secretary of Energy to fill the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to its full capacity. It defies logic for us to spend the money filling this vital reserve without securing the facilities that store the petroleum.

As we address threats on our homefront, we should also be fully prepared to fight an asymmetric war abroad. We must, therefore, take all steps necessary to reduce U.S. casualties, which requires minimizing incidents of friendly fire. The Automatic Acoustic Target Recognition programs, not fully funded in the bill, involves the identification of aircraft and vehicles by the background acoustic signature obtained from intercepted radio transmissions or proximate ground sensors. The program contributes to the detection of troop and vehicle movements, the proper identification of aircraft and vehicles to prioritize fire control and to prevent friendly fire casualties. When this bill goes to conference, I urge the conferees to do everything they can to save the lives of U.S. military troops and fully fund this program.

I urge my colleagues to reject the rule. We must not fund the war against terrorism on the cheap. We must recognize our needs at home and abroad and that means adequately assisting local first responders, securing our vital resources, securing our ports, and minimizing the loss of U.S. military personnel.

MAKING SURE PAINFUL STORIES
ARE TOLD JUST ONCE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is important for me to bring this informative article to the attention of the U.S. Congress.

[From the New York Times, Nov. 12, 2001]

MAKING SURE PAINFUL STORIES ARE TOLD
JUST ONCE

(By Donna Wilkinson)

Name: Collin County Children's Advocacy Center.

Founded: 1992, in Plano, Tex.

Mission: To help children cope with the trauma of abuse through a team approach—an alliance of law enforcement agencies, child protection services, legal and medical professionals—to investigate, treat and prosecute abuse cases.

Constituency: Children under 18. Collin County, including several suburban and rural communities outside Dallas, has a population of about 500,000. Last year, the center received 2,488 referrals of child abuse; since it opened, it has served 8,000 children.

Financing: Most of the \$1.4 million annual budget comes from charities, foundations and corporations: the United Way, Meadows Foundation, Jenesis Foundation, B. B. Owen Trust, Texas Instruments and State Farm Insurance. The rest is from the Guardian Angels Society, a local group of individuals and religious and civic organizations who pledge \$1,000 a year for five years.

The center was inspired by the ideas of Representative Bud Cramer, Democrat of Alabama, who, as a district attorney in Huntsville in the 1980's, found that children were being revictimized by a system that was intended to protect them. Often bounced from one agency to another, youngsters had to repeat painful experiences to police, doctors, social workers and others, compromising evidence and traumatizing them again. Representative Cramer had proposed creating one central place where children could tell their stories.

Besides filling that role, the center, which is located in a colorful 32,000-square-foot former supermarket, provides the children with immediate access to child protection services, law enforcement officials, district attorneys, sexual assault nurse examiners, therapists and community resource representatives who all work together under one roof.

Attending to young victims requires special considerations. "Almost 70 percent of the children we see are under the age of 7," said Jane Donovan, the center's community educator. "When you ask a child that age a story over and over, the story changes." To protect the integrity of testimony for evidence, each child is interviewed by a forensic specialist and videotaped.

What distinguishes the center is the partnerships among various services. "Traditionally, there has been some contentiousness between child protective agencies and law enforcement," Ms. Donovan said. "At our center, that just flat out doesn't exist."

The center is not a residential facility, but placement is arranged when a child's safety at home is in question.

"We talk to our kids about 'stranger danger,' but the reality is, 96 percent of the children we see know their abuser," Ms. Donovan said. "Our goal is to help children deal with the trauma of abuse by empowering them to become survivors rather than remain victims."

IN MEMORY OF JANE MAYER

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with great sorrow to pay tribute to a wonderful woman, a community activist and wife of internationally known writer, journalist and lecturer, the late Milton Mayer. His wife Jane died recently in Carmel, California where I live.

Jane Mayer was like a second mother to me and my sisters Francesca and Nancy. She was born in Joplin, MO, and grew up in Seattle, Washington before moving to Carmel where she lived for the past 50 years.

A dedicated activist she studied at the University of Washington before beginning a 10-year career in fashion where she became a lecturer and consultant. Appearing at Universities and Colleges across the country and numerous radio programs.

She married Robert Scully in 1940 and later in 1947 married Milton Mayer known to local