

Through the years, these men and their colleagues have performed admirably. Their community is grateful for their work, and so am I.

It is a pleasure to recognize these outstanding men, and I know the entire House joins me in extending our best wishes to them and to their families for a happy and healthy retirement.

H.J. RES. 87

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 8, I voted to make Yucca Mountain, a remote location in the desert of Nevada, our nation's depository for high level nuclear waste. I based my support for Yucca Mountain on a \$19 billion taxpayer investment over 24 years of some of the most comprehensive scientific investigation ever conducted by our nation.

We promised the public back in 1982 in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act that the Federal government would provide a single national repository for the quickly accumulating radioactive waste. This day has been a long time coming, and we can wait no longer.

Since the dawn of the nuclear age in the 1940s, nuclear waste has been accumulating, and it has been stored in temporary locations across the country—131 temporary sites in 39 states, including New Jersey.

Temporary storage of highly radioactive nuclear waste is dangerous—there's no two ways about it. We need a single, safe, secure location to contain spent nuclear fuel and our nation's dismantled nuclear arms. Quite simply, it is a matter of public health and safety, and it is in the best interests of our national security.

Yucca Mountain is located in the Nevada desert, some 1353 square miles of land, an area larger than the state of Rhode Island. It is remote, and had been used as a nuclear test site.

I have visited Yucca Mountain, since I serve on the Energy Appropriations Subcommittee which has been responsible for overseeing the funding of this critical project. During my inspection of the site, I was taken inside the mountain for almost five miles. I also learned that when nuclear waste is contained inside Yucca Mountain, it will be stored in tunnels 1000 feet below the desert floor. Yucca Mountain is so safe, scientists and engineers have determined that with its arid and geologically stable setting, even under the worst scenario, Yucca Mountain would meet EPA standards for radiation for 10,000 years! Clearly, Yucca Mountain will pay dividends, and then some, on the taxpayers' investment.

Nuclear energy has been proven to be an effective, safe, clean energy source. In fact, in New Jersey where there are two nuclear sites, nearly half of our state's electricity is produced by nuclear power. Nationwide, it is now the second largest source of electricity.

While nuclear energy continues to have its supporters and its critics, the fact is it is here to stay. As such, we need to deal with it, most especially radioactive waste. Yucca Mountain is the answer.

161 million Americans live within 75 miles of radioactive nuclear waste. Do we leave radio-

active waste to decay in temporary storage units at hundreds of locations across the country? Do we wait for highly radioactive toxins to possibly seep into our groundwater? Do we put our national security at risk by leaving spent nuclear fuel in temporary containers?

No, we side with science. Yucca Mountain, from the standpoint of protecting the nation's health as well as our security, represents the best, most comprehensive option for containing America's nuclear waste.

We can no longer afford to wait.

SAVING AMERICA'S STEEL INDUSTRY

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Providing for disposition of H.J. Res. 84, Disapproving the action taken by the President under Section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974 transmitted to the Congress on March 5, 2002.

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the rule and, more importantly, in support of our steel industry that was on the brink of collapse.

I want to use my time to address one of the most vital issues facing the industry today: legacy costs. As scores of companies have been forced to declare Chapter 11 bankruptcy since the flood of steel imports began hitting our shores in 1997, retirement promises these companies made, in many cases, have been broken. These broken promises have left many steel retirees, through no fault of their own, without the health and other benefits they had been counting on their entire working lives.

That is why I am proud to be an original co-sponsor of H.R. 4646, the Steel Industry Legacy Relief Act. This groundbreaking legislation will ensure that the promises made to the thousands of steel retirees are kept.

Under this legislation, the Federal Government will create and support a program of health insurance for the retirees of steel, iron ore, and coke companies. Similar to the way the Federal Government bolstered the health care safety net for retired mine-workers, it is time for the government to step up to the plate and help steel workers.

The Administration has taken a very important first step. By imposing temporary tariffs on a broad range of steel products for up to 3 years, the Administration has given the industry an extraordinary opportunity to get back on its feet.

While the actions by the Administration were unprecedented, by themselves, they are insufficient to fully help the industry recover. We must enact H.R. 4646 into law and put the industry on a sound financial footing once and for all.

Finally, let me say, I recognize that we live in a global economy and that the United States must be economically engaged with the rest of the world. However, we must not let the ideology of free trade trump all other values and blind us to the inequities that trade imposes on many sectors of our economy.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the rule.

RECOGNIZING THE INVALUABLE PUBLIC SERVICE OF MR. JIM CROW

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my dear friend Jim Crow, whose hard work has proven invaluable, not only to the people of Shelby County and Tennessee's 8th District, but also to the state of Tennessee and indeed the nation. I have had the pleasure of working alongside Jim since before I came to Washington back in 1989. His public service stretches back even farther than that.

Jim was born in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1934. His father being in construction, the family moved where the work was—from Memphis to Ohio, then to Michigan. After also living in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Jim moved back to Shelby County in 1959 and married Shirley Roberts the following year. They bought a house in Frayser, where their family saw the addition of two children, Elizabeth—now Elizabeth Vaughn—and James. The family relocated to Millington, Tennessee, in 1975.

Jim is retired from International Harvester, where he worked for 26 years and served as a union steward for the United Auto Workers. It was during this time that he became active in politics and the Shelby County Democratic Party.

In 1969, Jim was instrumental in helping bring my predecessor, Mr. Ed Jones, to this House of Representatives. Jim helped establish the first Congressional office in Shelby County for the 8th District and operated the office on a voluntary basis. Five years later, Mr. Jones hired Jim Crow as a field representative for Memphis and Shelby County. When I came to Washington 15 years after that, I was lucky to have Jim stay on board as a field representative, the position from which he is now retiring.

Jim has always been very active in the community, serving in such organizations as the Millington Industrial Development Board, the Millington Airport Authority, the Frayser Exchange Club, the Navy League and the Millington Chamber of Commerce, which once named him Man of the Year.

Millington was formerly home of the Navy Air Technical Training Center, but during the base restructuring in the early 1990s, that function was moved elsewhere. Jim, with his involvement in the community and on the base, followed the base's transition as it became known as Naval Support Activity Mid-South, currently housing the Navy Bureau of Personnel. As field representative, Jim was active in the communication involved with the change.

Later this month, he will retire his position as a field representative for the 8th Congressional District. He will spend more time with his family, including his grandchildren, Kali and Nicholas, and I am certain he will continue to stay active in our community.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask that you and our colleagues recognize the outstanding, selfless public service Jim has offered over the years. All the best wishes are with my friend Jim Crow as he begins an exciting new chapter in his life.