

The people of Connecticut are justly proud of their Huskies, who have set an example for us all with their teamwork and their standards of perfection. I know this victory was a team effort; but we are particularly proud of Maria Conlon from Derby, Connecticut, of the third congressional district, and Diana Taurasi, a fellow daughter of Italian immigrants, who was named the Final Four Most Outstanding Player and Consensus National Player of the Year after she scored the third most points in Division I tournament history, the fourth-most ever in the Final Four, and tied for second-most ever in a title game, all with an aching back, one good ankle and a heart whose size is only matched by that of the Huskies' dreams.

These women have shown that given the resources, they are just as talented and exciting to watch as any men's basketball team out there. They are role models for girls and boys alike across this Nation, and we should remember them as we debate title IX and its impact on women in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Huskies on their championship win and their incredible season. They have truly earned this recognition. Go Huskies.

JUST BORN CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PEEPS

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

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer congratulations to the confectioners at Just Born, Incorporated, as they celebrate the 50th anniversary of one of their most recognized and celebrated products, not to mention my daughter's favorite, Marshmallow Peeps.

Just Born, with their Peeps, is a great American manufacturing success story. Over a billion Peeps are produced each year by Just Born's 400-plus employees. Their candies are exported to over 30 countries, making them available to over 1.5 billion people worldwide.

Innovation and dedicated employees have really been the source of the success of this company. Just Born was founded in 1923 in New York City by Samuel Born, a Russian immigrant. The company moved to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, in 1932 and under the leadership of Bob Born, Samuel's son, Just Born acquired a candy company in 1953 which manufactured by hand a small line of 3-D marshmallow products. The innovative Bob Born mechanized the process of making Peeps and dramatically increased the quantity of Peeps manufactured each year. Peeps once took 27 hours to make, they now take 6 minutes.

It is this innovative, entrepreneurial spirit, and great workers that make American manufacturers the best in the world, and Just Born continues to

lead the way among confectioners. If we do our part here in Congress to lessen government regulations, to expand trade opportunities and to lower taxes to encourage economic growth, we will see more success stories like Just Born, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Just Born and 3 generations of Lehigh Valley employees for sweetening America.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 151, PROSECUTORIAL REMEDIES AND TOOLS AGAINST THE EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN TODAY ACT OF 2003

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 188 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 188

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (S. 151) to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to the sexual exploitation of children. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Yesterday the Committee on Rules met and granted a "normal" conference report rule for S. 151, the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003, or the PROTECT Act.

The rule waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration. Mr. Speaker, this should not be a controversial rule. It is the type of rule that we grant for every conference report that we consider in the House.

The PROTECT Act sends a clear message to those who prey upon children that if they commit these crimes, they will be punished. This legislation provides stronger penalties against kidnapping, ensures lifetime supervision of sexual offenders and kidnapers of children, gives law enforcement the tools it needs to effectively prosecute these crimes, and provides assistance to the community when a child is abducted.

To accomplish this, S. 151 establishes an AMBER Alert coordinator within the Department of Justice to assist States with their AMBER Alert plans. This coordination will eliminate gaps in the network, including gaps in interstate travel, work with States to encourage development of additional

AMBER plans, and serve as a nationwide point of contact.

The AMBER program is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement agencies and broadcasters to activate an urgent alert bulletin in serious child abduction cases. The goal of the AMBER Alert is to instantly galvanize the entire community to assist in the search for, and the safe return of, that child.

I am pleased that this legislation also authorizes \$20 million for fiscal year 2004 for the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to States for the development or enhancement of notification or communication systems along the highways. I am sure Members have seen those reader board signs. These signs are for alerts and other information for the recovery of abducted children. Doing this will enable all 50 States to implement this life-saving program, and we have seen several examples of it working lately to literally save children's lives.

For those individuals who would harm a child, we must ensure that punishment is severe and that sexual predators are not allowed to slip through the cracks of the system to harm other children. To this end, this legislation provides a 20-year mandatory minimum sentence of imprisonment for stranger abductions of a child under the age of 18, lifetime supervision for sex offenders and mandatory life imprisonment for second-time offenders; and we all know that is a very common occurrence.

This responds to the long-standing concerns of Federal judges and prosecutors regarding the inadequacy of the existing supervision period for sex offenders, particularly for the perpetrators of child sexual abuse crimes, whose criminal conduct may reflect deep-seated deviant sexual disorders, and they are not likely to disappear within a few years of release from prison.

Furthermore, S. 151 removes any statute of limitation and opportunity for pretrial release for crimes of child abduction and sex offenses. Oftentimes it is years later that sex offenses come to light because a child is afraid to speak out. That is why this conference report is so important. Not only does it come to the aid of the children after the abduction with the AMBER Alert, it aims to prevent the abduction with the provisions I just mentioned.

I also want to applaud the conferees for including legislation authored by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) that would punish those who use misleading domain names to attract children to sexually explicit Internet sites. It accomplishes this goal by increasing the penalties and provides prosecutors with enhanced tools to prosecute those seeking to lure children to porn Web sites. As a mother and grandmother, it is hard for me to understand how anyone can prey on a defenseless child.