

INTRODUCTION OF THE STRATEGIC MATERIALS ACT OF 2003

HON. SCOTT McINNS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Strategic Materials Act of 2003, legislation that would ensure that we retain the ability and capacity to produce strategic metals, so important to our defense and many other vital industries in the United States.

I am a big supporter of free trade, but I also understand that the United States must take care that it does not become completely and totally dependent on another country for materials that could be vital to our defense. One such class of materials for which I believe we need to take care to maintain the capacity to produce is the raw material used to make titanium, and other nickel-based alloys, that are absolutely vital to maintaining our military, as well as important to our aerospace industry and other areas of our economy as well. Let me be clear, as a supporter of free trade, I do not suggest the U.S. erect barriers to the trade of these materials, I just suggest that we should not unilaterally dismantle and offer preferences to the importation of these specific materials. My bill will ensure that these specific import-sensitive strategic materials are not eligible for Generalized System of Preferences or GSP designation.

The GSP designation is designed to promote economic growth and development in designated developing countries, and I support using trade as a means to stimulate a developing country's exports and economy. Trade can be a better way to provide assistance, because it helps to develop a country rather than just providing direct aid. That said, I have concerns that GSP is not appropriate for certain strategic materials, especially given that other countries already have significant market share in some of these materials. Extending GSP to these strategic materials could very well mean the United States loses the capacity to produce these materials domestically, as well as lose jobs. The reason for GSP, to provide assistance to develop an export industry in a developing country, does not appear appropriate when a foreign country or countries already control a significant share of the U.S. market.

The legislation I am introducing today sends a clear message that, given the importance of maintaining a strong military and the importance to other sectors of the economy, we should not hasten to offer preferences, for that risks complete dependence on foreign countries for strategic materials like titanium sponge—the basis for titanium. We must take care we do not use a program designed to assist developing countries' trade to inadvertently assist the demise of our domestic capacity to produce these materials that help make our military the strongest in the world.

MACV

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2003

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Minnesota Assistance

Council for Veterans (MACV), and in honor of their receiving the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans 2003 Outstanding Member Award.

The Outstanding Member Award is presented annually to the coalition member that demonstrates "exemplary commitment and service to American's homeless veterans." Through a strong, collaborative partnership with medical and veterans' centers across Minnesota and an unmatched commitment to the state's homeless veterans population, the MACV has met and exceeded these qualifications. As a result, this award recognizes the tremendous achievements the MACV has provided for all Minnesota citizens.

Since 1992, when it opened its first office in my Congressional District, the MACV has grown significantly. Today, the MACV operates eight transitional housing facilities throughout the state. By providing food, housing, employment and school opportunities in a structured, affordable program, the MACV represents a model organization for other states to replicate.

As we celebrate the achievements of the MACV and all our nation's homeless assistance programs, I urge my colleagues to remember the thousands of homeless veterans across the United States that go without help each and every day. On any given night, 275,000 veterans of the United States armed forces—including thousands in Minnesota—are homeless, and many struggle with alcohol, drug and mental challenges. It is critical that we continue to support the efforts of those who seek to provide these honorable veterans with a better way-of-life.

I commend the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans and their staff for this award, and thank the thousands of people across the United States committed to helping our nation's homeless veterans each and every day.

CONGRATULATING THE CINCINNATI ART MUSEUM ON ITS NEW CINCINNATI WING

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2003

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the Cincinnati Art Museum on the occasion of the opening of its new Cincinnati Wing.

The Cincinnati Wing showcases 400 works of art with connections to Cincinnati, the Queen City, in 15 renovated galleries encompassing 18,000 square feet of space. The galleries are decorated with recreations of period wallpaper depicting the 200 year story of our great American city's history. This award-winning project also features panoramic views of beautiful Eden Park and downtown Cincinnati.

The elegant new space will allow rarely viewed Cincinnati art to be displayed. The collection includes paintings, sculptures and decorative art from the late 19th century to the 1980s. From the great ceramics of Rookwood Pottery and the superb carved furniture of Aesthetic Movement craftsmen such as Benn Pitman, to the sculpture of Hiram Powers and the paintings of Frank Duveneck and John Twachtman, Cincinnati's artists produced works of international renown and made the Queen City a center for art.

We congratulate Cincinnati Art Museum Director Timothy Rub, his very capable staff and the many supporters of the Art Museum in the Greater Cincinnati community for their vision and commitment. This new wing commemorates the rich tradition of the fine arts in Cincinnati and will be a magnificent to one of the great art museums in America.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF KOREAN IMMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Centennial Committee of Korean Immigration as they celebrate 100 years of Korean immigration to the United States.

A century ago, 102 Koreans immigrated to Hawaii as sugar plantation workers, the leaders of a new wave of Korean immigration to the U.S. Today, the Korean-American community has grown to 2 million, making it the fifth largest Asian community in the U.S. Korean-Americans have overcome many challenges along the way; however, the success the Korean-American community currently enjoys is largely due to the perseverance and hard work of those first immigrants to Hawaii 100 years ago.

The United States has benefited greatly from the participation of the Korean-American community in business, medicine, the arts and many other fields. Moreover, the Korean-American community has flourished here. The 11th District of Virginia exemplifies this symbiotic relationship, with a large and vibrant Korean-American community making lasting contributions to Northern Virginia. As the Representative of a district that has greatly benefited from the participation of its Korean-American citizens, I was an original co-sponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 297, which recognizes the contributions of Korean-Americans during the past 100 years in business, science, the arts and other fields. This resolution passed in the House of Representatives by a 417-0 vote on September 23, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I applaud the leadership of the Centennial Committee of Korean Immigration in commemorating the achievements and contributions of Korean-Americans in the United States. Efforts like theirs are what make our representative democracy work: they have helped not only to educate the American public about the values and accomplishments of the Korean-American community, but also to secure a more effective representation of those communities throughout the United States.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HARVEY AND ANIS KELLEY

HON. SCOTT McINNS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate two outstanding cattle ranchers from Plateau Valley,