

TRIBUTE TO THE SALFORD HILLS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 2003

Mr. HOFFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Salford Hills Elementary School of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary on May 20, 2003.

Since it was created out of five one-room schoolhouses in 1953, Salford Hills Elementary School has been constantly growing. Its teachers and staff have done a remarkable job of molding students into outstanding citizens in the community. In 1993, the school was named as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the United States Department of Education, the highest honor that a school can receive.

Salford Hills Elementary School provides an excellent educational environment in which students are encouraged to achieve and develop responsibility for their own educations through hard work and reflection. Salford Hills Elementary prides itself on ensuring that all students receive the positive support and attention that they need to learn and achieve.

I commend Salford Hills Elementary School on its 50 years of service to its students and to the greater Montgomery County community.

JOBS AND GROWTH
RECONCILIATION TAX ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2003

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, for the past 2½ years the Bush administration, with help from a Republican majority in Congress, has pursued a policy of shifting this country's tax burden from corporate giants and their super-wealthy friends onto average Americans. Each tax cut proposed had a minimum of relief for families that masked huge breaks for the favored few.

The results of earlier such cuts are in: 2,200,000 jobs lost and a downward spiraling economy. This administration has had the worst private-sector job growth performance of the 14 administrations since World War II. Besides the current occupant, no White House except that of the second Eisenhower term lost jobs.

Now as concern for the economy rises, the President has again proposed huge cuts for a narrow few, with small cuts for families sprinkled in for "cover." Given the past failure of this approach, and the seemingly endless bleeding of jobs from our economy, the Bush tax cut plan has been re-titled the "Jobs and Economic Growth" Plan. Let's pray it doesn't repeat the damage done by the last initiative.

By mentioning the word jobs with every breath and having the media breathlessly repeat such pronouncements, the President believes people will think the problem is being addressed. He claims his plan will create 1.4 million jobs. Unfortunately for him, and us, Alan Greenspan of the Fed disagrees, as

does the former Presidential Economic Advisory Council member and now Director of the Congressional Budget Office. Neither would or could tout this *de ja vu*, his father called it *vo doo*, economic policy.

There is a better way to respond to the obvious needs of America's families; a previously tried and successful path that would address the painful situations too many are now experiencing. The President and Congress can provide help, and do so without raising taxes.

We must, however, forego those tax cuts that the President is trying to direct almost exclusively to the already extremely well-off, i.e., the reduction of taxes on Corporate dividends. It's not too much to ask. At every other juncture when this nation has met simultaneous foreign and domestic challenges, we have asked for, and received, shared sacrifices. This circumstance calls for the same response.

With common sense, fairness and decency as our guide, we can implement a plan far less costly than the President's that actually will create over a million jobs this year alone, and grow the economy. Taking this course will not saddle our children with hundreds of billion or trillions of dollars in debt, as would the President's plan.

We should forego the President's special tax favors, and instead:

Provide a decent extension of unemployment insurance benefits for those still out of work and those expected to lose their jobs in the coming months.

Provide states with funds to avoid their cuts in local aid that are resulting in teacher, fire and police lay offs and losses of other critical services. Also, by providing assistance with a larger federal share of Medicaid to stop plans to end coverage for thousands.

Fulfill the federal government's promises to states and local governments to fund homeland security, road and bridge repair and construction, disability education and 'No Child Left Behind' mandates, and with one-time assistance to help those hurt most by unemployment and a stagnant economy.

Focus any tax relief on families that work—not just those benefiting from "coupon clipping" and toward small business incentives for new investments and jobs actually created in 2003.

Finally, as the World Trade Organization forces the United States to end its tax subsidies to Corporations that manufacture overseas, we should defeat the Republican effort to repackage that same idea and stop policies that move jobs off-shore.

Stopping the economic slide and easing workers' and small business' pain in this economy is entirely possible if we do the sensible, fair things.

It is ironic that those looking to give money primarily to the very well-off expect to spend billions building Iraqi schools and roads, providing health care for Iraqi citizens, and rebuilding that country, but somehow lack the will and common sense to build America and help its struggling families. We are morally obligated to assist in Iraq, where so much devastation was caused. Still, I believe we are morally bound—and guided by fair play and common sense—to do the right thing for our citizens and economy as well.

It is my hope that the Senate will refocus attention on the needs of the American people and craft a Jobs and Growth Act worthy of its name.

MINOR USE AND MINOR SPECIES
ANIMAL HEALTH ACT OF 2003
(MUMS)

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 2003

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to bring attention to a problem faced by livestock and food animal producers, animal and pet owners, zoo and wildlife biologists, and the animals themselves, which unfortunately goes largely unnoticed except by those who are directly affected.

There currently exists a severe shortage of approved animal drugs for use in minor animal species. These minor animal species include animals other than cattle, horses, chickens, turkeys, dogs, and cats. In addition, there also exists a similar shortage of drugs and medicines for major animal species for diseases that occur infrequently or which occur in limited geographic areas. Due to the lack of availability of these minor use drugs, millions of animals go either untreated or treatment is delayed. This results not only in unnecessary animal physical and human emotional suffering but may threaten human health as well.

Without access to these necessary pharmaceutical tools, farmers and ranchers also suffer. A diseased animal left untreated can quickly spread disease throughout an entire herd of its fellow species. The result is economic hardship to farmers and ranchers who are already struggling to make their operations' cash flow. For example, the sheep industry lost nearly \$42 million worth of livestock alone in 2002. The industry estimates that if it had access to effective drugs to treat disease, production costs for their animals would be cut by 15 percent. In addition, feedlot deaths would be cut by up to 2 percent. Perhaps that seems like an insignificant loss, but it translates into \$8 million in revenue to the industry.

The catfish industry is by far the largest livestock industry in my home state of Mississippi. It provides jobs for ten of thousands of Mississippians and is a key component of my state's economy. The industry attributes \$60 million per year in losses to diseases for which drugs are not available. Of the entire food and ornamental fish industry, only 6 drugs are approved and available for treating the hundreds of aquaculture diseases which affect it. The losses associated with the lack of necessary pharmaceutical tools can be crippling to anyone involved in the industry.

Because of limited market opportunities, low returns, and enormous capital investment required, it is generally not economically feasible for drug manufacturers to pursue research and development, and then approval, for drugs used in treating minor species and infrequent conditions and diseases. Mr. Speaker, with a number of our colleagues from both sides of the aisle who recognize the urgency of this matter, Mr. JOHN and I are today introducing legislation to help mitigate the shortage of minor species drugs. The Minor Use and Minor Species Animal Health Act of 2003 will provide manufacturers the opportunity to develop and approve minor use drugs which are vitally needed by a plethora of animal industries.

Our legislation incorporates the major proposals of the Food and Drug Administration's