

became involved with Kentucky Refugee Ministries after volunteering with a similar program in Jordan in 2000. Anne Marie, a rhetorician and composition graduate student at the University of Louisville, also obtained a master's degree in creative writing from George Mason University. Remarkably, English is her only language.

In one of her assignments, Anne Marie assisted a Bosnian family in accomplishing basic daily activities like shopping, driving, and setting up bank accounts. She also taught English conversation skills to two sisters from a Congolese refugee camp. Anne Marie is a mentor to refugee children from Kosovo, Mexico, and Jordan, serving as both a friend and a teacher.

Her generosity and kindness has improved the lives of refugees in countless ways. Her patience, instruction, and friendship is an example for us all. Anne Marie Pederson is an exemplar of charity and a tribute to Kentucky. I thank the Senator for allowing me to recognize Anne Marie Pederson and voice her praises. She is Kentucky at its best.●

IN REMEMBRANCE OF R. HUGH BRADY

● Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, it is never easy to say good-bye to a long-time friend, and it is even tougher when a community has to mourn the loss of a true humanitarian. Last Thursday, one of the most charitable men I have ever had the pleasure of knowing passed away at the age of 74 after a courageous battle with cancer.

His name was Hugh Brady and for many children in Idaho, he was the man who made sure they had the necessary sporting equipment to participate in the games they loved. In 1954, Hugh was hired as a salesman for Idaho Sporting Goods in Boise and traveled all over a three-State area providing uniforms and equipment to schools that needed it, especially those in the more rural areas. He became sole owner of Idaho Sporting Goods in 1969 and over the years sponsored thousands of children and teams in all types of sports.

On August 6, Hugh will be inducted into Idaho High School Activities Association Hall of Fame for his kind-hearted efforts off the field and his immense support for any child who had a desire to play no matter their ability. He wanted so badly to attend the ceremony, but it was not meant to be. Instead it will be a time to celebrate his wonderful life and reflect upon how one man was able to touch so many lives for the better.

Hugh lived by a simple rule he picked up from a used car salesman many years ago, and it served him well: Be honest to your wife, your banker and your customers. He expected honesty from his employees and to this day Idaho Sporting Goods is one of the most trusted businesses in Idaho.

I would like to pass along my heartfelt condolences to Hugh's family.

Cherle, his wife of 52 years, and their 11 children are regulars around the Boise sports scene. Whether in the stands or on the field, the Brady's prove great ambassadors for athletics. His 33 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren carry on their tradition today. We will miss you, Hugh, but we will never forget all you gave so that others could play.●

PEACHES FROM SOUTH CAROLINA FARMERS

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, today, 10,000 fresh, juicy peaches from my home State have been delivered to offices throughout the Senate, House, and U.S. Capitol. I want to thank the South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation and the South Carolina Peach Council for giving my colleagues and their staffs this taste of South Carolina.

For a tiny State, South Carolina is second only to California in peach production. This year we expect to harvest 130 million pounds, and because of all the rain the peaches are plumper and juicier than they have ever been. So with all due respect to my colleagues from Georgia, South Carolina is known as the "Tastier Peach State" for good reason.

I hope as all of us enjoy these peaches, we think about the farmers who get up early every morning and labor all summer in the heat and humidity to bring us this. We are so fortunate to have in this country safe, plentiful, and affordable fresh fruit and vegetables and none of us should ever take that for granted.

Finally, I remind the rest of America to ask for South Carolina peaches at their groceries.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

LEGISLATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE UNITED STATES-SINGAPORE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—PM 44

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Congress of the United States

I am pleased to transmit legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement (FTA). The Agreement will further open Singapore's markets and increase competition and consumer choice. This is America's first FTA with an Asian-Pacific nation, and we hope it will serve as a benchmark for future free trade agreements with other nations in the region. The Agreement will enhance prosperity in the United States and Singapore, serve the interest of expanding U.S. commerce, and advance our overall national interest.

My Administration is strongly committed to securing a level playing field for America's workers, farmers, and businesses. The Congress helped advance that policy by passing Trade Promotion Authority in the Trade Act of 2002 (the "Trade Act"). The Congress can help us take another important step by approving this Agreement and the implementing legislation. Without this Agreement, U.S. workers and businesses could be placed at a competitive disadvantage, because Singapore has signed or is currently working on free trade agreements with Japan, Canada, Australia, Mexico, and India.

In negotiating this FTA, my Administration was guided by the negotiating objectives set out in the Trade Act. The Agreement locks in tariff-free access for all U.S. goods, including textile and agriculture products, and addresses other barriers to trade. It opens opportunities for our services businesses, which now account for nearly 65 percent of our gross domestic product and more than 80 percent of employment in the United States. Through this FTA, Singapore will grant substantial additional market access to U.S. firms across a broad spectrum of services, including banking, insurance, securities and related financial services, express delivery services, professional services, and telecommunications. The Agreement also incorporates commitments on regulatory transparency that will be of special help to services business.

This Agreement provides state-of-the-art intellectual property protection, including significant commitments on trade in digital products. It ensures that electronic commerce will stay free of duties and discriminatory rules. In addition, Singapore will accede to international treaties dealing with copyright and access issues for the Internet.

United States citizens and businesses that invest in Singapore will have significant increased protections. This Agreement enhances transparency and openness in order to foster a more secure environment for trade and investment. Furthermore, Singapore will provide U.S. investors with important substantive protections that Singaporean investors already enjoy in the United States.

Singapore and the United States have also agreed to cooperate on the

environment and labor issues and to establish mechanisms to support those efforts. The FTA obligates each country to enforce its own labor and environmental laws and makes clear that domestic labor or environmental protections may not be reduced in order to encourage trade or investment. The Agreement also preserves our right to pursue other legitimate domestic objectives, including the protection of health and safety, consumer interests, and national security.

Trade and openness contribute to development, the rule of law, economic growth, and international cooperation. Singapore is a close partner of the United States, and this Agreement will strengthen those ties.

With the approval of this Agreement and passage of the implementing legislation by the Congress, we will advance U.S. economic, security, and political interests, while encouraging others to work with us to expand free trade around the world.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 15, 2003.

LEGISLATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE UNITED STATES-CHILE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—PM 45

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement (FTA). The Agreement will further open Chile's markets for U.S. manufactured goods, agricultural products, services, and investors. It will increase competition and consumer choice. The FTA will enhance prosperity in the United States and Chile, serve the interest of expanding U.S. commerce, and advance our overall national interest.

The U.S.-Chile FTA is the first United States free trade agreement with a South American country. We hope the FTA will add momentum to Chile's continued implementation of the free market economic policies that have made Chile a model for its Latin American neighbors. This Agreement will also encourage other countries in the Western Hemisphere to follow Chile's path, furthering our efforts to establish a Free Trade Area of the Americas.

My Administration is strongly committed to securing a level playing field for America's workers, farmers, and businesses. The Congress helped advance that policy by passing Trade Promotion Authority in the Trade Act of 2002 (the "Trade Act"). The Congress can help us take another important step by approving this Agreement and the implementing legislation. United

States workers and businesses are currently at a competitive disadvantage in the Chilean market. Chile is an associate member in Mercosur and has FTAs with many other countries, including Canada, Mexico, and the 15 members of the European Union. Securing an FTA with Chile will ensure that U.S. workers and businesses will receive treatment in the Chilean market that is as good as or better than their competitors.

In negotiating this FTA, my Administration was guided by the negotiating objectives set out in the Trade Act. More than 85 percent of trade in consumer and industrial goods between the United States and Chile will be free of duties immediately upon implementation, and most remaining tariffs on U.S. exports to Chile will be eliminated within 4 years after that. More than three-quarters of U.S. farm goods will enter Chile duty free within 4 years and all duties on such goods will be phased out over 12 years. At the same time, the Agreement includes measures to ensure that U.S. firms and farmers have an opportunity to adjust to imports from Chile.

This Agreement opens opportunities for our services businesses, which now account for nearly 65 percent of our gross domestic product and more than 80 percent of employment in the United States. Chile will grant substantial market access to U.S. firms across nearly the entire spectrum of services, including banking, insurance, securities and related financial services, express delivery services, professional services, and telecommunications.

This Agreement provides for state-of-the-art intellectual property protection and recognizes the importance of trade in the digital age by including significant commitments on trade in digital products. In addition, it ensures that electronic commerce will stay free of duties and discriminatory rules.

United States citizens and businesses that invest in Chile will have significant increased protections. This Agreement promotes rule of law and enhances transparency and openness in order to foster a more secure environment for trade and investment. Furthermore, Chile will provide U.S. investors with important substantive protections that Chilean investors already enjoy in the United States.

The United States and Chile have also agreed to cooperate on environment and labor issues and to establish mechanisms to support those efforts. A number of important cooperative projects that will promote environmental protection are identified for future work. The FTA encourages the adoption of high labor and environmental standards, obligates each country to enforce its own labor and environmental laws, and makes clear that domestic labor and environmental protections may not be reduced in order to encourage trade or investment. The Agreement also preserves our right to pursue other legitimate domestic ob-

jectives, including the protection of health and safety, consumer interests, and national security.

Trade and openness contribute to development, the rule of law, economic growth, and international cooperation. Chile is a close partner of the United States, and this Agreement will strengthen those ties.

With the approval of this Agreement and passage of the implementing legislation by the Congress, we will advance U.S. economic and political interests, while encouraging others to work with us to expand free trade around the world.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 15, 2003.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:17 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 709. An act to award a congressional gold medal to Prime Minister Tony Blair.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2330. An act to sanction the ruling Burmese military junta, to strengthen Burma's democratic forces and support and recognize the National League of Democracy as the legitimate representative of the Burmese people, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2673. An act making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House had agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 215. A concurrent resolution honoring and congratulating chambers of commerce for their efforts that contribute to the improvement of communities and the strengthening of local and regional economies.

The message also announced that the House disagrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a voluntary program for prescription drug coverage under the Medicare Program, to modernize the Medicare Program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction to individuals for amounts contributed to health savings security accounts and health savings accounts, to provide for the disposition of unused health benefits in cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as the managers of the conference on the part of the House:

For consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendments, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. TAUZIN, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr.