

forwardlooking agreements that not only expand markets, but protect worker and consumer rights and the environment. What is acceptable for Chile and Singapore will not be adequate in other countries. We must negotiate future FTAs to ensure that our citizens and our trading partners have the opportunity to experience the full benefits of free and fair trade.

RECOGNIZING THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURKEY'S INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as a proud member of the Hellenic Caucus, I rise today to recognize the 29th anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus. On this occasion, we mourn those who lost their lives and remember the barrier created in 1974 that still exists today. The island remains divided between the Turkish Cypriots and the Greek Cypriots, despite attempts by the United Nations for a reunification settlement. I thank Mrs. MALONEY and Mr. BILIRAKIS for their ongoing leadership in the Hellenic Caucus and for bringing much-needed attention to issues of importance to the Hellenic community.

The European Union has invited Cyprus to enter its membership next May, and on July 14, 2003, the Greek Cypriot parliament unanimously approved the bid to join. At this point in time, only pertains to the Greek Cypriot part of the island, since the Turkish Cypriot part is not formally recognized by the European Union. Shortly after Cyprus agreed to join the European Union, the Turkish Cypriot authorities opened the borders and allowed Cypriots to cross over the line for the first time in 30 years. This past April was the first time that Cypriots from either side were able to travel through the 120-mile barrier, which continues to be guarded by U.N. peacekeeping forces, since the invasion in 1974. Despite this step forward, the nation remains divided.

Along with my colleagues, I will continue to put pressure on the Bush Administration to help Cyprus work toward a peaceful solution. Although relations between the Turkish and Greek Cypriot sides have recently thawed, there is still a long way to go to reunification. The U.N. settlement cleared a path for all of Cyprus to unite once again, to share in the European Union's prosperity, and to end military zones. Now with just the Republic of Cyprus poised for EU membership in 2004, the divide between the two sides may grow without a push for future negotiations.

Rauf Denktash, the Turkish Cypriot Leader, has proven to be the biggest hindrance to reunification talks. He has ignored the calls from the majority of his own people who want reunification, and would rather fight for a two-state confederation, which is not supported by the Greek Cypriots or the United Nations. He has even stood in the way of his people's democratic choice by not allowing them to take part in a referendum on the decision of whether or not to join the European Union. Elections for the Turkish Cypriot authorities are expected in November, and I hope the will of the Turkish Cypriots will be heard.

The U.S. must continue its role in supporting negotiations so that there is still potential for all of Cyprus to join the EU. It has been a long, hard road, but with support from the United States, the European Union, and the United Nations, a reunification of Cyprus is still possible. We should heed the words of the Greek Cypriot President Tassos Papadopoulos on this special anniversary: "we are determined to try, until the end, in a peaceful manner and through negotiations, to end the invasion and occupation. The people should be brave, patient, and work hard."

UNITED STATES-CHILE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the U.S. free trade agreements (FTAs) with Chile and Singapore. I do so, however, with serious reservations, and appreciate this opportunity to explain my concerns.

Critics of the Chile and Singapore trade agreements assert that these FTAs contain inadequate labor protections, and specifically note that they include only one labor rights provision that is enforceable through dispute resolution proceedings. While it is accurate that the Chile and Singapore agreements would subject only the "enforce your own laws" standard to dispute settlement, critics of these agreements are well aware that this is only the case because Chile and Singapore's labor laws currently exceed the International Labor Organization's (ILO) five core labor standards, and both countries (especially Chile) have strong, effective labor movements. Similarly tough labor laws and movements did not exist in Mexico during consideration of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and in Jordan during consideration of the U.S.-Jordan FTA. Consequently, NAFTA and the Jordan agreement needed multiple enforceable labor standards included in them.

Opponents of these trade agreements fear that the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) will use the Chile and Singapore agreements as templates for future FTAs. I strongly believe that each free trade agreement should be examined on its own merits, and do not believe that these agreements should be used as templates for future trade agreements. The treatment of workers varies widely from country to country; accordingly, the numbers of enforceable labor standards in future trade agreements need to change to fit the particular circumstances of the parties involved in each agreement.

The USTR has indicated its intention to complete negotiations on the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) by the end of this year, and, as both a member of the Ways and Means Committee and a member of the full House, I will be closely following the progress of these negotiations and the final terms of the agreement. Failure to include significant enforceable labor standards in CAFTA, which includes several Central American countries with disgraceful working conditions

and histories of virtually nonexistent enforcement of labor statutes, will doom this agreement. I will vigorously oppose a weak Central American Free Trade Agreement, and will oppose any other future trade agreements that reward countries with poor labor conditions.

During my time in Congress, I have worked hard with my colleagues from both parties to ensure that core labor standards are both protected and enforced. In 2002, partly in response to serious concerns regarding labor protections in the Trade Promotion Authority Act, I voted against granting fast track authority to the President. I believed then, and continue to believe, that fast track authority contains within it the potential to adversely affect American workers through the loss of domestic jobs in Texas and across the country.

In general, I believe that many of our industries in Texas and the country at large, such as agriculture, financial services, telecommunications, and computers, can benefit from available and fair markets in other countries. Access to foreign markets for U.S. goods and services, however, must be balanced with a concern for domestic industries that are most threatened by uneven trade agreements. I have too often witnessed the downside of trade agreements that allow subsidized foreign imports to overwhelm domestic products such as steel and softwood lumber, which are significant sources of jobs for thousands of East Texans. My qualified support for the U.S.-Chile and U.S.-Singapore free trade agreements is based largely on my belief that these agreements will benefit American exports while not threatening domestic industries in America.

As Congress seeks to influence future trade negotiations and agreements, I will continue to work with my colleagues to craft trade deals that are fair to American workers, working people across the world, and our domestic industries.

HEALTH CENTER WEEK

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, the week of August 10 through August 15, 2003, is "Health Center Week" in Peekskill, New York. Let me urge our citizens to recognize the important contributions of the Hudson River Community Health Centers in safeguarding health and improving the quality of life for the people of Peekskill.

Hudson River Community Health is a private, nonprofit corporation that provides high-quality, comprehensive primary health care to uninsured and medically underserved people in Peekskill, New York.

Hudson River Community Health has made great strides in expanding access to affordable health disparities while empowering the community to address special needs and decrease the cost of illness through preventative strategies.

Hudson River Community Health has improved the health status of Peekskill promoting health awareness and providing primary care and preventive health services of the highest quality to reduce preventable deaths, costly disabilities, and communicable diseases.

Hudson River Community Health serves as a vital safety net delivering care to Peekskill patients annually, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay, and contributes to the health and overall economy of the community with health services, jobs, leadership and investment.

Hudson River Community Health promotes 100 percent access and zero health disparities to help achieve primary care for all people.

The people of Peekskill are right to recognize this wonderful asset to our community. Let us applaud their fine work. Our citizens look forward to a better future because of the Hudson River Community Health Centers.

A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN JOHN M. HOLMES, U.S. COAST GUARD, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding officer of the United States Coast Guard. Captain John M. Holmes has devoted almost three decades of his life in service to his country. Captain Holmes has excelled in his many assignments over the years in the Coast Guard, assignments which are as far ranging, varied and contemporary as the Service itself.

Captain Holmes' assignments include: Chief of Operational Intelligence, Seventh Coast Guard District in Miami, Florida; Operations Officer, Coast Guard Group, Seattle, Washington; Overseas Inspection Supervisor, Marine Safety Office, Honolulu, Hawaii; Chief of Compliance, Office of Marine Safety, Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C.; and Commanding Officer, Marine Safety Office, St. Louis, Missouri.

The experience, commitment and professionalism which Captain Holmes brought to the Service proved its value in assignments as Coast Guard Liaison to the Governor of American Samoa; staff officer for the United States Ambassador to the Government of Singapore; State Department delegate to the International Maritime Organization, London, England; and as Deputy Chief, Office of Congressional Affairs, Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

It has been under the most demanding circumstances that, as Commanding Officer, Marine Safety Office, Los Angeles-Long Beach, Captain Holmes has demonstrated the finest qualities of a military officer. The events of September 11, 2001, and the aftermath of those attacks on our country, presented Captain Holmes with challenges far beyond those faced by any previous Commanding Officer at this unit. Captain Holmes immediately initiated a series of skillfully coordinated actions in order to establish a robust, comprehensive maritime homeland security presence for this vital port complex, the largest and busiest in our Nation.

Expertly directing port security operations and carefully balancing security and safety with commerce, Captain Holmes achieved an unprecedented level of interagency cooperation with city, county, state and federal agencies that led the Nation in coordinated oper-

ations and planning. Establishing joint agency boarding teams, high-risk vessel water escorts, on-board Sea Marshals of high-risk vessels, and tighter port security boarding procedures, he moved without delay on September 11, 2001 to insure the continuation of maritime commerce and the confidence of the shipping community. Many of Captain Holmes' innovative methods were adopted Pacific-wide by the Coast Guard and will no doubt find their way to ports worldwide as we seek to enhance global maritime security.

This most distinguished Coast Guard officer, with his wife Carol, has two children, Lucas and Ava. They are as proud of him as I, for he has provided all of us a shining example of all that is good and honorable in the American military.

Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, I have had the distinct pleasure of working directly with Captain Holmes and seeing first-hand his professional expertise, commitment to his personnel, and dedication to his country. His stewardship in serving our Nation will long be remembered, and should serve as a model for all of us in the years to come. As he sets his course for new challenges, I'm sure my colleagues will join me in saluting John Holmes, and thanking him for a "job well done"—for the maritime community, for California, and for America.

INTRODUCTION OF THE KEEP AMERICA SECURE ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, if we are to maintain the most advanced military force, with the most advanced weaponry, we must have a dedicated stream of domestically produced parts. Regrettably, today this simply is not happening. We can blame it on the reluctance of the Department of Defense to "Buy American" or on the dearth of domestic electronic component producers. Either way, our armed forces dependence on foreign parts has major security ramifications. From missiles to computers, much of our crucial defense and homeland security equipment relies on sophisticated electronic components to function. We must act now to eliminate our reliance on foreign electronic components in our defense systems.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I am taking a bold step to keep America secure and rebuild our domestic electronics sector. I am introducing the "Keep America Secure Act," legislation that directs the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to purchase electronic components, including computer chips, communications devices, and guidance systems, that are manufactured in the United States. As an active member of the Defense Industrial Base Caucus, I see this bill as the perfect complement to ongoing efforts to enhance the "Buy American" requirement so that at least 65 percent of DoD equipment contains U.S.-made parts. My bill would go even further—requiring all component parts for all DoD and DHS equipment to be Made-In-America.

During the first Gulf War, the United States was forced to turn to Japan—not once, but on

three separate occasions—for essential parts in the production of the Patriot Missile. Similarly, when Operation Iraqi Freedom began in March, a Swiss company stopped shipments of a crucial guidance system component for U.S. smart bombs. Both these incidents could have resulted in U.S. forces being in harm's way without necessary tools to defend themselves. Fortunately, neither incident caused threats to our troops, but they clearly demonstrate the need to protect our production supply lines from being cut, especially in times of war.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, as one who is very concerned about the state of domestic manufacturing, I strongly believe that the Keep America Secure will help re-ignite our high-tech sector. Over the last two years, our economy has lost 2.6 million manufacturing jobs. The Keep America Secure Act would help promote the remaining U.S. high tech firms. We need to rebuild the domestic electronic components industry, and this bill will help us do it.

As our troops continue to rebuild Iraq and our first responders focus on homeland security, Congress must make a commitment to rebuilding our domestic manufacturing base and to ensuring that our courageous defenders continue to have the best equipment available. And as our economy suffers, let us give the manufacturing sector a needed shot in the arm. Unless the Congress stands up and puts a halt to it we will eventually be at the mercy of any adversary who controls the manufacture of our weapons or critical components of our weapons.

Mr. Speaker, in the days to come, I will look to my like-minded friends, on both sides of the aisle, to get action on this vital measure. I say to my colleagues: let's work together to keep America secure.

INTRODUCTION OF A HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNMENT TO PURCHASE FAIR TRADE CERTIFIED COFFEE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a group of my colleagues to introduce the Fair Trade Coffee Resolution. This resolution calls on the Legislative Branch and the Executive Agencies of the Federal Government to make fair trade coffee available at their events and food service venues. It also directs the Congress to provide information to the public about Fair Trade coffee. Last year, the House of Representatives passed H. Res 604, recommending that the Congress adopt a global strategy for resolving the coffee crisis. Since then we have not taken any legislative steps to do what we recommended. This small piece of legislation requires very little on our part and yet would promote efforts to give a decent standard of living to small coffee farmers around the world.

The current coffee crisis has driven coffee prices down to a hundred year low. On top of that, small farmers are at the mercy of ruthless middlemen and are not even receiving the fair market price. These middlemen take advantage of small farmers who have no other