

This is a fact. The American people are paying so much more for pharmaceutical products than other countries and people who are buying prescription drugs in other parts of the world that Americans are going across the border into Canada in droves to buy their pharmaceutical products because it saves them so much money. When you have a little old lady who cannot afford her pharmaceutical products and her health is at risk, you cannot blame her for going across the Canadian border to buy the very same prescription drug for one-fourth or one-fifth or one-sixth of what it costs here in the United States.

It is very important that this message be gotten out to all of our constituents around this country, so that we can bring about some positive change that will make sure that Americans pay a fair price for world class drugs.

I just would like to say to my colleague who has been leading the fight on this issue, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT), what do you think about this?

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Well, if the gentleman would yield, I think President Reagan had it best, quoting John Adams, when he said, "Facts are stubborn things."

I want to congratulate the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL), the gentleman from (Mrs. EMERSON) and so many other people in the House.

This is not a single-person issue. We have been involved in this for many years. The gentleman from Indiana (Chairman BURTON) has been among the only chairmen here in this Congress who have been willing to have real hearings and bring in both sides and let both sides present their case and let the facts come out.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mrs. Speaker, reclaiming my time, one of the things that bothers me is the gentleman has been talking about how safe it is to buy pharmaceutical products from other industrialized nations.

There are some 940 FDA approved facilities around the world that produce these products. They are sent around the world in bulk, so the safety issue appears to be a bogus issue. But today, in USA Today, the head of the Food and Drug Administration, Mr. Mark McClellan, said that the seniors and others who are buying their pharmaceuticals from Canada are buying under "buyer-beware" conditions, which indicates he thinks they are at great risk.

Would the gentleman explain to us why that is not accurate?

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Once again, the facts do not support that. We know, for example, how many people have died from taking legal FDA approved drugs from other countries. It is a nice, round number, easy to remember: It is zero. We know that more people be-

come ill and die from eating foods, fruits and vegetables, which the FDA is also responsible for, than they ever will with the drugs we are talking about.

More importantly, this is happening now. Americans are doing this right now, many of them knowing that, technically, the FDA says this is illegal. I do not necessarily agree that this is illegal.

Congressional intent is very clear: We intend to make this legal, and we intend to make it safer, using tamper-proof, counterfeit-proof packaging, which is not required today, actually making this business even safer.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. The thing that is interesting is there are containers that are tamper-proof, and you just showed one of them there. But these 940-some production sites around the world that are FDA approved, they send these pills around the world in bulk, in huge containers, and it seems to me if there was any threat of sabotage or messing around with those, it would be in those bigger containers, not in a tamper-proof vial like that.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. The gentleman is absolutely right. The drug Lipitor, for example, every single tablet is imported into the United States, because it is only made in Ireland in an FDA-approved facility. When they ship into the United States, they do not bring it in in armored cars, they bring it in in big bulk containers that sit on a loading dock in New Jersey for a week or so. If there is any chance to get in there and tamper with those drugs, there is a much better chance at that time than in an individual package.

So, ultimately the safety argument, and I think most Members and Americans, voting with their feet, have come to the same conclusion, the safety argument is just pure bogus.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. So it boils down to why is the Food and Drug Administration trying to protect the huge profits that are being made here in the United States by the pharmaceutical companies, when at the same time in other parts of the world it is not that great.

TRIBUTE TO MILDRED "MILLIE" O'NEIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. PELOSI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, it is with great personal sadness that I rise to pay tribute to Mildred, better known as Millie, O'Neill, wife of former Speaker Tip O'Neil, who passed away peacefully yesterday.

She did so in between watching her sports. She was a great sports fan. She enjoyed seeing Tiger Woods win on Sunday and, of course, she was getting ready for the Red Sox game that was to come on last night.

Millie was a true heroine to our party and our country, and we will miss her terribly. As Democratic Lead-

er of the House, I am humbled to occupy the office which was once occupied by the great Democratic Speaker, Tip O'Neil.

Tip loved his country, his party, his church, his family, and, above all, he loved Millie. Millie was Tip's partner in everything that he did. She was a wonderful, wonderful mother to their children and she became the godmother to the Democratic Party.

Always warm, always caring, and, at the same time, very, very strong, Millie was someone in whose presence we all loved to be.

Again, Millie loved her Red Sox. She was thrilled that they were in the playoffs this year and, of course, I think she has a front row seat for the series coming up now. Now, maybe, I would say to my colleagues from Massachusetts, maybe now that Millie has a front row seat from even higher than the Green Monster, she and Tip can break the "Curse of the Bambino" and have the Red Sox win the World Series, the first time since 1918. It will probably take that kind of divine intervention. But if anybody can make it happen, it is Millie.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her family, with her children and grandchildren, whom she cherished. I have the privilege of working on a daily basis with one granddaughter, Catlin O'Neill. We honor the legacy of Tip and Millie O'Neill every day we serve here.

I hope it is a comfort to Thomas III, Rosemary, Christopher, better known as Kip, and Susan, that so many people in our country mourn their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

Millie has joined Tip and her son Michael, who preceded her to heaven, now in praying for us where they have, shall we say, more access. Let us think of them as we undertake our responsibilities, and know the proud tradition that they were a part of and that we have a responsibility to carry on.

With that, Madam Speaker, once again I express condolences, not only my own personal and that of my family, but that of all the Democratic Members of the House in sending our condolences to the O'Neill family.

I am pleased to do this under the leadership of the dean of the Massachusetts delegation (Mr. MARKEY), and join other members of the delegation in remembering Millie and celebrating her life.

WASHINGTON WASTE WATCHERS: DUPLICATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, I rise again this week as cofounder of a new Republican effort, dedicated to bringing the disinfectant of sunshine into the shadowy corners of the wasteful Washington bureaucracy. We call ourselves the Washington Waste