

FLOOR ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. DAVID DREIER ON THE AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1561, UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK FEE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2003

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 6, 2004

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of February 9 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 1561, the United States Patent and Trademark Fee Modernization Act of 2003. The Committee on the Judiciary ordered the bill reported on July 9, 2003, and filed its report with the House on July 25, 2003.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Rules Committee in room H-312 of the Capitol by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, February 10.

Members should draft their amendment to the text of the bill as reported by the Committee on the Judiciary.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format. Members are also advised to check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

ON THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION CONCERNING ISRAEL AND THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 6, 2004

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, December 8, 2003, the General Assembly of the United Nations, sitting in an emergency special session, adopted Resolution ES 10/14, requesting the International Court of Justice to render an advisory opinion on the legal consequences of Israel's security fence.

The placing of this issue before the ICJ as the result of a political campaign within the U.N. General Assembly is a highly unsatisfactory means of dealing with a profoundly complex and contentious issue. If successful, this initiative portends an increasingly political and divisive use of the ICJ.

There is an increasing concern by many countries that the use of the ICJ to obtain an advisory opinion will undermine the stature of the court as well as the role of international law. It is also important that the ICJ continue to abide by the principle of not addressing such contentious issues without the consent of all parties involved. To do otherwise could set a precedent that could serve to weaken the stature of the U.N. by encouraging a new level of politically oriented activity.

This requested abuse of the ICJ would raise the threshold of politically oriented activity. It is

important to note that this controversial initiative has not garnered the support of even a majority of U.N. members. Only 90 states, none of them democracies, voted in favor of the resolution.

Israel is a small democratic nation with myriad adversaries bent on its destruction. The undeniable truth remains that Israel, as with any other nation, has the right and responsibility to protect the lives of its innocent civilians from brutal terrorist attacks. Consequently, the question of the preservation of due process with the General Assembly and the preservation of the integrity of the ICJ is essential.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN LEWISVILLE, TX

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 6, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The First United Methodist Church of Lewisville on its 125th anniversary. The First United Methodist Church is dedicated to developing a haven for Christian believers to be able to explore their professions of faith in Jesus Christ.

Through its constant growth over the last 125 years, FUMC-Lewisville has helped the extended Lewisville community to live a more active lifestyle of worship, education, spiritual, mental, and physical development. FUMC-Lewisville serves as an example of a long-standing organization that seeks to help others while continuing growth within the church itself.

The Lewisville chapter currently has diverse groups for every member of the community. The motivated individuals who continue these on-going ministries are the reason that the church is able to celebrate its 125th anniversary today. By sponsoring programs such as Trinity Troupe for actors of all ages, 11 music groups, 8 Bible studies, Covenant group for women of the church, My Brother's Keeper for men to meet every month for breakfast and fellowship, marriage intimacy classes and athletic programs, the church has made an effort to ensure that everyone who wants to be at FUMC-Lewisville is welcomed with open arms and has a place to feel at home in fellowship with other believers.

The church was established on January 25, 1879, with Reverend J.S. Sherill as an equal to a District Superintendent, along with three preachers: G.W. Jackson, L.E. Joshua and L.D. Addington. The first building was not constructed until 1881, but the church thrived for three years without an actual place of worship. By 1887, Lewisville had the only Sunday school in the area with a steady attendance of 75. By 1910, the church had moved to a new building, where it survived the wars and depression. With one last move, FUMC-Lewisville found its present home.

We congratulate the efforts of this church and hope to increase the participation of others in the community who wish to follow the example of FUMC-Lewisville. Through this church, the members are able to make a difference in the lives of people of all ages throughout the community by helping them to

begin a walk of growth and love that will remain constant throughout their lives. The church should take pride in its hard work and commitment to civic involvement that has spanned the past 125 years. We wish the best for the future of FUMC-Lewisville and hope that the next 125 years will be as blessed as these 125 years have been.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR ELLIOTT

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 6, 2004

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Arthur Elliott, a dear friend and mentor of mine who passed away.

Art attended Michigan State University and fought for our country during World War II in the U.S. Army for 5 years. Following his education and service, he continued an expansive career in real estate development and building. Holding in high regard civic responsibilities, Art led by example, actively engaging himself in Michigan's political affairs.

Art served as the chairman of the Republican Party for both Oakland County and the State of Michigan. In 1960 and 1964 he represented Michigan Republicans as a delegate to the party's national conventions. Also, Art was a delegate at the Michigan State Constitutional Convention. In addition, he played an instrumental role in the election of Michigan Governor George W. Romney.

Art was an admired counselor and advisor. He shared his wisdom, good judgment, and advice with many, and his political instincts were unparalleled. Still, his reputation transcended political lines because of the relationships he fostered with all individuals he knew and worked with.

An advocate of community service, Art served as president of the local chapter of the Rotary International, of which he was a life-long member. He sat on the board of directors of Lake Superior State University and Trout Unlimited. He was also president of the committee that renovated Traverse City, Michigan's Park Place Hotel.

Art had a passion for traveling, fly fishing, photography and family life. As a husband, father, grandfather and friend he will be remembered for his integrity, dedication, and guidance.

Mr. Speaker, Art was a dear friend who had a strong regard for the individual and Republican ideals. He was admired and will be remembered by all those he knew.

THE COUNTER-TERRORIST AND NARCO-TERRORIST REWARDS PROGRAM ACT

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 6, 2004

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, today I am very pleased to introduce, along with TOM LANTOS, the Ranking Democratic member of the House International Relations Committee, and my colleague from Illinois, MARK STEVEN KIRK, a bill, the "Counter-Terrorist and Narco-Terrorist