

I don't believe that the concerns I have listed outweigh the potential good of the bill, so I will vote in support of it today. It is not perfect, but I believe it represents an agreement that is essentially free and fair. Expanded trade is important to this country and the world, but it will only be beneficial to a broad range of people in our nation and in other nations if it is carefully shaped to include basic standards and protect workers' rights and the environment.

CELEBRATING THE COMPLETED  
RENOVATION OF THE MONROE  
EVENING NEWS BUILDING

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 15, 2004*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and celebrate The Monroe Evening News and its approximately 150 employees, who also own the newspaper, on the successful completion of a year-long renovation of their building.

Serving the people of the Monroe County region for 179 years, this newspaper has advanced its values of integrity, community, and growth while remaining one of the few employee-owned newspapers in the country. The Evening News has been recognized for more than its longevity, winning several prestigious awards including the Annual Award for Communications Excellence in 1996.

The Monroe Evening News has been published from its current location since 1910. Demonstrating an ongoing need to best serve their readers, this renovation, costing \$3,000,000, will be the third renovation to this building. The renovation has reconfigured the entire interior of the building; creating an enhanced main entrance and expanding the customer-service area. While the interior has an updated, contemporary look, the exterior and additions will maintain the historic appearance of the long-standing building.

As The Monroe Evening News opens its newly overhauled offices, I would ask that my colleagues rise and join with me in congratulating a thriving, employee-owned daily newspaper on a successful, fruitful renovation. As The Evening News approaches one hundred years in the same building, let us wish them the best of luck for the next hundred years and beyond.

I ask for unanimous consent to include in the RECORD these remarks from celebrated political columnist Jack Germond, who started his legendary career at The Monroe Evening News:

I am privileged to join John Dingell in congratulating The Evening News, a newspaper that taught me many of the most valuable lessons of journalism when I worked there as a young reporter from 1951 through 1953. The newspaper had standards that were a model, and the publisher, JS Gray, was impervious to pressure. When you wrote a story that was accurate and fair it went into the paper no matter who complained how loudly. There were no sacred cows, not always the case everywhere. Looking back on more than 50 years in the business, I cherish the memories of my time in Monroe.

IN MEMORY OF VICTOR G. REUTHER, JANUARY 1, 1912–JUNE 3, 2004

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 15, 2004*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, Victor G. Reuther was born January 1, 1912, in Wheeling, West Virginia, where his father, Valentine, was well known as President of the Ohio Valley Trades and Labor Assembly and as an active churchman. Victor was educated in the secondary schools of that state, and along with his brothers, by their father as well. The strong religious influence of Victor's early family life is revealed throughout his life in his continuing interest and activity in relating core ethical values to the broad field of social and economic life. Victor studied economics and sociology at the West Virginia University and at Wayne State University. Years later he was awarded the degree of Honorary Doctor of Laws by both of those universities.

In 1932 Victor joined his brothers Walter and Roy in Detroit for work in the auto industry. Between 1932 and 1935, Victor and his brother Walter, both unemployed, used their meager savings to travel and work their way around the world. They traveled by bicycle through Europe and Asia, lodging with farm families and at hostels, and visited relatives in Germany. They witnessed the beginning of the Nazi government in Germany and the growth of Stalin's despotism in Soviet Russia, where they worked at the Gorky auto factory. Those observations and firsthand experience led them to become strong, pro-democratic leaders for freedom and social justice. On return to the United States, Victor went to work on the assembly line of the Kelsey-Hayes Wheel Company in Detroit where he plunged into the struggle to organize the automobile workers in Michigan and Indiana.

In a break from organizational drives, Victor Reuther and Sophie Goodlavich were married on July 17, 1936, on the campus of the Brookwood Labor College—a rich marriage of shared labor, love, family, friends, and a common commitment to social justice of 60 years.

A member of UAW Local 174, Victor was a strike leader during UAW campaigns in Flint and Detroit. He first came to public attention through his role in the sit-down strike in the winter of 1936–1937 against General Motors in Flint where his voice from the sound truck rallied the strikers and the women who supported them. UAW success in that strike played a key role in establishing the right of workers to bargain with auto industry employers. From that time forward he was closely identified with the dynamic growth of industrial unionism, not only in the automobile industry, but throughout America's basic industries organized by the CIO.

With the onset of World War II, Victor served as Assistant Director of the UAW–CIO War Policy Division, a department created by the UAW–CIO to facilitate speedy and orderly conversion and mobilization of the nation's urgent defense production. In the spring of 1946, Victor Reuther was appointed Director of Education for the UAW. In this role he led a fundamental approach in the development and consolidation of pro-democratic forces in the UAW. In the years following World War II,

Victor assisted in the location of trade unionists and social democrats throughout Europe who had escaped Nazi persecution, bringing them to the attention of Allied occupation forces in the search for leadership in the re-establishment of civil democratic government. He also represented the CIO on the Trade Union Advisory Committee in the conduct of the European Recovery Program—the Marshall Plan.

On May 24, 1949, in an attack identical to that against his brother Walter, Victor was shot by an unknown assailant while reading the evening paper in his living room. He suffered very serious injuries including the loss of his right eye.

Victor Reuther served as European Representative of the CIO, with headquarters in Paris, France, from January 1951 through 1953. His work led to a greatly expanded program of assistance to the free European labor movement. Representing the CIO, he implemented the program of trade union aid for the democratic European unions. Awards bestowed by the governments of Germany and Sweden, noted below, reflect the multiple contributions of Victor Reuther in international leadership and accomplishments in freedom, democracy, and social justice.

With their return to the United States in 1954, the Victor Reuther family made their home in Washington, DC—the family home for the next 50 years. That home not only served the family, but it served as a most hospitable refuge for friends, the extended family, trade union colleagues, social activists and international visitors for all those years.

On his return from Europe, Victor served as Assistant to the President of the National CIO and Director of the CIO's Department for International Affairs. Following the AFL–CIO merger, he served as Administrative Assistant to the President of the International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW), and as Director, UAW Department of International Affairs. His contributions to international social development programs extended to Asia, Africa, and Latin America as well as in the United States. He worked intensively in India, South Vietnam, Israel and the Mediterranean countries for the purpose of initiating programs designed to deal with food deficits, the need for democratic leadership and skilled manpower requirements. One of these undertakings was the joint effort of the UAW with the Peace Corps under which the union participated in a mechanical training program in the African Republics of Guinea and Gambia and in Bolivia.

Victor Reuther retired from his formal responsibilities in the UAW in 1972, but he always remained a committed member of that union he loved. Throughout the following 28 years he continued to direct his heart, his mind and his voice in advocacy of democratic trade unionism, social justice, and understanding among all people. In his initial years of retirement he researched and wrote *The Brothers Reuther*, and *The Story of the UAW, A Memoir*, a history of family and of the UAW.

In the early 1980s, with the strong encouragement of his wife, Sophie, Victor returned attention to ongoing trade union issues. Joining with other activists he gave active support to the Association for Union Democracy and to Teamsters for a Democratic Union, which won major changes in unions. He maintained close fraternal contact with the Canadian Auto

Workers after they separated from the UAW, and he supported and became an active leader of the New Directions Movement within the UAW. In those endeavors, Victor Reuther drew on his passionate advocacy for the role of rank and file membership in democratic trade unionism. He understood well the pressures on trade union leadership and the critical role of the rank and file throughout organized labor.

Victor Reuther was active in the political life of the United States in many ways complementary to his goals in labor. He served in presidential appointments, in leadership in a wide array of political and social justice organizations, including support of the full scope of civil rights as we have come to understand those goals in social justice.

In the mid-1990s Victor again undertook a task in personal and historical research to write a second book, *Commitment and Betrayal*, *Foreigners at the Gorky Auto Works*, the story of the tragedy that befell foreign workers of Gorky under the Stalinist Soviet Union, English language publication pending.

In his 90th year, Victor chose to move to a retirement residence in Georgetown, a move that launched a reawakening of his well honed leadership skills. Responding to fellow residents, Victor agreed to lead a weekly discussion of current international affairs, and for nearly 2 years, that discussion group of 20 to 30 octogenarians deliberated every Thursday afternoon on the core international issues of the day.

In his 92nd year, on March 30, 2004, Victor Reuther accepted the "Lifetime Achievement Award" of Progressive Maryland before a cheering audience of 600 political activists. In his acceptance remarks—which became his last public remarks—Victor complimented the gathered members of Progressive Maryland on their commitment to the same goals in support of working people he advocated throughout his life. He then concluded with a charge to that audience of 600 political activists: "Don't forget your love of and commitment to family." That perspective brings Victor and the Reuther family full circle to the nurturing environment of their parents, Valentine and Anna Reuther, a blessing for which we are eternally grateful.

Victor G. Reuther died on June 3, 2004. He was pre-deceased by his wife, Sophie, and his daughter Carole L. Hill. He is survived by his sister, Christine Richey, his sons Eric V. Reuther and John S. Reuther, and seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

#### AWARDS AND HONORS

1972—Social Justice Award of the UAW; 1972—Cross of the Order of Merit, highest award of the Federal Republic of Germany Honorary Doctor of Laws, Wayne State University; 1979—Order of the First of May, Venezuela's highest trade union honor; 2002—Knight of the Polar Star, Sweden's highest civilian award; 2002—Honorary Doctor of Laws, West Virginia University.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 7, 2004*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4754) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes:

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Chairman, This great country of ours was built on the backs of willing and abled entrepreneurs who, with a little faith and help, started their own businesses in hopes of achieving the American dream of prosperity and success. It is this desire to own a business that is the backbone of our economy. With small businesses representing more than 99 percent of all employers and creating roughly 75 percent of the net new jobs, it is quite clear to see their importance in the economy.

As such, I rise today in support of the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois to maintain level funding for the 7(a) loan program. One of the most successful tools in the Small Business Administration's arsenal, the 7(a) loan program helps qualified businesses acquire financing when they may otherwise be prevented from obtaining a loan through the normal financial channels.

During the 2002–2003 fiscal years, the 9th district of Missouri, which I have the distinct honor of representing, received \$37 million in 7(a) loans. This translates into the creation and/or retention of more than 1,100 jobs in the small business community. For rural districts, like mine, this incentive is essential.

One example of this is Moresource, Inc. located in Columbia, MO, which is in my district and where I currently live with my family. In 1994, Kat Cunningham had an idea to create a business that would focus solely on the management of employee administrative matters, such as payroll, tax compliance, health benefits and other human resources issues. Her thought was that by handling these cumbersome and time consuming tasks, small businesses can focus on increasing productivity and their core business objective.

With the aid of a sizeable Small Business Administration 7(a) loan, Kat turned this concept into a reality and created Moresource, Inc. 10 years later, the company has grown from 5 internal employees and 200 leased employees to 7 internal and more than 1,500 leased employees. Kat will tell you that without the assistance of a 7(a) loan, it is questionable whether Moresource would have had the opportunity to get off the ground.

Stephanie Perkins also credits the 7(a) loan program with making her dreams come true. Because of challenges Stephanie faced in obtaining a loan through traditional lenders, the 7(a) loan program provided her with the capital she needed to start up her own business. Stephanie opened the doors to Brown Station Early Learning Center in the fall of 2000 with help from the 7(a) loan program. Since that time, she has almost doubled the employees

in her daycare center, which provides Columbia working parents with the peace of mind of knowing that their children are in safe and caring hands.

These are just two examples of how critical the 7(a) loan program is to Missouri businesses. It also illustrates the hand-up it can provide to support and encourage women who are willing to take risks and start a business venture. In the state of Missouri, we have an estimated, according to the Center for Women's Business Research, 129,865 privately held companies in which women hold the majority of ownership, accounting for 30.8 percent of all privately held firms in the state. The success of these outstanding women has contributed to the employment of 241,992 Missourians and generated \$26 billion in sales.

The 7(a) loan program is crucial to developing and sustaining small businesses in America. It is also small business entrepreneurs that we have to thank for the 1.5 million jobs that have been created in the past 10 months. Furthermore, these enterprising and hard-working individuals have brought us an unemployment rate that is lower than the decade averages of the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. For these and many other reasons, I urge all my colleagues to support small business and economic growth with a vote for the Manzullo amendment.

HONORING EUGENE DIBBLE'S 75TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 15, 2004*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Eugene Dibble as he prepares to celebrate his 75th birthday on July 22, 2004. Mr. Dibble also known as "Big Gene" has been a leader and a pioneer in many areas since moving to the City of Chicago. He was one of the first African American stockbrokers in Chicago. In addition, Mr. Dibble demonstrated his business and family acumen by owning five businesses at one time and having five children who worked in those businesses.

In addition, to being a businessman Mr. Dibble was elected and served as a Trustee for the Chicago Sanitary District. Among Mr. Dibble's many talents has been his keen focus and vision on homeland security. Seven years ago, Mr. Dibble came to my office with a proposal for an Emergency Response Center that would be available in the event of a terrorist attack in downtown Chicago. Perhaps Mr. Dibble's volunteerism for the Red Cross, Salvation Army and emergency response teams in Chicago and Markham, Illinois prepared him for his leading role in being prepared for disasters.

Among Mr. Dibble's greatest accomplishments is that of a family man. Mr. Dibble has been married to his wife Jeanette for 48 years. Also, they are the proud grandparents of six grandkids and counting.

I ask that my colleagues join with me in commending and congratulating Gene and his family as they celebrate 75 years of his life. Gene may God keep you and bless you with many happy healthy years to come.

Thank you.