

for distribution of products and services, ranging from familiar restaurants and hotels to home movers, tax preparers, personnel providers and so on. Clearly, franchising is a critical engine of America's economic growth.

When an individual acquires a franchise, the individual must first undergo various types of training, depending on the specific franchise he or she wishes to acquire. Training can include education on specialized knowledge of goods, services, policies and practices of the individual franchise system. Training may also include customer service, daily operational management, business computer systems, inventory control, costing and pricing as well as regulatory obligations.

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, American military members, whether as active duty servicemembers or veterans, possess a wealth of experience and abilities. Their training in the armed forces has provided them with high-end skill sets that employers are looking for in the future workforce. Yet outside of what has been provided during their tenure with the military, statistics show that many of our young military men and women have had no formal education or training beyond their high school years.

Mr. Speaker, the "Veterans Self-Employment Act" will allow more veterans to take advantage of the opportunities in franchising by allowing servicemembers, veterans, national guardsman, reservists, and eligible dependent spouses or children to apply a portion of his or her educational benefit to defray the portion of a franchise purchase cost attributable to training. Specifically, in a one-time lump sum payment, beneficiaries will be able to use the lesser of 1/3 of the remaining Montgomery GI Benefit entitlement or 1/2 the franchise fee.

In addition, the bill provides the Secretary of Veterans Affairs proper authority to oversee and avoid any possible abuse of this program; submit to the Secretary a detailed description of the training program; two year operating rule for franchise businesses; and provide individual progress reports regarding successful completion of individual training, among other things.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support our Nation's veterans and thus urge floor consideration for the "Veterans Self-Employment Act."

INTRODUCTION OF THE "INTERNET SPYWARE (I-SPY) PREVENTION ACT"

**HON. BOB GOODLATTE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 10, 2005*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Internet Spyware (I-SPY) Prevention Act."

This bipartisan legislation, which I introduced with my colleagues ZOE LOFGREN of California and LAMAR SMITH of Texas, will impose tough criminal penalties on the most egregious purveyors of spyware, without imposing a broad regulatory regime on legitimate online businesses. I believe that this targeted approach is the best way to combat spyware.

Spyware is a growing and serious problem. The Federal Trade Commission has testified that "spyware appears to be a new and rap-

idly growing practice that poses a risk of serious harm to consumers." Spyware is software that provides a tool for criminals to crack into computers to conduct nefarious activities, such as altering a user's security settings, collecting personal information to steal a user's identity, or to commit other crimes.

The I-SPY Prevention Act would impose criminal penalties on the most egregious behaviors associated with spyware. Specifically, this legislation would impose up to a 5 year prison sentence on anyone who uses software to intentionally break into a computer and uses that software in furtherance of another federal crime. In addition, it would impose up to a 2 year prison sentence on anyone who uses spyware to intentionally break into a computer and either alter the computer's security settings, or obtain personal information with the intent to defraud or injure a person or with the intent to damage a computer. By imposing stiff penalties on these bad actors, this legislation will help deter the use of spyware, and will thus help protect consumers from these aggressive attacks.

Enforcement is crucial in combating spyware. The I-SPY Prevention Act authorizes \$10 million for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, to be devoted to prosecutions, and expresses the sense of Congress that the Department of Justice should vigorously enforce the laws against spyware violations, as well as against online phishing scams in which criminals send fake e-mail messages to consumers on behalf of famous companies and request account information that is later used to conduct criminal activities.

I believe that four overarching principles should guide the development of any spyware legislation. First, we must punish the bad actors, while protecting legitimate online companies. Second, we must not over-regulate, but rather encourage innovative new services and the growth of the Internet. Third, we must not stifle the free market. Fourth, we must target the behavior, not the technology.

By imposing criminal penalties on those that use spyware to commit federal crimes and other dangerous activities, the I-SPY Prevention Act will protect consumers by punishing the bad actors, without imposing liability on those that act legitimately online.

The targeted approach of the I-SPY Prevention Act also avoids excessive regulation and its repercussions, including the increased likelihood that an overly regulatory approach would have unintended consequences that could discourage the creation of new and exciting technologies and services on the Internet. By encouraging innovation, the I-SPY Prevention Act will help ensure that consumers have access to cutting-edge products and services at lower prices.

In addition, the approach of the I-SPY Prevention Act does not interfere with the free market principle that a business should be free to react to consumer demand by providing consumers with easy access to the Internet's wealth of information and convenience. Increasingly, consumers want a seamless interaction with the Internet, and we must be careful to not interfere with businesses' abilities to respond to this consumer demand with innovative services. The I-SPY Prevention Act will help ensure that consumers, not the federal government, define what their interaction with the Internet looks like.

Finally, by going after the criminal behavior associated with the use of spyware, the I-SPY

Prevention Act recognizes that not all software is spyware and that the crime does not lie in the technology itself, but rather in actually using the technology for nefarious purposes. People commit crimes, not software.

The I-SPY Prevention Act is a targeted approach that protects consumers by imposing stiff penalties on the truly bad actors, while protecting the ability of legitimate companies to develop new and exciting products and services online for consumers.

I urge each of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

TONY HALL FEDERAL BUILDING  
AND UNITED STATES COURT-  
HOUSE

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROB PORTMAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2005*

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, fellow Ohioan, and former colleague, Ambassador Tony Hall, upon overwhelming House passage of legislation to designate the building located at 200 West Second Street in Dayton, Ohio as the "Tony Hall Federal Building and Courthouse."

Currently United States Ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture, Mr. Hall is well known to those of us from Ohio and in the House. But for those who are not familiar with his distinguished career, permit me to relate just a few of his many accomplishments.

Prior to serving as Ambassador, Mr. Hall represented the people of the Third Congressional District of Ohio for nearly 24 years. During his service in Congress, he was a founding member and Chairman of the House Select Committee on Hunger and Chairman of the Democratic Caucus on Hunger. Ambassador Hall also founded and served as a steering committee member for the Congressional Friends of Human Rights Monitors.

In Congress, Ambassador Hall wrote significant legislation supporting food aid, child survival, basic education, primary health care, microenterprise and development assistance programs for the world's poorest nations. He has made over one hundred trips to poverty stricken and war torn nations in his efforts to observe first hand the important work of these programs.

His tireless advocacy for hunger relief and humanitarian programs around the world resulted in his being nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize three times. He has also received the UNICEF 1995 Children's Legislative Advocate Award; the U.S. AID Presidential End Hunger Award; the 1993 Oxfam America Partners Award; and the NCAA Silver Anniversary Award.

A graduate of Denison University, Ambassador Hall was a Peace Corps volunteer in Thailand. He and his wife, Janet, have two children.

The naming of the federal building and courthouse in Dayton is a fitting tribute to Ambassador Hall's work for the people of Ohio and around the world. I join my colleagues in congratulating him on receiving this important honor.