

they arrest for felonies and detain them for Federal deportation. And employers must use the new Federal verification system to determine legal status of workers.

This, unfortunately, is not a new Federal law, but one passed recently by the Sooner State: Oklahoma. Apparently, Okies are frustrated with too few results from Federal enforcement folk so they passed their own State law on immigration.

And good for them. Hopefully, other States will follow.

Of course, noncitizen groups and the "give America away" crowd sued Oklahoma in Federal court. And they lost. Early results of the law indicate illegals are leaving Oklahoma, some even going back to their own country, as it ought to be. They are getting the message: come to America the legal way or don't come at all.

And that's just the way it is.

□ 1915

PERU FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

(Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to strongly oppose the proposed U.S.-Peru Free Trade Agreement.

My opposition to the Peru FTA reflects America's opposition to the recent string of trade pacts that benefited the wealthiest few at the expense of hardworking Americans. A recent poll revealed that six in 10 Republicans think free trade has been bad for the U.S., and that's just Republicans.

The American public is tired of waiting for this administration to "get it" and to start negotiating fair and smart trade deals that can benefit the little guy as well as the corporate fat cat.

The American public is impatient and, frankly, so am I. Fair trade can create economic opportunities for everyone, big business and working families alike, at home and abroad. Fair trade can advance our economy without jeopardizing good jobs and encourage development without ravaging our environment.

Some say that the Peru FTA is better than what we've had in the past. I join the American people in saying, "It's not good enough."

Join me in standing up for American families. I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the Peru Free Trade Agreement.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentle-

men from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CUMMINGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

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

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, what a privilege it is to speak on National Bible Week as we celebrate the written Word of God, as we anticipate the upcoming celebration, the week of November 18-25. In fact, this book, the number one best seller of all time, the book is known as a book of encouragement, a book of enlightenment, and a book of edification.

Encouragement. When I think about what the Bible has meant to me, I remember some of the great verses from the Old Testament, such as Joshua 1:9, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified. Do not be discouraged. For the Lord God will be with you wherever you go." And Psalm 118:13-15 says, "I was pushed back and about to fall, but the Lord has helped me. The Lord is my strength and my song, He has become my salvation."

And then Psalm 138:8, which precedes my favorite Psalm, 139, it says, "The Lord will accomplish that which concerns me. Your love, O Lord, endures forever."

When we think of this day, when so many people are discouraged, I know, as we celebrate National Bible Week, that the Bible has been a Word of encouragement that I've experienced and I know many others have.

In addition to encouragement, it's a Word of enlightenment. Psalm 19 says, "Your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. The unfolding of Your Word gives light and gives understanding to the simple." And as many of my friends back home in North Carolina know, my favorite Old Testament verse is from Proverbs, 29:18, that says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." And I think that's a great challenge to us, as leaders in this country, to have vision for where we want to take our country and what we want to do and how we want to solve the problems. In fact, this verse, "Where there is no vision, the people perish," is inscribed in our own Science Committee room in the Rayburn House Office Building.

In addition to encouragement and enlightenment, the Bible is a book of edification. Paul writes in the Book of Romans 10:17 that faith comes from hearing and hearing by the Word. And then James 1:22 reminds that we should be doers of the Word and not hearers only.

The Bible allows us to see ourselves through its many stories and parables and prophecies and teachings. It also shows the flaws and frailties that we all share in common in humanity. It also shows the fellowship, both human

and divine, that calls forth those values that so often we look for in our society today, values of forgiveness, of faithfulness and of fulfillment in becoming all that we know that we can become.

I'm grateful that we take time in this country to celebrate the national week of the Bible coming up the week of November 18-25, and that we would take time tonight to celebrate not only the historical importance, but the personal importance that this great book, the best seller of all time, has for people literally the world over.

PRESIDENT NICOLAS SARKOZY ADDRESSES CONGRESS

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to congratulate President Nicolas Sarkozy on his election to the presidency of France, and also welcome him to Washington, DC, as he addresses a joint meeting of this Congress on Wednesday of this week. I look forward to hearing his remarks in this Chamber.

This past May, Mr. Speaker, Nicolas Sarkozy became the 23rd President of France. His election has ushered in a new and welcomed era in positive relations between France and the United States.

The history of friendship between these two countries, the United States and France, runs deep and it runs wide. Since the American Revolution, we have shared a deep commitment to freedom and independence; both of our countries have. Perhaps one of the best early demonstrations of France's commitment to our shared heritage of freedom is the example of General Marquis de Lafayette—General Lafayette, a young Frenchman who believed so passionately in the cause of freedom and liberty for all individuals that he left his homeland of France and came to join the American colonies in their fight for independence against Great Britain.

It was General Lafayette who persuaded the French to help Americans in their fight for freedom and independence from Great Britain. He served courageously under the command of General George Washington. George Washington's and Lafayette's portraits both hang in this hall tonight.

General Lafayette is the only non-American portrait in the entire Capitol building, and is the only other portrait besides General Washington in this House Chamber. There is a reason for that; both of them, General Washington and his friend Lafayette, were committed to liberty for all.

The American people will always be grateful to the commitment of General Lafayette and the people of France throughout our pursuit for freedom and democracy through the American Revolution. And the American Revolution was successful because of their help.