

during the massive and frequent Southern California wildfires.

I am also a proud cosponsor of H. Res 731, which was introduced by Congresswoman YVETTE CLARKE, and commends our first responders and local law enforcement.

These men and women are on the frontlines every day, preventing disasters, educating the public on preparedness, and assisting in response efforts.

I urge all Americans to continue the spirit of national preparedness month beyond September by taking an active role in making sure all of our families and communities are prepared for natural or man-made disasters.

HEAVEN HOLDS A PLACE—A TRIBUTE TO SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a poetic tribute penned by Albert Carey Caswell in honor of and in memory of a truly great American.

HEAVEN HOLDS A PLACE

Heaven holds a place!
 For all of those whom have so held such faith!
 Who, no matter how dark the days . . .
 Somehow, always so kept pace!
 Heaven holds a place!
 For such men of love and grace . . .
 Who all the while, somehow always kept their smile . . .
 No matter the darkest of days!
 All in what, they so faced . . .
 Yes, Heaven so holds a place!
 For men of peace, and of such grace!
 Who have so fought for the poor, the sick,
 and the old each day!
 Heaven, so holds a place!
 For those who gave warmth, even though the
 wind's turned cold they faced . . .
 For all those who have so loved children, our
 Lord God so holds a special place!
 For a 77 year old man, who with the heart of
 a child who would stand . . .
 Who somehow ever wore a smile!
 Who touched all those around him, all the
 while!
 Yes, Teddy . . . Heaven so holds a place!
 For heroes like you, who had to wipe those
 tears from your face!
 Holding a family together, with an of your
 courage and grace!
 Yes, for you Ted . . . Heaven so holds a
 place!
 For men who have so fallen from grace . . .
 And, but asked for redemption, and so
 prayed and prayed . . .
 As our Lord so heard you calling, calling
 night and day . . .
 As such burdens, upon your own soul you
 placed!
 As for redemption you so prayed!
 Men who have taught love, not hate!
 Why, Heaven so holds a place!
 Who in the darkness cried out such tears, as
 the new day they faced . . .
 For all those with hearts like of a lion . . .
 Who for mankind, never stopped trying!
 For you see, such things . . . time can not so
 erase!
 And for such men, Heaven so holds a place!
 In loving memory of Senator Edward M.
 Kennedy. May God bless you and your
 family . . .

INTRODUCING LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION TO CONDUCT INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to join my friend and colleague from Kentucky, Congressman WHITFIELD, in introducing legislation authorizing the Federal Trade Commission to conduct international technical assistance activities.

On April 2, 2007, The Antitrust Modernization Commission, a non-partisan Commission established by an act of Congress, submitted a report to Congress and the President, containing a comprehensive set of recommendations for modernization of our nation's antitrust laws. Included in the report was a recommendation that Congress "provide budgetary authority, as well as appropriations, directly to the Federal Trade Commission and the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice to provide international antitrust technical assistance."

While recognizing that progress has been made toward convergence, or standardization, of antitrust laws from country-to-country, in discussing the need for Congress to authorize and fund technical assistance activities, the Commission pointed to three primary reasons for the need of for a sustained technical assistance program. The Commission concluded that: "First, companies may be subject to conflicting and inconsistent laws, creating uncertainty as to the legal standards applicable to their business arrangements. Second, companies must comply with the procedural requirements of multiple jurisdictions, potentially increasing their costs significantly, particularly with respect to notification requirements for mergers. Third, different countries may ultimately impose different, and inconsistent, remedies with respect to the same conduct or transaction."

Technical assistance programming involves sending antitrust experts from U.S. agencies with institutional expertise in the regulation and enforcement of antitrust laws to foreign capitols to provide guidance and consultation to their foreign counterparts in the development, implementation and enforcement of antitrust law.

As noted in the Antitrust Modernization Commission Report, "the DoJ and FTC provide extensive technical assistance to nascent competition law regimes." Funding for such technical assistance programming is derived from USAID. USAID, a foreign aid agency of the Department of State, has as its mission to foster democracy, economic growth and human health in developing nations through a variety of means, including food aid, infrastructure construction, training, and technical assistance across a number of public policy and legal areas, including competition policy. As the Commission notes, "FTC and DoJ requests for limited USAID funding to support antitrust training efforts accordingly compete with others' demands for basic needs such as food and healthcare support."

As a result of these competing demands, technical assistance funding to DoJ and the

FTC is severely limited and inconsistent from year-to-year. The limited and inconsistent nature of USAID funding for technical assistance presents unique challenges for the agencies involved. According to a University of Missouri study by D. Daniel Sokol and Kyle W. Stiegert, entitled "An Empirical Evaluation of Long Term Advisors and Short Term Interventions in Technical Assistance" there are generally two types of technical assistance activities, long term advisors (LTA) and short term interventions (STI). "LTAs are advisors that spend an extended time period working in-country with a recipient antitrust agency. STIs are technical assistance interventions based on a "discrete set of issues including concentrated programs that simulate investigations of competition cases, training for judges, or other inputs." Both approaches involve the commitment of highly skilled and specialized agency staff. Absent a clear and dedicated funding source for technical assistance activities, agencies are reluctant to commit such resources to building out a robust technical assistance program and to dedicate staff to technical assistance activities.

There are other limitations inherent in USAID as the funding source for technical assistance activities that are driven primarily by the mission and foreign aid restrictions placed on the agency. By definition, USAID's mission is to work with emerging democracies and economies. While this mission is important, the countries that receive foreign assistance from USAID, including technical assistance training in whatever form, generally are not those where U.S. businesses are increasingly encountering problems with domestic barriers to entry for trade—countries such as Brazil, India, South Korea and China, which are deemed to be too developed to qualify for USAID assistance. China exemplifies another limitation on use of USAID funding for technical assistance. Because of the nature of Chinese government, it is illegal to provide US foreign aid to China. As a result, even if USAID was inclined to provide funding for technical assistance programming in China, it would be prohibited by law from doing so.

With the rapid proliferation of antitrust enforcement regimes around the globe, the future of international commerce is no longer about classic market access issues like tariffs and quotas. The debate is increasingly about divergent regulations and other so-called "in-country barriers" to trade. These in-country barriers to entry make it increasingly difficult for U.S. companies to compete effectively around the world. While technical assistance training, alone, will not solve these highly complex problems, its approach, based on trust building, education and cooperation, represents one very important tool to addressing the challenge of international standardization of antitrust laws and competition policy regimes.

HONORING THE FORT WORTH ZOO ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Fort Worth Zoo, the oldest zoo in Texas.