

In the 16th century the citizens of Spain no doubt thought they would remain the world leader. In the 17th century it was France. In the 19th century, Great Britain. And in the 20th century it was the United States.

Unless we do things dramatically different, including strengthening our investments in research and education, the 21st century will belong to China and India.

Author Richard McGregor wrote in his new book, *The Party*, that the Chinese government, "still runs on Soviet hardware." It uses the full resources of the state to advance the interests of Chinese firms.

The Chinese are spying on us. They are launching millions of cyber attacks against American companies and the federal government every day.

The Chinese are funding the genocide in Darfur. They have Catholic bishops in jail, Protestant pastors in jail, and they have plundered Tibet.

If the U.S. is to be truly competitive in the global economy, we must be vigilant and proactive—in a manner that is consistent with our national interest and international treaties.

Madam Speaker, I urge swift passage of this legislation to help bring jobs back to the United States today and to lay the groundwork for tomorrow's manufacturing and technology base. We cannot afford to wait. Our international competitors aren't.

KEEPING A LONG-TERM FOCUS ON
THE OIL SPILL RESPONSE AND
RECOVERY

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, 101 days have passed, and the devastating impact of the BP Deepwater Horizon catastrophe continues to grow daily. As we continue to consider specific legislation in the House to address the problems we have identified that led to this unmitigated disaster, I rise today to express my concern over the environmental impact on the Gulf of Mexico and express my support for all the impacted residents, who deserve better from the federal government.

Our immediate focus is not only on ensuring that the flow of oil from the Deepwater Horizon spill continues to be stopped, but also on addressing the future environmental and economic effects of the spill. The House has already unanimously passed legislation to fund oil pollution research and we must continue to support the important work in this area being done throughout the United States. One of the centers for this research is in St. Petersburg, which I have the privilege to represent. The College of Marine Science at the University of South Florida has become an international center for the study of our nation's and our world's waters and of our coastal lands. Together with the Florida Institute of Oceanography, also in St. Petersburg, which is drawing together all the state of Florida's marine research expertise, and a variety of other local, state and federal organizations, our community has provided key information to our nation's decision makers about the movement of the oil, the impact it is having on our environment and the development of long-term strategies to clean it up. Even with all of this work

in St. Petersburg and throughout our state, the long-term effects of the oil spill itself, as well as those of the response and clean-up efforts, are still unclear and continued monitoring of the Gulf will ensure that we are prepared to quickly respond to the future consequences of this spill.

Further, we must draw on our knowledge and experience to ensure that this disaster is never repeated. In representing the Tampa Bay area, which has been at the center of some previous disasters, I have experience in responding to these crises. While serving as a Florida State Senator in 1970, the tanker *Delian Apollon* spilled more than 20,000 gallons of crude oil into Tampa Bay. In response, I introduced and the legislature quickly passed my landmark legislation to set in place emergency response plans for oil spills in the waterways surrounding Florida. The oil and shipping industry challenged my legislation, which was called our nation's toughest oil spill response law, all the way to the United States Supreme Court, where it was upheld in a unanimous decision.

When the oil industry proposed drilling off the Gulf coast of Florida, I offered an amendment to a 1983 supplemental appropriations bill to create the first buffer zone to protect Florida's west coast from offshore oil drilling. Because my amendment was carried on an appropriations bill, I had to negotiate with my colleagues to protect it year after year, sometimes fighting off challenges from my own party and leadership. We finally were able to negotiate more permanent protection against drilling in 2006 when we wrote into law a buffer zone that extends 234 miles off the coast of the Pinellas County beaches I represent.

In an effort to respond to the lessons learned from this year's disaster, I introduced the SAFEGUARDS Act earlier this month, which provides some commonsense solutions to prevent and respond to future disastrous oil spills. Drafted following a series of meetings and regular phone calls with the on-the-ground incident commanders, local research teams and community emergency response personnel, it is my hope that the solutions put forth in this measure will be included in the wider legislative response that we consider later this year to ensure that we impose rigorous safety standards on any off-shore platforms, while also establishing a fully thought out plan to respond to future disasters. We can and must do better. We cannot allow any more waivers of safety standards or response plans, and the SAFEGUARDS Act ensures that.

Our work on oil spill response legislation is just the beginning, and we have much more work to do in the coming weeks, months and years. The future environmental health and economic viability of the Gulf of Mexico depends on us, and we must do all we can to respond to the largest spill in United States history. We owe the American people and the entire Gulf Coast a comprehensive response that addresses both the causes and effects of this spill. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to work together to ensure the complete recovery of the Gulf of Mexico, while also addressing the systematic breakdowns which led to the BP Deepwater Horizon catastrophe.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION
HONORING AND SALUTING
AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS ON
ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of Americans for the Arts. As the leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education in the United States, Americans for the Arts continues to be dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for participation and enjoyment of all forms of the arts.

Founded in 1960 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the original mission of Americans for the Arts was and continues to be to enhance support for the nonprofit arts. In 1965 Americans for the Arts played a key role in the establishment of the National Endowment for the Arts. A half century later Americans for the Arts continues to foster the arts at the local, state, and national level.

Under the remarkable stewardship of Robert Lynch for the last 25 years, Americans for the Arts has provided leadership and training to local public and nonprofit agencies through a national network of Arts and Business Councils, Business Committees for the Arts, local and state arts agencies, state arts advocacy organizations, and community-based cultural organizations across the country serving 5,000 local arts agencies and their communities.

Research by Americans for the Arts measured the economic impact of the arts, which showed that approximately 100,000 nonprofit cultural organizations generate \$166.2 billion in economic activity every year supporting 5.7 million jobs. In my congressional district alone, there are over 1,200 arts-related businesses employing nearly 16,000 people.

In addition to fostering arts jobs in our local communities, Americans for the Arts has worked to promote the importance of Arts Education in our public schools. Young people who regularly participate in arts programming are more likely to have better attendance records, be involved in their school government, excel in their academics, and develop the creative and innovative skills necessary to compete in the 21st century global workforce.

Through national events like Arts Advocacy Day, Americans for the Arts brings national attention to the importance of arts throughout our nation. The arts define our culture and instill unique character in the communities across our nation. Art transcends barriers of language, time, and generation, translating cultural differences, breathing life into history, and bridging experiences across cultures. They accomplish the seemingly impossible task of both revealing our differences across the globe, while managing to illuminate all that connects us.

I thank Americans for the Arts for their fine achievements over the past 50 years. I know that the next 50 will be filled with even more accomplishments, and that we will continue to enjoy the richness that the arts provide to each of our lives.