

The proposed European language would require the United States government to indemnify EU trade repositories for any expenses arising from litigation relating to the information provided by the trade repository. The provision, which could well be adopted, has the potential to create numerous problems for the United States. For starters, it is not clear that U.S. regulators have the legal authority to enter into such an indemnification. Were they to do so, the indemnification becomes an invitation to such litigation by third-parties, domestic or foreign.

These problems mirror precisely the problems for EU governments created by the indemnification clauses in Dodd-Frank. In practice, while governments worked to address the issues raised by such requirements, the default position for any SDR would have to refuse to provide such information absent the indemnification, creating fragmentation and information gaps that could meaningfully harm global safety and soundness.

Preventing the exchange of information between regulators will frustrate efforts to mitigate international financial risk and fragment regulatory oversight on a jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction basis.

The goal is to ensure that in situations where foreign regulators are carrying out their regulatory responsibilities in a manner consistent with international agreements, which includes maintaining the confidentiality of data, can be appropriately exchanged without Sections 728 and 763 becoming an impediment to the goals of transparency and sound policy.

In light of the EU calendar on indemnification, swift action to prevent the unintended consequences of this inadequately considered provision of Dodd-Frank is needed.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND
FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPRO-
PRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, today's legislation is the eighth—and I hope final—Continuing Resolution the Congress as a whole will be considering this fiscal year.

Throughout this debate, I have rejected the false choice between deep cuts that harm our fragile economic recovery or shutting down the government. Rather, as Ranking Member of the Budget Committee, I have argued for a middle ground of graduated and predictable fiscal reform that both supports our recovery and reflects our values and priorities as a nation. In that regard, I am pleased that today's agreement reduces non-emergency outlays by only \$352 million for the rest of FY 2011—and then spreads the next \$20 billion in cuts over the next five years.

I have also made clear that our nation's fiscal imbalance cannot be addressed solely through reductions in the 12 percent of the budget representing non-security discretionary spending. Like the Bipartisan Fiscal Commission, I believe the final solution must include savings from our defense budget, adjustments to mandatory spending, and increased revenue. In my judgment, that revenue can and

should come from comprehensive tax reform that eliminates tax loopholes and reinstates the Clinton era marginal rates for upper income earners.

Mr. Speaker, to govern is to choose, and today's legislation contains choices I would not have made. For example, because I believe the United States should be second to none when it comes to medical and scientific research, I do not think it makes sense to cut \$260 million from the National Institutes of Health. Additionally, because our economy needs more clean energy, reducing energy efficiency and renewable energy research, development and deployment by \$407 million is a visible step in the wrong direction. Finally, because our nation deserves a 21st century infrastructure and the jobs that go with it, slashing nearly \$1 billion from the Clean Water and Drinking Water Revolving Funds is clearly misguided. In my view, medical research, clean energy and infrastructure are all examples of investments we can and should be willing to make in order to build a healthier, cleaner and stronger America.

While I am acutely aware of this bill's shortcomings, I also believe today's agreement contains some important victories. In a very challenging fiscal environment, we have been able to fund critical educational priorities. The Head Start program serving our youngest Americans will get a \$340 million increase, and the maximum Pell Grant award will be maintained at \$5500 so deserving low-income students can go to college. Additionally, with our unemployment rate at 8.8%, we have largely protected vital job training funds at a level of \$2.8 billion. Finally, while I do not believe the Republican party has any right to impose its ideological agenda on the District of Columbia, this bill eliminates the vast majority of extreme policy riders in HR 1 ranging from women's health to public broadcasting to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Law to the EPA's efforts to combat climate change.

Mr. Speaker, this has been a far from perfect process, and not surprisingly, today's legislation is a far from perfect measure. But it is apparently the best we can do in this sharply divided Congress—and in the final analysis, I believe it is preferable to shutting down the government.

STATEMENT OF REP. EDWARD J.
MARKEY ON THE NINETY-SIXTH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARME-
NIAN GENOCIDE

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, today, we remember and honor the victims of the Armenian Genocide, and we call, once again, for passage of a resolution affirming the Armenian Genocide in the U.S. Congress.

Between 1915 and 1923, a campaign conceived and executed by the Ottoman Empire forcibly deported nearly 2 million Armenians from their homes, resulting in the deaths of 1.5 million innocent children, women and men. The history surrounding this issue is abundantly clear—genocide did occur.

While the target of this campaign of extermination was the Armenian people, it was in-

deed a crime against all people—and we must not forget lest we let it happen again. On this day every year, communities across our nation and across the world come together to remember this great tragedy. On this day, we are all Armenians.

The term "genocide" had not yet been coined in 1915, when the first Armenians were driven from their homes. The definition of this most profound crime against humanity came in 1944 from Raphael Lemkin, a Polish Jew who survived the Holocaust by fleeing to America after the fall of Warsaw to the Nazis. In the wake of World War Two, Lemkin led the international community to establish the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide. Lemkin's definitive example of genocide was the crimes against the Armenians.

And as we commemorate the Armenian Genocide, we must redouble our efforts to stop similar crimes being committed today. The scorched towns of Darfur, in western Sudan, continue to suffer mass murder, displacement, rape, and torture at the hands of the government and its militia allies. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, armed forces continue to target ethnic populations with abductions and violence, leading to more than 5.4 million civilian deaths in the past 15 years. And just weeks ago, the humanitarian group Doctors Without Borders was forced to suspend clinics in eastern Congo due to attacks from armed Congolese soldiers. These ongoing genocides must be stopped. Immediately.

In order to eliminate these genocides in the future, we must keep alive the memories of genocides past.

The U.S. House of Representatives has had before it, for many years now, a resolution which clearly affirms the United States record on the Armenian Genocide. I have been a strong supporter and vocal cosponsor of this resolution in every Congress, and I remain so today.

Last year, when the Foreign Affairs Committee voted in support of the resolution, Turkey recalled its Ambassador to the United States. Turkey's leaders continue to say that properly recognizing the Armenian Genocide will harm U.S.-Turkey relations—that it is not the right time to pass this resolution. But it is always "the right time" for the truth.

Already, 43 states and 20 nations have officially recognized the Armenian Genocide, and it is time for the United States to do the same. After all, how can we have the moral authority to call out and condemn the genocides in Darfur or Rwanda when we are unable to acknowledge the tragedy of Armenia? I look forward to the day that this truth can be spoken aloud, in one voice, by our government, and by governments around the world. Because it is the truth.

In 2009, the governments of Turkey and Armenia announced a roadmap for normalizing relations between the two countries. In a process brokered by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, the two countries signed protocols to resume diplomacy and end the Turkish blockade of Armenia. However, before the ink had dried on those accords, the Turkish government backtracked on its commitment by adding additional preconditions.

The people of Armenia continue to face the devastating hardships wrought by the dual blockades of Turkey and Azerbaijan. These

blockades severely impede Armenia's ability to export goods, restricting the country's GDP by almost 40 percent of what it could be. In the face of these ongoing blockades, the United States must fully restore its economic aid to Armenia while working to reestablish the Turkish government's commitment to normalized relations.

Armenia has come a long way to free itself from terror and tyranny—free from the Ottoman Empire, free from the Soviet Union, and free from the horrors of the genocide that we remember every April 24th. This journey continues today, with our shared responsibility to ensure that the Armenian people are able to build their own, independent and prosperous future. If Armenians want to stay in Armenia and make a life there, they should be able to do so in peace and prosperity, and we should support them. And so, I look forward to continuing to work with the Armenian-American community and Members of the Congressional Caucus on Armenia to address the issues facing this longtime friend and important ally of the United States, so that together we can build something positive, something hopeful, something good for the future—an Armenia that is respected and honored by its allies and neighbors. And this cannot come without universal acknowledgement of the great humanitarian horror that was the Armenian Genocide.

Elie Wiesel once wrote, "A destruction, an annihilation that only man can provoke, only man can prevent." Nearly one century later, that is our responsibility—to remember the Armenian Genocide so that we can prevent such atrocities from happening again, and to continue standing together with the Armenian people in building a better future.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2012

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H. Con. Res. 34) establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2012 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2021:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise today to speak in opposition to the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Resolution that is before the House today, H. Con. Res. 34. As a senior member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and as a Texan that cares deeply about adequately providing for our Nation's Transportation system, I cannot support the Republican Budget proposal that has been brought before us today.

I share my colleague's concern regarding our national debt but this irresponsible bill makes drastic cuts to our Nation's infrastructure that will harm the American economy in the long run. This bill cuts nationwide funding for highway, safety, and public transportation investments over the next six years from \$331 billion to \$219 billion.

This drastic cut of more than \$100 billion over six years of Highway funding means that the State of Texas alone will lose over \$1.9 billion in Highway funding at a time when revenue from the Highway Trust Fund is stretched thinner than ever.

Additionally, assuming the widely accepted 2007 Federal Highway Administration model that every \$1 billion of federal highway-aid in-

vestment creates or sustains 34,779 jobs over a seven-year period, this bill would destroy more than 490,000 jobs at a time when Congress should be helping grow and strengthen our economy, not stifling it as this Republican budget does.

I am proud to support the Congressional Black Caucus Alternative Budget for 2012 that does honor our country's commitment to support and invest not only in transportation and infrastructure but also in education, job training, and research and development for Science and Technology.

I must emphasize that our future economic growth, and therefore our ability to reduce our debt in the future, is tied very strongly to the investments we make in science and innovation today.

Although the cuts to our Nation's Science programs are much less severe in the FY 2011 Continuing Resolution than H.R. 1, they still are damaging to our Science agencies, especially considering that current fiscal year is already half over.

Across the world, growth in jobs in Science and Technology are increasing at a high rate and America should be supplying an adequate education and training for talented people to enter these industries.

We are jeopardizing our country's future by threatening funding for programs which are helping American students develop the right combination of skills for these jobs.

Mr. Chair, we cannot afford to shut the doors on America's ability to compete in these growing industries and we cannot afford to stifle maintaining and growing our transportation system by neglecting much needed investment in these sectors. I urge my colleagues to support the Democratic alternative budget that is before us and reject the Republican budget that destroys jobs and is no plan for the future.