

Chris Martin, said in a recent interview. "It should stop, and if this is what it takes to stop unscrupulous operators, I'm all for it."

Mr. Speaker, this is serious business. Being able to have protections to protect American manufacturers from unfair competition by people who skirt the rules, people who cheat, is in everybody's interest. Let's let the process ongoing right now work its way out. Let's see if there's a problem. But by all means, we ought to protect the integrity of the Lacey Act, which is designed to save these tens of thousands of jobs here at home and the environment abroad.

CREATING JOBS IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. NUGENT) for 2 minutes.

Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to emphasize one more time that the Federal Government doesn't create jobs; it's small businesses and entrepreneurs. You just heard my friend talk about Gibson Guitar and vilify Gibson Guitar because they purchased wood from a foreign operator, an operator that violated a law of another country and brought that wood to America for Gibson Guitar, one of the oldest American producers of guitars today. Gibson Guitar employs people in America. Gibson Guitar has done things that may be reprehensible to some. Obviously to those who are employed by that company, it's not.

As we move along, you know, we need to remember what jobs are created by small manufacturers. What is the Federal Government supposed to do? This Federal Government not only raided Gibson Guitar, told them to close down their lines, laid people off from work—or hey, they have a better idea: Why don't you just move your operation to another country? That's what this administration's message is to manufacturers and the job creators in America. If you don't like it, just go ahead and move to another country. Take those jobs and give it to someone else other than Americans.

I think we are wrongheaded in our approach. We look at regulations as an end-all to everything, just not commonsense solutions. When we talk about creating jobs in America, I have gone across my district, and I ask the job creators, the small businesses: What can we do in D.C. to help you?

And they said: Mr. Congressman, just get out of our way. Allow us to do the things that we need to do to create jobs here in America.

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THE TRAIN ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, the House this week will take up a bill called the

TRAIN Act. The acronym stands for Transparency and Regulatory Analysis of Impacts on the Nation. It is quite a mouthful, but what it's going to do, very specifically, is delay the implementation of two very important Clean Air Act standards that protect human health and the environment. Now, we can have a lot of arguments about proper regulation, which ones are good and which ones are bad, but can we really argue about the necessity of taking appropriate action to protect the air we breathe?

The Clean Air Act has been very successful in improving air quality around this country. Obviously, much more needs to be done. But the two provisions that are under attack by the so-called TRAIN Act are:

One regulation that regulates cross-State air pollution. Now, if you live in one State and there is a coal-burning plant in another State, the law of air motion means that the pollution is going to follow the path that the air travels, and people in a State that are on the receiving end of polluted air ought to have some protection. This has a significant impact on health. It is not as though you can have appropriate regulatory safety without having the Federal Government have some role, since air does travel according to the law of physics, not according to an act of Congress.

A second provision is the power plant emissions of mercury limitation. Mercury is a known carcinogen. It is extremely dangerous to our health, particularly that of infants. And the success that we've had in limiting mercury pollution has had dramatic impacts—positive impacts—on our health. Why? Why would we delay the implementation of a mercury regulation that is going to have significant and immediate benefit?

There may be some cost to this; that's true. But what about the cost in lives? What about the cost in health care expenditures by allowing pollution to occur?

When we do something and price it cheaply by ignoring what the external impacts of allowing something to be theoretically cheap, in the terms of lives lost, in terms of health care expenses incurred, we're not saving anybody money. We're making some money for the owners of the polluting entity, but we are not making money for society, and we are certainly not protecting it.

We have to have careful regulation. We should always be willing to look at them to get rid of things that don't make sense and aren't getting the job done, but we also need proper regulation. And when it comes to health and safety, clean air and mercury, those are two provisions that should not be delayed. This legislation would do that. It's harmful to our health, and it will be harmful to our economy.

HONORING SENATOR MALCOLM WALLOP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heart that is both heavy and full of pride. On September 14, former U.S. Senator Malcolm Wallop passed away at the age of 78. Senator Wallop brought to the Congress his considerable influence, outspoken conservatism, and keen intelligence. The word "statesman" only begins to scratch the surface of Malcolm Wallop's accomplishments.

After serving in the Wyoming Legislature for several terms, Malcolm Wallop was elected to the United States Senate in 1976, a seat he held for 18 years. In the Senate, he served on numerous committees. He was the ranking member of Energy and Natural Resources and was the first nonlawyer in the history of the Senate to serve on the Judiciary Committee.

His efforts on the Judiciary Committee led to the enactment of the first international parental kidnapping statute, protecting children from being abducted overseas by noncustodial parents.

Through his work on Finance, Congress cut inheritance and gift taxes in 1981, which, among other things, ensured that ranching families could continue their operations upon the death of a family business partner.

He was also a tireless promoter of free trade, making new numerous trips abroad to promote GATT to reduce tariff barriers.

Due to his service on the Intelligence and Armed Services Committees, Senator Wallop served on the Helsinki Commission, which was charged with negotiating a number of complex arms control treaties, including SALT I, II, and III. Senator Wallop was one of the first persons outside of the old Soviet Union to meet with Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn while he was still a prisoner in the gulag.

In the Cowboy State, Senator Wallop was a champion of protecting the western way of life, including an amendment to the 1980 Clean Water Act prohibiting Federal usurpation of State water rights and an amendment to the Surface Mining Control Act that directed the Federal Government to compensate owners of mineral rights for the loss of the right to mine.

Senator Wallop was one of the first legislators to lead the charge against the "War on the West," which subordinated States' rights and severely limited multiple use of our public lands. In 1984, the Republican Senator partnered with Democrat John Breaux of Louisiana to author the Wallop-Breaux Sport Fishing Restoration Act to promote boat safety and fish habitat conservation along with enhancing fishing opportunities, including those for the handicapped.

Senator Wallop was also committed to education and volunteerism. In 1979,

Congress passed his legislation establishing the Congressional Award Program, which is privately funded and is the only volunteer award given in the name of Congress. Wyoming is proud to have the most active participation in that program.

Upon his retirement from Congress, Senator Wallop founded Frontiers of Freedom, a conservative think tank promoting freedom, fewer Federal regulations, and smaller government.

He was a man of supreme integrity, incredible intellect and a quick wit, humble to a fault and exceedingly kind. I am told he always had time to ask a Capitol Hill elevator operator or police officer about their family on his way to a vote. He had a tremendously devoted staff, many of whom worked for him for the full 18 years of his tenure in the Senate.

Finally, Malcolm Wallop was the descendant of an entrepreneurial pioneer family who had roots in Wyoming and the British Isles as well. Senator Wallop's grandfather served not only in England's Parliament but the Wyoming Legislature. The first polo field in the United States was built on the Wallop family ranch at Big Horn, Wyoming.

Senator Wallop was a man blessed with four wonderful children, many grandchildren, and his wife, Isabel. My thoughts and prayers are with his family. In their time of sadness, let them be comforted in the knowledge that Wyoming stands strong today because of Senator Wallop's untiring love of, and commitment to, our great State.

GOOD RIDDANCE TO "DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL"

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was a truly historic day in our country's struggle for equal rights for all people. Leaders of the United States Army sent a notice to soldiers serving around the globe that simply said the following: "Today marks the end of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell.' The law is repealed. From this day forward, gay and lesbian soldiers may serve in our Army with the dignity and respect they deserve. Our rules, regulations, and politics will apply uniformly without regard to sexual orientation, which is a personal and private matter."

Mr. Speaker, 18 years after this hideous policy was first implemented, it is now gone. And the thousands of soldiers who were shamefully discharged under Don't Ask, Don't Tell may apply for reenlistment.

To the men and women whose service and sacrifice have made us so proud, we say, as of yesterday: "You no longer have to live a lie." To them, we say: "You no longer have to choose between your personhood and your patriotism." To them, who have had the courage to do right by America, we now say:

"Your Nation now has the courage to do what is right by you."

Air Force Lieutenant Josh Seefried, a leader among gay and lesbian servicemembers, describes the oppressive nature of this policy in this way. He said: "It consumes your thought process, it consumes your future, because of the fear of getting caught."

Mr. Speaker, it is incomprehensible to me that anyone—in particular, brave, selfless members of our military—should live any day in fear of "getting caught." This step is hugely welcomed, and it is long overdue.

□ 1030

"Don't ask, don't tell" was opposed by an overwhelming majority of Americans because it violated the values we claim to stand for as a Nation. It was not only tearing at our moral fabric; it was undermining our military readiness and national security as well. At a time when we're asking so much of our servicemembers, putting them on the front lines of two wars, we owe them, at the very least, and we have finally brought them the dignity of a discrimination-free workplace.

I salute President Obama, and I salute our military brass for their leadership in reversing this injustice. I salute the Members of Congress, Democrat and Republican, who voted for the repeal. And of course we all owe a debt of gratitude to those who serve with honor and integrity, those who defended American rights and freedoms even when America wouldn't afford them the same rights and freedoms.

So, Mr. Speaker, now there will be no sanctioned bigotry or homophobia in the Armed Forces of the greatest country on Earth. Our military will accept everyone who demonstrates their fitness to serve. Their sexuality will be irrelevant. They may be as open about it or as discreet about it as they choose.

Good riddance to "don't ask, don't tell." Our country will be stronger, safer, and fairer without it. And while we support our troops by eliminating this wrong-minded policy, let's take the next step and support all of our troops, regardless of their sexual orientation, by bringing them home from Iraq and Afghanistan.

PUERTO RICO INVESTMENT PROMOTION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. PIERLUISI) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PIERLUISI. Mr. Speaker, the coming months represent a defining moment for our Nation. Responsible leaders from both political parties understand that we must come together on behalf of the American people to create jobs for millions of unemployed workers and to put our Nation on the path to fiscal stability.

President Obama has transmitted the American Jobs Act to Congress, and I

hope its key components will be enacted into law. The supercommittee has begun its work of proposing responsible ways to grow our economy while reducing our deficits. The work that lies ahead will not be easy, but it must be done.

With this as backdrop, I rise this morning to discuss the Puerto Rico Investment Promotion Act, which I will introduce tomorrow. The bill is designed to attract investment to Puerto Rico and to create jobs on the island, where the unemployment rate over the last decade has consistently stood six to eight percentage points above the national average. At the same time, the bill seeks to generate new revenue for the Federal Government and to encourage job-creating investment in the 50 States, where unemployment now exceeds 9 percent.

This bill is endorsed by Puerto Rico's Governor, Luis Fortuno, the leaders of Puerto Rico's two main political parties, and the island's business community.

At the outset, it is important to explain why I'm promoting legislation of this sort. Like the States, the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico faces serious economic challenges. However, the economic problems of Puerto Rico have proven to be structural and chronic, not cyclical and temporary.

I believe that Puerto Rico's economy will never unleash its tremendous potential under its current political status. And I support statehood for the island in part because history shows that every territory that joins the union experiences substantial increases in its economic activity and standard of living. However, until a majority of Puerto Rico's people express a desire for statehood and Congress welcomes the island as a full member of the American family, it is incumbent upon me to take all reasonable steps to strengthen the island's economy within the severe constraints imposed by the current territorial status.

My aspiration for Puerto Rico is that it will enjoy the political, social, and economic equality that only statehood offers; and I look forward to the day when it will no longer be necessary for Puerto Rico's leaders to petition the U.S. Congress for customized, island-specific legislation to encourage job-creating investment, and to compensate—at least somewhat—for the countless ways in which our political status does damage to our people. But until that day arrives, we must be as pragmatic about the present as we are hopeful about the future.

To explain the bill, a little background is in order. Currently, nearly all of the large U.S. firms that conduct business in Puerto Rico are organized as controlled foreign corporations, CFCs. A CFC's earnings are not subject to any Federal taxation until they're distributed, usually in the form of a dividend, to its U.S. parent, a process known as repatriation. CFCs in Puerto Rico and in foreign countries have little incentive to repatriate because