

Today, that deficit has exploded to \$273 billion, and with it, millions of American jobs. A recent study by the Economic Policy Institute found that the trade deficit with China eliminated or displaced 2.8 million jobs between 2001 and 2010.

I fear that enactment of the trade agreements debated in this chamber today will further exacerbate job losses in our country.

EPI found in a study last year that the Korea FTA alone would displace 159,000 jobs in the United States. The same study found that the Colombia FTA would cost the American people 55,000 jobs.

It is time for this chamber to ask why our nation gives open access to our markets to foreign competitors—as is the case with South Korea, Colombia, and Panama—and only, years later, look to gain similar access into their markets.

History has shown me that genuine free trade comes when all parties receive equal access to each others' markets. All three of these agreements fail to do so.

I close by calling on my colleagues today to vote in favor of working Americans by voting against these trade agreements and voting in favor of TAA.

CAPE VERDEAN EX-PRESIDENT
PIRES IS PRAISED FOR HIS
LEADERSHIP ROLE

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, last week, on the death of former Cape Verdean President Aristides Pereira, I noted the great achievement of that country in showing the world that a nation winning its independence in the post-World War II period can progress economically while fully respecting democratic norms. Earlier this week, that extremely admirable record was recognized as well by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation as they awarded the Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership to Pedro de Verona Rodrigues Pires, the recently retired President of Cape Verde. President Pires was elected to two terms as President and was one of those responsible for the great record of economic development a record recognized by both the Bush and Obama administrations in their strong support for Cape Verde's participation in our Millennium Challenge program. President Pires' popularity and record of success was such that some urged him to support a constitutional amendment so he could run for a third term, but he refused to do that, demonstrating a strong commitment to both the spirit and the letter of democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the people of Cape Verde for the example they set so much of the world in combining economic progress and democratic commitment, and I am glad to once again express to President Pires, whom I had the privilege of meeting in Brockton, Massachusetts last summer, my great admiration and respect for his work.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the article from the New York Times about Pedro Pires winning the Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership be printed here, because the example set by President Pires and by the peo-

ple of Cape Verde is one that deserves to be chronicled widely, and, I hope, followed.

[From the New York Times, Oct. 10, 2011]

EX-PRESIDENT OF CAPE VERDE WINS GOOD-GOVERNMENT PRIZE

(By Adam Nossiter)

MONROVIA, LIBERIA.—Pedro de Verona Rodrigues Pires, the former president of Cape Verde, the desertlike archipelago about 300 miles off the coast of West Africa, has won one of the world's major prizes, the \$5 million Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership.

The record of governing in Africa has been poor enough lately that the Mo Ibrahim Foundation decided not to award the prize for the past two years. In many African countries, leaders have refused to leave office after losing elections, tried to alter constitutions to ensure their continued tenure or gone back on pledges not to run for re-election.

But on Monday the foundation of Mr. Ibrahim, a Sudan-born telecommunications mogul whose goal is to promote good government in Africa, announced it had picked Mr. Pires of Cape Verde, a sparsely populated former Portuguese colony of 500,000 people, mostly of mixed Portuguese-African descent. The islands are a perennial exception to the many low rankings that international organizations, including Mr. Ibrahim's, give to nations on the continent for human rights and governing.

Mr. Pires served two terms—10 years—as president until stepping down last month. During that period, the foundation noted, Cape Verde became only the second African nation to move up from the United Nations' "least developed" category. The foundation says the prize is given only to a democratically elected president who has stayed "within the limits set by the county's constitution, has left office in the last three years and has demonstrated excellence in office."

Mr. Pires resisted suggestions that his country's Constitution could be changed to allow him to run again, a further point in his favor, the foundation said. In addition to the \$5 million award paid over 10 years, the winner receives \$200,000 annually for life thereafter.

"It is wonderful to see an African leader who has served his country from the time of colonial rule through to multiparty democracy, all the time retaining the interests of his people as his guiding principle," Mr. Ibrahim said in a statement. "The fact that Cape Verde with few natural resources can become a middle-income country is an example not just to the continent but to the world."

Mr. Ibrahim publishes an index scoring African countries on how they govern, and this year the index noted significant improvements in Liberia and Sierra Leone, while nonetheless finding an "unchanged continental average" in "overall governance quality."

THE U.S.-KOREA FREE TRADE
AGREEMENT: A NO WIN SITUATION
FOR AMERICA AND ITS
WORKERS

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, why would Congress pass three leftover Bush NAFTA-style "free trade" agreements with Korea, Panama and Colombia?

A report issued by the Economic Policy Institute concluded that the Korea FTA agreement not only fails to create jobs for American workers, it would result in the net loss of 159,000 U.S. jobs in its first seven years. And when one considers the details of the agreement, it is not hard to see why.

Under the proposed Korea FTA, the United States will eliminate tariffs on South Korean cars and trucks, increasing South Korean imports here, without requiring them to buy more of our vehicles. As a concession, South Korea did agree to waive certain environmental and safety requirements for up to 25,000 cars per U.S. maker—if suddenly there is demand for U.S. cars in South Korea, whose consumers historically have not bought U.S. imports. More than 95 percent of the cars sold in South Korea today are made in South Korea.

Additionally, no changes were made to the low domestic content rules. Under the proposed agreement, up to 65 percent of the value of a vehicle can be sourced in low-wage nations like China and still qualify for the FTA's duty-free access. As a result, this agreement is an open invitation to the auto industry to send American auto parts jobs to China. Indeed, the Korean Auto Workers Union opposes this FTA because the low domestic content rules will also invite the South Korean parts industry to outsource their jobs to China. Meanwhile, Europe's trade agreement with South Korea requires 55 percent domestic content. Even NAFTA required 50 percent domestic content.

But while this FTA does not follow NAFTA's domestic content requirements, it does replicate NAFTA's special privileges for foreign investors. This allows foreign investors to evade domestic courts and use foreign tribunals to get reimbursed for regulatory costs from U.S. taxpayers. There are more than 270 Korean corporate affiliates in the U.S. who would be empowered to use these tribunals to raid our Treasury if the Korea FTA were implemented.

Among the laws exposed to attack are financial regulations that the U.S. and Korea implemented to restore stability after the devastating global financial crisis. The banks and securities firms that wrecked the global economy would be newly empowered under this deal to attack the policies designed to get them under control. Not surprisingly, the Korea FTA is loved by Wall Street's titans.

And the FTA even includes President Bush's ban on references to the International Labor Organization's Conventions—the global labor standard. The agreement does nothing to require South Korean labor law to be put on equal footing with U.S. law, as under South Korean law, union members can be fired for striking and then sued for their employers' lost profits. The AFL-CIO, Teamsters, and many other American and Korean unions oppose this FTA.

With the Big Three beginning to recover and hire more workers thanks to major U.S. government assistance, it seems problematic that Congress would support an agreement that could boost the auto industry's profits, but only at the cost of more off-shored jobs.

The proposed Korea FTA is a bad deal for our country and America's workers. It's time to put the American worker first and stop these trade deals.

MR. KEVIN GRYBOSKI

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Kevin Gryboski for his lifetime of outstanding athleticism, and on his acceptance into the Plains Sports Hall of Fame in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Gryboski is a graduate of Bishop Hoban High School and Wilkes University. He began his baseball career in Plains with a Little League championship in 1984. He was also selected first-team All-State and top pitcher in the state in 1992 while playing for the Plains American Legion Baseball team. While at Bishop Hoban, Mr. Gryboski showed his talents on the field, as he was named an all-star in 1990 and 1991, and he also played basketball for the Argents.

Mr. Gryboski continued to show his talents during his time at Wilkes University, where he participated in both baseball and basketball. On the mound, he was named pitcher for the 1994 Middle Atlantic Conference championship team. To this day, he holds the Colonels' all-time record for complete games, and he has been inducted into the Wilkes University Athletic Hall of Fame.

Mr. Gryboski is an inspiration to many student-athletes because he showed the importance of education. In 1994, he was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds, but he deferred signing so he could finish earning his degree. He had truly ended up with the best of both worlds, as in 1995 he had his degree and signed with the Seattle Mariners, where he played until 2001. He was traded to the Atlanta Braves in 2002. His career also took him to the Texas Rangers, the Washington Nationals, the Pittsburgh Pirates, and finally to the San Francisco Giants in 2008 before he retired after a shoulder injury. He pitched in 190 regular-season games and 13 post-season games, and he helped the Braves win a National League East championship.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to commend Mr. Kevin Gryboski, and speak for the members of his hometown in appreciation of his gifts and abilities.

CONGRATULATING SIERRA PACIFIC INDUSTRIES ON RE-OPENING THE SONORA SAWMILL

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sierra Pacific Industries on re-opening the Sonora Sawmill. This dedicated business is assisting in bringing back economic vitality to the region.

Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) is a third-generation family-owned forest products company based in Anderson, California. With its formation in 1949, the firm now owns and manages nearly 1.9 million acres of timberland in California and Washington, and is the second largest lumber producer in the United States. Sierra Pacific employs over 3,500 people in these two states, with about 3,000 of them in

California. The U.S. Forest Service estimates that these direct jobs in California also provide more than 7,000 indirect jobs in related and affected businesses.

At Sierra Pacific Industries, the company's dedicated team members produce quality wood products using the most sophisticated equipment and machinery. This basic understanding represents Sierra Pacific's philosophy toward its valued crew members. During the course of Sierra Pacific's growth and development, efforts have been made to assure an atmosphere of fair treatment and appreciation for all employees. Some of SPI's continuing programs include: appropriate compensation and benefit levels for crew members and their dependents; development of supervisors sensitive to the needs and concerns of today's crew members; and career advancement opportunities for all employees through a desire to promote from within the company whenever possible. Through a full commitment to this philosophy, SPI continues to be an organization where its crew members are proud to work and others strive to become part of the team.

Sierra Pacific continues to make substantial investments in forestry and mill modernization in the State of California. Although many companies have left the state due to its difficult economic and regulatory climate, SPI remains committed to rebuilding a competitive climate for business in California and investing in the rural communities where it operates.

Sierra Pacific Industries is committed to managing its lands in a responsible and sustainable manner to protect the environment while providing quality wood products and renewable power for consumers. To SPI, sustainable forest management means more than planting trees. The company employs modern forest management practices that closely mimic natural forest events. It has invested in state-of-the-art equipment to optimize every fiber of every tree. SPI is a voluntary partner in the independent Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) forest certification program to help ensure our forests are here for generations to come. The expertise of its registered professional foresters and natural resource specialists guarantees that wildlife habitats, water quality, and other forest values are protected.

The Sierra Pacific Foundation was established and funded in 1979 by A.A. "Red" Emmerson's father, R.H. "Curly" Emmerson. During the past 20 years, the Foundation has provided over \$3 million in Higher Education scholarships to dependent children of SPI employees. The Foundation also contributes to youth activities and other organizations in the communities in which Sierra Pacific Industries has facilities, with contributions to more than 100 worthy organizations each year. The Foundation awarded \$403,250 to 177 students to assist them as they attend colleges, universities and trade schools during the 2011–2012 school year.

Mrs. Ida Emmerson, wife of company president A.A. "Red" Emmerson for nearly 41 years, served as president of the Sierra Pacific Foundation until her death in 1996. Red and Ida's daughter, Carolyn Dietz, proudly succeeded her as Foundation president.

The original Sonora sawmill was first constructed in 1901. It had several owners before Sierra Pacific Industries purchased it and nearby timberlands in 1995. Sierra Pacific op-

erated the plant continuously until it was forced to close the facility in 2009 amid weakness in the lumber market, reduced timber harvests on nearby national forest lands, and increasing state regulatory burdens. In June of 2011 SPI announced that it would rebuild the mill using new technologies that would allow it to cut a wider array of log sizes to maximize the efficiency of the operation. The mill restarted in September, 2011 and employs about 130 workers on two shifts.

Sierra Pacific Industries generates \$11.7 million in annual payroll in Tuolumne County to its direct employees, and pays \$400,000 in property taxes. In addition, SPI pays out over \$200,000 annually to local vendors for their supplies and services.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in praising Sierra Pacific Industries for their diligent work in the timber industry and applauding them in the re-opening of the Sonora Sawmill.

H.R. 2017, CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

HON. MICK MULVANEY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2017 would fund the Federal Government from October 1, 2011 through October 4, 2011. It was considered by a unanimous consent request, which does not require a recorded vote. Had a recorded vote been required, I would have voted against this spending bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, October 11, 2011, I regrettably missed the votes on rollcall. My leave of absence was due to a district event with the Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan. Had I been present, I would have voted "Nay" on the following bill.

H. Res. 425—Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3078, United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act, H.R. 3079, United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act, H.R. 3080, United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act and the Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendments to H.R. 2832 which extends the Generalized System of Preferences, and for other purposes.

Following H. Res. 425, I would have voted "Yea" on the following amendments.

Waxman Amendment (#11) which adds a new section at the end of the bill to ensure that the bill complies with the Republican discretionary CutGo protocol. The section says if the bill authorizes the appropriation of funds and does not reduce an existing authorization of appropriations to offset that amount, then the bill's provisions cease to be effective. CBO currently scores the bill as spending \$1 million over 5 years subject to appropriations.

Connolly Amendment (#18) which adds a new section at the end of the bill that directs the EPA Administrator not to delay actions to reduce pollution emissions from waste incinerators or industrial boilers at chemical facilities,