

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ZIKA VECTOR CONTROL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 897, the so-called "Zika Vector Control Act."

This legislation, which has appeared four times before this chamber in the past two years, in no way addresses the serious mosquito control or Zika virus concerns confronting communities I have the honor of representing in Houston and Harris County, Texas.

Instead, this bill would create a loophole in the Clean Water Act to exempt pesticide spraying from current permitting requirements that most mosquito control districts and state agencies already have, including Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services.

I hosted an event with my colleague, Congressman AL GREEN, last Friday at El Centro de Corazon health clinic in Houston's East End, where we urged Congress to fully fund the Administration's request for \$1.9 billion in emergency funding to combat Zika. Houston and Harris County are particularly exposed to Zika due to our region's climate, many bayous, and the presence of the Aedes mosquito species, the carrier of the Zika virus.

For the people of Houston and Harris County, this emergency finding is essential to protect our nation's fourth largest city from a Zika outbreak that has devastated countless communities in Latin America.

I urge the House Majority to abstain from using the fears over Zika as a Trojan horse for legislation that will create unnecessary loopholes in our environmental laws, and to bring to the floor H.R. 5044, emergency appropriations for \$1.9 billion to combat Zika, for a vote as soon as possible.

TSCA MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I am unable to vote on H.R. 2576, the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, on May 24, 2016. I plan to vote on H.R. 2576, and I will vote aye.

I strongly support the sensible regulation of toxic chemicals. Under the current Toxic Substances Control Act, the Environmental Protection Agency is extremely limited when regulating toxic chemicals, as the bill has not been significantly updated since its enactment in 1976. The Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act will greatly increase the scope and authority of the EPA to identify and regulate harmful chemicals.

The legislation passed will subject all new and existing chemicals to an EPA review and will further protect the American people by strengthening transparency by requiring EPA to provide the public with more information about toxic chemicals. This legislation also provides EPA with the authority to restrict the use of chemical substances which put the public and our environment at unreasonable risk.

Congress has the responsibility to protect the health and safety of all Americans. This legislation will improve current law and advance our efforts in protecting every American from harmful toxic chemicals.

TSCA MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2576, the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, specifies that the Administrator, in selecting among prohibitions and other restrictions for chemical substances that present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment, shall consider an evaluation of alternative substances. In evaluating alternative substances, the Administrator, "shall consider, to the extent practicable, whether technically and economically feasible alternatives that benefit health or the environment, compared to the use so proposed to be prohibited or restricted, will be reasonably available as a substitute when the proposed prohibition or other restriction takes effect."

Additionally, the Administrator may grant an exemption from a prohibition or other restriction on a chemical substance if the "specific condition of use is a critical or essential use for which no technically and economically feasible safer alternative is available, taking into consideration hazard and exposure."

A technically feasible alternative substance is intended to mean a chemical for which: the technical knowledge, equipment, materials, and other resources available in the marketplace are expected to be sufficient to develop and implement the alternative, and to meet consumer demand after a phase-in period; the product that contains the alternative substance can continue to comply with all applicable legal requirements; the product that contains the alternative substance can continue to comply with all applicable safety standards and regulatory approval or certification requirements applicable to the product; and, the consumer accepts the product as made with the alternative substance.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TAMMY DUCKWORTH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on May 23, 2016, on Roll Call Number 229 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 4889, Kelsey Smith Act, I am not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, As Amended, H.R. 4889.

On May 23, 2016, on Roll Call Number 230 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3998, Securing Access to Networks in Disasters Act, I am not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3998.

TAIWANESE ELECTION AND INAUGURATION

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, as a longtime friend of Taiwan, I rise to congratulate the country's people on their recent presidential elections and President-elect Tsai Ing-wen on her victory. A respected leader in trade and national security, the country's first-ever female president, Tsai Ing-wen, is setting a great example for governments around the globe.

The people of Taiwan should be proud of their strong democratic institutions, freedom of expression, and open elections. This joint appreciation and application of democracy have brought our two countries together.

We have been fortunate to work hand-in-hand on many critical issues. One example is Congress' recent effort to expand the Visa Waiver Program so citizens of Taiwan and the United States can travel freely between both countries. These visits allow for increased economic cooperation between our governments, the exchange of ideas and culture, and the development of long-lasting relationships.

I am proud to represent a large and thriving Taiwanese-American population living in Las Vegas and my congressional district, where they have made valuable contributions to our culture, economy, and society.

Again, I send my best wishes to President-elect Tsai and the people of Taiwan as you celebrate her history-making inauguration and look forward to working with you all as we grow our democratic partnership. I hope you will visit us soon, either in Las Vegas or Washington, D.C.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.