

judgement, and tireless effort and enthusiasm made this trip not only possible, but extraordinarily useful as a means of informing the Congress of the situation in these troubled lands. Major Buran consistently exceeds the very high expectations of an officer of the Marines.

Major Buran's personal awards include the Combat Action Ribbon, the Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal with two gold stars in lieu of second and third awards, and the Meritorious Service Medal. Mr. Speaker, Maj. Scott Buran has served this Nation with distinction in war and in peace for the last 14 years. As he continues to do so, I call upon my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to wish him, his lovely wife Ann, and their three beautiful children, Elizabeth, Sydney, and Samuel, every success as well as fair winds and following seas.

A COLORADO AVALANCHE IN
MIAMI

HON. WAYNE ALLARD

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Colorado Avalanche on their Stanley Cup championship. Colorado has had a long and illustrious history with all of its professional sports teams, yet the Avs are the first to bring home the top prize. While it has been almost 14 years since Colorado has had an NHL team, we are now able to appreciate Joe Sakic putting the biscuit in the basket and Patrick Roy's sterling defense in the net.

Coloradans closely associate themselves with the fortunes of our professional sports franchises, but it was the new kid on the block, the Avalanche, who overwhelmed the best team in NHL history, the Detroit Red Wings, for a shot at the NHL's most coveted prize. Marc Crawford and his Avalanche did not disappoint their frenzied fans at home. After hard fought victories in games one and three of the championship series, Uwe Krupp scored the final goal in the third overtime of the fourth game to complete a sweep of the Florida Panthers and bring the hardware home.

Mr. Speaker, since the Colorado Rockies hockey club left for New Jersey in 1982, NHL fans in Colorado have had little to celebrate. I can happily say that NHL hockey has returned to Colorado with a vengeance. With a team this young and talented, we look forward to many more championship seasons from the Colorado Avalanche.

A TRIBUTE TO REV. AARON
GIBSON, SR.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Rev. Aaron Nathaniel Gibson, Sr., pastor of the Second Baptist Church of Long Branch, NJ. Reverend Gibson was overwhelmingly elected pastor by the members of

the congregation on February 21, 1996, Ash Wednesday, after a 17-year association.

Mr. Speaker, the Second Baptist Church of Long Branch has a long and illustrious history, going back more than a century. In the 1880's, a group of believers in the Baptist faith settled in Long Branch. Finding no church, they met in the home of Mrs. Ellen Hill of Brook Street, with Brother William Bloodsaw as their leader. As the group of worshipers grew too large for the house on Brook Street, the congregation moved to Liberty Hall on Broadway, and, from there, back to Brook Street in the public primary school building, and then on to Layton Hall on Broadway. Brother Bloodsaw was succeeded by Reverend Jones, who was followed by Reverend Jeffries. It was during the tenure of Reverend Jeffries that the present site, 93 Liberty Street, was purchased and a frame building was constructed. The current stone building in which the congregation now worships was built in 1904. The church subsequently purchased a parish home on Liberty Street. The Reverend C.P. Williams was installed as pastor in 1934, and served continuously more than 50 years. During these sometimes difficult years of growth, expansion, and stability, the Second Baptist Church distinguished itself not only for providing its members with spiritual inspiration and sustenance, but also for civic, humanitarian, educational, and community endeavors.

Reverend Gibson, a native of Baltimore, has great experience not only as a minister, but also as an educator, published writer, human resource manager, and Army chaplain. He has studied at Brookdale Community College, El Paso Community College, Newark State College, and the University of Maryland. He has served as an associate minister of Fulton Baptist Church in Baltimore, assistant pastor of a 750-member church in Vogelweh, Germany, and as the director of parish development for the Army Chaplaincy. Reverend Gibson is married to Sheila Alexander, and they have three children: Aaron Nathaniel, Jr., Damon Garrick, and Rachel Renee.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Gibson is seeking to lead the people of the Second Baptist Church of Long Branch on a spiritual pilgrimage of being "A Church Led By The Spirit Of God." Given the proud history of Second Baptist, the strong bonds of family and community of its members, and the inspired and devoted leadership of Reverend Gibson, I am confident that this spiritual journey will continue for many years to come.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION,
AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3603) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Chairman, 3 months ago we passed the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, better known as the freedom to farm bill. The 1996 farm bill was touted as the best deal for consumers because it removed the Government from the operation of farm programs and opened the sugar market to domestic competition. The cap on raw sugar prices added in this bill breaks faith with this policy. It sabotages the lowest part of the triangle: The grower. Moreover, it hands unlimited profits to the refinery and it opens the doors to foreign sugar. It deliberately wastes the grower for more profits for the refinery.

Under the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, Congress eliminated marketing allotments and allowed an additional 1.5 million tons of imported sugar into the domestic market. We also requested America's sugar growers to pay an additional \$288 million in market assessments to help pay for deficit reduction. These changes essentially took Government out of managing the sugar market. By placing a price cap, this amendment repeals the free market principle. The purpose of the cap is to ultimately eliminate our domestic sugar production, drive America's sugar growers out of business and allow foreign subsidized sugar to dominate the U.S. market. Instead of heeding our decision to save the domestic sugar program as evidenced by the defeat of the Miller-Schumer amendment in the farm bill, opponents are now seeking the same result by including a price cap for raw sugar in H.R. 3603.

According to the USDA, the only way to meet the 21.15 price cap is by increasing the amount of imported sugar allowed into the United States, exactly what the mega users want. The lower priced sugar helps the users and the imported sugar helps the refineries. By allowing more imported sugar into the United States, the downward pressure on raw sugar prices will likely result in increased sugar forfeitures with greater costs to the American taxpayer.

Since last November, the price margin between raw and refined sugar has increased significantly. Presently, Dominos refinery is asking 32 cents for its refined sugar, while raw sugar prices are 22 cents—a difference of 10 cents. Refineries are enjoying high margins of profit because beet sugar producers are expected to harvest less yields for the next couple of years. The USDA has predicted that this price difference will remain the same or even increase. This 10 cent difference is on top of the 1 to 2 cent discount that processors already give to many sugar refiners. Judging from these numbers, the only ones to benefit from the price caps are the refineries and the users. It doesn't matter to them if there are no domestic growers left. I rise to warn this Nation of the loss of an important farm product. If these price caps are adopted, many of America's sugar growers will go out of business. In the State of Hawaii, the remaining sugar growers, with the exception of one owned by a refinery, will likely be forced out of business. Sugar continues to be an essential component of Hawaii's economy, surpassed only by tourism and defense. In 1994, the sugar industry generated \$248 million for the State's economy and directly and indirectly employed 6,000 workers. There are 121,000 acres of sugar land in production today. If the price caps on raw sugar become law, our