

democracy in Cuba and in defending American interests.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS FAIRNESS ACT OF 1996

(Mr. HOLDEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to cosponsor a bill I am introducing today, the Social Security Benefits Fairness Act of 1996.

Under current law, no Social Security benefits are paid for the month of a death. When a person dies, their family is not entitled to the benefits and must send back the Social Security check, even if they lived to the end of the month. This happened to a family in my district.

Phyllis Strunk's husband, Royden, died on May 31, 1996, at 7:04 p.m. almost living the entire month and incurring living expenses. His wife was told she would not receive her husband's benefits for May because he did not live 4 hours and 56 minutes longer.

This is unfair and absurd.

My bill will put fairness and security back into Social Security. Under my bill, if a person dies before the 15th day of a month, the family will receive 1/2 of the month's benefits. If a person dies after the 15th, the family would receive the entire amount of the benefits.

It is simple and fair. Please join me in this effort and cosponsor the Social Security Benefits Fairness Act of 1996.

CONGRATULATIONS TO RADIO STATION WBHF FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

(Mr. BARR of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in 1946, World War II had ended. Thousands of young men were returning to their hometowns all across America, establishing families and seeking new opportunities. With their eyes on the future, they welcomed change and sought progress. On July 17, 1946, in Cartersville, GA, they first heard the voice that would champion the future of Bartow County: radio station WBHF went on the air, to begin its continuing commitment of service that has lasted for 50 years.

WBHF has become a valuable resource to its many listeners. As a news source, it has chronicled the years of change from the small southern town in 1946, to the thriving city Cartersville is today, recognized as one of the best communities in all of Georgia. In times of National disasters or local victories, the people of Cartersville can count on WBHF to be there, often as their only information source.

I am proud to extend congratulations today to radio station WBHF, and to

Herschel Weisbram and Lee Burger who run this fine radio station, for 50 years of service to Cartersville and Bartow County, GA.

SWEATSHOP PRODUCT BAN ACT

(Mr. UNDERWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I plan on introducing the Sweatshop Product Ban Act, which I have dubbed the "No Sweatshops Where GI's Shop Act."

Through defense commissary and exchange stores, the Department of Defense exercises a purchasing power of well over \$9 billion. However, there is nothing in law that prohibits one of the largest retailers in the Nation from purchasing goods manufactured under inhumane conditions. This bill would specifically prevent the commissary and exchange stores from inadvertently supporting child labor, prison labor, or goods produced under human rights violations. It would also come closer to insuring that our GI's around the world do not sport any products produced by children who work under deplorable conditions, 14 hours a day.

Congress can encourage private industry to police themselves by allowing companies to have access to these minimum labor standards. Corporations such as J.C. Penny and Levi Strauss have already agreed to monitor their contractors as publication of potential violations by these retailers pose a threat to sales. My bill would take it a step further: As consumers, the Defense commissary and exchange stores can take the lead and influence corporations to adopt better labor practices through the power of their purse.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Sweatshop Product Ban Act.

DO WE REALLY NEED A SURGEON GENERAL?

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, all of us fondly recall President Clinton's first Surgeon General, Jocelyn Elders. She is the one whose valuable contribution to medicine was to suggest, and let me put this delicately, that schoolchildren quit playing with each other and—well, never mind. Now, for that bold contribution, which many of my colleagues remember, and I am not going to allude to it any more than that, but she was run out of office. So now the new Surgeon General has come out with a study, but she is playing it safe, daringly sticking right in the middle of the road. She has come out with a study paid for by thousands of tax dollars that comes out with this revelation:

"Exercise is good for you."

Yes, I promise, that is her study: Exercise is good for us. Imaging the possibilities. Next thing we know, the private sector will be coming out with health spa chains.

Next the Surgeon General plans to study does the sun cause suntan? Does the rain get things wet? Does climbing stairs get you higher?

I ask my colleagues this:

Do we really need a Surgeon General? Is this the way we should be spending tax dollars instead of pursuing real goals?

□ 1015

THE CIA AND THE FBI: BILLIONS OF DOLLARS FOR INEPTNESS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the CIA and the FBI never found out who killed those two CIA employees outside of CIA headquarters 3 years ago. They did not find out who was responsible for the bombing of Pan American 1034. They never found out who carried out the recent Saudi Arabia bombings. But lo and behold, the Washington Post has uncovered that the anonymous author of the book, "Primary Colors," is Newsweek writer Joe Klein.

Let us check this out. The CIA and the FBI get billions of dollars from Congress every year and they cannot seem to find the restroom around here. I say something is drastically wrong when a newspaper can solve a national mystery and a TV network has to notify America that there is a military invasion in Kuwait, but the CIA and the FBI cannot even tell us who hired Craig Livingstone. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. I yield back all the deceit, coverup, and lies in this FBI Filegate matter.

SUPPORT THE BONILLA DISCHARGE PETITION AND REFORM THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

(Mr. BONILLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, the time is now for reform of the Endangered Species Act. Our people have waited long enough. Private property owners are sick and tired of the Federal Government taking their land because it cares more about bugs than people.

Today I am submitting a discharge petition to bring the Endangered Species Management and Conservation Act to a vote. The current ESA has failed the people and it has failed species.

This ESA reform bill works by providing incentives to encourage private property owners to conserve species. ESA reform establishes a cooperative framework for these landowners to work together with the Government to protect species.