

Collective bargaining in this country works very well. The public, through their government, should intervene only in a crisis. We now have reached a crisis in the well-being of our national pastime.

INTRODUCTION OF THE
REGULATORY SUNSET ACT OF 1995

HON. JIM CHAPMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 1995

Mr. CHAPMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Regulatory Sunset Act of 1995. This legislation, which I first introduced in the 103d Congress, will put a framework in place to curb the excessive costs of both current and future federal regulations. The concept is simple.

Regulations which are obsolete, inconsistent, duplicative, or impede competition will be abolished or modified. Not only will future regulations, which cause an unnecessary burden be affected, but the thousands of existing regulations would be placed under intense review and scrutiny by the Regulatory Sunset Act of 1995. As the 104th Congress begins the process of reviewing the Federal regulatory system, it is important that this combined focus not be forgotten.

This issue of Federal regulatory reform has not been born overnight. Since 1978, each administration has tried to curtail the impact of Federal regulations. Unfortunately, these attempts have not made much of a difference as total regulatory costs exceed \$500 billion annually. This burden on the American taxpayer must be reduced, and the only way to effectively do that is to take a serious look at existing regulations.

I believe my legislation achieves the goal of reducing excessive existing regulations, while ensuring future regulations are not overburdensome. The Regulatory Sunset Act of 1995 will mandate the automatic termination of agency regulations that do not measure up to criteria outlined in the bill. All existing regulations will sunset in 7 years unless reauthorized and new regulations promulgated after enactment of this bill will be subject to a three year sunset unless reauthorized. Once a regulation has been reauthorized, it will be subject to continuous review every 7 years thereafter.

The bill also establishes a Regulatory Sunset Commission that will review agency recommendations on regulations and has the final authority over whether regulations should be continued, terminated, or modified. If the Commission recommends modification of a regulation, it provides time for agencies to make appropriate modifications so the regulation can then be continued.

While certain Federal regulations are necessary to meet statutory requirements and protect the environment and health and safety of individuals, excessive regulatory burdens have impacted our ability to ensure an expanding economy. It is past time to address regulations that have unintended adverse impacts. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Regulatory Sunset Act of 1995 and join me in taking a new approach to reforming our regulatory program.

“POVERTY’S TRAP”

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 1995

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I agree with your statement before the House that today is an historic day. In the elections of 1992 and 1994, Americans gave their elected leaders a clear signal that they expect the Federal Government to do a better job in spending the Nation’s treasure and tending to the needs of its citizens.

As we continue the debate begun by President Clinton, Vice President GORE, and the 103d Congress to reform the operations of the Federal Government, I believe it is important that we not lose track of needs of ordinary Americans. People who must live with the fears and anxieties created by job insecurity, global competition, and rapid technological change clearly feel caught in the middle of these forces. Their faith in Government to help solve these problems is badly shaken.

Two years ago, the President and Congress began a process of deep budget cuts and Government reorganization. Contrary to assertions made about failure, the 103d Congress put forth a \$500 billion deficit reduction plan which has more than met its target—it is now estimated that the 1993 deficit reduction plan will result in close to \$700 billion in savings. Congress achieved true reductions in Government spending in a manner which lessened the deficit, reduced interest rates, and allowed capital expansion and vigorous economic growth—while containing growth-killing inflation.

What does this mean for middle Americans? Employment levels are at their highest in years. In fact, between January, 1993 and September, 1994, more jobs were created than in the previous 4 years combined. Lower interest payments on the Federal debt meant banks could make loans to small businesses and families at lower rates. Millions of homeowners were able to save thousands of dollars on their home mortgages. Retail sales were up more than four times as compared to the previous 4-year period. By all indications, the 1993 deficit reduction plan continues to give direct benefits to American families.

As the 104th Congress begins its debate to further reduce the deficit and make Government services more effective, it is crucial that the changes adopted by this Congress help those Americans who are still trying to catch up from the excesses of the failed supply-side economic strategies. Mr. Speaker, I commend to your attention to an editorial published earlier this week in the Detroit Free Press, which very succinctly lays out my belief that Congress must fight to protect the interests of our Nation’s working families. As this debate about our future begins, let us not forget them.

[From the Detroit Free Press, Jan. 2, 1995]

POVERTY’S TRAP—THE POOR STILL GET POORER, EVEN IN A HEALTHY ECONOMY

When Michigan’s unemployment rate is at an unprecedented low, why are so many people in our state still poor?

By 1988, as the supply-side Reagan administration drew to a close, some observers were fretting that the share of national income held by the poorest fifth of U.S. households had dropped to 4.6 percent. But that

figure has declined even further, to just 3.6 percent by 1993.

Meanwhile, the richest 20 percent of U.S. households now control nearly half the nation’s income, the highest percentage recorded since this statistic has been kept. The numbers also show a deterioration in the proportion of wealth held by people in and around the middle.

Some analysts argue that this divergence reflects an educated, well-paid elite pulling ahead of the rest of American society. But the statistics also may suggest how many jobs are not what they used to be: More jobs are part-time, or temporary, or full-time but without benefits. Even solid jobs can vanish in the blink of an eye; ask your neighbors who work at Kmart and Perry headquarters about that.

Michigan has had plenty of experience with what happens when factory jobs dwindle and corporations downsize. The next job is rarely as good. So it’s not surprising that our cities, where these trends come together, are especially afflicted by poverty and the maldistribution of income.

Among the nation’s 10 biggest cities, Detroit ranked second only to New York in disparity of income between rich and poor, according to an analysis of 1990 Census figures recently prepared for the New York Times. Detroit’s top fifth of earners had the lowest average income among their counterparts in the largest cities. And Detroit’s poorest group was an even more distant also-ran in its category.

We dare not underestimate the economic difficulties facing urban residents and people who struggle everywhere else in Michigan. Good jobs may not be where they live. It may take a succession of jobs, or a combination of jobs, to sustain a family. And job loss can hit anywhere, anytime.

A booming overall economy may be a necessary condition for reducing poverty. But as too many Michiganders know, it is not by itself a sufficient condition. Elected officials, and the people who put them in office, ought not forget that.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUN BAN
REPEAL ACT OF 1995

HON. JIM CHAPMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 1995

Mr. CHAPMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing—along with 21 original cosponsors—the Gun Ban Repeal Act of 1995. I encourage Members to join us in cosponsoring this important legislation.

As you know, the 103d Congress enacted the ban on so-called assault weapons and certain ammunition feeding devices by the narrowest of margins. The Gun Ban Repeal Act will undo that well-intentioned, but misguided, approach to combating gun violence in our society.

My legislation will delete from Public Law the provisions which outlaw the specified firearms and ammunition feeding devices. This bill will effect no other provision of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, and it will do nothing to hinder the ability of the House to enact new crime control legislation. The Act simply serves as the proper vehicle for the majority of the membership of the House—both Republicans and Democrats—to remove the most objectionable gun control measure enacted by the previous Congress.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Gun Ban Repeal Act.

HONORING DR. STEPHEN K.
ROBINSON

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 1995

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, remarkable Americans deserve recognition by the Congress, which is why I am glad to honor Dr. Stephen K. Robinson for his recent selection as a mission specialist for future flights of the Space Shuttle by the National Aeronautic and Space Administration.

Dr. Robinson is a 1973 graduate of Campolindo High School in Moraga, which is located in my District in the East Bay area of California. Currently a research scientist in the Fluid Mechanics and Acoustics Division of NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, VA, Dr. Robinson will serve as one of several mission specialists on future Space Shuttle flights. He will relocate to Houston in March of next year to begin 1 year of training at the Johnson Space Center, during which he will learn how to operate and integrate the dozens of systems used on the Shuttle.

Dr. Robinson graduated from the University of California, Davis in 1978 with a degree in mechanical/aeronautical engineering. He went on to obtain masters and doctorate degrees in mechanical engineering from Stanford University. Dr. Robinson's parents, William and Joyce Robinson, continue to reside in Moraga.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Robinson deserves high praise for being chosen in a very competitive process. His appointment is testimony to his diligent pursuit of professional excellence, and I am pleased to commend this outstanding East Bay native for his contributions to our country.

HONORING THE GREENPOINT
LIONS CLUB AND BUD MADDEN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Greenpoint Lions Club, and its newest Melvin Jones Fellow, Bud Madden.

The Greenpoint Lions Club was organized on December 1, 1939, and sponsored by the Brooklyn Lions Club. Past presidents of the Greenpoint Lions Club are practically a Who's Who of Greenpoint.

The Greenpoint Club is one of more than 60 area clubs, comprising a district which includes Brooklyn and Queens. This district is part of a larger district covering New York State and Bermuda. The local district joins with other clubs in 178 countries and geographic areas, making the Greenpoint Lions Club a member of the largest service organization in the world.

Every year the Club raises money and names a Melvin Jones Fellow to help fulfill its motto, "We Serve." And who have they served? The Lions give their steadfast support

to the YMCA, Greenpoint Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Little League, Polish National Alliance, churches, Scouts and the local police department, parks and playgrounds. Others in need only have to ask.

The club has recently sponsored the Toys For Tots program, providing gifts, clothing and toys at holidays throughout the Greenpoint community. In addition, old eye glass collection boxes have been filled many times, adding to the club's spirit of service to the needy. Melvin Jones Fellowships continue to grow because of its outstanding contributions, especially to "Campaign Sight First."

I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting the Greenpoint Lions Club and Bud Madden for all of the wonderful work they do. Their tremendous community spirit and efforts to improve the lives of those in need is an inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO ROSE WHITE

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 1995

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Rose White, a prominent member of the Third Congressional District of Illinois, who celebrated her 80th birthday on December 9, 1994. I would like to share with my colleagues the notable accomplishments that have highlighted Mrs. White's life.

Rose White was born of immigrant parents in Chicago, IL on December 9, 1914. Growing up as one of nine brothers and sisters during the Great Depression, Rose learned the value of hard work and family unity. She demonstrated her commitment to work and family during the Second World War when she juggled both a factory job and three young children while her husband fought the war overseas. After the war, in 1947, Rose and her husband became homeowners and settled with their four children in the Garfield Ridge community on the southwest side.

In addition to being a model homemaker and mother, Rose has always been an active member of the Garfield Ridge community. Her membership in the Democratic Club of Garfield Ridge led to her career as a Judge for the Board of Elections at the 23d Ward, a position she has held for 35 years. Rose is also a member of other various community organizations. For example, Rose is a member of the Garfield Ridge Civic League and has held the offices of Treasurer and Membership Chairperson. She has served as treasurer of the Garfield Ridge Council of Organizations during her 10-year membership. She is a welcome member of the American Legion Auxiliary and local VFW. In the past she has served as an advisor to the Junior Auxiliary of the American Legion and was an active member of the Byrne and Kinzie Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization. Plus, in her spare time, Rose relaxes with the Garfield Ridge Garden Club and volunteers at the Regional Veterans Administration Hospital.

Rose has filled her 80 years of life with family, friends, hard work, dedication, and service to her country and community. She is a model citizen and deserves to be commended for her outstanding accomplishments. I am sure that my colleagues would like to join me in congratulating Mrs. Rose White on her 80th birth-

day and encourage her to continue in all her endeavors. With best wishes I hope that Rose's life continues to be an adventure and offers her many more pleasant memories.

MAKE PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL
SUBJECT TO THE ANTITRUST
LAWS

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 1995

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the game of baseball has provided Americans of all ages with a source of entertainment since the first professional game was played in 1869. It truly is the American past-time. But in recent years ugly labor disputes have tarnished the game and hurt baseball fans. One of the reasons why the players have felt compelled to go on strike—including the present strike action—is that the baseball owners are exempt from U.S. antitrust laws.

As a former athlete from the University of Pittsburgh, and a staunch supporter of all working people, I believe that this is a detriment to the great game of baseball. The antitrust exemption has denied the players the same bargaining tools and leverage currently enjoyed by other professional athletes. While I won't even attempt to characterize athletes whose average salary is well over \$500,000 a year as victims, they should be afforded the same rights and bargaining opportunities as other professional athletes.

Clearly, the American people aren't concerned with the details of the dispute. They don't care about salary caps, free agency or arbitration. All they want is for the bickering and posturing to end, and for the umpires to yell "Play Ball!" Since the players went on strike last August, all efforts to mediate the dispute have failed. Clearly, the owners have indicated that they no longer have the best interests of baseball in mind and they have lost the trust Congress placed in them back in 1922 when they moved to exempt Major League Baseball from U.S. anti-trust laws. Removing this exemption may be the only way to end the strike and save the 1995 season.

That's why today I am introducing the Professional Baseball Antitrust Reform Act of 1995. This bill provides that professional baseball teams and leagues composed of such teams shall be subject to all antitrust laws. The bill also states that the Congress finds the business of organized professional baseball is in, or affects interstate commerce, and therefore the existing antitrust laws should be amended to reverse the result of the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, which exempted baseball from coverage under those laws.

In introducing this legislation, I am not professing to take sides in the dispute. I believe both parties share some of the blame for the sorry state of the game of baseball. My desire is to force the union and the owners to sit down, negotiate in good faith, and come to an agreement that both sides can live with. Professional football and basketball are both subject to U.S. anti-trust laws. Interestingly enough, both sports are doing extremely well financially, both sports have salary caps—and