

While U.S. trade with Macau is relatively small, 40% of Macau's exports go to the U.S. Furthermore, 80% of Macau's total exports consist of textiles, and the transshipment of textiles produced elsewhere through Macau has long been a major concern. The violations of Intellectual property rights is very legitimately a major and continuing concern for the U.S. There has been marked improvement in recent months in the legislative framework for combating piracy of intellectual property, including adoption of a new copyright law. However, although millions of Patacas in fines have been levied, there have been no criminal convictions of intellectual property pirates. Macau was placed on the USTR's Priority Watch List for IPR in April 1998 as a result of widespread piracy, particularly of videos and optical disks. Certainly, corruption plays a role in contributing to the transshipment and piracy problems. Macau's laws on trade also lack effective enforcement mechanisms in the areas of money laundering and export control. The new Chief Executive has pledged to work closely with the U.S. on trying to deal with these issues. The problem of money laundering, through Macau's casinos and banks, particularly by organized crime gangs, but also on behalf on North Korea is a continuing problem.

The nature and extent of North Korean activity in Macao is emerging as a concern. Weekly flights from Pyongyang support significant activity. Press reports suggest that North Korea takes advantage of weak banking laws to launder money and facilitate the sale of ballistic missiles and their components. Recent evidence suggests that Pyongyang also has used Macao to launder counterfeit U.S. \$100 bills. It also has been reported that banks in Macao serve as a repository for the proceeds of North Korea's growing trade in meth-amphetamines and other illegal drugs.

The Hong Kong Policy Act provides a legislative basis to continue to treat Hong Kong as a separate entity from China. However, although a similar Macau Policy Act was introduced in the 106th Congress, it was not enacted into legislation. This has created considerable uncertainty as to how Macau is to be treated in regard to such matters as export controls and the sale of certain items such as riot control equipment that are prohibited from shipment to China. It has also terminated availability of U.S. trade promotion programs including those of the Trade and Development Agency (TDA) and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) in Macau. This uncertainty in turn has created serious concerns in Macau about U.S. interest for the territory.

#### CONCLUSION

The picture of Hong Kong two and a half years after reversion to Chinese sovereignty is largely positive. It remains a bastion of free-market capitalism, as shown by its ranking as the world's freest economy in the recent Heritage/Wall Street journal report. After two difficult years economically, Hong Kong seems well on the road to economic recovery. It continues to formulate an independent economic policy and maintain its own membership in international economic organizations. People's Republic of China companies are subject to the same laws and prudential supervision as all other companies. Hong Kong's excellent system of export controls remains intact, although continued vigilance to potential violations or loopholes is required. Trade related issues, particularly Intellectual Property Rights piracy and money laundering, also require continued close attention.

Hong Kong's political system continues to evolve. The Hong Kong media remains free and continues to comment critically on the

PRC, although concerns about self-censorship and the proposal for a "privacy council" watchdog over the press bear continued scrutiny. Demonstrations continue to be held. There is vigorous public debate on the issues of democracy and the law. The legislature and free press have used their roles to increase government accountability and transparency.

However, the controversy over the "right of abode" case has cast a pall over the issue of Hong Kong's future judicial autonomy and the rule of law. This is a fundamental issue that business and the international community will be watching closely. If the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress continues to intervene in decisions primarily affecting Hong Kong, confidence in Hong Kong's future could be seriously undermined. Willingness by the Hong Kong Government to speed up the pace of democratization of elections for Chief Executive, Legco, and local government could help ease some of the fears that the "right of abode" case has raised.

### OSCAR ZEPEDA WINS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR BILINGUAL EDUCATION AWARD

#### HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2000*

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to proudly pay tribute to a fellow Arizonan—a little boy who lives in the Second Congressional District and who has proclaimed to the world his pride in being an American, an Arizonan, a Latino, and bilingual.

Oscar Zepeda, from Tucson, has recently won the 2000 Nationwide Writing Contest for Bilingual Students in the sixth to eighth grade category sponsored by the National Association for Bilingual Education. This is a tremendous accomplishment as he competed against thousands of young boys and girls who live in all parts of the United States, who are bilingual in various languages, and who have recognized the importance of being bilingual in the 21st Century.

Oscar will receive his award at the National Association for Bilingual Education's 29th Annual Conference to be held in San Antonio later this month. This is indeed a prestigious award in an acclaimed contest as the winner receives a \$5,000 scholarship, roundtrip airfare and accommodation for himself, a member of his family, and his bilingual teacher, and free registration to the Conference.

As all of us serving in Congress know, we sometimes have great and illustrious debates on the values and merits of bilingual education in our school systems. We all know that English is the language of economic opportunity within the United States, but sometimes we ignore the value of knowing and speaking another language. But, I wish all my colleagues would read Oscar's essay. Oscar is proud to be bilingual and he uses the simple arguments best expressed by a child to explain why we should cherish our differences and look to diversity as one of the strengths of our country.

Oscar enjoys living in a bilingual world, and in fact, he would have it no other way. He can learn from and cherish his Latino side by celebrating the courage of Cesar Chavez and watching Tlemundo and Univision while also

appreciating and developing his "American side," as he puts it, by celebrating the accomplishments of Bill Clinton and watching MTV.

Oscar closes his essay by asking the simple, but poignant question, "So why won't we just work together and make this an easier world for all of us?" Mr. Speaker, I agree. Oscar and classmates have ignored the politics of bilingualism and just keep living their lives with the grace and courage and enthusiasm that is unique to children who are sometimes caught unknowingly in adult arguments. We should all feel proud for Oscar that he made a complex issue very simple.

I hope all my colleagues will read Oscar's essay which I am submitting for the RECORD. Oscar, we are all proud of you and your accomplishments. But mainly, we are humbled by your words. And maybe, we can live up to your dream—that we "just work together" to make the world an easier place for us all.

#### PROUD TO BE BILINGUAL

Proud to be bilingual is not a question, it's an answer that you and I would give when asked why we're proud to be bilingual. Being bilingual is a gift that GOD gave me, to use and show other people what I can do with it. Sometimes I sit and think if I weren't bilingual I wouldn't have a lot of the things I have now. Some of them may be friends, a better education and opportunities for better jobs in the future.

I was talking to a staff member of a school the other day that was speaking English very well. She started saying, "I hate it when students come in here and don't know how to speak English". "I'm against bilingual education." "They should learn Spanish at home and English in school." Meanwhile I was just looking around and ignoring her. Then I laughed as she spoke in Spanish. It was the worst Spanish I had ever heard, and she was saying that her mother had taught her; what an insult to her mother. I can't understand why a Mexican would deny her own native language; it was just incredible to me.

Let's come down to the facts of what being proud means. Being proud means having something different and positive from one another, therefore, this thing that's good should make everybody proud of themselves. It doesn't matter if you speak Chinese and Japanese, French and German, or Spanish and English you're still bilingual and unique. Being different means good. If we would all be the same, it would be a dull world.

I'm a Chicano (Mexican-American) and being proud of it means being involved in everything that goes with it, from supporting Cesar Chavez' N.F.W.A. (National Farm Workers Association) to watching "Telemundo and Univision" to speaking and practicing Spanish. I also have to be in touch with my American side in order to be "cool", anything from Bill Clinton to "MTV and NBC" to of course speaking English. So why won't we just work together and make this an easier world for all of us.

### RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

#### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2000*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 90th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. This organization was