

The distance was thinned with haze, and the land grew softer and softer in the distance. A windmill flashed in the sun, and its turning blades were like a little heliograph, far away. Ruthie and Winfield looked at it, and Ruthie whispered, "It's California."

PROTECT OUR YOUTH FROM MEDICALLY INACCURATE AND MISLEADING SEX EDUCATION IN CLASSROOMS ACROSS THE NATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the "Medically Accurate and Objective Sex Education Act," a bill that would require our schools to teach medically accurate and objective factual information as part of any sex education course.

There has been an increase in the number of schools using curricula that provide medically inaccurate and misleading information. Some of these medical inaccuracies include calling condoms "antiquated" or citing failure rates as high as 70 percent, as well as giving erroneous symptoms and outcomes of sexually transmitted diseases. Other specific examples of medically inaccurate information in current sex education courses include:

A program indicating that the "published condom failure rates for pregnancy prevention are between 10 and 30 percent."

It has been documented that if used consistently and correctly, condoms are 98 percent effective in preventing pregnancies.

A program incorrectly stating that Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) can only be passed through sexual intercourse.

It has been documented that HPV can be passed through female-to-female genital sex.

Without using statistics, one program concluded that "infectious syphilis rates have more than doubled among teens since the mid-1980s."

However, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced that "the U.S. has a unique but narrow window of opportunity to eliminate syphilis while cases are still declining."

Inaccurate information regarding contraception and STD/HIV prevention can make sex education both dangerous and counterproductive. Responsible sex education, by contrast, is an important component of a strategy to reduce unintended pregnancies, reduce the number of abortions and reduce STD incidence. The American Medical Association, the Institute of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health support the use of sex education that is medically accurate.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in ensuring that sex education curricula contain accurate medical information that can help young people develop a healthy understanding of their sexuality, so they can make responsible and educated decisions throughout their lives.

TRIBUTE TO MARY ANN TYNAN

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Ann Tynan upon the occasion of her retirement as Senior Vice President and Partner at Wellington Management Company. Over the course of her long career, Mrs. Tynan has been a driving force in the financial services industry for the establishment and maintenance of ethical standards. Quietly and persistently, she has helped shape a culture of commitment to investors, commitment to community, and commitment to excellence at Wellington Management Company and also in the mutual fund industry.

Mrs. Tynan graduated cum laude from Smith College and entered the financial services industry in the late 1960's. She was one of the first women to hold a high-ranking position in this industry and has been a role model and mentor for many other women. Mrs. Tynan has been instrumental in opening up the traditionally male leadership of the financial services industry for women and in promoting diversity. Mrs. Tynan began her work in the mutual fund industry early in her career and it is partly through her efforts that this segment of the financial services industry has grown from a small, obscure niche of the economy to a major economic force and the key way many citizens plan for their retirement and financial security. Mrs. Tynan's leadership roles in the Investment Company Institute and in representing the investment advisor industry with the Securities and Exchange Commission helped build the foundation for and a culture of informed regulation, strict compliance, and high ethical standards that define the mutual fund industry today.

Mrs. Tynan's enormous impact on shaping the growth and standards of Wellington Management has helped make Wellington a beacon of integrity and durability. In addition to her commitments to Wellington Management and the mutual fund industry, Mrs. Tynan has helped create a deep connection to community at Wellington, and had lead by her own example of community involvement through her work with important greater Boston non-profit institutions including Brigham & Women's and Faulkner Hospitals, and the Middlesex School. In addition to her many contributions to these institutions, she's been particularly instrumental in ensuring that their resources are managed in a manner that will guarantee the existence and financial stability of the institutions for many generations. The fruits of her distinguished professional life and many philanthropic commitments will continue to benefit the financial services industry, Wellington Management, and the greater Boston area for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain that the entire House of Representatives joins me in honoring Mrs. Tynan for her many accomplishments and wishes her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HAITIAN ECONOMIC RECOVERY OPPORTUNITY ACT

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Haitian Economic Recovery Opportunity (HERO) Act H.R. 5650. This bill is intended to provide tangible economic benefits to Haiti, the Western Hemisphere's poorest nation. If the people of Haiti are to be able to earn a living wage, provide for their children's welfare, and have hope for the future, then there needs to be real jobs in Haiti.

In my congressional district, there are many hundreds of Haitian-American families. They are hardworking citizens who have done well for themselves and added substantially to our local communities. These good Haitian-American citizens prove that what Haitians need most is opportunities. That is what this HERO Act does.

This bill would provide that apparel articles imported directly into the United States from Haiti would be free of duty. To be eligible, the apparel article must be assembled in Haiti from any combination of fabrics and yarns manufactured in the United States, members of Free Trade Agreements with the United States, future members of Free Trade Agreements with the United States, as well from eligible countries under the Africa Growth & Opportunity Act, the Andean Trade Preferences Act and the Caribbean Basin Initiative.

In past years, the apparel industry employed tens of thousands of people in Haiti. The earnings from these jobs supported many more tens of thousands of Haitians. This legislation will help bring that economic activity back to Haiti. It will also send a unequivocal message of support to those in Haiti's private sector who have joined in the long struggle for democracy in that island nation.

As is the case under the Africa Growth & Opportunity Act, in order for Haiti to be eligible for benefits, the President must first certify that Haiti has established, or is making continual progress to satisfy, a number of important conditions. The economic conditions spelled out in the HERO Act include establishing a market-based economy, eliminating barriers to United States trade and investment (including creation of an environment conducive to domestic and foreign investment), the protection of intellectual property, and the resolution of bilateral trade and investment disputes.

Furthermore, the government of Haiti must meet important political conditions including establishing democracy as evidenced by free and fair elections, the rule of law, political pluralism, freedom of the press, the right to due process, a fair trial, and equal protection under the law, economic policies to reduce poverty, a system that combats corruption and bribery and protections for internationally recognized worker and human rights. In addition, the President would have to certify that Haiti does not provide support for acts of international terrorism and cooperates in efforts to eliminate human rights violations and terrorist activities.

We must not forget Haiti. This bill sends a clear message to Haitians of good will that America cares what happens in Haiti. With this legislation, we can join together as Republicans and Democrats to do the right thing for

Haiti by tangibly promoting prosperity and democracy in that nation.

Mr. Speaker, I request that a copy of the full text of H.R. 5650 be inserted at this point in the RECORD:

H.R. 5650

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Haiti Economic Recovery, Opportunity Act of 2002”.

SEC. 2. TRADE BENEFITS TO HAITI.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 213 the following new section:

“SEC. 213A. SPECIAL RULE FOR HAITI.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other preferential treatment under this Act, in each 12-month period beginning on October 1, 2002, apparel articles described in subsections (b) that are imported directly into the customs territory of the United States from Haiti shall enter the United States free of duty, subject to the limitations described in subsections (b) and (c), if Haiti has satisfied the requirements set forth in subsection (d).

“(b) APPAREL ARTICLES DESCRIBED.—Apparel articles described in this subsection are apparel articles that are wholly assembled or knit-to-shape in Haiti exclusively from any, combination of fabrics, fabric components, components knit-to-shape, and yarns formed in one or more of the following countries:

“(1) The United States.

“(2) Any country, that is party to a free trade agreement with the United States, on January 1, 2002.

“(3) Any country that enters into a free trade agreement with the United States subject to the provisions of title XXI of the Trade Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-210).

“(4) Any country designated as a beneficiary country under—

“(A) section 213(b)(5)(B) of this Act;

“(B) section 506A(a)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2466a(a)(1)); or

“(C) section 204(b)(6)(B) of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3203(b)(6)(B)).

“(5) Any country, if the fabrics or yarns are designated as not being commercially available in the United States for the purposes of NAFTA (Annex 401), the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, the African Opportunity and Growth Act, or the Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act.

“(c) Preferential Treatment.—The preferential treatment described in subsection (a), shall be extended

“(1) during the 12-month period beginning on October 1, 2002, to a quantity of apparel articles that is equal to 1.5 percent of the aggregate square meter equivalents of all apparel articles imported into the United States during the 12-month period beginning October 1, 2001; and

“(2) during the 12-month period beginning on October 1 of each succeeding year, to a quantity of apparel articles that is equal to the product of—

“(A) the percentage applicable during the previous 12-month period plus 0.5 percent (but not over 3.5 percent); and

“(B) the aggregate square meter equivalents of all apparel articles imported into the United States during the 12-month period that ends on September 30 of that year.

“(d) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—Haiti shall be eligible for preferential treatment under this section if the President determines and certifies to Congress that Haiti—

“(1) has established, or is making continual progress toward establishing—

“(A) a market-based economy, that protects private property rights, incorporates an open rules-based trading system, and minimizes government interference in the economy through measures such as price controls, subsidies, and government ownership of economic assets;

“(B) the rule of law, political pluralism, and the right to due process, a fair trial, and equal protection under the law;

“(C) the elimination of barriers to United States trade and investment, including by—

“(i) the provision of national treatment and measures to create an environment conducive to domestic and foreign investment;

“(ii) the protection of intellectual property; and

“(iii) the resolution of bilateral trade and investment disputes;

“(D) economic policies to reduce poverty, increase the availability of health care and educational opportunities, expand physical infrastructure, promote the development of private enterprise, and encourage the formation of capital markets through microcredit or other programs,

“(E) a system to combat corruption and bribery, such as signing and implementing the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions; and

“(F) protection of internationally recognized worker rights, including the right of association, the right to organize and bargain collectively, a prohibition on the use of any form of forced or compulsory labor, a minimum age for the employment of children, and acceptable conditions of work with respect to minimum wages, hours of work, and occupational safety and health;

“(2) does not engage in activities that undermine United States national security or foreign policy interests; and

“(3) does not engage in gross violations of internationally recognized human rights or provide support for acts of international terrorism and cooperates in international efforts to eliminate human rights violations and terrorist activities.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by subsection (a) applies with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after October 1, 2002.

(2) RETROACTIVE APPLICATION TO CERTAIN ENTRIES.—Notwithstanding section 514 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1514) or any other provision of law, upon proper request filed with the Customs Service before the 90th day after the date of the enactment of this Act, any entry or withdrawal from warehouse for consumption, of any goods described in the amendment made by subsection (a)—

(A) that was made on or after October 1, 2002, and before the date of the enactment of this Act, and

(B) with respect to which there would have been no duty if the amendment made by subsection (a) applied to such entry or withdrawal, shall be liquidated or reliquidated as though such amendment applied to such entry or withdrawal.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF THE STUDENTS AT VETERANS MEMORIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BRICK TOWNSHIP, NJ

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and commu-

nity service exhibited during the past school year by the students of Veterans Memorial Elementary School in Brick Township, New Jersey. It is my honor and privilege of representing these students, and their parents and teachers in Congress.

During this past year, the students invested many hours of service in projects to help make life better for their school and greater community. For example, in the aftermath of the September 11th terrorist attacks, the students honored local fire fighters who participated in rescue and recovery operations at Ground Zero. They also sent thank you notes to New York City police and fire fighters, and wrote letters to a local serviceman stationed overseas.

It is important to note, Mr. Speaker, that the students' community service did not just begin, nor will it end, with their outstanding efforts related to September 11th.

To highlight the importance of a clean and safe environment, the students commemorated Earth Day by decorating grocery bags with environment-friendly messages. These bags were then used by patrons of a local supermarket so they could take home the students' messages about how we must protect for our environment.

They also implemented a school-wide paper recycling program, and worked to beautify the school's grounds.

To enhance their own understanding of the challenges that older Americans face, the students visit with senior citizens in their community, exchanging ideas, and striking up new friendships. They make special holiday gifts for the seniors and also put on concerts, including one full of patriotic songs. It's the students' way of thanking America's “greatest generation”; a generation that risked all to secure freedom at home and abroad. As chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, I am especially grateful for the outreach our students have initiated with seniors and veterans—the namesakes of their school.

When a peer's house tragically burned to the ground, the students of Veterans Memorial Elementary School responded by holding an emergency fund-raiser. They also collected warm winter coats for students in need and helped their school buy new books and playground equipment.

While this is only a small sampling of community service activities performed by the students of Veterans Elementary, it is clear that these children, while learning the subjects and skills they need to succeed in academia, are also learning the generosity, compassion, and service needed to be outstanding members of their community.

I am proud to congratulate the students of Veterans Elementary School. Their leader and my friend, Principal Joe Vicari also deserves our thanks for his many years of hard work and generosity and the dedicated teachers and support staff at Veterans Elementary School also deserve high praise and recognition. I wish them all the very best of success for another year of outstanding community service, and I look forward to working with them in their endeavors in the years to come,