

1588, the National Defense Authorization Act for FY04 (rollcall vote 500). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." Additionally, I was unable to vote on Motions to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1308, the Tax Relief, Simplification and Equity Act (rollcall vote 501) and on H.R. 1, the Medicare Prescription Drug and Modernization Act (rollcall vote 502). Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on each motion.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING
THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON OF
AUGUST 28, 1963

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a profound sense of pride that I rise today in support of H. Res. 352, which remembers and honors the March on Washington of August 28, 1963.

Mr. Speaker, our nation recently celebrated the fortieth anniversary of this historic demonstration—an event that forever will stand for the proposition of full and equal rights for all Americans. This resolution will serve as a lasting tribute not only to one of the largest peaceful political demonstrations in U.S. history, but will also pay homage to the organizers and participants for their dedication and commitment to the realization of civil and equal rights for all Americans.

Culminating in Dr. King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech, the March on Washington demonstrated that a collective force dedicated to the principles of non-violent protest could successfully fight prejudice and discrimination against African-Americans and other minorities. Properly commemorating this historic event and those who participated in it will also send a message to our youth that the struggle for civil rights continues. That we must remain resolute in our efforts to realize Dr. King's dream of a nation where one is "judged by the content of their character and not the color of their skin."

Mr. Speaker, again it is my honor and privilege today to lend my wholehearted support to this important piece of legislation—which recognizes the monumental significance of the 1963 March on Washington in the ongoing struggle for equality and justice. I want to thank my colleague, Sanford Bishop for sponsoring this important resolution. I urge all of my colleagues to support the Resolution and to never let the dream of Martin Luther King die. I leave my colleagues with a quote from Dr. King which should serve as a gauge in every action and for every vote we take here in this esteemed body, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

BUSH MANUFACTURING PLAN

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2003

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, since President Bush assumed the presidency in January

of 2001, American and specifically Michigan manufacturing jobs have been lost because of our trade policies, the lack of effort by our President to open closed markets, and because of the tremendous cost of pension and health care legacy costs. Last week, the Michigan Democratic Delegation sent a letter to the President detailing a fourteen point plan that we felt could help alleviate the dire situation manufacturing finds itself in. Early this week, Commerce Secretary Evans detailed the Administration's plan to save American manufacturing jobs.

I am submitting an article from today's Washington Post, by Steven Pearlstein, which describes our President's efforts at reviving our manufacturing sector as "feeble." America has lost nearly three million jobs since January of 2001. The tax cuts have not worked. War has not worked. And President Bush's plan to save our manufacturing jobs won't work either.

A FEEBLE PLAN TO SAVE U.S.
MANUFACTURING

(By Steven Pearlstein)

After a dozen town meetings, a road trip by three Cabinet officers, months of study and countless meetings of assistant secretaries, the Bush administration has finally brought forth its program to rescue the American manufacturing sector. And it's a bad joke, a melange of tired ideas, empty promises and ideological slogans, and an embarrassment for the White House economic team.

The policy was unveiled in a much-anticipated speech to the Detroit Economic Club by Commerce Secretary Don Evans. Instead of offering his knowledgeable audience a cogent, thoughtful analysis of the problems facing manufacturers, Evans trotted out old Rotary Club canards about high taxes, oppressive regulation and frivolous lawsuits.

While correctly identifying runaway health insurance costs as a problem, he failed to come up with even one serious remedy.

And although Evans grabbed headlines with tough talk about China, the only action to back it up—hold on to your hat now—was a new Unfair Trade Practices Team at Commerce to "track, detect and confront unfair competition," as if there weren't already several hundred bureaucrats doing just that.

Perhaps most laughable was Evans's boast that George W. Bush had single-handedly revived the free-trade agenda—conveniently forgetting that President Bill Clinton expended enormous political capital to push through NAFTA and China's accession to the WTO, ignoring as well the inconvenient fact that his own administration had just sold out American manufacturers at trade talks in Cancun to protect subsidized beet farmers and cotton growers.

So what would a serious commerce secretary concerned about manufacturing have said?

First, she would have leveled with her Detroit audience, warning that there are industries and industry segments that are structurally vulnerable to foreign competition and can't be "saved."

She would have warned them that in key industries such as machine tools, survival depends on the consolidation of small, family firms into larger ones that have the clout to deal with large customers, the money to engage in research and development, and the size to realize economies of scale.

She would have acknowledged that the president had been ill advised to cut federal funding for manufacturing research and promised to make amends in the next budget cycle.

She might have floated the idea of a 1 percent tariff on all imports to finance extended unemployment benefits, health insurance and training vouchers for displaced workers, grants to their communities, and financial relief to employers offering early-retirement incentives.

Rather than ranting about regulations that have proven successful in protecting worker safety and public health, she might have said that fair trade requires trading partners to maintain minimal regulatory standards of their own, consistent with their level of economic development.

And she would have acknowledged that while China was making great strides toward developing an open, free-market economy, it wasn't there yet—and that continuing to trade with China as if it were had caused undue harm to American workers and companies. Then she might have announced the immediate imposition of temporary tariffs and quotas on imports of half a dozen key Chinese products, followed by an open invitation to negotiate their removal just as soon as China is ready to get serious about opening its distribution system to U.S. products, protecting U.S. patents and copyrights, and pegging its currency at a reasonable exchange rate.

It is possible to make the case for such an aggressive industrial policy. It is also possible to make a case for doing nothing. But the Bush administration has come up with the worst of both worlds—doing nothing while pretending otherwise and hoping nobody notices until after the next election.

THE PRAIRIE ROSE CHAPTER OF
THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION SALUTES
CONSTITUTION WEEK

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2003

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, the week of September 17–23 has been officially designated as Constitution Week under Public Law 105–225. This marks the 216th anniversary of the signing of our Constitution.

The guardian of our liberties, our Constitution established our republic as a self-governing nation dedicated to rule by law. This document is the cornerstone of our freedom. It was written to protect every American from the abuse of power by government. Without that restraint, our founders believed the republic would perish.

The ideals upon which our Constitution is based are reinforced each day by the success of our political system to which it gave birth. The success of our way of government requires an enlightened citizenry.

Constitution Week provides an opportunity for all Americans to recall the achievements of our founders, the nature of limited government, and the rights, privileges and responsibilities of citizenship. It provides us the opportunity to be better informed about our rights, freedoms and duties as citizens.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I particularly want to take note of the outstanding work of the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which is actively involved in the Third Congressional District in events this week commemorating Constitution Week. The Prairie Rose Chapter has been involved with this effort in our communities for a number of years and I commend them for doing so.