Evans simply assigned the word to the definition that was already provided by President Bush as well as members of his administration.

Breaking with a pattern on the part of the State Department of using alternative and evasive terminology for the Armenian genocide, Ambassador Evans pointed out that ''no American official has ever denied it.''

Now, Ambassador Evans was merely recounting the historical record which has been attested to by over 120 Holocaust and genocide scholars from around the world. In so doing, he was merely giving a name, the accurate description of genocide, to this very administration's statements on the issue.

President Bush on April 24 of each of the last four years when commemorating the Armenian genocide used the textbook definition of genocide with words and phrases such as ''annihilation'' and ''forced exile and murder.'' Before him, President Reagan used the word ''genocide'' in 1981 when describing the annihilation of over 1.5 million Armenians.

□ 2000

In the day of the genocide, our U.S. ambassador, then Henry Morgenthal, had the courage to speak out against the atrocities which he stated were a planned and systematic effort to annihilate an entire race.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I just want to add my name and my voice to all those who, like Ambassador Evans, know the truth and speak it plainly when discussing the Armenian genocide.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CONAWAY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. STRICKLAND addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the gentleman from Ohio's (Mr. STRICKLAND) time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

CAFTA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise in strong opposition to the Central American Free Trade Agreement, otherwise known as CAFTA, or DR-CAFTA.

CAFTA is largely based on the North American Free Trade Agreement, also referred to as NAFTA.

By signing CAFTA, the Bush administration has ignored the mistakes that we know here in the U.S. because of NAFTA, and in fact, CAFTA is nothing more than what I would say NAFTA-plus.

Ten years ago, NAFTA proponents promised increased wages and economic development in the U.S., Mexico, Canada and promised decreased migration. The agreement has failed on all accounts.

Over 750,000 jobs in the United States have been lost due to NAFTA, and immigration to the U.S. has increased. Through NAFTA, the administration granted a gift to corporate interests who prioritize access to cheap labor first and working families last.

Inadequate free trade agreements not only hurt the U.S. but they also hurt our neighbors.

I recently visited Mexico and saw firsthand for myself the devastating consequences of NAFTA. In the Maquiladora zone in Cuidad Juarez and other border cities, wages are low, union organizing is suppressed and industrial pollution jeopardizes the health and safety of workers and residents.

Now, those same U.S. jobs that were exported to Mexico are being sent to China, leaving the economic situation in many areas of Mexico worse off than before NAFTA.

As in Mexico with NAFTA, CAFTA would cause the loss of family farms and would lure more workers, most of them women, from the rural areas, poor women. CAFTA may create jobs for women, but the working conditions are unimaginable to the American public.

The bulk of these jobs are found in the export processing zones known as the Maquiladoras. Women that work in the Maquiladoras have reported forced pregnancy testing, sexual harassment and physical abuse.

CAFTA does not require compliance with international labor rights and does not protect women from being discriminated against.

In 2001, I traveled to El Salvador and witnessed first hand hundreds of young girls lined up at 5 o'clock in the morning to enter into the sweatshops. It provides for many of the textiles that are now being imported here, going on shifts anywhere from 12 to 14 hours a day.

I am not opposed to trade. So I want to be clear on that. I support free and fair trade. Let me be clear. Fair trade.

We need to level the playing field and enact trade agreements that include meaningful labor and environmental standards that will prevent the exporting of our U.S. jobs and the exploitation of workers abroad.

Our trade policies should lift people out of poverty, not keep them in poverty.

Opposition to CAFTA is strong in Central America, too. In fact, I was contacted, as well as other Members of Congress, by elected officials representing El Salvador, Costa Rica and Honduras. They sent many letters to other Members of Congress asking us and urging us to defeat CAFTA.

CAFTA will mean more job loss and wage decline for American workers, as well as Central American workers. Lack of enforceable labor standards leads to a downward push on U.S. workers' wages, particularly Latino workers.

U.S. Latino workers have been disproportionately hurt by NAFTA because they tend to be concentrated in industries such as textiles and other manufacturing sectors.

While Latinos now represent well over 12 percent of the U.S. workforce, they account for 26 percent of the textile and apparel industry workers, and in California, the State that I represent, Latinos make up an estimated 80 percent of the hardest hit California garment industry. Almost 50 percent of U.S. workers applying for trade adjustment assistance, that this Congress approved, happen to be Latino.

In fact, 51 percent of American voters oppose NAFTA and claim it would hurt workers, wages and hurt our jobs. They also believe that CAFTA would do the same thing. So I know that in my community there is a strong, strong resistance to move forward on any semblance of what NAFTA and now CAFTA-plus would do.

In fact, the league of United Latin American Citizens, LULAC, one of the oldest and largest Latino civil rights organizations in the country, has come out in opposition to CAFTA. LULAC claims that CAFTA falls short of being acceptable and fears it will unleash enormous losses for all workers in the United States, including Central America.

As the only Member of Congress of Central American descent, I understand the importance of supporting efforts to promote sustainable development and preservation of agricultural sectors in regions. However, U.S. policy towards Latin America should go well beyond free trade policies that do little to raise wages and working conditions of the poor.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to also submit for the RECORD information on surveys and a letter from LULAC, as well as to make a notation that a book on CAFTA and free trade, What Every American Should Know, has just been released, and I would urge the public to look it up. It is by the author, Greg Spotts.

NEW POLL SENDS A CLEAR MESSAGE TO WASHINGTON: AMERICANS OPPOSE CAFTA

A RESOUNDING NO! ON CAFTA

American voters oppose CAFTA by a solid margin:

A majority of American voters oppose CAFTA! 51% of American voters said they oppose this trade agreement while just 32% support it. After presenting both pros and cons about CAFTA, opposition increased to 54% and support fell to 30%.

Voters oppose CAFTA regardless of their party. Democrats oppose CAFTA by a 53 to 31 percent margin, Independents oppose it by

a 53 to 32 percent margin, and Republicans oppose it by a 47 to 37 percent margin.

JOBS, JOBS, JOBS

Voters see free trade deals like NAFTA and CAFTA for what they are: catalysts to destroying U.S. jobs.

An overwhelming 74% opposed CAFTA when asked if they would favor or oppose the agreement if it reduced prices they would pay as a consumer but at the cost of jobs for U.S. workers.

Of those American voters who opposed CAFTA, more than half (52%) cited the threat to the U.S. economy and jobs as their primary concern.

MANY OTHER SERIOUS CONCERNS WITH CAFTA

When presented with various pro and con arguments about CAFTA, American voters expressed serious concerns with many of the trade agreement's shortcomings, including:

CAFTA's lack of requirements for Central American countries to protect the environment and restrict child labor made 69% of voters less likely to support the trade deal.

CAFTA's impact on moving manufacturing jobs overseas for cheaper labor made 60% of voters less likely to support the trade deal.

CAFTA's negative effect on U.S. sovereignty by allowing foreign corporations to sue the U.S. outside of our judicial system made 56% of voters less likely to support the trade deal.

THANKS FOR NOTHING, NAFTA!

CAFTA's ''big brother'' and model NAFTA was soundly rejected by American voters:

51% of American voters say that NAFTA has been bad for the U.S. economy because cheap imports from abroad have hurt wages and cost jobs here at home and that the U.S. should not pursue free trade agreements with other countries in the future.

AMERICANS OPPOSE CAFTA TRADE AGREEMENT

WASHINGTON, Mar. 1, 2005.—www.AmericansForFairTrade.org today announced the results of a research survey that shows 51% of Americans across all political parties oppose the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA). CAFTA's model, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), was also soundly rejected by a majority of Americans. Voters were primarily concerned with the negative impact CAFTA will have on the American economy along with possible significant job losses.

''The survey clearly shows that a strong majority of Democrats and Independents and almost half of all Republicans oppose CAFTA. These results should send a powerful message to Congress that their constituents will choose their farms and jobs over another flawed trade deal,'' said Ernest Baynard, Executive Director of www.AmericansForFairTrade.org. ''The survey also shows that Americans are all too familiar with the failed promises and negative impact of NAFTA—CAFTA's older brother—and are rightfully wary of more of the same.''

www.AmericansForFairTrade.org will host a conference call for members of the media to discuss the survey results today, March 1, 2005 at 12:00 PM (Eastern time). Details about the conference call follow at the end of this release.

The survey found that 51% oppose the CAFTA trade agreement altogether and only 32% support it. Anti-CAFTA sentiment crosses party lines, with Republicans (47 to 37 percent) joining Democrats (53 to 31 percent) and Independents (53 to 32 percent) in opposition to the agreement. Overall opposition to CAFTA is stronger in red states (53 to 31 percent) than in blue states (48 to 34 percent).

The loss of jobs was of greatest concern to American voters. An overwhelming 75% opposed CAFTA when asked if they would favor or oppose the agreement if it reduced consumer prices but caused job losses. Of those who directly opposed CAFTA, more than half cited the threat to the U.S. economy and jobs as their primary concern (52%).

NAFTA destroyed an estimated 880,000 jobs, according to the Economic Policy Institute. In a recent study, the United States International Trade Commission found that the CAFTA will cause significant job losses across many sectors in the U.S. if the agreement is implemented.

While a plurality of Hispanic voters initially support CAFTA (44 to 39 percent), they are more likely to change their opinion about the deal after hearing a series of positive and negative statements about it, ultimately opposing CAFTA by a 47 to 40 percent margin. As with voters overall, loss of American jobs is a significant concern to Hispanic voters.

When presented with various pro and con arguments about CAFTA, American voters expressed serious concerns with many of the trade agreement's shortcomings, including:

Sixty-nine percent of voters said that CAFTA's lack of requirements for Central American countries to protect the environment and restrict child labor makes them less likely to support the deal;

Fifty-six percent said that CAFTA's negative effect on U.S. sovereignty, by allowing foreign corporations to sue the U.S. outside of our judicial system, makes them less likely to support the deal; and

Immigration is also an important concern for voters. When presented with a positive argument that CAFTA will help reduce illegal immigration by providing economic opportunities in the CAFTA countries, 45 percent of voters said it would make them more likely to support the deal. Unfortunately, studies have shown that immigration increased substantially in the years after NAFTA was implemented and many believe CAFTA will strongly follow suit.

Commissioned by www.AmericansForFairTrade.org and conducted by the research firms of Ayres, McHenry & Associates, Inc. and Ipsos-Public Affairs, the non-partisan research was conducted through a telephone survey among registered voters with a Hispanic over-sample on February 1–February 6, 2005. Voters were surveyed on their overall opinion of free trade, their feelings toward NAFTA, and their perception of CAFTA. Voters were questioned about their opinions on CAFTA before and after being presented with various arguments supporting or opposing the agreement. This poll was made available in both English and Spanish.

CAFTA is a trade agreement between the United States and six countries in the Central American region: Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Signed into agreement in May 2004, CAFTA has yet to be presented to the U.S. Congress for approval. Trade Promotion Authority mandates that Congress cannot amend the agreement, but can only vote to approve or reject it.

Upon learning more about CAFTA, Hispanic voters are among the demographic groups most likely to swing strongly to oppose the agreement,'' Baynard continued. ''Already many leading Latino, faith-based and labor organizations—in both the United States and Central America—vehemently oppose CAFTA. Our research underscores the fact that Hispanic voters don't support this deal and will play a key role in asking Congress to reject CAFTA when it comes up for a vote this year.''

ABOUT THE SURVEY

This national survey was conducted by Ayres, McHenry & Associates, Inc. and Ipsos-Public Affairs via phone February 1–6, 2005. The survey of registered voters has a national sample of 800 weighted respondents, with an over sample to yield 300 Hispanic respondents. The margin of error is ±3.5% for the national sample and ±5.7% for the Hispanic over-sample.

Addtional details about the poll are available online at www.AmericansForFairTrade.org. Individuals, groups, and other entities are free to cite the results of this poll provided they give proper attribution to www.AmericansForFairTrade.org.

ABOUT WWW.AMERICANSFORFAIRTRADE.ORG

The www.AmericansForFairTrade.org coalition includes producers of textiles, small and medium sized manufactures, beef and cattle ranchers, farm organizations, organized labor, commodity groups, religious congregations, faith-based organizations and others. To learn more, go to www.AmericansForFairTrade.org.

ABOUT AYRES, MCHENRY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Ayres, McHenry & Associates, Inc., is a national public opinion and public affairs research firm located in Alexandria, VA that specializes in providing quality research and strategic advice to corporations, associations, and political candidates.

Roll Call, a widely-read newspaper on Capitol Hill, called the firm ''one of the best in the nation.'' Campaigns & Elections magazine profiled Whit Ayres, the company's president, and Jon McHenry, the company's vice-president, as two of the country's political ''movers and shakers.'' For more information visit www.ayresmchenry.com.

ABOUT IPSOS-PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Ipsos-Public Affairs is a non-partisan, objective, public affairs company made up of campaign and political polling veterans as well as research professionals, Ipsos-Public Affairs conducts strategic research initiatives for a diverse number of Canadian, American and international organizations. Typically, the division's studies are based on opinion research; not only public opinion but often elite stakeholder, corporate, and media opinion. To learn more, visit www.ipsos-pa.com.

Thomas Riehle is President and C.O.O. of Ipsos-Public Affairs in the U.S. He has over 15 years experience in political polling in Washington D.C., working with governments, corporations, political campaigns, party organizations, lobbying and interest groups, labor unions and industry associations.

MEDIA CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION

www.AmericansForFairTrade.org's Executive Director, Ernest Baynard, will join researches Jon McHenry from Ayres, McHenry & Associates, Inc., and Thom Riehle from Ipsos-Public Affairs to discuss this research survey in a conference call with members for the media at 12:00 PM (Eastern time) today. Members of the media in the United States should call (800) 289–0572 to participate. To access the call, use the call title ''Americans for Fair Trade.'' Please not that this call is open to members of the media only.

For members of Spanish-language media, Ms. Ana Iparraguirre, Research Manager from Ipsos-Public Affairs will be available for interviews and to discuss the poll. Ms. Iparraguirre has vast experience designing and conducting both quantitative and qualitative research projects in the U.S. and Latin America. She is a native Spanish speaker with fluency in English.

LULAC OPPOSES CAFTA

WASHINGTON.—The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) joins several immigrant rights and Latino community organizations today on Capitol Hill to oppose the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA). The groups will present formal letters denouncing CAFTA and demanding that U.S. Members of Congress vote against the proposed free trade agreement.

This month LULAC passed a resolution at its national assembly in opposition of the Central American Free Trade Agreement. The resolution explained the various reasons why CAFTA would cause further harm for U.S. Latinos and Hispanics abroad. ''Like NAFTA, the passage of CAFTA would cause more harm than good by further encouraging the relocation of manufacturing jobs to cheaper labor markets pitting U.S. Latinos and Mexicans against citizens of the global south in a race to the bottom,'' said LULAC National President Hector Flores.

In order to become law, CAFTA must be voted on by the U.S. Congress and those six country's legislative bodies. Business and government forces have been lobbying hard for CAFTA, and this week Salvadoran President Tony Saca met with President Bush about the deal, while trade and labor ministers from the region promoted CAFTA at a press event last week. Meanwhile, labor unions and social organizations in the U.S., Central America, and the Dominican Republic have united in opposition to CAFTA.

''LULAC is firmly committed to addressing the issue of equitable and sustainable economic development for Central America. We fear that CAFTA will unleash enormous losses for workers in the region as it is currently designed. LULAC not only works on economic development issues, but we are equally working to resolve immigration problems in the United States. If CAFTA is enacted, we fear that we will be trying to stem a tide of desperate undocumented immigrants. The proof lies in the results stemming from the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which has more than doubled undocumented immigration from Mexico since its enactment,'' said Gabriela D. Lemus, Ph.D., LULAC National Director of Policy and Legislation.

LULAC's resolution describes the many reasons why CAFTA falls short of being acceptable, including its lack of adequate enforcement provisions for violations of internationally recognized labor and environmental standards; and it provisions that would allow corporations a substantial amount of power to challenge the countries' governmental standards in these areas. Accordingly, LULAC as an organization, resolved to call upon state-level organizations and local chapters to educate members about the negative impacts of NAFTA and the threat CAFTA poses to workers' health and prosperity.

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the oldest and largest Latino organization in the United States. LULAC advances the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, health, and civil rights of Hispanic Americans through community-based programs operating at more than 700 LULAC councils nationwide.

OUR TRADE RECORD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, here is the trade record. The United States is moving deeper and deeper into red ink with every major country with which we have a trade agreement. In fact, when we sign the trade agreements, the deficits get worse. Last year, it rung in at well over $600 billion, nearly two-thirds of $1 trillion, money that flows out of this country someplace else.

I rise tonight to join my colleagues in opposition to the newest idea that is being proposed, CAFTA, the Central American Free Trade Agreement. There is nothing free about free trade.

We are united in support of worker rights, the environment, family farmers and working men and women. This is not about us in our country versus people in other countries. It is about supporters of fair trade, teaming up for trade agreements that raise standards of living for everyone, and put people and communities before multinational corporations that pit one Nation against another.

Free trade can only exist among free people. Where that does not exist, trade then equals exploitation of people and communities.

During the 10th anniversary of NAFTA, I led a delegation to Mexico last year to examine NAFTA's trade, economic and social record applications. Unfortunately, NAFTA's story does not have a happy ending. In Mexico, real wages have declined, not increased, as promised. Millions of farmers and rural dwellers have been kicked off their land, fueling an exodus north to the Maquiladora zones that the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS) so aptly described.

Here, at home, factory after factory continues to shut its doors to the cheap labor of the Maquiladoras, and U.S. workers have been handed pink slips by the thousands, by the hundreds of thousands and the border ecosystem has taken a major hit.

Thousands were told we would have trade surpluses with all of these countries. Well, there is another false one.

Here is Mexico. Ever since NAFTA's signing, we have moved into deeper and deeper trade deficit with the Nation of Mexico, now nearly $50 billion a year, and the same is true with Canada.

How can the Bush administration propose to expand NAFTA to five more countries? I know his father did this for NAFTA, but should we not have learned something by now? I am not sure the President is willing to learn from past mistakes. If something does not work, are we not supposed to fix it? Should we not be fixing this?

The same is true with China. Another agreement was signed with the Nation of China. Have we moved into trade balance with China? Absolutely not. In fact, we have the largest trade deficit in history with China today, now totaling over $170 billion, and the red ink just gets deeper.

With all of its faults, NAFTA's negotiations took 7 years. CAFTA's negotiations took barely one year. One year? Do we really want to base major policy trade decisions on such a rushed process? Do my colleagues know why it only took 1 year? Because Congress and fair trade organizations were shut out. It did not even get a chance to testify. President Bush expects to bring this to the floor for a simple up or down vote under fast track. Is that really the way to develop international trade policy?

Besides, what is the rush? The combined GDP of Central America is equal to one-half of one percent of the United States. What Central America does have is idle hands, not consumers with dollars ready to spend. We should take the time needed to address serious concerns in labor, so those folks can actually earn a decent living, agriculture and their right to eke out a decent living, investment rights and many more topics as we did with the Jordanian trade agreement.

Let the public then get a good look at it here in this Congress and decide do we want more NAFTAs.

The labor provisions of CAFTA are shameful. The only requirement is to enforce laws already on the books, and let me ask, what labor rights exist in El Salvador? They are nonexistent. Would people rather work in the United States or in El Salvador? CAFTA is another example of a rush to the bottom.

Just like the fight over China trade, we are being promised great markets for our goods. They obviously have not happened in China. Two-thirds of Central America's poor live in desperately poor rural regions. They are not going to be rushing out to buy Microsoft Office systems.

Let us be realistic. I support trade with Central America, but free trade ought to occur among free people, and America ought to stand for internationally recognized labor rights, the right to own and farm your land, the right to a clean environment and the right to economic security.

PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET FOR THE 109TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUSSLE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with clause 2(a) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the Rules of the Committee on the Budget for the 109th Congress.

These rules were adopted by the Committee on the Budget by voice vote at an organizational meeting held by the Committee on February 2, 2005.

If there are any questions on the Committee Rules, please contact Paul Restuccia, Chief Counsel of the Budget Committee, at 6–7270.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

GENERAL APPLICABILITY

Rule 1—Applicability of House Rules

Except as otherwise specified herein, the Rules of the House are the rules of the committee so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day is a motion of high privilege.