

USAID's budget proposal would transfer \$300 million of the agency's \$1.2 billion of food aid funding for 2006, and the transferred funds would be used to purchase foreign food for emergency relief. As a member of the Committee on Agriculture, I am opposed to this transfer.

Third, we need to improve the counter cyclical payment process. A higher-than-expected final price for rice in 2004 significantly reduced last year's payments. Many farmers mistakenly based their budgets and capital investments on information found on the National Agriculture Statistics Service Web site. The number had not been adjusted for 3 months, and the USDA and the NASS need to reform their calculation and communication strategies to avoid future such incidents. I have asked Secretary Johanns to look into this, and I urge him to be flexible with the farmers who must repay these advances.

Fourth, rising fuel prices and the surging cost of fertilizer have nearly doubled the cost of production for the farmers in my district. We must pass a long-term, comprehensive energy policy. Abundant, affordable and reliable energy is critical, critical to the success of our agriculture industry.

And, finally, we must honor the promises made to our farmers in the 2002 farm bill. Larry Sarver, from Crowley, Louisiana, told me that in 2002 he had a 6-year agreement with the Federal Government and he made budget and capital investment decisions. We need to protect this farm bill.

RISING PHARMACEUTICAL PRICES

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) was up here a moment ago talking about the price of pharmaceutical products and how they have been rising and increasing and ever going up, three, four times the rate of inflation.

There was this report done by AARP the other day that was covered in USA Today and on the news about how pharmaceutical prices had in the last year gone up close to about three times the rate of inflation.

The truth is, over the last 5 or 6 years pharmaceutical products have gone up somewhere close to four times, three times the rate of inflation. And every one of us know people in our district who go to get their prescriptions filled. They got them last month or they got them 2 months ago, same pills, same amount of dosage, nothing different, and the price is up 40 bucks. And there is nothing to explain how that went up \$40. And senior citizens who are on a fixed income, families who are on a fixed income and they have a sick child cannot afford a health

care cost that is rising close to three times or four times the rate of inflation.

Now, last Congress, Democrats and Republicans came together, not because it was a Democratic idea or not because it was a Republican idea, because it was the right idea, to offer reimportation of pharmaceutical products, allowing people to go to Canada and go to Europe to buy pharmaceutical products that are 50 percent cheaper than they are here in the United States, or go to England, go to Ireland.

All over Europe and Canada the same drugs that we find on our shelves at our local pharmacy are 50 or 40 percent or 60 percent, depending on what you want, cheaper than they are here. I have on my Web site in my congressional office a Costco in Chicago and a Costco in Toronto. And the same Costco, we compared the same pharmaceutical products most used by senior citizens for arthritis, blood pressure, other types of medications they need. And the Costco in Canada offers, on average, 52 percent savings for the same products that you could buy at Costco in Chicago.

We are separated by a little over 200 miles. But they saved 50 percent on their needs of their medications, whether it is Lipitor or other type of products. And why? Because it is the only product in this country that is a closed market, forcing American consumers to pay a 50 percent premium for the products that their dollars spent paid for the research.

We developed those drugs here in this country. We gave a tax credit to these companies to develop those pharmaceutical products, and we have the dubious honor to pay a 50 percent premium over Canada and Europe. So what has happened is that the American senior citizens, the American taxpayers, are subsidizing the poor, starving French and German and Swiss and Dutch. We have got to come to an end to this and allow people to have the access to the free market.

We are going to negotiate and discuss China trade, other types of trade deals where everybody here is going to talk about free trade except for one product. What? Pharmaceutical products, the product on which the United States pays more than it does on television, more than it does on consumer electronics, more than it does on food, more than it does in other areas. Why? Because we have a closed market.

What we are trying to do, Democrats and Republicans are trying to allow the principles of the free market to work, bringing competition and choice to bear. If you did that, then the American consumer and taxpayers would see a dramatic drop in their prices. And we are not being allowed to vote on that. Why? Because the pharmaceutical industry is giving you the best government they can buy. They have stopped us and the ability to bring that vote. If we did, we would pass that vote here. We would pass it in the Senate.

But the American people are on to what is happening. They know that we need to deal with this because we cannot continue to subsidize the rest of the world, both on the research side and on the price side; and that is what is happening.

We know it is safe because over a million seniors a year go over the border to Canada. We turn them into illegal drug runners. Go over the border to Canada and a billion dollars worth of trade and get their pharmaceutical products, and not one of them has ever gotten sick.

But what we are talking about is bringing Canadian cattle that we know is tainted, some of it, with mad cow disease. Now that we allow in. Accessing pharmaceutical products in Canada, Lipitor, other drugs on the Canadian market that is 50 percent cheaper, that is against the law. That policy has been brought to you by the United States government.

It is time to allow Democrats and Republicans to come together to bring common sense policies and the principles in government to work. Principles in business, businesses always allow competition. They find the cheapest price they can. We can get cheap prices and stop having the taxpayer subsidize too high a price.

My colleague, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT), and I have introduced this legislation. Other Democrats and Republicans are on it. And, again, it is not about politics. It is not about partisanship. In the last Congress, 88 Republicans and 153 Democrats came together, passed it, not once, not twice but three times. We will do it against this year.

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

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my special order at this time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

IN RECOGNITION OF HERMANN A. GRUNDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man whose spirit and dedication to the world of science inspired him to give more than four decades of tireless service to the Nation as a scientist, administrator and a leader.

This week Dr. Hermann A. Grunder will retire as Director of Argonne National Laboratory, a leading Department of Energy science laboratory that I am proud to say is located in my congressional district in Illinois. I have had the privilege of working closely with Dr. Grunder over the course of the last 5 years during his tenure at Argonne, and so I speak with personal knowledge and affection when I say that Hermann has left an indelible stamp on Argonne, the quality of life in my district, the DOE complex and the Nation.

There is no doubt that he has created a positive and lasting legacy, both nationally and internationally, and I would like to take this time to pay tribute to his many achievements and wish him well on the occasion of his retirement.

Dr. Grunder first entered the DOE system in 1959 at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in California. After a short break to complete his Ph.D at the University of Basel in Switzerland, he returned to Berkeley as a physicist in 1964 and has served the Nation ever since. At Berkeley, his scientific excellence, vision and leadership earned him executive positions of increasing responsibility.

In 1985, he left Berkeley to become the first Director of the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator facility in Virginia, which he helped to build from the ground up literally. Today, the Jefferson lab is one of the Nation's leading accelerator laboratories.

In 2000, Dr. Grunder became Director of Argonne. The first thing I noticed when I met Hermann was his energy and enthusiasm for science. It is infectious. As a long-time member of the Committee on Science and chairman of its Subcommittee on Energy, I have had the good fortune of meeting many of the Nation's most talented scientists; and I can say without a doubt that Hermann's passion for science and his dedication to DOE's system of national laboratories stands out among the crowd.

As Argonne's 10th Director, Dr. Grunder strengthened the laboratory by renewing senior management at the highest level and grooming the laboratory's next generation of leaders. Through his active efforts to encourage strong research ties between Argonne and regional universities and Fermilab, Dr. Grunder greatly enhanced the Midwest's reputation as a world center of advanced scientific research and development. These collaborations are expected to trigger new scientific, technological and economic benefits for Illinois and the Nation, while providing students from Illinois and around the world with a greater role in research at Argonne.

While at Argonne, Dr. Grunder emerged as an international advocate for safe, proliferation-free nuclear energy, a strong steward of DOE's unique user facilities at our national labs, and a keen supporter of biosciences and technology's role in homeland security.

Under his leadership, Argonne reviewed ongoing research in the aftermath of September 11 and identified many potential ways this research could improve our homeland security. Since then, Argonne has contributed to hundreds of research initiatives designed to anticipate, detect and counter terrorist acts.

It came as no surprise in 2004 when Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham chose to honor Dr. Grunder's career with the DOE laboratory system by presenting him with the Secretary of Energy's Gold Award in recognition of his tireless engagement on issues of national importance, including nuclear energy, national security and international user facilities.

The DOE and the Office of Science recognized how extremely lucky they were to have a true champion like Dr. Grunder on their team for so long; and we in Illinois were very, very lucky to have had such an outstanding professional at the helm of one of our two outstanding labs for the last 5 years.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Hermann Grunder has contributed greatly to the DOE laboratory complex, my district, and the State of Illinois and our Nation. His commitment and industrious efforts as a public servant serve as an inspiration to us all. I know that his presence at Argonne will be greatly missed, but I am confident that with his abundant energy and zeal for science he will continue to do great things in the scientific community for years to come.

Today I congratulate Dr. Grunder on his retirement and wish him all the best in his many future endeavors.

SENTENCED TO SERVE

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to alert the American people to the case of Emiliano Santiago. His case, his plight should be known and feared by every high school junior and senior across the country, as well as every parent and every guardian.

Emiliano Santiago is a 26-year-old soldier from Seattle who proudly and bravely served his country for 8 years immediately following high school. His 8-year commitment to the United States military was up a few months ago, or at least so he thought. That is when Emiliano Santiago discovered that Secretary Rumsfeld's secret back door draft existed. Despite 8 years in the military, despite fulfilling his commitment to his country, Emiliano cannot leave the military. Emiliano Santiago cannot leave the military this week, this month or any year in the future for some time to come. Emiliano Santiago cannot leave the military this decade or the next decade.

The ugly little secret in the Pentagon is that Emiliano Santiago's vol-

untary service is involuntary. He has been sentenced to serve. The ugly truth of the matter is simply this: He is forced to serve at the whim of Rumsfeld potentially until Christmas Eve in the year 2031. Emiliano Santiago signed up in 1996. He has been sentenced to 35 years of service under Mr. Rumsfeld.

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He is now subject to the whim of Mr. Rumsfeld. He will be in his fifties before he can escape from Mr. Rumsfeld's grasp.

Do you think anyone told Emiliano what he was getting into? Not a chance. Welcome to the myth of the voluntary military service under Donald Rumsfeld. He cannot find enough soldiers so the Pentagon is forcing those already in service to stay whether they want to or not, whether they have jobs, family, or plans of their own.

Emiliano is owned by Mr. Rumsfeld. Welcome to the volunteer Army. They call it stop-loss. It is an involuntary military service. Just ask Emiliano and 50,000 other U.S. soldiers. Yes, 50,000 soldiers who signed up in what they thought was a voluntary military cannot now voluntarily leave the military at the end of their commitment.

Stop-loss is Rumsfeld's legalese for a backdoor draft. It is legal, real; and do not let anyone, especially military recruiters, tell you otherwise.

A recruiter signed up Emiliano. The recruiter was saying, Sign up here for 8 years. He never explained to me of the possibility of stop-loss. No one told Emiliano of the backdoor draft. And Americans are just finding out about the recruiter provision found in the No Child Left Behind Act. Or as I call it, No Child Left Un-recruited. High schools must turn over high school student contact information or lose funding. Now, there is the makings of the voluntary Army.

Rumsfeld has unlimited power to keep you in the military, and the military now has unlimited access to your son and daughter. Forget about any right to privacy. This is America under Republican leadership. If you are in high school right now, the military has your name, your address, and your phone number. If you are in Rumsfeld's military, he has you for decades. It is the new Republican definition of family planning. Ask Rumsfeld what you are doing for the rest of your life.

It is wrong and it is not working. Recruitment in the Army National Guard plunged 31 percent in February and another 12 percent in March. The word is spreading. America's all-voluntary military has been replaced by Rumsfeld's sentence-to-life military.

I served my country as an officer in the United States Navy. I am proud of my military service and proud of anyone who serves America in the military. But today's honor and duty are being distorted into recruiter mandates to find more bodies. The National