

CONGRATULATING KIMBERLY NICOLE MORGAN, MISS MISSISSIPPI 2007

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the 2007 Miss Mississippi Pageant winner, Kimberly Nicole Morgan.

Kimberly, a 24-year-old native of Oxford, MS, is the daughter of Elzie and Valerie Morgan. Kimberly, a music teacher at Madison Shannon Palmer High School in Quitman County, MS, is no stranger to wearing a crown. A former Miss Alcorn State University 2005, she has also reigned as Miss Freshman 2001–2002 and Miss Southwest in 2006. She currently serves as Miss Heritage, respectively.

Kimberly obtained a bachelor's degree in vocal music from Alcorn State University in 2006. She was actively involved in the ASU Gospel Choir, Beaute Noire Modeling Squad, and the ASU Student Government Association. Kimberly won the coveted Miss Mississippi crown as the pageant celebrated its 50th anniversary. As Miss Mississippi, Kimberly will compete in the Miss America pageant where she will spread her platform issue G.O.T.M.I.L.K.K., Golden Opportunity Toward Music Increasing Literacy in Kids, a weekly after-school program of music instructions. Kimberly understands that most children of low income and rural communities lack linguistic development, adaptation to their environment, basic child development, and overall school performance. G.O.T.M.I.L.K.K., is a method that can use music in the teaching of reading to enhance motivation and the abilities of children because the subject has so many similarities. Her goal is to teach everyone to become proficient in reading, writing, and mathematics as well as aims for students to become proficient in making and learning music.

"Words can't express what I am feeling," Morgan said after being crowned by Miss Mississippi, "God has answered my prayers". Kimberly, the second African-American woman crowned Miss Mississippi during its 50 year history, won a scholarship and hopes to become the fifth Mississippian to win the Miss America Pageant. Kimberly was chosen from a field of 47 contestants during the week-long pageant. This is an enormous step for Mississippi and its progress towards African-American women breaking through the color barrier by successfully competing as equals and being considered equally as intelligent, beautiful human beings.

Ms. Morgan, a god-fearing, family-oriented, selfless woman has had the same dreams of music, education, mentoring to the youth, and pageants since the age of 7. After viewing a Miss Mississippi Pageant as a child, Kimberly proclaimed to her classmates that she wanted to be Miss America. "All the other kids were saying they wanted to be doctors and lawyers, and I raised my hand and said I wanted to be Miss America."

I am very proud of Ms. Morgan and all of her accomplishments. She is truly a vision of grace and beauty, and I look forward to seeing her represent the State of Mississippi in the Miss America Pageant in 2008.

Please join me today in congratulating Ms. Kimberly Nicole Morgan. I am certain she will represent our State in an extraordinary way.

### A SERIOUS RESPONSE TO GROWING INEQUALITY FROM AN UNEXPECTED SOURCE

### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, this morning David Wessel, writing in the Wall Street Journal, called deserved attention to the growing maldistribution of income in our country. He observes that ". . . governments and businesses must come up with new ways to spread its" (globalization's) "benefits more widely." I commend the report to my colleagues and ask unanimous consent that Mr. Wessel's article be printed here.

[July 26, 2007]

#### GLOBALIZATION STUDY MOVES PAST RHETORIC

Most of the policy briefs, working papers and trade-association reports that cross a columnist's desk slide easily into the trash can or onto the read-someday pile.

But a recent study on globalization, commissioned by the Financial Services Forum, an association of the chief executives of 20 huge financial companies, ranging from American International Group and Citigroup to UBS and Wachovia, stands out.

#### CAPITAL EXCHANGE

How should business and government spread globalization's benefits? The analysis, written by a former member of President Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers, a former member of President Bush's and a former Bush Commerce Department official, says:

(1) Globalization is good for the U.S. economy. (No surprise coming from a bunch of financial firms that make money doing business across borders.)

(2) Gains from globalization aren't evenly shared. (A little surprising, but in the past couple of years, there has been a willingness among business to publicly acknowledge that economic reality.)

(3) To avoid a backlash against globalization, governments and businesses must come up with new ways to spread its benefits more widely and assist those hurt by all sorts of economic change. (Very surprising, more like a Democratic candidate's talking points than a report issued and promoted by an outfit led by Citigroup Chief Executive Charles Prince and Don Evans, the former Bush commerce secretary.)

What's Going On? Business interests with a strong stake in globalization—international operations account for nearly half Citigroup's second-quarter profit—see rising public anxiety about globalization as a threat. And they realize that preaching the gospel of comparative advantage isn't going to win the debate.

"The mounting opposition is in response to the other side of globalization—outsourcing of jobs, economic dislocation, anxiety and fear," the forum said in an internal planning document early this year. "Making the case for trade and globalization requires . . . a list of specific, meaningful, practical, cost-efficient, and effective public- and private-sector responses to the reality that while the aggregate benefits of free trade and globalization are tremendous, it can sometimes bring with it painful dislocations for

individuals, families, towns, regions, even entire industries."

Much of the globalization debate is unproductive. Gene Sperling, a globalization-friendly, former Clinton aide, likens it to divorce court. "It is two sides simply marshaling every bit of evidence they can against the other, with no nuance, no willingness to look at cost and benefit."

Some business executives, prodded by politicians such as House Ways and Means Chairman Charles Rangel, finally are realizing that trade-friendly Democrats will be overwhelmed by trade skeptics unless there is something tangible to offer workers worried about their livelihoods and their children's. A new Pew Global Attitudes survey finds Americans generally optimistic about the next five years, but only 31% expect their children's lives will be better than their own; Europeans are even more pessimistic. By contrast, 81% of the Chinese expect their children to do better.

The Financial Services Forum report is, in part, a response to that. The specifics are intriguing—not because they are the best solutions, but because they move beyond inadequate approaches such as making the failing Trade Adjustment Assistance program for dislocated workers a tad more generous.

Among the Proposals: Raise taxes on winners to share benefits of globalization more widely. Replace TAA and unemployment insurance with a big new program for displaced workers that offers wage insurance to ease the pain of taking a lower-paying job. Provide for portable health insurance and retraining. Create a way for communities to ensure their tax base against big factory closures. Eliminate tax hurdles for businesses that do what International Business Machines is proposing: Offer 50 cents for every \$1 (up to \$1,000 a year) that workers set aside to pay for training.

"The greatest risk to our economy is disengaging from the world economy," says Grant Aldonas of the Center for Strategic and International Studies think tank, one of the report's three authors. "The nature of the conversation has to change for us to succeed. We are renegotiating the social contract in America, but we're letting it be done by the United Auto Workers and Delphi, and leaving a lot of others out—including the poor and the businesses on the leading edge."

Mr. Aldonas and his co-authors, Dartmouth's Matthew Slaughter and Harvard's Robert Lawrence, argue that public policy can spread the benefits of globalization more widely. They say the U.S. need not accept as inevitable the steady widening of the gap between economic winners and losers, an inequality that threatens to produce barriers to trade, investment and immigration that will hurt U.S. prosperity.

The forum is hawking the analysis to Democrats and Republicans. Merrill Lynch bought an ad promoting it in a Capitol Hill newspaper. Now the question is whether business will go beyond talk. As C. Fred Bergsten, head of the Peterson Institute for International Economics think tank puts it: "They haven't gone to the mat and talked to Charlie Rangel and Democrats who are wavering, if not worse, and said, 'We want to support a meaningful program of wage insurance, and we'll be willing to give up some of our beloved tax breaks to pay for it.'"

One troubling sign: Although forum chief executives issued statements blessing the new report, not one has been willing to talk to a Wall Street Journal reporter about it.