

ECONOMIC STIMULUS NEEDS TO INCLUDE A MORATORIUM ON HOME FORECLOSURES

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was here on the floor last week reminding my colleagues as my intention is to continue to emphasize those who have been hurt by the economic recession, the downtrend in our financial markets, that they are, in fact, real people. So, in the course of visiting my district and around the country, we have met individuals who are suffering.

Today, I met an Iraqi veteran whose parents have built their home brick by brick, and now they find that their homestead, these senior citizens, their son in Iraq, is having their house foreclosed on.

I met an elderly woman, a widow, whose husband was deceased 7 years ago. She's trying to pay the costliness of the heating oil and now is being called by her bank that her home, because of her delinquent payments, will be foreclosed on.

It is imperative I believe that an economic stimulus package include a moratorium on foreclosures in order to ensure that those individuals can reconstruct their loans. Mr. Speaker, it is imperative it is a stimulus to help people keep their homes.

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AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY CONCERNING PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 110-90)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I transmit to the Congress, pursuant to sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2153(b), (d)) (the "Act"), the text of the proposed Agreement for Cooperation between the United States of America and the Republic of Turkey Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy (the "Agreement") together with a copy of the unclassified Nuclear Proliferation Assessment Statement (NPAS) and of my approval of the proposed Agreement and determination that the proposed Agreement will promote, and will not constitute an unreasonable risk to, the common defense and security. The Secretary of State will submit the classified NPAS and accompanying annexes separately in appropriate secure channels.

The Agreement was signed on July 26, 2000, and President Clinton approved and authorized execution and made the determinations required by section 123 b. of the Act (Presidential Determination 2000-26, 65 FR 44403 (July 18, 2000)). However, immediately after signature, U.S. agencies received information that called into question the conclusions that had been drawn in the required NPAS and the original classified annex, specifically, information implicating Turkish private entities in certain activities directly relating to nuclear proliferation. Consequently, the Agreement was not submitted to the Congress and the executive branch undertook a review of the NPAS evaluation.

My Administration has completed the NPAS review as well as an evaluation of actions taken by the Turkish government to address the proliferation activities of certain Turkish entities (once officials of the U.S. Government brought them to the Turkish government's attention). The Secretary of State, the Secretary of Energy, and the members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission are confident that the pertinent issues have been sufficiently resolved and that there is a sufficient basis (as set forth in the classified annexes, which will be transmitted separately by the Secretary of State) to proceed with congressional review of the Agreement and, if legislation is not enacted to disapprove it, to bring the Agreement into force.

In my judgment, entry into force of the Agreement will serve as a strong incentive for Turkey to continue its support for nonproliferation objectives and enact future sound nonproliferation policies and practices. It will also promote closer political and economic ties with a NATO ally, and provide the necessary legal framework for U.S. industry to make nuclear exports to Turkey's planned civil nuclear sector.

This transmittal shall constitute a submittal for purposes of both section 123 b. and 123 d. of the Act. My Administration is prepared to begin immediate consultations with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee as provided in section 123 b. Upon completion of the period of 30 days of continuous session provided for in section 123 b., the period of 60 days of continuous session provided for in section 123 d. shall commence.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, January 22, 2008.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

COMMUNIST CHINA'S TOXIC EXPORTS

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, what do toys, pet food, jewelry, toothpaste, lipstick, and glazed pottery have in common? Well, if these products are from China, it's toxic chemical poisoning.

In 2007, millions of toys were imported to the United States from the People's Republic of China, and then they were recalled after it was discovered that they contained high amounts of lead paint. Mr. Speaker, one of those was Thomas the Tank Engine, and here is a photograph of it. It was one of many of the millions of toys recalled; 1.5 million of these toys were recalled because they were made in China and had lead in them, in the paint that covered these toys.

Of course, everyone knows that lead poisoning can cause serious problems for children, including learning disabilities, kidney failure, irreversible brain damage, and anemia. Here in the United States, the leading cause of lead poisoning in children used to be old paint, but U.S. manufacturers stopped using this toxic ingredient over 30 years ago. But despite this ban on U.S. manufacturers, China consistently failed to maintain the same level of concern over the health and safety of consumers in the United States that it sells products to.

In 2006, the United States imported billions of dollars worth of toys, dolls, and games from China. That was approximately 85 percent of the United States' total imports of these products worldwide. And yet, between January and December of last year, the Consumer Product Safety Commission recalled 17 million Chinese toys, all due to excessive amounts of lead. Another 10 million Chinese toys were recalled last year due to other dangerous manufacturing defects like loose magnets, toxic chemicals on beads, and items that are burn hazards.

Also, Mr. Speaker, during that same period, the FDA recalled 150 pet brand foods from China which were believed to cause the deaths of hundreds of pets in the United States; it seems they contained fertilizer. So, Chinese products contain lead in their exported toys for tots to Americans and contain fertilizer in pet foods that kill our dogs. But that's not all, however. The FDA has also recalled tires, lunch boxes, toothpaste that had antifreeze in it, and fake drugs due to consumer safety and health concerns. This is all from products from China. And in all, Mr. Speaker, 80 percent of the recalls issued by the Consumer Product Safety Commission last year involved Chinese products. This kind of disregard for the well-being of America's consumers is not acceptable and should not be tolerated by our government.

American companies buy these products because they're cheap. You see, a