

STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD

Congresswoman Deborah Pryce

H. Res. 718

Full Committee Markup

April 5, 2006

I support a thorough review of the Dubai Ports World deal and the CFIUS process. The question at the heart of this debate is how best to protect our national security and assure the American people we are doing everything in our power to guard against future terrorist attacks.

The Kucinich Resolution, however, is not the means by which to achieve those ends. This resolution has the potential to put at risk classified national security information. Discussions about ways in which to secure our ports or mitigation of weaknesses in current management of the ports, if made public, could serve as a road map for terrorists to know exactly where to hit us.

While this is important information for the Administration and Congress to review, national security information should be kept as close to the vest as possible. Rather than approve a blanket request for documents, I would propose a classified briefing for Members of Congress to have an opportunity to receive further information, including documents related to the DPW deal, and ask question of CFIUS and the Administration.

Additionally, as part of our oversight responsibilities, next month, my subcommittee plans to hold the second of a series of hearings on the process by which these deals are approved by CFIUS. My subcommittee has already held one hearing which included testimony from an entire panel of government representatives involved in CFIUS. We have scheduled a second hearing on April 27th to gain further understanding of the process and ways in which greater transparency can be applied to ensure that we never shortchange security concerns. I have heard from numerous Members of Congress that CFIUS is an outdated process that does not address the national security questions of today. For that reason, I am also working on legislation with Majority Whip Blunt to reform the process and make permanent changes to the way in which CFIUS goes about its business.