

The point is that we don't feel that you can generalize about the impact of the possible change in ASP on the chemical industry as a whole. It has to be looked upon and considered on the basis of each individual company in the industry.

Mr. BATTIN. Thank you.

Mr. HERLONG. Any further questions? Mr. Bush.

Mr. BUSH. Knowing of Union Carbide's interest in and ability in the field of producing oil as well as related fields in which the company is much better known, you do have some oil production, don't you, Union Carbide?

Mr. INTEMANN. Yes, sir.

Mr. BUSH. The people I have been acquainted with in this company are real good oil people. Is it H.R. 10178 and 10686 that would put into law what is now—

Mr. INTEMANN. Yes, sir, 12.2 percent limit on imports.

Mr. BUSH. Why do you think those would have an adverse effect on price? This is one of the questions I asked an earlier witness. I am just not clear on the economics you are using in your statement.

Mr. INTEMANN. Well, always the law of supply and demand of course is going to govern what prices are despite most anything else. We feel very strongly that—

Mr. BUSH. I would understand that, if you would let me interrupt, if we are talking about changing the ratio but we are not. Those bills don't talk about changing the ratio. They talk about keeping it the same so I get lost on why people feel—

Mr. INTEMANN. So far to date, Congressman Bush, I think you are well aware of the problems that the petrochemical industry has had with the Department of the Interior in establishing with them the need for greater participation in feed stocks which are equivalent to what, as I have said in my statement, to foreign competitors.

Mr. BUSH. Yes.

Mr. INTEMANN. We don't object to the 12.2 percent part as much as we do that there is nothing in those bills that would recognize the problem of the petrochemical industry.

Mr. BUSH. Well, in other words, your objection is not the formalization through legislation of the 12.2, rather it is objection to 12.2, is that correct?

Mr. INTEMANN. That is part of it. We say as presently written. Other provisions in the bills would also trouble us. As you know, we did offer some amendments to those bills.

Mr. BUSH. Yes, I know you did.

Mr. INTEMANN. There was no action taken on any of them as of yet.

Mr. BUSH. That answers my question.

Mr. INTEMANN. We have not attacked the 12.2 percent, as such.

Mr. BUSH. But you are afraid if you formalize it it would be more difficult for you to get exceptions.

Mr. INTEMANN. We think now is the time to really put focus on problems in a very important industry to America, both from its prosperity standpoint as well as national security.

Now is the time to put the focus on and clear the matter up so we know where we stand.