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BIOGRAPHICAL DATA: SAM M. GIBBONS CONGRESSMAN (D-FLORIDA)

Sam M. Gibbons began his service in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1963, after having served in the Florida State Legislature for 10 years. In 1969 he was elected to the Ways and Means Committee, which has responsibility for legislation dealing with taxes, social security, medicare, unemployment compensation, public assistance, national health insurance and international trade. On this committee he is Chairman of the Oversight Subcommittee and ranking member on the Trade Subcommittee. He has taken an active role in the reform of complicated tax laws, pension plan rules, health and welfare costs, and the long-range financing problems of the social security system.

In 1975 he was elected to the Committee on the Budget. He has been known as an activist and a reformer in Congress and has been especially recognized for his accomplishments in tax, budget, and Congressional reform; the elimination of wasteful government spending, needless secrecy, and abuses of power by government officials; and the expansion of international trade to benefit consumers, promote harmony among nations and increase living standards in developing countries. He has been one of the most active proponents of major legislation designed to protect the environment.

Mr Gibbons is a proponent of increased international trade. He serves on the Economic-Committee of the North Atlantic Assembly, the legislative arm of NATO. He chairs economic discussions of a group of U.S. and European parliamentarians who meet twice yearly to deal with international economic and trade problems. One goal of these meetings is a new agreement among nations on standards for the taxation and operation of giant multinational corporations. He was appointed by the Speaker of the House to be an official adviser to the American delegation for the bargaining rounds of the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT) negotiations being held in Geneva.

Mr Gibbons has traveled in the Far East on many occasions and most recently to China with the Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee and he serves on the Far East Task Force that has completed a report on trade between the U.S., Japan, Taiwan, and Korea.

Mr Gibbons is a native of Tampa, Florida. He received a Bronze Star as a result of his service as a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Division during World War II. He holds a law degree from the University of Florida.

Mr Gibbons is married to Martha Hanley, also a native of Tampa, and they have three sons.