Contact: Matt Lloyd

PENCE VOTES TO PROTECT AMISH WAY OF LIFE

Washington, Dec 11, 2003 - Washington, D.C.— Congressman Mike Pence voted to protect the Amish way of life this week by voting for the Amish Labor bill, a measure that helps protect the way of life of the Amish population in northeast Indiana. The bill was voted on as part of the Omnibus Appropriations Act of FY 2004 Conference Report.

“It is important that we protect the way of life that the Amish people desire so earnestly,” said Pence. “This bill does just that. Passage of this bill is a victory for the Amish, for religious liberty and for diversity in America.”

Specifically, the bill allows Amish teenagers to do apprenticeships once their formal education is complete. It will ensure the safety of Amish teenagers if these apprenticeships are located in businesses where heavy machinery is used to process wood products.

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