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No. 8

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: "Come, let us rejoice in the Lord. Lift up your hearts and give thanks to our God, for He has done marvelous deeds."

As a Nation which loves the experience of living as the free children of God, let Americans now rejoice with our brothers and sisters in Iraq.

We have been moved by their patient endurance of the past and by their heroic effort to create a future. Their cherished votes have been a sign of bravery to an anxious world. Their united voice may yet drown out threats of terrorism as they take bold steps in building a pluralistic society.

We are grateful to You, our God, for the international military forces who, with their very lives, have surrounded this prayerful people. Reward all of them for their service and their sacrifices in the name of freedom by granting Iraq the promise of a better tomorrow and, in the end, lasting peace.

To You, O God, be honor and glory now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KUCINICH led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 20. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 7. Concurrent resolution congratulating the people of Ukraine for conducting a democratic, transparent, and fair runoff presidential election on December 26, 2004, and congratulating Viktor Yushchenko on his election as President of Ukraine and his commitment to democracy and reform.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 100-696, the Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, announces the appointment of the following Senator as a member of the United States Capitol Preservation Commission:

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), vice the Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL).

The message also announced that pursuant to section 4(a)(3) of Public Law 94-118, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, appoints the following Senator to serve as a member of the Japan-United States Friendship Commission:

The Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI).

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PUTNAM) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 27, 2005.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on January 26, 2005 at 6:10 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 21.

Appointments: Joint Committee on Taxation.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH, Jr.,
Clerk of the House.

IRAQI ELECTIONS

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, at a meeting of Republican Members of the House and Senate this weekend, our distinguished majority leader, who has just come into the Chamber, reminded us that 24 years ago, on the 20th of January out here on the west front of the Capitol, Ronald Reagan said, "No weapon in the arsenals of the world is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women."

Mr. Speaker, we also this weekend witnessed the greatest example in recent times of that when we saw a people who, for a half a century have been living under repression, having no opportunity to express themselves, exercised that. The anecdotes are amazing. The story of the woman who literally gave birth at a voting station and then named her baby Democracy underscores the kind of success that we are seeing.

It is very clear that self-determination, political pluralism about which the chaplain just spoke, and the rule of

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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law are on the move. The Iraqi people are to be both congratulated and thanked: congratulated, of course, because they are going to be able to enjoy their success; thanks for the message they are sending throughout the entire world.

WHAT NEXT FOR IRAQ?

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, as I watched the people of Iraq cast their first ballots in 50 years, I was deeply moved by their courage, their rejection of violence, and their desire to define their own future. I salute the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces who helped facilitate these elections. Their service will long be remembered by those who voted this weekend.

But what happens next? Iraq is no more secure today than it was last week. Iraqi insurgents and terrorist groups are no less determined to wreak havoc across Iraq. Our troops are no more protected today than they were last week. And the American people still have no clue about when the President plans to bring our troops home.

It is time, Mr. Speaker, for the President to change course, to level with the American people, and tell us how he is going to end this war and when he is going to bring our brave men and women home. No more extended deployments of our Guard and Reserves. No more multiple deployments of our active duty forces.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for George Bush to end this war. It is time to start the process to bring our troops home.

IRAQI ELECTIONS

(Mr. DELAY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, as we look back through history, there are shining examples of men and women removing a murderous tyrant's regime from power and in its place building a government that represents the will of a free people with the right to choose their own path and control their own future. Iraq is yet another shining example for other oppressed people throughout the world to look to for hope and encouragement.

History was made on Sunday, and the American people observed this, knowing that our efforts have created a society of hope and liberty, as well as new friends who share our vision of freedom. Two days ago, millions of ordinary people stood in line for hours for the opportunity to do an extraordinary thing we too often take for granted.

For weeks leading up to Sunday's election, terrorists threatened violence upon any Iraqi who defied their will and dared cast a ballot. And sure enough, as soon as the polls opened and the long lines formed, the terrorists

came calling. While the troops of our liberating coalition, working closely with newly trained Iraqi forces, sprang into action, capturing and killing the insurgents, the voters waited patiently in line, in humble defiance of evil. For 2 years, America's troops have been deployed abroad, and for 2 years they have served honorably and heroically. Sunday, that service was affirmed by 8 million Iraqis who took it upon themselves to take the next steps towards their freedom.

What has been proven in the United States, and now in Iraq, is that a free society will not and cannot be deterred by violence, nor will it be held hostage by the evil will of terrorists. Today the people of Iraq share a common bond with Americans. The experience of freedom and liberty that was born on American soil is taking root in Iraq.

But Sunday's elections will not end the violence, nor the sacrifices we will make to ensure the freedom and security of the Iraqi people. I will tell you what is next. Despite the violent days that still lie ahead and despite the partisan rhetoric now being spouted to undermine the significance of Sunday's victory for freedom, the free people of Iraq know the truth. Two years ago Iraq was ruled by a brutal dictator. Just 13 months ago, coalition forces marked the end of the beginning when they captured the brutal dictator, Saddam Hussein. Today, it is a free democracy, an ally in the war on terror, and a lesson to everyone suffering under the oppressive rule of a hostile tyrant.

Freedom and terrorism cannot coexist; and last weekend in Iraq, we learned the inevitable result of that conflict. Iraq is free, her people are free, and they will no longer be held hostage by evil men and evil terrorists. Sunday in Iraq history was made by the people who showed up; and by the courage of 8 million patient souls, terrorism was struck another blow.

Because of those souls, and all the Iraqi men and women who made Sunday possible, we honor their commitment to freedom and will continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with them.

CALLING FOR INVESTIGATION OF \$9 BILLION MISSING IN IRAQ

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I have called for a Federal grand jury investigation of the administration's Coalition Provisional Authority which, according to the U.S. Inspector General, lost track of \$9 billion in Iraq that it controlled over a period of 9 months, ending last October; \$9 billion, gone.

Was the \$9 billion stolen? Did it go to pay bribes? Do we have another Iran-Contra on our hands? We will not know until top U.S. officials under penalty of perjury are called before the grand jury to answer questions about the missing \$9 billion. The administration's response has been, Hey, it's Iraq, it's

chaos, it's war. I say, Hey, you can't account for \$9 billion spent over 9 months. That is \$30 million a day. And you want Congress to appropriate another \$80 billion for Iraq? I do not think so. Investigate Iraq-gate and the unaccounted-for \$9 billion.

IRAQI ELECTIONS

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, behind me you see a photograph that shows the true meaning of the Iraqi election. It is an Iraqi woman smiling, holding up the victory sign accentuated by the blue ink on her finger indicating that she had voted. That victory sign stands for victory over dictatorship, for victory over terror, victory for democracy, victory for freedom.

No wonder she is smiling. One voter remarked, and it may have been this woman, I moved to mark my finger with ink. I dipped it deep as if I was poking the eyes of all the world's tyrants.

I am so proud of all the men and women we have in uniform, because without their sacrifice, their service, their dedication to the cause of liberty, none of this would have been possible. They have once again spread freedom and in doing so have made America safer and more secure.

Some politicians have said that we should not overhype this election. Pardon me if I disagree. We should trumpet every victory for freedom from the highest mountaintops. Let freedom ring across the globe.

□ 1415

ADMINISTRATION USE OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS FOR PROPAGANDA

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it seems every day another conservative columnist or pundit is being forced to admit they were being paid by the Bush Administration to make its policies look better to the public.

First, it was talk show host Armstrong Williams, who was paid \$240,000 by the Education Department to promote the No Child Left Behind Act.

Then conservative columnist Maggie Gallagher admitted that she was paid \$21,500 by HHS to promote pro-marriage initiatives.

Then, last Thursday, we learned conservative columnist Michael McManus was paid \$10,000 to also promote the President's marriage initiative.

Mr. Speaker, last year alone the Bush administration funneled over \$88 million in taxpayer money to public relation firms, and if this is not a waste of the taxpayers' money, I do not know what is.

Republicans should join us in a call for a congressional investigation into the administration's blatant use of taxpayer dollars for nothing more than propaganda.

MISSISSIPPI BURNING REVISITED

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three exceptional high school students in my District: Allison Nichols, Brittany Saltiel, and Sara Siegal. With the help of Barry Bradford, their inspirational teacher, what began as a National History Day project became an award-winning documentary entitled *We Are Not Afraid*.

These Stevenson High School students reexamined the Mississippi Burning case, the 1964 murders of three civil rights volunteers. In 1967, seven men were convicted on Federal conspiracy charges, but none were charged with murder. But, finally on January 6, 2005, a Mississippi grand jury indicted Edgar Ray Killen for the murders of these volunteers.

The efforts of these girls led me to cosponsor H. Con. Res. 457, which called on the Mississippi Attorney General to reopen the case; and I want to thank the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) for his leadership on this matter.

Mr. Speaker, this was a milestone for American justice. I could not be more proud of the interests and dedication of these young women, and I want to thank Mr. Bradford and the Stevenson High School team for their dedication to justice.

IRAQIS AHEAD OF THE CURVE

(Mrs. DRAKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Iraqi people for their bravery, their courage, and their sacrifice along the road to self-determination and sovereignty.

As I contemplate the recent progress in Iraq, I am reminded of the fact that it was 13 years from the time we declared our independence until we elected our first president.

In Iraq, it has been a mere 13 months since Saddam's capture. In America, it took 132 years for women to have the right to vote, but in Iraq women voted in their very first democratic election. This election is only the beginning of democracy in Iraq.

As their newly elected leaders draft a constitution this year, America's commitment to Iraq's security is critical. We must ensure that democracy and freedom take root and begin to thrive in the hearts and the lives of the Iraqi people.

I also believe as more nations in the Middle East move towards freedom and

democracy, it will provide for a more secure and peaceful world.

RAISING THE MILITARY DEATH BENEFIT

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is impossible to declare these elections in Iraq anything but a success, and we Americans join the Iraqis in their celebration, and rightly so.

I have been in e-mail contact with some of the Iraqis that I have met during my visit there, and I heard from some of our men and women in uniform, and they are proud of what they have achieved, and they are ready to keep working hard.

But, Mr. Speaker, no discussion of the election success is complete without recognizing the active duty, Reserve, and National Guard men and women who have given their lives in this war on terror in the Middle East. It is their sacrifice that is putting terrorism on the run. We cannot forget them, and we must not forget their families.

That is why the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) and I have introduced the Blackburn-Wilson Honoring Our Families and Fallen Soldiers Act today. We are joining Senator ALLEN in this effort. I ask my colleagues to cosponsor the legislation to increase to \$100,000 the death gratuity benefit the family of a soldier killed in combat receives. Our bill would also make this benefit retroactive to October 1, 2001.

Mr. Speaker, it is the right thing to do.

PERSONAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the next few days I will introduce the boldest Social Security plan, one that will provide people with security, control and choice. There will be absolutely no change for current or near retirees.

We need to strengthen Social Security now by allowing younger generations to invest all of the Social Security tax they pay, or 6.2 percent, in a personal retirement account. The employer's share of the tax would stay in the system to fund retiree, near-retiree benefits and transition costs.

These accounts would give all involved control of their personal retirement dollars. Congress cannot take this money away. Personal retirement accounts will help people build a nest egg to pass on to their loved ones.

This solution is about the future. We need to strengthen Social Security with big personal retirement accounts now.

CELEBRATING JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the city of Jacksonville, Florida, which is the host for the 39th Super Bowl championship this Sunday. I think a lot of people were dismayed and a little bit surprised to read about a sportswriter, Tony Kornheiser, when he denigrated Jacksonville last week in a Washington Post article.

Let me give the Members some interesting history about Jacksonville. Because of its strategic Atlantic Ocean port location, Jacksonville has always been involved in conflicts, appropriate, Mr. Speaker, enough for a Super Bowl host. Wars with Spain, France, the Revolutionary War, the Seminole Indian Wars, and the Civil War all touched Jacksonville. Twenty-five World War I steamers were launched from Jacksonville ports. In 1942, German spies infiltrated but luckily were captured before blowing up Florida's essential railroad lines. And, finally, Mr. Speaker, during the 1991 Persian Gulf War, what was the busiest military port in this country? You guessed it. Jacksonville moved more supplies and personnel than any other American port.

I am proud to represent part of this historical, important city and welcome Mr. Kornheiser and other guests to this Super Bowl weekend.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PUTNAM). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

HONORING CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 23) honoring the contributions of Catholic schools.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 23

Whereas America's Catholic schools are internationally acclaimed for their academic excellence, but provide students more than a superior scholastic education;

Whereas Catholic schools ensure a broad, values-added education emphasizing the lifelong development of moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in America's young people;

Whereas the total Catholic school student enrollment for the 2004-2005 academic year is about 2.5 million and the student-teacher ratio is 15 to 1;

Whereas Catholic schools teach a diverse group of students;

Whereas more than 26 percent of school children enrolled in Catholic schools are from minority backgrounds, and nearly 14 percent are non-Catholics;

Whereas Catholic schools produce students strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families, and communities by providing an intellectually stimulating environment rich in spiritual, character, and moral development;

Whereas in the 1972 pastoral message concerning Catholic education, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops stated: "Education is one of the most important ways by which the Church fulfills its commitment to the dignity of the person and building of community. Community is central to education ministry, both as a necessary condition and an ardently desired goal. The educational efforts of the Church, therefore, must be directed to forming persons-in-community; for the education of the individual Christian is important not only to his solitary destiny, but also the destinies of the many communities in which he lives."; and

Whereas January 30 to February 5, 2005, has been designated as Catholic Schools Week by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals of Catholic Schools Week, an event co-sponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and established to recognize the vital contributions of America's thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools; and

(2) congratulates Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across the Nation for their ongoing contributions to education, and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for this Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 23.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 23, offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KENNEDY). This resolution increases the awareness of Catholic education, while honoring the contributions of America's Catholic schools. They are dedicated to not only educating their students academically but to developing their moral, intellectual, physical, and social values.

January 30 through February 5, 2005, is Catholic Schools Week, an annual tradition in its 31st year, and jointly sponsored by the National Catholic Education Association, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

as well. The purpose of this resolution and Catholic Schools Week is to celebrate the vital role Catholic elementary and secondary schools play in providing a values-added education with high standards of quality and excellence to millions of American children.

As President George W. Bush noted last year, "Catholic educators share the basic conviction that every child can learn," which is the grounding principle behind the No Child Left Behind Act.

And these schools continue to demonstrate their faith in every student and commitment to excellence with overwhelming results. According to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic schools have a graduation rate over 99 percent, and about 97 percent of Catholic high school graduates go on to post-secondary training at 4-year colleges, community colleges, or technical schools.

As a proud product of Catholic education from elementary school through my college years at Xavier University, I have found that my foundation in Catholic education has helped me to strengthen my sense of purpose in life and prepared me to help achieve my goals. My own State of Ohio has more than 500 Catholic schools, including my high school alma mater, Moeller High School, in Cincinnati. In Ohio, Catholic schools serve more than 167,000 students, including more than 51,000 students attending 134 Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

So I appreciate the great work being done by Catholic schools, their administrators and teachers, as well as their parents and volunteers. Catholic schools carry out their servant mission by building the academic achievement, character, and values of their students. I commend the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KENNEDY) for introducing this resolution and urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), minority leader.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time and commend the distinguished Chair of the committee and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), ranking member, for bringing this very important resolution to the floor today.

I am proud to rise to recognize the vital contributions of America's Catholic schools in our country, and I want to say right off from the start what my bias is in this area. My husband and I and our five children have attended over 100 years of Catholic school education, over 100 years of Catholic school education. There are about 6 years of Episcopal in there over and above, but 100 years of Catholic school education. So, needless to say, we worship at the shrine of the Catholic educational system in our country.

There are nearly 8,000 Catholic schools in America, and they educate nearly 2.5 million students every year. We salute Catholic schools for their dedication to educating the next generation of Americans and for their success in doing so. The education Catholic schools provide is exceptional and a true asset to our educational system. Catholic schools contribute not only to a student's intellectual development, and they do that very well, but also to a student's ethical and spiritual development. In short, they have a value-added component, values.

The theme of this year's Catholic Schools Week says it well: "Faith in every student." That means faith in the promise of every child and the promise to deepen every child's faith. As a devout Roman Catholic and a product of Catholic schools, as I said, 100 years my husband and I and our five children, this resolution is personal to me. I rely every day on the values, the confidence, and the sense of responsibility that were deepened for me by a Catholic education and being raised in a family that was the product of Catholic education as well. I know that many Members can make that statement.

My Catholic education helped me appreciate the gift of faith and the conviction that we all contain a spark of divinity and to recognize that spark of divinity in every person we encounter. It nurtured in me a commitment to community and to public service.

The Bible teaches us that to minister to the needs of God's creation is an act of worship. To ignore those needs is to dishonor the God who made us. That lesson should inform every debate we have here in Congress, whether it is education, health care, job creation, or the budget, which should be a statement of our national values.

As President Kennedy said so eloquently in his inaugural address, "With a good conscience our only sure reward, with history the final judge of our deeds, let us go forth to lead the land we love, asking his blessing and his help but knowing that here on earth, God's work must truly be our own."

□ 1430

Our Catholic schools prepare generation after generation for that critical task, and they deserve our national gratitude.

I join my colleagues in thanking all of the teachers, parents, and students at Catholic schools who make our country better.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KENNEDY), the sponsor of the resolution.

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I grew up as a minority; not in the traditional sense, but as an Irish Catholic in the land of Scandinavian Lutherans. The option of attending Catholic schools was not really available to my family, until we attended

college. When that time came, my parents sent all seven of their children to the nearby Catholic Benedictine schools of St. John's University and the College of St. Benedict, a formidable feat given my father's salary from the local small-town insurance agency.

My first real encounter with Catholic elementary and secondary students was my interactions with the graduates from Catholic schools that I went to school with at St. John's. I was universally impressed by the quality of these students. They were not only well prepared for college, but they were friendly to a country hick like me. They were courteous, kind, respectful, caring. They say that you can tell a tree by its fruits. By this measure, I assumed Catholic schools must be great.

Then I sat in on a conversation in a dorm room with three graduates of Catholic high schools reminiscing on their high school experience. One of these students was so cynical about his Catholic education that I resolved never to send my children to Catholic school. Well, it turns out the cynical student became a priest, and so I changed my mind. Catholic schools really do nurture one's faith.

My next exposure to Catholic schools came when I attended graduate business school. We did a case study on a sports program there for a Catholic high school, and I will never forget how the room erupted into laughter when a fellow student proposed a solution that assumed that the Catholic schools would not be able to afford to invest in their extracurricular activities. Indeed, my fellow students already knew what I learned: that Catholic schools have great extracurricular programs, not just in sports, but in music, theater, math league, speech team, and much more.

My wife Debbie and I have four wonderful children. They have been able to experience the best of both worlds. They all graduated from Watertown Mayer Public Middle School and experienced the great public education that my wife and I received in Minnesota, but they also chose to attend Catholic high schools and get not just a great education, but be able to talk about how God influences the world around us and history as well.

We are pleased to see that they were nurtured in the Catholic spirit of helping others. They participate in many programs to help those in need. My daughter organized a food drive for Mary's Place, an outreach for the needy while she was at Holy Family Catholic High School. Emily collected enough from her fellow students to fill up our van.

They have kept that spirit alive even after graduating from high school and going on to college. Our son Charles, a graduate of St. John's Prep School, led a group of students from the University of Notre Dame to lend a hand in Appalachia last spring break, forgoing the more pleasurable trip further

south. Catholic schools really do teach students to care.

Catholic schools provide a great education to 2.5 million students across America and have a student-teacher ratio that averages 15 to 1. I can attest to a quality education with two of our children now attending the University of Notre Dame. More than 26 percent of the students enrolled in Catholic schools are from minority backgrounds, and nearly 14 percent are non-Catholics. Catholic schools have done an extraordinary job of reaching out to disadvantaged youth throughout the country.

This week has been designated as Catholic Schools Week. The theme for Catholic Schools Week this year is "Faith in Every Student." Tomorrow is National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting my resolution that commends our Catholic schools and the teachers, parents, and religious communities that support them for their service to our Nation's youth.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO).

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution as we honor the contributions and accomplishments of the nearly 8,000 Catholic schools in our Nation, 75 in my diocese, that altogether shape the lives of nearly 2.5 million of America's young people.

Like so many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I am a product of Catholic school, having attended it from elementary school to college. It was there, from the nuns, the good nuns at St. Louis Elementary School, Laurelton Hall, and Marymount College that I learned to nourish my mind and my heart; to reach out, to work hard, to fulfill my potential and be whatever I wanted to be.

But Catholic school also taught me to nourish my community, my neighbors, to give something back to my world, to the people of that world. It was that lifetime of Catholic education, from kindergarten through college, that in no small way moved me to serve the larger community, instilling in me a commitment to the issues that have always been central to my faith, issues such as jobs and education, child tax credit, homelessness, and protecting our environment.

Many of the values we were taught at Catholic school, values such as promoting the common good and peace, economic policies that include all children and families, and taking care of one another, formed the basis of many legislative accomplishments in public policy throughout the last century, particularly since Franklin Roosevelt. The results for programs like Social Security and Medicare and Medicaid, home loan mortgage assistance, housing for the elderly, the GI Bill, all have their roots in the Judeo-Christian tra-

ditions we were taught in Catholic schools.

Those are the ideals Catholic school instilled in me: a commitment to the moral purposes of government, a shared responsibility, which could not be clearer when we stand before the challenge of the poor and the less fortunate, who, as the Catholic bishops have stated, "have the single most urgent economic claim on the conscience of a nation."

I could not concur more. And this week that the House honors Catholic schools, I join my colleagues in recognizing the contributions of so many dedicated teachers, guidance counselors, and school staff that have provided millions of Americas with the framework necessary to become a productive, moral, and compassionate citizen within our increasingly diverse society. And for that, I, along with so many others, am eternally grateful.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY).

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise again this year to recognize the annual celebration of Catholic Schools Week. Catholic Schools Week is a collaboration of the National Catholic Education Association and the United States Catholic Conference to recognize the importance Catholic schools play in providing a values-enriched education to their students.

This year's theme is "Faith in Every Student," and this faith is alive and well in Pennsylvania. I am pleased to recognize over 32 Catholic schools in Pennsylvania's 13th district as they celebrate this week with many community and parish events to recognize their outstanding contributions to America's education.

It is important to note that America's Catholic schools admit students of every faith, and Catholic schools in Pennsylvania save taxpayers more than \$1 billion each year. In addition, the St. Anthony's School Programs in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, helps Catholic and non-Catholic students with developmental disabilities to live their lives to their fullest, intellectually, socially, academically, vocationally, and spiritually, and has donated over \$1.1 million this year to help special needs students receive quality education and life skills.

The Catholic schools have a dropout rate of less than 3 percent and provide extensive scholarships to low-income families. The Pennsylvania Catholic Conference reports that there are 192,562 Catholic school students attending 827 Catholic elementary and secondary schools in Pennsylvania's commonwealth. These are impressive statistics that display the hard work of Pennsylvania's parents, schoolteachers, principals, and school administrators in educating their students in faith.

I myself attended public schools for some years, but also attended St. Barnabas Elementary School and Walsh

Jesuit High School and am proud to be a product of Catholic education. Today we should all continue our work together in celebrating this time with the Catholic schools around the Nation in order to make America a stronger and more compassionate country in a faith-built community, one child at a time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI).

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 23. Catholic schools have been educating American children since the founding of our country. They continue to serve as an important complement to our public schools and other private institutions, providing top-quality, values-added education for young students across the Nation.

In my district, which is located in the Chicago archdiocese, dozens of Catholic schools have planned events for students, teachers, and parents to enjoy and celebrate Catholic Schools Week. At Saint Symphorosa, students are participating in a community prayer service, a neighborhood ice cream social, and a variety of educational events. In addition, they are taking part in Vocation Appreciation Day.

Saint Francis Xavier in LaGrange, my home parish, they are celebrating with Student and Teacher Appreciation Days, an academic fair emphasizing student curriculum and student projects, and a special liturgy honoring teachers, students, and parents, all of whom make great contributions to the integrity and values of Catholic education.

As we honor Catholic schools, we need to especially pay tribute to the more than 163,000 Catholic school teachers nationwide. These dedicated sisters, priests, brothers, and lay teachers are the backbone of Catholic education. They sacrifice so much personally in order to provide a top notch education that serves our children very well in preparing them for the future.

My wife and I are each products of 12 years of Catholic elementary and secondary education: Judy in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, at Saint Patrick's grade school and Bishop McCourt High School; myself in Chicago at Saint Symphorosa Grammar School and Saint Ignatius College Prep. Although at the time I did not always appreciate their hard work, I have fond memories of my teachers who provided me with the fundamentals of a good education that laid the groundwork for future academic achievements. But just as important, they instilled in me the belief that I should use my God-given abilities to contribute to society. In doing this, they provided me with the inspiration for a career as an educator and as a public servant, just as they have inspired countless other Americans to contribute to our society.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to pass House Resolution 23.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gen-

tleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY), a new member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to participate in this debate on House Resolution 23, a resolution to honor the contributions of Catholic schools and recognize Catholic Schools Week. I want to thank the chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce and the sponsor of the resolution, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KENNEDY), for their work.

Like many others, I too am a product of Catholic schools. My upbringing is a testament to the quality education and dedicated efforts of Catholic educators to produce students, whether they are Catholic or not, dedicated to improving themselves, their community, and our Nation.

At Cathedral Carmel I developed a lifelong love of learning and reading. Through college and medical school, the lessons I learned in high school helped me to work through classes and assignments. Even during my professional career as a heart surgeon and now in Congress, I find myself relying on the personal development and classroom lessons from high school.

One of my children, Ashley, attended Teurlings Catholic in Lafayette, Louisiana, and received a great education. In fact, it helped put her on a career path to give back to education and to become a teacher. I know that Teurlings Catholic helped to spark and nurture her interest in becoming a teacher.

The seventh district of Louisiana contains a strong Catholic school system; and I have met with many students, parents, and educators who believe these schools are helping to create students and young adults who will stay in Louisiana and become productive members of our community.

Many young people in Louisiana are leaving our State for other opportunities, and keeping them in Louisiana is a big part of restoring our State's economy. These young adults provide the entrepreneurship, creativity, workforce, and ingenuity to build businesses and create jobs.

Again, I congratulate the Catholic schools of our great Nation and look forward to continuing to support them in my community and here in Congress.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

□ 1445

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I stand on this floor as a proud graduate of Saint George's Elementary School and Saint John's High School in Patterson and Fordham University, New York. Catholic School taught me, and I think teach generally, a spirit of tolerance to those who did not go to Catholic School, compassion for the poor, service to our fellow man. I never hear

these values discussed lately during the so-called values debate we have had in this country.

To those who believe they have a corner on values, I ask you to look to the Catholic Schools of this country and think again.

The Catholic education I received provided me with the tools to not only forge success in life, but it also gave me an unending desire to serve my fellow man. I stand before you as the father of three sons who attended Catholic School.

Not too long ago in our Nation's history, Roman Catholics were not welcome in many parts of our society. My Catholic education taught me that every American, no matter what their religion, no matter their creed or their color had an equal right to the American dream. Today, there are almost 8,000 Catholic Schools in this country serving 2.4 million students.

As a lifelong resident of Patterson, which is the third largest city in New Jersey, I strongly embrace this year's Catholic Schools Week theme: "Faith in Every Student: Catholic Schools."

I am proud to report that 44 percent of the Catholic Schools are in urban areas. Many of these schools educate our most vulnerable students. Catholic Schools continue to be as diverse as America. More than one in four students in a Catholic School is a minority. I am pleased to add my voice to the chorus of those celebrating the wonderful achievements of these wonderful American institutions.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ROTHMAN).

(Mr. ROTHMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, so what is a nice Jewish boy doing here on the floor of the House praising Catholic Schools? Because Catholic Schools do so much for our country, so much for our children, providing them with the basic tenets of the Catholic faith, the faith that has added so much to the civilization of the world and making the world a better place.

Catholic Schools recognize that people are physical, spiritual, moral as well as intelligent beings. They provide so many good values to our children. We have 408 Catholic Schools in the State of New Jersey alone, and I can tell you from all of my dear friends over a lifetime who have told me about their Catholic School experiences. This is where they learned respects for elders, not only the tenets of the Catholic faith but also discipline and respect for other faiths.

I want to pay particular attention and I want to particularly praise the teachers at Catholic Schools who have done so much and sacrificed so much to teach these young people, our children, all of these valuable and important lessons that have helped our country and have helped the world and have helped

these young men and women be better human beings. They often do this for far less pay than in the public schools, but they are perhaps some of the greatest and finest teachers you will find in our country.

So I am delighted and proud that we rightfully honor the contribution of Catholic Schools here in the United States Congress, and I thank all of those in the Catholic faith who have made that possible for these youngsters to enjoy the blessings of these wonderful institutions.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PUTNAM). The gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) has 11 minutes remaining.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to join my colleagues and the sponsors of this resolution and my chairman, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER), from the committee in congratulating and celebrating the contributions of Catholic Schools and certainly their theme of this year which is "Faith in Every Student." It is something that those of us who have attended Catholic Schools understand is at the very core of Catholic education. Not only is it the faith in every student, but it is the dignity of every one of us as God's children, recognizing whether they be poor, whether they be rich, whether they be working or unemployed, whether they be young or old, each of us carries with us a dignity given to us by God and recognizing our responsibility to one another.

As the Catholic Schools have told us very often, we cannot operate in a solitary world. We must operate within the community. And operating within the community has taught us, those of us who have gone to that school and certainly many of us who have not, that we have obligations. We have obligations to reach down and give a hand up to people who need it. We have an obligation to put our arm around somebody who is in need of comforting and stabilizing in a time of crises. These are the basic tenets that you learn in Catholic School.

When you learn that in Catholic School, hopefully you are able to carry it through the rest of your life. I know, as one who has spent most of my life in public service, have recognized those tenets when I have been engaged in the problems of families at risk and children at risk. When I was chair of the Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families in this Congress, we spent a great deal of time with Catholic organizations talking about what do we do for the very young, what do we do for the adolescents. It was the Catholic Church that said, if you are going to start this committee, it was going to be the committee on children and families. They insisted that youth be in the

title of that committee because they said, for far too often, public policy has been afraid to confront and discuss and try to deal with the problems of adolescents and teenagers at risk and the kinds of policies that this Congress could call into play and that this Nation could use to help those young people as they go through a troubling time in their life and a challenging time in their life and a risky time in their life.

That turned out to be the right contribution as we had the opportunity to try and see what we could do to better support those young people.

Many of my colleagues and all of us are very proud of our time in Catholic Schools. In the Miller families, Catholic Schools run very deep, from my grandfather, to my father, to my sisters who went to Saint Catherine's, to myself who went to Bellermino High School under the Jesuits. My one son went to Gonzaga and another to De La Salle and to my grandchildren who are at Holy Trinity in Sacramento. We understand the importance of this education. We understand the importance of the moral education and what we can take away from our time in Catholic School, what our grandchildren can take away.

That is why we rise on this floor to support and to congratulate the Catholic Schools and the contributions that they make to American society, an important contribution to American society, recognizing our obligations to one another to create a community where each and every one of us has the opportunity to thrive, and recognizing so very often that sometimes people are not thriving and that sometimes it is almost through no fault of their own and we have an obligation to help those individuals also.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my congratulations to the Catholic Schools in recognition of their contributions.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Minnesota (Mr. KENNEDY), the sponsor of this resolution. I congratulate Catholic Schools all across America for their contribution to our country and pay particular attention today to a group right here in Washington, DC, the City Center Consortium that represents 13 Catholic Schools here in the poorest areas of Washington, DC, where arguably the children need a chance at a decent education more than almost anywhere in America.

These 13 Catholic Schools and these poor communities here in town were threatened to be closed a few years ago, and an organization was set up to try to bring funding to keep these schools open. They happened to be about 95 percent minorities and about almost 90 percent non-Catholic; and having these schools available in these communities has been, I think, a major

effort at giving these children here in town, here in Washington, DC, a real chance at a quality education.

I have worked closely with the City Center Consortium for the last 3 or 4 years. They are to be congratulated along with all Catholic Schools across the country in this week of their celebration of Catholic Schools week.

With that, I urge my colleagues to support the resolution, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of House Resolution 23. This resolution honors the contributions of America's Catholic schools, and their dedication to educating their students and improving their communities.

Catholic schools are internationally acclaimed for their academic excellence, but provide students more than a quality academic education. Catholic schools provide a values-infused education that emphasizes moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in America's young people. In turn these schools produce students strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families, and communities.

There are currently over 2.6 million students enrolled in 8,000 Catholic schools across this Nation. In my home State of Delaware, over 30 Catholic schools provide an excellent education to over 15,000 students. These schools serve children from all incomes and backgrounds. In addition, Catholic school students come from many different races, religions, and ethnicities. In this school year, about 26 percent of Catholic school students are from minority backgrounds and about 14 percent are not Catholic.

I appreciate the great work being done by the Catholic schools, their administrators and teachers as well as their parents and volunteers. I commend my colleague from Minnesota, Representative MARK KENNEDY, for introducing this resolution and urge my colleagues to support it.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN DELAWARE

Archmere Academy, Claymont
Christ Our King School, Wilmington
Corpus Christi School, Wilmington
Holy Angels Elementary School, Newark
Holy Cross School, Dover
Holy Rosary Elementary School, Claymont
Holy Spirit Elementary School, New Castle
Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Wilmington
Mother of Divine Grace
Mother Seton School
Our Lady of Fatima School, New Castle
Our Lady of Grace Kindergarten, Newark
Padua Academy, Wilmington
Sacred Heart Academy
Saint Ann Elementary School, Wilmington
Saint Anthony of Padua School, Wilmington
Saint Catherine of Siena School, Wilmington
Saint Edmond's Academy School, Wilmington
Saint Elizabeth Elementary School, Wilmington
Saint Elizabeth High School, Wilmington
Saint Hedwig Elementary School, Wilmington
Saint Helena Elementary School, Wilmington
Saint John Bosco's Academy
Saint John the Beloved School, Wilmington
Saint Joseph's Academy
Saint Mark's High School, Wilmington
Saint Mary Magdalen School, Wilmington
Saint Matthew Elementary School, Wilmington
Saint Paul Elementary School, Wilmington
Saint Peter School, New Castle

Saint Peter's Cathedral School, Wilmington
 Saints Peter and Paul School of Easton
 Saint Thomas More Academy, Magnolia
 Saint Thomas the Apostle School, Wilmington
 Saint Vincent's Academy
 Salesianum School, Wilmington
 Ursuline Academy of Wilmington
 Windermere Place

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 23, honoring the contributions of Catholic schools to the intellectual, spiritual, moral, physical, and social development of children in Guam and throughout our Nation. As we celebrate 2005 Catholic Schools Week with the spirit of "Faith in Every Student," I would like to thank Mr. KENNEDY for introducing this resolution that helps draw national attention to the important role of Catholic Schools.

Roman Catholicism has a long history in Guam dating back to 1521 when Ferdinand Magellan landed on the island. In 1668, Blessed Padre Diego Luis de San Vitores arrived in Guam, establishing a mission in the village of Hagåtña. This became the site of the first Catholic Church and is now the seat of the Archdiocese of Agaña.

In the modern era, Bishop Apollinaris Baumgartner, OFM Cap., established the foundations of Guam's Catholic Schools. Guam's first Chamorro Bishop, Archbishop Felixberto C. Flores, OFM Cap., made Catholic education a priority and instilled a tremendous pride in the academic and moral education provided by the Catholic schools. His successor, Archbishop Anthony S. Apuron has continued the tradition of excellence that has been the standard of Catholic Schools in Guam. Today, nearly a quarter of Guamanian school children attend Catholic schools throughout the Island.

Catholic schools offering a secondary curriculum include the Notre Dame High School in Talofofo, Father Duenas Memorial School in Tai, and Academy of Our Lady of Guam in Hagåtña. Those offering an elementary and middle school education include Bishop Baumgartner Memorial School in Sinajana, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Agat, St. Anthony School in Tamuning, Saint Francis School in Yona, San Vicente School in Barrigada, Santa Barbara School in Dededo, and Dominican School in Yigo. Finally, those offering a nursery school education include the Dominican Child Care Development Center in Ordot, Infant of Prague in Tai, Maria Artero in Agaña Heights, and Mercy Heights in Tamuning.

I would like to commend the leadership of Archbishop Apuron, Superintendent of Catholic Schools Lea Santos, and Associate Superintendent Sister Ana Lee, OP, for advancing the mission of Catholic Schools in Guam. I would also like to recognize the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Sisters of Mercy, Dominican Sisters, the religious orders of Capuchins, Franciscans, Jesuits and Marists for their service in educating the children of Guam.

Finally, I want to commend all the students, parents, teachers and administrators of Catholic schools in Guam and across the Nation for their contributions to our Nation and our world.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, education remains one of the top priorities of our country, and today's tribute calls attention to some of our finest learning institutions, the Catholic schools in our country. I'm proud to stand today to pay tribute and express my apprecia-

tion for the Catholic schools across our Nation. They are truly doing great work to educate and prepare our children to be fine adults.

They have shaped generations to be fine citizens. As the product of a Catholic school myself, I know that it was the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur who helped shape my character and my values. My children are the beneficiaries of a Catholic school education as well. As a graduate of the Convent of the Sacred Heart, my daughter has continued the tradition of Catholic education, currently serving as the Principal of St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart in Atherton, CA.

Today, over 2.5 million children are enrolled in Catholic schools, with 14 percent of them being non-Catholics. Today's resolution supports the goals of Catholic schools and congratulates all those involved on a job well done, the religious and the lay teachers who strive to instill the timeless tenets of faith, hope, and charity.

I'm very proud that the House of Representatives has continued the tradition of recognizing the great service Catholic schools provide and it is my privilege to thank all those, past and present, for the extraordinary contributions they've made to our country by preparing the young for citizenship steeped in decency, charity, tolerance and love.

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in support of H. Res. 23, recognizing the contributions of Catholic schools. Catholic schools are recognized around the world as great institutions of learning, with a rich tradition of academic excellence. Teachers in Catholic schools see the potential in their students, and push them to achieve that potential, serving the needs of children across the socioeconomic spectrum. The secret for the success of Catholic schools is really no secret. They get parents involved in the process of educating their children, and they push the students to do their best, refusing to be satisfied with mediocrity.

For Catholic schools, cultivating moral excellence in students is just as important as academic excellence, producing young adults that know right and wrong just as well as their multiplication tables. They instill an understanding of the intrinsic value of each and every individual, regardless of race, gender, color, or creed. Catholic schools serve more than 650,000 minority students each year, creating academically successful schools in many neighborhoods that have given up on children.

And so, with H. Res. 23, let us express our gratitude to the hundreds of Catholic schools across the country, for their efforts to promote the moral and intellectual health of America's youth.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res 23, celebrating the contribution of Catholic schools in promoting academic excellence and helping to develop and shape our Nations youth.

Catholic schools are exceptional at providing students with an opportunity to understand better ethnic diversity. Nearly 2.5 million students were enrolled in Catholic schools for the 2004–2005 school year, and more than 26 percent of them were from minority backgrounds.

I recently had the opportunity to visit Villa Victoria Academy, an exemplary Catholic school in the 12th Congressional District of New Jersey, on the occasion of their 70th An-

niversary Celebration. Villa Victoria has an outstanding graduating class of 2005, with 5 National Merit Commended Students and a National Merit Hispanic Scholar. In addition, many of the students have received early acceptances to some of the top colleges and universities in the country, including University of Pennsylvania, University of Notre Dame, and Boston College.

In addition to traditional scholastic achievement, Catholic schools have also been in the forefront in providing students opportunities in music and arts. Garrett Vitanza, the 2004 Congressional Arts Competition winner from my district, is a graduate of Cardinal McCarrick High School in South Amboy, New Jersey. As a student at Cardinal McCarrick, Garrett was able to excel in a nontraditional academic field that he was truly passionate in. It is reaffirming to see that Catholic schools continue to offer various courses in arts and music, along with customary courses in math, science, English and history at all levels, including honor and advanced placement courses.

I would like to commend the teachers, parents, and school administrators for their hardwork in making a strong learning environment for students at Catholic schools. Students are given a diverse education, that emphasizes not only on academics, but also character traits that students continue to develop throughout their life. I would also like to congratulate the hard work and continued success of the students of Catholic schools. These students continue to achieve great things and continually have positive effects on their communities.

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support for House Resolution 23, which has been offered by the gentleman from Minnesota. I thank my colleague, Mr. KENNEDY, for bringing this important resolution to the floor today, during Catholic Schools Week 2005. I come from a community whose neighborhoods are often better known by the names of their Catholic schools and parishes rather than by the names of their streets.

There are more than 8,000 Catholic elementary, middle, and secondary schools across the Nation which make invaluable contributions to education and play an integral role in shaping a brighter, stronger future for our great Nation. The mission of each of these institutions—to build solid foundations for lives of confidence, faith, and service—has had a tremendous impact in shaping family and community values over the generations.

My own family has been active in Catholic schools since I was a child. My mother was a teacher at Our Lady of Perpetual Help school, and I am now the proud father of two beautiful children who are enrolled at St. Martin of Tours Catholic School in our home neighborhood of South Buffalo. I am a first-hand witness to the daily work of Catholic schools as they help form the characters of my John and Maeve. My family is constantly enriched by the lessons and principles that Catholic schools profess.

This year, Catholic schools will teach 7.6 million students at all levels of education. An astounding 99 percent of all of their students graduate, and 97 percent of those graduates go on to college. The impact of the graduates' goals extends outside the classroom and into living rooms and places of work, both in Buffalo and throughout this great nation.

I thank the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference

of Catholic Bishops for cosponsoring this appropriate week-long event and for helping to increase awareness for Catholic Education across America. My family and I are grateful for the crucial contributions of America's thousands of Catholic schools have made for more than 100 years.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleagues in supporting this resolution, and thank my colleague, Mr. KENNEDY, for his unwavering leadership on this issue.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, Catholic schools provide a high quality education to millions of our children. Catholic schools teach critical values and provide their students with beneficial and life enriching experiences. The contributions which Catholic schools make to our nation and our children strengthen our society and our place in the world.

H. Res. 23 recognizes and celebrates our Catholic schools. Fortunately, our country values education and the institutions which provide it. Catholic schools are an instrumental part of this effort to improve the academic achievement and societal values of our children. Their place in American education and our nation as a whole is strong and necessary.

Fortunately, both public and Catholic schools provide a strong foundation for our nation's children. While our public schools educate the vast majority of our children, our Catholic schools provide an excellent and enriching alternative. Together these two sectors of our education system will work to ensure our excellence in the world.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I again want to stress my support for Catholic schools and also our public schools. Our children are better off having both Catholic and public schools provide them with a high quality education.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 23.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DALIP SINGH SAUND POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 120) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 30777 Rancho California Road in Temecula, California, as the "Dalip Singh Saund Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 120

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DALIP SINGH SAUND POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 30777 Rancho California Road in Temecula, California, shall be known and designated as the "Dalip Singh Saund Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Dalip Singh Saund Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 120.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Committee on Government Reform, I rise in support of H.R. 120. This bill is to designate a post office in Temecula, California, within my congressional district as the Dalip Singh Saund Post Office Building. Dalip Singh Saund was the first Indian American Member of Congress, and I am pleased the House is taking time out to remember his service.

Saund was born in India in 1899. He was educated in India before moving to the United States in 1920 to attend graduate school at the University of California. Saund proudly became a U.S. citizen in 1949. Within a year, he was elected judge of the Justice Court in Westmoreland Judicial District. Unfortunately, after his election, Saund was denied his seat on the grounds that he had not been a citizen for one year when he was elected. You might say he was reelected 2 years later and served on that court for 5 years.

Judge Saund retired from the bench because he chose to enter politics. In November of 1956, Judge Saund was elected Congressman Saund, and he was reelected to the House for three consecutive terms, leaving in 1963. How remarkable it must have been to be the first Asian American ever elected to Congress, the first Indian American ever elected to Congress. Just imagine the powerful impact of his service throughout those years.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman Dalip Singh Saund passed away in Hollywood, California, in 1973. It is a privilege to advance this legislation honoring his legacy as an American citizen, as a judge and as a Congressman. I especially want to thank my California colleagues, including the minority speaker here today, for co-sponsoring unanimously this legislation,

and I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 120.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague in the consideration of H.R. 120 which names the post office in Temecula, California, after Dalip Singh Saund.

H.R. 120 was introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) on January 4, 2005. Former Congressman Dalip Singh Saund, the first Asian American elected to Congress, was born in India. He came to the United States to enroll in the University of California at Berkeley and study agriculture. Instead, he ended up with a PhD in mathematics. Unfortunately, degrees in mathematics were not sufficient to overcome the rampant discrimination facing Indians and other minorities.

□ 1500

In the 1920s, Indian Americans were not eligible for U.S. citizenship and could not own land. So Saund worked as a lettuce foreman, eventually rising to be a distributor of chemical fertilizer in the Imperial Valley in California.

Saund married a Czech immigrant and became very active in the Indian-American community, championing the rights of Asian Indians both in the United States and abroad. He became a popular speaker and authored a book entitled "My Mother India" as a way to present Indian people in a positive light.

Saund went on to fight against discrimination, eventually securing the passage of legislation which made Asian Indians eligible for citizenship.

As a result of his success, Saund became active in the Democratic Party. He ran to represent California's 29th Congressional District. He won and served in the Congress from 1957 until 1962 when he lost his re-election bid after suffering a stroke. Dalip Singh Saund died in 1973.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleagues for seeking to honor the legacy of former Congressman Saund, and I urge the swift adoption of this bill.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, at the present time I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER).

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California for the time, and I thank the committee and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) for bringing this to the floor.

Congressman Saund, whom we are recognizing today, represented parts of the gentleman from California's (Mr. ISSA) district and parts of my district, the 51st district, Imperial County in California. So I am really thankful that he is doing this, and we are honoring a great man.

We have heard how he triumphed in spite of the prejudice that was around him. He did this through hard work, constantly turning the other cheek; and he was a charismatic individual.

Coming to the United States after his undergraduate education in India, as we heard, he got a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1924, but could not get a job because of his nationality. Rather than give up, go home perhaps, maybe where he could use his education a little bit more to better himself, he decided to stay in the United States and work to improve the situation.

That is when, in 1925, he moved to the Imperial Valley to become a cotton picking crew foreman, as we have heard. That is right, a man with a Ph.D. in mathematics from Berkeley became a foreman of a cotton picking crew to make ends meet; and through sheer hard work and determination, he was able to save money to start his own farm growing lettuce.

He always had an interest in politics. He carried this enthusiasm over to the Imperial Valley; and even though he was not a citizen or able to vote, he became a constant presence at official meetings. I hate to tell the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) this, of the county Democratic Party central committee where he promoted the policies of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

In 1937, Congressman Saund organized the Current Events Club in Imperial Valley to discuss the major topics of the day with other politically active members of the community and became a member of the Brawley California Toastmasters.

So we see, even though he was not a citizen, he was becoming an integral part of the community in which he lived. In fact, if he was doing irrigation of his fields on the Toastmasters nights, he would take his dress suit with him to the field, at six o'clock change, set the irrigation to go for 3 hours, go to the Toastmasters meeting, come back to work, change clothes and go on with irrigation. Now, that is a Horatio Alger, the American Dream, for someone who was not an American citizen.

He was actively involved in trying to get naturalization rights for natives of Asia and India particularly, and President Truman actually signed the law to end the ban on Asian naturalization in 1946; and one of the earliest applicants under this new law was, in fact, Dalip Singh Saund, who became a citizen in December of 1949.

As we heard, his first task as a citizen was to run for office. He ran for justice of the peace in Westmorland, California, in Imperial County. He won the ballot, but a lawsuit said he had not been a citizen the year before, and so he was declared ineligible. Typical of Congressman Saund, or Judge Saund as he was known, he became chairman of the county Democratic central committee even after he lost the judgeship.

I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) for naming after this

great Democrat a post office in his district. Maybe we will bring true Democracy, with a capital D, to the 49th Congressional District.

In 1955, he decided to run for Congress in what was then the 29th Congressional District, which included Riverside County and Imperial County. He easily won the primary and beat his Republican opponent, who brought in Vice President Nixon, brought in Bob Hope and even Rin Tin Tin, but that did not impress the constituents; and he was able to win and became the first Indian American Congressman of the United States of America.

He did this through politicking in grassroots style, a truly effective politician. By the way, he was the only Indian American until this very year in this Congress when the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JINDAL) was elected. So we have, at last, the continuing of a tradition here.

He might have been called a liberal, but he was very active in trying to deal with foreign aid to the wrong kind of governments, and he believed that tyrants would use the money in a corrupt way, and he was right.

He was incapacitated, unfortunately, by a stroke in his third term and could not run for a fourth term. His most lasting memory, I believe, will be that of opening the door of politics to those who otherwise would not have considered running for office because of their race or national origin.

Interestingly enough, my connection with Judge Saund was not only because I became a Congressman from Imperial County, but also because his daughter Julie Fisher became a member of the San Diego school board in the 1970s. She became my mentor. She was the one who was really advocating for students in the wake of a very repressive administration and superintendent. I was able to run for the San Diego school board because of Julie Fisher's teaching. So my relationship goes back through his daughter, who is a wonderful lady and who really brought Judge Saund's politics to San Diego with a real interest in the young people of our county.

Saund always accented the positive. He never complained or even mentioned discriminatory treatment against himself, and he never made it an issue. So I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) very much for bringing us this bill, and I am truly honored to have some part in the tradition that Judge Saund started.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

I would like to thank many people involved, and I did it in an overall fashion; but, particularly, I would like to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY), who just had to leave, and the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) who just spoke. Each in his own way has been instrumental in helping point out the good deeds of this historic figure, as the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) said of the

Democrat Party and of the democratic process. He is an inspiration to people on both sides of the aisle here in the Congress.

I would also like to take a moment to thank David Dillon, a former mayor out in Imperial County, who has fought tirelessly to bring this to the attention of so many of us who were not as fully informed as to Dalip's great service throughout his term.

On a closing note, I would like to say that this post office is being named after the first Asian American Congressman, yes, after the first Indian American Congressman; but I think it is also being named after a generation of men and women who came here during the turn of the century into the 1930s, a whole generation who passed through Ellis Island. They were not always treated with a welcome mat. They were not always given their due for the hard work, ingenuity, ambition, and raw intelligence they brought with them; but they persevered and they changed America for the better.

So it has been a great pleasure to point out one of that generation and name a post office in Temecula after him; but I think on both sides of the aisle, by immigrants, both Republicans and Democrats, we are thankful in this country for a generation who came here in the greatest out-migration from the rest of the world and in-migration to the United States in history because that generation led to the generation that we now have and that enjoys the fruits of their hard labor.

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 120, legislation to designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 30777 Rancho California Road in Temecula, CA, as the "Dalip Singh Saund Post Office Building." This postal naming bill is a small act of appreciation for a statesman and activist who contributed so much to our nation.

As chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, CAPAC, I feel privileged today to speak about the late Congressman Saund.

Congressman Saund came to the United States in 1920 to study at the University of California, Berkeley, where in 4 years he earned a master's degree and doctorate in mathematics. Despite his impressive education, he was denied professional opportunities due to discrimination against South Asians in the United States.

Despite discrimination, Congressman Saund built a successful life in the United States. He entered the agricultural sector, one of the few open to South Asians in the 1920s. From 1930 to 1953, Congressman Saund was first a lettuce farmer and then a distributor of chemical fertilizer in California's Imperial Valley.

In 1928, he married Ms. Marian Kosa, despite stigma against interracial marriages at the time. The marriage also led to the loss of American citizenship for the former Ms. Kosa. The Quota Immigration Act of 1921 and Cable Act of 1922 revoked the citizenships for American women who married foreigners.

Throughout his life, Congressman Saund was a champion for South Asian Americans'

rights. As the national president of the Hindu-South Association of America, he fought for citizenship rights for the 2,500 South Asians living in the United States. Gaining citizenship, he argued, would give South Asian farmers the right to own their own farms and share in the American dream. The Supreme Court, however, ruled in 1923, *United States vs. Bhagat Singh Thind* (261 US 204), that "while persons from India were Caucasians, they were not 'white persons', and therefore were, aliens ineligible to citizenship."

On July 3, 1946, President Harry Truman signed the Luce-Cellar legislation that granted South Asians their right to citizenship. Three years later, Congressman Saund received his citizenship and became an active member of the Democratic Party. He ran for a judgeship in Westmoreland in 1950 and won, but he was barred from taking oath because he had not been a citizen for a full year before the election. Congressman Saund was disappointed, but undeterred and won again in 1952.

In 1956, he campaigned for California's 29th Congressional District seat. Despite the use of racial epithets and anti-immigrant rhetoric, Congressman Saund defeated Republican Jacqueline Odum by a margin of 3 percent. The voters of Imperial and Riverside counties knew in that election what the entire Congress would soon learn: Congressman Saund was a man of integrity and compassion with an unwavering commitment to bettering our Nation.

When he took the oath of office in 1957, Congressman Saund became the first South Asian American elected to Congress. He was truly a champion for the farmers, working poor, and immigrants, and today he continues to serve as a role model for all South Asians. His impressive accomplishments should not be overshadowed by the tribulations he endured. Congressman Saund served this country admirably until 1962 when he lost his reelection bid after suffering from a stroke. Congressman Saund died at the age of 74 in 1973.

Mr. Speaker, today we remember and honor Congressman Saund. He proved in his own life what he preached in his public career, "There is no room in the United States of America for second-class citizenship."

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the resolution introduced by my friend from California Congressman ISSA.

I am honored to speak in support of this legislation to honor the life and achievements of former Congressman Dalip Singh Saund.

Congressman Saund was the first Asian American to be elected as a full voting Member of Congress and the first Indian American to be elected to U.S. Congress.

While I am proud to have the privilege to serve with the second Indian American in the U.S. Congress, we cannot forget that almost 50 years ago this glass ceiling was broken by Congressman Saund and the people of southern California who put their trust in him to represent them in the U.S. Congress.

Congressman DARRELL ISSA now represents parts of the district that Congressman Saund represented.

Congressman Saund was elected to the House of Representatives in 1956, just 6 years after his work to secure citizenship for Indian Americans.

He served as a distinguished Congressman from California for three terms before he suffered a stroke during his campaign for a fourth term in the House.

His book "The Congressman from India" tells the remarkable story of how he became the first Indian American member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

As cochairman of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans during the past 108th Congress, I had the honor of highlighting the accomplishments of Congressman Saund and the trail he blazed for young Indian Americans today.

From New York to Iowa to New Jersey to Minnesota to the U.S. House of Representatives in politics today is because of the trail blazed by Congressman Saund.

I am proud to join my friend DARRELL ISSA in recognizing the life of this great American.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H. Res. 120, the Dalip Singh Saund Post Office Building Designation Act, which would designate the United States Postal Office at 30777 Rancho California Road in Temecula, California, as the Dalip Singh Saund Post Office Building. By renaming this building for Congressman Saund, we will properly honor and remember one of California's most respected and accomplished leaders.

Dalip Singh Saund was born on September 20, 1899, in a village in Punjab. He went to a boarding school in Jammu and graduated with a B.A. degree in Mathematics from Punjab University in 1919. In 1920, he immigrated to the United States and received his Masters and Doctorate degrees from the University of California-Berkeley. From lettuce farmer to judge to legislator, Saund became a great American success story. An admirer of Lincoln, Gandhi, and Churchill, Saund devoted his life to serving the people in his community and furthering a cause greater than his own. At every stage of his remarkable story, Saund embodied Churchill's words to "never, never, never, never give up."

Saund remained proud of his Indian heritage and became a strong voice for immigrants from India. After a two-year battle, he convinced Congresswoman Clare Booth and Congressman Emanuel Celler to sponsor legislation that would allow for Indian immigrants to become American citizens. The legislation was passed by Congress and on July 3, 1946, was signed into law by President Harry Truman. After becoming a citizen, his passion for democracy and politics led him into a life of public service. He served as a judge in Westmoreland and a member of Congress for three terms.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be able to speak about Congressman Saund's rich legacy today and I would like to thank my good friend Congressman DARRELL ISSA for sponsoring this legislation. Additionally, I've introduced H. Res. 31 calling for a portrait of Congressman Saund to be displayed on Capitol Hill and will work for its passage.

Mr. JINDAL. Mr. Speaker, Dalip Saund's story is one of determination and true accomplishment. He personifies the idea that every person can, through hard work and dedication, achieve amazing heights.

Through his election to Congress, Dalip Saund brought pride and joy not only to Indian-Americans, but to all Americans. Each of us owes a debt of gratitude to his trailblazing efforts, so that America could continue to be a land of opportunity.

The naming of this post office in Mr. Saund's honor does justice not only to the

man and his actions, but also to the American spirit and the belief that America is still the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ADERHOLT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 120.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

STAFF SERGEANT FIRST CLASS JOHN MARSHALL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 289) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8200 South Vermont Avenue in Los Angeles, California, as the "Staff Sergeant First Class John Marshall Post Office Building," as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 289

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SERGEANT FIRST CLASS JOHN MARSHALL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8200 South Vermont Avenue in Los Angeles, California, shall be known and designated as the "Sergeant First Class John Marshall Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Sergeant First Class John Marshall Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentleman from California (Ms. WATERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 289, the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation commemorates the life and distinguished military service of Sergeant First Class John W. Marshall of Los Angeles, California. Sergeant Marshall was killed in action in Iraq on April 8, 2003, at age 50. He is survived by his loving wife, Denise, and his six children.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to his participation in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Sergeant Marshall served in Germany, Korea, and the first Persian Gulf War during his Army career. Sergeant Marshall was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

For the last few years, leading up to his death, Sergeant Marshall had been considering retiring from the Army he loved; but beyond taking a leave of absence for 4 years while he battled Hodgkin's lymphoma during the 1980s, Marshall faithfully served in the Army since he was 18.

Sergeant Marshall was buried at Arlington Cemetery on May 15, 2003, despite the fact that almost all of Sergeant Marshall's family lives on the other side of the country. Sergeant Marshall's wife and six children came to Arlington Cemetery for that burial of their father and beloved husband.

On the issue of where to be buried, Denise said the kids were told how their dad died, and they voted their dad was a hero.

Mr. Speaker, nothing in the world is truer than that. The House has not passed a more warranted piece of legislation in this Congress or for many Congresses. How appropriate it is to recognize Sergeant Marshall's bravery in the first week since the historic Iraqi election on Sunday. Without a doubt, heroes like John Marshall made the Iraqi election possible.

I know the scores of Iraqis who literally risked their lives to vote on Sunday are extremely grateful to Sergeant Marshall for giving his life for their freedom.

I thank my distinguished colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), for honoring Sergeant John Marshall through H.R. 289, and I personally think that there is absolutely no better way to name a post office than she has done here today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1515

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues in the California delegation and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) in particular, and all of my other colleagues for cosponsoring H.R. 289. I would also like to thank the House leadership for allowing H.R. 289 to come to the House floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I am indeed honored to offer this bill, which would rename a post office in California's 35th Congressional District after Sergeant John

Marshall, who died at the age of 50 on April 8, 2003, during combat operations while fighting with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team of the United States Army's 3rd Infantry Division in Iraq. This legislation is just a small way to recognize and pay tribute to one of our fallen heroes.

Mr. Speaker, whatever our views are of our policy in Iraq, it is always important for all of us to honor and show our respect for those in our military who are serving us so bravely and with such distinction in Iraq and all around the world.

John Marshall spent much of his childhood in Los Angeles, graduating from George Washington High School. At the age of 18, Sergeant Marshall signed up for duty with the United States Army and served for nearly 30 years, taking a leave of absence only after he was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma. He was a dedicated career member of our military, a shining example of all that is best about our country.

Sergeant Marshall died when a rocket-propelled grenade hit his vehicle as his combat team fought its way to Baghdad. The brigade was eventually the first U.S. military unit to enter the Iraqi capital and hold the city center. But reaching Baghdad came at a significant loss to the unit: eight soldiers, including Sergeant Marshall, died. At the time of his death, Sergeant Marshall was the oldest service member to die in the Iraq war.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Marshall was eligible for retirement in 2002, and many of his friends had urged him to do so. Yet, true to his character, Sergeant Marshall's sense of duty to his country and his loyalty to his soldiers caused him to continue his military service in Iraq. In explaining to his wife his decision to continue serving in Iraq, Sergeant Marshall said, and I quote, "I trained these guys. I really need to be there." What a wonderful example of selflessness he established for all of us.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Marshall leaves behind a wife, Denise, six children, both of his parents, eight brothers and sisters, and many friends and neighbors whom he touched throughout his life. I had the privilege of meeting Mrs. Marshall at Sergeant Marshall's memorial service in Los Angeles; and while I know that nothing we can do here today can fill the hole that was created with Sergeant Marshall's passing or remove the pain of the loss that the Marshall family and friends have suffered, it is vital we honor his sacrifice and service.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Marshall fought bravely on behalf of our Nation, and the renaming of this post office is just a small gesture of thanks from a grateful Nation. The Sergeant John Marshall Post Office will be a source of great pride to the community and the residents of the 35th Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, our country will remain strong and free because our military is

able to attract and retain the services of people of the quality and character of Sergeant Marshall. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Marshall family on the loss of this great and good man, and I would urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to also urge all of my colleagues to vote, because our vote, not our words, but our recognition of this unsung hero is what will bring others to understand his great contribution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ADERHOLT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 289, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8200 South Vermont Avenue in Los Angeles, California, as the 'Sergeant First Class John Marshall Post Office Building'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1832

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN) at 6 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.

MAKING IN ORDER AT ANY TIME CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION RELATING TO FREE ELECTION IN IRAQ HELD ON JANUARY 30, 2005

Mr. SODREL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time to consider in the House a resolution relating to the free election in Iraq held on January 30, 2005; that the resolution be considered as read; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the resolution and preamble to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority

member of the Committee on International Relations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

PROVIDING FOR AN ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

Mr. SODREL. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 39) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 39

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Wednesday, February 2, 2005, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, February 8, 2005, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker or his designee, after consultation with the Minority Leader, shall notify the Members of the House to reassemble whenever, in his opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Res. 23, by the yeas-and-nays; and
H.R. 120, by the yeas-and-nays.

HONORING CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 23.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 23, on which the yeas-and-nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 408, nays 0, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 14]
YEAS—408

Abercrombie	Baker	Becerra
Ackerman	Baldwin	Berkley
Aderholt	Barrett (SC)	Berman
Akin	Barrow	Berry
Alexander	Bartlett (MD)	Biggert
Allen	Barton (TX)	Bishop (GA)
Andrews	Bass	Bishop (NY)
Baca	Bean	Bishop (UT)
Baird	Beauprez	Blackburn

Blumenauer	Fox	Lowey
Blunt	Frank (MA)	Lucas
Boehlert	Franks (AZ)	Lungren, Daniel
Boehner	Frelinghuysen	E.
Bonilla	Gallely	Lynch
Bonner	Garrett (NJ)	Mack
Bono	Gerlach	Maloney
Boozman	Gibbons	Marchant
Boren	Gilchrest	Markey
Boswell	Gillmor	Marshall
Boustany	Gingrey	Matheson
Boyd	Gohmert	McCarthy
Bradley (NH)	Gonzalez	McCaul (TX)
Brady (PA)	Goode	McCollum (MN)
Brady (TX)	Goodlatte	McCotter
Brown (OH)	Gordon	McCrery
Brown (SC)	Granger	McDermott
Brown-Waite,	Graves	McGovern
Ginny	Green (WI)	McHenry
Burgess	Green, Al	McHugh
Burton (IN)	Grijalva	McIntyre
Butterfield	Gutierrez	McKeon
Buyer	Gutknecht	McKinney
Calvert	Hall	McMorris
Camp	Harman	McNulty
Cannon	Harris	Meehan
Cantor	Hart	Meek (FL)
Capito	Hastings (FL)	Melancon
Capps	Hastings (WA)	Menendez
Capuano	Hayes	Mica
Cardin	Hayworth	Michaud
Cardoza	Hefley	Millender-
Carmahan	Hensarling	McDonald
Carson	Herger	Miller (FL)
Carter	Herseth	Miller (MI)
Case	Higgins	Miller (NC)
Castle	Hinche	Miller, Gary
Chabot	Hinojosa	Miller, George
Chandler	Hobson	Mollohan
Chocola	Hoekstra	Moore (KS)
Clay	Holden	Moore (WI)
Cleaver	Holt	Moran (KS)
Clyburn	Honda	Moran (VA)
Coble	Hooley	Murphy
Cole (OK)	Hostettler	Murtha
Conaway	Hoyer	Musgrave
Conyers	Hulshof	Myrick
Cooper	Inglis (SC)	Nadler
Costa	Inslee	Napolitano
Costello	Israel	Neal (MA)
Cramer	Issa	Neugebauer
Crenshaw	Istook	Ney
Crowley	Jackson (IL)	Norwood
Cubin	Jackson-Lee	Nunes
Cuellar	(TX)	Nussle
Culberson	Jefferson	Oberstar
Cummings	Jenkins	Obey
Cunningham	Jindal	Oliver
Davis (AL)	Johnson (CT)	Ortiz
Davis (CA)	Johnson (IL)	Osborne
Davis (FL)	Johnson, E. B.	Otter
Davis (IL)	Johnson, Sam	Owens
Davis (KY)	Jones (NC)	Oxley
Davis (TN)	Jones (OH)	Pallone
Davis, Jo Ann	Kanjorski	Pascarell
Davis, Tom	Kaptur	Pastor
Deal (GA)	Keller	Paul
DeFazio	Kelly	Payne
DeGette	Kennedy (MN)	Pearce
DeLauro	Kennedy (RI)	Pelosi
DeLay	Kildee	Pence
Diaz-Balart, L.	Kilpatrick (MI)	Petersen (MN)
Dicks	Kind	Petri
Dingell	King (IA)	Pickering
Doggett	King (NY)	Pitts
Doolittle	Kingston	Platts
Doyle	Kirk	Poe
Drake	Kline	Pombo
Dreier	Knollenberg	Pomeroy
Duncan	Kolbe	Porter
Ehlers	Kucinich	Portman
Emanuel	Kuhl (NY)	Price (GA)
Emerson	LaHood	Price (NC)
Engel	Langevin	Pryce (OH)
English (PA)	Lantos	Putnam
Etheridge	Larsen (WA)	Radanovich
Evans	Larson (CT)	Rahall
Everett	Latham	Ramstad
Farr	LaTourette	Rangel
Feeney	Leach	Regula
Ferguson	Lee	Rehberg
Filner	Levin	Reichert
Fitzpatrick (PA)	Lewis (CA)	Renzi
Flake	Lewis (GA)	Reyes
Foley	Lewis (KY)	Reynolds
Forbes	Linder	Rogers (AL)
Fortenberry	Lipinski	Rogers (KY)
Fossella	LoBiondo	Rogers (MI)
	Lofgren, Zoe	Rohrabacher

Ros-Lehtinen	Shimkus	Tierney
Ross	Shuster	Turner
Rothman	Simmons	Udall (CO)
Roybal-Allard	Simpson	Upton
Royce	Skelton	Van Hollen
Ruppersberger	Slaughter	Velázquez
Ryan (OH)	Smith (NJ)	Vislosky
Ryan (WI)	Smith (TX)	Walden (OR)
Ryun (KS)	Smith (WA)	Walsh
Sabo	Snyder	Wamp
Salazar	Sodrel	Wasserman
Sánchez, Linda	Solis	Schultz
T.	Souder	Waters
Sanchez, Loretta	Spratt	Watson
Sanders	Stark	Watt
Saxton	Stearns	Waxman
Schakowsky	Strickland	Weiner
Schiff	Sullivan	Weller
Schwartz (PA)	Tancredo	Westmoreland
Schwarz (MI)	Tanner	Wexler
Scott (GA)	Tauscher	Whitfield
Scott (VA)	Taylor (MS)	Wicker
Sensenbrenner	Taylor (NC)	Wilson (NM)
Serrano	Terry	Wilson (SC)
Sessions	Thomas	Wolf
Shadegg	Thompson (CA)	Woolsey
Shaw	Thompson (MS)	Wu
Shays	Thornberry	Wynn
Sherman	Tiahrt	Young (AK)
Sherwood	Tiberi	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—25

Bachus	Fattah	Rush
Bilirakis	Ford	Stupak
Boucher	Green, Gene	Sweeney
Brown, Corrine	Hunter	Towns
Cox	Hyde	Udall (NM)
Dent	Manzullo	Weldon (FL)
Diaz-Balart, M.	Meeks (NY)	Weldon (PA)
Edwards	Northup	
Eshoo	Peterson (PA)	

□ 1856

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 14, my vote was not recorded. Had it been recorded, I would have voted "yea."

DALIP SINGH SAUND POST OFFICE BUILDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the bill, H.R. 120.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 120, on which the yeas-and-nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 410, nays 0, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 15]
YEAS—410

Abercrombie	Bass	Boehner
Ackerman	Bean	Bonilla
Aderholt	Beauprez	Bonner
Akin	Becerra	Bono
Alexander	Berkley	Boozman
Allen	Berman	Boren
Andrews	Berry	Boswell
Baca	Biggert	Boustany
Baird	Bishop (GA)	Boyd
Baker	Bishop (NY)	Bradley (NH)
Baldwin	Bishop (UT)	Brady (PA)
Barrett (SC)	Blackburn	Brady (TX)
Barrow	Blumenauer	Brown (OH)
Bartlett (MD)	Blunt	Brown (SC)
Barton (TX)	Boehlert	

Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carson
Carter
Case
Castle
Chabot
Chandler
Chocola
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Fitzpatrick (PA)
Flake
Foley
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxy
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon

Granger
Graves
Green (WI)
Green, Al
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall
Harman
Harris
Hart
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth
Higgins
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hostettler
Hoyer
Hulshof
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
Jindal
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Johnson (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
McCarthy
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter

McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McMorris
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Melancon
Menendez
Mica
Michaud
Millender-McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Ney
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Osborne
Otter
Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Pascarelli
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanders

Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz (PA)
Schwarz (MI)
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder

Sodrel
Solis
Souder
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Strickland
Sullivan
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Turner
Udall (CO)
Upton
Van Hollen

Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Weller
Westmoreland
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—23

Bachus
Bilirakis
Boucher
Brown, Corrine
Cox
Diaz-Balart, M.
Edwards
Eshoo

Fattah
Ford
Green, Gene
Hunter
Hyde
Meeke (NY)
Mollohan
Northup

Rush
Stupak
Sweeney
Towns
Udall (NM)
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN) (during the vote). Members are advised 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1913

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in my family, I was unable to participate in today's votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both of today's recorded votes.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. CON. RES. 36, EXPRESSING CONTINUED SUPPORT OF CONGRESS FOR EQUAL ACCESS OF MILITARY RECRUITERS TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-2) on the resolution (H. Res. 59) providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 36) expressing the continued support of Congress for equal access of military recruiters to institutions of higher education, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

HONORING LIVES LOST ON SPACE SHUTTLE "COLUMBIA"

(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 sadly rise today to remind my colleagues that this is the second anniversary of the tragic crash that took the lives of seven courageous astronauts aboard Space Shuttle *Columbia*.

I ask all of my colleagues in Congress to join me in paying tribute to our fallen heroes. The seven astronauts whose lives were lost in the crash of Space Shuttle *Columbia* were extraordinary people. To the world, those astronauts were valiant heroes; to us in Texas, they were also friends and neighbors and family.

They made the ultimate sacrifice on a mission that benefited all of humanity. Out of their sacrifice, the President of the United States has joined together to commit to human space exploration on behalf of the United States of America.

The names we remember today are Rick D. Husband, Michael P. Anderson, Laurel Clark, David M. Brown, William C. McCool, Kapana Chawla, and Ilan Ramon. These astronauts were international in their standing, but united in their commitment to space exploration and helping humanity.

Mr. Speaker, I have reintroduced a bill in the 109th Congress to authorize the coinage of a gold medal to pay proper tribute to our astronauts. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the fact that many can be applauded, not just one. They are seven, but they were unified. They died over the sunny skies of Texas, 200,000 miles in the sky. The *Columbia* exploded, but the heart, the courage, the bravery of these young individuals who were willing to go and explore a place where many of us have not been so that we can live a better life deserves the honor of this body and a Congressional Gold Medal.

Again I say to the families left behind, we thank you for their service and bravery. We thank you for providing them so they might give us a better opportunity to understand our lives, to create health, science and of course the idea of new inventions. So today, we honor and celebrate the lives of Rick D. Husband, Michael P. Anderson, Laurel Clark, David M. Brown, William C. McCool, Kapana Chawla, and Ilan Ramon. I ask all Members to pay tribute to these fallen heroes.

□ 1915

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

SMART SECURITY AND THE CASE FOR LEAVING IRAQ, PART 3

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the courageous Iraqi people who voted in Sunday's Iraq election. My congressional district, Marin and Sonoma Counties just north of the Golden Gate Bridge, had an 89.5 percent voter turnout in the last election. Believe me, we know how important elections are to a democracy.

Sunday's election in Iraq was an important step for the people there, and it is also an important milestone for America's role in Iraq. With the elections completed, we in the United States must ensure that the people of Iraq control their own affairs as Iraq transitions toward democracy.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Bush and his team have not gotten much right when it comes to Iraq, and Sunday's election provides them with yet another opportunity to get back on course. Let us hope they take the smarter path this time, one that supports the Iraqi people with international cooperation to rebuild their economic and physical infrastructure.

President Bush loves to talk about democracy. While elections are absolutely necessary to establish a democracy, they are not sufficient to establish a democratic government. Democracy cannot take root in Iraq when an occupying power remains in the country. Right now, the presence of 150,000 American soldiers in Iraq is an obstacle to the prospect of an Iraqi democracy because it is a rallying point for dissatisfied Iraqis and others in the Arab world. Plus, our first responsibility is to America and our American forces, which means we must not leave them in Iraq as sitting ducks.

Last week I introduced legislation to secure Iraq for the future and ensure that America's role in Iraq actually does make America safer. My plan for Iraq is part of a larger SMART security strategy, which is a Sensible, Multilateral, American Response to Terrorism that will ensure America's security by relying on smarter policies. The withdrawal plan that I, with the support of over two dozen other Members, have proposed includes four components. First, develop and implement a plan to begin the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq. More than 1,400 American troops have died in the line of fire in Iraq. More than 10,000 other soldiers have been injured. These soldiers leave behind grieving parents and grandparents, spouses and children, brothers and sisters, friends and neighbors all around the country whose lives will never be the same because of the war in Iraq. The best way to support our troops is to bring them home.

Second, develop and implement a plan for the reconstruction of Iraq's civil and economic infrastructure. The United States has a moral responsibility to clean up the mess we made in Iraq. But that responsibility needs to be fulfilled not by our military but by humanitarian groups and companies that will help rebuild Iraq's infrastructure. That does not include no-bid con-

tracts to companies like Halliburton and Bechtel. It does ensure that the Iraqi people will benefit in the rebuilding process of their country.

Third, convene an emergency meeting of Iraq's leadership, Iraq's neighbors, the United Nations and the Arab League to create an international peacekeeping force in Iraq and to replace U.S. military forces with Iraqi police and national guard forces to ensure Iraq's security. Iraq's security problems are still the most serious cause for concern in the country, and Iraq requires an international peacekeeping force to address this problem, not the United States military. An international peacekeeping force, supported by other Arab countries, Iraq's neighbors and the United Nations will provide real legitimacy to a conflict that has flown in the face of international law from the very beginning.

Fourth, take all steps to provide the Iraqi people the opportunity to control their internal affairs. The Iraqi people cannot truly control their own affairs until the United States military has ceded back authority to those very people. That is why it is essential for Iraq's police and national guard forces to manage Iraq's security, not the United States military.

Mr. Speaker, let me be clear. We should not abandon Iraq. There is still a critical role for the United States in providing the developmental aid that can help create a robust civil society, build schools and water processing plants and ensure that Iraq's economic infrastructure becomes fully viable. In the end, this is the smarter option. And we must begin always taking the smarter path if we are to succeed in Iraq.

HONORING THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE OF CORPORAL JOSEPH EARL FITE

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

Mr. MCCAUL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I had anticipated that this, my first speech on the floor of the House of Representatives, would pertain to Social Security or tax reform, maybe transportation or immigration. But tonight, on this winter's eve, I ask you to listen about one very brave and outstanding young soldier. For me, there is no more of an honor than to tell you about Corporal Joseph Earl Fite.

From the time he was 14 years old, his parents, Marcia and Olin, say he wanted to serve our Nation, help America, help the world. When he was 14 and attending Round Rock High School in Round Rock, Texas, Joseph Fite joined the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps, starting a well-thought-out and altruistic journey which he expected and hoped would lead him to the United States Marine Corps.

After graduating from high school in 1999, he joined the Marine Reserves,

doing so while attending the University of Texas. But after the September 11 attacks, after those planes slammed into our towers, into our cities, into the ground and into our hearts, the Marines called upon this capable young man to defend and promote our freedom. Serving in the First Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, Corporal Fite's father told me how his son believed in the war on terror, a battle to bring the Iraqi society a democracy, a freedom few have known.

Just a couple of days ago, freedom rang in that country. That battle, which Corporal Fite helped wage, was victorious last Sunday as millions of Iraqi voters went to the polls and chose those who shall lead their government. Joseph Fite helped bring that God-given right to the people of Iraq. This 23-year-old soldier spent nearly a year in Iraq helping free a people, many of whom for the first time had the cloak of tyranny and terrorism pulled from their faces. And like so many soldiers, the images he saw, the sounds he heard, the experiences he felt gave him a unique perspective.

In fact, in a letter to his young cousin, he wrote, "What it really means to me is that America is freedom, and what I've learned from being over here is that too many people, me included, I admit, take for granted that which we are supposed to hold most dear. It isn't until you see how other countries under less democratic forms of government are living, Iraq, for example, that you realize how well off Americans really have it." These are words written by Corporal Fite just 4 days before he died.

On Sunday afternoon, January 9, while at a checkpoint, a driver tore through barricades and struck the corporal. He died with little more than a month left to serve in Iraq.

It would be too simple to say that Joseph Fite died for his country, that he was killed fighting for freedom. Corporal Fite had a burning desire in his heart to bring the fresh taste of democracy to those who had never had that experience. So I end tonight by asking, please take a moment to remember Joseph Fite, who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom. Remember a God-fearing young man who simply wanted to make his parents and family proud by helping build a nation free from terror and making our Nation more secure. And in remembering Corporal Joseph Fite, remember the tens of thousands of soldiers, Marines, airmen and sailors who tonight remain awake and alert, guarding our freedom so that we may sleep in its comfort.

We celebrate this young hero who laid down his life, his very life, so that others may live in freedom. He is with his God now. May God bless America, may God bless Marcia and Olin Fite for their sacrifice, and may He hold Joseph in the palm of His hand.

COMMEMORATION OF GREENSBORO SIT-INS

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise tonight on this day, February 1, 2005, for February 1, 1960, 45 years ago, became a history-making day when four young men, four young African American students, took seats in an orderly, peaceful, non-violent fashion at a lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina. They were denied service, but they continued to sit. Their actions inspired hundreds and thousands of African American college students to start sitting in and sitting down all across the American South to end segregation and racial discrimination in places of public accommodation. By sitting down, Mr. Speaker, they were truly standing up for the very best in America.

Some of these young people had lighted cigarettes put out in their hair and down their backs. Others were beaten, arrested, and jailed. Some were charged with disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace while they were very orderly and very peaceful. They went to jail by the hundreds and thousands as sit-ins spread all across the South like wildfire. The action of these students brought about what I like to call a nonviolent revolution in the American South.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is fitting and appropriate that we pause to pay homage to the memory and contribution of these four young students and hundreds and thousands of others who followed in their footsteps.

□ 1930

THE FOUR CHAPLAINS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PRICE of Georgia). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to take this opportunity here this evening to recognize the selfless and courageous sacrifice made 62 years ago by the four military chaplains on board the USS *Dorchester*, an American troop ship during World War II. The example of these four chaplains is an important reminder to all Americans, especially now when another generation of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen such as Corporal Joseph Fite, whom we just heard of his making the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation, of the important lessons of both the sorrow and heroism found in war. We today have a new generation making sacrifices overseas in harm's way as these four military chaplains did so courageously 62 years ago.

On February 3, 1943, the *Dorchester* was torpedoed in the icy waters off the coast of Greenland. Over 900 men were on board. Only 230 survived. Many of

the survivors recounted the story of the heroic actions of four chaplains of different faiths: A Jewish rabbi, Lieutenant Alexander Goode, from York, Pennsylvania, my hometown; a Catholic priest, Lieutenant John Washington; and two Protestant ministers, Lieutenants George Fox and Clark Poling.

These four servants of God spent the 18 minutes of the *Dorchester's* sinking, their last 18 minutes in this life, helping their fellow human beings to safety. When there were no more life jackets to hand out, the chaplains removed their own and gave them to four shipmates. The four chaplains were last seen on the hull of the ship arm and arm in prayer as the ship sank into the icy waters.

There is no greater example of love than the four chaplains' selfless service to and sacrifice for their fellow human beings. A love that did not discriminate based on race or creed. A love that required the ultimate of sacrifices.

Our memory of and tribute to the four chaplains continues today as important a lesson in humanity now as it was 62 years ago.

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

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES, 109TH CONGRESS

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with clause 2 of rule XI of the Rules of the House, I am submitting the rules of the Committee on Rules for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. On January 25, 2003, the Committee on Rules adopted by non-record vote, a quorum being present, the following committee rules.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

U.S. House of Representatives

109TH CONGRESS

RULE 1—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) The rules of the House are the rules of the Committee and its subcommittees so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are non-debatable privileged motions in the Committee. A proposed investigative or oversight report shall be considered as read if it has been available to the members of the Committee for at least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such day).

(b) Each subcommittee is a part of the Committee, and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and to its rules so far as applicable.

(c) The provisions of clause 2 of rule XI of the rules of the House are incorporated by reference as the rules of the Committee to the extent applicable.

(d) The Committee's rules shall be published in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the Committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

RULE 2—REGULAR, ADDITIONAL, AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

REGULAR MEETINGS

(a)(1) The Committee shall regularly meet at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday of each week when the House is in session.

(2) A regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with if, in the judgment of the Chairman of the Committee (hereafter in these rules referred to as the "Chair"), there is no need for meeting.

(3) Additional regular meetings and hearings of the Committee may be called by the Chair.

NOTICE FOR REGULAR MEETINGS

(b) The Chair shall notify each member of the Committee of the agenda of each regular meeting of the Committee at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting and shall provide to each member of the Committee, at least 24 hours before the time of each regular meeting.

(1) for each bill or resolution scheduled on the agenda for consideration of a rule, a copy of—

(A) the bill or resolution;

(B) any committee reports thereon; and

(C) any letter requesting a rule for the bill or resolution; and (2) for each other bill, resolution, report, or other matter on the agenda a copy of

(A) the bill, resolution, report, or materials relating to the other matter in question; and

(B) any report on the bill, resolution, report, or any other matter made by any subcommittee of the Committee.

EMERGENCY MEETINGS

(c)(1) The Chair may call an emergency meeting of the Committee at any time on any measure or matter which the Chair determines to be of an emergency nature; provided, however, that the Chair has made an effort to consult the ranking minority member, or, in such member's absence, the next ranking minority party member of the Committee.

(2) As soon as possible after calling an emergency meeting of the Committee, the Chair shall notify each member of the Committee of the time and location of the meeting.

(3) To the extent feasible, the notice provided under paragraph (2) shall include the agenda for the emergency meeting and copies of available materials which would otherwise have been provided under subsection (b) if the emergency meeting was a regular meeting.

SPECIAL MEETINGS

(d) Special meetings shall be called and convened as provided in clause 2(c)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

RULE 3—MEETINGS AND HEARING PROCEDURES IN GENERAL

(a)(1) Meetings and hearings of the Committee shall be called to order and presided over by the Chair or, in the Chair's absence, by the member designated by the Chair as the Vice Chair of the Committee, or by the ranking majority member of the Committee present as Acting Chair.

(2) Meetings and hearings of the committee shall be open to the public unless closed in accordance with clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(3) Any meeting or hearing of the Committee that is open to the public shall be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography in accordance with the provisions of clause 4 of rule XI of the rules

of the House (which are incorporated by reference as part of these rules).

(4) When a recommendation is made as to the kind of rule which should be granted for consideration of a bill or resolution, a copy of the language recommended shall be furnished to each member of the Committee at the beginning of the Committee meeting at which the rule is to be considered or as soon thereafter as the proposed language becomes available.

QUORUM

(b)(1) For the purpose of hearing testimony on requests for rules, five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(2) For the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence on measures or matters of original jurisdiction before the Committee, three members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(3) A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of reporting any measure or matter, of authorizing a subpoena, of closing a meeting or hearing pursuant to clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House (except as provided in clause 2(g)(2)(A) and (B), or of taking any other action.

VOTING

(c)(1) No vote may be conducted on any measure or motion pending before the Committee unless a majority of the members of the Committee is actually present for such purpose.

(2) A record vote of the Committee shall be provided on any question before the Committee upon the request of any member.

(3) No vote by any member of the Committee on any measure or matter may be cast by proxy.

(4) A record of the vote of each Member of the Committee on each record vote on any matter before the Committee shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Committee, and with respect to any record vote on any motion to amend or report, shall be included in the report of the Committee showing the total number of votes cast for and against and the names of those members voting for and against.

HEARING PROCEDURES

(d)(1) With regard to hearings on matters of original jurisdiction, to the greatest extent practicable:

(A) each witness who is to appear before the Committee shall file with the committee at least 24 hours in advance of the appearance a statement of proposed testimony in written and electronic form and shall limit the oral presentation to the Committee to a brief summary thereof; and

(B) each witness appearing in a non-governmental capacity shall include with the statement of proposed testimony provided in written and electronic form a curriculum vitae and a disclosure of the amount and source (by agency and program) of any Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) received during the current fiscal year or either of the two preceding fiscal years.

(2) The five-minute rule shall be observed in the interrogation of each witness before the Committee until each member of the Committee has had an opportunity to question the witness.

(3) The provisions of clause 2(k) of rule XI of the rules of the House shall apply to any hearing conducted by the committee.

SUBPOENAS AND OATHS

(e)(1) Pursuant to clause 2(m) of rule XI of the rules of the House of Representatives, a subpoena may be authorized and issued by the Committee or a subcommittee in the conduct of any investigation or series of investigations or activities, only when author-

ized by a majority of the members voting, a majority being present.

(2) The Chair may authorize and issue subpoenas under such clause during any period in which the House has adjourned for a period of longer than three days.

(3) Authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the Chair or by any member designated by the Committee, and may be served by any person designated by the Chair or such member.

(4) The Chair, or any member of the Committee designated by the Chair, may administer oaths to witnesses before the Committee.

RULE 4—GENERAL OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) The Committee shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of those laws, or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within its jurisdiction.

(b) Not later than February 15 of the first session of a Congress, the committee shall meet in open session, with a quorum present, to adopt its oversight plans for that Congress for submission to the Committee on House Administration and the Committee on Government Reform, in accordance with the provisions of clause 2(d) of House rule X.

RULE 5—SUBCOMMITTEES

ESTABLISHMENT AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SUBCOMMITTEES

(a)(1) There shall be two subcommittees of the Committee as follows:

(A) Subcommittee on Legislative and Budget Process, which shall have general responsibility for measures or matters related to relations between the Congress and the Executive Branch.

(B) Subcommittee on Rules and Organization of the House, which shall have general responsibility for measures or matters related to process and procedures of the House, relations between the two Houses of Congress, relations between the Congress and the Judiciary, and internal operations of the House.

(2) In addition, each such subcommittee shall have specific responsibility for such other measures or matters as the Chair refers to it.

(3) Each subcommittee of the Committee shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of those laws, or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within its general responsibility.

REFERRAL OF MEASURES AND MATTERS TO SUBCOMMITTEES

(b)(1) In view of the unique procedural responsibilities of the Committee, no special order providing for the consideration of any bill or resolution shall be referred to a subcommittee of the Committee.

(2) The Chair shall refer to a subcommittee such measures or matters of original jurisdiction as the Chair deems appropriate given its jurisdiction and responsibilities.

(3) All other measures or matters of original jurisdiction shall be subject to consideration by the full Committee.

(4) In referring any measure or matter of original jurisdiction to a subcommittee, the Chair may specify a date by which the subcommittee shall report thereon to the Committee.

(5) The Committee by motion may discharge a subcommittee from consideration of any measure or matter referred to a subcommittee of the Committee.

COMPOSITION OF SUBCOMMITTEES

(c) The size and ratio of each subcommittee shall be determined by the Committee and members shall be elected to each

subcommittee, and to the positions of chairman and ranking minority member thereof, in accordance with the rules of the respective party caucuses. The Chair of the full committee shall designate a member of the majority party on each subcommittee as its vice chairman.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

(d)(1) Each subcommittee of the Committee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive testimony, mark up legislation, and report to the full Committee on any measure or matter referred to it.

(2) No subcommittee of the Committee may meet or hold a hearing at the same time as a meeting or hearing of the full Committee is being held.

(3) The chairman of each subcommittee shall schedule meetings and hearings of the subcommittee only after consultation with the Chair.

QUORUM

(e)(1) For the purpose of taking testimony, two members of the subcommittee shall constitute a quorum.

(2) For all other purposes, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of a subcommittee.

EFFECT OF A VACANCY

(f) Any vacancy in the membership of a subcommittee shall not affect the power of the remaining members to execute the functions of the subcommittee.

RECORDS

(g) Each subcommittee of the Committee shall provide the full Committee with copies of such records of votes taken in the subcommittee and such other records with respect to the subcommittee necessary for the Committee to comply with all rules and regulations of the House.

RULE 6—STAFF

IN GENERAL

(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), the professional and other staff of the Committee shall be appointed, by the Chair, and shall work under the general supervision and direction of the Chair.

(2) All professional, and other staff provided to the minority party members of the Committee shall be appointed, by the ranking minority member of the Committee, and shall work under the general supervision and direction of such member.

(3) The appointment of all professional staff shall be subject to the approval of the Committee as provided by, and subject to the provisions of, clause 9 of rule X of the Rules of the House.

ASSOCIATE STAFF

(b) Associate staff for members of the Committee may be appointed only at the discretion of the Chair (in consultation with the ranking minority member regarding any minority party associate staff), after taking into account any staff ceilings and budgetary constraints in effect at the time, and any terms, limits, or conditions established by the Committee on House Administration under clause 9 of rule X of the rules of the House.

SUBCOMMITTEE STAFF

(c) From funds made available for the appointment of staff, the Chair of the Committee shall, pursuant to clause 6(d) of rule X of the rules of the House, ensure that sufficient staff is made available to each subcommittee to carry out its responsibilities under the rules of the Committee, and, after consultation with the ranking minority member of the Committee, that the minority party of the Committee is treated fairly in the appointment of such staff.

COMPENSATION OF STAFF

(d) The Chair shall fix the compensation of all professional and other staff of the Committee, after consultation with the ranking minority member regarding any minority party staff.

CERTIFICATION OF STAFF

(e)(1) To the extent any staff member of the Committee or any of its subcommittees does not work under the direct supervision and direction of the Chair, the Member of the Committee who supervises and directs the staff member's work shall file with the Chief of Staff of the Committee (not later than the tenth day of each month) a certification regarding the staff member's work for that member for the preceding calendar month.

(2) The certification required by paragraph (1) shall be in such form as the Chair may prescribe, shall identify each staff member by name, and shall state that the work engaged in by the staff member and the duties assigned to the staff member for the member of the Committee with respect to the month in question met the requirements of clause 9 of rule X of the rules of the House.

(3) Any certification of staff of the Committee, or any of its subcommittees, made by the Chair in compliance with any provision of law or regulation shall be made—

(A) on the basis of the certifications filed under paragraph (1) to the extent the staff is not under the Chair's supervision and direction, and

(B) on his own responsibility to the extent the staff is under the Chair's direct supervision and direction.

RULE 7—BUDGET, TRAVEL, PAY OF WITNESSES
BUDGET

(a) The Chair, in consultation with other members of the Committee, shall prepare for each Congress a budget providing amounts for staff, necessary travel, investigation, and other expenses of the Committee and its subcommittees.

TRAVEL

(b)(1) The Chair may authorize travel for any member and any staff member of the Committee in connection with activities or subject matters under the general jurisdiction of the Committee. Before such authorization is granted, there shall be submitted to the Chair in writing the following:

(A) The purpose of the travel.

(B) The dates during which the travel is to occur.

(C) The names of the States or countries to be visited and the length of time to be spent in each.

(D) The names of members and staff of the Committee for whom the authorization is sought.

(2) Members and staff of the Committee shall make a written report to the Chair on any travel they have conducted under this subsection, including a description of their itinerary, expenses, and activities, and of pertinent information gained as a result of such travel.

(3) Members and staff of the Committee performing authorized travel on official business shall be governed by applicable laws, resolutions, and regulations of the House and of the Committee on House Administration.

PAY OF WITNESSES

(c) Witnesses may be paid from funds made available to the Committee in its expense resolution subject to the provisions of clause 5 of rule XI of the rules of the House.

RULE 8—COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION
REPORTING

(a) Whenever the Committee authorizes the favorable reporting of a bill or resolution from the Committee—

(1) the Chair or acting Chair shall report it to the House or designate a member of the Committee to do so, and

(2) in the case of a bill or resolution in which the Committee has original jurisdiction, the Chair shall allow, to the extent that the anticipated floor schedule permits, any member of the Committee a reasonable amount of time to submit views for inclusion in the Committee report on the bill or resolution.

Any such report shall contain all matters required by the Rules of the House of Representatives (or by any provision of law enacted as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the House) and such other information as the Chair deems appropriate.

RECORDS

(b)(1) There shall be a transcript made of each regular meeting and hearing of the Committee, and the transcript may be printed if the Chair decides it is appropriate or if a majority of the Members of the Committee requests such printing. Any such transcripts shall be a substantially verbatim account of remarks actually made during the proceedings, subject only to technical, grammatical, and typographical corrections authorized by the person making the remarks. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require that all such transcripts be subject to correction and publication.

(2) The Committee shall keep a record of all actions of the Committee and of its subcommittees. The record shall contain all information required by clause 2(e)(1) of rule XI of the rules of the House of Representatives and shall be available for public inspection at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee.

(3) All Committee hearings, records, data, charts, and files shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records of the Chair, shall be the property of the House, and all Members of the House shall have access thereto as provided in clause 2(e)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

(4) The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with rule VII of the rules of the House. The Chair shall notify the ranking minority member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of the rule, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on written request of any member of the Committee.

COMMITTEE PUBLICATIONS ON THE INTERNET

(c) To the maximum extent feasible, the Committee shall make its publications available in electronic form.

CALENDARS

(d)(1) The Committee shall maintain a Committee Calendar, which shall include all bills, resolutions, and other matters referred to or reported by the Committee and all bills, resolutions, and other matters reported by any other committee on which a rule has been granted or formally requested, and such other matters as the Chair shall direct. The Calendar shall be published periodically, but in no case less often than once in each session of Congress.

(2) The staff of the Committee shall furnish each member of the Committee with a list of all bills or resolutions (A) reported from the Committee but not yet considered by the House, and (B) on which a rule has been formally requested but not yet granted. The list shall be updated each week when the House is in session.

(3) For purposes of paragraphs (1) and (2), a rule is considered as formally requested when the Chairman of a committee which

has reported a bill or resolution (or a member of such committee authorized to act on the Chairman's behalf):

(A) has requested, in writing to the Chair, that a hearing be scheduled on a rule for the consideration of the bill or resolution, and

(B) has supplied the Committee with an adequate number of copies of the bill or resolution, as reported, together with the final printed committee report thereon.

OTHER PROCEDURES

(e) The Chair may establish such other Committee procedures and take such actions as may be necessary to carry out these rules or to facilitate the effective operation of the Committee and its subcommittees in a manner consistent with these rules.

RULE 9—AMENDMENTS TO COMMITTEE RULES

The rules of the Committee may be modified, amended or repealed, in the same manner and method as prescribed for the adoption of committee rules in clause 2 of rule XI of the Rules of the House, but only if written notice of the proposed change has been provided to each such Member at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting at which the vote on the change occurs.

Any such change in the rules of the Committee shall be published in the Congressional Record within 30 calendar days after their approval.

UNITED STATES SEAPORT
MULTIYEAR SECURITY EN-
HANCEMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the United States Seaport Multiyear Security Enhancement Act, and I am asking all of my colleagues to support it.

Seaport security continues to be an ongoing national concern that Congress cannot afford to ignore any longer. The United States Seaport Multiyear Security Enhancement Act is much-needed legislation that seeks to provide a steady, predictable stream of funding for port security projects. In short, this legislation creates a Port Security Grant program within the Homeland Security Department.

Our Nation's 361 seaports are considered a major terrorist target. It is known that al Qaeda has strong ties to the shipping industry and that one of the aims of this target network is to weaken the economic security of our country.

Our Nation's coastline is our longest border, which is a 95,000-mile coast that includes Great Lakes and inland waterways. Protecting America's seaports is critical to the Nation's economic growth, vitality, and security. Seaports handle 95 percent of our Nation's overseas trade by volume, support the mobilization and deployment of U.S. armed services, and serve as transit points for millions of crews and ferry passengers. Maritime industries contribute \$742 billion per year to the U.S. Gross National Product.

The United States Coast Guard has issued final regulations that call for an

immediate and long-term investment in securing our seaports. According to the United States Coast Guard, implementing these regulations that directly address our Seaport security needs will cost \$1.1 billion in the first year and \$5.5 billion over 10 years.

To date, security funding to our seaports has been woefully underfunded. Last year, the administration requested \$46 million for Port Security funding. We can and we must do better, Mr. Speaker.

Given our Nation's economic dependence on our seaports and our ongoing national security concerns, seaport security funding and the need for Federal support for our Nation's security should be ongoing.

Given the enormity of these seaport capital infrastructure projects, my legislation seeks to do the following: Establish a multi-year seaport grant program that resembles the Letter of Intent measures established in the aviation security program; call for multi-year grants and \$800 million per year for Port Security Grant Funding. The program would be authorized for 5 years.

This legislation is much needed. We should recognize the continuing security and economic needs that face our Nation and our seaports, and implementing the U.S. Seaport Multiyear Security Enhancement Act is an important step in doing so. I ask my colleagues to support this important legislation.

ELECTION DAY IN IRAQ

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, 2 days ago, amidst intimidation and threats and actual violence, the people of Iraq spoke out against the past oppression of Saddam Hussein and his dynasty of tyrants and spoke loudly for democracy. And I was there, privileged to be there, to witness this birth of a new era in this Nation of Iraq. I saw how the Iraqi people boldly, with the courage of a free people, said no to the outlaw desperadoes that plague their land almost daily, with the terror of abuse, ambush, and assassination. A people yearning to be free cannot be deterred by the acts of cowardly villains who harm the innocent and the unarmed.

Even on this day, January 30, Iraq's Election Day, a day of promise, there were still 212 reported acts of violence against these people, 44 of whom died, one being an 8-year-old mentally challenged boy. Yet 60 percent of these proud Iraqis walked to 30,000 polling stations with watchful Iraqi security police on rooftops of schools armed with M-16 rifles.

Yet they ventured out with their families. They stood in lines, received historic ballots with 111 selections from which to choose. They entered a cardboard voting booth, and they made

their free choice. They all cast a vote for Iraq.

I talked to these people, the young and the elderly, who were all defiant of the violence and proud to be voters in this first free and fair election that carries the hope of democracy. I even saw husbands taking photographs of their wives while their wives were voting.

The atmosphere of democracy unfolding was almost carnival in nature. After voting, each Iraqi dipped their right forefinger in an inkwell to record the fact that they voted. Some even left the polling place singing as they held their finger up high, a symbol that has come to be termed a badge of courage. They wanted all to know they had participated in this day. One young girl told me that she got there very early that morning so she could be the first person in her community to vote.

This election was planned and conducted by Iraqis. The security force of 100,000 officers were all Iraqis. The votes will be counted by Iraqis, and the 275 members of this new parliament will all be Iraqis.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the United States made a sound decision in helping start this democracy. Similar to the events following World War II when America launched democracies in the nations of our enemies, Japan and Germany, the skeptics and critics said it could not be done, and those skeptics and critics are still around today. But today Japan and Germany are not only thriving democracies but they are also world economic powers and they are our allies.

So this, too, will be our hope and desire for Iraq and for Afghanistan. These two nations will become democracies in spite of the hardships and detractors here at home and abroad. Those people who utter words of gloom, doom, and despair, history will prove those people wrong. History corroborates that freedom can grow in the desert of oppression.

Our efforts have not gone without appreciation by the Iraqi people. The individuals I spoke to on that Sunday morning and afternoon said they love Americans, especially our military. They are truly grateful.

As Election Day drew to a close on Sunday afternoon, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) and I spoke with the president of Iraq. And in an almost emotional tone, he told us that the Iraqi people recognize that America has sacrificed their young men and women for Iraq, for this day to come.

We should be happy for the Iraqi people and proud that we have sown the seed of freedom in this land far, far away. And we must remember the words 40 years ago of a young man from Massachusetts, President John Kennedy, when he stated our commitment then and our commitment today. He said, "Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend,

oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty."

We are doing that in Iraq, Mr. Speaker.

REQUESTING AN INVESTIGATION CONCERNING MYRON KUROPAS

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, today I sent a letter to the Secretary of State requesting an investigation into how an individual, a professor at Northern Illinois University who is known for anti-Jewish comments, was selected to participate in an official U.S. delegation to the inaugural ceremonies of Ukrainian president, Viktor Yushchenko.

For those who might not be aware of this story, last week the Chicago Tribune and the Chicago Sun Times reported that Myron Kuropas, an adjunct professor at Northern Illinois University, accompanied former Secretary of State Colin Powell on a presidential delegation to the Ukrainian inauguration.

At first glance, the professor's selection as a member of the delegation seems perfectly normal. He is of Ukrainian decent and a well-known expert in the region. Furthermore, the professor is a former Ford administration official and had served on the staff of a Senator. Yet Professor Kuropas also has a disturbing history of anti-Jewish remarks.

In 1998, he said, "Let the Jews go on the defensive for a change. The crimes of their people cannot be explained away easily."

In 2000, he said, "Big money drives the Holocaust industry. To survive, the Holocaust industry is always searching for its next mark. Ukraine's turn is just around the corner."

He also accused the Jewish people of being "instrumental in the rise of Soviet Communism and the horrors of Stalinism," which is an interesting take for a professor of history.

It is pretty clear where Professor Kuropas stands. He is entitled to his views, but it is disturbing that an individual whose views are not only inconsistent with those of most Americans but also dangerous would be selected to represent the United States on a presidential delegation to the Ukrainian inauguration.

Inexplicably, when asked whether or not he renounced his previous statements, the professor stood by his previous comments. What is more, it is unclear to this date who selected the professor to go on the delegation, which was the basis of the letter I sent to the Secretary of State.

The State Department, when asked, said, "I think that's really a White House question. It was a White House delegation."

When the White House was asked, they said that they had no idea how he was selected.

He comes from Northern Illinois University, in the Speaker's district. The Speaker said he had no involvement in this, which I believe to be true.

But the question is, how does a known anti-Semite walk on the plane of the United States Government with the Secretary of State as a representative of a presidential delegation, representing the American people, who constantly and consistently has published and speaks out in a vile way, in my view, against the Jewish people and yet nobody from the State Department to the White House or anybody else involved can tell us how he got there or who recommended him? And yet he represented the United States, and I would assume some would say our values of democracy, while in the Ukraine as a part of that delegation and yet consistently refuses to back away from comments that, in my view, are just one individual's take, are neither pro to the Jewish people or to those who border, in my view, on anti-Semitism.

□ 1945

It is ironic that the professor who has done the best job of summing up the issue, because he wrote criticisms of Jews, and I am quoting him, "All of a sudden I do not have a right to be a part of the American delegation?" I could not have said it better myself. The United States should not and does not condone anti-Semitism or discrimination of any kind.

Allowing a known anti-Semite to represent America, which I find ironic on the same week that we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, is an embarrassment and a contradiction of all of our values regardless of party.

Mr. Speaker, the issue before us is how did the professor get on the plane and who recommended him to represent the United States of America? We deserve an answer. And in the letter I ask the Secretary of State to provide that answer and to look into this. And I look forward to that answer so we can clear up the question of how a professor who does not hide his views when it comes to the Jewish people was selected to represent the United States with the Secretary of State on an official plane in an official delegation, whose views are abhorrent to our values of decency and respect for people of diverse ethnicity.

AMERICAN MEDIA SHOWS PESSIMISM REGARDING IRAQI ELECTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PRICE of Georgia). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, you know, when Ronald Reagan was President, he told a story of the difference between an optimist and a pessimist. And he used the example of two little boys who were put into a room

full of horse manure. And the one little boy started crying very viciously, very seriously, because there were not any toys in the room. And the other little boy was digging around happy as a lark.

And they asked him, why are you so happy? And he said, with all of this horse manure in here, there has got to be a pony here somewhere.

The reason Reagan told that story was because he wanted people to realize that optimism is something that everybody should try to acquire in their lives and look at the positive things. And during his administration, he was so optimistic that he changed the whole attitude of the American people and made the 8 years of his administration a real success.

I would like to contrast that, if you will, with what we have seen in the last couple of days. Sixty percent of the people of Iraq went to the polls to vote knowing that some of them might be killed. A lot of people wonder if that would happen here in America.

In America we have what, 30, 40, 50 percent of the people vote if we are very lucky, and we do not have any guns pointed at anybody. And yet in Iraq these people knew their lives were in jeopardy, and they still put their finger in that ink and held it up for the people to see in the cameras so they could take pictures, because they were proud that they had a chance to show their freedom.

They were optimistic, very optimistic like Ronald Reagan talked about, for the future of Iraq. And yet last night when I watched the news, I watched several of the major news networks, and I will not go into their names tonight, but it is the same people that you hear all the time.

They were once again pointing out all of the things that went wrong in Iraq during the elections, and all of the problems that lay ahead of us, and how this is just a first step in a long series of steps that have to be taken; and they were not celebrating at all this tremendous step toward democracy and freedom that took place in one of the toughest spots in the whole wide world.

And I would just like to say to my friends in the media, that was a great thing that happened. Sixty percent of the people who lived under a tyrannical leader for years and years, who suffered torture and heartache for decades, finally had a chance to vote; and even though they were doing it with guns being pointed in their direction, people being blown up, and people being beheaded, they took the chance and went and voted, 60 percent of them. They are optimists. And I just wish the national media would realize it and become optimistic themselves.

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

(Mr. FILNER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

CLOSING OF IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the announcement was made last week that a high school in my congressional district, Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) in Westchester, Illinois, would be closing its doors at the end of this school year. This closure indicates the end of an era in the Chicago western suburbs and for single-sex education due to a record low enrollment in 2004, and a significant drop in the number of people sitting for the entrance exam in January of 2005.

The school administration made the difficult decision to close this spring.

Since 1961, Immaculate Heart of Mary has offered a rigorous, single-sex, college preparatory education for young women throughout Chicago and the western suburbs. Over 6,000 women have benefited from the education offered by IHM since its inception. Teachers and staff have dedicated themselves to fostering a diverse community aimed towards achieving academic excellence and building a Christian community made up of empowered young women.

IHM has been successful both academically and in its extracurricular activities. Athletic successes include a State championship in basketball in 1987. The students of IHM have been involved in many other extracurricular activities such as Model United Nations and Students Against Drunk Driving. In 1996, IHM received the United States Department of Education Blue Ribbon Schools Award in recognition of their academic superiority. IHM is the only all-women school in the State of Illinois to receive this award.

The school's president, Karen Ristau, has led a dedicated staff of approximately 30 teachers and administrators in fulfilling IHM's motto: "Every student has the need to become what she has the ability to become." I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to both Ms. Ristau and the entire staff of IHM for their years of dedication to the education of young women in Illinois. The community, current students, and past graduates are grateful for the commitment of the administration and staff.

By deciding to open its doors to women next fall, St. Joseph High

School has offered the students of IHM the opportunity to continue striving for academic excellence in a Catholic environment right next door. These two high schools have always shared a special relationship in which students from both schools have shared some specialized classes and extracurricular activities. As a result of this relationship, the transition into creating a co-educational environment should be relatively smooth. For any of the remaining 238 students who choose not to attend St. Joseph High School in a co-educational environment, IHM officials and counselors will help them and their parents to choose an alternative school.

Although IHM is closing its doors, it has left an indelible mark on today's world through the actions and successes of its graduates. It will be sorely missed by the community and by the entire Illinois 7th Congressional District.

THE LANGUAGE OF IMMIGRATION REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PRICE of Georgia). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, as children we are taught the phrase "sticks and stones will break my bones, but words will never hurt me." I can tell my colleagues that the same rule does not apply to politics. The easiest way to kill an initiative is to apply an unpopular label to it, whether it fits or not.

Opponents of meaningful education reform know they can kill it by calling it "vouchers." Those who do not want Social Security reform can poison the well by calling it "privatization." It is easy to repeal the "death tax," but it is more difficult to get rid of the "estate tax."

In a similar vein, critics of the President's immigration reform plan are trying desperately to kill it by attaching the dreaded "amnesty" label to it. These critics would do well to heed another childhood axiom that applies very much to politics: "You can't throw mud without getting it all over yourselves."

Under the President's immigration initiative, which largely mirrors the legislation that I have introduced along with the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) and Senator MCCAIN, those who are here illegally would have the opportunity to stay as temporary workers provided they pay a fine and have no criminal record. Those seeking to become U.S. citizens would not be given preference over those going through the legal, orderly process in their own countries.

Now, according to the critics of the President's plan, this represents amnesty, because those who enter the country illegally would be allowed to stay for a period of time, even if they pay a fine and go to the back of the

line. Now, the President's critics are welcome to use this broad definition of amnesty, but they should be aware that it applies to their own plans as well.

Noticeably absent from any proposal advanced by the President's critics is a plan to deport the estimated 8 million to 10 million illegal aliens who are currently in the U.S. workforce. Much is said about deporting criminal aliens, who number some 400,000; but if you are an otherwise law-abiding alien worker, you are apparently safe from deportation. Now, if you are wondering how this is any less of an amnesty than what the President is proposing, you are not alone.

The irony is for those searching for a get-tough policy, the President is offering a far more serious approach than that of his critics. Under the President's approach, after a date certain, every illegal alien currently working in the United States would have to be registered as a temporary worker in order to continue in his or her job. Severe employer sanctions would be leveled against employers who hire unregistered workers beyond that point, and every employer would, at long last, be given the tools to immediately ascertain who is here legally and who is not.

Contrast this with what appears to be the critics' approach: employers would be given the tools to ascertain the legal status of workers or new hires, but apparently would not be required to check the status of current employees. To do so would reveal the presence of some 8 million to 10 million undocumented workers that not even the President's critics have the stomach to deport.

Our current situation is this: we have millions of illegal aliens here in the United States who are a part of our workforce. We can pretend that these workers do not exist, but that will not make them go away. The call to "enforce our current laws" makes for good rhetoric, but it would require rounding up all undocumented workers and shipping them home, which makes it just that: rhetoric. Let me repeat, not even the President's critics are saying that we should round up all illegal aliens and workers and ship them home.

So that leaves us with just two options. We can continue with a wink and a nod to allow illegal aliens to enter the workforce with fraudulent identification and live in the shadows. If we thought this was acceptable prior to 9/11, we know it is certainly not today. Alternatively, we can create a legal, regulated framework under which workers can be hired and retained, as the President has proposed.

Now, those who question whether or not we can follow through and enforce the new law with severe employer sanctions have a right to be skeptical after what happened after the last round of major changes to immigration law in 1986 when we failed to address the future need for workers. The only certainty here is that we cannot afford to

continue with the status quo. And failing to acknowledge that we need a temporary worker program, like we failed to do after 1986, simply ensures that the status quo continues.

Mr. Speaker, all of the name-calling in the world will not change that reality.

PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, 109TH CONGRESS

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

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I hereby submit the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary for the 109th Congress for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. These rules were adopted by the Committee on January 26, in a meeting that was open to the public.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

RULE I.

The Rules of the House of Representatives are the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary and its Subcommittees with the following specific additions thereto.

RULE II. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) The regular meeting day of the Committee on the Judiciary for the conduct of its business shall be on Tuesday of each week while the House is in session.

(b) Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman and a regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with when, in the judgment of the Chairman, there is no need therefor.

(c) At least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays when the House is not in session) before each scheduled Committee or Subcommittee meeting, each Member of the Committee or Subcommittee shall be furnished a list of the bill(s) and subject(s) to be considered and/or acted upon at the meeting. Bills or subjects not listed shall be subject to a point of order unless their consideration is agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the Committee or Subcommittee.

(d) The Chairman, with such notice to the Ranking Minority Member as is practicable, may call and convene, as he considers necessary, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committee shall meet for such purpose pursuant to that call of the Chairman.

(e) Committee and Subcommittee meetings for the transaction of business, i.e. meetings other than those held for the purpose of taking testimony, shall be open to the public except when the Committee or Subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.

(f) Every motion made to the Committee and entertained by the Chairman shall be reduced to writing upon demand of any Member, and a copy made available to each Member present.

(g) For purposes of taking any action at a meeting of the full Committee or any Subcommittee thereof, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of not less than one-third of the Members of the Committee or

subcommittee, except that a full majority of the Members of the Committee or Subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for purposes of reporting a measure or recommendation from the Committee or Subcommittee, closing a meeting to the public, or authorizing the issuance of a subpoena.

(h)(1) Subject to subparagraph (2), the Chairman may postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving any measure or matter or adopting an amendment. The Chairman may resume proceedings on a postponed request at any time.

(2) In exercising postponement authority under subparagraph (1), the Chairman shall take all reasonable steps necessary to notify Members on the resumption of proceedings on any postponed record vote.

(3) When proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

(i) Transcripts of markups shall be recorded and may be published in the same manner as hearings before the Committee and shall be included as part of the legislative report unless waived by the Chairman.

(j) Without further action of the Committee, the Chairman is directed to offer a motion under clause 1 of rule XXII of the Rules of the House of Representatives whenever the Chairman considers it appropriate.

RULE III. HEARINGS

(a) The Committee Chairman or any Subcommittee chairman shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted by it on any measure or matter at least one week before the commencement of that hearing. If the Chairman of the Committee, or Subcommittee, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, or if the Committee or Subcommittee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, the Chairman or Subcommittee chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date.

(b) Committee and Subcommittee hearings shall be open to the public except when the Committee or Subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.

(c) For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence before the Committee or any Subcommittee, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of two Members.

(d) In the course of any hearing each Member shall be allowed five minutes for the interrogation of a witness until such time as each Member who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness.

(e) The transcripts of those hearings conducted by the Committee which are decided to be printed shall be published in verbatim form, with the material requested for the record inserted at that place requested, or at the end of the record, as appropriate. Individuals, including Members of Congress, whose comments are to be published as part of a Committee document shall be given the opportunity to verify the accuracy of the transcription in advance of publication. Any requests by those Members, staff or witnesses to correct any errors other than errors in the transcription, or disputed errors in transcription, shall be appended to the record, and the appropriate place where the

change is requested will be footnoted. Prior to approval by the Chairman of hearings conducted jointly with another congressional Committee, a memorandum of understanding shall be prepared which incorporates an agreement for the publication of the verbatim transcript.

RULE IV. BROADCASTING

Whenever a hearing or meeting conducted by the Committee or any Subcommittee is open to the public, those proceedings shall be open to coverage by television, radio and still photography except when the hearing or meeting is closed pursuant to the Committee Rules of Procedure.

RULE V. STANDING SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) The full Committee shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: antitrust law, tort liability, including medical malpractice and product liability, legal reform generally, and such other matters as determined by the Chairman.

(b) There shall be five standing Subcommittees of the Committee on the Judiciary, with jurisdictions as follows:

(1) *Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellect Property*: copyright, patent and trademark law, information technology, administration of U.S. courts, Federal Rules of Evidence, Civil and Appellate Procedure, judicial ethics, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(2) *Subcommittee on the Constitution*: constitutional amendments, constitutional rights, federal civil rights laws, ethics in government, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(3) *Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law*: bankruptcy and commercial law, bankruptcy judgeships, administrative law, independent counsel, state taxation affecting interstate commerce, interstate compacts, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(4) *Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security*: Federal Criminal Code, drug enforcement, sentencing, parole and pardons, terrorism, internal and homeland security, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, prisons, criminal law enforcement, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(5) *Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims*: immigration and naturalization, border security, admission of refugees, treaties, conventions and international agreements, claims against the United States, federal charters of incorporation, private immigration and claims bills, non-border enforcement, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(c) The Chairman of the Committee and Ranking Minority Member thereof shall be ex officio Members, but not voting Members, of each Subcommittee to which such Chairman or Ranking Minority Member has not been assigned by resolution of the Committee. Ex officio Members shall not be counted as present for purposes of constituting a quorum at any hearing or meeting of such Subcommittee.

RULE VI. POWERS AND DUTIES OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Each Subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the full Committee on all matters referred to it or under its jurisdiction. Subcommittee chairmen shall set dates for hearings and meetings of their respective Subcommittees after consultation with the Chairman and other Subcommittee chairmen with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of full Committee and Subcommittee meetings or hearings whenever possible.

RULE VII. NON-LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

No report of the Committee or Subcommittee which does not accompany a measure or matter for consideration by the House shall be published unless all Members of the Committee or Subcommittee issuing the report shall have been apprised of such report and given the opportunity to give notice of intention to file supplemental, additional, or dissenting views as part of the report. In no case shall the time in which to file such views be less than three calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays when the House is not in session).

RULE VIII. COMMITTEE RECORDS

The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use according to the Rules of the House. The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on the written request of any Member of the Committee.

TRIBUTE TO THE COLUMBIA SEVEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on the second anniversary of the tragic crash that took the lives of seven courageous astronauts aboard Space Shuttle *Columbia*, I ask all of my colleagues in the Congress to join me in paying tribute to our fallen heroes. The seven astronauts whose lives were lost aboard the space shuttle *Columbia* were extraordinary people. To the world those astronauts were valiant heroes; to us in Texas they were also friends, neighbors, and family. They made the ultimate sacrifice on a mission that benefited all of humanity. They deserve the highest level of honor, and their sacrifice and dedication must be commemorated in a way that will serve to inspire the next generation of explorers.

Those that we remember today are:

- (1) Rick D. Husband;
- (2) Michael P. Anderson;
- (3) Laurel Clark;
- (4) David M. Brown;
- (5) William C. McCool;
- (6) Kapana Chawla; and
- (7) Ilan Ramon.

These astronauts were individuals of the highest caliber, always striving for excellence, and exemplifying the most noble of human traits. They were skilled professionals, scientists, clinicians, adventurers, and family men and women. The crew represented the diversity of our Nation—black and white, men and women, immigrant and native-born, and included a comrade from Israel embodying the international goals of peace and cooperation.

The *Columbia* crew was deeply committed to the NASA mission. NASA provides insights into the origins, destiny, and wonder of the universe and is a source of dreams for young and old alike. These seven courageous explorers paid the ultimate price to improve our understanding of the universe, to advance our medical and engineering sciences, and to make the Nation safer and more secure. Before the *Columbia* started its tragic descent, the shuttle crew completed some 80 scientific

experiments. Much of their research data had already been relayed to Houston where it has added to the pool of scientific knowledge.

In the 108th Congress, I introduce legislation (H.R. 525) that would have authorized the issuance of Congressional Gold Medals to commemorate our fallen heroes on the Space Shuttle *Columbia*. Three hundred eighteen of my colleagues in the House of Representatives joined me in the co-sponsorship of that legislation. Nevertheless, the bill never made it to a vote.

I have reintroduced the bill in the 109th Congress (H.R. 258) authorizing the coinage of a Gold Medal to pay proper tribute to our astronauts. Unfortunately, untimely and ill conceived legislation (H.R. 54) also before the 109th Congress which purports to "provide reasonable standards for congressional gold medals" essentially limits the bestowal of this honor to American icons. One of the main reasons that the medal is bestowed is to make the highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions. H.R. 54 will summarily restrict this goal and prevent many honored heroes from receiving proper recognition. Provisions in H.R. 54 will specifically exclude the award of Congressional Gold Medals to the *Columbia* astronauts.

I hope that my colleagues in this esteemed body will join me in helping to pass legislation that will properly honor our *Columbia* heroes. I also ask my colleagues to help ensure that those deserving can be recognized by Congress through the issuance of Gold Medals.

The tragedy that occurred two years ago serves as a wake-up call for a new look at spacecraft safety. NASA has made good progress identifying the causes of the *Columbia* crash and is designing approaches for the Shuttles' return to flight. I have called for detailed safety analyses of the International Space Station (ISS) and hope that my colleagues will work with me in developing legislation that will authorize a safety audit of the ISS that will address the same level of detail addressed by the Columbia Accident Investigation Board.

GREENSBORO FOUR INSPIRED NONVIOLENT PROTESTS AGAINST RACIAL SEGREGATION ACROSS THE SOUTH

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

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) in rising tonight to remember an act of courage and conscience 45 years ago today that forever changed North Carolina, the South, and our Nation.

On February 1, 1960, four African American students at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, North Carolina A&T, walked into the F. W. Woolworth store in downtown Greensboro and sat down at the "whites" only lunch counter. They were refused service, but they continued to sit at the lunch counter in non-violent protest.

The courageous nonviolent protests of the four A&T freshmen, Jibrel

Khazan, then Ezell Blair, Jr.; David Richmond; Joseph McNeil; and Franklin McCain, the Greensboro Four, inspired sit-ins across North Carolina and the South to protest racial segregation in public accommodations and in every other area of life.

□ 2000

The sit-in movement became a critical part of the civil rights movements and led eventually to the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the integration of public accommodations in America.

Today, I attended a celebration in Greensboro marking the 45th anniversary of the beginning of the sit-in movement. In July, the Woolworth's store in downtown Greensboro, hallowed ground to the civil rights movement, will open as an international civil rights museum.

Mr. Speaker, we no longer have whites-only lunch counters. Ending segregation has made our Nation a more decent and just society, but there remains much work to be done to achieve racial justice. There remain disparities in almost every aspect of life. And the courage and conscience of the Greensboro Four remains an inspiration for all Americans to recognize injustice, to refuse to accept injustice, to act against injustice.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL ADOLFO LOPEZ

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

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of United States Marine Lance Corporal Adolfo Lopez.

On Thursday, November 18, 2004, Lance Corporal Lopez, a member of Battery T Unit, 5th Battalion, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division, died at the young age of 19.

Mr. Lopez was killed in tragic rollover accident near Tucson, Arizona, while traveling home to Laredo, Texas, from a California military base.

Mr. Lopez, also known as Buffy, was coming home to Laredo to spend the holidays with his family before being deployed to Iraq. Although he did not make it to the battlefield, Adolfo was proud to be called a Marine.

Mr. Lopez, a 2003 graduate of J.B. Alexander High School, was described by his high school senior counselor as dedicated, disciplined and goal oriented. She said one of Adolfo's greatest moments was when he was informed that he had been accepted to the United States Marines.

While in the United States Marines, Adolfo received the National Service Defense Medal. According to Jose Antonio Lopez, his brother's goal was to become a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps.

One of Adolfo's high school teachers, Mrs. Cecilia Santos, recalls letters and

e-mail Adolfo sent her from boot camp in which he would mention how hard it was being away from his home, his family and his friends. Nevertheless, the growth in character he was experiencing was evident in his letters. Mrs. Santos noted in a letter that Buffy was fast becoming a man, a man of great moral fiber who was a role model to our youth.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents in Laredo, Texas, I ask this great body to join me in sending our most heartfelt condolences to the family of Lance Corporal Adolfo Lopez.

May God watch over his parents, Daniel and Mercedes Lopez, and his brothers and sisters, Daniel, Jose, Herminia, Christian, David, Dennise, and Eddie Lopez.

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

(Mr. VAN HOLLEN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. SANDERS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

OMNIBUS NONPROLIFERATION AND ANTI-NUCLEAR TERRORISM ACT OF 2005

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

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, early on the morning of October 11, 2001, as lower Manhattan still lay smoldering, President Bush was told by George Tenet, the Director of Central Intelligence, that a CIA agent was reporting that al Qaeda terrorists armed with a stolen Russian nuclear weapon were loose in New York City.

The threat was not made public for fear it would cause mass panic, but it precipitated an evacuation of hundreds of senior U.S. Government officials, including Vice-President CHENEY, to a series of undisclosed locations away from the capital. Nuclear Emergency Search Teams were dispatched to New York to look for the weapon, reportedly a 10 kiloton warhead that could have killed at least 100,000 people if it were detonated in Manhattan.

Thankfully, the CIA report turned out to be untrue, but the danger we face from nuclear terrorism is all too real. Osama bin Laden has termed the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction "a religious duty," while his press spokesman has announced that al Qaeda aspires to kill 4 million Americans, including 1 million children.

President Bush has deemed a nuclear terrorist attack on the United States

as the number one national security threat facing this country. Last week, in a valedictory interview with the Associated Press, Attorney General John Ashcroft also singled out the danger to America posed by terrorists armed with nuclear weapons.

I agree with the President and the Attorney General. I also share the conviction of almost every expert in and out of government who has looked at this problem that if we do not act now to secure existing nuclear material and weapons, as well as the expertise needed to build new weapons, a nuclear terrorist attack on the United States is only a matter of time.

Mr. Speaker, I will be introducing the Omnibus Nuclear Nonproliferation and Anti-Nuclear Terrorism Act of 2005 to better enable the United States to prevent what Graham Allison of Harvard University has termed "the ultimate preventable catastrophe." I am pleased to announce that several of my colleagues will be joining me as co-sponsors.

Over the past several months I have consulted with a range of experts to produce a range of policies that I believe will be effective and which can be implemented quickly, as time is of the essence and time is not on our side.

First, the bill creates an Office of Nonproliferation Programs within the Executive Office of the President to coordinate and oversee America's efforts to prevent terrorists from gaining access to nuclear weapons and to manage the effort to secure existing nuclear material in the former Soviet Union and other places.

The bill expands the ability of the President to carry out the Cooperative Threat Reduction programs both in the former Soviet Union and elsewhere.

It will enhance the Global Threat Reduction Initiative announced by Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham, our former Secretary, last May to advance the global cleanup of the most vulnerable stockpiles of nuclear weapons materials.

The legislation calls on the President to expand and strengthen his Proliferation Security Initiative to interdict the shipment of nuclear material.

My bill also urges the President to work with other nations and international organizations to develop and implement standards to improve the security of nuclear weapons and materials.

It authorizes the Department of Energy to assist Russia in conducting a comprehensive inventory of its tactical weapons and requires reports to Congress on those efforts.

My bill will also expand the President's authority to fund non-defense research by Russian WMD scientists so these scientists would not be tempted to sell their secrets to North Korea, Iran or al Qaeda.

Finally, the bill will require the President to report on ways to strengthen the Non-proliferation Treaty by more effectively controlling nu-

clear technology and material and by mobilizing the international community to close the loophole in Article IV of the treaty.

Mr. Speaker, as the Nation and this Congress grappled with the attacks of September 11, we asked ourselves how we could have failed to foresee the danger posed by al Qaeda and taken steps to prevent 9/11. We know about the danger of nuclear terrorism. We have been warned repeatedly. We are in a race with terrorists who are actively seeking nuclear weapons. The choice is ours. We can continue doing what we are doing now and risk an almost inevitable nuclear attack or we can take action to prevent it. When you consider the consequences, Mr. Speaker, the choice is really no choice at all.

DAMAGING SOCIAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) for helping to organize this Special Order with me.

I would like to thank and recognize my colleagues who have agreed to participate in this Democratic hour of discussion. Those who are here tonight to speak are from the Democratic Women's Caucus, from the Congressional Black Caucus, from the Hispanic Caucus, and we have many other like-minded Members here tonight to speak.

Tomorrow night, we will listen to the President describe his domestic agenda for the next 4 years. He has already told us what he will spend most of his time talking about. He will not be talking about paying down the staggering national deficit or addressing the international crisis over the falling American dollar or getting Americans back to work after we have lost over 2 million jobs.

He will be talking about Social Security. He is going to spend his first annual address to the Nation trying to sell us on his plan to cut Social Security in half. Of course, that is not what he is going to call it, but that is exactly what it is.

I suggest that we listen carefully tomorrow night not to what the President says as much to what he does not say. In fact, the White House admitted today to the Washington Post that the President will not talk about the size of the benefit cuts his plan requires or about how the size of the proposed private accounts compare to the benefits retirees are now getting.

Let us see tomorrow night if the President tells the public that his plan will raise the deficit by over \$2 trillion or put in jeopardy the trust fund that guarantees retired American workers financial dignity in their old age.

Let us call it like it is. The President wants to privatize Social Security, although I am sure he will not use that word, because they know that Americans do not like gambling in the stock market with the Social Security Trust Fund. Democrats will make clear that his plan means putting at risk the Social Security Trust Fund that guarantees working Americans an old age with financial dignity.

The President wants to cut benefits drastically. He has to make his plan work, but he will not say that. Democrats will tell Americans the Bush plan means each of you will get less than you get now and less than you would get if you did nothing at all.

The President wants to increase the deficit by \$2 trillion to pay for his plan, additional debt that would most likely be held by a foreign country such as China or Japan, but he will not mention that his reckless deficit increase lets other nations control America's economy and perhaps even our future.

Democrats are standing up for our economic security and for that of our children. Enough American debt is already in the hands of other countries.

If that is not bad enough, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) wants to calculate monthly benefits based on race and gender. For example, women get less each month in his proposal than men because they tend to live longer.

Democrats are saying we will not accept a Social Security formula based on race or gender. It raises serious constitutional questions and is just plain wrong and unfair.

Let us just call this plan what it is. It is a bad plan with bad results for American workers, especially women and minorities, and here are the facts: The White House is pushing a proposal that would cut in half the amount of income replaced by Social Security for the average retired American worker. Unlike the present system which allows benefits to grow with the economy and wages, the Bush plan would fix benefits to current living standards. That means that retirees would have to live on an amount that is not keeping pace with the cost of living but effectively shrinking each year. An average worker retiring today would have 42 percent of his or her lifetime average income replaced by Social Security, and that is the green line right here.

Under the current system, the workers would get 40 percent of it and the lower income workers on this side would get more than the higher income workers.

Under the Bush plan, in 70 years this benefit would fall to 18 percent. That is a dramatic fall. In other words, workers are denied roughly half of the benefits they have earned over a lifetime of work.

□ 2015

As my colleagues can see from this chart, and this chart was prepared by the nonpartisan, independent Economic Policy Institute, the President's

plan is particularly bad for lower-income workers, those who earn less than the average; and this includes many women and minorities, lower income here. So we can tell that there is more of an impact on lower-income workers. Everybody loses but the lower-income earners. The people who need it most lose the most.

To add insult to injury, under the President's plan, at retirement, workers would effectively lose about half of their so-called private account, since about 50 cents on the dollar is deducted from their guaranteed benefits that they would otherwise get. Even a good investor loses half of what he or she made.

So far, the White House has been silent on that feature, but they need it in order to make their plan add up; and we will not be able to avoid that by opting out of the private account system. The President has been calling the plan, quote, voluntary; but under his plan, workers who do not want to gamble with part of their Social Security money lose the corresponding portion of their guaranteed benefits anyway. So how voluntary is that?

We have not even mentioned the risk to the trust fund, to the taxpayers and to individual retirees that comes from letting individuals play the stock market with Social Security money. What about those who take money out of the trust fund under the President's plan to invest in stocks that go belly up? Who takes care of them? The taxpayers, of course. So the system really ends up paying twice.

Today, in contrast, the trust fund provides guaranteed benefits for older Americans, backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government. That is a better investment for Social Security and for the American people.

If the President told the whole truth to the Nation, Americans would see clearly that his plan is a lousy deal for the American people. Women and minorities are particularly hurt by the Bush plan.

Let me spend a moment on just how bad the plan is for women. Women still earn less than men on average, about 79 cents to the dollar; and that wage differential translates to an even greater pension disparity. In addition, many Social Security recipients are not retired workers but receive benefit as the spouse, child, or widowed spouse of a worker or a disabled worker. Most of these recipients are women and children. So women depend on Social Security more than men do. Women are 70 percent of Social Security recipients at age 65 and over 75 percent at age 85 and above. Social Security benefits are particularly important to keeping women and minorities out of poverty.

This chart that was prepared from the Joint Economic Committee shows that for nonmarried women over 65 Social Security cuts the poverty rate from almost 60 percent to 16 percent, and we can see that the figures for Af-

rican Americans and Hispanics are comparable. It is 21 percent for blacks and 15 percent for Hispanics. In New York, for example, my home State, 55 percent of elderly women would live in poverty without Social Security.

The President's plan affects women and minorities even worse than men. Women and minorities tend to be at the lower end of the income area, whereas, as we saw in the first chart, benefits drop even more under the Bush plan than on average. Also, the fact that the Bush plan fixes benefits to current living standards cuts benefits to spouses, children, and surviving spouses even more drastically than it does to retirees. Once again, the administration is hurting those who are most vulnerable.

This effect is so obvious that even the White House suddenly feels it has to have some sort of Band-Aid to paste over it; but since the cuts under the Republican plan become larger over time, the temporary increase in benefits the President is rumored to favor will not make up for the cuts for a very long period.

On top of this, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) suggests that we reduce women's benefits because they live longer than men. This proposal is just absolutely wrong. It is at odds with the moral values of our society. Since the chairman seems to be taking it seriously, let me note that it also raises serious constitutional and legal issues.

Under well-established Supreme Court decisions, city and State pension plans are barred by title VII from using the fact that women live longer as a reason to pay them less each year. Surely, the Federal Government should hold itself to the same standard.

This proposal should be off the table. Together with 40 of my colleagues we have asked the President to make it clear that he rejects the gentleman from California's (Mr. THOMAS) proposal, and we will be listening to his comments tomorrow night.

Let me add that I have a great deal more to say, but I have many distinguished colleagues with me; and I would like to call upon the gentleman from California (Ms. WATSON) who is one of the representatives from the Congressional Black Caucus.

Before that, I would like to place in the RECORD at this point an article by Paul Krugman which points out that his plan is particularly harmful to minorities.

Social Security privatization really is like tax cuts, or the Iraq war: the administration keeps on coming up with new rationales, but the plan remains the same. President Bush's claim that we must privatize Social Security to avert an imminent crisis has evidently fallen flat. So now he's playing the race card.

This week, in a closed meeting with African-Americans, Mr. Bush asserted that Social Security was a bad deal for their race, repeating his earlier claim

that "African-American males die sooner than other males do, which means the system is inherently unfair to a certain group of people." In other words, blacks don't live long enough to collect their fair share of benefits.

This isn't a new argument; privatizers have been making it for years. But the claim that blacks get a bad deal from Social Security is false. And Mr. Bush's use of that false argument is doubly shameful, because he's exploiting the tragedy of high mortality for political gain instead of treating it as a problem we should solve.

Let's start with the facts. Mr. Bush's argument goes back at least seven years, to a report issued by the Heritage Foundation—a report so badly misleading that the deputy chief actuary (now the chief actuary) of the Social Security Administration wrote a memo pointing out "major errors in the methodology." That's actuary-speak for "damned lies."

In fact, the actuary said, "careful research reflecting actual work histories for workers by race indicate that the nonwhite population actually enjoys the same or better expected rates of return from Social Security" as whites.

Here's why. First, Mr. Bush's remarks on African-Americans perpetuate a crude misunderstanding about what life expectancy means. It's true that the current life expectancy for black males at birth is only 68.8 years—but that doesn't mean that a black man who has worked all his life can expect to die after collecting only a few years' worth of Social Security benefits. Black's low life expectancy is largely due to high death rates in childhood and young adulthood. African-American men who make it to age 65 can expect to live, and collect benefits, for an additional 14.6 years—not that far short of the 16.6-year figure for white men.

Second, the formula determining Social Security benefits is progressive: it provides more benefits, as a percentage of earnings, to low-income workers than to high-income workers. Since African-Americans are paid much less, on average, than whites, this works to their advantage.

Finally, Social Security isn't just a retirement program; it's also a disability insurance program. And blacks are much more likely than whites to receive disability benefits.

Put it all together, and the deal African-Americans get from Social Security turns out, according to various calculations, to be either about the same as that for whites or somewhat better. Hispanics, by the way, clearly do better than either.

So the claim that Social Security is unfair to blacks is just false. And the fact that privatizers keep making that claim, after their calculations have repeatedly been shown to be wrong, is yet another indicator of the fundamental dishonesty of their sales pitch.

What's really shameful about Mr. Bush's exploitation of the black death

rate, however, is what it takes for granted.

The persistent gap in life expectancy between African-Americans and whites is one measure of the deep inequalities that remain in our society—including highly unequal access to good-quality health care. We ought to be trying to diminish that gap, especially given the fact that black infants are two and a half times as likely as white babies to die in their first year.

Now nobody can expect instant progress in reducing health inequalities. But the benefits of Social Security privatization, if any, won't materialize for many decades. By using blacks' low life expectancy as an argument for privatization, Mr. Bush is in effect taking it as a given that 40 or 50 years from now, large numbers of African-Americans will still be dying before their time.

Is this an example of what Mr. Bush famously called "the soft bigotry of low expectations?" Maybe not: it isn't particularly soft to treat premature black deaths not as a tragedy we must end but as just another way to push your ideological agenda. But bigotry—yes, that sounds like the right word.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot condone irresponsible actions, and to support the President's plan on the destruction of Social Security would be just that, irresponsible.

Social Security is a program that should be strengthened and preserved for future generations. Republicans are manufacturing a Social Security crisis that does not exist in order to dismantle Social Security. The administration should be working with Congress to promote personal wealth and savings through investment, but not at the cost of Social Security.

Despite the President's claims, Social Security will remain solvent for nearly 50 more years under the current system. Modest changes to the system would enable Social Security to pay full benefits well into the future. The President's plan for Social Security reform only achieves solvency through massive cuts in guaranteed benefits, not through privatization.

Under the President's plan, according to the CBO, benefits for the typical retiree in 2065 will be 45 percent lower than under the current system. The so-called private accounts will be taxed around 50 percent before the money is available to the beneficiary.

I am especially disappointed at the recent comments made by the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. The elimination of racial and gender disparities is an issue whose

time is long overdue. As a Federal elected official, a Congressional Black Caucus member and a senior woman, I want to call attention to the following facts.

Social Security makes up a much larger share of total retirement income for unmarried women and minorities than it does for married couples, unmarried men and whites.

Among seniors, Social Security is the sole source of income for 26 percent of nonmarried women.

Social Security is a family insurance program, not an investment scheme. Every American that is drawing Social Security put in the blood, sweat and tears required to earn the benefit. Social Security has been very effective in reducing poverty; and without Social Security, 47 percent of whites age 65 or older would have incomes below the poverty line. Sixty percent of blacks age 65 or older would be below the poverty line, and the poverty rate would be over 55 percent for Hispanics age 65 or older as well.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to honor the Americans that have accepted stewardship of this great country for over 65 years of their lives. We are a stronger Nation when we protect and respect our seniors. We gain wisdom, institutional memory, guidance, and family values by ensuring the well-being of all our elder citizens.

Forty-eight million people receive Social Security benefits each month. Thirty million are retired workers who have paid into the system, and more than 90 percent of people age 65 or older obtain Social Security income.

Mr. Speaker, we should not endorse a plan that will destroy Social Security. The President's plan is simply irresponsible.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments, and I would place in the RECORD at this point a letter that was signed by 40 of my colleagues asking him to make it absolutely clear that he rejects the gentleman from California's (Mr. THOMAS) notion, and I hope that we hear that tomorrow night.

Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,
President,
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President, We were appalled to hear Ways & Means Chairman Bill Thomas propose Sunday on "Meet the Press" that Social Security benefits should be based on race and gender. Chairman Thomas said that Congress "needs to consider how many years of retirement you get based on your race" and that women should receive fewer benefits each year because they tend to live longer than men. Asked if Congress would accept such an idea, Chairman Thomas didn't seem to know the answer.

The answer is "No," Mr. President. We, the undersigned members of Congress, will not accept a Social Security formula that is

based on race or gender. This idea is unfair, it is unjust, it is profoundly anti-American. We call on you to repudiate it. We request a meeting with you to give you our views in person and receive your response.

Cutting benefits to those who need them most is counter to the core principles on which Social Security was founded. That great program is the financial safety net for all working Americans in their old age. All workers have earned their benefits and are entitled to them regardless of gender or race. Social Security's formulas are race and gender neutral and must remain so. To propose that women should receive fewer benefits because they tend to live longer denies benefits to retired women workers who depend on them to survive and is fundamentally wrong. To advocate that minorities should receive different benefits on the basis of their race is repugnant in a society that has renounced racial discrimination and where all persons are equal before the law.

Chairman Thomas' proposal attacks the most vulnerable among us. Retired women workers are twice as likely as men to live below the poverty line and to depend on Social Security as their sole means of support. For African-Americans, Social Security cuts the poverty rate from 59 percent to 21 percent.

Sunday was not the first time Chairman Thomas has proposed basing Social Security on race and gender, but it was the first he made clear on national TV that he will advance this outrageous agenda in the Congress. It is time to make clear that Congress will not accept it. Nor should you or your administration. Chairman Thomas' proposal goes against everything for this great nation stands, and it is counter to our deepest moral values. We call on you to renounce clearly and unambiguously any change to Social Security benefits premised on race or gender.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Maloney; Frank Pallone, Jr.; Nancy Pelosi; Tammy Baldwin; William Jefferson; Alcee Hastings; Dale Kildee; Diane Watson; Michael Michaud; Gene Green; Steve Israel; Maxine Waters; Lynn Woolsey; Joe Baca; Sheila Jackson-Lee; Chris Van Hollen; Jerrold Nadler; Gary Ackerman; Raul Grijalva; Barbara Lee; Gwen Moore; Luis Gutierrez; Sam Farr; Bobby Rush; Marty Meehan; Mike Honda; Ed Markey; Tim Bishop; Robert Menendez; Donald M. Payne; Tom Lantos; Eddie Bernice Johnson; Al Green; Loretta Sanchez; Henry Waxman; Julia Carson; Maurice Hinchey; Elijah Cummings; Linda Sanchez; Artur Davis; and Major R. Owens; Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to read briefly a letter that came into my office on this issue from one of my constituents, and she wrote:

"I want to thank you for standing up on the Congress floor and speaking out against the appalling recommendation made by the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) on Meet the Press. No decisions regarding Social Security should be based on a recipient's gender or race. To this day, women and often minorities still earn less on average

than men. This has placed an unfair burden on women who often are the sole providers for their children to have the means in which to save for their retirement. Shall we further ensure their poverty in their final years? Please do not allow the gender gap to become acceptable and government-controlled."

Another person who has spoken out strongly on this issue is the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), and I thank her for joining us.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for yielding to me and also for her efforts in organizing this evening's Special Order so that we can bring greater attention to this critical issue.

Of all the programs instituted by government during our Nation's history, Social Security is arguably the most successful, one of the most meaningful. It is the only universal defined benefit, inflation-protected pension system for American workers.

It is a little known fact that Wisconsin had a very strong connection to Social Security in its origins, its authorship and its administration. In the 1920s, lured by the promise of quick profits, millions of Americans invested all of their assets in the stock market, losing everything when the Market crashed in 1929. In the Depression that followed, no group suffered more than the millions of senior citizens who had no income, no resources and were forced to live in poverty.

Spurred by that tragedy, two Wisconsin natives and University of Wisconsin-trained economists led President Roosevelt's Committee on Economic Security in drafting and shepherding through Congress what became the Social Security Act of 1935. The conceptual underpinnings of Social Security came directly from what we call the Wisconsin Idea, the concept that governments and the university could and should collaborate to address serious social and economic problems.

The successful results of this collaboration cannot be questioned. For nearly 70 years Social Security has served as a vital resource for our Nation's seniors, preventing millions from spending their final years in poverty.

□ 2030

In fact, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, the national poverty level among senior citizens is 10 percent, which is two-and-a-half percentage points lower than the national percentage of the population living in poverty.

Social Security benefits are predictable and steady. They protect against inflation, and they also provide vital disability and survivor benefits. No private pension or savings account can provide that type and kind of protection.

Those who seek to privatize the program have sought to portray Social Security as unaffordable, unsustainable and facing some sort of imminent fi-

nancial crisis. Yet a close look reveals that the facts are otherwise. According to the Social Security Trustees' Annual 2004 Report, Social Security will be able to pay full benefits to all retirees until the year 2042. The Congressional Budget Office projects that Social Security will be able to pay 100 percent of benefits until 10 years later, 2052.

However, if current workers are allowed to divert money out of the Social Security Trust Fund and contract into private accounts, there will not be enough revenue to pay benefits to current beneficiaries and, without raising taxes, the government would be forced to borrow that money, raising the deficit by an estimated \$2 trillion.

So why the clamor to create private accounts? Despite its undeniable success, there have always been people opposed to Social Security who have worked repeatedly to dismantle the program. They simply do not believe that government should insure Americans against poverty. I find this indefensible.

Social Security is a product of, among other things, the Wisconsin idea, reflecting Wisconsin values that government should work to further the common good. As generations did before us, it is now our duty to strengthen the Social Security program and keep this promise to all generations that follow.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Wisconsin. I was not aware of Wisconsin's important role in the development of this program.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to yield to my colleague, the gentleman from the great State of New York (Mr. OWENS), and to thank him for speaking out and being with us here tonight.

(Mr. OWENS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from New York for this Special Order, and I rise to make a fervent appeal.

Social Security should be a nonnegotiable part of a democratic society in America. I must appeal and beg the White House and the Republican majority in the House and the Senate to end the torture of millions of Americans. Right now they are going through torture.

Torture is a correct word. A cruel psychological torture is being executed every day when we launch these overt attacks, assaults on Social Security. People are fearful. I feel the pain and fear of the millions who are now trembling under this barrage of Republican propaganda which attacks Social Security, uses trick words and booby trap concepts that frighten people a great deal.

It is not reform. It is the destruction of Social Security as we know it which is being attempted. Social Security must be made as permanent as the United States Constitution. Social Se-

curity represents a high expression of compassion. It is a massive and systematic application of collective compassion. It works. It is not a perfectly administrated program. Nothing is perfect. But it has made possible a helping hand in a systematic way to more people than any other program ever conceived by any government.

Social Security is a Democratic Party creation. Fortunately, we heard our colleague previously talk about how Social Security evolved out of State programs. It is a Democratic Party creation because it was greatly resisted by the Republican Party from the very beginning.

It is important to note this fact and have people understand in this generation at this particular time that Social Security was not created by magic. There was a certain kind of moral dedication and political determination that was necessary in order to create Social Security. Moral dedication. Morality in the truest sense of the word. Morality: Caring for the lives of people. Morality: Wanting to make that part of the preamble to the Declaration of Independence which talks about the pursuit of happiness, wanting to make it a reality for the poorest people.

So it is probably the greatest act of morality of our government, the one that impacts on the most lives over history, over time, than any other. So when we speak of moral values, let us remember it was the Democrats who created Social Security, the Franklin Roosevelt administration.

It was the Democrats who later created Medicare and Medicaid. The great disciple of Franklin Roosevelt, Lyndon Johnson clearly understood that government is not on people's back when government takes steps to organize systems which allow people to pursue happiness, allows the elderly to be part of the process of pursuing happiness, allowing all people to have reasonable health care, no matter how poor they are. Medicaid and Medicare are under attack also as well as Social Security.

America today must appreciate that maybe there were miracles involved, but they were not from heaven, I assure you. There were miracles that took place in this city, in Washington. There were miracles that took place on the floor of the House and the Senate. There were miracles that took place in the White House to make Social Security a reality.

We do not want to lose this reality. We want it to continue to be an expression of our moral values at the very highest.

I feel the fear of millions of people, but I also first feel the fear of individuals that I know. The senior citizens whose faces I look into, they are frantic. Because the way in which we have approached this problem is to first stampede people into the feeling it is doomed, it is about to go over the cliff, that any day now that they will cut off Social Security checks.

We did not mean to make it quite that dramatic, but for a poor person, a

senior who has no other income, no other income, and there are millions who have no other income except Social Security, for them to face a situation where they hear on the radio, they see on television the talking heads talking about the need to privatize Social Security, privatize to them means the government is not running it, and they do not trust private individuals.

There are all sorts of scenarios running through the heads of people who are dependent upon Social Security. So I feel the fear directly. I feel the fear because I know people who cannot make it any other way without Social Security, and they think that any day now they are going to be without it.

This stampede is a kind of terror. It is unnecessary terror. It is setting the stage politically to force us to act faster and with a kind of frantic fear that makes people, Members of Congress, do what they know is wrong. The stampede should stop.

The stampede is made more fearful by the insulting language and the distorted arguments that are already being used, as we have heard my colleagues talk already. I heard my colleague on the Committee on Ways and Means, the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, I heard him on television. I could not believe my ears when I heard the discussion about women live longer and, therefore, women should probably have reduced benefits. That would be the fair thing to do. I just cannot comprehend in this day and age a statement like that could be made. Women should be penalized for living longer.

Along with that statement, Mr. Speaker, came the statement that blacks, particularly black males, would be the beneficiary of a privatization program because they would have greater control over the money they put in. They could take it out earlier, because, after all, black males are dying earlier.

The actuarial statistics show clearly that black males are swindled out of their Social Security payments at a greater rate than anybody else. They die earlier and so do not get their benefits. So, therefore, instead of trying to have a health care system and a set of working conditions in America which allow people to live longer in general, and certainly black males to live longer, instead of creating a program for jobs so that the kind of economic tyranny that black males live under, where they cannot make it, they cannot live a healthy life because they do not have the income, instead of addressing those problems, we are implying they should just live shorter lives and be grateful that we will give them their money back through a privatization system in Social Security.

I just could not believe it. I cannot reconcile that with living in America and having a responsible official making that kind of statement.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to make the case for the millions also who do hard,

back-breaking work every day. They get up early every morning, and they are in motion all day. Most of us do not know what hard work is. We do not understand what it means to be in motion all day and what back-breaking work means.

I understand a little bit because I came from the City of Memphis, Tennessee, which is located in the corner of Tennessee, just between two agricultural States, Mississippi and Arkansas. And the poor children in my neighborhood, we went to Mississippi or Arkansas in the summer to chop cotton. You made \$3 a day sweating under the hot sun all day chopping cotton. That was before the invention of the machines. Or in the fall you went to pick cotton, which was much worse than chopping because you had to bend over all day, and you came home sore all over.

So I had a taste of what it meant to do hard work. But I see men and women all the time who are lifting and moving about doing hard work greater than that all the time. So those are the people who need the retirement earlier, not later. Do not move it back from 65 to 67, and they are now talking about moving it to 70.

I think my father was fortunate. He did hard work all the time. He worked in a furniture factory in the mill, the place where you have the raw boards and raw lumber that has to be ground down and refined, and he was moving all the time. He was pretty tired when he came home, and he is fortunate he lived to be 68. He lived to be 68. So he had 3 years where he did collect Social Security. A very happy man because he could retire and receive Social Security. That is what he looked forward to, retiring, stopping the process of getting up every morning and going to work in that mill with the sawdust and the other things. He died of a disease which is caused by an overexposure to sawdust. It was at the age of 68. So he at least got 3 years of his Social Security.

All he would have had, all he would have had was that Social Security payment if he had not had children who could pay his bills, and later on one of my brothers built a house for him. But for 3 years he was able to benefit from what he paid in Social Security. And many of his colleagues, in fact, most of them, never lived to 65 and were able to realize that.

So I rise to speak for all those millions out there who have seen Social Security as an outstretched hand from their government, which is deserved by working families, which is a compassionate act, and which is one of the most efficient programs that ever the government has invented. We want to maintain Social Security.

We hope that the torture that is going on right now will end. We hope there will be a retreat from this effort to destroy Social Security, and I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his truly moving presentation today.

I had very much the same reaction he did. I was home during the snowstorm watching Meet the Press, when the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), suggested that we reduce women's benefits because they live longer than men. I truly almost fell out of my chair. I could not believe it.

And many of the sentiments that the gentleman has expressed on the floor were in Paul Krugman's op-ed piece on January 28 that showed how the program is particularly harmful to minorities. One of the things we need to work on is improved health care and medicine and hospital care for minorities so they live longer, not manipulating the Social Security System in a way that does not help minorities, women or men or anyone.

Mr. OWENS. It was almost a proposal to die early. Please die early.

Mrs. MALONEY. It was astonishing, absolutely astonishing.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to one of the organizers of this Special Order, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY). I thank her very much for her hard work on putting this together and for her leadership on Social Security and so many other issues.

□ 2045

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for organizing this Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, soon President Bush will unveil the details of his program to cut Social Security. We already know, however, that the President aims to dismantle a program that has been historically successful in our country and incredibly important to the well-being and financial security of women.

Women make up the majority of Social Security beneficiaries and are less likely than men to receive pensions or have retirement savings. Women are more apt to live on just Social Security. More than 24 million women receive Social Security benefits, and if these benefits were to be taken away, the result would be nearly 60 percent of senior women would be living in poverty. I shudder to think of the possible consequences of breaking apart the strongest social safety net that we have.

Social Security helps to ensure equal footing for women in retirement by using a progressive benefit formula that proportionately pays a greater benefit to those who earn less. Women earn only 77 percent on the dollar compared to their male counterparts and spend less time in the workforce, putting them at an immediate disadvantage for saving. Women who work hard providing for their families, who leave the workforce to raise children should not be penalized in later years for time outside of the workforce when they were not able to add to their private accounts. In fact, if men could have babies, I wonder what they would be doing about their shorter work lives.

Recently, some of my Republican colleagues have proposed that women, because they live longer, should receive smaller benefits than men. Imagine such an idea, that women would receive less money than men because they live longer. If anything, the longer average life span of a woman is an argument against private accounts which do not guarantee paid benefits throughout a person's life. Social Security benefits cannot be outlived and are inflation-proof. Women need to know that they can rely on this safety net to ensure that every American can live out their life with financial security.

Mr. Speaker, although this issue is important to seniors, we need to recognize that the issue affects every American. Today's workers are tomorrow's retirees. As a mother and as a grandmother, I want to make sure that a system that Americans have relied on for so many years will still be there when my children and grandchildren retire.

Social Security is a safety net that must remain in place so that we ensure the welfare of our seniors. We need, however, to encourage Americans to save for their retirement outside and above Social Security to guarantee that they will live comfortably after they are out of the workforce, especially low-wage earners, especially women.

The President's proposal to needlessly and recklessly dismantle the greatest social program in our country's history will have long-lasting and far-reaching effects.

I am deeply troubled by a proposal that would take money away from a guaranteed benefit and subject it to the roller-coaster fluctuations of the stock market. Our goal must be to ensure that Social Security is fiscally sound so that the system our families rely on is not recklessly undermined. We must keep the Social Security safety net in place without subjecting it to the whims of Wall Street. Recently, we have seen too many pension plans that people counted on for their retirements be swallowed up by corporate greed and an unstable stock market. We cannot allow the same thing to happen to our Social Security program.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in opposing the proposals that undermine the strength of our retirement system and the original intent of Social Security. This program has become a cornerstone for American workers' financial stability in their later lives, and it must not be dismantled.

If our President wants to improve the lives of retirees, he will put in place a savings plan on top of Social Security savings, acknowledging that Social Security alone is not enough to live on. We need to provide incentives so that workers at every level will save and have a savings account, an investment account above Social Security which is only a safety net.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her won-

derful presentation. She raised a very important point. Democrats wants to preserve the safety net of Social Security, but we also support any plan that encourages savings for individuals. But let us not undermine this whole system. I believe the gentlewoman pointed that out very well.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), a former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and an important leader on this issue and many others.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) for organizing this Special Order. This is very important. I am here tonight, but I intend to make many, many speeches over the next few weeks about this important issue.

Social Security is a vital program which provides an important safety net for our seniors. Nearly 30 million seniors receive a benefit under the program, and Social Security is essential for keeping millions out of poverty. Social Security is also vitally important to millions of Americans who depend on Social Security survivor and disability benefits.

When we include these individuals, the total number of people who depend on Social Security in order to live at a decent standard climbs to nearly 48 million Americans. If we privatize Social Security, as the President suggests, millions of individuals will be thrown into poverty. We simply cannot let this happen. We must strengthen Social Security, not gamble with it, not destroy it. Privatization is simply rolling the dice, gambling with a program that has proven to be consistently solid, that we can depend on.

In my home State of California, without Social Security, 49 percent of elderly women would be poor. Privatization would do nothing to decrease the number of Californians in poverty. In fact, the number of California women living in poverty would increase if we were to privatize Social Security.

Under current law, the typical recipient of a Social Security widow's benefit in California receives \$892 per month. According to the Congressional Budget Office, under plan 2, this is a plan, one of the President's plans, under plan 2 of the President's Commission to Strengthen Social Security, today's kindergartners are projected to receive 45 percent less than they were promised under current law, even when the proceeds from their private accounts are included in the total. Therefore, if plan 2, the President's plan, were put into law, the typical California widow would receive only \$490 a month, a dramatic cut in benefits that would force many into poverty.

Mr. Speaker, the administration argues that privatizing Social Security would be good for African Americans and other minorities because we have a shorter life span than white Ameri-

cans. I am really insulted by this administration playing the race card on Social Security. I think they should stop doing it. Not only is it insulting, it is just not true. To quote White House press secretary Scott McClellan, privatization "will enable us to be able to pass on those savings to our heirs if they happen to pass away early. African American males have a shorter life span than other sectors of America."

What I dislike about this race card that the President and his representatives are playing with African Americans is this: They have to factor in that the health disparities that we are confronted with are going to continue. As a matter of fact, not only do they factor it in, they plan on it continuing. We are after the President and this administration to help us do away with health disparities, not to accept them and to factor them into their planning in ways that say to us oh, we know you are going to die early, we will factor this in, we will privatize Social Security and you can save some money and you can pass it on to your heirs. I wish they would stop it and stop it now because we are not going to stand for it.

Again, while it is true that African Americans have a shorter life span, it is because of health disparities which cause many young blacks to die early. Privatization will do nothing to help African Americans live longer or better lives than we do under the current system.

The Social Security Administration's actuaries, as well as studies conducted by AARP, clearly show that African Americans, minorities, and other low-wage earners do much better under the Social Security system than they would under other retirement plans because of the progressive structure of Social Security. Social Security is structured so that the lowest-income earners, which are often African Americans, receive the highest retirement benefits.

If we take away this aspect of Social Security, millions of African Americans would slip into poverty. If the President is really concerned about the black community and ensuring that we receive full retirement benefits, I would urge him to join with me and others in working to eliminate these health disparities that cause so many African Americans to die prematurely.

Mr. Speaker, this is the debate we should be having, not how to privatize Social Security.

Mr. Speaker, the President consistently tells the American people that Social Security is in a crisis and that the system is going to be bankrupt in 50 years, but these statements are just plain wrong. We can strengthen Social Security so it can meet its obligations, but we can strengthen it through simple and modest changes.

Mr. Speaker, privatization will not strengthen it. It will only break it. We should not expect our parents and grandparents to gamble their retirement savings on the whims of the stock market.

I urge my colleagues to oppose any effort to privatize Social Security.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her statement. She made many strong points, particularly on health disparities. The gentlewoman pointed out that health disparities are not caused by Social Security. There are health disparities in our country, and we should address that with better health care. The fact that some people do not have good health care is no reason to undermine the entire system of Social Security, but we should focus on that area of need to help people in this country. I thank the gentlewoman for her time.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), who has worked very hard on many equality issues and, in fact, used to run the office of economic equality in the Carter administration, I believe.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for her initiative. Millions of Americans want to know what the truth is. Because of the gentlewoman's leadership, we are trying to get those facts out here today.

Yes, I was chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under President Carter.

The gentlewoman from New York and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) have been talking about the issue of race and gender.

Let us be clear, this argument is a nullity. Under the Constitution of the United States, government benefits may not be distributed taking race and sex into account. The courts have spoken on that. So if there are racial disparities or gender disparities, they are off the table constitutionally. Race is a suspect classification, and I do not want to get technical, which means you can only use race if there is no other way to accomplish the purpose.

What is the purpose we are trying to accomplish here? Does the other side want to make sure that black men who have lower incomes than others get what? Privatize what little income they have, take it out of their meager earnings for private accounts? Are you going to give them more money because they die early? Come on. Let me hear what you are going to do to make up for the fact that black men die early, and leave aside health, because that is very clear. You cannot do it in any way, and maybe if you are on the Committee on Ways and Means you have not looked at the Constitution, but some of us have. We cannot put race and sex on the table under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and under the equal protection clause of the United States.

I do want to say how we got into this crisis. Do we forget that the Republicans inherited a Social Security Trust Fund that was in surplus? Why are we here? Do you forget the days of the lockbox when Clinton-Gore said do not touch Social Security, we have a

surplus, put the money in the lockbox and we will never have to worry about Social Security?

□ 2100

We had enough to pay for Social Security and then a surplus. What happened to it, my friends? George Bush and the Republicans came to power and they decided they had a use for the funds in the lockbox and they unlocked it, and they distributed it in disproportionate amounts to the very rich who do not need to even think about Social Security. They distributed it in a war, a controversial war from which they cannot extricate themselves. And to have had the nerve to quote President Clinton talking about the crisis. Indeed he was. He said, over and over again, we are going to have a crisis if you get into this lockbox, and he had hardly gotten out of Washington then George Bush was picking the lock. They got us into this crisis, and they want to make it worse because they want to privatize Social Security. The only way to do that is take more money, this time not from the surplus because they have used that up, but from deficit spending. This is not even ancient history. It is history that many Members of this House have lived.

Finally, let me say a word on race and gender. I know that the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) said he was only putting it on the table. Thank goodness the 14th amendment keeps us from putting certain kinds of things on the table. You cannot say to somebody, because you are black, I think you are going to live a little less long and so, I am not sure what the remedy is, by the way, but I am going to do something to you for that reason. And women, wait a minute, you live too long, so I am not sure what I am going to do to you.

Let us hear what their proposal is. Are you going to take back their Social Security? Reduce their Social Security? Any of those things, my friends, is unconstitutional under the equal protection clause. They should be taken off the table. You threw it out there, and you expect us not to respond.

Finally, let me say this. One of the reasons why women and people of color embrace Social Security so much is because, in fact, they get disproportionately from Social Security. Because their wages are lower and because the Social Security system is progressive, they pull from Social Security disproportionate amounts given what they, in fact, contributed to Social Security, because this is not a one-on-one system, what you give to the system, you get back. This is a progressive tax system, so you get back disproportionately. I do think it is important to get into some of these details so that, in fact, people can understand why we must oppose the privatization of Social Security. You can bank on this, Democrats who gave us Social Security are not going to be present at the funeral of Social Security. We are here this

year to save it for the American people. I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership on this very important issue.

Mrs. MALONEY. I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership on so many constitutional issues and equality issues. She has always been out there really leading the way. We thank her for being with us tonight.

I yield to the gentleman from the Show-me State of Missouri (Mr. CARNAHAN). I thank him for being here. Welcome.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to discuss an issue that is of paramount importance to the people of the Third District of Missouri and across this country, Social Security. For over 60 years, Social Security has provided a dependable and predictable income for retired or disabled workers, their dependents and their survivors. In my St. Louis area district alone, there are over 100,000 Social Security beneficiaries, many who have contacted me. For those people, this debate is vital. Changes made to Social Security will affect not only their lives but also their families, neighbors and communities. We must take every necessary precaution to protect this vital program and prevent it from being undermined by risky privatization schemes that would weaken the very foundation of Social Security.

As we all know, the President has proposed a system of private accounts. He claims that these private accounts will solve the so-called Social Security crisis. The Social Security system is not in crisis. While the program faces many challenges, it will be financially viable for at least the next half a century.

According to our own Congressional Budget Office, this is a manufactured crisis created to help sell a privatization plan. The President's plan will not help preserve the benefits for those people who depend on them the most. The practical effect of the President's plan is that guaranteed benefits will be cut in half over the life of a retiree. That is not acceptable. A system subject to private fees, investment risk, and massive increases to our national debt is not acceptable.

Social Security supports and protects families across this Nation. It is a family insurance program, not an investment scheme. It has reduced poverty in America and given a guaranteed source of income to those who need it most. Let us keep the solid foundation of Social Security and look to encourage supplemental savings plans to further strengthen the retirement security of Americans. Privatization is a gamble Americans cannot afford to take. Let us keep Social Security safe and oppose misguided privatization plans.

Mrs. MALONEY. I thank the gentleman.

I yield to one of the organizers, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE). I thank him for his leadership on putting together this Special

Order and his leadership on so many important issues before this body.

Mr. PALLONE. First of all I want to thank my friend from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for organizing this Special Order this evening. She has been a strong advocate for women in the U.S. House for many years, and she is also a strong advocate for protecting and strengthening Social Security. As we know, the gentlewoman from New York was so concerned by the comments that Ways and Means Chairman Bill Thomas made last month supporting the exploration of Social Security formulas based on race and gender that she drafted a letter to President Bush that was signed by several dozen of my Democratic colleagues, including myself. In that letter, Democrats categorically stated that we would not accept a Social Security formula based on race or gender.

I just wanted to comment on Social Security and women. I know many of my colleagues have done so this night in this Special Order; but as we know, more than 24 million women receive Social Security; and without it, over half of all senior women would live in poverty, without those benefits. Cutting benefits by almost 50 percent, as Republicans have proposed, would make it impossible for millions of women and children to achieve financial security. Cutting benefits just for women, as Ways and Means Chairman THOMAS suggested should at least be explored, he said, would be even more unfair and that is because Social Security is a good deal for women. Because women only make 77 cents for every dollar a man makes and have less time in the workforce, they would receive less than men from their private accounts. The largest group of losers from privatizing Social Security would be women. This is true for women in all birth years, all kinds of marital status and all income levels. This was the most critical finding in a recent comprehensive analysis of privatization proposals.

I just wanted to say again, I think that what the Bush administration and the Republicans are really trying to do here, let us be honest, is destroy Social Security. Republicans do not want to reform Social Security. They want to destroy it. For years, Republicans have been saying that the only way to reform Social Security programs is to privatize it. President Bush said exactly that back in 1978 when he was running for the U.S. House. Then House candidate George W. Bush said, and I am quoting, I think it, meaning Social Security, will be a bust in 10 years unless there are some changes. The ideal solution would be for Social Security to be made sound and people given the chance to invest the money the way they feel.

That is what he is trying to do. This is 30 years ago. They are trying to destroy Social Security. History has proven that President Bush was wrong. He was advocating privatization as a

way to save Social Security back in 1978. President Reagan and congressional Democrats had a different opinion. In 1983 in a bipartisan manner, President Reagan and House Speaker Tip O'Neill came together and reformed Social Security without privatization. It could be done then. It can certainly be done today. We do not have a crisis. This is something that can be easily fixed if we sit down. We do not have to destroy Social Security. We certainly should not deal with this on a gender or racial basis.

I really appreciate the fact tonight that so many of our colleagues joined the gentlewoman from New York because I think it is really crucial that we make this point.

Mrs. MALONEY. I thank the gentleman for his statement. I would suggest that the gentleman from New Jersey and others listen very carefully to the State of the Union tomorrow night, ask some serious questions and demand some answers.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article for the RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 1, 2005]

BUSH MAY BACK CURBS ON ACCOUNTS—PRESIDENT COURTS CRITICS OF SOCIAL SECURITY PLAN

(By Jim VandeHei and Jonathan Weisman)

President Bush is privately expressing support for limits on the cost and risk of partially privatizing Social Security, in an effort to mollify nervous Republicans and win over dubious Democrats, according to White House aides and congressional Republicans.

Bush, who plans to make Social Security the centerpiece of tomorrow's State of the Union address, has privately told GOP lawmakers and aides that he would support phasing in changes to the system to keep deficits under control over the next several years and push individuals who opt for private accounts into more conservative investments, such as bonds, as they near retirement to mitigate long-term risks, the sources said.

In addition, Bush has expressed strong support for protecting lower-income workers from the brunt of any future reductions in benefits, a chief concern of Democrats. The Treasury Department is doing a budget analysis to determine how many lower-income Americans could be shielded from benefit cuts necessary to offset the overall cost of creating private accounts, the officials said.

"The administration as a whole is committed to an unprecedented effort to better communicate the proposal," especially its limits on cost and risk, said Rep. Rob Portman (R-Ohio), a top White House adviser.

The president wants to allow younger Americans to divert a third or more of their Social Security payroll taxes into private investment accounts, which would take billions of dollars from the trust fund that finances the nearly 70-year-old retirement and disability program. In order to close that funding gap between benefits promised future retirees and taxes expected to be collected, the president would reduce future Social Security benefits, at least for those who choose to set up private investment accounts.

As a result, the president is scrambling to assure lawmakers—and voters—that private accounts can be created without putting the federal budget and people's retirement nest eggs at risk.

With most Democrats opposed to the president's proposal, Bush intends to use the State of the Union speech to begin to detail these ideas, and to argue that new Social Security accounts will be highly regulated and voluntary—and necessary to keep the system from going bankrupt decades from now.

In his speech, the president will not detail the size of new private accounts or the benefit cuts needed to help offset the revenue losses, according to an administration official briefed on the speech. But Bush will talk more specifically about how the proposed accounts would offer only a few, regulated investments options, much like the Thrift Savings Plan for government employees.

The speech will focus on the policy, but its aim is highly political, Republicans say. After surveying roughly half a dozen Senate Democrats whom the White House considers potential converts to Bush's plan, the president and his congressional allies realize they must limit the budget impact of creating a new system and protect lower-income workers, who rely heavily on Social Security for their retirement income.

One way of holding down short-term costs would be to allow Americans to shift gradually part of their payroll taxes into private accounts. Critics say this would do little to reduce the overall transition cost, which experts say could cost \$1 trillion to \$2 trillion over the next two decades.

Bush plans to target Senate Democrats facing reelection with speeches and town hall meetings on Thursday and Friday. He suffered a minor political blow yesterday, when the Congressional Budget Office released new projections for Social Security's financial health, pushing forward the year when Social Security benefits begin to exceed Social Security taxes. The CBO now projects that date for 2020, a year later than its earlier assessment and two years earlier than the Social Security Administration's projection.

The new forecast, by Congress's non-partisan, official budget scorekeeper, highlights the uncertainty about the system's future.

CBO officials attributed the slight improvement to small economic revisions, but CBO Director Douglas Holtz-Eakin was quick to say the changes are economically insignificant.

"Anyone who's making policy based on what they think is a change in these numbers would be making a mistake," he said.

But what is economically significant and what is politically significant are two very different things. Democrats who contend that Bush is exaggerating the need to act and the benefits of his plan pounced on the latest report.

"Today's numbers from the Congressional Budget Office provide further confirmation that Social Security is on solid financial footing for decades to come," said Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.). "While we do face a long-term challenge that should be addressed, there is no reason to rush to privatize Social Security while making deep cuts in benefits and exploding our national debt."

Indeed, the politics of Social Security are playing a prominent role in shaping the debate. Even before Bush has detailed his plan, almost every Democrat has vowed to oppose it, and a large number of Republicans have expressed deep concerns. This has forced Bush to rethink his strategy and rework his proposal.

MoveOn.org, a liberal group that was highly critical of Bush throughout the 2004 presidential campaign, today will begin airing television ads warning three House members not to "privatize" Social Security: Reps. Allen Boyd Jr. (D-Fla.), Chris Chocola (R-Ind.), and Jim Gerlach (R-Pa.).

The 2006 elections are nearly two years away, and Chocola is already facing MoveOn.org's ads and a flurry of automated phone calls to his constituents from an unidentified group condemning plans to change the system. Chocola, a second-term lawmaker likely to face a tough reelection in 2006, said the offensive will prove futile.

At the same time, Republican-leaning groups are readying their own ad campaigns. The Business Roundtable, which represents large corporations, is planning to spend \$15 million to \$20 million on ads and other lobbying efforts in support of Bush's plan, according to spokeswoman Johanna Schneider.

And Progress for America, a group with close ties to the White House, will spend \$250,000 next week on national cable ads to support the president's efforts.

IRAQI ELECTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FORTENBERRY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, as I was waiting for our time to arrive this evening listening to this previous hour, my colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle started out by telling us what the President might say tomorrow night about Social Security for the 21st century. Then for 60 minutes the Democrats proceeded to use their typical scare tactics to frighten seniors just as they did last year with the issue of the prescription drug benefit for our neediest Medicare beneficiaries.

They have the prerogative to talk about anything they want to during this Democratic leadership hour, and they make a decision or their leaders decide whatever the theme du jour is going to be. After all, my colleagues, remember, our 2006 congressional elections are just around the corner. We have only got 639 days left. So let us be just as partisan and negative as we can possibly be toward President Bush and his Republican majority. That is their theme du jour. As I say, my colleagues on the other side, the Democrats and their leaders, they had a choice of topics tonight. They could have talked about anything they wanted to on this eve of what will be one of the most historic State of the Union addresses in the history of our country.

My fellow Members, for almost 2 years now, we have been in a shooting war, fighting to rid the world of terrorism, and to bring liberty and freedom to the long-suffering Iraqi people. These brave souls had an opportunity this past Sunday, just 3 days ago, January 30, to vote for the first time in their lives, indeed a vindication, a renewal of spirit, a new beginning for a great and proud people of the Middle East. I fully expect the President, and my colleagues were predicting what he might say tomorrow night, I fully expect the President to talk about this great, historic occasion.

And that, my colleagues, is what we the Republicans and our leadership have decided to talk about tonight to

the American people on the eve of the State of the Union address, to talk about the historic election that occurred in Iraq just 3 days ago. I think that is what is important to the American people. It is important to the Iraqi people. It is important to the world. And to delve down into pure, raw partisan politics at a time like this again, as I say, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle can do what they want to, but I think they missed a golden opportunity to hear some joy and good news and vindication, yes, of our efforts and the efforts of the Iraqi people over the last couple of years.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw the Members' attention to a couple of charts that we have here tonight. The first one, from the Los Angeles Times, Monday morning, January 31, look at it: "Iraqi Turnout Trumps Violence." Yes, there were some people killed, I think some 44. At least half of them were Iraqi security people who were trying to secure the polls and making sure the good men and women, some of them disabled, struggling to get to the polling place in Iraq, could vote and not be harmed. Look at that headline from the Los Angeles Times.

Here is another, The Washington Post, Monday, January 31: "Iraqis Defy Threats As Millions Vote." How many million? Eight million, 60 percent of the registered votes. In fact, that percentage is just as high as we had in our recent Presidential elections in many parts of this country, where we do not have to worry about getting to the polling place. We have to worry about maybe missing a son or a daughter's soccer match or being late for work, which of course we are permitted to do that on Election Day; but we certainly do not have to worry about the threat of violence or indeed losing our lives and here, 60 percent, millions, vote, 8 million people in Iraq. And expatriate Iraqis around this world in 14 different countries had an opportunity to vote on this historic occasion and in many places here in the United States as well.

So this is what we want to talk about. This is what the Republican leadership, this is what the rank-and-file Members want to talk about tonight as we celebrate and we look forward and we are so happy and grateful for the sacrifices that the Iraqi people have made for themselves and that we have made on behalf of them, and we want to commend this President for having the courage to stand strong in the face of unyielding, terrible criticism of his efforts.

□ 2115

So tonight it gives me a lot of pleasure to manage this time on behalf of the majority to talk about something that is really good and positive for this great country and for our world, certainly for the Middle East. I am so pleased that many of my colleagues on my side of the aisle have joined me in this hour, and we will be hearing from a number of them.

I want to start out by yielding to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KLINE), who serves with me on the House Committee on Armed Services, a great Member of this body who just got back from Iraq, led a small congressional delegation of members of the House Committee on Armed Services to be over there to see, to understand what the people were going through in the lead-up to these elections. At this point, I would like to let him share with us exactly what he saw on the ground in Iraq in the lead-up to these historic elections.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota, and I thank him for being with us tonight.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me and for his leadership on this and so many other issues. It has been a great pleasure to serve with the gentleman from Georgia, and I do have comments about what is truly a world historic event.

It was so exciting on Saturday and Sunday in the United States as we watched the results of the Iraqi elections to see the millions of Iraqis overcoming horrific intimidation to get to the polls and vote. I want to talk about some of that.

In the weeks and months leading up to the January 30 elections in Iraq, we were warned of plans for violent attacks, mass chaos surrounding polling places, and the improbability of any positive outcome. We heard it on the news. We heard it in briefings. And, indeed, we did see the loss of life of Iraqi citizens and members of the international alliance providing support, and we were pained. The reality was grim, but it served to underscore just how important it was to proceed with the January 30 date for legitimate elections in Iraq and the promise, the long-last promise of true freedom for the Iraqi people.

In that recent trip which the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) was discussing, I did have the opportunity and indeed the great pleasure and honor to lead a delegation. Four of my colleagues went with me to visit Afghanistan and Iraq, and it provided us with a better understanding of just how very important, in fact, critical, it was to hold fast to the January 30 date for Iraqi elections. The soldiers that we talked to, the Marines that we talked to, officer and enlisted, Iraqi leadership, the ambassador and his staff all insisted that the elections must go forward on January 30; and the reality of Sunday's success reflects just how true their calls were and how important that lesson was.

Prior to the election, there was a brutal, a brutal campaign of fear and intimidation waged by those who feared a strong and democratic Iraq. After decades of tyranny, a transition to democracy presented a challenge to the predatory environment in which these individuals thrived under Saddam Hussein. These anti-Iraqi forces, the AIF, sought to thwart democracy

in the only way they could, through violence, and this is violence almost unimaginable to us here in the United States, violence and intimidation on a scale which is beyond really our ability to conceive it. These thugs, these insurgents were taking Iraqis and pulling them out of their cars and going to their homes and killing them and killing their families. Absolutely unbelievable.

The amazing thing is, the miraculous thing is, they did not succeed. For the vast majority of Iraqi men and women and the democratic coalition of nations that provided support, of which we are a very proud member, knew the temporary violence that they endured would pale in comparison to the freedom in which these elections offered.

We were in Afghanistan before we were in Iraq, and Afghanistan is an encouraging model despite poor conditions, and Afghanistan is one of the poorest nations on earth. My notes say that they have an ailing infrastructure. That is kind. They have no infrastructure. The success of their democratic elections last fall has generated within the Afghan people a national confidence and the desire to rebuild their nation.

Under the secure protection of a unified and growingly capable national army, Afghan national army, commerce is growing. We were pleased as to see, as we drove through the streets of Kabul, that vendors were lining the streets with their shops and goods were available for sale. It is not like going to a mall, and we are the proud home of the Mall of America in Minnesota, and I guarantee my colleagues that it is nothing like that. These are little ramshackle shacks. But the Iraqis are out there. They are selling goods. Commerce is starting to open up. And that is a wonderful sign of a stable society that is on the rise.

During our discussions, President Karzai, who was very kind to give us of his time on a Friday, a holy day for the Muslims, and he came in on a Friday to meet with us and talk to us about his vision and his dreams and his hopes for his people and his confidence that his country was on the move towards more freedom and prosperity. And I want to say to my colleagues here how grateful that President Karzai was to the American people. He made a point of looking me in the eye and my colleagues and saying, "I do not think you understand that the American people know how grateful we are in Afghanistan. We know that we would not be a free country on the move to greater democracy without your help."

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, so the congressman actually had the opportunity with that delegation to visit not only Iraq but also Afghanistan and to sort of compare what it looks like a year later after free elections were held and what hopefully the Iraqi people can anticipate for themselves. He might want to elaborate on that for the Members.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would continue to yield, I think that is exactly the point, that in Afghanistan, despite the abject poverty, the lack of infrastructure, the brutality that they lived under for decades, and we forget how brutal the Taliban regime really was and how oppressive, despite those things and despite 7 years of drought, which would be crippling anywhere, we know the pain that we feel in our country when we have years of drought, the country of Afghanistan is just devastated. Even with that, the tribal warlords are coming on board with the new national government. They are turning in their arms, and we saw tanks and armored personnel carriers and missile launchers and weapons of all types that were left over from their conflict with the former Soviet Union being turned in. So if we compare it with Iraq, which is comparatively modern in its infrastructure, it is not what we would accept, but compared to Afghanistan it is striking.

We were flying around in Iraq. We would fly over big power lines, the same kinds that we have here. They just do not exist in Afghanistan. So Iraq with its mighty rivers, the Tigris and the Euphrates, with its extensive oil resources, with an infrastructure which is at least a start, it is in a much better position, going in position, than is in Afghanistan. So all those features and the proximity to a contemporary organized culture has really inspired the Iraqi people to step up and realize their freedom.

As the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) knows, these men and women are more than aware of the dangers that are surrounding their democratic efforts, but they believe that the promise of liberty is a worthy goal. There is a wonderful picture in the newspaper, and I saw it on television, of an Iraqi woman who is looking in the camera and raising her hand in the sign of victory with the ink, the indelible ink, on her finger that shows that she voted. We need to remember that that does not wash off. That is the purpose of the ink. And the ink on her finger identifies her as someone who defied the intimidation and went to the polls.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I would like to share with our colleagues on both sides of the aisle the poster, exactly what he was just depicting, and I think maybe we can get that up here because this is poignant. This is something that we absolutely need to make sure that each one of us focus in on. I am so glad that the gentleman from Minnesota brought that up, and I think this is the picture to which he is referring.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would continue to yield, that is it exactly, and is that not a beautiful sight? Just her bravery and her determination and that of millions of Iraqis who went to the polls in the face of an unimaginably brutal campaign of intimidation to cast their votes and take

this important step towards democracy and taking control of their own destiny.

And part of that taking control of destiny, a subject much discussed of late, is what the Iraqis are doing in taking charge of their own security. We had, as part of our visit to Iraq, the opportunity to visit with General Casey, the American commander there, and with Lieutenant General Petraeus, who is the American general who was the commanding general of the 101st Airborne in the first operation in Iraq and now is the man in charge of training the Iraqi security forces. It is very clear that he understands that they have a big job, but they are making progress, not only based on his accounts but in our discussions with American Marines and soldiers and American commanders, and their growing confidence in the ability of the Iraqi battalions and the Iraqi police who are now being well-trained and well-equipped to step up and start taking responsibility for their security.

We saw it on Election Day, did we not? The Iraqi security forces were at the polling places, and with the help of the American forces and other coalition partners who did some terrific planning going into this election, the elections were held with, yes, some brutal attacks but with an amazingly high degree of security that allowed those millions of Iraqis to go down and vote.

It is fair to say that really strict security measures were imposed for that election day. Traffic was stopped. And that led to some even more amazing stories of some Iraqis walking up to eight miles, eight miles, to vote. And, sadly, most of us are not willing to walk half a mile to vote. We want to get in the car and when we get there, if there is a line, we grumble about it. In fact, I have to admit that on our own Election Day, Vicky and I arrived at the polling place and there was a long line of people and we said, Oh, my gosh, we are going to have to wait a half hour to vote.

Mr. GINGREY. Let us come back.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I did have the opportunity to vote for myself, so that is encouraging to make one stay in the line. But think about what these Iraqis did, how long they waited and how far they walked and what incredible pressure they were under not to vote, and yet they did. And those some 125,000 trained and equipped Iraqi forces stepped up. They voted themselves, in some very heartwarming stories, voted and then went out and took up their positions to provide security. It really is a wonderful story of a march to freedom.

I think that if I can go back and look at a quote from President Ronald Reagan, who, as my colleague knows, I had the great honor of serving in his first administration, in thinking and talking about a kind of an obstacle to freedom, the Berlin Wall, President Reagan said, "Freedom leads to prosperity. Freedom replaces the ancient

hatreds among the nations with comity and peace. Freedom is the victor." And I think that that is what we saw in Iraq on Sunday. Freedom was the victor.

The intimidation, the resistance, was not a barrier, it was an obstacle. And it was a tough obstacle, and the Iraqis stepped up to remove that obstacle and go in incredible numbers against incredible odds and start to take charge of their own destiny. As interim Prime Minister Allawi said, their job now is to rebuild their nation and the world is watching. And we are watching, and, frankly, Mr. Speaker, I am proud of what we are watching.

□ 2130

I am proud of what we, the American forces, and our coalition partners and allies have been able to do in working with the Iraqis; and I am just brimming over with pride and with enthusiasm and with optimism and hope for the Iraqi people; and that picture by the gentleman's side I think epitomizes that. I wish that we would not have any partisan rancor that is associated with this. We and free nations around the world ought to be dancing in the streets with joy and moving forward to do what we can to help those people take charge of their own destiny and their own freedom. I have a great deal of optimism.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that I share the joy of the gentleman from Minnesota; and I commend him, and I thank him for being with us tonight, and I commend him for his service on the Committee on Armed Services and for his service to our country. He is a veteran, one of the 5 percent of the 435 Members of the Congress who served our country in the military. People serve in other ways, but I have a special place in my heart for people like the gentleman from Minnesota.

For him to come tonight and talk about what he saw in Afghanistan a year after elections, 30 percent of the voting in Afghanistan was by women, and talk about that lack of infrastructure, and then to go on to Iraq in the days leading up to the election itself and to see those Iraqi security forces working hard to try to secure, to protect these people who were having the first opportunity in their lives to vote.

Yes, there were terrorist attacks, as the gentleman points out. I think there were some 68 or 69 attacks. But do my colleagues know what? Forty-four people lost their lives and over half of them were the Iraqi security forces themselves, the police, not the people standing in line to vote.

I have been to Iraq, like the gentleman from Minnesota has, I am sure on more than one occasion. He knows that these improvised explosive devices and rocket-propelled grenades and these shoulder-mounted missiles, when these terrorists strike, they do not intend to kill less than one person per attack, and that is what happened on election day in Iraq this last Sunday.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that I have a couple of Members on our side of the aisle, a couple of additional Members who have joined me and will be talking about this historic occasion as we look forward to the President's address tomorrow night. One of my colleagues I would like to yield time to now is a dear friend and a fellow colleague on the House Committee on Armed Services, and that is the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia for giving me this opportunity of taking a few moments here with my colleagues. I hope you will apologize as we talk about this historic event; I am still an old history teacher at heart, and sometimes I talk too much about it, but I see historical precedence that we sometimes forget all about.

In the late 18th century, the revolution took place in France, which ended with the overthrow of the monarchy, the beheading of the king. The Jacobins established the republic, with three goals in mind: liberty, equality, and fraternity. While this was happening, across the English Channel, in the British Parliament, Burke was watching it all unfold, and he made the statement that now the French are free to do as they please. We ought to see what it pleases them to do before we risk congratulation. As my colleagues know, before the century was done, the French Revolution had degenerated under Robespierre into the Reign of Terror, as we call it now, into which all of those noble concepts were lost in the blood of the beheadings that took place.

We sometimes do things here on the floor in which small minorities take upon themselves their rights and prerogatives which extend our debate, totally free to do as they please, but I am not so sure if the American public will always congratulate those types of occasions.

I do want, with some credit going to J. D. Crouch, from whom I have read an article, to talk about an election that I do think risks congratulations; it rises to that particular level now. I am talking obviously about a country that is far away from here, that has a culture and a language so vastly different from ours, that was led by a brutal dictatorship, a corrupt family, one man whose brutality in murdering his rivals, even relatives, is almost unparalleled; a one-party domination whose control squandered their resources and wealth, destroyed the economy; a secret police that invaded everyone's rights and terrorized people and led to ethnic violence. Of course I am talking about the country of Romania, pre-1989.

Because what we did not realize is that last year, there was an election in Romania, where the Prime Minister, Adrian Nastase, lost the election and peacefully transferred power to the opposition leader, Traian Basescu. I apologize for not knowing how to pro-

nounce that name because, quite frankly, it was not in the news. I do not have any news reports of people trying to properly pronounce his name, because this election in Romania was so blase, we did not even cover it; we did not even talk about it. It just simply seemed to happen.

We can make some vast parallels between Romania pre-1989 and Iraq in 2003. Romania had the Communist Party, whereas Iraq was dominated by the Ba'athist Party, a brutal dictator in Hussein versus a brutal dictator in Ceausescu. The Fedayeen Saddam of the secret police was similar to Romania's Securitate. The Kurds and the Sunnis, who were ethnically abused similar to many of the Hungarians and the natives in Romania at that time. It is true, I will admit, that Slovakia and Moldavia did not send all sorts of rebels across the border to try and stir up ethnic violence, but they did in the 1990s have significant clashes where bloody miners attacked peaceful demonstrations, and the result of the world to that was to meet it with both patience and support for their efforts of moving towards a democracy.

Fifteen years later, Romania now still has some effect of a one-party state, but they are moving away from that as new Romanians are coming back into the country who were trained in the West and are bringing a spirit of entrepreneurship with them. There is still some element of the communist corruption, but no longer do people think in Romania that it is the grease of commerce, and there are tough laws against it. Fifteen years later, Romania is a strong democratic nation and a powerful friend of ours as a member of NATO.

We need to not forget in the history of this world, it took 7 years after World War II to have the first election in Japan, and 4 years after World War II to have the first election in Germany. We have done the same thing in Afghanistan in 18 months. The first election that showed clearly to the world that most of Iraq is not in chaos, that that small lens of the camera has to focus in on the picture so you do not see a full view of what is happening over there. It showed that al-Zarqawi is not a leader.

We had a Member who serves in this building, not necessarily in this particular body, who said our military and the insurgents are fighting for the same thing: the hearts and minds of the people. I have to reject that. That is an inaccurate analysis. We are not fighting for the same thing. Those fighting to destroy democracy coming to Iraq are the Ba'athist Party seeking a return to power. It is very similar as George Will in one of his articles quoted "1984," George Orwell where he describes the government as the boot stomping on a human face forever. That is what the Ba'athists would like to return to Iraq.

The other is al-Zarqawi which is a radical rejection of the idea that government derives legitimacy from the

consent of the governed. It is a concept of popular sovereignty that Western traditions accept as the basis of our government as something he still thinks of as an evil principle. His rage would have the same effect, a different kind of boot, but still on the face of the people forever. Those insurgents are not fighting for the hearts and minds of the people; they are fighting for chaos and terror and pure political control.

The hearts and the minds of the people are those who went to the polls on Sunday and voted, like the 32-year-old Samir Hassan who said, I would have crawled here if I had to, to the first vote ever held in his country; and he used that phrase because he had one of his legs blown off in a car bomb prior to the election. And then he went on to say, I do not want terrorists to kill other Iraqis like they tried to kill me. So much for the idea that Arabs do not want democracy.

Freedom is the antidote for terrorism. The Iraqis have had a defining moment and the good guys, those who went out to vote, they won. What we now must give Iraq is the same thing we gave to Romania 15 years ago: patience, international support. Despite any smug predictions to the contrary, we are moving in Iraq at a faster pace toward a truly new style of government in which people count; not power, but people count. And with an eye to that future, with an eye to that future, I think the election in Iraq is one that rises to the level where we can risk congratulation.

I thank the gentleman from Georgia for allowing me to share this time with him.

Mr. GINGREY. Well, I want to thank, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Utah, my good friend, for joining us tonight and for bringing some historical perspective. Absolutely, once a history teacher, always a history teacher; but I would say tonight to my colleagues, we are talking about a world-class history teacher, and he gave us a good lesson in Romanian history. I am standing up here listening to my colleague, and yes, I have long since forgotten they went through this struggle less than 15 years ago, in talking about of course the French Revolution and the fact that something historic happened on Sunday.

But there is a lot more work to be done, as the gentleman from Utah so clearly pointed out. We are not through, and for us to listen to naysayers as we had to listen throughout this entire recent Presidential and congressional election cycle, about declare victory and come home even if you have not won. Look for an exit strategy. Bring the troops home. Give us a day. How many? What day? This is totally wrong, and I really appreciate the gentleman bringing that to our attention tonight.

We have been joined as well by my colleague, the gentlewoman from the great State of Tennessee (Mrs.

BLACKBURN), and she is a passionate Member of this body and works very intently for the people of her State and her district and for this great country. It is a privilege tonight for me to recognize her and thank her for being with us.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I want to say thank you so much to the gentleman from Georgia for taking the time to bring this issue not only to the Members of this body, but to the American people. Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank the gentleman from Georgia for taking the time to bring this incredible photograph to the floor and let us continue to just feast our eyes on the contentment and the joy that is expressed in this Iraqi woman's face as she has dipped her finger in that blue ink which has become the indelible mark of freedom, which shows the world that she, as a free woman, has exercised her right to vote. I thank the gentleman for that.

Because we watched this take place, and what an incredible display it was as we saw the Iraqi people stand and fight back terrorism and to rejoice in the work that they have done. The entire nation rejoiced. Our military men and women rejoiced with them, and I think the entire world has gathered to offer praise and congratulations.

At the same time, it was amazing as this took place to listen to some of the liberal leaders in Washington and around and about talk about how important it was to not overhype these first elections. The gentleman from Utah provided some wonderful perspective to that.

Mr. Speaker, I can understand why those on the left and some of those that have harangued the President for months would start to feel as if they are feeling some political heat because, indeed, I think they are. They were wrong. They were wrong. They had too little faith in America, they had too little faith in our military men and women, and they had too little faith in the Iraqi people and the power and the desire for freedom and what that would do in their country.

Some of those liberals like to say that Iraq was out of control and that the terrorists would destroy the election, and America was losing and that we should postpone the elections. Certainly, some like Senator KENNEDY even called for an almost immediate withdrawal of American forces. They wanted us to tell the world that the United States did not have the strength and the determination to defeat terrorism, and they were wrong in every instance. This President stood tall. Our Armed Forces did not waiver. The American people refused to yield to tyrants and terrorists, and we watched the Iraqi people refuse to yield to tyrants and terrorists and the pressures.

□ 2145

Today we know that our President was right. Despite all the doom and

gloom and despite the constant focus on every single failure that could have possibly taken place in Iraq, despite seeing those "two steps forward and one step back" as we marched towards success, we somehow managed to hold safe and orderly elections in Iraq. And I think that tells us all something. It tells me that the national media had already decided in their minds that Iraq was not going like it ought to go, and they reported everything and anything that they thought could make it look like it was going to be hopeless. They ignored every little single shining success. They thought that they could ignore it. They ignored progress and heroism and they had their version of what they thought they wanted Iraq to be. They were against the war, and they manipulated coverage to suit their personal views.

Thankfully, the American people did not believe that national media. They stuck with the President, and today the Iraqi people are seeing what freedom means. Today we know that America has struck a demoralizing blow against terrorism. We are taking valuable territory from the terrorists. They no longer have an assured safe haven in either Afghanistan or Iraq.

Pakistan is working with us to track terrorists. Libya has even begun seeking diplomatic relations with the United States.

Mr. Speaker, over the past 2 years I have had the opportunity to be in Iraq and to make friends with some folks in Iraq, and it is amazing. We have had some of these women come here to America as we have been there to visit with them. Some of these I e-mail with frequently, and we have shared our vision for what an alliance can be between our nations. Other Members of this body have joined in working with some of these folks. It has been absolutely extraordinary. It would have been unthinkable 4 years ago, and this is how we are going to win the war on terrorism, is building these relationships.

In the hours just after the election, I received several e-mail messages from some of my Iraqi friends, one in particular from an Iraqi woman who ran for Congress, and I would like for you all to just listen to this for a moment.

It says, "Dear American Friends, a warm hug of appreciation from Iraq to the good hearts in the United States. Congratulations for us and for you on Iraqi Elections Day.

"Today we are not only free but we have stood united in democracy. Today we marked our history with bright words of Winning the War Against Terror Against Dictatorship. Today we won our identity in front of a watching world. Today Iraq is for us and we are for Iraq, while yesterday Iraq was Saddam and Saddam was Iraq.

"Today Iraq is for all: Arabs, Kurds, Assyrians, Turkomans and many others, while yesterday we were all looking for a home of dignity, humanity and peace.

"After all this, just tell me how can I say thank you. Thank you for every spirit you have given from families and friends to Iraq. Thank you for every minute you contributed from your life to Iraq. Thank you for every word of support, for every courage moment. Thank you for every aid, every project, every rebuild. Thank you for being the best friend Iraq ever had. Thank you on behalf of or tortured men and women in the prisons of Saddam.

"Thank you on behalf of all Iraqi innocents who have given their lives for the freedom price. Thank you on behalf of next generation of love and peace in the Middle East. Thank you and a warm hug from Iraq to the brave hearts in America."

Mr. Speaker, that message is for all of us. It is for our country, it is for our President, and it is an absolutely beautiful thing. I know some of those across the aisle will continue to criticize our every move in Iraq; and, sadly, much of that criticism comes from the powerful leaders of the left. But to my colleagues across the aisle who know better, speak up, challenge your leadership, work with us in Iraq rather than against us.

To our allies in Iraq, America says a hearty congratulations. We are ready to stand by your side as you rebuild. We will not cut and run. America looks forward to your help as an ally in the war on terror.

Mr. Speaker, God bless our active duty, our Reserve and our National Guard men and women as they work to protect us all over the world tonight.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and I sincerely appreciate her sharing that poignant testimonial, that anecdote from the Iraqi woman voting in those elections and what they wanted to share with the American people and to say not a simple but an elaborate thank you, a deep, heartfelt thank you. I really appreciate the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) sharing that with us, and I thank her for being with us this evening.

It is truly amazing that our friends on the other side of the aisle spent one hour, the previous hour, of course, the determination of what they talk about just as our subject matter is made by our leadership. And their leadership decided, well, this was the great opportunity to attack the President on Social Security for the 21st century. They spent an entire hour and not one word, not a single word about this historic election, free elections in the Middle East for the first time in hundreds or maybe thousands of years. And certainly none of these people that had that opportunity, some of them literally stepping over pools of blood to get to that ink, to put on their finger that indelible ink, as my colleagues pointed out, that will not wash off, will not go away.

It was a way to make sure that people voted once and only once and ev-

erything was secure. These people, not only were their lives at stake before they got to the polling place and while they were waiting in line, queuing up sometimes waiting hour after hour in the hot sun, in dust, in misery, waiting to vote, but then they dipped that finger in that indelible ink, knowing that for at least 2 days, maybe longer, there was no way they could get that off their finger. So they are putting their lives at risk even after the fact, but they did not care because they are brave, courageous, wonderful people, and I am extremely proud of them.

I am disappointed that our friends on the other side of the aisle went 60 minutes without not one comment. They do not have to praise President Bush or the Republican majority or this leadership, but to not spend one word talking about what the Iraqi people did 3 days ago is just beyond any imagination.

Mr. Speaker, as I stand here tonight and manage this time, and we do have one additional speaker before we get into conclusion and I do want to hear from the gentleman from Texas, but I just want to say, share with my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, some of the thoughts that I have had since this historic happening this past Sunday.

We all represent maybe 630 or so thousand people in our districts across this great country; 435 of us who are Members of this body, this House of Representatives. And we have all suffered and our people have suffered, mainly our young soldiers men and women who have been in harm's way, Marines, soldiers, sailors, airmen, some 1,600 maybe, close to 1,600 now, who were killed in action and others that we have gone and we have seen. Sometimes we visit them in theater, dying with them, or talking to them or maybe been out to Bethesda to see them struggling to recover from their injuries, proud that they have served this country and served it well.

And I cannot help but think about three soldiers in my district, the 11th of Georgia, West Georgia, and its 17 counties. There have been more injured, but there are three that lost their lives in this conflict. I have been thinking about them for the last couple of days, as I am sure my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have reflected on the families, the loved ones from the funerals that they have attended over the last year and a half as we have paid this great sacrifice on behalf of the Iraqi people and freedom in this great world that we live in as the President talked about in his inaugural address just the other day.

And I want to mention them. I want to mention them because I do not want to ever forget them. I do not want us to ever forget them. I want to think about them. I want to think about their faces. I want to think about the face of Command Sergeant Major Eric Cooke, whose uncle lives up in Calhoun, Georgia, in Gordon County just on the outskirts of my district, who, after serving almost 30 years this country in con-

flict, in battles in several venues, gave his life on Christmas Eve 2003, two days after I visited with him in theater.

He went on a mission in a Humvee, and he took the shrapnel that probably was intended for somebody else, and he gave his life for this great country.

I want to think about specialist Justin Johnston from Rome, Georgia, Floyd County, 19 years old when he joined the Army, barely 21 years old when he lost his life on Easter Sunday last year. And I think about Janet and Joe, his parents, his brother Josh and people that have paid this sacrifice and what did they give it for? What did their sons and daughters give up their lives for?

Last but not least, I think about First Lieutenant Tyler Brown. Lieutenant Tyler Brown, president of the student body at my alma mater, the Georgia Institute of Technology, just a few years ago, 26 years old at the time of his death, killed by a sniper in Iraq, just 2 weeks after being redeployed there from the demilitarized zone. No picnic. But Tyler Brown gave his life. He was a wonderful young man. His parents, I think about them. I see their faces as I stand here tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I think about these people. I know that they have the comfort of knowing as well that their sons and daughters did not die in vain. I mention these three. There are many others. My colleagues, maybe they have there, maybe they have been to more funerals than I have been and seen more mayhem, but this is seared in my memory, and it always will be. When you go to Arlington, when you visit as a tourist, it is one thing, but when you go to Arlington to watch a young soldier whose family you knew and represented laid to rest, who died for our country, this is something of a totally different story.

That is why I am proud. I am proud to talk about this tonight, and I am proud of these young men and women who have done this for us and served us so well. So that is what I want my colleagues to think about.

Let me, before we use up all of our time, Mr. Speaker, and I get too carried away, I do want to introduce another Member on our side of the aisle, a new Member, a gentleman from the great State of Texas, a judge, a fine judge, a member of the appellate branch of the judiciary who might be a freshman Member, but he has got a lot of experience and a lot of things to share with us tonight, not only on this issue that we have been talking about for the last 45 minutes but also a point that is very near and dear to his heart as well.

I proudly yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the right honorable gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGERY). I consider it a privilege to call him a friend and colleague; and I appreciate the time, Mr. Speaker, to address a couple of issues here together.

First of all, we know 2 days ago the cradle of civilization took initial steps towards becoming a democracy. Citizens of Iraq, which today includes parts of the former Mesopotamia and Babylon, cast ballots as free people to elect their own leaders. We must join the rest of the world and salute the extraordinary courage it took for these people to cast their votes.

Each of them had to endure adverse conditions and the threats of death to go to the polls, stand in line and let their voices be heard. The people of America and the free world should be inspired. As with the words paraphrased from *Les Misérables*, "We should hear their spirits sing as it is the music of a people who will not be slaves again."

□ 2200

They have joined in the fight that secures them the right to be free. These brave souls have ventured out in sheer defiance of terrorists and insurgents who want to harm them and keep them enslaved. I join the rest of the world as we salute them, the brave voters of Iraq.

In sharp contrast, right here in this democratic Republic, where hundreds of thousands have sacrificed their lives and millions more have sacrificed so much to secure our right to be a free people, we have a group of Democratic Senators who know the sacrifice it took to secure that right and obligation. They know the words they spoke in an oath sworn to God, with history and citizens watching, to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. They know the Constitution mandates they vote on the nominations to Federal courts, those nominations made by the President. Yet they fail and refuse to do their sworn obligations, and it is as if they never intended to keep their oaths when they were sworn.

Not only has this group intentionally failed to follow their sworn oaths, they have taken the job of questioning good, honorable and decent people and turned it into abusive inquisitions. These Senators would never tolerate these unfair inquisitions if they were treated in the same manner. Many of these nominees have pulled themselves up by the bootstraps and have worked hard to become the top in their field. There are nominees who have lived ethical, moral, honorable lives; yet they are brutalized and had their lives publicly smeared and demeaned in the most vile and disgusting manner.

In the ancient Roman Empire, Christians were thrown to the lions, but many were at least allowed to fight back. When a conservative or a moderate Christian Hispanic or African American nominee is dragged before the Democratic Senators' inquisition, they are not allowed to fight back. These are nominees who have never been accused of cheating in college or plagiarizing speeches or surgically changing their appearance or being in-

involved in the death of fellow partygoers. These are decent people who are who they are and who they appear to be, and they deserve better treatment.

These folks have not lied under oath by completely refusing to do their sworn duty. These nominees have simply agreed to subject themselves to the torture chamber of the certain Democratic Senators in order to try to help this Nation. The judicial nominees only wish to help the Nation without legislating from the bench, and they believe in the true intentions of our Founders.

Having been a district judge and a chief justice, I know some of the nominees that the President has made over the years. They have been attacked and stymied, and I believe what has been done to them is simply unconscionable. Were the attacks made out in the civilian sector, those nominees, some of them, would certainly be entitled to huge verdicts by juries who would understand the malice.

Some nominees have had their lives put on hold for years while some Democratic Senators not only refuse to follow their oath but do all they can to block others from keeping their oaths. When one Democratic Senator was chairman of the Judiciary Committee in 1992, the average length of time to get a vote before the Senate after being nominated was basically very short months. This same Senator wrote to nominees saying basically he would not play politics with their nominations. Then he turned right around and played politics, dragged out such hearings and votes for nearly a year, at which time the nominations died when the President was defeated in November 1992.

Now those certain Democrats have effectively prevented votes on qualified nominees such as that of Priscilla Owen, Carolyn Kuhl, Charles Pickering, Miguel Estrada, Henry Saad, David McKeague and Terrance Boyle, not for months but for years. Those were all nominated, and I mentioned, in 2001. Miguel Estrada could wait no longer and finally had to withdraw. In fact, my law school classmate, Justice Priscilla Owen, was one of those who was nominated for the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. That was on May 9, 2001, and then she was coldly and callously left without the constitutionally required vote for over 3½ years.

I have some Democratic friends back home who understand truth and fairness, and right and wrong; and that is why these actions of certain people have hurt not only this country; they have hurt their party.

Please understand, when an attorney is nominated for the bench, clients are normally reluctant to send new cases their way. When judges are nominated, there is a reluctance by colleagues to send involved cases to them because they may not be around to finish them. The nominees are normally reluctant to make major purchases or make decisions about schools for their children

because of all of the uncertainty. These qualified individuals who are ready and willing to serve their country have theirs and their families' lives put on indefinite hold.

When the average length from nomination to vote was just a matter of months, that was not a major problem. It is now a critical problem. Nominees' lives are incarcerated in an unfair and unnecessary purgatory. Some Senators have complained about how long we held brutal and threatening terrorists, yet these same Senators uphold the honorable judicial nominees' lives as a matter of routine.

These handful of Senators often act out as brutal lions hiding behind the safety of their perches where they cannot be attacked by their victims. Then they maul and brutalize their victims and leave them and their families in a suspended animation for years. It is high time they were held accountable for such outrageous conduct. I believe we have begun seeing recently in this country in the last election some Senators pay for their abusiveness.

It is my intention to begin a judicial observance at least once a month from the floor of this House until all the previous nominees from the President's last term who are renominated are all voted on.

May God grant peace and certainty to those to whom these Senators are persecuting or made to suffer some for their religious beliefs.

In conclusion, some may want to fire shots across my bow. That is fine. So long as they quit attacking good decent nominees and give them their vote.

May the still small voice of fairness and conscience that has been stifled for far too long finally be heard in the soul of the prosecuting Senators. May those who are too afraid to vote take inspiration and courage from the brave Iraqis who ventured out to vote despite the threats on their own lives.

I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) for yielding.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas. The gentleman obviously speaks with passion and knows of what he speaks, and I suspect that we will be hearing more from him on this issue as we go forward in the 109th Congress because it certainly clearly needs to be addressed, and the time tonight, of course, is in the context of talking about freedom, talking about liberty, talking about the rule of law and what we are trying to share with the Iraqi people and other oppressed people of the Middle East and other parts of the world and other Arab nations who have not yet felt that fresh smell of liberty and democracy. So I thank the gentleman for joining us tonight and speaking so eloquently.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I want to mention a couple of quotes that mean a lot to me, mean a lot to everybody who has ever heard them, mean a lot to this great country, mean a lot to Great Britain, but first of all, this one.

The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. Thomas Jefferson, November 13, 1787. The blood of patriots indeed and the blood of tyrants indeed, and this is what we are talking about.

This is a sacrifice that the Iraqi people have made on behalf of themselves and what we have been making on behalf of them over these nearly 2 years now as we have sacrificed our sons and daughters.

The other quote: Democracy is the worst form of government except for all the others that have ever been tried. Of course, Sir Winston Churchill. We are sharing, and that is what the President talked about during his inauguration address on January 20. That is what we are talking about, sharing. That is what he will talk about tomorrow night.

God bless you, Mr. President, and God bless America.

DIFFERENCES IN POLITICAL IDEOLOGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FORTENBERRY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDI) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. TANCREDI. Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure to be sitting here listening to these fine presentations. I believe that these folks that are still watching this evening are truly privileged to hear the kinds of concerns that have been expressed and, I think, the words that have been so eloquently provided to us this evening about our efforts in Iraq.

However, sitting there it does seem to me to be kind of interesting to think about all the people who we know are not feeling all that well about what has happened, all the folks around the world who watched the election on Sunday and thought, oh, Brother, now what are we going to do.

This is not good news to a lot of folks. Certainly, I guess President Chirac, many of the French people themselves, the French Government, Michael Moore, other members of the looney left in California and Hollywood, Barbra Streisand, the Syrians and Al Jazeera and Osama bin Laden and Dan Rather and many parts of the United Nations, the Baathists in Iraq. There are a whole bunch of people who are upset about what happened, and we tend to think of them as being peculiar in many ways or at least that they are folks who are so far out in the left that their opinions are completely and totally skewed by their political ideology. That is true; that is the case.

I was struck just the other day by something that happened in Colorado, my home State, where a professor at the University of Colorado, a tenured professor who was the chair of the ethnic studies department, in and of itself I think a questionable line of academic inquiry, but nonetheless something

that the University of Colorado saw fit to confer that kind of status upon, having an actual Department of Ethnic Studies, and this gentleman, the chairman of that department by the name of Ward Churchill made some comments that were picked up as a result of the fact that he was going to be speaking at a college in New York State, Hamilton College, and his comments were repeated in the media in the last couple of days.

Among other things, what Mr. Churchill, this professor, a tenured professor at the University of Colorado, said was that the people who worked and died in the World Trade Towers were "little Eichmanns" because they were part of this huge bureaucracy of trade and that they were facilitating essentially the engine of world capitalism, which to him made them "little Eichmanns."

I mean, this is a guy, remember, who holds a position of academic authority, who is paid a handsome salary; and if we look at his own academic background, we come away wondering how he ever got hired at any university, let alone the flagship institution, University of Colorado. He may have someplace, somewhere gotten a job teaching at a middle school that was in dire need of a social studies professor, but one cannot imagine when they look at his background that he could actually get a position like the one he holds.

□ 2215

Now he went on to say that, "True, these people were citizens of a sort. But innocent?" He said, "Innocent? Give me a break."

They deserved to die. Those are the words I am adding here. They deserved to die. I guess he was saying they were not innocent and we should not, therefore, be concerned about the fact that 3,000 or more died in that event.

A lot of people in the State of Colorado have called for him to resign; others have called for the University of Colorado to dismiss him. Of course, that is not going to happen. We know no university today would dismiss someone for saying something so incredibly ludicrous or outrageous. And if they did, of course, he would sue. He would go to court and claim that he has a right to say what he has said because he is exercising his first amendment rights. And then they would talk about the fact that he has tenure and he is protected under that situation.

And in a way, I agree. In a way, I think it is right. In fact, I have chosen not to join the chorus of those people who are demanding that he be removed. I think what Mr. Churchill offers to us is a great example of what we on the conservative side of the aisle here and the conservative side of American politics have been talking about for a long time as a problem in our university system, in the halls of academe in general. They have been taken over by the loony left.

Mr. Churchill is a perfect example of the loony left. He is perhaps the loo-

niest of the loony left and so, therefore, I want him to continue to speak out. I like listening to him. I hate what he has to say, but I like the fact that people are seeing and judging for themselves what is happening in our institutions of higher education, because he is an example. He is an example not just of what is happening at the University of Colorado or even in the major institutions in the United States. He is an example of a philosophy that permeates those halls of academe. It is a hatred of America, down deep, a hatred for everything we are and everything we stand for that he exemplifies.

And it is the same thing with all the people I mentioned earlier who look at what happened on Sunday and down deep they feel very, very, very worried, very upset. They cannot really get over the fact that the seeds of democracy were planted in Iraq. They were even nourished by the blood of many wonderful American servicemen and women and certainly by the blood of thousands and thousands of Iraqi citizens.

They were hopeful that, in fact, we would fail, that the whole experiment would fail. They were hopeful that we could not claim any degree of moral superiority, that we could not claim the high ground, the moral high ground, because, in a way, they hate America. They hate the institutions we have established. They hate the freedom that we enjoy. They hate the economic system that we have established. They hate George Bush. They hate the political party he represents.

The other day, I understand that the individual running for the chairmanship of the Democratic National Committee said "I hate Republicans and everything they stand for." Hate. Howard Dean. Well, I wonder how Mr. Dean felt. I wonder how he felt down deep. I wonder even how JOHN KERRY felt down deep.

I wonder how some of our colleagues here in the House felt when they saw that the seeds had been planted, they were sprouting and that democracy has a chance, that it may in fact spread throughout the Middle East, that it is possible. We can now begin to hope for it in a way we could not have dreamt about a year ago and that the President's idea about the basic nature of man is right.

Rousseau, long ago, stated, "Man is born free and everywhere he is in chains." And this essence that there is something in every human being, and the President has spoken of this very eloquently and forcefully on many occasions, that there is something in every human being that strives and yearns for freedom. Yet we look around the world and we see so many people who are incapable of achieving it because of the governmental system that is imposed upon them.

Maybe that is, in fact, a great threat to the United States, as the President has said. Regardless, the fact is that on

Sunday something happened. And regardless of where we are in the political spectrum, we should acknowledge the fact that it did happen and that millions and millions of people in Iraq are now able to think about themselves as the Founding Fathers and Mothers of a new country.

Now I prefaced my remarks tonight with a description of what I consider to be the loony left and how they reacted to this and how the "Hate America Crowd" in the United States and throughout the world reacted to the events of Sunday. I want to expand upon that a little bit, because this is a topic that is, I think, of enormous importance to the United States. It will have a great effect on where we go and how we get there and, in fact, what we are able to achieve in this world.

It is also affected by a variety of things we do in a policy sense. And, of course, I will talk about the issue of massive immigration into this country and how this is going to affect the situation that I have described, the kind of task we have ahead of us to establish who we are as a Nation and where we are going and how we are going to get there.

There is in the country, and throughout the world of course, but certainly in the United States there is something I refer to as the cult of multiculturalism. This is exemplified by people like Mr. Churchill, who really and truly despise America down deep. They despise who we are. They would like to see a different America entirely, one that is not bound to any of the ideas or ideals upon which this country was founded. Why? Because those ideas and ideals were an expression of Western civilization.

If in fact Western civilization was the underpinning or was the foundation of who and what we are and if that civilization was based upon a set of ideas put down on parchment originally, paper eventually, about the nature of man and his relationship to government and his relationship to his God, that if those things were done by white males, at some point back all the way to the Greeks, then there is something bad about it. There has to be something we can take issue with.

Columbus, as I saw one time in a history textbook in a charter school in my district, as I was waiting for the classes to change, I picked up this ninth grade textbook, and thumbing through it I got to the chapter on the Founding of America, and it started out with the following sentence. And this was a declarative sentence. It was not a quote, it was not in italics, it was not a person's opinion, it was set out as the beginning of the chapter. "Columbus Discovered America and Destroyed Paradise."

Now that was the textbook's analysis. That is what children read. That is what we teach them: There is nothing of value in the United States. There is nothing of value in our history, that we are a product of a corrupt

system and mode of thought, and everything that stems from it has got to be derided and debased. That is what we tell our children, and that is what people like Mr. Churchill tell our students in his classes, who then in turn go and teach our children in the K-12 system.

I want to mention an anecdote here, something that happened to me a few months ago. I was in a school in my district, in a county in my district that is a very wealthy county, one in which I do not live, I should hasten to add, but, nonetheless, a very wealthy county, where the schools are the best schools that we can provide in terms of the physical structure, in terms of all of the accoutrements that go along with education, the books, the materials, the overheads, everything that we could want, the highest paid teachers. So of course we assume they are the best; right?

It was a brand new high school. It was a brand new high school, and I was asked to go and speak. It was a school where there were 250 some students, and they came into the auditorium and we had a 15-, 20-minute chat and then they started sending up questions.

The very first question I received was: What do you think is the most serious challenge or problem facing the United States? I said, well, before I answer that, I am going to ask you all a question, 250 students assembled there. I said, How many of you believe you live in the greatest country in the world?

Now, let me tell you, generally speaking, certainly when I was in school, and even for a long time thereafter, when you asked a student something like that in a junior or senior high, there would be a reaction sort of like, well, you know, they are talking about my team. So there is a natural reaction of exuberance and enthusiasm. They would say, yea, absolutely, it is great, it is wonderful, our school is wonderful, our team is wonderful, our country is wonderful.

So I said, how many people here believe you live in the greatest nation in the world? What followed was not the typical reaction that you expect from a group of high school students. There was this sheepish, this very tenuous, this very sort of scary silence as they looked at the teachers who were lined up on either side of the auditorium and the principal who was standing by me.

Finally, about two dozen raised their hands, again very, very sheepishly, cautiously. Nobody did anything exuberantly. Nobody. Not a single person jumped up or gave a feeling of, again, this kind of exuberance about yeah, absolutely, it is my school, my country, my State, it is all great. You know how kids are. No, they did not do that.

Something had happened in their life. Something had happened prior to their coming into that auditorium that made them very trepidatious about saying it. And I determined from that that it was not as a result of the fact

that the other 225 or so students hated America. I do not think that is true at all. What I do believe is that they were completely and totally incapable of affirming that statement. They were afraid to raise their hands for fear that someone would actually say, "oh yeah, why do you think so?"

They could not affirm it, so they simply wanted to sit there, afraid to say anything, the children of this country, the children in one of the most affluent areas, with all of the amenities that could ever be given to anyone, tan from the slopes at Aspen, wearing the best clothes, driving all the nicest cars out in the parking lot, having all of these amenities, more things than have ever been given to any children on the face of the earth since the creation of mankind, and they enjoy it because of where they are, and I said, well, you know what, I think this is the most serious problem we are facing as a Nation.

□ 2230

I said to them, I do not have time to talk about all of the things that make this country wonderful. If you do not know it, I do not have time in this 20 minutes we have together to make you understand what this country is all about and why you should be proud of it and why in fact I think you can make the case it is the best place in the world. But I said, let me just leave you with this, and again I am talking with 9th, 10th, 11th graders, no 12th grade class yet in this new school. I said, just think of it this way, do you know anyone, have you ever heard of anyone who has escaped from the United States or from the West to say, Pakistan, for a better life? Have you ever been confronted by anybody who has escaped from the United States for a better life? They have escaped from the United States usually one step ahead of the law, that is true, I have no doubt about that. But if you raise the gates all over the world, where do people go? Do they go to Saudi Arabia? Do they go to South America? Do they go to Canada? They come to the West, including Canada and Western Europe. They come to the West. By the millions, Muslims come to the West to escape a worse situation, looking for freedom, both economic opportunity and religious freedom. They seek the West. They seek Western civilization, the thing Mr. Churchill derides.

We can be proud. We should be proud of who we are and what we have been able to accomplish on this planet. It is certainly true that we have warts and we have done things wrong; and if we could do things over, I am sure we as a society, as a civilization, would do better. But the fact is above all those things, we have given the world ideas and ideals of great and enormous value starting with the rule of law, a uniquely Western concept. The rule of law, not of men.

The idea of individual freedom and religious liberty, these are Western

ideas. There is no reason to be ashamed. It does not mean we have to put down anybody else. It does not mean we have to seek the destruction of any other civilization. It simply says here is what we have done and we can be proud of it, and most of the world seeks it. In a begrudging way they seek it. Perhaps the strangest phenomenon we can imagine, the millions of people who come here from other countries, maybe with the intent of destroying us because we do not match their religious point of view, but coming here nonetheless for all of the benefits that Western civilization provides.

We do not have to whitewash our past, neither do we have to degrade or debase it. If we do, there are consequences. The Ward Churchills of this world will succeed because they will have in their classrooms students who have never been confronted with the facts of life in terms of who we are as a society. They have never been taught about the things that we can and should be proud of as a civilization. They have only been taught that we should be ashamed of who we are, hence two dozen kids out of 250 in a high school in Douglas County, Colorado, two dozen sheepishly raised their hand and said yes, I kind of think we do.

We are in a desperate battle as a civilization because I think we are in a clash of civilizations, as Samuel Huntington has pointed out in his book of that title. I think we must do everything possible in order to be successful in that clash to have our own people understand who we are. And whether you come here as a black man, a brown man, a white man, or anything in between, you can come here and accept the ideas and ideals of the American creed. It does not make you a Democrat, it does not make you a Republican, a liberal or a conservative. It makes you an American. And then we can start dividing up.

But if we lose this whole idea of what it means to be an American, if that is not there from the beginning, all we are is a place on the planet made up of subgroups, of a balkanized culture, people who consider themselves to be something other, a hyphenated, something other than American.

I had an interesting conversation with the Catholic bishop of Denver not too long ago, Bishop Gomez. During the conversation we were talking, and because I have a particular interest in the issue of immigration and I am concerned about massive immigration into the country when it meets up with this multi-culturalism, I have a strong concern what happens in the Nation when we do not integrate people into our society any more, when we tell them to keep their language. We tell them keep your culture, keep your customs, even keep your political affiliation and loyalty to a country outside of the United States. We tell them that.

I was concerned, and I expressed it, the fact that Iraqis were allowed to

vote in the United States. I am not concerned about an Iraqi national voting in the United States, but the United Nations came into the United States, set up a voting system that allowed for American citizens of Iraqi descent to vote. American citizens should not be voting in any other country's elections, but we did it and we allowed the United Nations to set up the voting procedures.

These kinds of things are of great concern to me because we do seem to be destroying the whole concept of citizenship with literally scores of millions of people coming into the country who have no desire to become American, and we tell them on the other hand that they should not.

Bishop Gomez said to me, I do not see why you are so concerned about this, Congressman. He said, For instance, the Mexicans coming in, I can tell you right now, they do not want to be American.

And I said, Well, Bishop, of course that is the problem. That is exactly the problem.

Mr. Speaker, they do not want to be American, and we are telling them they should not be. We are telling them to keep their own language, to keep their own culture and their own political affiliations to a country other than the United States; and this will not accrue to our benefit, and it will not help us as a Nation. It will not help us defend ourselves in this clash of civilizations because we do not know who we are because we are just a group of people here on this place, on the planet. We are simply residents, that is all, not citizens, just residents. They have no affiliation, no loyalty, no concept of the oneness of the American creed, no appreciation for the history that got us here. Heaven knows, we would not want to say an appreciation for Western civilization.

Not long ago I introduced a resolution into this body and it simply said that the Congress of the United States is encouraging schools throughout the country to make sure that students graduating be able to articulate an appreciation for Western civilization. It did not say you have to even like Western civilization. It just said you should be able to articulate an appreciation for it. Be a critical thinker. If somebody says what are the good things about Western civilization and what it has created here, be able to talk about it. Even if you disagree with who we are, at least be able to lay out the facts. That is what the essence of a good education would be, it seems to me.

You cannot imagine the kind of push back I had on this. In fact, it never got to the floor of the House. The majority leader said I would not want to do something like that unless we can get some Democrats to go on it, it would be very scary. So we never did bring it to the floor, for fear of what people would say, for fear that somebody in this body would argue that we should

not allow students to be able to articulate an appreciation for Western civilization.

I went on to say that school boards throughout the United States should adopt this measure because all we can do here in Congress is say this is what we think should happen. I do not believe that the Federal Government should get involved in the creation of curricula, but I certainly believe we have the right to express ourselves. School boards have the right to totally decide it. They can say here is what we want our students to be. Here is the kind of student we want graduating from our school. And they can say, therefore, as a school board, we say these children will have to be able to articulate an appreciation of Western civilization when they come out of our school system.

Members cannot imagine the kind of opposition and hatred expressed towards this idea, some by the NEA, the National, quote, Education Association, and I put it in quotes because the NEA has nothing to do with education and everything to do with indoctrination. But they hated the idea. We were not mandating it on anyone. I was just saying it was a good thing to be able to have students articulate an appreciation for Western civilization. If you go to our Web site, www.house.gov/tancredo and pull up Our Heritage, Our Hope, you will see a resolution that you can take to your State legislature or your school board and have them pass.

If you just want to see a fascinating sort of debate go on, take the resolution, and we passed it in the State Senate in Colorado, by the way, after a horrendous and very heated debate. Just go ahead and take it to your school board, take it to your State house and see what happens with just that one simple concept.

So it is true, Mr. Speaker, that I am deeply concerned about the many things that happen to this country as a result of massive immigration when it meshes with, connects with multi-culturalism. These are tough issues, they are not easy to explain, and they certainly do not fit on a bumper sticker. But they are important for us to think about.

Mr. Huntington, who I mentioned earlier, has written another book which came out in May of 2004, and I think it is a wonderful analysis and asks the enormously important question as the title of book, "Who Are We?" Who are we?

□ 2245

He lays out the consequences if we do not know the answer. If we cannot understand who we are, if we cannot appreciate who we are, if we are just simply here, folks living on this chunk of land on the North American continent, that is all, then the clash of civilization is not going to be much of a clash. We will lose. We will lose. Because the people with whom we are at war know

exactly who they are. We are not so sure, I am afraid. We are not so sure. And if students coming out of our school system, our public school system, are afraid to actually say yes to the question, Do you think you live in the greatest country in the world, why would they fight? And God bless those who do. God bless those who go into harm's way to defend us. How long can this last? If we do not know who we are, if we do not understand the values of Western civilization that are embodied in everything we see around us, in not only the architecture but the laws and the philosophy that we have in this country about the relationship between man and government and, yes, man and his God; if we do not appreciate these things, what makes us think they can possibly last? They will fall. Of course they will.

That is why I spend as much time as I do talking about the issue of immigration. There are all kinds of other parts of this picture to talk about. Certainly the jobs issue, the displacement of American workers, the effect on our economy, the costs to our health care system, the incarceration rates, the cost of incarceration for the 25 percent of our prison populations who are not citizens. I could go on and on with the very practical problems that are presented by massive immigration when it combines with this cult of multiculturalism. But the bigger picture is represented by people like Mr. Churchill, what he thinks and what he tells children and the fact that he is hired by institutions of, quote, higher education, to call the victims of 9/11 and the Twin Towers "little Eichmanns." Mr. Churchill and Michael Moore and Dan Rather, this is what we reap. It is a scary thing for us, because the consequences are very serious.

I will continue to speak out on this issue of immigration, of our national security. We talk about the national security implications of immigration and open borders. There are two ways to look at it. One is the very practical way that when the borders are open, when they are porous, people come across them, some of them to just work, some of them to sell drugs and the others to do things to us that are very bad. Some people come into this country for the purpose of killing us, killing our families. They choose the easiest way to get here, and that is across the borders because they are porous.

Why are the borders porous? Not because we cannot control them, but because it is economically advantageous to certain groups in the country. Certainly employers, millions of employers in this country who rely on cheap labor, want those borders open. Other countries, Mexico is a great example of a country that has turned into not just a neighbor but now a lobbying agent to keep the borders open. Why? Because they receive \$18 billion a year from their nationals who are working here sending money home, and they do not

want the nationals to connect with America. They do not want them to become American. They want them to maintain their political and psychological allegiance to Mexico because they will continue to send money home to the country, and that is what now props up the country.

\$18 billion is now the second most significant source of income Mexico has, second only to Pemex, their oil company. It dwarfs everything else, including all foreign investment and including all tourism dollars spent in Mexico, remittances from the United States. It has changed the dynamics in the world. It has changed relationships between countries. There are seven nations in the world that presently take in more than 10 percent of their gross domestic product as a result of remittances from the United States from their nationals working here.

It changes a lot of things. It creates employers in this country who get hooked on cheap labor demanding open borders. It creates governments in countries all over the world who get hooked on remittances demanding open borders and our own security is therefore left as a secondary or tertiary topic. So there is an absolute and total connection between immigration, open borders and our national security, but it does not just happen as a result of keeping those borders open so people will come across them with bombs or some sort of chemical or biological warfare agent. It is also a threat to our national security because when it combines with the cult of multiculturalism, it creates a very, very sharp dagger pointed right at the heart of America. So we have to understand it. We have to talk about it. We cannot be afraid to address it.

Mr. Speaker, the most wonderful thing I can report to you tonight is that things are changing here. I came into this body 7 years ago. I would come to the floor as I have done tonight. I have tried to address this issue in every way I possibly could, the concerns about massive immigration, both legal and illegal into the country, the implications for us as a Nation, begging that it be debated. I created a caucus called the Immigration Reform Caucus, and I think there were 16 Members that originally signed on. There are now somewhere approaching 75 or 80. There are Members who stand up now and talk about this issue who never touched it before. Why? Because they are hearing from their constituents, Mr. Speaker. Because this system is working. Because the American people are making their voices heard here in this body. It is a wonderful thing to see. It gives us hope for the future.

And so I do think things will change. I do not know how quickly. I also know that we have an enormously difficult road ahead of us, because these Ward Churchills, these folks who comprise the loony left are, in fact, embedded in the system. They are in our institutions of higher education throughout

the country, and their products are teaching the children in schools in my district and in yours. There is a lot of work ahead of us.

But I have great hope in our ability to change things. After all, it is really our only option. What else can we do but try everything we can think of and to come on the floor night after night as I have done over these 7 years, many times thinking that no one was listening, that no one cared about the issue. I received some of the most nasty e-mail, letters and telephone calls from people calling me every name imaginable, some unimaginable. But that is changing. Now when I go back to my office, I hear the fax machines going even tonight, it is now almost 11 o'clock here in Washington, D.C., but there will be people who will respond to this. We get hundreds now, sometimes thousands, of responses, all from people saying, continue to do what you do. People from every walk of life, people from every ethnic background.

This is not an issue that springs out of any sort of racial sort of motivation or profile, but it is an issue that everyone who calls themselves and thinks of himself or herself as an American, thinks of himself or herself as an American first, it is something that they are concerned about, and they have a right to be concerned. It is a dangerous situation we face. So we can fight a war in Iraq, and we can plant the seeds of democracy; but to ultimately be successful in this clash of civilization, we have to know who we are.

And so I ask the President, I hope in his State of the Union message that we will hear on this floor tomorrow night, he will begin to articulate that, that he will begin to talk about the things that make us great, the things about which we can and should be proud, the things that we should promote, the ideas and ideals of the American creed, ideas and ideals that can be accepted and should be accepted by every human being who is here in the place we call the United States, not just the North American continent but a place bounded by borders and a place that benefits from some of the greatest political thinking in the world, that created our Constitution, our Bill of Rights, our Declaration of Independence, and the freedom that we enjoy and that millions around the world enjoy or envy.

It is great to be an American. It is great to explore what possibilities there are out there for other human beings on this planet that want to actually begin to experience the idea of freedom. We can do this. It is nothing to be ashamed of. It is everything, I think, to be proud of.

I, Mr. Speaker, for one am immensely proud to be a tiny part of this great Nation and someone who springs from the heritage that we call Western.

OMISSION FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2005 AT PAGE H204

H. RES. 42

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 54) to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide reasonable standards for congressional gold medals, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read. No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. Notwithstanding clause 11(a)(1) of rule XI, during the One Hundred Ninth Congress the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence shall be composed of not more than 19 members, of whom not more than 11 may be from the same party.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. ESHOO (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness in the family.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of family medical reasons.

Mr. STUPAK (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of family medical reasons.

Mr. BACHUS (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of the death of his father.

Mr. BILIRAKIS (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness.

Mrs. NORTHUP (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of a death in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. WOOLSEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUELLAR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SANDERS, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PRICE of Georgia) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PLATTS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DREIER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and February 2.

Mr. MURPHY, for 5 minutes, February 2.

Mr. FLAKE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HUNTER, for 5 minutes, February 2.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 57 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, February 2, 2005, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

440. A letter from the Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Collection of Claims Owed the United States Arising From Activities Under the Commission's Jurisdiction (RIN: 3038-AC03) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

441. A letter from the Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—In the Matter of the Intercontinental Exchange, Inc. Petition for Expansion of the Definition of an Eligible Commercial Entity Under Section 1a(11)(C) of the Commodity

Exchange Act—received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

442. A letter from the Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Confidential Information and Commission Records and Information—received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

443. A letter from the Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Fees for Reviews of the Rule Enforcement Programs of Contract Markets and Registered Futures Association—received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

444. A letter from the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Definition Clarification of State Nonmetropolitan Median Household Income (SNMHI) (RIN: 0572-AB96) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

445. A letter from the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Technical Assistance Grants (RIN: 0572-AB75) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

446. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, APHIS, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Citrus Canker; Quarantined Areas [Docket No. 04-045-02] received December 27, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

447. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, APHIS, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—User Fees for Agricultural Quarantines and Inspection Services [Docket No. 04-042-1] (RIN: 0579-AB88) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

448. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, APHIS, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy; Minimal-Risk Regions and Importation of Commodities [Docket No. 03-080-3] (RIN: 0579-AB73) received January 27, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

449. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, transmitting the Board's final rule—Home Mortgage Disclosure [Regulation C; Docket No. R-1219] received December 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

450. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Proper Disposal of Consumer Information Under the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003 [Docket No. 04-13] (RIN: 1557-AC84); Federal Reserve System [Docket No. R-1199]; Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (RIN: 3064-AC77); Department of the Treasury, Office of Thrift Supervision [No. 2004-56] (RIN: 1550-AB87) received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

451. A letter from the Senior Paralegal (Regulations), Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—EGRPRA Regulatory Review—Application and Reporting Requirements [No. 2004-54] (RIN: 1550-AB93) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

452. A letter from the General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket No. FEMA-7857] received December 29, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

453. A letter from the General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No. FEMA-P-7638] received December 29, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

454. A letter from the General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Final Flood Elevation Determinations—received December 29, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

455. A letter from the General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Final Flood Elevation Determinations—received December 29, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

456. A letter from the General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Final Flood Elevation Determinations—received December 29, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

457. A letter from the General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No. FEMA-P-7640] received December 29, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

458. A letter from the General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No. FEMA-B-7450] received December 29, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

459. A letter from the General Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Final Flood Elevation Determinations—received December 29, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

460. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) Program; Insurance for Mortgages to Refinance Existing HECMs and Reduced Initial Mortgage Insurance Premiums (MIP) [Docket No. FR-4667-F-03] (RIN: 2502-AH63) received December 29, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

461. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Distribution of Tax Credit Proceeds [Docket No. FR-4792-F-02] (RIN: 2502-AH91) received December 29, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

462. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Modification of the Community Development Block Grant Definition for Metropolitan City and Other Conforming Amendments [Docket No. FR-4872-F-02] (RIN: 2506-AC15) received December 27, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

463. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of

Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Revisions to FHA Credit Watch Termination Initiative [Docket No. FR-4625-I-02; HUD-2004-0014] (RIN: 2502-AH60) received January 3, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

464. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Prohibition of Property Flipping in HUD's Single Family Mortgage Insurance Programs; Additional Exceptions to Time Restriction on Sales [Doc. No. FR-4911-I-01; HUD-2004-0017] (RIN: 2502-AI18) received January 7, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

465. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule—Deposit Insurance Assessments—Certified Statements (RIN: 3064-AC84) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

466. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Federal Reserve Board, transmitting the Board's final rule—Proper Disposal of Consumer Information under the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003 [Docket No. R-1199]; Department of the Treasury, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency [Docket No. 04-13] (RIN: 1557-AC84); Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (RIN: 3064-AC77); Department of the Treasury, Office of Thrift Supervision [No. 2004-56] (RIN: 1550-AB87); [OCC-4819-33-P 25%] [FRB-6210-01-P 25%] [FDIC-6714-01-p 25%] [OTS-6720-01P 25%] received December 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

467. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Summaries of Rights and Notices of Duties Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act (RIN: 3084-AA94) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

468. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Change in Official or Senior Executive Officer in Credit Unions That Are Newly Chartered or Are in Troubled Condition—received November 9, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

469. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fair Credit Reporting—Proper Disposal of Consumer Information Under the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003—received December 17, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

470. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Member Business Loans—received December 27, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

471. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Federal Credit Union Ownership of Fixed Assets—received December 27, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

472. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Certain Broker-Dealers Deemed Not To Be Investment Advisers [Release Nos. 34-50979; IA-2339; File No. S7-25-99] (RIN: 3235-AH78) received January 10, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.

801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

473. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Asset-Backed Securities [Release Nos. 33-8518; 34-50905; File No. S7-21-04] (RIN: 3235-AF74) received December 27, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

474. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Mgmt. Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drug Labeling; Sodium Labeling for Over-the-Counter Drugs [Docket No. 1990N-0309] (RIN: 0910-AF50) received December 29, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

475. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Mgmt. Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medical Devices; General Hospital and Personal Use Devices; Classification of Implantable Radiofrequency Transponder System for Patient Identification and Health Information [Docket No. 2004N-0477] received December 29, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

476. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Current Good Tissue Practice for Human Cell, Tissue, and Cellular and Tissue-Based Product Establishments; Inspection and Enforcement [Docket No. 1997N-484P] received December 9, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

477. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Mgmt. Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Irradiation in the Production, Processing and Handling of Food [Docket No. 2003F-0088] received January 10, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

478. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Mgmt. Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and Handling of Food [Docket No. 1993F-0357] received January 7, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

479. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment and Maintenance of Records Under the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 [Docket No. 2002N-0277] (RIN: 0910-AC39) received December 9, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

480. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Brake Hoses [Docket No. NHTSA-2003-14483] (RIN: 2127-AH79) received December 28, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

481. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards—Motor Vehicle Brake Fluids [Docket No. NHTSA 2004-19625] (RIN: 2127-AH96) received December 28, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

482. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation,

transmitting the Department's final rule—Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Occupant Crash Protection [Docket No. NHTSA-04-18726] (RIN: 2127-AI91) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

483. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Platform lifts for motor vehicles, Platform lift installations in motor vehicles [Docket No. NHTSA-2004-19938] (RIN: 2127-AJ50) received January 3, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

484. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Head Restraints [Docket No. NHSTA-2004-19807] (RIN: 2127-AH09) received December 28, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

485. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Fuel Economy Standards—Credits and Fines—Rights and Responsibility of Manufacturers in the Context of Changes in Corporate Relationships [Docket No. NHSTA-2004-19940] (RIN: 2127-AG97) received January 3, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

486. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Telemarketing Sales Rule (RIN: 3084-0098) received January 10, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

487. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Definitions and Implementations Under the CAN-SPAM Act [Project No. R411008] (RIN: 3084-AA96) received January 27, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

488. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—NRC Enforcement Policy; Extension of Enforcement Discretion of Interim Policy [NUREG-1600] received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

489. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Broadening Scope of Access Authorization and Facility Security Clearance Regulations (RIN: 3150-AH52) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

490. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Security Requirements for Portable Gauges Containing Byproduct Material (RIN: 3150-AH06) received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

491. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting reports in accordance with Section 36(a) of the Arms Export Control Act, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

492. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-652, "Kings Court Community Garden Equitable Real Property Tax

Relief Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

493. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-653, "Veterans of Foreign Wars Real Property Tax Exemption and Equitable Real Property Tax Relief Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

494. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-677, "Capital Hill Community Garden Land Trust Real Property Tax Exemption and Equitable Real Property Tax Relief Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

495. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-654, "Lincoln Square Theater Sales and Use Tax Exemption Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

496. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-678, "Disposal of District-Owned Surplus Real Property in Ward 8 Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

497. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-661, "Continuing Care Retirement Communities Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

498. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-662, "Arts, Cultural, and Educational Facilities Support Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

499. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-679, "National Capital Revitalization Corporation Eminent Domain Clarification and Skyland Eminent Domain Approval Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

500. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-663, "Equity in Real Property Tax Assessment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

501. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-664, "Parking Meter Fee Moratorium Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

502. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-680, "Use of Fraudulent Temporary Identification Tags and Automobile Forfeiture Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

503. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-682, "District of Columbia Emancipation Day Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

504. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-665, "Director of the Office of Latino Affairs Salary Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

505. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a

copy of D.C. ACT 15-666, "Public Charter School Real Property Tax Rebate Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

506. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-684, "Non-Traditional Motor Vehicles Safety Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

507. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-667, "National Guard Association of the United States Real Property Tax Exemption Reconfirmation and Modification Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

508. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-685, "Disability Compensation Effective Administration Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

509. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-668, "Charity Auction Sales Tax Exemption Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

510. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-669, "Gallery Place Project Graphics Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

511. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-686, "Cancer Prevention Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

512. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-670, "Towing Regulation and Enforcement Authority Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

513. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-688, "Fire and Casualty Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

514. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-671, "Unemployment Compensation Funds Appropriation Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

515. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-676, "Bread For The City Community Garden Equitable Real Property Tax Relief Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

516. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-648, "Human Rights Genetic Information Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

517. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-649, "Southeast Neighborhood House Real Property Tax Exemption and Equitable Real Property Tax Relief Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

518. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-674, "Unemployment

Compensation Pension Offset Reduction Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

519. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-650, "Carefirst Economic Assistance Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

520. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-673, "Energy Star Efficiency Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

521. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-651, "Freedom Forum, Inc. Real Property Tax Exemption and Equitable Real Property Tax Relief Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

522. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-689, "Payments In Lieu of Taxes Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. COLE: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 59. Resolution providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 36) expressing the continued support of Congress for equal access of military recruiters to institutions of higher education (Rept. 109-2). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. TERRY:

H.R. 433. A bill to amend the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 to provide assistance for residential properties designated as Superfund sites; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. TERRY:

H.R. 434. A bill to provide additional funding for cleanup activities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act for facilities on the National Priority List, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MANZULLO (for himself and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 435. A bill to amend the provisions of titles 5 and 28, United States Code, relating to equal access to justice, award of reasonable costs and fees, and administrative settlement offers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. KELLY (for herself, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. OXLEY, and Mr. BAKER):

H.R. 436. A bill to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to provide incentives for small business investment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. KELLY:

H.R. 437. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require group health plans to provide coverage for reconstructive surgery following mastectomy, consistent with the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LEE:

H.R. 438. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 Allston Way in Berkeley, California, as the "Maudelle Shirek Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. HOLT, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. ROTHMAN):

H.R. 439. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to ensure that certain States remain eligible for Federal highway funds; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. KOLBE (for himself and Mr. BOYD):

H.R. 440. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for individual security accounts funded by employee and employer Social Security payroll deductions, to extend the solvency of the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 441. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable credit against income tax for tuition expenses incurred for each qualifying child of the taxpayer in attending public or private elementary or secondary school; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland:

H.R. 442. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to change the deadline for income tax returns for calendar year taxpayers from the 15th of April to the first Monday in November; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 443. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit to employers for the value of the service not performed during the period employees are performing service as members of the Ready Reserve or the National Guard; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. COX, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. DREIER, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. McDERMOTT, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. WATSON, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. SCHIFF):

H.R. 444. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, relating to the use of high occupancy vehicle lanes by hybrid vehicles; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. EHLERS (for himself and Mr. McHUGH):

H.R. 445. A bill to amend section 304 of the Tariff Act of 1930 with respect to the marking of imported home furniture; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 446. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide to employers a tax credit for compensation paid during the

period employees are performing service as members of the Ready Reserve or the National Guard; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 447. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the amount of the military death gratuity to \$100,000; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BRADY of Texas (for himself, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. BECERRA, and Mr. FOLEY):

H.R. 448. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make inapplicable the 10 percent additional tax on early distributions from certain pension plans of public safety employees; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CAMP:

H.R. 449. A bill to establish the position of Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Job Retention and Creation to gather information about economic development assistance and make the information available to the public; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. EHLERS:

H.R. 450. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage stronger math and science programs at elementary and secondary schools; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CAMP:

H.R. 451. A bill to allow a period in which members of the clergy may revoke their exemption from Social Security coverage; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CLAY (for himself, Mr. CARNAHAN, and Mr. SKELTON):

H.R. 452. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum located in St. Louis, Missouri, as a unit of the National Park System; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. CLAY (for himself and Ms. SLAUGHTER):

H.R. 453. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for property owners who remove lead-based paint hazards; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COLE of Oklahoma (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. JINDAL, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TERRY, Mr. BOREN, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. NUNES, Mr. RENZI, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. BAKER, Mr. REHBERG, and Mrs. CAPITO):

H.R. 454. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the credit for producing fuel from a nonconventional source shall apply to gas produced onshore from a formation more than 15,000 feet deep; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CROWLEY:

H.R. 455. A bill to establish the Airport Noise Curfew Commission; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CULBERSON:

H.R. 456. A bill to restore State sovereignty; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. HOLT, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. PAYNE, Mr.

PLATTS, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. WYNN):

H.R. 457. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Men's Health; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky (for himself, Mr. BAKER, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, and Mr. SHADEGG):

H.R. 458. A bill to prevent the sale of abusive insurance and investment products to military personnel; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. BERRY, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. STRICKLAND, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. CARDOZA):

H.R. 459. A bill to require the Secretary of the Navy to procure helicopters under the VH-3D presidential helicopter fleet replacement program that are wholly manufactured in the United States; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. EDWARDS (for himself and Mr. EMANUEL):

H.R. 460. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the maximum coverage under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance and Veterans' Group Life Insurance programs from \$250,000 to \$500,000; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. EMANUEL (for himself and Mr. EDWARDS):

H.R. 461. A bill to prevent the sale of abusive insurance and investment products to military personnel; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ENGEL:

H.R. 462. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose an excise tax on the termination of retiree prescription drug coverage; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. EVANS:

H.R. 463. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit the use of education benefits under the Reserve Montgomery GI Bill for licensing or certification tests; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA:

H.R. 464. A bill to provide for administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA:

H.R. 465. A bill to provide for the establishment of a tsunami hazard mitigation program for all United States insular areas; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. GRAVES:

H.R. 466. A bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to delegate to the Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade the functions relating to trade adjustment assistance for firms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 467. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare beneficiaries with access to geriatric assessments and chronic care management, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mr. PICKERING, and Mr. OSBORNE):

H.R. 468. A bill to amend the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996 to establish the United States Boxing Commission to administer such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KOLBE:

H.R. 469. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to cooperate with the States on the border with Mexico and other appropriate entities in conducting a hydrogeologic characterization, mapping, and modeling program for priority transboundary aquifers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. LARSON of Connecticut:

H.R. 470. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require the software used in the operation of an electronic voting machine to meet certain requirements as a condition of the use of the machine in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. LARSON of Connecticut:

H.R. 471. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the frequency of disclosure of information by political organizations and to improve the linkage between databases for public disclosure of election-related information maintained by the Department of the Treasury and the Federal Election Commission; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LOBIONDO (for himself, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. HOLT, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, and Mr. FERGUSON):

H.R. 472. A bill to reauthorize appropriations for the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. LOBIONDO:

H.R. 473. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide grant eligibility for a State that adopts a program for the impoundment of vehicles operated by persons while under the influence of alcohol; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. MALONEY (for herself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. WEINER):

H.R. 474. A bill to ensure that the courts of the United States may provide an impartial forum for claims brought by United States citizens and others against any railroad organized as a separate legal entity, arising from the deportation of United States citizens and others to Nazi concentration camps on trains owned or operated by such railroad, and by the heirs and survivors of such persons; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MALONEY (for herself, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. WEINER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. OWENS, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. EVANS,

Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida):

H.R. 475. A bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to permit leave to care for a same-sex spouse, domestic partner, parent-in-law, adult child, sibling, or grandparent if the same-sex spouse, domestic partner, parent-in-law, adult child, sibling, or grandparent has a serious health condition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Government Reform, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MALONEY (for herself, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. WEINER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. OWENS, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. EVANS, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida):

H.R. 476. A bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to allow employees to take, as additional leave, parental involvement leave to participate in or attend their children's and grandchildren's educational and extracurricular activities and to clarify that leave may be taken for routine family medical needs and to assist elderly relatives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Government Reform, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MARKEY:

H.R. 477. A bill to extend the period for COBRA coverage for victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD (for herself, Ms. HARMAN, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. NADLER):

H.R. 478. A bill to improve seaport security; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida (for himself and Mr. BOYD):

H.R. 479. A bill to replace a Coastal Barrier Resources System map relating to Coastal Barrier Resources System Grayton Beach Unit FL-95P in Walton County, Florida; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. MORAN of Virginia (for himself, Mr. HOYER, Mr. WOLF, Mr. WYNN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 480. A bill to amend section 8339(p) of title 5, United States Code, to clarify the method for computing certain annuities under the Civil Service Retirement System which are based on part-time service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mrs. MUSGRAVE (for herself and Mr. COLE of Oklahoma):

H.R. 481. A bill to further the purposes of the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Establishment Act of 2000; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. NEUGEBAUER (for himself and Mr. PEARCE):

H.R. 482. A bill to provide for a land exchange involving Federal lands in the Lincoln National Forest in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. ORTIZ (for himself, Mr. REYES, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. PASTOR):

H.R. 483. A bill to designate a United States courthouse in Brownsville, Texas, as the "Reynaldo G. Garza and Filemon B. Vela United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WYNN, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. PALLONE):

H.R. 484. A bill to establish a Probation and Parole Officer Safety Task Force within the Department of Justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PEARCE:

H.R. 485. A bill to provide that the royalty rate on the output from Federal lands of potassium and potassium compounds from the mineral sylvite in the 5-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act shall be reduced to 1.0 percent, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. PEARCE:

H.R. 486. A bill to provide for a land exchange involving private land and Bureau of Land Management land in the vicinity of Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, for the purpose of removing private land from the required safety zone surrounding munitions storage bunkers at Holloman Air Force Base; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. PEARCE:

H.R. 487. A bill to impose limitations on the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to claim title or other rights to water absent specific direction of law or to abrogate, injure, or otherwise impair any right to the use of any quantity of water; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. PEARCE:

H.R. 488. A bill to promote greater access to air transportation for all persons; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PEARCE:

H.R. 489. A bill to provide for an assessment of the extent of the invasion of Salt Cedar and Russian Olive on lands in the Western United States and efforts to date to control such invasion on public and private lands, including tribal lands, to establish a demonstration program to address the invasion of Salt Cedar and Russian Olive, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PENCE (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. TERRY, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. PAUL, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mrs. NORTHUP, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, and Mr. SOUDER):

H.R. 490. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to improve the affordability of health insurance coverage for

small employers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PETRI (for himself, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. KIND, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Ms. SLAUGHTER):

H.R. 491. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require persons conducting Federal election polls by telephone to disclose certain information to respondents and the Federal Election Commission; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. POMBO:

H.R. 492. A bill to provide for the transfer of the U.S.S. IOWA to the Port of Stockton, California; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. REYES:

H.R. 493. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to establish an allowance to cover the cost of premiums for Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance coverage for members of the Armed Forces serving in combat zones, for junior enlisted members, and for certain other members; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. ROHRBACHER:

H.R. 494. A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 to expand the authority of non-Federal interests to levy harbor fees; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. RYAN of Ohio:

H.R. 495. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for the costs of college textbooks; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SABO:

H.R. 496. A bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require States to permit individuals to register to vote in an election for Federal office on the date of the election; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:

H.R. 497. A bill to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to increase the ceiling on the Federal share of the costs of phase I of the Orange County, California, Regional Water Reclamation Project; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. SAXTON:

H.R. 498. A bill to mandate price stability as the primary goal of the monetary policy of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Open Market Committee; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SHAYS (for himself, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. McNULTY, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mrs. MCCARTHY, and Mr. OWENS):

H.R. 499. A bill to provide for the development of a global tsunami detection and warning system, to improve existing communication of tsunami warnings to all potentially affected nations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. PAUL, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. GOODE, Mr. BEAUPREZ, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. MAN-

ZULLO, Mr. LINDER, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. POE, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. KOLBE):

H.R. 500. A bill to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. SLAUGHTER (for herself, Mr. HOLT, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. FILNER, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. OWENS, Ms. WATSON, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. McDERMOTT, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California):

H.R. 501. A bill to enforce the public interest obligations of broadcast station licensees to their local communities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 502. A bill to increase the amounts payable under the Department of Defense death gratuity program and the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SWEENEY (for himself, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mrs. BONO, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. COX, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, and Mr. SHAYS):

H.R. 503. A bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. WATSON:

H.R. 504. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4960 West Washington Boulevard in Los Angeles, California, as the "Ray Charles Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. WEINER:

H.R. 505. A bill to prohibit assistance to Saudi Arabia; to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROHRBACHER:

H.J. Res. 15. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to make eligible for the Office of President a person who is not a natural born citizen of the United States but has been a United States citizen for at least 20 years; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KING of Iowa:

H.J. Res. 16. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to repeal the sixteenth article of amendment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CROWLEY:

H. Con. Res. 37. Concurrent resolution honoring former Congressman Dalip Singh Saund and remembering his achievements as the only Indian American to serve in Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. EHLERS, Mr.

ENGEL, Mr. GOODE, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. BERMAN, and Mr. WALSH):

H. Con. Res. 38. Concurrent resolution recognizing the achievements of the National Captioning Institute in providing closed captioning services to Americans who are deaf or hard-of-hearing; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SODREL:

H. Con. Res. 39. Concurrent resolution providing for an adjournment of the House; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HOYER (for himself, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. WYNN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. WOLF, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. CARDIN):

H. Con. Res. 40. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that, for fiscal year 2006, rates of compensation for civilian employees of the United States should be adjusted at the same time, and in the same proportion, as are rates of compensation for members of the uniformed services; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself and Mr. OSBORNE):

H. Con. Res. 41. Concurrent resolution recognizing the second century of Big Brothers Big Sisters, and supporting the mission and goals of that organization; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. HOSTETTLER):

H. Con. Res. 42. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued to promote public awareness of Down syndrome; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. HOYER, Mr. PENCE, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas):

H. Res. 56. A resolution commending the Palestinian people for conducting a free and fair presidential election on January 9, 2005, and for other purposes; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. HYDE (for himself, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Mr. MCCOTTER):

H. Res. 57. A resolution urging the European Union to maintain its arms embargo on the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. CROWLEY:

H. Res. 58. A resolution recognizing the holiday of Diwali; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. COLE of Oklahoma:

H. Res. 59. A resolution providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 36) expressing the continued support of Congress for equal access of military recruiters to institutions of higher education.

By Mr. DELAY (for himself, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. HOYER, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. HYDE, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. DREIER, and Mr. HUNTER):

H. Res. 60. A resolution relating to the free election in Iraq held on January 30, 2005; to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DELAUNO (for herself, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Min-

nesota, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Ms. SOLIS, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. BORDALLO, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. LEE, Ms. WATERS, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. LINDA T. SNCHEZ of California, Ms. WATSON, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. HONDA, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. STARK, and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas):

H. Res. 61. A resolution recognizing the unique effects that proposals to reform Social Security may have on women; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. MILLER of Florida introduced A bill (H.R. 506) for the relief of Christine L. Barrott; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 11: Mr. OBERSTAR and Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 13: Mr. BAKER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. BOSWELL.

H.R. 16: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. RENZI.

H.R. 17: Mr. CASE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. RENZI, and Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois.

H.R. 19: Mr. BILIRAKIS and Mr. SMITH of Texas.

H.R. 23: Mr. DICKS, Ms. HERSETH, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HONDA, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. FARR, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. GORDON, and Mr. RADANOVICH.

H.R. 25: Mr. HENSARLING and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.

H.R. 29: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. GORDON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. WAMP, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. GONZALEZ, Ms. SOLIS, Ms. WATSON, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. WYNN, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Ms. ESHOO, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. BOUCHER, and Mr. BASS.

H.R. 32: Ms. Schwartz of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. GUTKNECHT, and Mr. ACKERMAN.

H.R. 34: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. CALVERT.

H.R. 37: Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. HALL, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. AKIN, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.

H.R. 47: Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. OTTER, Mr. PAUL, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. GOODE, Mr. GINGREY, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire, Mr. SIMPSON, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. HALL, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. MANZULLO, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina.

H.R. 63. Mr. PASTOR, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 64: Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mr. TANCREDO, Mrs. BIGBERT, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. HULSHOF, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. BAKER, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. JENKINS, and Mr. KELLER.

H.R. 68: Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. OLVER, Mr. BEAUPREZ, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. AKIN, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. BASS, Mr. BONNER, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. CARTER, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Ms. DELAUNO, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mrs. DRAKE, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. FEENEY, Ms. FOX, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. JINDAL, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KLINE, Mr. LINDER, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. MACK, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. MCKEON, Miss MCMORRIS, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mrs. NORTHUP, Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. PENCE, Mr. PITTS, Mr. POE, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WU, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. EVERETT, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, and Mr. NORWOOD.

H.R. 98: Mr. RENZI, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BEAUPREZ, and Mr. THORNBERRY.

H.R. 109: Mr. TANCREDO.

H.R. 111: Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. BONNER, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. MCKEON, Ms. HERSETH, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. TURNER, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. HONDA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. BARTON of Texas, and Mr. BISHOP of Utah.

H.R. 113: Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. BOEHNER.

H.R. 114: Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. MATHESON, and Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts.

H.R. 120: Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. WATSON, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. FILNER, Mr. GALLEGLY, Ms. WATERS, Mr. NUNES, Mr. HUNTER, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. POMBO, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. STARK, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. CARDOZA, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. COX, Mr. FARR, Mr. BECERRA, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. HERGER, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. HONDA, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. DREIER, Mrs. BONO, Ms. SOLIS, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. BACA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. LEE, Mr. COSTA, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. JINDAL, and Mr. THOMAS.

H. R. 128: Mr. FATTAH.

H.R. 139: Mr. FILNER and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 170: Mr. ISSA.

H.R. 179: Mr. SOUDER.

H.R. 180: Mr. SOUDER.

H.R. 181: Mr. OTTER, Mr. GOODE, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. TANCREDO, and Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey.

H.R. 184: Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. MATHE-SON, Mr. RAMSTAD, and Mr. GERLACH.

H.R. 187: Mr. HOLDEN.

H.R. 196: Mr. WELDON of Florida and Mr. GILLMOR.

H.R. 211: Mr. OTTER, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, and Mr. HASTINGS of Washington.

H.R. 213: Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. HONDA, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. LANTOS, and Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 219: Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 224: Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MATHESON, and Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.

H.R. 226: Mr. EHLERS, Mr. OWENS, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 278: Mr. KLINE, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. PEARCE.

H.R. 284: Mr. JONES of Ohio, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. KUCINICH, and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.

H.R. 289: Mrs. BONO, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. FILNER, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. BECERRA, Ms. LEE, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. POMBO, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. STARK, Mr. BACA, Mr. McKEON, Mr. FARR, Mr. COX, Mr. HONDA, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. ROYCE, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. HERGER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. THOMAS, and Mr. NUNES.

H.R. 297: Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. INSLEE, and Mr. McDERMOTT.

H.R. 302: Mr. ROYCE.

H.R. 303: Mr. OSBORNE, Mrs. EMERSON, and Mr. MARSHALL.

H.R. 305: Mr. FORBES, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. AKIN, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, and Mr. McCOTTER.

H.R. 309: Mr. RAHALL.

H.R. 314: Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. GRAVES, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. KIND, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. HALL, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. TERRY.

H.R. 328: Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. BERRY, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. OTTER, Ms. HERSETH, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PETRI, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. CASE, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. OWENS, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. RENZI, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 330: Ms. ESHOO, Mr. CASE, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE.

H.R. 333: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. CARSON, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. FARR, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. McDERMOTT.

H.R. 342: Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mrs.

CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. LEE, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SERRANO, and Mr. TOWNS.

H.R. 358: Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. FATTAH, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. RUSH, Ms. WATSON, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. OWENS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CLYBURN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. FALCOMAVAEBA, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. FILNER, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. MEEHAN, Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. BOYD, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. HAYES, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. McKEON, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. DEFazio.

H.R. 369: Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BAKER, Mr. LUPINSKI, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. McCOTTER, and Mr. ROSS.

H.R. 377: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. BASS, Mr. REYES, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SAXTON, Ms. LEE, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. SHAW, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. BOYD, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. TERRY, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. MICHAUD, and Mr. ISSA.

H.R. 389: Mr. WALSH, Mr. PETRI, Mr. NEY, Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. SHAW, and Mr. GILLMOR.

H.R. 398: Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Ms. LEE, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Ms. CARSON, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. OWENS, Mr. HOYER, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. DAVIS of Alabama.

H.R. 408: Mr. UDALL of Colorado and Mr. CARDOZA.

H.R. 420: Mr. SOUDER and Mr. CONAWAY.

H.R. 422: Mr. HOLT, Mr. CASE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. ALLEN, and Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota.

H.R. 425: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. BERMAN, and Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California.

H.J. Res. 10: Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. FORBES, Mrs. KELLY, Mrs. NORTHUP, Mr. BAKER, and Mr. SHUSTER.

H. Con. Res. 6: Mr. WOLF, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. SOUDER.

H. Con. Res. 18: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. SAXTON, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. PITTS, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. EVANS.

H. Con. Res. 19: Mr. WALSH.

H. Con. Res. 26: Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. RENZI, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. WELLER, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. CASTLE, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.

H. Con. Res. 30: Mr. PALLONE, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. OWENS, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. RUSH, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HOYER, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. JEFFERSON, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. TOWNS, and Ms. BALDWIN.

H. Res. 20: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. GOODE, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. OTTER, Mr. ROHR-ABACHER, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. TANCREDO, and Mr. WHITFIELD.

H. Res. 21: Ms. MCKINNEY and Mr. FATTAH.

H. Res. 22: Mr. CALVERT and Mr. GILCHREST.

H. Res. 23: Mr. EHLERS, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. BOEHNER, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. OWENS, Mr. COX, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. McCOTTER, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. AKIN, and Ms. ESHOO.

H. Res. 38: Mr. LANTOS, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. PENCE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. WEINER, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. PITTS, Ms. BERKLEY, and Mr. ENGEL.

H. Res. 45: Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. CALVERT.

H. Res. 55: Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. HALL, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. LEACH, Mr. GOODE, Ms. WATSON, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. TANNER, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, and Mr. BISHOP of New York.