

he's been faithful to this as he has to everything else in his life, and we are all the richer for it. (Applause.)

It was wonderful to be with Andy Young again. He stayed with us last evening at the White House and we relived some old times, talked about the future. None of us could fail to be moved today by the power of his message, the depth of his love for his wonderful wife, who blessed so many of us with her friendship, and I'm sure he inspired us all.

I also want to say a special word of thanks to my friend Janice Sjostrand for coming here all the way from Arkansas. You know, one of the greatest things about being governor of my state is I got to hear her sing about once a month, instead of once in a blue moon, and I miss you and I'm glad to hear you today. Thank you. (Applause.)

We have heard a lot of words today of great power. There is very little I can add to them, but let me say that in this age, which the Speaker of the House is always reminding us is the Information Age, an exciting time, a time of personal computers, not mainframes, a time when we are going to be judged by how smart we work, not just how hard we work, the power of words is greater than ever before.

So, by any objective standard, the problems we face today, while profound, are certainly not greater than they were in the Great Depression, or in the Second World War, or when Mr. Lincoln made those statements when he left his home in Illinois to become president that Governor Engler quoted, or when George Washington suffered defeat after defeat until finally we were able to win by persistence our freedom. No, they are not, these times, as difficult as they are, more difficult than those. What makes them more difficult is the power of words.

The very source of our liberation, of all of our possibility and all of our potential for growth, the communications revolution gives words the power not only to lift up and liberate but the power to divide and destroy as never before—just words—to darken our spirits and weaken our resolve, divide our hearts.

So I say perhaps the most important thing we should take out of Andy Young's wonderful message about what we share in common is the resolve to clear our heads and our hearts and to use our words more to build up and unify, and less to tear down and divide.

We are here because we are all the children of God, because we know we have all fallen short of God's glory, because we know that no matter how much power we have, we have it but for a moment and in the end we can only exercise it well if we see ourselves as servants, not sovereigns.

We see sometimes the glimmer of this great possibility when after hundreds of years the Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland decide that it may be time to stop killing each other; when after 27 years Nelson Mandela walks out of his jail cell and a couple of years later is the president of a free country from a free election; when we see the miraculous reaching out across all the obstacles in the Middle East. God must have been telling us something when he created the three great monotheistic religions of the world in one little patch and then had people fight with each other for every century after that. Maybe we're seeing the beginning of the end of that, in spite of all the difficulties. But it never happens unless the power of words become instruments of elevation and liberation.

So we must work together to tear down barriers, as Andy Young has worked his whole life. We must do it with greater civility. In Romans, St. Paul said, "Repay no one evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil by good."

There's not a person in this room that hasn't failed in that admonition, including me. But I'm going to leave here today determined to live more by it.

And we must finally be humble, all of us, in whatever position we have, not only because, as Andy reminded us, we're just here for a little while, not only in our positions but on this earth, but because we know, as St. Paul said in Corinthians, that we see through a glass darkly. And we will never see clearly until our life is over. We will never have the full truth, the whole truth. Even the facts, as Andy said, I thought that was a brilliant thing, the flesh and blood of our lives, the facts we think we know, even they do not tell us the whole truth of the mystery of life.

So, my fellow Americans and my fellow citizens of the world, let us leave this place renewed in the spirit of civility and humility and the determination not to use the power of our words to tear down.

I was honored to say in the State of the Union last week that none of us can change our yesterdays, but all of us can change our tomorrows. That surely is the wisdom of the message we have heard on this day.

Lastly, let me ask you to pray for the president, that he will have the wisdom to change when he is wrong, the courage to stay the course when he is right, and somehow, somehow, the grace of God not to use the power of words at the time in human history when words are more omnipresent and more powerful than ever before, to divide and to destroy, but instead to pierce to the truth, to the heart, to the best that is in us all.

Thank you all, and God bless you. (Applause.)

Representative Lancaster: Thank you, Mr. President.

Since the first National Prayer Breakfast there has been one constant and guiding light to all of them, the Reverend Dr. Billy Graham. As the president indicated, in 43 years he has missed only three of them. And throughout those years and even the years he was not here, his prayers have always been for the people and her leaders.

The Reverend Dr. Billy Graham will now pronounce the benediction. Dr. Graham. (Applause.)

The Reverend Billy Graham: In all these years we have never had a more spiritual Prayer Breakfast than this one. My own heart has been touched and I have rededicated my own life to the Lord for what years I may have left. Shall we pray.

Our Father and our God, we humbly thank you for this unique occasion and for the privilege that is ours of coming to you in prayer. We thank you for those who have joined us from other nations today, especially from North Korea. We have come today asking for your wisdom, strength and guidance for the future, especially as we approach the end of this century and face the challenges of a new millennium.

Again, we pray for President Clinton and Vice President Gore and their families. Give them wisdom, and strength, and courage that they have asked for here today. Give wisdom to all who counsel them. We pray again for the Senate and the House of Representatives, the cabinet, the courts as they continue their deliberations. Give us wisdom. Give wisdom to all who serve at every level of government. Help us to remember that to whom much has been given, much has been required, and this applies to us all as individuals as well as a nation.

Now we leave this place, we believe, with a new commitment. The challenge that Ambassador Young brought us will never be forgotten. The challenge that has been brought to us by our president will linger in our hearts for a long time and help us all to re-

solve to pray for him daily as he faces all the problems that any president faces, but even more in this information age.

We thank you especially for our Lord, Jesus Christ, who died on that cross that Andy Young referred to a moment ago, out of love for us, and then told us to love one another and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

So the Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you, the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. This we pray in the name of our Father, in the name of his Son, in the name of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

End of Program.

FREEDOM WEEKS '95

HON. ANTHONY C. BEILENSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 1995

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform my colleagues of Freedom Weeks '95, a 2-week national education program to celebrate the new freedoms of Jews in Russia and the former Soviet Union. This celebration will be launched at a national student leadership conference in Chicago on October 27–29, and will run from November 6–20, 1995.

Freedom Weeks is sponsored by the United Jewish Appeal [UJA], the principal American fundraising organization for relief and rehabilitation of Jews in distressed lands. Largely as a result of the work of the UJA, Jewish communities are emerging in Russia where there were none just 5 years ago.

The UJA prepares college students to assume responsibility for continuing this important work through its University Programs, an organization active on over 150 campuses nationwide which is championing Freedom Weeks '95.

I congratulate the United Jewish Appeal and its University Programs for its hard work and dedication to this important cause.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMON SENSE HIGHWAY SAFETY ACT OF 1995

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 1995

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to close a loophole in the law that each year tragically claims thousands of lives on our Nation's roadways: drinking and driving by minors.

My legislation is entitled "The Common Sense Highway Safety Act of 1995" because it is simply a matter of common sense: Since it is illegal in every State for persons under the age of 21 to purchase and possess alcoholic beverages, it should also be illegal for persons under 21 who have been drinking to drive. However, the reality is that only 24 States and the District of Columbia have zero tolerance laws that make it illegal for minors to drink and drive—regardless of the degree of intoxication. This loophole exists in half of the States, despite the lethal consequences of teenagers who mix drinking and driving.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 40 percent of traffic fatalities involving underage drivers are alcohol related. In 1994, 2,200 people were killed in crashes because minors were drinking and driving. The majority of those killed—1,600 to be exact—were teenagers themselves. In 1993, 2,364 teenagers between the ages of 15–20 were killed in alcohol-related crashes.

The tragic statistics go on and on, Mr. Speaker, and they all confirm the lethal combination of driving and underage drinking. The bill that I am introducing today will build upon the successes of the past in curbing this deadly mix.

The Common Sense Highway Safety Act of 1995 sends a very clear message: If you are under 21, any level of alcohol consumption combined with driving will be treated under State law as driving while intoxicated. It is that simple.

My legislation is modeled on the 1984 law that encouraged States to adopt laws making it unlawful for anyone under the age of 21 to purchase or possess alcohol. That law has saved an estimated 8,400 lives since its enactment, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

You cannot argue with success. Therefore, under this bill, if a State fails to adopt a zero tolerance standard for drivers under 21 by the beginning of fiscal year 1998, they would lose 5 percent of their Federal highway funds for that year. In subsequent years, if that State has failed to act it would lose 10 percent of its funds.

With the backing of organizations such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving and Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, a provision virtually identical to my legislation was adopted overwhelmingly by the Senate in June as part of the designation of the National Highway System. The 2 to 1 margin in favor of the zero tolerance provision is testament that this issue is a "no brainer."

What can we expect from enactment of zero tolerance laws nationally? Four of the States that have adopted zero tolerance laws—Maine, New Mexico, North Carolina, and Wis-

consin—have experienced a 34-percent decrease in traffic fatalities among young drivers at night.

Too many Americans have been personally affected by the tragedy of drunk driving. They have lost a family member, relative, or friend. While the 21-year-old drinking age has made significant strides in reducing these tragedies, we must not stop there. We owe it all members of society—particularly our children—to close this deadly loophole.

PROTECT OUR FUTURE: PRESERVE
STUDENT AID

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 1995

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, unfortunately at this point in our legislative session, student aid remains on the chopping block—and communities all across this Nation will suffer.

Throughout history, American families have proven that higher education provides the path to a better life—and, today, student loans are the primary source of educational support for most Americans. They represent nothing less than a critical investment in our Nation's future. Financial aid has enabled millions of middle-income families to send their children to college. Each year, nearly 5 million students rely on Federal student loans to finance their own financial investment in education.

Despite these facts, the House continues its drive to eliminate yet one more program designed to give struggling families an opportunity to create a better life for their children. This action will put higher education out of the reach of thousands of promising middle-class students. At my alma mater, Cornell University, the loss of the interest subsidy for the Stafford Student Loan Program, one of several loan programs on the chopping block, would have an enormous impact on student indebtedness. If this cut is fully implemented, the an-

nual loss just to Cornell undergraduate students and their families would be approximately \$9 million.

The House has already voted to cut education spending by approximately \$4 billion—16 percent—from the fiscal year 1995 funding level, putting every education program in jeopardy. Further cuts in the joint budget resolution—totaling \$10.4 billion for student loans alone—will affect students in academic year 1996–97 and into the next millennium.

On May 25, the Senate adopted an amendment to the budget resolution saving these loan programs and disregarding the extreme version passed in the House. The bipartisan 67–32 vote for this amendment spoke plainly to the Senate's support for the student loan program.

Let's urge our House colleagues who will be budget conferees to support the Senate position—and support current funding for State student incentive grants, campus-based aid, Pell grants, TRIO, and title III programs.

We must not cut our Nation's educational investment nor drastically limit access to post-secondary education. Those with talent and motivation to succeed deserve help in meeting the high cost of higher education, not roadblocks that impede their progress toward being the best they can be.

Higher education is a national investment—let's not turn our backs on that commitment.

SUMMARY TABLE TO ACCOMPANY
CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1854

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 8, 1995

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following summary table to accompany the conference report on H.R. 1854, the fiscal year 1996 legislative branch appropriations bill.