

Medical Association, of course, long ago recognized abortion rights. So they are no great fan of the so-called pro-life movement. In fact, they have supported abortions over the years. They, as a body, took a neutral stance on this bill, but again, at the recommendation of their own Council on Legislation, which voted 12 to zero to endorse this bill, 1833.

This particular council endorsed the gentleman from Florida, Mr. CANADY's bill, 1833. I know for a lot of us that took away some of the sting of these arguments that we hear about how doctors are going to have to make terrible decisions and how they are going to be confronted with the idea that they may go to jail and how women's lives are going to be put at risk. To me it is important to see doctors who represent doctors who perhaps do this procedure take this type of stance that they know that it is such a terrible procedure, and they know that many of these things that are being said simply are not true or else they chose to ignore them because again they voted 12 to 0 in favor of endorsing, in favor of supporting this bill. Some even said that this procedure had no recognized medical value.

I think one on that council called it repulsive. So I think for a lot of us, again, on both sides of the aisle, on both sides of the pro-choice, pro-life issue, this support from the Council on Legislation, which again is a body within the AMA, meant a lot to a lot of people.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee. I will yield briefly, if the gentlewoman can be brief. She had her 5 minutes, and I want as much of my 5 minutes as possible.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Both Members will suspend. Time is not being deducted from the gentleman. He has the floor. The gentleman from Tennessee has the floor and has not yielded.

Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee. Let me finish because I had one other major point I would like to make. This is, talking about this procedure, I alluded to this when I spoke originally on the floor in support of the 1833 bill. That was the manner of this technique is so gruesome that as a person who is a former prosecutor and familiar with the death penalty and all those things that go with it, I think I can stand up here and say in an unqualified fashion that this particular partial birth abortion procedure would never be used as a form or as a means of execution in a capital murder case. Even the most gruesome murderer, and I mentioned, I believe, Charles Wayne Gacey and Ted Bundy who have been executed, even they had certain basic rights of due process of law and an infliction of a capital punishment, a method that was not so cruel and inhuman as to violate the Constitution.

Recently in Washington State, a man out there very overweight was able to avoid hanging because of the fact he might be decapitated. Again, I am proud to support this bill H.R. 1833 and hope that it will pass through both bodies and the President will sign it.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There being no further requests for morning business, pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the House will stand in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

During these times when so much of our consciousness reflects on the violence and the outrage of past days, we pause in prayer to commit ourselves to patterns of peace in all we do or say or think. Your word, O gracious God, a word of shalom, of peace, of understanding, is a word that commits us to be Your messengers of accord in our Nation and Your stewards of good will in all the world. May Your spirit, O God, remind us to use our voices in ways that bring tolerance and greater understanding so that our actions will be deeds of justice and righteousness, now and evermore. 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.

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Evidently a quorum is not present.

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, further proceedings on this question are postponed until later today.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BROWN] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic 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. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with amendments a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2546. An act making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists its amendment to the bill (H.R. 2546) "An act making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. HATFIELD, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. INOUE, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

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

S. Con. Res. 31. Concurrent resolution honoring the life and legacy of Yitzhak Rabin.

REPORT TO THE HOUSE ON THE TRIP TO JERUSALEM AND THE FUNERAL FOR PRIME MINISTER RABIN

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

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I just want to take a minute to brief my colleagues on the trip to Jerusalem and on the funeral for Prime Minister Rabin. Let me say that I commend the President for having put together, on very short notice, a very powerful bipartisan delegation. The leadership of the Congress on both sides of the aisle were there, and President Carter, President Bush, former Secretary Shultz, and former Secretary Vance. I was told personally last night by acting Prime Minister Perez that it was a very powerful symbol of our commitment to stability and our commitment to the peace process that such a strong delegation would go to represent the United States in a tragic moment.

I think we all have to recognize that even with all of the violence which has occurred in the Middle East, the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin was

an unusually shocking moment which has left the people of Israel, I think, genuinely in a state of deep mourning and, frankly, deep shock that it could have happened within Israeli society.

I believe for our part, we in the Congress have an obligation to continue to work toward the dream of a peaceful and prosperous Middle East, a Middle East in which Israeli's national security is ensured within a framework of friendship and comity with its neighbors. It is a long and a difficult process, but I think any Member or citizen of this country who watched on television, who listened to the heart-rending personal statement of Prime Minister Rabin's granddaughter, anyone who saw the historic moment in which the Russian Prime Minister stood next to the American President, who stood next to the premier of Spain, who stood next to the King of Jordan; to see King Hussein back in that part of Jerusalem for the first time since his grandfather was killed while seeking peace, and then to see President Mubarak of Egypt, it was truly a historic moment, a moment that I think must have made Rabin proud to know that he had contributed with his life's work and ultimately with his life to begin to move the Middle East toward peace.

I hope all Members will join in expressing our commitment and support. I hope all of us will remember that one person can make a difference, and that this sacrifice does not have to have been in vain. I hope all of us will continue to work to strengthen the prospects of having a genuine and lasting peace in the Middle East.

LET US DEDICATE OURSELVES TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE TO ENSURE THAT PRIME MINISTER RABIN DID NOT DIE IN VAIN

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

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the violent death of Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is a tragedy, not only for his family and for Israel, but for the entire world. His life spanned Israel's painful struggle for birth and survival.

His military background gave him the credentials to lead Israel in search of a secure peace. General Rabin knew how to wage war. Prime Minister Rabin knew how to make peace.

In the immortal words of Abraham Lincoln, he has given the last full measure in his devotion to peace for Israel.

We can ensure that Yitzhak Rabin will not have died in vain if we the living rededicate ourselves to the cause of peace, to carry the torch that Yitzhak Rabin held high on the road to peace for Israel and for her neighbors throughout the Middle East.

YITZHAK RABIN: WARRIOR FOR PEACE

(Mr. LEWIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have just returned from Israel, where I attended the funeral of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Today our condolences and our hearts go out to the people and friends of Israel, the Rabin family, and lovers of peace everywhere.

Prime Minister Rabin was a great man, a great statesman, and a great peacemaker. He lived his life protecting the people of Israel and gave his life trying to bring an end to the cycle of violence that has plagued his nation. He was a warrior for peace and that will be his legacy. No assassin's bullet can extinguish the flame, the dream, that Yitzhak Rabin ignited in the hearts and minds of his people. Yitzhak Rabin may no longer be with us, but his dream for a safe, secure Israel, an Israel at peace with itself and its neighbors, lives on.

We have all lost a great leader, a great man, a man of peace. Bless him.

EMULATING THE COURAGE AND DEDICATION OF PRIME MINISTER RABIN IN SUPPORTING THE PEACE PROCESS

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

Mr. PAXON. Mr. Speaker, today we all come together, Christian and Jew and Moslem. We come together as people of different races and ethnicities, but we come together as Americans all, to join in mourning the tragic death of Israel Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. There is absolutely no question, Mr. Speaker, of the singular greatness of Prime Minister Rabin. He was always a man of strength who lived a life of conviction and courage. Yitzhak Rabin gave his life in a passionate search for peace for all people in the Middle East.

The only question, the only question that remains: Will we who live on be as courageous and as dedicated in picking up where he left off, in standing up for a real and just peace in the Middle East?

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS CONFERENCE REPORT

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

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I commend all the previous speakers for their eloquence on the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin.

Mr. Speaker, later this week the House will consider for the second time the conference report on H.R. 1977.

Even though this bill was sent back to committee, the new reported version is still completely unacceptable.

This conference report undermines our commitments to native Americans, our National Park System, and our precious national culture.

This bill slashes the budget of the National Park System at a time when more of our constituents are using the parks.

In this bill the budget for the National Park System is cut by \$68 million.

This bill provides only \$1 for management of the Mojave National Preserve, a newly established California park.

It eliminates \$15 million for efforts to improve visitor safety and security at National Parks.

Despite public outcry about exploiting our national resources, this bill allows clearcutting in the Tongass National Forest.

This bill also undermines our commitments and treaty obligations to native Americans.

In this conference report native American programs will be cut by \$184 million from last year's levels.

The crippling reductions targeted at tribes will significantly reduce support for essential tribal government services such as law enforcement, housing improvement, health care, Indian child welfare, and adult vocational training.

This conference report cuts \$136 million more from Indian programs than the original House bill.

Make no mistake that this bill also jeopardizes the ability to provide important cultural, education, and artistic programs for communities across this country.

This bill eliminates 39 percent of funding for the National Endowment for the Arts. These cuts mean less dollars for communities in your district to help them bring ballet and orchestra, opera, and theatre performances to your constituents.

I urge my colleagues to do what is right to protect our environment, to do what is right for native American children and our cultural heritage. Vote "no" on the Interior appropriations conference report.

IT IS TIME TO SAY GOODBYE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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

Mr. Speaker, when this historic Congress convened, a number of us in the new majority promised our constituents that we would work hard to eliminate wasteful Federal agencies that cater to special interests. Soon we will have an opportunity to do just that by eliminating the Department of Commerce.

The Commerce Department, which was ostensibly created to promote American business interests, has evolved into a mish-mash of ineffective