

NOAA clearly indicates that some of this money was used to engage in blatant political advocacy, including lobbying local county officials to vote against holding a referendum on the sanctuary.

TNC's lobbying efforts in south Florida were summarized in a quarterly report sent to NOAA. This describes a TNC contractor's very interesting activities performed under that grant, which included: "developed and directed plan to counter opposition's push for a county-wide referendum against the establishment of the Sanctuary \* \* \* Plan was successful in blocking referendum and generated many positive articles and editorials using many of the messages discussed in plan." TNC denies lobbying with grant funds, relying on a filmsy crutch regarding segregated funds and the like. However, TNC has yet to produce any itemization to explain how the \$44,000 was spent. TNC's shrouded activities are questionable enough that they have received considerable press in Florida.

TNC's lobbying schemes are but the tip of the iceberg for taxpayer-funded lobbying activities. Later today my colleagues will have the unique opportunity to finally bring an end to these unjustified lobbying shenanigans, and I urge my colleagues' support in this effort. Enough is enough.

#### MEDICARE

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

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, Medicare cuts, now an \$11 premium increase on part B, all to pay for a tax break for the wealthy.

My constituents are concerned. And in fact, a recent letter from one of my constituents said:

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE STUPAK: I have been out of circulation for a while because of illness. I do hope my letter will not be too late for your consideration.

We are deeply concerned about the health care programs, particularly Medicare and Medicaid and also Social Security. Granted they need attention. It seems the first move should be to take the graft out and better bookkeeping. There are also many programs that are fleecing America which could be cut to help balancing the budget!

My husband and I have worked very hard all our lives and strived to make a decent retirement situation. We have been community workers giving our time and money. We thought we were in good condition until my husband and I were downed with Alzheimer's Disease and I have been in the hospital 9 times in recent years. My husband worked for the Post Office thirty-seven and a half years, the last 15 as Postmaster.

We should have a good retirement but instead we are going broke. Please consider what you are doing to the middle class.

To my GOP colleagues, as my constituent asked, it is not too late to reject the Republican Medicare cuts to pay for a tax break for the wealthy.

□ 1130

#### PRESIDENT SHOULD SIGN THE BALANCED BUDGET

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

Mr. TATE. Mr. Speaker, the voters of the Ninth Congressional District have sent a clear message to me. They want less taxes, and less government, and less spending, and that is exactly what the Republican Congress is doing. We are going to balance the budget for the first time in a generation, the second time in my lifetime, which will lower interest rates and create more jobs for the people of Washington State. We will reform the welfare system which has been a failed system by anyone's standards by increasing personal responsibility. We will save Medicare which President Clinton's own board of trustees said was going broke by preserving, protecting, and strengthening Medicare by giving seniors more choices and weeding out waste, fraud, and abuse and giving it more competition. We will also provide tax relief for working families in the form of a \$500-per-child family tax credit.

Mr. Speaker, we challenge the President to join with us, and balance the budget, and work for these types of reforms. Mr. President, no more gimmicks. Mr. President, no more tricks. It is time to do the right thing for America's future. Sign the balanced budget.

#### KENTUCKY REJECTS REPUBLICAN ASSAULT ON AMERICA

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

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, the people of Kentucky yesterday rejected the Republican assault on America and elected Democrat Paul Patton as our next Governor. I rise today to congratulate him, and I have today's Louisville Courier-Journal, which I will give to the Speaker because, make no mistake about it, Speaker GINGRICH, this Kentucky election was a sharp repudiation of the Republican contract and devastating Medicare cuts imposed by you. This election serves as clear and convincing evidence that the American people do not support these draconian cuts to our Nation's safety net, and that was before today's news that Speaker GINGRICH late last night moved up the date to January 1, next year, when our seniors will have to begin paying the higher part B premium. Take the time to balance the Federal budget carefully without hurting our seniors, our children, our students. We can do it. We just have to do it carefully.

Mr. Speaker, that is the message from Kentucky.

#### REJECTION OF REPUBLICAN EXTREMISM

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, Earth to the Speaker. Earth to the Speaker. Come in Mr. Speaker.

Yesterday people from Kentucky to New Jersey, from Niagara Falls to Staten Island rejected Republican extremism.

They rejected gutting Medicare to pay for tax cuts for the rich. They rejected cuts to student loans and education. They rejected the extremism of the Contract on America.

And today, Colin Powell is announcing that he will not run for President as a Republican. Why? Because Republican extremists will reject General Powell—a moderate, pro-choice, pro-gun control war hero.

Yet, as if he had not heard the news, the Speaker woke up this morning and said, "Today's a perfect day to raise Medicare premiums for our seniors." Republicans are actually bringing to the floor today a \$100 increase in next year's Medicare premiums as part of the stop-gap spending bill.

And like lemmings, this extremist Congress follows him over the cliff.

Earth to the Speaker. Come in Mr. Speaker.

The American people do not want your type of revolution. They want change that makes sense. And yesterday, they said overwhelmingly that the Speaker's extremism just does not make sense.

#### WATCHING AND WAITING

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the votes have been tallied, the results are in and the message is clear: Voters across the country have rejected the extremist right-wing Republican agenda. In Kentucky, Maine, Mississippi, Virginia, and New Jersey, Democrats were victorious.

The voters said no to the Republican cuts in Medicare. They said no to Republican tax breaks for the rich. They said no to Republican assaults on our environment. And they said no to Republican cuts in student loans and education.

Mr. Speaker, heed the message of the 1995 elections. America is watching and waiting, waiting for 1996. Waiting to stop Republican attacks on the elderly, the poor, students, and working-class Americans; 1995 is a prelude.

#### MESSAGE OF VIRGINIA ELECTION

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

Mr. PAYNE of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, we had an election in Virginia yesterday, and the Republicans in this House ought to sit up and take notice.

Our Republican Governor tried to make the election a referendum on his program of tax cuts. Under the Governor's plan, tax cuts would be paid for by slashing spending for colleges and universities, law enforcement, and important social services. In Virginia, the Republicans' tax cuts would take effect right away, but painful spending cuts would be put off for the future.

Does that sound familiar?

The people of Virginia got a good look at the Allen plan, and despite the Governor's tireless campaigning, they rejected his program by a big margin. They defied the odds and kept the Virginia General Assembly in Democratic hands.

Mr. Speaker, the message from yesterday is clear: People do want tax relief, but not if it means gutting programs that help our children and help make our communities strong, and not if it means putting balancing the budget at risk. It is a lesson that we ought to learn here in Washington.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF YITZHAK RABIN

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of yesterday, I call up the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 31) honoring the life and legacy of Yitzhak Rabin, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

##### S. CON. RES. 31

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin, a true hero of Israel, was born in Jerusalem on March 1, 1922;

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin served in the Israel Defense Forces for more than two decades, and fought in three wars including service as Chief of Staff of the Israel Defense Forces during the Six Day War of June 1967;

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin served the people of Israel with great distinction in a number of government positions, including Ambassador to the United States from 1968 to 1973, Minister of Defense from 1984 to 1988, and twice as Prime Minister from 1974 to 1977 and from June 1992 until his assassination;

Whereas under the leadership of Yitzhak Rabin, a framework for peace between Israel and the Palestinians was established with the signing of the Declaration of Principles on September 13, 1993, continued with the conclusion of a peace treaty between Israel and Jordan on October 26, 1994, and continues today;

Whereas on December 10, 1994, Yitzhak Rabin was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace for his vision and accomplishments as a peacemaker;

Whereas shortly before his assassination, Yitzhak Rabin said, "I have always believed that the majority of the people want peace and are ready to take a chance for peace. . . . Peace is not only in prayers . . . but it is in the desire of the Jewish people.";

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin's entire life was dedicated to the cause of peace and security for Israel and its people; and

Whereas on November 4, 1995, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated in Tel Aviv, Israel: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress—*

(1) condemns the heinous assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in the strongest possible terms;

(2) extends its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and to all the people of Israel in this moment of tragedy;

(3) expresses its admiration for the historic contributions made by Yitzhak Rabin over his long and distinguished career of public service;

(4) expresses its support for the government of Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres; and

(5) reaffirms its commitment to the process of building a just and lasting peace between Israel and its neighbors.

SEC. 2. When the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect in honor of the late Yitzhak Rabin.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of the Senate is directed to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BE-REUTER). Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, November 7, 1995, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] each will be recognized for 45 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

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

Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sorrow and a sense of personal loss that today we consider legislation that memorializes the life and legacy of Israel's slain Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin. Prime Minister Rabin, who was gunned down on Saturday night by a lone assassin, was attacked by an extremist who was opposed to his efforts at reconciliation and peace with the PLO, initiated 2 years ago with the signing of the Declaration of Principles.

The shocking circumstances of Prime Minister Rabin's death magnify the tragedy of his loss. I was honored to participate in the Presidential delegation that attended Prime Minister Rabin's state funeral in Jerusalem. It was gratifying to see an extensive list of Heads of State and international dignitaries in attendance, including representatives of nations with which Israel does not have diplomatic relations, and to hear many eloquent speakers reiterate their commitment to a lasting peace throughout the region.

This distinguished gathering mourned the life and legacy of Yitzhak Rabin, a soldier-statesman who became his nation's first native born Prime Minister. Born in Jerusalem in 1922, as a young man, Yitzhak Rabin fought for Israel's independence by defending the Tel-Aviv-Jerusalem highway. He distinguished himself on numerous occasions, none more so than when, as Chief of Staff of the Israeli Defence Forces, he led Israel's troops through the Old City to the Wailing Wall during the Six-Day war of 1967. This memorable event brought about the reunification of all Jerusalem, and Rabin's birthplace, an Israel's capital.

General Rabin also distinguished himself in his service to his country as Ambassador to the United States for 5 years. He contributed significantly to the close United States-Israel partnership that persists today. His commitment to that relationship, as well as his personal and unstinting commitment to peace with security, were evident throughout the remainder of his political career, both as Minister of Defense and as Prime Minister of Israel.

Just 2 weeks ago Congress celebrated the 3,000th anniversary of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. As Jerusalem's most famous native son, Prime Minister Rabin participated with us in the rotunda delivering deeply moving remarks. His presence still echoes in our hallway. It is with a sense of utter disbelief that we consider this legislation today.

Prime Minister Rabin will forever be remembered as a man who not only led Israel to victory in war, but who also led her citizens in pursuit of peace. At this troubled time in Israel's history, we express our support for Israel's transition government, and reaffirm the congressional commitment to a lasting peace between Israel and her neighbors.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Rabin family, for Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres, and for all the people of Israel at this time.

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

□ 1145

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT], the distinguished minority leader.

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

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution—to pay tribute to one of the greatest soldiers of peace the world has ever known.

Like all Americans, I was shocked and saddened at the senseless murder of Prime Minister Rabin this past Sunday. And the great irony is that he died as he lived—celebrating and advocating the cause of peace in the Middle East.

To me, Yitzhak Rabin was the very essence of leadership, because up until the last moments of his life, he did not do what was easy; he did not do what was popular—he did what was right.

He not only brought his nation to the brink of a real and lasting peace—he rallied millions of Israelis, and millions of people all over the world, in support of that crusade.

Many of us in this Chamber had the opportunity to travel to Israel on Monday—to grieve along with the people of Israel. And for me, as for so many of us, the loss was as personal as it was political.

For I know Yitzhak Rabin as a kind and caring man—as someone who carried a love for his people, and an abiding belief in peace, deep inside him. To