

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my strong support for the affirmative action laws of the United States. Within the last two decades, affirmative action has been the primary tool that has allowed minority and women workers to break through the many barriers of employment discrimination.

Despite the steps our Nation has taken to move forward in the area of affirmative action, we are now faced with a new onslaught on civil rights, as evidenced by the recent statements of a Republican Senate leader. In a Washington Post article published yesterday, this Republican Senate leader is quoted as asserting that affirmative action has caused some Americans to "Have to pay" for discrimination practiced "before they were born." A congressional leader who opposes affirmative action should realize that jobs do not belong specifically to one race of people. Black Americans born in this country, also have a contract with America. That contract, by virtue of birth, is rooted in both the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

The truth of affirmative action programs is that they do not grant preferential treatment to selected Americans, but provide for a means of equal opportunity employment for all members of our society.

BIPARTISAN COOPERATION HELPS IN KEEPING PROMISES TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Ms. PRYCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago in an historic and symbolic gesture the esteemed minority leader from Missouri passed the gavel onto the first Republican Speaker in 40 years announcing: "Let the great debate begin."

But a great debate there was not. For it seemed that when the Republicans wanted to change the way Congress works, the Democrats wanted to change the subject. When Republicans wanted to make Government leaner and less intrusive, Democrats seemed intent to use scare tactics and delaying maneuvers.

But Mr. Speaker, this past week or two were different and for the third time in about the same period, the American people won. Casting politics aside and placing the American people first, we together have now passed a balanced budget amendment, unfunded mandate reform, and a line-item veto.

Mr. Speaker, we are now on a roll. There is a renewed spirit of reform and fiscal restraint in this great body of the people. I look forward to even more bipartisan cooperation in our goal to keep our promises to the American people.

□ 1130

URGING CONGRESS TO PASS THE MODEST INCREASE IN THE MINIMUM WAGE

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, our Republican friends support a tax cut for wealthy Americans earning more than \$200,000 a year, but they will not support a raise in the minimum wage for people who want to work and not collect welfare.

If we truly want to move people off public assistance, we must make work more attractive than welfare. We ought not be deceived by those who say the minimum wage is only being paid to teenagers from well-off families. Two-thirds of minimum wage workers are adults over the age of 21, many of whom bring home at least half their family's income.

Let us look at the choices faced by a single mother living at the poverty level. If she goes on welfare, she can get comprehensive health care and a monthly check from the government. If she goes to work at a minimum wage job, she earns only \$8,500 a year, and her family loses her health coverage. She must find a way to care for her children while she is at work. That is not much of a choice. Mark my words, Mr. Speaker, tossing people off welfare will not make these dilemmas magically disappear.

The minimum wage is an important piece of the effort to raise the living standards for all Americans. We started on the right path last year when we voted to expand the earned income tax credit. Let us raise the minimum wage.

COMPENSATION FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME SHOULD BE A BIPARTISAN CONCERN

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

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, today this House will begin debate on the Victim's Restitution Act of 1995.

While there may be honest points of disagreement in subsequent consideration of habeas corpus reform, restrictions on the exclusionary rule and the death penalty, there should be no difficulty in recognizing the absolute need within our justice system to compensate victims of crime for the horrors visited upon them by those who cannot abide by society's rules.

In my tenure as a county prosecutor, the most commonly heard complaint by victims of crime was that their voices and their rights were the only absent parties from the criminal justice equation.

The people are represented by the D.A.; the defendant had his high-priced or taxpayer-supported mouthpiece—but the victim, like the cheese in the chil-

dren's rhyme "The Farmer in the Dell"—stands alone.

And although financial recompense cannot replace the loss of personal security one suffers at the hands of the criminal, it is wholly appropriate that the wrongdoers pay in many ways for their inability to conform their behavior to socially acceptable standards.

It has become commonplace for the pendulum to swing back and forth between protection of society and protection of defendants' due process guarantees. Today it is time it swings toward victim's rights—and after today, the victims of crime will no longer stand alone.

CALLING FOR OUTSIDE COUNSEL TO HELP THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

(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, on May 26, 1988, a Member of this House said: "I believe that honesty and accountability lie at the heart of self-government and freedom. Without integrity, our free institutions cannot survive." I could not agree more.

Mr. Speaker, on that same day, that same Member said: "Recently the weight of evidence has grown so large that Common Cause has called for an investigation." That Member was NEWT GINGRICH. While Speaker GINGRICH and I may not agree on much in the 104th Congress, I certainly agree with what he said then.

I join Common Cause in calling for an outside ethics adviser to help the Ethics Committee.

As Speaker GINGRICH said in 1988: "I think there is a different standard for being Speaker." I agree.

As the Speaker himself said, we need an outside counsel.

THE EXCLUSIONARY RULE REFORM ACT WILL HELP REDUCE CRIME

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

Mr. JONES. We have all heard stories about suspected criminals that have had their cases dropped due to illegal searches. I, like all Americans, believe strongly in the fourth amendment which bans unreasonable search and seizures. However, the number of dismissed cases is on the increase.

We have police officers risking their lives each and every day to put these criminals behind bars only to later have the criminals released on a technicality.

Under current law, judges must ignore evidence which was gathered illegally based on present interpretation, even when police thought they were acting legally. This must stop. We cannot allow criminals to control us.

The Exclusionary Rule Reform Act allows a good faith exception to be adopted. It ensures that violent criminals will not be released on a technicality if a search or seizure was conducted in good faith. People are tired and fed up with the justice system.

Let us give the people a sense of security and pass H.R. 666. The police desperately need this help in fighting crime. The American people are demanding help from elected officials in reducing crime.

HONOR THE BIRMINGHAM BLACK BARONS AND THE NEGRO BASEBALL LEAGUES

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

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, during segregation, blacks were excluded from organized baseball. To play baseball, black players and supporters organized the Negro Leagues. These leagues not only gave black players an opportunity to play, but they were an important part of the social life of the community.

The Birmingham Black Barons was one of the founding teams in the Negro Southern League. They often drew larger crowds than white teams which played in the same park. Their games often featured such promotions as dance contests, beauty pageants, and visiting celebrities like Lena Horne and Lionel Hampton. The Black Barons produced players such as Willie Mays and Satchel Paige, who later had prominent careers in organized baseball, when the barriers against black players were lowered.

The Birmingham Public Library is honoring players from the Birmingham Black Barons and other Negro League teams on Thursday night. At this time I would like to honor the following players: Mr. Pat Patterson, Mr. Willie Young, Mr. Eugene Williams, Mr. Norman Lumpkin, Mr. Verdell "Lefty" Mathis, Mr. Joe Scott, Mr. Sherwood "Chet" Brewer, Mr. Sammy Haynes, Mr. Frank King, Mr. James Zapp, Mr. James "Fireball" Bolden, Mr. Tommy Sampson, Mr. Cecil Witt, Mr. Ralph Johnson, Mr. Arthur Hamilton, Mr. John Kennedy, Mr. Anthony Lloyd, Mr. Johnnie Cowan, Mr. Bob Hayden, Mr. Carl Holden, Mr. James Norman, Mr. William Davis, Mr. Harold Hair, Mr. Willie Sims, Mr. Ralph Johnson, Mr. Louis Gillis, Mr. Carl Holden, Mr. Nathaniel Pollard, Mr. Joe B. Scott, Mr. Otha Bailey, Mr. Lyman Bostock, Mr. William "Cap" Brown, Mr. Lorenzo (Piper) Davis, Mr. Frank Evans, Rev. William Greason, Mr. Wiley Griggs, Mr. Raymond Haggins, Mr. Sam Hairston, Mr. Willie Harris, Mr. James "Sap" Evory, Mr. Willie Lee, Mr. Jesse Mitchell, Mr. John Mitchell, Mr. William Powell, Mr. Eugene Scruggs, Mr. Freddie Shepard, Mr. Willie Young, and Mr. Harry "Mooch" Barnes.

We are honoring only a few of the pioneers, but the others are not forgotten. Their contributions added immensely to the joys, pleasures and "good times" of a disenfranchised people at a difficult time in their lives. The work of each one of them shall be etched in the history of a people struggling to be free. This insertion into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ensures them that a record of their part in making America free, shall be preserved as long as this country exists.

May we play the game of life as honorably as they played the game of baseball.

KEVORKIAN (DEAD ON ARRIVAL) ACCOUNTING IN PRESIDENT CLINTON'S BUDGET

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, the Wall Street Journal's editorial page says it all, calling Clinton's budget Kevorkian accounting. It is dead on arrival.

Did the President's budget show leadership? I do not think so. Courageous? Not. Again, quoting the Wall Street Journal, "Mr. Clinton's budget is essentially a defense of the status quo."

Mr. Speaker, we were not elected to this great body to defend the status quo. We were elected to this great body to reform Congress, to get this Nation's financial house in order, and to make Government leaner and less intrusive.

We have made great progress, passing a balanced budget amendment, unfunded mandate reform, and just yesterday the line item veto. Despite our President, who has taken a walk with his budget presentation, we will make the tough choices which will lead to a balanced budget.

For the sake of our children and our children's children, we must not fail. We must show the courage and leadership to balance the budget.

CALLING FOR A TRUE OUTSIDE COUNSEL

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

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, what does the Speaker's dinner tonight, called Dining for Dollars, the minimum wage, and the outside counsel, have in common? It is a \$50,000-a-plate dinner on which there will be a \$19,000 tax break for everyone attending, which, incidentally, will pay the total wage for two minimum wage earners, the waiters, valets, car parkers, and so on, who will be waiting on those people, and incidentally, those wage earners will have trouble going to McDonald's to get the same tax break.

It all raises questions of access. I want to suggest a show for the new National Empowerment Network. Legal

shows are popular. This will focus on questions such as media tycoons who have matters before Federal agencies and book deals with high congressional officials.

It can focus on political action committees that will not release the contributors before January 1. It can probe all types of questions of access. However, Mr. Speaker, we ought to take this show for the outside counsel out of Congress and get it where it belongs, in the public and with a true outside counsel.

APPLAUDING EMPLOYEES OF THE KENNEDY SPACE CENTER ON A REMARKABLE SPACE SHUTTLE MISSION

(MR. WELDON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, right now, the shuttle *Discovery* is orbiting 170 miles above, on a remarkable mission.

This shuttle mission, commanded by James Wetherbee is a mission of firsts.

Yesterday we witnessed a historic event: the rendezvous with the Russian space station *Mir*.

The shuttle *Discovery* maneuvered within 44 feet of the Russian space station.

This was a major effort of two former enemies, with different languages, cultures, and technologies, working together in peaceful cooperation.

This cooperation gives us great hope for the continued success of the U.S.-led international space station.

□ 1140

On board the space shuttle is Eileen Collins, the first woman to pilot a space shuttle mission. She is joined by the second Russian cosmonaut to fly aboard a United States space shuttle, Vladimir Titov.

Mr. Speaker, I salute and applaud the employees of Kennedy Space Station as well as Johnson in support of this remarkable shuttle mission.

WHAT A DINNER

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, tonight the taxpayers are going to dinner with Speaker GINGRICH.

Tonight a dozen high rollers will sit down to dine with the Speaker and hand over \$50,000 checks for his radical right wing television station. In the process, each attendee will get a tax write-off of almost \$20,000. That is almost \$240,000 of our tax dollars going to support the radical right wing agenda.

This is the same Speaker who refuses to release the names of the contributors to his personal political machine GOPAC. The same Speaker who, according to the Atlanta Constitution,