

That is why I have limited my own term. That is why I will vote for term limits.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to show some humility. We need the wisdom of the American people in this House, and term limits is how we are going to get it.

A HISTORIC DAY IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, this is a historic day in the House. This will be the first vote in the House on term limits since the Framers of the Constitution rejected the idea over 200 years ago.

I believe term limits are not needed or necessary. Voters have the opportunity to limit our careers every 2 years. We have had a 52-percent turnover in the House of Representatives since 1990.

It is going to put much more power in the hands of the bureaucracy rather than the elected officials. And No. 5 is the large States really benefit at the expense of the smaller States such as Tennessee.

But with everything said and with my reservations about term limits, I will vote to let the people in Tennessee and the respective States decide whether term limits is in the best interests of the country. I will uphold the wishes of the people of my State and let them decide whether or not they wish to amend the Constitution even though I think it is a bad idea.

SUPPORT THE HILLEARY AMENDMENT

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

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, in my home State of North Carolina, stock car racing is a huge event.

In stock car racing the car driver has a pit crew. These are the guys who work on the engine, fill it up with gas, and keep the car running.

When a driver pulls into the pits to have his crew work on the car, the crew only has a few seconds to do their job.

They change the tires, fill it up, clean the windshield, and then they get out.

Mr. Speaker, the American public elected us to be their pit crew.

The 1994 elections attempted to put America back on the right track. Hard working Americans are driving this country, but they have chosen us to come up here, do a job and get out.

I am a proud sponsor of House Joint Resolution 76, the Hilleary amendment which would impose a maximum 12-year limit on the terms of House and Senate Members.

However, this amendment would also respect term limits already established by 22 States nationwide, most of which are stricter.

Mr. Speaker, like many other freshman Republicans, I have also signed on to Mr. INGLIS' 6-year term limit amendment on House Members.

I have purposefully signed on to more than one amendment to help ensure that term limits pass this House.

Mr. Speaker, let us put America back on the right track and pass term limits.

FIGHTING TO PRESERVE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAMS

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, last night, Republicans refused to crack down on billionaire tax evaders who renounce their citizenship to avoid paying their fair share of taxes. But, preserving tax loopholes for billionaires is just the latest installment of the great tax giveaway of 1995. And, who is paying for this windfall to the wealthy? Middle class, working families.

Just look at what is next on the GOP agenda: Republicans want to cut student loan programs to help finance their tax cuts to the wealthy. Four crucial student aid programs are on the GOP chopping block. Together, these programs account for 75 percent of the financial aid currently awarded to college students.

In Connecticut, 39,176 students rely on Stafford loans. The average debt of these students is \$13,835. The Republican proposal would increase the average debt by \$4,547 per family. That means monthly payments will soar, from \$164 a month to \$202 a month. This may not sound like much to Speaker GINGRICH, but it is real money to a 24-year-old in his or her first job.

Many Members of this body took out student loans to pay for their education. It is wrong to deny that same opportunity to the students of today. Democrats will fight to preserve student loans programs, not tax loopholes for the wealthy.

□ 1130

MAJORITY OF AMERICANS WANT TERM LIMITS

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

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, in his 1992 campaign for the White House, Mr. Clinton had this to say about term limits: "I am against term limits because I think it takes choices away from the voters." But the American people did choose. They chose by an overwhelming majority that they want term limits. It was their choice. Twenty-four and half million Americans have chosen term limits.

When you talk about choices for the voters, let us look at what happened in California. In California, the number of candidates running for office has increased by 40 percent since passage of term limits. That gives voters an awful lot more choices, does it not? Does it not increase the choices dramatically?

Mr. Speaker, the American people clearly want term limits. Republicans cannot do it alone. We need only half of the Democrats, we just need half of your caucus to vote for term limits. And the gentleman from Michigan's [Mr. DINGELL] own bill, we just need half of the Democrats to give the American people what they want, a more accountable citizen legislature and an end to legislative careerism.

STUDENT LOANS

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

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, as the Republicans continue their class war on behalf of the junk bond traders of this country, the poor and the middle class are once again going to face their social Darwinist guillotine.

Education is the single most important factor in determining whether or not a person will live in poverty. With this in mind, the GOP is now going to slash student loans which allow working families to send their children to school. Going to school is expensive enough as it is, yet now the Republicans want to make it almost impossible.

While NEWT GINGRICH plans a \$500 per child tax credit for people who can afford to send their kids to Yale, the working people in my district now will even have the money to watch his bogus college course on TV.

Mr. Speaker, the Republicans not only want to deny a future for the poor of this country, they also want the middle class to keep them company.

OUR NATION IS BEST SERVED BY HAVING TERM LIMITS

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

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out that I bow to the will of this body, my term-limits badge inside my coat, not on the outside.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to consider the words of George Mason, a man whose vision was critical to our Bill of Rights. Mason said;

In order to restrain public officials from oppression, they should at fixed periods, be reduced to a private station and return into the body from which they were originally taken * * * where they might feel and participate in the burdens of the people.

Mr. Speaker, that means people here should be responsible for the payroll, their production should warrant what their income is, and people who have lived under the oppressive rules and regulations of the Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, Congress should be of the people, not its permanent representative. Mason knew that this Nation would be best served by having individuals who have lived as private citizens representing them in Congress. I urge my colleagues to vote for term limits.

EDUCATION IS PART OF THE AMERICAN DREAM

(Mr. WATT of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, getting an education is part of the American dream. For generations, the Federal Government has helped average, everyday, working-class, and middle-class Americans secure this American dream through financial aid programs for college.

Well, this key component of the American dream is on the chopping block also. Let us be absolutely clear: This is not welfare we are talking about; we are talking about Federal financial aid that goes to working-class and middle-class kids. We are talking about programs that average, everyday working, and middle-class Americans help to finance through their tax dollars. We are even talking about work study, that is, work for money to pay for education.

But make no mistake about it, we are talking about programs that the wealthy string pullers who control the Republican Party do not care one iota about. They can pay for their kids' education. Can you?

EIGHTY PERCENT OF AMERICANS SUPPORT TERM LIMITS

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

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, polls estimate, as everybody knows, that 80 percent of Americans support term limits. Yet I know there are some Republicans who do not, but there are some Democrats who, frankly, oppose, and have actively done so, for some time. Frustrated by 40 years of Democratic inaction and blatant obstruction to term limits, the American people were forced to take this battle to the ballot box, State by State, in a grassroots effort to circumvent an arrogant Congress that thought it knew better than those people it represented.

The makeup of today's Congress is very different, in large part because of the term-limit movement. The new majority believes the people have a right to be heard, and that is why this GOP-led Congress is bringing a historic first ever vote on term limits to the floor of the House today.

For those Democrats sitting on the fence on term limits, just talking about those on the fence, look back at last year's election. Many of your colleagues who fought against the will of

the people, about 35 of them, are not here. They are now watching this debate as observers instead of Members of Congress.

The way I see it, we either get your vote on term limits today or we will get your seat in 1996. Think about it.

A TRIBUTE TO THE UCONN HUSKIES WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mrs. KENNELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, this weekend I was lucky enough to be one of 8,000 people at Gampel Pavilion cheering the UCONN Huskies Women's Basketball Team on to their latest victory. We in Connecticut are thrilled that this dream season continues as this dream team advances to the final four.

Rebecca Lobo, the Naismith player of the year and Husky coach, Geno Auriemma, Naismith coach of the year, led this team to an almost unbelievable undefeated season. Although their most recent victory was not quite the 35-point average margin of victory that they were used to, the proved to themselves and to us that through their composure, grit, and drive, they were able to overcome the nerves and the pressure that come with the final big games.

This performance showed us just what a world-class team looks like. On behalf of myself and the entire State of Connecticut best of luck to the UCONN women as they follow their dream to Minneapolis. Go Huskies.

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS SHOULD RETURN HOME AND MIX WITH THE PEOPLE

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

Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, another world-class women's team is the University of Tennessee. Go Vols.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in favor of term limits as a freshman Congressman who has been here 2 months and who has pledged to my district that I will limit my stay to 12 years. I have taken voluntary term limits.

Mr. Speaker, the case for term limits is a simple one. As one of the Founding Fathers, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, put it, members of the legislature, "ought to return home and mix with the people." He warned that if they did not, "they would acquire the habits of the place, which might differ from those of their constituents."

How right he was. Once in office a survival instinct takes hold and nothing becomes as important as winning the next election. Members forget why they were sent to Washington.

Mr. Speaker, term limits have been bottled up for years by the Democratic

leadership, but it will finally come to the House floor today. But it will not pass unless we convince about half of the Democrats to vote with the over 80 percent of the Republicans to support term limits.

I would hate to see term limits fail because of a lack of support from my colleagues on the Democratic side. We need only 50 percent of them to vote with us on this. Let us not let term limits fall victim to a lack of bipartisan effort. Let us seize the moment. Let us pass term limits.

GOLDEN GRAB AWARD TO BE ANNOUNCED TODAY

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

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, some days back I announced an award which I give from time to time. It is entitled "The Golden Grab," a hand extended outward with palm up. This is an award which I will be giving to people in the defense business who are unfaithful to their contracts, who charge too much, who fail to be responsible in terms of meeting their deadlines; to Government officials who fail to properly carry out their responsibilities.

This is an award dedicated to those who disregard their responsibilities to the people of the United States.

I will give the first award on April 1, on April Fools Day. I will give it to a class of persons who are particularly deserving of this award. I will be shortly announcing the first honoree of honorees.

I urge my colleagues to be present to note who will be receiving the Golden Grab Award, a golden hand, palm up, hand outstretched to receive things to which the individual is not entitled at the expense of the public.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TORKILDSEN). All time for 1-minute remarks has expired.

TERM LIMITS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 116 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the House Joint Resolution, House Joint Resolution 73.

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IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of joint resolution (H.J. Res. 73) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States with respect to the number of terms of