

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am one of 28 infamous, so-called infamous, people that appeared on the fundraising poster that was put out by Mr. BILL PAXON of the Republican fundraising committee.

It is respectable to be a Republican. There are many good ones who seek only good for all people. There are others who feel that it is not respectable or to be respected to be racist or sexist.

It is truly disgusting what some people would do, Mr. Speaker, to raise political money. Why, in this period of fear and discontent, uncertainty and danger, when the country is still reeling from the Oklahoma City bombing, the unabridged threats and lawless, paranoid, violent people who can only express themselves by killing other people of defaming other people are inflicting pain and suffering? Why in this unsettled and unsettling climate, Mr. Speaker, would someone put another person's picture on a wanted poster that looks like something the FBI would put in a post office?

This kind of thing can bring fear, particularly to a woman's heart who has to walk many times in dark places and dark corners of this country.

The reason why? The National Republican Congressional Committee, under Mr. PAXON, tells us it is to raise money. I do not think that is a good reason, Mr. Speaker. I guess he has concluded that hate sells.

Hate does not sell in this country, particularly when they are trying to separate God's people, those who are black, those who are white, those who are Jewish, those who are female. That is not the way that our Maker would have us go. So hate does not sell.

If that is the case, then I feel sorry for those who feel that that is so. These people feel that it is OK to feed hate and hysteria. They do not mind advancing their cause by making enemies of those who have honest disagreements with them. Yes, I did not vote for the Contract With America. I did not feel that I wanted to vote for many of the concepts of the contract. Therefore, I voted against it.

I was told that was the reason why I was placed on the poster. That could not be further from the truth, in that there were 70 or 80 other people who voted the same way as I did. Yet their faces did not appear on the contract.

What seemed to be the target on the contract, on the poster, were people of African-American descent, people of Jewish faith, and white women. Those are the people who appeared on this poster.

But I want to say that the Republican Party should repudiate the likes of the kinds of ethics and techniques that Mr. PAXON has used. He has not set a great example for this party. This was the party of Lincoln. This was the party that freed the slaves. So certainly this is not a good way to depict what their party stands for.

I have been in the public a long time. I have been through the lynching pe-

riod. I have been through the civil rights period. I have been through all of these periods of racial hate. But I had to come to the great Congress of the United States to have the kind of hate poster and the hate mail which I have received here.

Do you know why? This kind of thing, coming from the top of the party, sets a climate of lawlessness and hate, and it provides the atmosphere and the climate for people who want to divide this country, to be able to write us here in Congress the kinds of hate mail and to give us the hate kinds of calls, using our ethnicity as a cloak to form their hate.

This wanted poster is not a healthy sign. It is a sick sign. It is as much a reflection of our times as it is a product of people who think in a sick way.

I have got my own wanted poster, Mr. Speaker. I want decent schools for the people in this country, both black and white and otherwise, and I want better education and training for young people. I want a way the senior citizens can get help in their old age and get long-term care. I want that, Mr. Speaker. I want to make sure that parents who buy food for their children, that the meat will have the proper inspection so they can have good health. I want good health for all people of America. I do not want to think this is a color-blind society. I know it is not. But I want everything good for everybody.

I want to assure these older Americans that they will not go bankrupt if they get sick. My wanted poster is out there, Mr. Speaker. My voting record attests to that. It is composed of goals that all of us should work for, not people to search, target, and destroy, because of hateful literature.

I thought that the Republican Party had come much further than Mr. PAXON has taken them, but I guess he wants to revive the old Nixon enemies hit list.

I call on the Republicans of good faith to repudiate what Mr. PAXON has done.

I have all kinds of hate mail. It is so much of it that I just make one or two excerpts from it to show you the kind of things that come from the kinds of things that are happening in the party now, and it is throwing a very bad light on all the rest of us. "Sit down and shut up," as if I were not elected by the people of Florida. They use the "b" word throughout much of this stuff. I cannot mention it in the hallowed hall of this House. They are saying;

We are taking our Nation. We took it with force of arms, defended it with force of arms, and we will take it back with force of arms. You and your filthy species are nothing.

I say to them, my father and my forefathers helped to build this country. I will not take a back seat to anyone. I will continue to voice my opinion on this floor of this House.

They continue to say:

"You are primitive, childish, selfish, petulant, demanding, dependent, arrogant, evil,

treacherous creatures regressing to your natural state, Rwanda, Biafra, Somalia, Liberia, South Africa, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Los Angeles, New York, Washington, Atlanta, New Orleans, Miami, that is your legacy. You will pay for what you have done. We are enemies forever. No way around this fact. We cannot and will not coexist with you animals.

I want to say to you, Mr. Speaker, and the rest of this House and the rest of this country, we are God's children like everyone else. We do not have to tolerate this kind of bad literature that comes because it is stirred by the hatred from that poster.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 5 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

Mr. KINGSTON. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, would the gentlewoman tell us how many other unanimous consent orders there may be tonight?

Mrs. CLAYTON. I would not know. I am only asking for one myself.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentlewoman be the last one?

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, there is one other.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I object unless we can get a commitment that this will be the last one, simply because we have the first hour. We would be happy to yield some time in the spirit of dialog, but inasmuch as this is an orchestrated attempt, I do not know that we need to continue.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, we are the last two.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I am including in the RECORD following rollcall votes 517 through 525 an indication of how I would have voted had I been present, to be followed with statements submitted for the RECORD.

I was away from Washington at work back in my district today. However, had I been here I would have responded in the following manner for the rollcall votes on House Resolution 1977, Interior Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1996.

Roll call No. 517, Schaefer amendment, "aye"; roll call No. 518, Chabot amendment, "nay"; roll call No. 519, Parker amendment, "nay"; roll call No. 520, Zimmer amendment, "nay"; roll call No. 521, Klug amendment, "aye"; roll call No. 522, Kennedy (MA), "aye"; roll call No. 523, on passage, "nay"; roll call No. 524, ordering the

previous question, "nay"; and roll call No. 525, agreeing to the resolution, "aye".

□ 2015

THE MOST WANTED POSTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. (Mr. McINNIS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, recently certain elements of the Republican Party published a so-called "Wanted" poster, wherein twenty-eight Democratic Members of Congress were identified as targets.

This callous, insensitive, and abhorrent act is offensive, repulsive, and ugly.

I take this opportunity to use these strong terms because the "Wanted" poster targeted a particular group of Members.

Twenty-two of the twenty-eight Democrats are African-American, Hispanic, Jewish or female.

Apart from those classes of individuals, there was no other rhyme, reason or rational relationship to reasonably put these Members in a group—refer to them as "Wanted"—and lace the poster with language such as aiding and abetting—suggesting that these public servants should be associated with criminal allegations.

I was not on the list, Mr. Speaker, but this act was insulting to me as an American and should be insulting to every American who favors freedom, democracy and the way we function as a Government and as a people.

More than an affront, this act was a very sad deed.

Congressman PAXON claimed that the faces on the "Wanted" poster were chosen because of their voting records.

Another spokesperson claimed that the faces were chosen because of their geographic location.

Still another spokesperson claimed the faces were chosen because they were from areas deemed winnable by Republican strategists.

The fact is that it would appear that little or no thought was given to this disgusting act.

Perhaps this act was driven by the same attitude that created Willie Horton during a recent Presidential campaign.

The fact is that among the faces on the "Wanted" poster are African-Americans, Hispanics, Jewish Americans and women who won their last elections with as much as three-fourths of the vote in their districts.

Few of the faces represent districts that could even remotely be considered politically vulnerable.

This poster appealed to the worse kind of sentiment we can imagine. It appealed to emotions that brought us bull dogs and billy clubs in past years.

And, it appealed to emotions that have brought us Oklahoma City and

those organized band of thugs whose purpose is to deny to some the rights that they demand for themselves.

Again, Mr. Speaker, these are strong words that I use—words that I do not ordinarily use on the floor of the House.

But, unless we speak out against this kind of dangerous and demeaning act, none of us will be able to enjoy the fruits of this democracy.

I condemn this condemnable act in the strongest of terms.

WE WANT TO MAKE MEDICARE A BETTER SYSTEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. WATTS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, we are debating here on the floor of the House or we are having discussion going on concerning Medicare, and I have got a couple of charts here that I want to share.

I want to read, my colleagues, a quote. Today Medicaid and Medicare are going up at three times the rate of inflation. We propose to let it go up at two times the rate of inflation, not three times the rate of inflation. But this quote says the person that made this statement said that we are proposing to let it go up at two times the rate of inflation rather than three times the rate of inflation. That is not a Medicare or Medicaid cut. So, when you hear all this business about cuts, let me caution you that that is not what is going on. We are going to have increases in Medicare and Medicaid and a reduction in the rate of growth.

President Clinton, 1993.

I find that it is interesting, Mr. Speaker, that when we talk about Medicare and Medicaid it seems as though when Republicans talk about Medicaid and Medicare and we are slowing down the rate of growth, it seems that that is a cut. However, when the President talk about slowing down the growth in Medicare or Medicaid, then that seems to be an increase.

I want to share with you a chart here from 1995 through the year 2002 and just wanted to illustrate what the dollar figures are concerning the Medicare spending and the plan that is before America. In 1995, we will spend \$178.2 billion. Now, Mr. Speaker, that is per beneficiary, per month, about \$401. In 1996, we will spend 191 billion; 1997, 201.8 billion; 1998, 213.8 billion; 1999, 226.3 billion; the year 2000, 238.9 billion; the year 2001, 255.4 billion; and in the year 2002, 274.1 billion.

Now the per beneficiary/per month, dollar amount goes from \$401 a month in the year 1995 to the year 2002, going to \$561 a month per beneficiary, and I ask the American people, "Where is the cut?"

Mr. Speaker, the Medicare Board of Trustees, and three of these trustees are—six total—three of these trustees were appointed by the President of the

United States, his current administration, and those six trustees signed off on the annual report of the Medicare Board of Trustees report that said that by the year 1996 that Medicare would be broken, by the year 2002 Medicare would be bankrupt, if we do not deal with it.

Now that report was consistent in 1994, and it is consistent in 1995. That was the conclusion that, if we do not do something about Medicare, that it would be bankrupt by the year 2002.

So, in the President's plan he refused to deal with Medicare. The Republicans we are choosing to deal with it so we can save Medicare for our children, for our children's children, for future generations. We know that there are people today that depend on Medicare, and, if we let this go unnoticed and do not choose to deal with this, we will have many, many people in this country, especially the senior citizens, that will be crippled tremendously if we do nothing about this.

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to stand here and to commend the gentleman for bringing to the attention of the American people the statistics that you have offered here this evening. We have been struggling for a long time, and you are helping us now, struggling to get the message across to people to be, contrary to the propaganda that we have heard about the cuts in Medicare and Medicaid, and the gentleman has gone a long way in dispelling the doubts that are out in the American public. I wanted to commend him for that.

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. There is a hundred billion dollars in the Medicare system that was spend in the year 1994, and 44 billion of that was fraud. We want to cut the fraud. We want to made Medicare a better system. We want to preserve it for our children, our children's children, for the future of America.

THE STATUS OF THE MEDICARE PROGRAM IN THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HOKE] is recognized for 40 minutes and the gentleman from Florida [Mr. BILIRAKIS] will be recognized for 20 minutes as the designees of the majority leader.

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, tonight during the time that we have allotted in the leadership hour for special orders I have asked some of my colleagues to help me talk about the status of the Medicare program in the United States and to try to elucidate for the American people exactly where we are at, where we are going, what our responsibilities are and how we are going to meet those responsibilities, and I am going to, before I yield any time to my