

and conditions of any existing right-of-way, easement, lease, license, or permit on lands transferred by subsection (a), except that such lands shall be administered by the Forest Service. Reissuance of any authorization shall be in accordance with the laws and regulations generally applying to the Forest Service, and the change of jurisdiction over such lands resulting from the enactment of this Act shall not constitute a ground for the denial of renewal or reissuance of such authorization.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1874, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

□ 1220

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EVERETT). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

RESTRICTIONS ON POLITICAL ADVOCACY MISGUIDED AND MISPLACED

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

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, later this week the House will take up consideration of the appropriations bill for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education. I want to call my colleagues' attention to the fact that not included in this appropriations bill are some 13 pages of legislation, something we are not supposed to do on appropriations bills.

The topic of this 13-page legislative provision is "Political Advocacy." It flies directly in the face of the first amendment to the Constitution which says that this body, the Congress, shall make no law concerning free speech, freedom of association, or the right to petition the Government. But that is precisely what this 13-page piece of legislation, buried in this appropriations bill, will do.

Mr. Speaker, the subtitle of this title says, "Prohibition on the Use of Federal Funds for Political Advocacy." As it happens, of course, that is already illegal. The real sweep of this legislative proposal has very little to do with Federal funds. What it does have to do with is your use of your own funds. Every single American citizen, non-profit organization, recipient of a Fed-

eral research grant likely is going to be swept into the impact of this incredible and chilling piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, if you look at the definition of "political advocacy," which is one of the principal operative concepts in this bill, it includes virtually everything that you might have thought was protected speech under the first amendment to the Constitution. Even an inkind contribution to a political campaign; even the purchase of something that has nothing to do with politics, if the person or the organization you are purchasing it from happens to have used more than 15 percent of its resources on political advocacy. Again, political advocacy includes just about anything having to do with trying to affect the political debate in this country not just at the Federal level, but at the State and local levels as well.

Mr. Speaker, the other principal concept that makes this such an overarching and intrusive provision has to do with the definition of grant, because it is only grantees, recipients of grants, that are swept into this new regime of accounting for political speech. But again, if you look at the definition of grant, it is not just what you might think in a commonsensical way; that is, the provision of funds to somebody directly from the Federal Government. No, it is much broader than that. It includes anything of value provided, not given, but provided, to any person or organization.

So if you consider, as absurd as it may seem, that this political advocacy restriction applies to anyone who gets a grant, it will impact, for instance, the following kinds of people: Disaster victims getting emergency housing assistance grants; nurses who may have received a national research service award; low-income tenants receiving section 8 housing grants; researchers receiving money from the National Institutes of Health or the National Science Foundation; and, Indian tribes. Now, State and local governments are excluded, but not Indian tribes, for instance, getting grants for economic development activities.

So it is incredibly far reaching and intrusive, and it not only affects what you can do with public money, but it affects what you can do with your own money. If you fall into this trap, and almost all of us will, you could not spend more than 5 percent of your own money on any of these political advocacy activities. State, Federal, local, anything at all, or you would be disqualified from getting any kind of Federal grant, again broadly defined, over a period of 5 years.

Mr. MILLER of California. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SKAGGS. I would be happy to yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. MILLER of California. I thank the gentleman for taking his time in pointing out what is an incredible amendment to the bill that we will be asked to vote on.

Mr. Speaker, let me ask the gentleman from Colorado a question. As

the gentleman just described it, as I understand it, if you are a big farmer in the central valley of California and you are receiving a water subsidy, or you are a timber company and you are receiving hundreds of millions of dollars in subsidies in road building or water subsidies, or if you are a mining company and you have received land under a grant from the Federal Government, or if you are an oil company and you are receiving royalty subsidies or tax subsidies, you can come here and lobby all you want to increase those subsidies, to reduce them or to change the law. But if you are a public interest group and you have received any Federal money, you then have a limitation on money that you have privately raised or the private sector has participated with you; is that correct?

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, actually, this goes even farther and includes some of the groups that the gentleman from California mentioned.

Now, it would not affect defense contractors, for instance, but the way I read it, somebody getting Burec water at a subsidized rate would indeed be swept under the provisions of this proposal.

PROTECTING AMERICAN WORKERS

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, later this week the House will be considering the Labor and Health and Human Services appropriations bill, and this bill will have provisions in it that really punish working Americans and working families in this country.

We now believe that when we send a member of our family out into the workplace in this country, that they have a reasonable expectation, and we have a reasonable expectation, that our children or our spouse will go to work in a relatively safe workplace, and that that workplace will meet certain standards as to its obligations to members of our family as they go to work.

Mr. Speaker, that is because of OSHA and the laws of general duty and obligations that says, an employer has an obligation to provide a safe workplace, but also because of the many standards that OSHA has developed to make the construction trades safer; that make the mining industry, in the case of MSHA, safer; that make the chemical industry safer, and it has made the petroleum industry safer, throughout the American economy. We have done this all at the same time that productivity has increased dramatically in this country.

So it is not to suggest that OSHA, as others have, that somehow they have to be curtailed because they curtail productivity, because there is just no evidence that that is in fact the case.

In fact, American corporations are experiencing some of the greatest increased in productivity at the same time that they have continued to work under workplace safety standards as promulgated by OSHA.

Mr. Speaker, what is interesting is that in the same bill, while most of the other agencies are subjected to budget cuts of around 7.5 percent, we see that OSHA, that agency which protects our families when they go to work, to make sure that when they leave the house they will come back to the House in the same condition when they left, we see that the enforcement for OSHA is cut by almost 33 percent. A third of its budget is taken away from this agency that is given the obligation to protect American workers.

Mr. Speaker, this is simply unacceptable. We cannot go back to the days when American workers were chewed up in the mines in this country, in the factories in this country, in the places of manufacturing in this country. We still, even with the tremendous successes that OSHA has had in bringing down the injury rate and the loss of life in the American workplace, we still see that each day, some 6,000 Americans are injured on the job, and this costs American businesses billions of dollars a year, and that is unacceptable. But to now take off, to take off the ability of OSHA to enforce the laws, is to suggest that industries and businesses and manufacturers can engage in a race to the bottom where they can decide that they can cut the cost of doing business by having an unsafe workplace. That is not acceptable to America's workers, and it is not acceptable to America's families.

Mr. Speaker, the bill also goes on to say that OSHA cannot even promulgate regulations to try and protect workers who suffer from repetitive motion disorders because of the increased use in computers and some jobs in the assembly segment of American manufacturing. All of us are aware, we see people in the supermarket, we see people standing in line to go to the show, members of our own families, as they wear harnesses on their hands, they wear harnesses on their elbow, they go to therapy because they are trying to stay on the job.

At the same time that this Congress is asking for more ergonomic-sensitive furniture, components, machinery to protect their workers in the U.S. Congress, we are suggesting that we cannot promulgate the regulations to provide that same kind of protection to American workers in the American workplace. Yet we find that millions of Americans suffer from these kinds of disabilities that limit their ability to earn a living, to provide for their families. That is what OSHA is about. It is about Americans being able to go to work in a safe workplace, to earn a wage, to provide for their families. To the extent that they are disabled, to the extent that they are injured, to the extent that they suffer these kinds of

accidents, their capabilities of providing for their families are reduced. This budget cut in this bill is simply an attack on working families in this country and it should not be allowed to stand. The Republicans are wrong-headed in this effort and they should not be allowed to take this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from West Virginia.

Mr. RAHALL. I thank the gentleman from California for yielding. I would just like to refer to earlier points you made in your statement that I think deserves a great deal of emphasis. You referred to the fact that our American workers cannot afford to be eaten up, and the fact that productivity has increased today. That is especially true in the coal mining industry.

WOMEN AND THE RIGHT TO VOTE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I rose earlier to commemorate this wonderful stamp that is going to be coming out on August 26 that is going to celebrate women having had the right to vote for 75 years in this country.

I must say as we see these women in the stamp marching down the avenue with men who supported them demanding the right to vote, I would be a little leery if I were a Member of Congress, because I think after 75 years women are learning how to use that vote and women are going to be very angry about what this Congress is doing to women and children.

Last week we saw a good example where in the prior Congress there had been a unanimous consent on the Violence Against Women Act, that we really had to get aggressive and do that. It passed this House unanimously. There was not one vote against it. Last week, after first attempting to zero out the funds, we finally had to get excited and be very grateful because we got 50 cents on the dollar. We have ignored it all these years, we know violence is very critical, and it is especially bad when children are learning it in the home—when they are learning it in the home, good luck ever undoing it—so we really made that commitment but we really did not mean it, and if it had not been for the Congresswoman, we would not have even gotten 50 cents on the dollar, because they were quick to say, OK, well, we voted for it, but we do not have the to fund it and it will slip away.

We are seeing women's right to choose go down the chute, we are seeing all sorts of educational programs and opportunities in the workplace going down the chute, and we are seeing all sorts of things happening to children.

In fact, a mother from Denver sent me the poster for what they thing the Labor-HHS bill that we are going to be

taking up this week should be showing. Here it is. It is this wonderful child. I think what the Congress is saying to this child is, "Let them eat mud."

We are going after Head Start. Can you believe that? We have never made our commitment to Head Start. We are going after all sorts of educational programs that this child's future depends on and so forth and so on. We are going to attack their nutrition, attack their education, attack their chance to get ahead, attack a women's ability to move forward. I remind you that in the Budget Act, they put a 15-percent tax on child support enforcement. If the government collects child support, they are going to take 15 percent of that out. Yet we keep saying to these families, "Get up and get on your own."

How are you going to do that unless you were lucky enough to have picked the right parents? This child did not get a chance to pick my parents. I did not get a chance to pick my parents that I am aware of. If you are lucky enough to have picked the right parents, although I never knew you got that choice, then you are going to be OK. The idea that the government should try and create an equal playing field so you can utilize all of your abilities, be you male, female, be you black, white, be you Hispanic, Asian or whatever is really rapidly eroding. It is very rapidly eroding. If you do not think it is rapidly eroding, watch what we do this week. We are bringing the meanest bill to this floor, the most extreme bill to this floor that this Congress has seen since the end of the war. We are saying to this child, "You've got to pay for the debt." Obviously she caused it. Listen, she was not even here. She cannot even vote.

That is why I think as we get ready to celebrate women having voted for 75 years, maybe people better sit back and reflect. We may not have voted in any great numbers in 1994, but I have a feeling that women all over America are getting as angry as the mother of this child in Denver, CO and saying: What are you people doing there? You are not touching the B-2 bomber, you are not touching the space station, you are not touching really rich farmers, you are not touching the traditional pork. You are going after kids. You are going after the people who cannot fight back.

You may find that women unite this year and we do fight back. We have had the vote long enough. We now know how to use it, and I think this Congress better be careful. This war on women and children had better end or women and children will declare war on the Congress.

MASSIVE CUTS LOOM IN LABOR-HHS APPROPRIATIONS BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Hawaii [Mrs. MINK] is recognized for 5 minutes.