

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE ROBERT S. WALKER, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable ROBERT S. WALKER, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 11, 1995.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule L (50) of the Rules of the House that my office has been served with a subpoena for the production of documents by the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for Lancaster County in connection with a civil case.

After consultation with the office of the General Counsel, I will determine whether compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Cordially,

ROBERT S. WALKER.

CAL RIPKEN AS ROLE MODEL FOR CONGRESS

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, tonight, in one of the greatest moments in baseball history, Cal Ripken of the Baltimore Orioles will break Lou Gehrig's record for playing in the most consecutive games.

I applaud his discipline, his dedication, his desire, and perhaps most importantly, his service as an outstanding role model for the youth of America.

But, Mr. Speaker, I believe that Cal Ripken serves as a role model not only for millions of kids across the United States but also for the Members of this Congress.

We too are on the verge of accomplishing great things. In the coming weeks we will have the opportunity to pass a budget that will finally begin to put America's fiscal house in order.

I urge my colleagues to have the discipline, have the dedication, have the desire. Be a leader in this country. Pass a balanced budget.

A DAY FOR THE HISTORY BOOKS

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, this is a day for the history books. Sometimes history sneaks up on us. Sometimes we have 2,130 baseball games to watch as a preface to history.

We in Maryland, of course, are incredibly proud, but that pride is shared with all Americans and, indeed, all peoples of the world who love responsibility, who love and admire courage, who love and admire people who have their priorities correct.

This morning, on this day of history, Cal Ripken, Jr., took the hand of his

little girl, Rachel, and took her to school. Today, a day of history, we honor two of the greatest Americans who have ever graced this Nation, Lou Gehrig and Cal Ripken, Jr.; two individuals, as the previous speaker indicated, who personify what we believe is good in people, not boastful, not self-interested, but dedicated to the values that all of us hold dear.

Mr. Speaker, I do not know what the House will be doing at 5:30 or 6:30 or 7:30 or 8:30 tonight, but I would hope that every American not privileged as I will be to be at Camden Yards, will be watching their televisions, listening to their radios as we celebrate one of the great accomplishments in sport, the 2,131st consecutive game to be played by Cal Ripken, Jr.

I know there will be tears in my eyes as I exult with all America on this historic accomplishment by a good and decent fellow citizen.

OUR PROMISE AND OUR CHOICE

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, this fall is about a promise and a choice. The promise is to balance the budget. The choice is whether or not we keep our word.

How many Members of this body, from both sides of the aisle, campaigned on a promise of fighting for a balanced budget? How many have stated, "Of course, I'm for the concept of a balanced budget."

On January 26th of this year, for the first time ever, this House passed a balanced budget amendment. Three hundred members voted for it. Of the 132 who voted against it, virtually all expressed their strong support for the idea of a balanced budget.

Well, in the coming weeks, push will come to shove. Members of this House will have a real choice. Will you keep your word? When given the opportunity, will you vote to balance the budget? I know I will.

LOBBY REFORM AND GIFT BAN

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, with the House resuming its work today, the time is now for action on lobby and gift reform.

There are Members, both Democrat and Republican, who are eager to obtain immediate reform on this subject. But unfortunately, we have been stymied by an indifferent and intransigent House Republican leadership.

It took a bipartisan effort in the Senate, both Republicans and Democrats working together, to approve real gift and lobby reform. Yet the only response to that action from the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY] and the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GING-

RICH] has been, "Well, maybe next year."

Let us act now to plug the loopholes in the 50-year-old lobby registration law and do something about those who come to this House bearing gifts or perhaps merely bearing golf junkets for the Members to obtain influence. Before we act on all of the other business, let us have an up-and-down vote on lobby reform and gift ban.

FISCAL DISCIPLINE AND RESPONSIBILITY

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

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to report back to my colleagues some refreshing news. Even while areas of my district remain under water due to excess flooding, the enthusiasm for the momentum for change in Washington has not subsided in Florida.

Americans in my district are taking it upon themselves to get through these rough times they are having with Mother Nature. They expect no less from us here who deal with meeting the many challenges with good governance in Washington. The constituents I spoke with over the recess remain committed to the message they sent last November: Fiscal responsibility, fiscal discipline.

They realize there are going to be tough choices in the coming months. Yes, there does exist a certain level of concern on some issues. However, they are asking, demanding that we make those tough choices inherent in saving and strengthening Medicare, reforming welfare, balancing the budget, ensuring a successful future for our kids and grandkids.

My constituents know those floodwaters are going to go down. They also know this Congress is committed to stopping the flood of red tape and overspending we have experienced in this Nation in the past years.

THE RANDY WEAVER CASE

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Bureau of Investigation says their hands are clean in the Randy Weaver case. The FBI said they never gave a shoot-to-kill order. The FBI said they never shred documents. The FBI said they did not mean to shoot Mrs. Weaver right between the eyes.

Mr. Speaker, I disagree. I say the FBI is lying. In fact, if the FBI is not lying, why did the FBI agree to give \$3.5 million to Randy Weaver to get this thing to go away?

Folks, the truth of the matter is in America the people are supposed to govern, and the sad fact is, ladies and

gentlemen, the government is beginning to govern and Congress has little, if any, control over the FBI, the ATF, and IRS.

Shame Congress. Clean hands? My assets.

WHAT I LEARNED ON SUMMER VACATION

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, we might entitle this, "What I Learned on Summer Vacation." The fact is, going back home, we reorient ourselves to the great and good common sense of the American people.

Did I hear uniformity among the constituents of the Sixth District of Arizona? Of course not. Good people can disagree, but overwhelmingly the people of the Sixth District of Arizona told me, "Stay the course, stick to your principles, work hard to reform this government."

Indeed, we have heard today already broad bipartisan consensus, and so in that spirit of bipartisanship, I extend my hand to my friends on this side of the aisle, saying the problems we confront are too great for politics as usual.

Let us get about the business of governing America.

FIRST LADY DESERVES OUR PRAISE

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

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, the First Lady deserves credit, first for going to China, and second for speaking out so forcefully for human rights and women's rights.

The First Lady spoke out eloquently against forced abortions and forced sterilizations and other women's rights abuses common in other countries, such as rape, mutilation, and domestic violence. She also stressed the importance of women to families and the need for setting new standards for women's health, economic welfare, family planning, and the status of women in general.

Mr. Speaker, the First Lady showed guts and commitment in China, and she deserves our praise.

Mr. Speaker, the First Lady has worked continuously on issues related to women, children, and families for the past 25 years. This week she has combined her skills and experiences with the role of diplomat.

Amidst tenuous United States-Chinese relations, the First Lady has walked a fine line in Beijing—balancing the urgent need for women's rights and the administration's policy of constructive engagement with China.

Mrs. Clinton has successfully pointed out the need for a forum of openness of free speech in Beijing. Her remarks underscore the magnitude of the U.N. Women's Conference

and the need for responsible behavior by every member of the international community to confront the oppression that afflicts millions of women.

With the assistance of the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Madeleine Albright, Mrs. Clinton has laid the important groundwork for continued dialog between Secretary of State Christopher and the Chinese Foreign Minister in their upcoming meeting.

Hillary Clinton deserves our gratitude for her efforts which engage China while steadfastly advocating the need for advances in human rights which are necessary for China's genuine integration in the international arena.

OUR COMMITMENT TO GET THE JOB DONE

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

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that today the House Republicans are ready to finish the job we started 8 months ago. We are ready to balance the budget for the first time in a generation, to help save this country for our children and our grandchildren, and we are ready to pass a plan that will protect, preserve, and strengthen Medicare for our senior citizens.

We are willing to take the heat on this controversial issue to save a broken system that three, I repeat, three of President Clinton's own Cabinet secretaries say needs to be dealt with immediately. We are ready to pass a plan that will help end our country's welfare system that creates poverty, dependency, destitution, breaks up families, and discourages people from working.

We are committed to ending a system that has created debt and has rewarded inefficiency.

We are not afraid to take on the special interests and the status quo here in Washington. In fact, the only ones interested in preserving the old ways are the defenders of the old order who live and breathe inside Route 495 in Washington, DC, and if we learned anything during this August recess, it is that the American people want us to stay the course and continue with this revolution in 1995.

PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS OF ALL PEOPLE

(Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, sadly, just before we left for recess, the President of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, engaged in an unjustified wholly prejudicial attack on gay men and lesbian citizens of his country.

The attack was in sharp contrast to the leadership of, for instance, Nelson Mandela, who has included in the Constitution of South Africa, with the sup-

port of that country, protections against discrimination.

I am very pleased to say that at the request of myself and the gentlewoman from California [Ms. WATERS] about 70 Members of this House have joined in sending a letter to Mr. Mugabe objecting strenuously to his bigoted attack on people who simply have a different sexual orientation, noting that this kind of denunciation of people who are decent citizens is contrary to the respect for human rights that we had hoped Mr. Mugabe would show.

I am including at this point in the RECORD the letter and the list of signatures, as follows:

His Excellency ROBERT MUGABE,
President, Harare, Zimbabwe.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We were distressed to read your attack on people who are gay and lesbian.

As Members of Congress dedicated to protecting the human rights of all people, we believe that you are gravely mistaken in your denunciation of people based on their sexual orientation and your assertion that they should be excluded from the protection of their "individual freedom and human rights."

When individuals are mistreated by government because of some basic characteristic of their nature, human rights are violated. Attacking decent individuals who are fully respectful of the rights of others, who are productive and responsible citizens, but who happen to be gay or lesbian is wrong. As strong supporters of the struggle of the people of South Africa against the oppressive, dehumanizing apartheid system, we welcomed the inclusion in the Constitution of South Africa of recognition that discrimination based on an individual's sexual orientation is wrong. We strongly urge you to re-examine this issue and to follow the example of the new government of South Africa in respecting the human rights of all people.

BARNEY FRANK,
Member of Congress,
MAXINE WATERS,
Member of Congress.

COSIGNERS OF THE LETTER TO PRESIDENT ROBERT MUGABE OF ZIMBABWE

Neil Abercrombie, MC; Xavier Becerra, MC; George Brown, MC; Ronald Delums, MC; Lloyd Doggett, MC; Anna Eshoo, MC; Elizabeth Furse, MC; Steven Gunderson, MC; Alcee Hastings, MC; Steny Hoyer, MC; Patrick Kennedy, MC; Zoe Lofgren, MC; Edward Markey, MC; Marty Meehan, MC; George Miller, MC; Joseph Moakley, MC; Eleanor Holmes Norton, MC; Frank Pallone, MC; Jack Reed, MC; Martin Sabo, MC; Charles Schumer, MC; Gerry Studds, MC; Melvin Watt, MC; Sidney Yates, MC; Gary Ackerman, MC; Howard Berman, MC; William Clay, MC; Norman Dicks, MC; Richard Durbin, MC; Sam Farr, MC; Sam Gejdenson, MC; Luis Guterrez, MC.

Sheila Jackson-Lee, MC; Tom Lantos, MC; Nita Lowey, MC; Jim McDermott, MC; Carrie Meek, MC; Norman Mineta, MC; James Moran, MC; John Olver, MC; Nancy Pelosi, MC; Lucille Roybal-Allard, MC; Bernard Sanders, MC; David Skaggs, MC; Edolphus Towns, MC; Henry Waxman, MC; Thomas Barrett, MC; Sherwood Boehlert, MC; Peter DeFazio, MC; Julian Dixon, MC; Eliot Engel, MC; Thomas Foglietta, MC; Henry Gonzalez, MC; Jane Harman, MC; Maurice Hinchey, MC; Eddie