

Bernice Johnson, MC; John Lewis, MC; Carolyn Maloney, MC; Cynthia McKinney, MC; Kweisi Mfume, MC; Patsy Mink, MC; Jerrold Nadler, MC; Major Owens, MC; Charles Rangel, MC; Bobby Rush, MC; Patricia Schroeder, MC; Louise Slaughter, MC; Nydia Valázquez, MC; Lynn Woolsey, MC.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE MOTOR SPORTS PROTECTION ACT

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

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, as you know, North Carolina is the home of professional auto racing and it is on behalf of thousands of North Carolinians and millions of NASCAR, NHRA, and INDY racing fans across America that I introduce the Motor Sports Protection Act today.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Clinton is waging war on the tobacco family. He has threatened the livelihood of thousands of tobacco farmers across the South and he is now on the verge of destroying professional automobile racing as we know it.

The Funderburk bill, which Richard Petty says all race fans can rally around, will stop Bill Clinton before he crosses the finish line. It prevents Big Brother agents from slapping advertising restrictions on the tobacco sponsors of pro racing. Mr. Speaker, each NASCAR alone pumps over \$2 billion into the southern economy. Racing fans are hard-working, law-abiding Americans. They deserve better than to be used as pawns in Bill Clinton's shell-game. Let's send him a message right now: Bill Clinton keep your hands off racing.

Support the Funderburk Motor Sports Protection Act

#### WOMEN STILL TREATED AS SECOND-CLASS CITIZENS

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

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, the United Nations owes the women of the globe a great apology.

Every 10 years there is an international U.N. Women's meeting, and the United Nations could have cared less about what the host did to make this meeting as inconvenient and as awful as possible. In fact, the Secretary General of the United Nations could not even bother to come. He predicted he was going to have a fever all 12 days that this meeting was going to be going on.

Now, the message that sends to all countries is that the United Nations is putting this on only because it is politically correct, but they do not really care, and the Secretary General cannot really bother to come.

I find that tragic, and I am very grateful the First Lady went and tried

to put together anything that we could, because these issues are very, very critical.

There will not be another international meeting for 10 years, and to have allowed China to play with it this way is outrageous.

I think the House leadership owes American women also an apology, because the delegation sent from this body to the women's meeting could not have a woman chair. A woman could only be a cochair. They had to send a male along, too, and one who does not have a good record on women's issues.

I find that very troubling, and the message from all of this is, "Women, our time still has not come yet." When will be treated as first-class rather than the second-class citizens the United Nations relegated us to as we see this meeting in Beijing proceed?

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#### CAL RIPKEN, JR.'S MANY ACHIEVEMENTS

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

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in tribute to a constituent whose achievement is the talk of the Nation.

Tonight Cal Ripken, Jr., a native of Aberdeen, MD, will play his 2,131st consecutive game with the Baltimore Orioles, breaking a longstanding record held by the legendary Lou Gehrig. It is fitting that Cal is the only player ever to accomplish this feat, because he uniquely represents the qualities for which Lou Gehrig will always be remembered—sportsmanship, fair play, and sheer love of the game.

Fans across the Nation have started calling Cal the Iron Man. But endurance is only one aspect of his success. He was Rookie of the Year in 1982; MVP in 1983 and 1991; and played in 13 consecutive All-Star games. He has hit more home runs than any shortstop in major league history.

Despite his fame, Cal Ripken takes precious time before and after every game to sign autographs, pose for pictures, or simply to chat with his fans—the way Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, and Jackie Robinson once did. At a time when many fans are disillusioned by the big-business approach to baseball, Cal's sincere passion for the sport reminds us of a time when baseball was what it was always meant to be—a game.

I urge all my colleagues to join with me and the citizens of Maryland as we salute Cal Ripken, Jr. His accomplishment is a timely illustration of what is best about our national pastime.

#### NOW 71 PERCENT OF AMERICANS DO NOT TRUST REPUBLICANS TO HANDLE MEDICARE

(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, over the August break, I had a chance to meet with my constituents to discuss the Republican plan to cut Medicare in order to finance a tax cut for the wealthy. The people I represent want me to bring a message back to the Republican leadership: Medicare is a trust fund, not a slush fund.

Now, I know that my Republican colleagues were also back home trying to sell themselves as the true protectors of Medicare. But, the American public isn't buying this GOP makeover. The public is skeptical about the sketchy GOP plan that claims private insurance companies will offer seniors more for less. With such fantastic claims, it's no wonder that a recent poll found 71 percent of Americans have little trust in the House Republicans to handle Medicare.

For 30 years Republicans have wanted to privatize Medicare. In fact, the current majority leader has said that he would have no part of Medicare in a free world. Does that sound like a party that wants to protect Medicare?

#### THERE IS MORE TO DO

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, this 104th Congress now moves forward from the Contract With America. And, "move" must be the operative word.

The lesson learned in our August recess is that the public wants action not words. Everywhere I went, men and women said, "Congressman, we'd sooner have you moving ahead \* \* \* even if the path is rough and you stumble occasionally \* \* \* don't let Congress just stand there."

America bought in to our program. They approve our commitment to a balanced budget. They like cutting back the bureaucracy. They commend term limits.

Most of this we delivered in this House. Yet, there is more to do here on the Hill, and I urge the Senate to heed the call.

Let us get down to business, but let us make sure it is dealing with unfinished business, not business as usual.

#### REPUBLICANS TAKING THE CARE OUT OF MEDICARE

(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, I rise today on behalf of my mother, Seroy Engel, and the millions of mothers, fathers, sisters, and brothers throughout our Nation whose lives depend on Medicare. In the next few weeks this legislative body is going to have to make some tough decisions. The question will be will we let the Republicans take the care out of Medicare. I say, "No."

In 1965, Medicare was established to demonstrate that this Nation cares about its senior citizens, that it cares whether or not they receive medical treatment, and, ultimately, that it cares whether they live or die. In 1965, only 46 percent of America's senior citizens had health coverage. Today, 99 percent of American seniors are covered for medical expenses.

Today we are at a crossroads. We must decide if we will break our sacred oath to millions of Medicare recipients by forcing them to pay more for less care, wait longer for personal care, and have less control over who provides that care.

There is a fundamental question that we must ask ourselves when the Republican leadership asks you to cut \$270 billion from Medicare to pay for a tax break for the wealthy: Will we vote to take the CARE out of Medicare? Will we vote to take the care out of Medicare?

That, Mr. Speaker, is the question we must all ask ourselves.

This Congressman says "No."

#### MAJORITY OF AMERICANS SAY REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN CON- GRESS IS GOOD FOR AMERICA

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

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, during the August recess I heard the same message over and over again, and that is we need to move forward, we need to be bold, we need to dare to make differences that the Democrats have refused to make for the past 40 years. I bought a book, "A Tribute to Robert Kennedy," and I read one of the most moving speeches, his 1966 speech in Johannesburg. Bobby Kennedy said:

The future does not belong to those who are content with today, apathetic toward common problems and their fellow man alike, timid and fearful in the face of new ideas and bold projects. Rather it will belong to those who can blend vision, reason and courage in a personal commitment to the ideals and great enterprises of American Society.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot be content with a status quo. We have got to save Medicare, we have got to balance the budget, and we have got to reform welfare. That is what the Republican Party has talked about doing for the past 8 months. The American people in every poll that is cited agree with us. We have to move forward. Fifty-three percent of Americans believe that the Republican majority in Congress is good for America. Only 33 percent oppose. Sixty-five percent believe that we need to reform Medicare in a very important manner. Mr. Speaker, that is what we are here to do.

I ask the Democrats in this body to heed the words of Bobby Kennedy, to dare to make a difference, dare to reform this Government, and dare to push America into the 21st century stronger than what it was when it left the 20th century.

#### WE CANNOT LET THE SENIORS OF THIS COUNTRY DOWN

(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, I accept that challenge that we have just heard from the other side of the aisle, but I will tell my colleagues what I have run into in my series of meetings in my district in Louisville, KY, over the last 2 weeks.

Mr. Speaker, in 10 separate meetings from one part of the community to the other I heard the same thing. What I heard was a reflection of fear, a reflection of the concern on the part of the seniors who, yes, say we do need to make some small changes to keep our system afloat. "But what changes are being proposed," I have been asked. "What changes will we see from Speaker GINGRICH and the Republican plan?"

Mr. Speaker, we do not know yet. That is the disappointment of this August break. We need to make sure we preserve the benefits, as they are expected by the seniors of this country, and not let them down when it comes to their health care.

#### HOLD THE LINE ON FEDERAL SPENDING BEFORE IT GOES THROUGH THE CEILING

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

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, according to the Department of Treasury, the new debt ceiling that Congress approved in 1993 will be reached sometime in October. The debt ceiling was \$4.9 trillion. We are currently borrowing, and we are currently borrowing \$4.6 trillion. So, we are going to reach that debt limit. This means that the Government's ability to borrow additional money will be exhausted by November, and the House and Senate will be asked to increase the debt ceiling for the 78th time since 1940.

Since I and other fiscal conservatives of both parties firmly believe that we should put our fiscal house in order by making sure we are irrevocably committed to balancing the budget before increasing the debt ceiling, we are facing a potential cash-flow problem. That is because in next year's budget we are calling for a borrowing of about 10 percent, and revenues coming into the Federal Government only account for about 90 percent of that required spending. So that is going to mean a cash-flow program, it is going to mean prioritizing spending.

As an enthusiastic supporter of the effort to use the debt ceiling to achieve a balanced budget, I have joined with 160 members of the Debt-Limit Coalition to pass legislation that will eliminate the deficit within 7 years.

Later this month, Congress will present the President with a historic

package of spending and tax cuts that will achieve that goal. If he vetoes this bill and does not present a credible alternative, we will be compelled to use the pending debt-ceiling vote to force the issue of the Federal Government's out-of-control spending.

Mr. Speaker, I insert for the RECORD the next 3½ paragraphs, and I conclude by saying now is the time to hold the line on Federal spending before it goes through the ceiling.

Some critics of the Republican budget-cutters, many of whom are those who helped get us into the Federal debt morass, say that cutting spending on social programs is mean-spirited and cruel, and that this is only designed to put pressure on the President and force him to take the blame for shutting down the Government.

But there is ample precedent for Congress using the debt limit as leverage to resolve budget battles, including 1985 during the debate of the Gramm-Rudman balanced budget act and in 1990, when the Democratic Congress used the looming debt ceiling to force President Bush to raise taxes.

So this isn't a partisan issue. It's an American issue. As a dairy farmer and former Michigan legislator, I have persistently advocated tax cuts and spending restraint. Now is not the time to back off. Now is the time to hold the line on Federal spending, before it goes through the ceiling. Thank you very much.

#### REMINDING OUR YOUNG GENERATION THAT FREEDOM DOES NOT COME EASY

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

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, 14 Members of the House of Representatives went to Pearl Harbor this last week to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the V-J victory. We were led by the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. STUMP], chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

As my colleagues know, it is good that we have these celebrations to remind our young generation that really freedom does not come easy at all. Many Americans sacrificed their lives for this country, and, Mr. Speaker, over 50 percent of the Americans living today and most of the people in this Chamber today were born after World War II. So we have to let them know of the problems we had back 50 years ago. Over 400,000 young Americans, 18 and 19 years old, did not come home. We cannot forget them.

#### LET US DO WHAT WE ARE PAID TO DO

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, I spent the August recess crisscrossing the State of Illinois from Chicago to Carbondale meeting with a variety of