

debt is owed to the Federal Government. Another \$60 to \$70 billion in tax debt is owed to the IRS. Every day the Government does not collect its delinquent debt costs taxpayers millions of dollars, while many companies, such as the National Credit Management Corp., stand ready to collect that debt.

KENNEDY-KASSEBAUM HEALTH CARE REFORM BILL

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

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, in this era of corporate downsizing and mass layoffs, working families have to fear, not only losing their jobs, but also their health insurance.

To allay this fear, 53 Senators have cosponsored the bipartisan, Kennedy-Kassebaum health care reform bill which is likely to pass in the Senate. Here in the House, Mr. Speaker, 186 Members—from both parties—have cosponsored a similar health care reform bill sponsored by Republican Congresswoman MARGE ROUKEMA.

Fearing broad bipartisan support for health care reform, however, the ninjas in the Republican leadership have begun their clever sabotage of the only real chance that health care reform has in this Congress. Rather than supporting the Roukema bill, they are pushing their own bill which they know the President will have to veto. Sadly, Mr. Speaker, I am sure the insurance industry is standing by to handsomely reward this sabotage.

POMBO-CHAMBLISS AMENDMENT WILL HELP REDUCE ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

(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, after years of Congress failing to address out-of-control immigration, the 104th Congress is set to pass much needed immigration reform. We all want to crack down on illegal immigration. There are two amendments to be offered today, which are very important to the agricultural community in America. The Pombo-Chambliss amendment will help reduce illegal immigration. The Goodlatte amendment only makes a bad program worse. The current guestworker program simply does not work and further tinkering will not help. We need a new program that will make sure seasonal agricultural workers do not stay in this country. The Pombo amendment assures that these legal temporary workers will only be hired when American workers cannot be found. They will only be admitted for the seasonal job for which they were hired, 25 percent of their pay will be withheld and paid to them in their home country. Nonworking family members are not

eligible. Any workers that disobeys the rules will be permanently barred from the program.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on Pombo and "no" and Goodlatte.

TWO EXAMPLES OF BRAVERY

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

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to pay my respects to two servicemen from my district who were recently killed in military training accidents. Two brave men, Marine Capt. David Holley, and Army CWO Walter Fox, were involved in aircraft crashes. Both of these men grew up in my district, Captain Holley in Pottsville and Chief Fox in Barnesville. Both had outstanding military records and gave their lives in service to this country.

Captain Holley was a member of the 533d Marine All-weather Attack Fighter Squadron and is presumed dead after his F-18 went down over the Atlantic Ocean. His father, Dave Holley, and mother Darly are good friends of mine. Captain Holley was an outstanding young man, and his loss is a true tragedy.

Chief Warrant Officer Fox was a member of the 160th Special Operations Air Regiment and was killed when his MH-47E Chinook helicopter crashed in Kentucky last week. He was a veteran of Operation Desert Storm and had a distinguished service record.

On behalf of the people of the Sixth District of Pennsylvania, I want to honor both Captain Holley and Chief Fox and let their families know that our thoughts and best wishes are with them. Chief Warrant Officer Fox and Captain Holley were great Americans, and their lives and sacrifices will not be forgotten.

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION MUST ENFORCE THE LAWS

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

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was the lead witness presenting testimony before the House International Operations and Human Rights Subcommittee, on the matter of terrorist regimes influencing the U.S. political process. I urged hearings be held and investigations and prosecutions be initiated, if warranted, against American citizens such as Louis Farrakhan, for travels to terrorist regimes, and then acting to subvert the American political process.

The administration was called to testify and failed to appear. It is unacceptable that this administration would duck its responsibility to the American people and its obligation to the U.S. Congress to answer questions

about the prosecution of American passport, visa, Federal election campaign laws, and others currently on the books.

It is ironic that just as Congress has begun fully debating whether current laws are adequate to protect us against acts of terrorism, our Government consciously takes a walk when presented with evidence that a U.S. citizen, like Louis Farrakhan and his organization in this country, are engaging in activities with known terrorist regimes.

EDUCATION IS AMERICA'S FUTURE

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

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, in school districts across the Nation, teachers are being laid off, students face classrooms that will be even more crowded, needed equipment and supplies cannot be purchased, and parents are being told that they can no longer depend on after school programs.

We talk about restoring families and helping our young people. Yet, Members of this House seem ready to abandon education by making the largest cuts in America's history.

Now those who want to make these unprecedented cuts will argue that we are spending too much on education. To them, I would say, "how quickly we forget."

How quickly we forget that when America led the world in educational achievement, for every \$10 the Government spent, \$1 went for education.

Today, however, for every \$10 the Government spends, only ten cents—one thin dime—goes for education.

We must restore these cuts, and they are cuts. We must invest in America's families, America's children, and America's future workers.

GET RID OF THE IRS

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today the Committee on Ways and Means is in hearings to begin the process of replacing our current tax system.

I applaud the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER], the chairman, for addressing this issue head on. He said that we have got to pull the IRS out by the roots. We can no longer support a tax system that places enormous burdens on our families, businesses, and the future of this country.

Mr. Speaker, America deserves better. We deserve a new tax system that will reduce the role of the Federal Government and get the IRS out of our lives. It must be a system that promotes economic growth, savings, and investment. It must be simple and, most importantly, it has to be fair.

I believe that, guided by these principles, we can develop an entirely new

tax system that will unleash the tremendous pent-up potential of this country's greatest resource, its people, and get rid of the IRS.

IMMIGRATION POLICY SHOULD PROTECT OUR LIBERTIES

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

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep concern over the serious implications of the Immigration Act of 1995. We must all be concerned that the steps that are taken to address legal and undocumented immigration are reflective of the civil liberties and protections implicit in our democratic system of government and treasured by all Americans. As a native Chicagoan, I have personally witnessed the immense contributions that immigrants from immigrants from Ireland, Eastern Europe, Central and South America, and Africa have made to enrich our social fabric and economic vitality.

Unfortunately, today we are faced with a measure that unfairly capitalizes on public fears about illegal immigration in order to reduce the number of people who join our society, driving a wedge between those U.S. citizens who merely seek to be reunited with their family members. Attempting to resolve both legal and illegal immigration policies simultaneously serves only to convolute these issues of significant social import. For these reasons, Congress should instead pursue separate consideration of legal and undocumented immigration as has been recommended by many of our colleagues in this and the other body.

I am equally concerned about draconian attempts to deny education to undocumented children. The Supreme Court, in Plyler versus Doe held that children born on U.S. soil are entitled to 14th amendment protections. By barring children from the classroom, we will not only be preventing a lifetime of potential, but also, we will be working to deny them equal protection under the law. Punishing children on the basis of their parent's immigration status is not only unfair and mean-spirited, but its effects will no doubt negatively reverberate throughout our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I am likewise concerned about the so-called employee verification system which has been proffered as a means to enhance employment enforcement. As the representative from the Second Congressional District of Illinois, I am honored to represent the 24,342 foreign-born individuals who reside in my district. The possibility that these citizens may be selected for the pilot program frightens me because such a system would not only fail in protecting worker's rights but would in all likelihood lead to unauthorized uses of this database, posing new dangers to civil liberties for people who look for-

eign, thereby encouraging discriminatory and unconstitutional behavior.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to review these and other issues with care as we consider the future implications of this bill. As we today appreciate the richness of our social fabric we must likewise think of our legacy. Mr. Speaker, I urge us not to turn our backs on the many peoples which contribute to our cultural wealth, and for this reason will today oppose H.R. 2202 as it is drafted.

Let us extend the invitation to another generation. Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses who yearn to breathe free.

BOOST DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF FUEL

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

Mr. LARGENT. Mr. Speaker, 5 years have passed since American troops were sent to the Persian Gulf to fight a war that former Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger now calls "a classic example of the danger we face because we are so dependent on foreign oil."

Last year the United States imported over 50 percent of its crude oil—more than ever before—while domestic production fell to a 40-year low. Since the 1980's, we've lost one-half million high-skilled, high-wage oil related jobs.

According to the Department of Energy's Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary—that within a decade the U.S. will import nearly 60 percent of its oil. He added that our trade deficit in oil is expected to double to nearly \$100 billion by that time.

We need to stimulate domestic oil and gas production by lifting Government regulations that provide no benefit to the environment but cost jobs and make industries less competitive. U.S. producers, are capable of developing untapped resources while protecting the environment if given the opportunity. We also need to develop tax incentives that stimulate domestic production.

Boosting domestic production will lead to a win-win situation—job creation and increased national security.

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EDUCATION MUST BE OUR TOP PRIORITY

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

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in expressing our concern at the continued majority attacks on education. Education comprises a mere 2 percent of our entire budget, yet the new majority has disproportionately targeted it for drastic cuts.

Without a doubt, education is the most important investment we can make in the future of our nation. Even with a balanced budget, our country cannot grow and prosper without an educated populace.

The current Republican proposals would cut more than \$3 billion in education, \$300 million in education funding for New York State alone. In addition to facing these huge cuts, our schools are currently trying to piece together their budgets for next year—and are being forced to estimate their funding because of the budget stalemate here in Washington. We need to pass a long-term spending measure to ensure that education is protected.

Balancing our budget forces us to make a list of our priorities. Our future is at risk. Education must be at the top of that list.

"MR. CLINTON'S DISAPPEARING TAX CUT"

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

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, this morning's Washington Times ran a lead editorial entitled "Mr. Clinton's Disappearing Tax Cut."

What an appropriate title, Mr. Speaker.

Let me quote the Times:

For all the righteous rhetoric emanating from the White House deploring the squeeze on middle-class family incomes. President Clinton proved once again yesterday that he would rather spend middle-class taxpayers' money than refund it. That is the essential lesson to be gleaned from the 2,196 pages of the fiscal 1997 budget.

Mr. Speaker, when all is said and done, President Clinton is more worried about Washington bureaucracy and Washington spending than he is about the middle class taxpayer. The President has spent the last 3½ years breaking every campaign promise he ever made. And his new budget just proves that he is not serious about cutting taxes. What tax cut he does offer is temporary—but his tax increases are permanent.

The Times is right. President Clinton would rather spend money than cut taxes.

EDUCATION BUDGET CUTS IN TRIO PROGRAMS

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

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO. Mr. Speaker, once again, some political leaders are trying to take away money needed for education. Republican Members of the House recently issued a list of Federal education programs which they say do not work.

The truth is that a majority of the programs they are talking about do not even have anything to do with educating children. Yet to justify the largest