

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is April 19, the anniversary of the worst terrorist attack in U.S. history, the bombing in Oklahoma City. Timothy McVeigh, the person accused of the bombing, chose April 19, because that is the day the standoff with the Branch Davidians at Waco ended.

April 19 has become a holiday to some paranoid extremists, a day that to them symbolizes government's supposed tyranny. So the National Rifle Association, a group that gives aid and comfort to this paranoia and extremism by comparing law enforcement to Nazis, deliberately chose this day to hold their annual conference.

While most Americans will spend April 19 respecting the memory of those who died in Oklahoma City, the NRA will be at their convention bragging about their guns, thinking about AK-47's and their Uzis, instead of mourning the 169 people who died.

Simply put, the NRA leaders are thumbing their noses at the memory of those who died at Oklahoma City.

It is disgusting that the organization that called law enforcement storm troopers and jackbooted thugs is holding their convention tomorrow. The NRA is truly an organization with no shame.

THE OPPRESSIVE FEDERAL TAX BURDEN

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, this is the week that we are reminded by the April 15 filing deadline just how oppressive the Federal tax burden is in this country. But Tax Freedom Day, the day on which the average working person gets to stop working for the Government and begin working for themselves and their families, does not come until May 7 of this year, the latest date ever.

Working people in this country are being abused and ripped off by our Government. If any taxpayer has the audacity to complain about the ripoffs, he or she is immediately labeled as a member of the so-called greedy rich.

The Government takes money out of the pockets of working people so it can subsidize big corporations to advertise their products overseas. You do not like it? I guess you must be a member of the greedy rich. The Government takes money out of the pockets of working people to subsidize big agribusiness and inflate the cost of sugar, peanuts, and cotton. You do not like it? You must be a member of the greedy rich. The Government takes money out of the pockets of my people in Cincinnati, money that should be going to educate their own kids, and the Government uses that money to pay a bunch of bureaucrats here in Washington to write manuals about

school uniforms. You do not like it? I guess you must be a member of the greedy rich. Then the President vetoes a bill to give tax relief to working people.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to cut taxes.

AMERICANS DESERVE A RAISE IN THE MINIMUM WAGE

(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, the 12 million Americans who earn the minimum wage aren't the only ones calling for an increase. In fact, 71 percent of Republican voters also support an increase in the minimum wage.

Moreover, 15 House Republicans are calling for a \$1 increase in the minimum wage over the next 2 years—that's 10 cents an hour more than what even the President is calling for.

So, Mr. Speaker, why is it that the Republican leadership refuses to even allow a debate on the minimum wage? Well, it is because they don't even believe that there should be a minimum wage, period. In fact, the majority leader is on record as saying that he will oppose a minimum wage increase with every fiber of his being. That's strong language coming from someone who earns over \$100,000 a year.

Mr. Speaker, America deserves a raise and it is time that we gave it to them.

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COSPONSOR H.R. 739, THE ONLY BILL THAT WILL DISMANTLE THE BILINGUAL EDUCATION

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

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, I want to tell you about a young boy named David. He lives in New York City and goes to public school in Brooklyn. David is like millions of other school age children across this country, except for one thing: He is being robbed, his grandmother says, of his opportunity to learn.

How can this be, you ask? Well, because David has been trapped in a bilingual education classroom for the past 6 years.

I first learned about David through a story his grandmother Ada wrote in the New York Times. Her account of the problems David encountered in his bilingual class is a cautionary tale of public policy failure and bureaucratic excess.

David and his mother speak English at home, and he grew up speaking English with his friends. Yet when he entered grade school, he was placed into a bilingual program. You see, David's last name is Jimenez, and the Brooklyn school bureaucrats reflexively place every child with Hispanic sur-

names into bilingual education classrooms. Six years later, David's parents had to sue the Bushwick School District in order to win the right to take him out of his bilingual classroom. You see, after 6 years David still couldn't read English.

Help me stop these tragedies from occurring. Cosponsor H.R. 739, the only bill that will dismantle the bilingual education bureaucracy. David and his grandmother shouldn't have to move heaven and Earth to give David an opportunity to learn English.

RICHARD ARMEY: THE LEADER OF THE CLUB

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

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, I guess it was in all the papers, but I had to see it to believe it. With the Speaker devoting more time to campaigning, they said the majority leader would be taking over the day-to-day management of the House and that there would be big changes.

And so there have been. We return to find a whole new way of legislating: not by hearings and committee work, but by special theme weeks like, the "Era of Big Government Is Over Week," "Defending America Week," and—I am not making this up—"Individual Freedom Versus Government Bureaucracy Week."

It kind of reminds me of 40 years ago when we would come home from school to enjoy Jimmy, Cubby, and Annette as they romped through "Circus Day," "Talent Roundup Day," and everybody's favorite, "Anything Can Happen Day!"

So it must be true. There are big changes. And when people ask the musical question, "Who's the leader of the club that's made for you and I?"

We can answer: R-i-c-h-a-r-d A-r-m-e-y.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHILD PILOT SAFETY ACT

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Subcommittee on Aviation of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I am introducing legislation today, along with the ranking Democrat, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. LIPINSKI], and others that addresses the issue of child pilots.

One week ago today, 7-year-old Jessica Dubroff, her father and flight instructor were killed when attempting to set an age record that would have made Jessica the youngest pilot to fly across the United States. Mr. Speaker, I encourage parents to spend time with their children, teach them new things, and expose them to new ideas and challenges. Unfortunately, though, some

parents become obsessed with pushing their children up the ladder of success or notoriety at too early an age, and often common sense is displaced by greed and recklessness.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will impose an age limit on any person attempting to set a record with an aircraft. This legislation will stop the type of ridiculous publicity stunts that needlessly killed Jessica last week. Had she been successful, next year we would have seen a 6-year-old or a 5-year-old trying to break this record. Twenty-three similar accidents have happened in the last few years involving child pilots.

This legislation will not result in any cumbersome regulations, and I encourage my colleagues to cosponsor this bipartisan legislation.

RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE NOW

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the Speaker of the House has reportedly said that the House can "no longer duck" a vote on the minimum wage. It's about time, Mr. Speaker. Why have you been ducking for so long.

The minimum wage is at a near 40-year low in real terms. People earning the minimum wage deserve the right to a livable wage. No one can live on \$4.25 an hour, much less support a family.

Republican Majority Leader DICK ARMEY has said he will fight an increase in the minimum wage with "every fiber in his being." While corporate CEO's earn 212 times the wage of the average worker, Republicans would deny the poorest workers in America a modest increase in the minimum wage. This is not right, it is not fair, and it is not just.

Stop the stonewalling, Mr. Speaker. Let's raise the minimum wage now. People deserve the right to earn a livable wage.

WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR MIDDLE-CLASS TAX CUT?

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, millions of Americans are asking this week, Mr. President, what happened to our middle-class tax cut? Twenty-nine million American families could have enjoyed a \$500 per child tax credit. Three and a half million lower-income American families could have had their Federal income tax burden completely eliminated because of the \$500 per child tax credit. Twenty-three million American couples could have received relief from the marriage tax penalty through a higher standard deduction. One hundred thousand American families could have benefited from a \$5,000 credit to assist with adoption

expenses. Americans that care for an elderly relative in their home could have benefited from a \$1,000 elder care deduction. If Americans paid a tax on capital gains from selling their house or other asset, they paid twice as much as you should have.

Under the Balanced Budget Act, millions of middle-class American families could have benefited from these tax cuts, except for one man. Mr. Speaker, taxpayers need to remember that President Clinton vetoed all of these middle-class tax cuts and a 7-year balanced budget.

RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE IS THE DECENT THING TO DO

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

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, indeed it is time to raise the minimum wage. What is the argument that we hear the Republicans saying as to why we should not raise the minimum wage? They say when we do that we will reduce the opportunity for jobs; that, in fact, there are not a lot of people who are working at minimum wage, only teenagers.

Mr. Speaker, that is a false premise. In fact, two-thirds of the minimum wage earners are families with adults who are trying to support a livable income providing decent food, shelter, clothing. That is the basis for the minimum wage, a living wage.

Also, Mr. Speaker, it was said that if we do that, the economy will suffer. Why would it suffer? Where will that money go? As soon as the money comes in, it will go for food and shelter. It goes right back into there. What happened when the minimum wage was raised the last time? We did not have great inflation. That did not happen.

Who are we protecting? We are protecting the rich. That is the issue here. Are we equally concerned for those at the bottom of the scale as we are concerned about the 5 percent we are willing to give big tax breaks?

The minimum wage is the decent thing to do. It is also the economical thing to do. It is the fair thing to do. The American people want a minimum wage. We should do that.

PRESIDENT CLINTON VETOED MEASURES THAT WOULD HAVE HELPED MINIMUM WAGE EARNERS

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, we are talking about raising the minimum wage because it is at a 40-year low? Well, we have raised the minimum wage several times, and yet it is still at a 40-year low. I do not think it is working.

Common sense is not working, because historically it does push infla-

tion. Unions tell me that purchasing power is at an all-time low because of inflation, and yet that is what the problem is and we want to raise the minimum wage.

Well, 75 percent of the people on minimum wage are students. Most of them in minority communities. That is the area that is hit the worst when we increase the minimum wage, the minority communities—6.5 percent of the people on minimum wage are heads of households.

Now, we have tried to help the working poor, the heads of households on minimum wage, with an earned income tax credit, actually putting more money into their pocket, and it is not inflationary. That was vetoed by Mr. Clinton. We also had a \$500 per child tax credit, which would have put more money in the pockets of the working poor. Mr. Clinton vetoed it. Neither of them inflationary, neither of them eating into the wages of working Americans and the working poor.

It is time for Congress to do the right thing for the working poor and the working families. Oppose the minimum wage.

RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE WILL NOT CAUSE INFLATION IN AMERICA

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

Mr. FLAKE. I find it the height of hypocrisy when Members of this body making \$113,000 a year stand before the United States of America and proclaim that persons who are making \$4.25 an hour, if we move it beyond \$5, that will cause inflation in America.

Let me tell my colleagues what causes inflation in America. The hundreds of people who are CEO's of major corporations collecting millions of dollars, getting their golden parachutes and moving out to their various places, moving jobs outside this country so that they can benefit by low wages from persons who are not Americans and yet shipping back to America the products they produce and selling them at the highest possible price.

If we want to talk about who deserves it, it is not the persons who are at the top but the persons at the bottom, many of them working every day still impoverished. How can we justify this in a Nation where we dare to export our democracy?

We should be ashamed of ourselves. We should talk more fairly about all of our citizens and how we can bring them up. We cannot do it by giving to those at the top and taking from those at the bottom. I hope that our Congress will realize this and the American citizens will realize the game that is being played.

LEGISLATION CREATING THE AMERICAN DISCOVERY TRAIL

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to address the House