

money over \$11 million a year in compensation. That is wrong.

But, second of all, it is wrong as an example, as a model of what this Congress should be doing. One of the more shameful aspects of the American economy at this point is that CEO's of major corporations today are earning about 200 times what their workers are making; 200 times. That is unheard of in the industrialized world. It seems to me that the U.S. Congress should not be encouraging and supporting that type of economic activity.

So we have legislation, and I have introduced legislation along with several other Members, that would say to the CEO's of the major defense companies that they cannot earn from the taxpayers of this country more than \$200,000 a year in compensation.

I should point out once more that the head of General Dynamics receives \$11.3 million, and as best we could understand, every single penny of that money comes from the taxpayers of this country. That does not make any sense. We are cutting back on so many programs that working people need and to say, yeah, we got \$11 million to pay the head of General Dynamics makes no sense. And I should point out that this very same company has laid off over 35,000 workers between 1990 and 1995.

So these guys are making more and more money from the taxpayers at exactly the same time as they are laying off tens of thousands of American workers. That does not make any sense to me at all.

Mr. Speaker, I think you know sometimes Members of the Congress become a little bit obsessed with ourselves and we think that the end of the world is the Beltway around here. But we should pay attention to the fact that tens of millions of people are giving up on the political process, they are giving up on the two-party system. Again, it is an issue that we do not talk about too much, but maybe as the only Independent in the Congress I can raise the issue, and that is there is something fundamentally wrong with the politics of this country when in the last election, in 1994, only 38 percent of the people came out to vote. 62 percent of the people did not vote.

Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of reasons for that. But I think the major reason has to do with the fact that large numbers of people who are hurting very, very badly no longer believe that the U.S. Congress represents their interests or is capable of responding to their needs and their pain, and they are saying, hey, politics, it does not matter, we do not care what is going on in Washington, we do not pay attention to what is going on in Washington because all these people are living in another world.

I think, given the fact that so many men and women have put their lives on the line, have fought and died to defend freedom and democracy in this country, it is a very sad state of affairs that

the United States has today by far the lowest voter turn out of any industrialized nation on earth.

Now how do we turn that around? How do we create a vibrant democracy where we have 70 to 80 percent of the people voting rather than 40 percent of the people or 50 percent?

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I think, frankly, the answer is that this Congress has got to show the American people that we do feel their pain, that we do understand what is going on in their lives, and we are willing to respond to their problems. If we do not respond to their problems, people are going to say, "It does not make any difference. Why do I have to get involved?"

It is a catch-22. Unless ordinary people begin to stand up and say, wait a second, the U.S. Congress, representing all of the people in this country and not just the very rich, in the United States of America we should be able to provide health insurance for every man, woman, and child, as most of the industrialized nations do; in the United States of America we should be able to make sure that every young person who has the ability is able to get a college education, as many of our industrialized neighbors do; that in the United States of America we should be able to create decent paying jobs; that unless the people make those demands on the Congress and start electing people to the Congress who are going to fight for the middle class, fight for the working people, the Congress is going to be unresponsive.

That takes us to another issue in terms of how and why the Congress is unresponsive. That takes us to campaign finance reform. Clearly there is something very much amiss when increasingly we are seeing in Congress, in State houses all over America, very wealthy people taking out their checkbooks and writing themselves large checks and saying, "Gee, I think I would like to run for President. It is kind of boring in business now, I have a midlife crisis, I would like to do something else. I will make out a check and then run for the Presidency. I will run for Governor, I will run for the Senate," so forth and so on. That is not what democracy is supposed to be about.

A democracy is not supposed to be about the Democratic and Republican Parties holding fund-raisers here in Washington, D.C. I think last month, or a couple of months ago, the Republicans raised \$16 million in one night, and recently the Democrats raised \$12 million in one night, money which is coming from some of the wealthiest people in the United States of America, some of the largest corporations in the United States of America. Some of these guys contribute to both political parties. Is that what democracy is supposed to be about? I think not.

I think we must move toward campaign finance reform, and the most im-

portant aspects of that is we have to limit the amount of money that people can spend in a campaign. If you limit the amount of money, you take away the advantage of the big money interests. They cannot outspend you 10 to 1.

I think we have to move toward public funding of elections, combined with incentives coming from small donations, matching small donations. In that way we will have people who are serving in Congress who come from the ranks of ordinary people and simply are not hobnobbing with the wealthy and the powerful.

Most importantly, what concerns me is that tens and tens of millions of Americans believe the political process does not matter to them. They have given up on the political process. That is very, very sad. I would suggest to people, and I say this as somebody who was the mayor of a city for 8 years and am now in my third term in the U.S. Congress, that the only solution, basically, to that situation is for ordinary people to begin to stand up and fight back and reclaim this country for the ordinary people, for the middle class, for the working people of this country, and inform the U.S. Congress that all of us have a right to a decent standard of living and a good life. All of our children have the right to a good future. That right should not just exist to the very wealthy and the very powerful, but that is not going to change unless people get involved in the political process, unless people understand what is going on at all levels of government.

Mr. Speaker, let me just simply conclude by stating that in this great country, if democracy is to survive, if all of our people are to enjoy a decent standard of living, that is not a Utopian vision, that can happen, but people have got to be involved in the political process and have got to stand up and fight for their rights.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. FOWLER (at the request of Mr. ARMEY), for today until 1:30 p.m., on account of medical reasons.

Mr. TALENT (at the request of Mr. ARMEY), after 2 p.m. today and the balance of the week, on account of awaiting the birth of Christine Lyons Talent.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HINCHEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. WISE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MEEHAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. RAMSTAD) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. RAMSTAD, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes on May 16.  
Mr. FOLEY, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. RIGGS, for 5 minutes each day on today and May 16.

#### EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HINCHEY) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island.  
Mr. ACKERMAN, in three instances.  
Mr. MEEHAN.  
Mr. HAMILTON.  
Mr. STOKES.  
Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts.  
Mr. BONIOR.  
Mr. CLYBURN.  
Mr. ANDREWS.  
Mr. TORRICELLI.  
Mr. POMEROY.  
Mr. FILNER.  
Mr. LIPINSKI.  
Mr. THOMPSON.  
Mr. UNDERWOOD.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. RAMSTAD) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. DAVIS.

Mr. CANADY of Florida.  
Mr. GILMAN in three instances.  
Mr. SHUSTER.  
Mr. PACKARD.  
Mr. RAMSTAD.  
Mr. FORBES in two instances.  
Mr. HOEKSTRA.  
Mr. BAKER of California.  
Mr. GOODLING.  
Mr. TALENT.  
Mr. MOORHEAD.  
Mr. MARTINI.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. SANDERS) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. DORNAN.  
Mr. FRISA.  
Ms. ESHOO.  
Mr. FARR of California in two instances.  
Mr. BARTON of Texas.  
Ms. FURSE.  
Mr. CARDIN.  
Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois.  
Mr. COYNE.  
Mr. WARD.

#### CORRECTION TO THE RECORD OF MAY 14, 1996, OF SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 811. An act to authorize research into the desalinization and reclamation of water

and authorize a program for States, cities, or qualifying agencies desiring to own and operate a water desalinization or reclamation facility to develop such facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources and, in addition, to the Committees on Science and Transportation and Infrastructure.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1743. An act to amend the Water Resources Act of 1984 to extend the authorizations of appropriations through fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 1836. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire property in the town of East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York, for inclusion in the Amagansett National Wildlife Refuge.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 50 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 16, 1996, at 9:15 a.m.

#### EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports and an amended report concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized by various committees of the House of Representatives during the third quarter of 1995 and the 1st quarter of 1996 in connection with official foreign travel, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

##### AMENDED REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 1995

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Visit to Israel, Greece, Italy, and Portugal, Aug. 10-20, 1995:											
Hon. Patrick J. Kennedy .....	8/15	8/18	Italy .....				1,499.70				1,499.70
Visit to Belgium, Estonia, Romania, Norway, and Denmark, Aug. 21-Sept. 1, 1995:											
Delegation expenses .....	8/18	8/23	Belgium .....				877.72		1,799.17		2,676.89
Committee total .....							2,377.42		1,799.17		4,176.59

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

FLOYD SPENCE, Chairman, Apr. 30, 1996.

##### REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 1996

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Hon. Karen Thurman .....	2/6	2/8	Mexico .....		250.00		624.95				874.95
Hon. E de la Garza .....	2/6	2/8	Mexico .....		250.00		934.95				1,184.95
Hon. Sam Farr .....	2/6	2/8	Mexico .....		250.00		686.95				936.95
Hon. Mark Foley .....	2/6	2/8	Mexico .....		250.00		1,158.95				1,408.95
Hon. Tom Ewing .....	2/6	2/8	Mexico .....		250.00		325.95				575.95
Keith Pitts .....	2/6	2/8	Mexico .....		250.00		557.00				807.00
Stacy Carey .....	2/6	2/8	Mexico .....		250.00		521.00				771.00
Christin Bradshaw .....	2/6	2/8	Mexico .....		250.00		511.95				761.95
Marshall Livingston .....	2/6	2/8	Mexico .....		250.00		694.95				944.95
Committee total .....					250.00		6,016.65				8,266.65

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

PAT ROBERTS, Chairman, Apr. 26, 1996.