

the United States will not be voting next week on this floor, but 435 Members will. They have an obligation and a duty and a responsibility to understand what is brought before them. Hopefully it will be done through the system which we have established here through the committees and with adequate time for Members on both sides of the aisle to debate this.

I think the gentleman understands from the debate we have had here tonight how serious we view this, not so much on substance but the procedures that are being laid out here to consider this important issue. I would hope that the distinguished majority leader and the leadership on his side of the aisle would reconsider the time, the time of debate, and the whole manner in which they hope to carry this out next week. We consider it a very serious matter.

I would say to my friend from Texas, we will act accordingly with respect to how this is performed in the days ahead of us.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY TO HAVE UNTIL 5 P.M. FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1996, TO FILE REPORT ON H.R. 2650, MANDATORY FEDERAL PRISON DRUG TREATMENT ACT OF 1995

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary may have until 5 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, May 31, 1996, to file a report on H.R. 2650, to amend title 18, United States Code, to eliminate certain sentencing inequities for drug offenders.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NEY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, MAY 31, TO TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1996

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Friday, May 31, 1996, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 4, for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

□ 2145

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

TEENAGE PREGNANCY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker the month of May has been set aside as teenage pregnancy prevention month. Although May is coming to an end, it is imperative that legislators and the American people continue to focus attention on creating policies and programs to reduce the growing number of teenagers who become pregnant each year.

This is critical because, unfortunately, the United States has the highest rate of teen pregnancy among the industrialized nations of the world. The result is the devastation of the lives of millions of young girls and the loss to our country of their talents and potential contributions. This loss weakens our country's future, because in order to compete in the ever expanding global economy, we must utilize the full talents of all our young people.

In my State of California, for example, 8 out of 10 teen mothers never finish high school. The result? Thousands of uneducated and untrained young girls forced onto welfare with little hope for a better future.

Furthermore, moneys that could be used to help improve the quality of life for all Americans are diminished by the expenditure of billions of dollars on health care and cash assistance programs for families with teen parents.

For example, the average AFDC and Medicaid costs for just one teen pregnancy through the first year of support total more than \$10,000 per child; and the total spent in California for teen pregnancies is between \$5 billion and \$7 billion annually.

Tragically, this pattern is often repeated from mother to daughter, creating a vicious cycle of despair and dependency on public assistance.

It is therefore in the best interests of all Americans to do what is necessary to help end this national tragedy of teenage pregnancy. To succeed however, we must be fair and humane in our solutions. We must not advocate policies that hurt innocent children or punish teen mothers by denying them assistance to care for themselves and their children.

Instead we must invest in comprehensive programs that have a proven track record of success. One example is the Teen Outreach Program, known as TOP.

TOP, which has been chosen as a model program for California's Teen

Pregnancy Prevention Initiative, is a comprehensive program focused on preventing adolescent pregnancy and fostering overall youth development. This program incorporates both a classroom-based curriculum focused on adolescent reproductive health and a community service component which offers young people the opportunity to help others while helping themselves.

A recent 10-year evaluation found that students who participated in TOP had an 18 percent lower rate of suspension from school, a 60 percent lower dropout rate, and a 33 percent lower rate of pregnancy than nonparticipating students.

The Teen Outreach Program is just one example of the effectiveness of prevention and education programs. Further, statistics support the fact that money spent on prevention programs saves billions of dollars in future costs to society.

As May comes to an end, let us remain vigilant in our effort to end teenage pregnancies. In so doing, we save more than dollars; we save our Nation's children and strengthen our country's future.

REPORT FROM INDIANA: MEMORIAL DAY HEROES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. MCINTOSH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my weekly report from Indiana.

Every weekend, my wife Ruthie and I travel across Indiana.

So often we are blessed to be included in very, very special ceremonies.

Last Memorial Day weekend we participated in two unforgettable events honoring veterans for Memorial Day.

They reminded me that 220 years ago, the signers of the Declaration of Independence took a solemn oath:

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

Last weekend as we celebrated Memorial Day, Americans reflected upon the grand project to which those men, our Founding Fathers, pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

That grand project was the United States of America.

It was not merely a territory, was not a treasure, and was not an allegiance to a king.

No, that grand project was an idea. It was the idea of freedom.

The first event was held last Friday in Indianapolis where awe-inspiring half-oval limestone memorials were dedicated for Indiana's Vietnam and Korean war veterans.

These memorials were dedicated thanks to George Busirk, president of the Indiana War Memorial Commission; and Gerald "Dutch" Bole, the director of the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs.

On the limestone is carved the names of those men and women who died in those conflicts.

In many of our communities veterans of past wars are no longer remembered on Memorial Day.

But in Indianapolis, over 6,000 people came to honor those who sacrifice in defense of this country. And it was also a day, to honor those who have taken their place.

My colleague, Mr. JACOBS, who served in Korea, set the tone for the event, when he said:

We gather not in triumph and glory, but in sorrow. We must never forget the young Americans that sacrificed their lives, so that we may live in liberty.

I saw sorrow and pride in the face of Sgt. Sammy Davis, who received a Congressional Medal of Honor for gallantry during an enemy attack during his tour in the Vietnam war. And Adrian Cronauer shared with us the original "Goooooooood Morning Vietnam."

Captain Scott O'Grady joined in the ceremony. He is the soldier who captured America's heart, when he was shot down over the skies of Bosnia and through his faith in God made his way to freedom, in June of last year.

Captain O'Grady shed a tear at the playing of "Taps" to honor those who did not come home from Vietnam and Korea.

The second ceremony that Ruthie and I participated in was a special memorial service in Centerville, IN—a small, quite town in Wayne County.

There, folks gathered from miles around at the Crown Hill Cemetery, to lay wreaths, place flags and honor our brave men and women who served in our Armed Forces.

Post Adjutant Earl Dingworth and members of the American Legion Post 287 were on hand to honor those who had made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Chaplain Roy Brown, from Richmond's Veterans of Foreign Wars [VFW] Post 1108, asked God's blessing for those who serve, and for their friends and family.

It was both an honor and privilege for me to salute those brave Americans who sacrificed and will sacrifice their lives on behalf of this country.

I would like to commend our brave servicemen and women, our veterans and their families as Hoosier Heros, Hoosier Heros because they have taken the ultimate oath in defense of our liberty.

I would like my colleagues and all Americans listening today to join me in taking that same sacred oath our forefathers took over 200 years ago.

To pledge in the defense of America our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

Those are the kind of American values our Country stands for.

Because the men and women who take this oath are not only Hoosier heros, but America's heros.

And that Mr. Speaker, is my report from Indiana.

REPORT FROM INDIANA: TONY STEWARD

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to give a Report from Indiana.

In my home State, we gear-up for the Indianapolis 500 during the month of May.

It is a cherished Hoosier tradition celebrated across the State since 1911.

Many young children, grow up, dreaming about someday racing in the 500. Few, have been so lucky.

But this year, Hoosier racing fans were able to cheer for a home-town boy.

Tony Steward, a 25-year-old of Rushville, IN, and from my district, was that young man.

Tony Steward is to be commended for his courage and dedication to reaching one of his life-long goals.

Tony is a 1989 graduate of Columbus North High School.

And this year, he participated in "The Greatest Spectacle on Earth" * * * The Indianapolis 500.

Race-fans across the State, cheered for the Columbus native and Rushville resident.

He earned one of only 33 slots on race day.

He qualified with the fastest time and earned the prestigious pole position.

And for the first 31 laps, he led the race.

He bravely challenged the 2½ mile oval at speeds of up to 230 miles-per-hour.

During the 82d lap, his engine blew and he finished the race in 24th place.

But his performance earned him the 'Rookie of the Year Award.'

His participation in this historic auto racing event made us all very proud.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. VENTO] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. VENTO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereinafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

USE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to use the time of the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. VENTO]. I would like to make a few comments on what just transpired here a few minutes ago.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

TAKE POLITICS OUT OF WELFARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, in my view, welfare reform is one of the most serious problems facing this country. I do not honestly believe that the American people will have any confidence in the ability of their Government at any level until they are convinced that we can reform welfare, get rid of the existing dead-end system and create a real opportunity to move people from welfare to work. I think for that to occur, and I have been here quite awhile and

I have seen previous welfare reform attempts fail because they become politicized, I think that if you want welfare reform, to succeed you have to have serious people trying to do serious things to work out serious disagreements and come to a serious compromise on how we approach the problem. That is what we ought to be doing.

Instead, in my view, by scheduled this blatantly political proposal before the Congress next Tuesday, when no one is scheduled to be here, we are simply seeing a situation in which the majority party evidently is more interested in going after the President than they are in dealing seriously with welfare reform; at least that is my view.

□ 2200

If we were serious and if we really did want Wisconsin to receive the waivers that are being requested, then we would ask the President to, to the maximum extent possible, cooperate with Wisconsin in bringing about the acceptance of those waivers. That, in fact, is exactly what the President said when he was in Wisconsin, that he would work with Wisconsin to try to provide the waivers that were necessary.

I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that given the fact that the chief executive of the State of Wisconsin, Governor Thompson, exercised some 90, I thought it was 79, I am now told it is 90 separate item vetoes on 27 different subjects, it appears to me that the Governor used his brain and thought about some of the problems that he has thought were in the package that was passed by the legislature.

It comes with considerable ill grace for anyone in this body to suggest that the President ought not be able to also use his brain and evaluate honestly whether or not this package measures up to the claims made for it by the Governor of the State of Wisconsin. If it does, the waivers should be granted. If it does not, the Federal Government ought to work with the State until those matters are worked out. That is what we would do if we were serious people.

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I think what is at issue here is under current law there is a 30-day comment period. Those members of the public who are interested in the proposal can come forward to either support or to oppose.

In my office, I have received numerous letters and petitions from residents of the State of Wisconsin who watched the bill pass the State legislature, watched the Governor sign it, and now they want to have their say as to whether or not these 75, not 1, but 75 waivers, should be granted. Mr. Speaker, they run from soup to nuts.

Even if the President supports this, and I cannot speak for him, nor can he speak for me, regardless, the law would