

move around; you can do what you need to do.

This is a vital, vital improvement for the people of America. It is the No. 1 concern of working Americans in health care.

In addition, this bill includes lower cost insurance for family farms, for small businesses, and for the self-employed; that is, the groups that have the lowest level of insurance participation, those who are the least covered by insurance.

We have developed a medical savings account plan which allows them to buy lower cost health insurance to cover any kind of major illness they might have. So this is a win/win. It is better health coverage for families already in the insurance system because it eliminates preconditions, and it is lower cost health insurance for the self-employed family farms and small businesses.

I simply hope that the liberals in the Senate who are blocking it will get out of the way and allow the American people to have better health insurance with better coverage at lower cost.

THE IRS

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the IRS does not tolerate mistakes. The IRS expects taxpayers to have every single receipt. But check this out. The GAO did an audit of the IRS, and guess what they found; the IRS cannot even tell the difference between income taxes and Social Security taxes. Also, the IRS cannot account for \$3 billion of spending. Also, the IRS says taxpayers owe \$130 billion in overdue taxes, but the GAO says they could find no proof of that.

Just think about it. If you could not account for massive spending, if your books were in a shambles, what would the IRS do to you, Mr. Speaker? You would be guilty, guilty, guilty. They would take you to court and you would have to prove yourself innocent.

Beam me up. No wonder the American people are taxed off. I think Congress should take the IRS, handcuff them to a chain-link fence, and flog them with their own damn Tax Code.

That is what the Congress should do. Yield back the balance of the taxes.

WHITE HOUSE AND CONFIDENTIAL FBI FILES

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we learned that among those former Reagan and Bush officials whose confidential FBI background files have been pawed through by the Clinton White House is a distinguished Cincinnati, Mr. Joseph W. Hagin.

The search of Mr. Hagin's file is noteworthy not only because Joe is a well

respected member of my community but also because the White House initially had said that it had only gotten through files from A through G. Mr. Hagin's last name, of course, begins with the letter "H" and I'm willing to bet that the FBI is good enough to have figured that out.

Now Mr. Speaker, President Clinton has said that the White House never should condone an enemies list and that all of this vast intrusion into the privacy of former public servants is simply the result of administration incompetence. I sure hope that's the case. But I can understand why some of the victims are skeptical. After all this administration had turned the Justice Department over to a political crony named Webster Hubble who now stands convicted of various felonies. And the administration had done little to quell suspicion that the FBI was urged to target and harass Mr. Billy Dale. The President has apologized to Billy Dale. He also should apologize to Mr. Hagin.

The whole thing stinks to high heaven.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I heard what Speaker GINGRICH said about the health care reform bill. My concern is that what he mentioned really is very far from the truth. The fact of the matter is the Democrats and Republicans want to see a bill passed that would increase portability and eliminate preexisting conditions as a factor. But the Republican leadership has insisted on the poison pill of MSA's medical savings accounts.

The effect of including medical savings accounts in this legislation is basically to drive up the cost of insurance for the average person. Instead of expanding the opportunities of health care coverage and eliminating the ranks of the uninsured, by including medical savings accounts only the healthy and the wealthy will be able to take advantage of that. The cost for the average person of health insurance will go up. Instead of having more people covered by health insurance, the effect is that there will be less and less people covered by health insurance because they will not be able to afford the higher premiums.

The poison pill in MSA's is still there. The suggestion by the Speaker that somehow this legislation, if it includes the MSA's is going to solve the health care problem, is not true.

BUREAUCRATIC SNAFUS

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, the Clinton administration is quickly becoming a litany of bureaucratic snafus and mistakes. Clinton responds to all of

these mishaps the same way—"I was not aware of any wrongdoing." Notice that Clinton never says that the charges are completely false, they are just someone else's fault not his.

When Bill Clinton campaigned it was "I didn't inhale."

When Whitewater developed, it was "I am not aware of any wrongdoing."

Finally, as the X-files scandal has developed, Clinton's response: "It appears to have been a completely honest bureaucratic snafu."

Mr. Speaker, I believe it was a completely bureaucratic snafu. But this administration has had far too many snafus to fool the American people into believing that these are all honest bureaucratic snafus. It is time for this administration to start taking a small measure of responsibility for its unethical actions. The people want honesty and integrity from the President.

EXTREME, EXTREMER, AND EXTREMIST

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, the election in the Senate yesterday gives the American people some idea of where the Republican Party is going. The three top leaders in the Senate now, like the three top leaders in the House, are far over on the far right extreme, far away from the mainstream American. Not a single moderate Republican is in the House leadership or the Senate leadership. That relates to what the Speaker came to talk about today.

Americans want portability. They want portability in health care. They do not know about any newfangled proposal on MSA's that have come up because some big insurance magnet is pushing it with big contributions. Move portability without any of these other ideological bells and whistles, and you will help the American people. I say, in conclusion, we now have three leaders in the House and Senate: extreme, extremist, extremist. Do not let that vitiate the kind of mainstream health care policy that the American people want.

ABUSIVE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION

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

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I was born in Eufaula, OK, on November 18, 1957. I graduated from Oklahoma University in May 1981. I was married on May 7, 1977, to Frankie Jean Jones.

I had three fights when I was in the third grade, and I was 3 and 0 for the year. My high school football coach was Paul Bell. My high school basketball coach was Perry Anderson, and my college football coach was Barry Switzer.

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Mr. Speaker, in order to prevent taxpayers' hard-earned dollars from being wasted on this type of information from my FBI background check, I thought I would voluntarily hand this over to the White House. By giving this to the White House, they would be able to save time and money on helping us to save to balance the budget.

I would like to point out to this Chamber that valuable taxpayer money has been wasted time and time again by this White House on politically motivated shenanigans such as these FBI files, their travel office and helicopter follies to golf courses by White House personnel.

Mr. Speaker, these problems will continue to happen. I urge my colleagues and the American people to realize that this abuse of our Government by this administration and their liberal buddies is not the first, nor will it be the last.

REPUBLICANS MORE INTERESTED IN REDUCING TAXES FOR THE WEALTHY THAN REDUCING THE DEFICIT

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

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, Members of the House, the cat is out of the bag. The radical Republican extremists are not in favor of reducing the deficits. They do want a tax cut, a massive tax cut, for the wealthy. We saw it last night.

Mr. Speaker, if my colleagues listened to the chairman of the Committee on the Budget, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH], he never once in this closing argument for that budget, never once, mentioned the word "deficit." In fact, under their budget, the reason he did not, under their budget next year the deficit goes up; the following year, the deficit goes up. It does not go down. They need to do that in order to give tax cuts for the wealthy.

The spending cut for Medicare; where is that going to go? The spending cuts for food stamps; where is that going to go? Tax cuts for the wealthy, not to reduce the deficit, because the deficit is going to go up.

Mr. Speaker, they are more interested in reducing taxes for wealthy than they are in reducing the deficits. I say let us reduce the deficits before we give any tax cuts for anybody. That is my position. Let us get a balanced budget first. Then we reduce the deficits.

BROKEN ARMS AND BROKEN PROMISES

(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, late last night the House passed the 1997 budget,

after an intense battle. The Republican leadership spent an entire day twisting arms to get the votes they needed. The result: A House Chamber filled with broken arms and, most important, broken promises.

Some freshman Republicans who came to Washington to balance the budget ended up voting to actually increase the deficit. Two in particular, Representatives COOLEY and CUBIN, actually voted "no" on passing the budget and then switched their votes. They were joined by two other switchers, Representatives ALLARD and METCALF. Clearly there was a lot of pressure in this Chamber yesterday.

Pressure to approve a budget that increases the deficit, cuts the Medicare Program by \$168 billion over a 6-year period to pay for tax breaks for the wealthy, limits student loans, taxes working families, and closes rural hospitals.

Now the drama of the budget battle is over and the Republican leadership has made one thing explicitly clear: Promises can be made and promises can be broken.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). The gentleman from Pennsylvania will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, is it within the rules of the House for Members to ascribe motivation to other Members and identify them by name?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Political motivations can be suggested, but not personal motivations.

Mr. WALKER. And the use of names is an appropriate kind of behavior on the House floor?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There is nothing per se a violation by using another Member's name in describing a political action or motive. However, tradition has been to refer to Members by the State of origin rather than by personal names.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Montana will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, is it within the rules of the House for Members during 1-minutes to question the motivation of the President?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Again, in debate it would be allowable to question political motivation. What the gentleman raised as a parliamentary inquiry was on personal motivation.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, is it within the rules for a Member of the House during 1-minutes, or at any other time, to question whether or not a President is acting within the law in his own or her own personal activities?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will not make a judgment on what the charges may be or the moti-

vations behind that, but the Members should refrain from personalities in debate.

Mr. WILLIAMS. I would encourage that as well.

WHAT IF A REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT WERE ACCUSED OF RAIDING FBI FILES?

(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, the other day in the Washington Post, Mary McGrory brought up a point about the Filegate controversy that I thought was very relevant. What if this had been a Republican administration? Think about it, Mr. Speaker; every member of the liberal media would be at their wits end. CNN would have special Filegate music and would break in every 10 minutes with a special report. Dan Rather and Peter Jennings would be breathless in their zeal to find out the truth about what was going on in the White House.

"60 Minutes" and "20/20" would do special interviews with the people whose FBI files were investigated. They would ask sensitive questions like, "How does it feel to have your FBI file looked into by the White House?"

But this is not what is happening, Mr. Speaker. Of course, there is media coverage of Filegate, I do not deny that. But there is a different standard applied to liberal Democrats by the media. If a Republican President were accused of raiding FBI files of Democrats, the liberal media would be in absolutely apoplexy.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHURCHES UNDER SIEGE IN AMERICA

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the 1960's, as the civil rights journey, bloody though it might have been, unfolded in this Nation the eyes of most of America were riveted on those who were seeking simply freedom. Today we are under siege as the most recent church burned in Enid, OK. African-American churches across this Nation are under siege through the tragedy of church burnings. Some of my colleagues have disdained to call this political. I cry out in outrage.

As a cosponsor of the Church Arson Prevention Act, I asked the Speaker of the House in posthaste to bring this to the floor. In joining the gentlewoman from North Carolina who sponsored a resolution for this Nation to denounce this tragedy, I asked for its immediate attention in this House, and I ask America not to sleep at night while these tragedies are occurring, for I ask whether or not our colleagues are willing to entertain the possible loss of