

The President does not show leadership by showboating, or stealing ideas from Republicans. If the President were truly committed to this issue, he would have pledged his support for the Working Families Flexibility Act, and he would work with Congress, instead of trying to upstage it.

I ask the President to stop playing election-year politics and support H.R. 2391, the Working Families Flexibility Act, and I ask my colleagues to do the same.

#### HOW MUCH MORE WILL CHINA DO TO ITS PEOPLE AND THE WORLD?

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, most-favored-nation status for China giving trade advantages to that Communist dictatorship will cost millions of American jobs. Our trade deficit with China, almost nonexistent only a few years ago, has climbed to \$32 billion and is rising, and within a couple of years, it will surpass that of Japan. How much more can China do to its people and how much more can China do to the rest of the world before we finally say "no" to MFN? Massacring students in Beijing, selling nuclear technology to rogue nations, slave labor camps, illegally smuggling 2,000 AK-47's into the United States, forcible seizure of Tibetan children from their homes, 12-year-old children in China making toys for 12-year-old children in America and 12-year-old children in China in labor camps making toys for 12-year-old children in America. Mr. Speaker, when will it stop? When will we in this body stop it? Defeat MFN.

#### RIGHT CONGRESS ACT: TO RESTORE INTEGRITY, GOODWILL, HONESTY, AND TRUST IN CONGRESS

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

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the RIGHT Congress Act. RIGHT stands for "Restore Integrity, Goodwill, Honesty and Trust in Congress." The bill is a modest, commonsense reform that will help bring back some accountability and responsibility to the Halls of Congress and it follows on the action that we took beginning with the first day of the 104th Congress.

What will this bill do? It will reduce congressional pensions to put them in line with all other Federal employees. It repeals automatic pay raises for Members of Congress and eliminates COLA's on Members' pensions. It will require recorded votes on all bills or amendments increasing Members' pay; prohibit former Members and senior staffs from lobbying for 28 years after leaving Congress or one full term; deny House floor access for Members of Congress who are registered lobbyists; re-

quire lobbyists to wear ID's when they are working in the Capitol; limit the use of expensive military flights for congressional travel; ban overseas taxpayer funded travel for retiring Members of Congress.

This bill has received support from across the board, and I urge my colleagues' support for this piece of legislation.

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#### THE RIGHT OF FREE SPEECH

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

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I voted against the Communications Decency Act, which was included in the telecommunications bill, because it was an outrageous disregard by this body of our duty to protect constitutional rights, specifically the first amendment.

Now we have had a ringing thoughtful denunciation of that unconstitutional act by a 3-judge court in Pennsylvania. I commend particularly to Members the opinion by Judge Dalzell, where he points out how unwise it is to try to censor the Internet.

We have a problem. We began years ago, with regard to broadcasting, the notion that if speech was electronically communicated it got less first amendment protection than other speech. That was based on some technological factors involving the limitations of the spectrum.

Today, as increasingly people communicate with each other through electronic means, we have carried over this notion that electronically communicated speech gets less first amendment protection than other speech.

If we do not reverse that trend, if we do not recognize the wisdom of that 3-judge court, we will find ourselves in future years less protected by that precious right of free speech.

#### THE GROUNDBREAKING OF THE BRASS MILL CENTER MALL

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

Mr. FRANKS of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was a historic day for my hometown of Waterbury, CT. It marked the groundbreaking of the Brass Mill Center Mall, the soon to be home of the second largest mall in New England.

Having worked at this location along with my father and other relatives when it was the Scovill Manufacturing Co. more than 20 years ago, I have a sentimental attachment to the site. But more important, thanks to the millions of dollars from the Federal Government, approved in the 103d Congress for the environmental cleanup of the site, it is now becoming a reality.

The mall will have a significant impact on revitalizing the downtown area, while producing more than a thousand new much needed jobs. This has been a classic example, Mr. Speaker, of how the local, State and Federal governments can work hand-in-hand with private industry.

I look forward to the fall 1997 grand opening.

#### AMERICA'S CHOICE: GOP EDUCATION CUTS OR FAMILIES FIRST AGENDA

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

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I am often amused as I listen to my Republican colleagues talk about their budget. They come down and wave their arms and talk about their children's future and their children's children's future with great passion. Let us face it. What is important about our children's future is education.

And let us talk about the education record. The fact is, Mr. Speaker, that under the Republican proposals they actually cut student aid. They eliminate the direct student loan program, which means students are going to pay higher fees and higher costs for student loans. That is not helping their future. They cut money for safe and drug-free schools so that children can have a safe education. That is not helping their education or their futures.

On the other hand, the Democrats' Families First agenda addresses education in significant ways: First, 2 years of community college free in the form of a \$1,500 tax credit for community college education if the student maintains a B average. I think that is a fair deal for our children's future.

We also provide a \$10,000 deduction for college education; \$10,000 deduction for college expenses. That is protecting our children's future.

#### SAUDI ARABIA TERRORISM

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

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, America has once again felt the sting of a deadly cowardly terrorist attack directed at our troops who have been preserving and protecting America's interest in the Persian Gulf. A similar attack on Americans in Saudi Arabia last November for the first time signaled that radical Islamic elements in Saudi Arabia would use Americans as targets in their war against the ruling regime.

As we seek to determine just who is responsible, there is one thing that is clear from this deadly and senseless attack, and that is that the United States' vital national interests in the gulf remains constant and the threat from the two main rogue regimes in the region, Iran and Iraq, must not be allowed to destabilize our gulf allies.

I join in the President's strong condemnation of this latest terrorist attack and welcome our Nation's determination to help bring to justice those responsible for this cowardly act. I also join in extending our Nation's deepest sympathy and concern for the families of all those killed or injured in the service of their country.

#### FAMILIES FIRST

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, last weekend I met with parents, children, and community leaders from my district, those who attended the Stand for Children march in Washington this month. Their overwhelming message was that it is time to reorder our Nation's priorities and it is time to put our children and families first.

That is the same message, Mr. Speaker, that Americans across the country are sending, and I am proud that the Democrats have responded with a realistic and commonsense agenda that puts families first, ahead of special interests.

That is right, our agenda is not about crown jewels, tax giveaways, or corporate and military pork. Rather, it is about practical changes we can make to improve the lives of families, changes like fully implementing the safe and drug-free schools program, providing \$10,000 tax deductions for education and job training, and making college a reality for more Americans.

Mr. Speaker, we blocked the Gingrich-Dole cuts to education, Medicare, and the environment. It became clear what Democrats are against.

#### COST OF GOVERNMENT DAY

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

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, next week, on July 3, Americans will be preparing to celebrate our independence from the British empire over 200 years ago. They will have another reason to celebrate next week; July 3 is the day in which we become independent from having to work for the Government.

It is a sad fact, but a true fact that July 3 is the day in which the cost of all levels of government will finally be paid for. An even more amazing fact, it is not only taxes but also government regulations that we must pay for. In fact, regulations cost more to the average American citizen than the taxes that we pay.

I am happy to join with Senator COVERDELL in the other body and the gentleman from Texas, Majority Whip DELAY, in this body to be an original cosponsor of Cost of Government Day. I would urge all of my colleagues to join us in this resolution.

Let us tell the truth to the American people: Government costs too much, it spends too much money and it wastes a lot of the money that it spends. Let us begin to cut back on taxes, cut back on regulations, and have Independence Day from Government not on July 3 but sometime much earlier in the year.

#### MOST-FAVORED-NATION STATUS

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

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, the decision that Congress will make today with regard to most-favored-nation status represents an important step in defining our future trading relationship with China.

We are deciding today whether or not the United States will continue what I believe has been a constructive policy that encourages change with China while firmly expressing United States concern about human rights, protection of our intellectual property, and our desire to curb nuclear proliferation.

For the largest private employer in my State, the Boeing Co., renewing MFN with China is absolutely critical. In the period between 1992 and 1994, Boeing recorded \$5.3 billion in sales to China, representing one of the largest single positive influences in improving our balance of trade. In fact, one in every ten commercial jetliners made by the Boeing Co. during this period was sold to a customer in China. These jet sales supported 48,500 jobs in the United States for each of these years.

The jobs I am speaking of are not just at Boeing facilities, but at 4,500 commercial suppliers. That is why we should continue to support MFN.

#### U.S. MILITARY MUST EXPLAIN ITSELF

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

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, a video reached my office this week that shows scenes of meetings between senior U.S. military officers, including the head of the U.S. Atlantic Command, General Sheehan, and Cuban dictator Castro's senior general, Perez-Perez.

The video reflects a private coziness of the Clinton administration with the Castro regime, not-so-subtle reassurances by the administration that the United States would not stand on the Cuban people's side if the Cuban armed forces sought to liberate Cuba from Castro.

The tape also reflects, in all its sickening ignominy, the immorality of the Clinton administration's policy of forcefully repatriating Cuban refugees.

I believe that a number of things that the video shows merit serious congressional inquiry, and if the U.S. military officers involved do not volun-

tarily meet with Members of Congress to explain themselves, as we have requested, they should be compelled to do so.

#### REPUBLICAN MAJORITY STIFLES DEBATE ON GRANTING CHINA MFN STATUS

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

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today Congress will debate the issue of granting a special request to the President for a waiver to grant most-favored-nation status to China. This is an important issue to the American people. Nothing less is at stake than our economic future, our national security, and our democratic principles.

That is why it is so distressing to see the absurd rule that the Republican majority has put forth for this legislation. They want to railroad this legislation through the House in an untimely fashion. Our tradition has always been to have the Fourth of July week for our constituents to express their views to Members. Many constituents cannot afford the expensive trip to Washington, DC, that the business community has readily available to them.

What is the Republican majority afraid of? Are they afraid of the truth? Are they afraid of 100,000 young people gathered in Golden Gate Park to promote a free Tibet? Are they afraid that our colleagues will learn the facts about United States-China trade and that it is a job loser for the American worker?

It is absolutely a shame that on this most important issue the Republican majority is moving to stifle debate.

#### EITHER FIDEL CASTRO IS OUR ENEMY OR HE IS NOT

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, south Florida was shocked earlier this week when a video was released showing top United States military officials exchanging gifts and pleasantries at the Guantanamo Naval Base with Cuban general and known Cuban assassin, General Perez-Perez.

At one point the chief of the U.S. Atlantic Command refers to the Cuban thug as "My General," while another tells Castro's communist partner that a plaque he received as a gift from him would be put in a place of honor.

I propose that if we must exchange gifts with Castro officials, let us give them an indictment for their criminal acts and a key to free jailed political dissidents. Let us give them a reproduction of the Statute of Liberty and a ballot, symbols of freedom and democracy.

This repugnant display of camaraderie of a top official of a totalitarian