

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I hope the American people are watching the proceedings that are happening in this Chamber this weekend, because if they watch what they will see is a monumental battle being fought out between a Democratic administration in conjunction with the Republican leadership versus the working class American family. The multinational corporations, with the support of our Democratic President and our Republican leadership, are taking sides against America's working families. How are they doing this? They are cutting deals that in my judgment are shameful. They are contributing to the cynicism that Americans feel about what happens in this Chamber.

We are supposed to come here, Mr. Speaker, as representatives of the people, to vote on the basis of principle, to follow our own conscience, and to do what we believe in our heart is best for our constituents. But this weekend multinational corporations in conjunction with a Democratic President and a Republican leadership are selling out the American people.

CAN PUBLIC OFFICIALS BEHAVING IN UNETHICAL MANNER BE TRUSTED WITH NEW LAW?

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, when was the last time you heard the argument that changing the law or passing a new law will make people who break the law honest? Well, yesterday, if you count what we hear in this Chamber. The fact is the DNC, friends of the White House, and close aides in this administration have been caught red-handed doing things that they know are illegal: Taking foreign money, laundering money, laundering union money, raising money on Government property, shaking down Indian tribes for money, raising money at Buddhist temples, covering for political operatives who have fled from this country, selling the Commerce Department trade missions, selling access to the White House and on and on. All these things are wrong, they are illegal, and they are dishonest.

My suspicion is that the same people who have been caught behaving in an unethical, illegal, and dishonest manner are not going to suddenly become public officials who can be trusted with a new law. What do you think?

MONEY BELONGS TO THOSE WHO EARN IT

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

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, on Monday the President called taxpayers selfish for wanting to keep more of what they

earn. Recently the Democrat leader in the Senate, TOM DASCHLE, said that Americans were not overtaxed. The President's deputy press secretary said that support of tax relief was based on selfishness.

Stop the presses, Mr. Speaker. To say that people are shocked would be an understatement. Claiming that most people are undertaxed and calling Americans selfish is exactly the kind of mindset that make people furious at Washington, DC politicians who just do not get it.

I have a news flash for them. When people work hard to earn more, they are not doing it for Washington. They are doing it to feed their children, enrich their lives and pursue their own happiness. This is the way it should be. Why do the defenders of big government and the status quo have such a problem with it? They are in Washington to represent their constituents, not tell them how much of their own money they can keep.

Americans are overtaxed. The Tax Foundation found that Americans spend more on taxes than food, shelter, and clothing combined.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Members are reminded not to refer to statements by Members of the other body during remarks in this Chamber.

PRIVATE GOLF CLUBS USE TAX LOOPHOLE TO PRACTICE DISCRIMINATION

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

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, this week Congress did a great service for this Nation by passing the Internal Revenue Service reform legislation. However, in our celebration, I must inform my colleagues that there is more work that needs to be done. We must eliminate a little known tax loophole for private clubs that profit from practicing discrimination.

This chart details four private golf clubs identified by HBO's "Real Sport with Bryant Gumbel." They have \$9 million in taxpayers funds while excluding African-Americans. Each year these 501(c)(7) clubs act as nonprofit organizations that are exempt from paying corporate taxes to the Federal Government.

□ 1300

This is just the tip of the iceberg, Mr. Speaker. I am offering legislation today that will end this, and I hope the Members of this body will join me.

IT IS UNFAIR TO FORCE PARENTS TO SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO BAD SCHOOLS

(Ms. DUNN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, last week, right on this House floor, I was disappointed to hear a distinguished Member of the other side of the aisle say that education savings accounts and school choice would operate at the expense of public schools. I would like to respond to that accusation. The key point is this:

We believe absolutely, based on 200 years of evidence, that competition forces excellence, it forces improvement in quality, and it forces innovation. In many parts of our country it is very important to improve the public school system.

Second, we believe it is unfair to force parents who love their children to send them to a bad school simply because they cannot afford to send them someplace else.

While some continue to defend failed schools and ask for more money and create more Washington Federal programs, we have a better idea. We favor giving parents more choice. Now, some parents have unlimited choices as to where they can send their children to school, but some do not. They do not because they are poor or they face other financial constraints, and so sometimes they have no choice but to send their child to a bad school where they are not even safe.

All we want to do is give them a chance at a truly great education.

SCARING SENIORS

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

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, there is a special place in hell for people in groups who scare seniors to raise money. Senior citizens all over the country receive dozens of letters a week, mass mailings from supposedly nonpartisan groups that confuse and frighten seniors in asking for their money to save Medicare and Social Security, letters like this one from some group called the United Senior Association.

This last week I had a senior citizen calling me after he got this letter and literally crying because he could not afford to send the money, and he wanted to make sure he could still have Medicare. After a while I think senior citizens groups and senior citizens become convinced the sky is falling from some of these groups.

I represent a blue collar district, and I know that our seniors cannot afford to send \$10, \$15, \$20 to these groups in Washington, DC or Virginia. While many of these groups are run by partisan groups, some by Democrats, some by Republicans, Republicans are not amused. In fact, I saw a dear colleague this week from my colleague the gentleman from California [Mr. THOMAS]. He had his own problems with these mailing list groups on the subject of

Medicare private contracting. Admittedly, he and I come from different points of view, but we share the same problem from some of these groups.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1566 AND H.R. 600.

Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 1566 and of H.R. 600.

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

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

A first group of such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on H.R. 2631, and a second group of such rollcall votes, if later postponed, will be taken after the debate has been concluded on those remaining motions to suspend the rules.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION RE-AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2534) to reform, extend, and repeal certain agricultural research, extension, and education programs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2534

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reauthorization Act of 1997”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—COORDINATION, PLANNING, AND DEFINITIONS REGARDING AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION

Sec. 101. Priorities and management principles for federally supported and conducted agricultural research, education, and extension.

Sec. 102. Principal definitions regarding agricultural research, education, and extension.

Sec. 103. Consultation with National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

Sec. 104. Relevance and merit of federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education.

Sec. 105. Expansion of authority to enter into cost-reimbursable agreements.

Sec. 106. Evaluation and assessment of agricultural research, extension, and education programs.

TITLE II—REFORM OF EXISTING RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION AUTHORITIES

Subtitle A—Smith-Lever Act and Hatch Act of 1887

Sec. 201. Adoption of short titles for Smith-Lever Act and Hatch Act of 1887.

Sec. 202. Consistent matching funds requirements under Hatch Act of 1887 and Smith-Lever Act.

Sec. 203. Plans of work to address critical research and extension issues and use of protocols to measure success of plans.

Subtitle B—National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977

Sec. 211. Plans of work for 1890 land-grant colleges to address critical research and extension issues and use of protocols to measure success of plans.

Sec. 212. Matching funds requirement for research and extension activities at 1890 land-grant colleges, including Tuskegee University.

Sec. 213. International research, extension, and teaching.

Sec. 214. Task force on 10-year strategic plan for agricultural research facilities.

Subtitle C—Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990

Sec. 231. Agricultural genome initiative.

Subtitle D—National Research Initiative

Sec. 241. Waiver of matching requirement for certain small colleges and universities.

Subtitle E—Other Existing Laws

Sec. 251. Findings, authorities, and competitive research grants under Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978.

TITLE III—EXTENSION OR REPEAL OF RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION INITIATIVES

Subtitle A—Extensions

Sec. 301. National Research Initiative under Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act.

Sec. 302. Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994.

Sec. 303. Education grants programs for Hispanic-serving institutions.

Sec. 304. General authorization for agricultural research programs.

Sec. 305. General authorization for extension education.

Sec. 306. Grants and fellowships for food and agricultural sciences education.

Sec. 307. Grants for research on the production and marketing of alcohols and industrial hydrocarbons from agricultural commodities and forest products.

Sec. 308. Policy research centers.

Sec. 309. Human nutrition intervention and health promotion research program.

Sec. 310. Pilot research program to combine medical and agricultural research.

Sec. 311. Food and nutrition education program.

Sec. 312. Animal health and disease continuing research.

Sec. 313. Animal health and disease national or regional research.

Sec. 314. Grant program to upgrade agricultural and food sciences facilities at 1890 land-grant colleges.

Sec. 315. National research and training centennial centers.

Sec. 316. Supplemental and alternative crops research.

Sec. 317. Aquaculture research and extension.

Sec. 318. Rangeland research.

Sec. 319. Federal agricultural research facilities.

Sec. 320. Water quality research, education, and coordination.

Sec. 321. National genetics resources program.

Sec. 322. Agricultural telecommunications program.

Sec. 323. Assistive technology program for farmers with disabilities.

Sec. 324. National Rural Information Center Clearinghouse.

Sec. 325. Critical Agricultural Materials Act.

Subtitle B—Repeals

Sec. 341. Aquaculture research facilities.

Sec. 342. Agricultural research program under National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act Amendments of 1981.

Sec. 343. Livestock product safety and inspection program.

Sec. 344. Generic authorization of appropriations.

TITLE IV—NEW RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION INITIATIVES

Subtitle A—Partnerships for High-Value Agricultural Product Quality Research.

Sec. 401. Definitions.

Sec. 402. Establishment and characteristics of partnerships.

Sec. 403. Elements of grant making process.

Sec. 404. Authorization of appropriations and related provisions.

Subtitle B—Precision Agriculture

Sec. 411. Definitions.

Sec. 412. Competitive grants to promote precision agriculture.

Sec. 413. Reservation of funds for education and information dissemination projects.

Sec. 414. Precision agriculture partnerships.

Sec. 415. Miscellaneous provisions.

Sec. 416. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle C—Other Initiatives

Sec. 421. High-priority research and extension initiatives.

Sec. 422. Organic agriculture research and extension initiative.

Sec. 423. United States-Mexico joint agricultural research.

Sec. 424. Competitive grants for international agricultural science and education programs.

Sec. 425. Food animal residue avoidance database program.

Sec. 426. Development and commercialization of new biobased products.

Sec. 427. Thomas Jefferson Initiative for Crop Diversification.

Sec. 428. Integrated research, education, and extension competitive grants program.

Sec. 429. Research grants under Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994.

TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 501. Role of Secretary of Agriculture regarding food and agricultural sciences research, education, and extension.

Sec. 502. Office of Pest Management Policy.

Sec. 503. Food Safety Research Information Office and national conference.