

all violent crime. If this trend continues, we will have a 31 percent increase in juvenile offenders by the year 2010.

H.R. 3 addresses this. It tries to make our school yards and our streets safer from juvenile offenders. I hope that my colleagues will support me in supporting it.

#### FAIRNESS IN HIGHWAY FUNDING

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

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the transportation bill, better known as the ISTEA bill. It is a bill which has brought unprecedented flexibility and authority to local governments and provided our communities with valuable means of intermodal transportation. But there is one problem with the transportation bill: the highway funding formula.

Since the passage of ISTEA in 1991, Tennessee has received a mere 79 cents on the dollar for every dollar contributed to the Federal Highway Trust Fund by State motor fuel users. This formula, based on outdated historic percentages from the years prior to 1991, perpetuates the strength of Northeastern States and does not follow the growth trends of the Sunbelt States like Tennessee.

This nonsense must end this year and a new transportation bill must guarantee a more equitable minimum allocation to all 50 States. Tennessee is the Volunteer State, but we will no longer volunteer unjustly our funds to States with less growth and more roads and rail. Let us bring about equity and fairness to all 50 States and do it this year.

#### SAFE SCHOOLS

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

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, as Members probably know by now, this week is Teacher Appreciation Week, and we are very grateful for all of them. As a former teacher, I have learned from experience that the best way we can truly appreciate teachers and their students is to make certain that they are provided with the safest possible learning environment.

This week in Congress we are going to begin to work on legislation to ensure safe classrooms by removing violent juveniles. We are going to work to accomplish this by reforming our juvenile justice system.

But this will only be the first step in a series we are going to take in this Congress to reduce crime in our schools and in our communities. The next step will be through strong prevention programs when we move to reauthorize the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Act this summer.

We need safe classrooms for teachers and for students. We can accomplish this through our focus on both the

areas of prevention and punishment. I ask for all of my colleagues to join me in support of safer schools when we pass both the Juvenile Crime Control Act and reauthorize the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Act.

#### CONDOMS SUBJECT TO MILITARY SCRUTINY

(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, even though the Pentagon is cutting costs and talented officers are being forced out, the Pentagon spent \$90,000 last year to study condom preference and the failure rates of condoms in the military.

If that is not enough to kill your rabbit, the Pentagon still does not know if a Patriot missile can stop the Silk-worm, but they know for sure which condom can save the Republic. What is next, Mr. Speaker, a \$100,000 study to find out if soldiers prefer boxer shorts over briefs? If women in the military prefer Maidenform over Wonder Bra?

Beam me up. I say with this study the Pentagon has reached the apex of their condominium. There is no budget crisis in the District of Columbia. There is a common sense crisis in the District of Columbia.

I yield back the balance of any heretofore untested condoms still subject to military scrutiny.

#### NUCLEAR WASTE BILL

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the nuclear waste bill currently before the House is a bill that will destroy the environment and endanger the lives of our constituents. In a letter to my office, Deputy Secretary of Energy Charles B. Curtis stated the following: "If S. 104 and its companion bill, H.R. 1270, were presented to the President in its current form, the President would veto the bill." Mr. Curtis goes on to say: "This bill would provide no practical opportunity to designate an alternative to Yucca Mountain as an interim storage site because it does not provide enough time to designate, license and construct a facility at another site by the year 2002."

The situation is very clear. This bill could potentially devastate our districts, the environment in our districts, and will be vetoed by the President. Is it really worth voting to destroy the environment in order to bail out the nuclear power companies on a bill that has no chance of becoming law?

#### FUNDING FOR WIC

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Appropriations has rejected the Clinton administration request for WIC funding. What a surprise.

The WIC Program is one of the most successful Federal programs that has ever been created. The WIC Program reduces the incidence of low-birth-weight babies, infant mortality and anemia. This is a program that serves some of the most at-risk infants in the country, many of whom are Latino or Afro-American babies.

The Republicans say we do not need to spend that money on these needy children. Instead, the Republicans tell us we need a capital gains tax cut which will put billions of dollars in the pockets of their rich friends. This is crazy. First they try to cut school lunches to hungry children. Now they literally want to take milk away from hungry infants. For shame.

#### SUPPORT HIGHWAY TRUST FUND FAIRNESS ACT

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

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, ISTEA will be reauthorized this year. ISTEA sets the funding formula by which gas taxes are spread across our country, and I think with it will come the chance to make a real stand for the simple theme of fairness.

Fairness is the most fundamental of all American precepts. It is the idea on which the Revolutionary War was built. It was the idea behind the Boston Tea Party. It was the idea behind the civil rights movement. Yet right now with our gas tax formula, we have a formula that leaves South Carolina losing \$50 million a year, California losing over \$200 million a year, Florida losing over \$200 million a year, while a handful of States up in the Northeast receive disproportionate amounts of money. That is not fair.

The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LARGENT), the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. CLEMENT), and myself have a Highway Trust Fund Fairness Act which would address this inequity. There are a number of other proposals to address this inequity. The point that I think we all need to remember is that it needs to be addressed and it needs to be fixed.

#### FAIRNESS IN BALANCED BUDGET PROCESS

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

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I regard it as an outrage that more and more pressure is being placed on the Bureau of Labor Statistics to change their approach of determining how the Consumer Price Index, the CPI, is being determined, with the goal of lowering it. Frankly, this is nothing more than a cheap, back-door way of balancing the budget on the backs of the

elderly by cuts in Social Security, by not giving them an increase which honestly reflects the rate of inflation.

In the State of Vermont, in my view, not only is the current CPI not too high, it is too low. Elderly people are more dependent upon health care and prescription drugs than the general population, and the cost of health care is rising much faster than the general rate of inflation.

Mr. Speaker, in Vermont and throughout this country, millions of elderly people are trying to survive on \$7,000 or \$8,000 a year. Let us not cut their Social Security checks and make their lives even more difficult. Let us move toward a balanced budget, but let us not do it on the backs of the weakest and most vulnerable Americans, including our senior citizens.

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#### NO LEARNING TAKES PLACE WITHOUT DISCIPLINE AND SAFETY

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, during Teacher Appreciation Week, I hope everyone in Congress will support our efforts to make schools safe for teachers and children.

As a teacher for 24 years, I know firsthand that without safety and discipline in the classroom, no teacher can teach and no student can learn.

Congress is examining what works and what is wasted in the area of safety and discipline as part of our ongoing Education at the Crossroads project.

I hope everyone in Congress will vote for the Juvenile Crime Control Act this week. This bill will reform the juvenile justice system, it will make violent juvenile offenders accountable for their actions. It will help keep violent juveniles out of our classrooms and off our playgrounds. These steps will help us fulfill our moral obligation to provide our children with a good education so that they will have the tools to achieve the American dream.

#### EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

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

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support educational standards of excellence for every child in this Nation. I know setting House standards is the best way to achieve educational excellence. Our students are working hard, and their teachers and parents strive to give them the support that they need. We must give them the tools to make the most of their God-given ability.

Last week we dedicated a memorial to this century's greatest President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. It is fitting that we honor FDR as a leader who brought this country back from our

worst economic calamity ever and brought us to the brink of greatness and our triumph over global tyranny.

One of FDR's guiding principles is captured by his observation that we will all be better off when we all are better off.

As the 105th Congress considers measures to strengthen education in this country, we must heed FDR's words and expand educational opportunities to all the children in America.

#### THERE IS NO ACCURATE WAY TO MEASURE CPI

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

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, using the CPI to measure cost of living adjustments is nothing more than a feeble attempt to measure dollar depreciation. This is no more accurate than using stock and bond prices to measure inflation.

I have a lot of reservations and think we are making a serious mistake by delivering to the Bureau of Labor Statistics the authority to manipulate the CPI numbers. This is ducking our congressional responsibility, and it is a back-door way to raising taxes and manipulating the entitlements. I think, most importantly, it fails to recognize the basic flaw in our system, and that is the monetary policy and a depreciation of currency.

But we have a lame duck President quite willing to accept the responsibility and to accept more executive legislative powers from the Congress, something the Constitution does not authorize. But here we have a President quite willing to, behind the scenes, raise taxes and manipulate the cost of living.

The truth is there is no accurate way to measure the cost of living index.

#### EXPRESSION OF ADMIRATION FOR LT. GOV. JOSEPH E. KERNAN

(Ms. CARSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a brief moment to share my pride and admiration for our Indiana Lieutenant Governor Joe Kernan.

Today, May 7, marks the 25th anniversary when Joe Kernan was shot down by the enemy over North Vietnam and held a prisoner of war for the succeeding 11 months.

Joe Kernan, a 1968 graduate of Notre Dame, was sent to Vietnam in 1972 aboard the USS *Kitty Hawk*, never set foot in Vietnam until his plane, where he was a navigator, was shot down and he was taken a prisoner of war. He was a prisoner of war for 11 months, he was repatriated in 1973 and continued on active duty with the Navy until 1974, December. The Combat Action Ribbon, two Purple Heart medals and the Distinguished Flying Cross are among the military awards that the Lieutenant Governor has received.

Mr. Speaker, he is an ordinary man. He worked for Procter and Gamble in Cincinnati. He moved to South Bend where he became mayor and the city's controller. He was elected mayor in 1987, served there 9 years, longer than any other mayor in South Bend's history, and in 1996 he and Gov. Frank O'Bannon were elected to the top posts in Indiana's government. Joe and his wife are natives of South Bend.

I just wanted to say today that Joe Kernan exemplifies what the court envisioned in that he is at the home of the brave at the land of the free.

#### IMPEACHMENT: A POLITICAL REMEDY TO A POLITICAL PROBLEM

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

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in reviewing what we can do with regard to activist Federal judges who usurp the authorities of the legislative or executive branches, I was impressed by an article written on March 20 in the Washington Times by Paul Craig Roberts who said, there is no clearer, sounder, and firmer grounds for impeachment of judges than the violation of the constitutional oath, and there is no clearer, sounder, or firmer evidence that this oath has been violated than when judges violate the separation of powers and usurp the political functions of government. This has been understood by everyone since the day the Constitution was written.

As one professor noted, in the constitutional design of the Founding Fathers, especially Alexander Hamilton's discussion of the Federal judiciary in the Federalist Papers, the ultimate recourse in the event the judiciary usurps legislative powers is impeachment by Congress. This has been thoroughly understood in every period of our history.

Writing in the Harvard Law Review in 1913, Wrisley Brown, whose investigation led to the impeachment of Judge Robert W. Archibald, said impeachment is a political remedy to a political problem. It is directed against a political offense, it culminates in a political judgment, it imposes a political forfeiture, it is a political remedy for the suppression of a political evil with wholly political consequences.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, for the record, on rollcall vote 103 I mistakenly pressed "aye" instead of "no." My vote should have been recorded as a "no."

#### DUNN AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3, JUVENILE CRIME CONTROL ACT OF 1997

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