

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, in the huge best seller, "The Book of Virtues," by William J. Bennett, the author compiles a collection of moral tales for children. Children are taught through these stories that they should live their lives with concern to moral virtues. The lessons they are taught include such virtues as self-discipline, responsibility, courage, perseverance, and honesty.

Mr. Speaker, those are the very virtues that are so often the hallmark of people who have worked their way up from the bottom and have realized the American dream. They are the virtues that so often bring about prosperity and economic security.

Mr. Speaker, in my view designing a tax system that rewards those virtues, that rewards hard work, that rewards playing by the rules, thrift, diligence, is exactly the kind of tax system that our country needs. The Republican tax cut is a step in that direction. It rewards the virtues that we all admire. It is a statement about how we live our lives.

Let us make a change in that direction, Mr. Speaker, and pass the tax relief package and encourage the President to sign the tax relief package before the Congress.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY STANDS FOR LOWER TAXES

(Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, President Reagan was an admired figure for many reasons. One of the reasons he is admired is because he called for tax cuts during the 1980 Presidential campaign and he delivered on his promises after he became President. He did not suddenly discover that the economy was in worse shape than he thought and use that as some kind of an excuse not only to cancel the tax cuts but actually increase taxes, which is what we saw in 1992. It is time to take a cue from Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Speaker, the Republican Party stands for lower taxes, and my constituents decided to send me to Washington because they expect Republicans to deliver some long overdue tax relief to American workers. Now is the time to deliver. The tax bill that the House is considering contains tax relief for all taxpayers, with middle class families getting the biggest break of all. Regardless of income, the Republican Party thinks our constituents should keep more of it. That was Ronald Reagan's philosophy, and I could not agree more.

BE CAREFUL OF GENERALIZING AMERICANS OF PACIFIC OR ASIAN ANCESTRY

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, this morning the other body started its hearings on alleged violations of certain individuals and companies about our campaign laws, and I want to commend my good friend, the Senator from the great State of Hawaii, Senator DANIEL K. AKAKA, for reminding his colleagues and Members of this institution to be careful of generalizing the issues and the implications. Sometimes the media in its feeding frenzy is questioning the integrity and the honesty of the entire Asia Pacific community in our Nation, that their honest contributions made in our national and local elections sometimes are being questioned simply because these Americans are of Asian or Pacific ancestry. Let me give my colleagues a little bit of history about the sacrifices of the Asia Pacific community, and it is sealed in their blood.

The Japanese-Americans of the 100th battalion, 442d infantry combat troops, after fighting our enemies in Europe: 9,000 Purple Hearts, 560 Silver Stars, 65 Distinguished Service Crosses, and only 1 Medal of Honor.

I ask my colleagues, let us be careful of generalizing people and the composite view of our Nation here in our country, and I thank the Speaker for giving me this chance.

IT IS TIME FOR THE NEA TO SAY GOODBYE

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, the White House has been sending signals that the President will veto the Interior appropriations bill if the National Endowment for the Arts is phased out. The NEA, my colleagues will remember, is that bureaucratically bloated \$100 million-per-year Federal agency that purports to decide what does or does not constitute quality taxpayer-funded art.

Can the Republic survive without government art? I think it probably can, but the President apparently does not. He feels so strongly about this pet program that in order to save it he is willing to jeopardize the funding of such Federal entities as the National Park Service, the Smithsonian, the Kennedy Center and the Holocaust Museum, all funded in the Interior bill.

Mr. Speaker, let us not create a legislative log jam to satisfy the elite special interests in the arts community. Let us say goodbye to the NEA once and for all, and let us hope that President Clinton does not stand in the way.

PASS A TAX BILL THAT PUTS MONEY BACK IN THE POCKETS OF AVERAGE AMERICANS

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, when it comes to tax cuts the question before

this House is a simple one: Who should benefit? President Clinton and the House Democrats believe that the middle class should. That is why the bulk of benefits from the Democratic tax proposals go to families who need it most, hard-working, average, middle class families. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle disagree. Their tax proposal helps big business and the wealthy at the expense of the middle class, and the American people know it.

In a recent Gallup Poll 52 percent of those surveyed say the Republican proposal will benefit the rich while only 8 percent said it would favor the middle class, and 61 percent said the Republican Congress is out of touch with the American people.

I urge my colleagues to listen to the message the American people are sending us. Let us get back in touch with the American people. Let us pass a tax bill that puts back money into the pockets of average American middle class families.

BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FOR CAPITAL GAINS AND ESTATE TAX RELIEF

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

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, I have in my hand a letter from Dr. Lester Spell, commissioner of agriculture and commerce for the State of Mississippi. Dr. Spell is a statewide elected official elected on the Democratic ticket, and he asks that Congress provide relief from the capital gains tax and reduce the death tax. Commissioner Spell has this to say about capital gains taxes: "This tax has a negative and unfair effect on agricultural families and non-agricultural families."

About the estate tax, Commissioner Spell says: "This tax destroys the hope and enthusiasm of free enterprise and entrepreneurship."

He goes on to say: "This year Independence Day would be much more meaningful to all Americans if Congress would reduce capital gains taxes and move to eliminate the death tax."

Mr. Speaker, the House-passed tax cut is good for average Americans. Over 75 percent of the tax relief goes to families between \$20,000 and \$75,000 in annual income. I am glad capital gains and estate tax relief are part of this package, and I commend Commissioner Lester Spell for pointing out the bipartisan support for these provisions.

THE FAMILY ECONOMIC INCOME CONCEPT

(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, maybe some of my liberal friends on the other side of the aisle

can help me with a problem I am having. I am trying to get to the bottom of this family economic income business.

For example, if I make \$45,000 a year and I would like to apply for a loan, can I put down \$75,000 a year as my income on the loan application form? After all, I heard this great news from my liberal friends that under this great new economic family income concept I am actually much, much richer than I think.

Let us take another example. If I make \$45,000 a year and I would like to buy a house, and I put down \$75,000 a year as my income on the mortgage application, will they still send me to jail for lying on my form if they check to see what I really make?

Mr. Speaker, will I be able to use the family economic income defense? Will the judge buy that? After all, I can say, Wait, judge, the Secretary of the Treasury himself said this was an honest way to calculate what people really make.

I wonder.

NEED FOR HONEST DEBATE ON TAX CUT ISSUES

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

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the debate we are having about whether or not most of the tax cut goes to the middle class or to the rich is downright goofy. It should be a simple question with an agreed-upon way to score it. There should be a clear-cut answer whether it is primarily the middle class or the rich who will be able to keep more of what is already theirs.

At least when discussing capital gains, I could understand some disagreement, for one can score it two ways, either by the number of people who are receiving capital gains reductions or by the value of their capital gains cut. But in terms of this tax package, charges that the majority of the tax cut goes to the wealthy are simply ridiculous.

Democrat class warriors in the Treasury Department are using bogus numbers. Redefining household incomes so that people making \$45,000 a year are scored as actually making \$75,000 a year is nothing short of scandalous. Imagine trying to convince a shipyard worker that he is actually making \$30,000 a year more than he thinks he is making. It is downright dishonest.

IN MEMORY OF FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL SEQUIN

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

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, last Friday while most of western New York State and Buffalo, NY, and indeed across the country were enjoying Independence

Day festivities, a 33-year-old Buffalo firefighter, Michael Sequin, reported to duty at engine 33. Unfortunately, firefighter Michael Sequin died at the scene of a house fire that evening believed to be started by illegal fireworks.

Mr. Speaker, at services today firefighter Sequin was referred to by Captain Scott Barry this way: "If you had a kid and you wanted him to grow up to be a person everybody loved and respected, it would be Mike Sequin."

Firefighter Sequin's tragic death serves as a reminder to all of us of the dangerous risk firefighters, police officers, and all public safety officers face every day. I ask all the Members of the House to join me, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PAPPAS] and the gentleman from New York [Mr. LAFALCE] in sending our condolences, sympathies, and grateful thanks to firefighter Sequin's family, friends, and fellow fire fighters in western New York and all across the country.

STOP POLITICIZING TAX REDUCTION

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

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, finally, after 16 years, this Congress has passed a tax reduction for the American taxpayers.

Listening to the debate on who will benefit from the proposed tax reduction, one would think that the President's plan and the congressional plan were the exact opposite from each other. The truth of the matter is that these bills are quite similar. There are two basic differences in the legislation.

First of all, the congressional tax reduction package does more for small businessmen and women than the President's. Two out of every three jobs created in America today are created by small business owners. They need tax incentives for economic expansion, not tax obstacles. The President wants to expand the only refundable tax credit in the Tax Code, the earned income credit.

These are the two basic differences in the legislation. Let us stop politicizing this issue and reduce the tax burden of the American people.

FREE MARKETS PROMOTE PROSPERITY AND POLITICAL REFORM

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, in November 1979, when he announced his candidacy for President of the United States, Ronald Reagan called for the creation of the world's largest free trade zone, the North American accord. His vision of the United States, Canada, and Mexico working together as friends in peace and prosperity was more than fanciful conjecture. He un-

derstood that spreading free markets and free trade promoted prosperity and political reform. It was good for America. Across the world, the past 18 years have proven Ronald Reagan's views correct.

This weekend Mexico held national elections. For the first time in decades three parties, led by the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, split the seats in the Mexican Parliament. A non-PRI candidate won the mayoralty in Mexico City.

Mr. Speaker, the American people must recognize that great and positive political change is proceeding in Mexico under the leadership of President Ernesto Zedillo. It is not that we applaud who is winning the elections, but that a full-fledged multiparty democracy is emerging on our doorstep.

Cooperation on all fronts, from trade, immigration to crime and corruption, is the only way to continue to build the United States-Mexico relationship on a foundation of mutual respect, cooperation and friendship befitting two great nations. NAFTA, Ronald Reagan's North American accord, certainly promotes that process.

□ 1430

TAX CUTS IN THE REAL WORLD

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, this last week, I spent most of the week driving some 2,200 miles across my State of South Dakota. I talked to farmers, ranchers, small business people, and a whole lot of just hard-working Americans. They did not want to hear the same old overused trite platitudes about tax cuts for the rich. They wanted to know what we are going to do to enable them to keep their families and their small businesses and what we are going to do to give them more control over their economic future. These are real people with real-world concerns, and they want real-world, honest answers, not the same old trite platitudes.

We want to bring tax relief that will improve the quality of life for all hard-working Americans who pay taxes and make Government smaller.

CORRECTIONS CALENDAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOODLING). This is the day for the call of the Corrections Calendar.

The Clerk will call the bill on the Corrections Calendar.

PROHIBITING ILLEGAL ALIENS FROM RECEIVING RELOCATION ASSISTANCE

The Clerk called the bill (H.R. 849) to prohibit an alien who is not lawfully present in the United States from receiving assistance under the Uniform