

That is why I promised the working families and young people of my district that I would fight to get this tuition deduction passed through this Congress. Please join me in supporting this important initiative.

THE TRUTH ABOUT A TYRANT

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton recently rolled out the red carpet for one of the most repugnant figures of our time, Chinese Defense Minister Chi Haotian, better known as the butcher of Tiananmen Square. General Chi ordered the slaughter of hundreds, perhaps thousands of brave Chinese students who were demonstrating for freedom.

The picture of General Chi's tanks rolling in to crush the democracy movement remains etched in our minds forever. It was almost incomprehensible, then, to learn that our President would honor Chi at the White House. I am not sure whether coffee was served but sickeningly our military was ordered to give the butcher a 19-gun salute. Meanwhile Chi denied that the Tiananmen Square massacre ever occurred.

I do believe that we can improve human rights in China by increasing our presence there and promoting American values. Increased contacts with China can help but only if we follow the course set by President Ronald Reagan in speaking the truth about evil. We must not shrink from calling evil by its name, and we must not paper over truth about tyrants such as Chi, no matter what positions they occupy or what ties we are seeking.

LUCASVILLE PRISON

(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, after a 1993 riot at Lucasville Prison, Ohio taxpayers spent \$353 million to straighten it out. If that is not enough to bust your parakeet, check this out:

To settle a lawsuit filed by the prisoners, the inmates in this prison, Ohio taxpayers must now pay another \$4 million for punitive damages and property damages of these prisoners. Unbelievable, \$4 million to rapists, armed robbers, and murderers.

This Lucasville ordeal is a classic example of how we treat crime in America. The law turns its back on the victims of rapists and murderers, then turns around and compensates rapists and murderers in prison who burned the place down and destroyed it. Beam me up. If there is any sense left, someone explain it to me in writing.

I yield back the balance of any more punitive or property damages.

□ 1015

REINTRODUCING THE RICKY RAY HEMOPHILIA RELIEF ACT

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

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, shortly I will reintroduce the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act, which gained 249 cosponsors in the last Congress. This bill responds to the tragedy of hemophilia-associated AIDS. In the 1980's nearly half of the hemophilia community became infected with the AIDS virus through the use of tainted blood products. About half of those, approximately 7,200 people, many of whom were children, have already died.

As they did last Congress, students from Robinson Secondary School in Fairfax, VA, have visited Members' offices to lobby for this bill. These bright and articulate students belong to the Distributive Education Clubs of America, an association of high school students enrolled in marketing education courses and committed to the free enterprise system.

Their efforts on behalf of the Ricky Ray bill have been impressive. I hope my colleagues will lend them an ear, cosponsor this bill, and help bring compassionate assistance to hurting victims of the hemophilia community.

HOW BEST TO HONOR OUR FLAG

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

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, respect and honor for the flag is a subject again before this House. How best do we do it?

As a Marine veteran, I cherish the symbol of our country's freedoms to which we pledged allegiance just a few minutes ago. But should we amend the Bill of Rights for the first time in our Nation's history? Should we eat into the guarantee of free speech that is the essence of this country in order to protect the flag? The answer is no.

Let us not fall into the mistake of elevating the symbol of our freedoms above our freedoms themselves. This country is strong enough to withstand dissent, even dissent expressed so offensively that it involves the desecration of the flag.

For those who want to reaffirm their love of country and flag, the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. KOLBE] and I are introducing a resolution today that does that but does not amend the Constitution.

Honor the flag? Absolutely. We honor it best by keeping the Constitution as it is. Honoring the freedom that we stand for best honors our flag.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE KORPF

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a very special man, a man who loves his family and loves his country, my friend Steve Korpf.

Steve Korpf and I have been friends for about 10 years. He exemplifies what all of us cherish: faith, character, and courage. During our 10-year friendship Steve has been battling various forms of cancer. He is now in a fight that the doctors tell him he is not going to win.

His friends in Mankato, MN, are organizing a tribute and benefit on February 22 to help defray the cost of his long battle. I am pleased to support their efforts and will hopefully be able to be present that evening to honor a truly special American.

My prayers are with Steve and his wife Dorothy as well as his family. I know that my life has been enriched for having known him. Thank you, Steve, for being one of my heroes.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE LATE HONORABLE PAMELA HARRIMAN, UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE

(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, as Congress convenes this morning, official and diplomatic Washington is gathering at the National Cathedral to honor and give thanks for the life of our Ambassador to France, Pamela Harriman. Many of us would like to be there but our official duties prevent us from doing so.

As is demonstrated by this portrait of Lafayette in our gallery, along with the only other portrait, that of George Washington, our relationship with France is a very special one, and indeed we sent as our Ambassador our very best.

I know it is a source of great pride to Pamela's family that the President of France eulogized her as well as bestowed upon her France's highest honor. I know it is also a source of pride that the President of the United States and the First Lady will eulogize her today and mourn her passing. I hope it is a comfort to Ambassador Harriman's family that so many people in this House, and indeed so many Americans, join our First Family in mourning this great loss.

Pamela's last weekend, before she took ill and then died during the week, was spent attending the christening of her great-grandchild, her Churchill great-grandchild. What a perfect end to a great life.

I know I speak for many here when I say to Pamela, adieu, and thank you.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KINGSTON) laid before the House the

following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 13, 1997.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER GINGRICH: I hereby resign my congressional seat effective immediately so that I can assume my post in the President's Cabinet as Ambassador to the United Nations.

It has been an honor to serve in the United States Congress as New Mexico's third district representative for the past 14 years. I have been especially proud to represent the people of New Mexico whose kindnesses towards me and my family have been equalled only by the unmatched beauty of the state itself.

Sincerely,

BILL RICHARDSON,
Member of Congress.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 13, 1997.

Hon. STEPHANIE GONZALES,

Secretary of State, State Capitol, Santa Fe, NM.

DEAR STEPHANIE: I hereby resign my congressional seat effective immediately so that I can assume my post in the President's Cabinet as Ambassador to the United Nations.

It has been an honor to serve in the United States Congress as New Mexico's third district representative for the past 14 years. I have been especially proud to represent the people of New Mexico whose kindnesses towards me and my family have been equalled only by the unmatched beauty of the state itself.

Sincerely,

BILL RICHARDSON,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, a copy of the official letter of resignation from the gentleman of New Mexico, Mr. RICHARDSON, will be submitted to the Secretary of State of New Mexico on this date and will be inserted into the RECORD and the Journal at this point.

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Joint Resolution 36 and that I may be allowed to include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

APPROVING THE PRESIDENTIAL FINDING REGARDING THE POPULATION PLANNING PROGRAM

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of section 518(A)(e) of an act making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for fiscal year 1997 (Public Law 104-208), I move that the House resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 36) approving the Presidential finding

that the limitation on obligations imposed by section 518A(a) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1997, is having a negative impact on the proper functioning of the population planning program.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON].

The motion was agreed to.

□ 1022

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of House Joint Resolution 36 with Mr. DREIER in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

By unanimous consent, the joint resolution was considered as having been read the first time.

The text of House Joint Resolution 36 is as follows:

H.J. RES. 36

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the House of Representatives and Senate approve the Presidential finding, submitted to the Congress on January 31, 1997, that the limitation on obligations imposed by section 518A(a) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1997, is having a negative impact on the proper functioning of the population planning program.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to section 518A(e) of the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act for 1997, the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON] will control 1 hour in opposition to the joint resolution, and the gentleman from California [Ms. PELOSI] will control 1 hour in favor of the joint resolution.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Chairman, I yield 20 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GREENWOOD] and I ask unanimous consent that he be allowed to yield to other Members.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON].

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, today we are considering a resolution which would endorse a finding by the President that the delay until July 1, 1997, in the obligation of funds for international family planning "is having a negative impact on the proper functioning" of the program. This resolution is being considered under expedited procedures as called for in section 518A of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1997.

The decision to delay obligations for international family planning funds until July 1, but to require a vote to

release the funds by March 1 of this year pursuant to a finding by the President, is the result of a compromise struck by the House leadership and the White House during negotiations on the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act of 1997. The agreement also calls for a total funding level of \$385 million for international family planning, instead of \$356 million as provided in fiscal year 1996. In addition, funds are apportioned on a monthly basis of not more than 8 percent.

We are not dealing directly in this resolution with the so-called Mexico City policy, because the House has been unable to get the Senate and the White House to agree to it for the past 2 years. The Senate only voted once directly on the policy in the past Congress. On November 1, 1995, by a vote of 53 to 44, it rejected the Mexico City provisions included in the House version of the fiscal year 1996 Foreign Operations Appropriations Act. In addition, the White House threatened to veto such appropriations acts if Mexico City language was included.

The chairman of the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs, the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. CALLAHAN], offered a compromise last year which would have allowed organizations that refused to agree to abide by the Mexico City policy to receive family planning funds, but at a level not to exceed 50 percent of the total provided to each such organization in 1995. Organizations that agreed to abide by the Mexico City policy would not have been capped.

That compromise was endorsed by the House but rejected by the administration. Had it been accepted, we would not be here today and international family planning funds would be flowing without delay in obligations.

This is the second year that the obligation of funds for international family planning has been delayed. As I stated earlier, the House could not reach a compromise with the administration or the Senate on the Mexico City policy as part of the fiscal year 1996 appropriations act and, as a result, delayed obligations until July 1 of that year as well.

However, the obligation delay was explicitly intended to encourage the authorizing committee to address this issue as part of the pending authorization bill for foreign affairs. As passed by the House, the 1995 foreign aid authorization bill included Mexico City policy language. Unable to work out a compromise with the Senate and the administration, all language was dropped in the final conference report on the bill.

Mr. Chairman, I hope that this changes this year. I hope that we do not have to debate this anymore. Policy issues surrounding international family planning should be addressed by the Committee on International Relations, not the Committee on Appropriations. I urge the authorization