

We start off by saying to all the working men and women of this country, "We understand it is your money. You let us use your money on your behalf. We hope that we do with your money things that you understand must need be done and should be done, as a reflection of your compassion, your generosity, your sharing and your caring for your neighbors and for the greatness of your Nation."

And we have done these things. But now we find ourselves at a time where we can say it is time to let the American people keep more of their money and for us to take less of it.

It is time for Mr. and Mrs. America, as they struggle with the needs of their family which they desire and hope and must put first, that they would have a \$500-per-child tax credit so that they can do the things for their children that they know must be done, whether it is buying the diapers; whether it is, in fact, paying for some kindergarten, some preschooling; whether it is that day when they are 13 and the Department of Agriculture says the cost goes up by \$1,000; when they take them for their braces. Whatever they decide they must do with their money, they should have \$500 more back for themselves and their children.

It is time that we recognize that they truly do want to save for and provide for their own children's education, and they should be rewarded and encouraged in the effort that they make with the expansion of IRAs. It is time that we understand that their dream is in fact to own their own house, and they should be facilitated in that with this tax law.

More importantly, their dream is the day when their youngsters come home and say, "Mom, Dad, I got the job, and I am going to have my own house and I will have my own life."

And it is time, then, that we realize they need an economy with the vitality, the generosity, the creativity and the energy to give their children a chance to work out, in their own lives, their hopes and dreams in accordance with the training, the education that we have been so generously giving them.

We pass today a tax bill that says to the men and women of this country who work hard, who play by the rules, "It is your money. You keep more of it, you know better what to do with it," and we honor and respect that.

This is a bill that we must vote "yes" for. We must take pride in our willingness to do that. To vote any other vote than "yes" is to say to the men and women of this country, "We do not know you, we do not appreciate you, we do not respect you." And nobody given the privilege to represent the good people of this Nation, in good conscience, can vote "no" and make that statement.

CALL OF THE HOUSE

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I move a call of the House.

A call of the House was ordered.

The call was taken by electronic device, and the following Members responded to their names:

[Roll No. 349]

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Archer
Armedy
Bachus
Baesler
Baker
Baldacci
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berry
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Bunning
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Cardin
Carson
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cook
Cooksey
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crapo
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dellums

Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Ensign
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Fattah
Fazio
Filner
Flake
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fowler
Fox
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Furse
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Green
Greenwood
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hansen
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hefley
Hefner
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson

Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (WI)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kenny
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kim
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kleczka
Klink
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Livingston
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manton
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McDermott
McGovern
McHale
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Metcalfe
Mica
Millender
McDonald
Miller (CA)
Miller (FL)
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Molinari
Mollohan
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Neal
Nethercutt
Neumann

Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Pappas
Parker
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Paxon
Payne
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pickett
Pitts
Pombo
Porter
Portman
Poshard
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Redmond
Regula
Reyes
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogan
Rogers
Rohrabacher

Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryun
Sabo
Salmon
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer, Dan
Schaffer, Bob
Schumer
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadeegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Shimkus
Sisisky
Skaggs
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (OR)
Smith (TX)
Smith, Adam
Smith, Linda
Snowbarger
Snyder
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stabenow
Stearns

Stenholm
Stokes
Strickland
Stump
Stupak
Sununu
Talent
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Thomas
Thompson
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Torres
Towns
Traffant
Turner
Upton
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Walsh
Wamp
Waters
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Weygand
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Wise
Wolf
Woolsey
Wynn
Yates
Young (FL)

□ 1519

The SPEAKER. On this rollcall, 414 Members have recorded their presence by electronic device, a quorum.

Under the rule, further proceedings under the call are dispensed with

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2014, TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT OF 1997

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, first let me thank you for interceding in the conference to make certain that a provision was inserted that allows kids who dream about college to get there. The President's proposal finally was given to him in an approved way by the House of Representatives. While all of us appreciate how important education is at the higher level, some of us would not have been able to get to college if it was not that we had the GI bill to get to high school first, and because of the cooperation of the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER] and the Speaker and the President, we do have that there.

Let me say this, that being bipartisan in my opinion really does not mean that we have given up the principles of our party. It does mean that it was this President that decided that the American people in the middle-income group was entitled to a tax cut. It means that this President thought the people of the United States of America should keep up their education and their technology in order to be a part of this

growing international trade which we have been a leader in. It was this President who thought that as we have cut back in the budget, it was the working people that he wanted to give some type of credit for their children, that the ever increasing cost of living was there and it had not been reflected in the tax cut.

When we leave here, I know that some of you would say, well, the whole idea started with Ronald Reagan and even though we voted against the 1993 budget, we are in this condition today that we are able to give it because the economy is robust and Ronald did it. Let me tell you, from the bottom of my heart, do and say what makes you feel good.

Because when you think about it, some of us truly believe that we are here today because the President had a veto and you want a bill to take home. We are here today because some of us really did not think that we should have a tax cut at all. Some of us were thinking about rebuilding our cities. Some of us were thinking about having an educational system that would be superior to any country in the world. Some of us were really thinking that we should have jobs so that anybody who wants to work could participate in rebuilding America so that we never would be in the position we were in before. But when our President speaks and he calls for bipartisanship, maybe we do not understand it, but the American people understood it, that they are sick and tired of listening to our differences and they wanted economic relief.

And so our leadership decided, on both sides, "Let's go for our principles and make certain we come out with a bill that everyone can live with." It is absolutely amazing to see the number of Democrats that find the final worksheet something that they cannot live with. Thank God most all of them are in districts that are secure. But the most important thing is that what they are trying to say is that if we were in the majority, we would be more than happy than we are today. But we can count, and you are in the majority, and we have to yield to some of your priorities. But because there was principle involved, we did not just say no to you. We went to work and said, "If we're going to do it, let's do it in the way that people can go home with pride and dignity" and say that we reached an agreement that we would take care of everybody that we think is deserving.

I do not know your districts as well as I know my own. But really people do not run inside my clubhouse asking, How did you do on indexing? And, for God's sake, did you reduce capital gains? I know that many of you have to deal with it and so you are stuck with your priorities. I know that when it comes to providing for child care, where do you find the middle class? It depends on where you come from. You can go up to \$100,000, \$200,000 and feel

good and we do not mind that at all, except you are not going to do it at the expense of hard-working people that have got kids that pay taxes every day. And there is one thing we are going to do, is that when people get up every morning, take care of their kids, get out there and work, and just because they are in lower income brackets and just because we want to give everybody a hand in meeting their responsibility, we are not going to call them any longer welfare recipients because you are with us.

When we go back home, we are able to say as a Congress that we did not determine employer-employee relationships the way employers would want it. We are not going to be the people that says that a boss can determine that his payroll taxes are too high, that he does not want to pay Social Security, that he or she does not want to pay for health care, that they do not determine who is an independent contractor. We have a law on the books to determine it. But to broaden it so that those people who do not want the burden of being employers and taking care of the responsibility of their employees, no, independent contracts are out, and we all feel better for it because it was a give-and-take on our principles.

□ 1530

We know, we know that whenever we want someone to write a piece of honest literature, to give us a poll or to give us a graph, that the one who pays for that poll and graph that they will get what they want. I just never thought the Republicans could be so creative with their distribution tables.

My God, when I looked at that, I said "How could they even make it up?" But see, if we forget the last 5 years and just deal with their first years, it is amazing.

Capital gains cuts makes money. But stop there because when we get into the next 5 years, all of America are losers.

So what we have to do is this, is to be prepared to say to our constituents the President of the United States has spoken. He has demanded, and the American people have supported him in saying that they want a tax cut, they want to end the fighting and they want bipartisanship.

We have agreed that we have done it. A lot of people swallowed hard on their side; I regret that they were not given an opportunity to express it, but a lot of people on our side had problems, and they were able to express it.

Let us all say it is not a Republican victory, it is not a Democratic victory, but the people of the United States, under the leadership of the President of the United States, with all due respect to President Reagan, are the winners of this battle.

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, today truly is a day for the coming together of the people of this Nation. Yes, some have spoken vi-

brantly against this bill, and it is their right because the rights of the minority are always accorded in the United States of America. But for those who are in the mainstream majority, we can all revel at what we are about to do for the American people.

I could cite the differences, the things that I wanted in the bill, the things that perhaps got in here that I thought were not good policy, but this is not the day for that. This is a day for coming together.

On June 9, when I announced this tax plan to the public, I said that the American people wanted a Democrat President and a Republican Congress to work together on behalf of our Nation, and today I say to the American people, "We heard you, we did it, and this bill is a product of that effort."

It is an excellent agreement. It provides tax relief to the American people throughout their lives from the childhood years to the education years, from the savings years to the retirement years; yes, and even provides tax relief at death. It is a victory for all Americans, who believe that Washington should change its ways so the American people will not have to change theirs. It says Congress will no longer solve problems by raising taxes, that instead we solve problems by restoring hope, power and opportunity to the people who earn and pay those taxes.

Over 40 million children will benefit from the \$500 child credit. Families will be able to have more money to spend or to save, as they see fit, at their discretion. It is their money, they made it, and they should be able to keep it.

The education relief tells young people that education is not only the right thing to do, but it is going to be more affordable from here on. The capital gains and the individual retirement account are all incentives to send Americans a message:

"Work hard, save, and you will be able to keep more of the fruits of your labor."

Just because taxpayers invest money wisely does not mean that Uncle Sam has a hunting license to take it away from them.

And finally the death tax, the cruellest tax of all. No one should have to visit the IRS and the undertaker on the same day. It is wrong for family farms and small businesses to be broken up just because widows and widowers and children cannot afford the money to pay the Federal taxes. The death tax should be repealed, and this is the beginning of that effort.

But, Mr. Speaker, on this bill we do much more. We make the Orphan Drug Tax Credit permanent so that people with rare diseases that do not generate enough volume in the development of drugs will be able to live when they would not otherwise be able to live and be able to see their health improved when it would otherwise deteriorate.

And yes, yes, we cut the alternative minimum tax on businesses so that

businesses will be able to invest in job producing equipment and get a deduction for the depreciation that the law allows to them instead of making them pay tax at the end of the year on the depreciation that the law said is taken to buy the equipment to create jobs.

And what does that do? Yes, Charlie, a lot of us have been thinking about how do we create more jobs for Americans. That means greater work opportunity for greater jobs for working Americans in a competitive world marketplace.

And last but not least, more than 1 dozen tax loopholes are closed because no one, no matter who they are, should receive special tax treatment simply because they are politically powerful.

This plan and a balanced budget are what the American people sent us here to do, and we have delivered, and I am proud that this agreement continues a remarkably productive record for the Congress. Yesterday we saved Medicare from bankruptcy. Last year we fixed the failed welfare state so that the poor and the needy will receive a helping hand instead of a handout, a right to be independent instead of dependent. We protected people who were sick by letting them change jobs without losing their health insurance. We modernized telecommunications, creating millions of new jobs for this country, high paying jobs, and we cut the cost of operating this very body, the Congress of the United States, by \$200 million a year.

We reduced the deficit from \$203 billion in November of 1994 to \$50 billion or less today, and now, with this bill this year, it will be eliminated. And with the legislative results of this week that deficit will be completely eliminated.

Many have heard me talk about my grandson who was born last year, the twelfth grandchild, and how I looked down upon him in the incubator in the preemie ward and I thought when he grows up, and he will grow up, thanks to the technology of modern medicine beyond anything anywhere in the world, his pro rata responsibility of interest on the national debt during his lifetime will be \$189,000 if he is an average wage earner. That is unconscionable for us to leave to our children and to their grandchildren, and this week we said no, we will not do that.

Mr. Speaker, 6.4 million new jobs have been created since 1994, interest rates have dropped from 8 percent to 6 percent, helping people pay their bills and buy their homes, and the stock market has advanced from 3900 on the Dow Jones to 8200 just since the elections in 1994.

Mark my words. Mark my words. We are just warming up. There are more taxes to be cut, there are more taxes to be cut, and there is more unnecessary wasteful spending to be cut.

But remember above all, balancing the budget and cutting taxes are not merely matters of accounting. They are about our values, they are about

our convictions, they are about downsizing the power and the scope of Washington and upsizing the power and the opportunity of people.

That is why we are going to fight for more tax relief next year, because we need to keep the budget in balance while putting big government on a diet. We need to look the IRS in the eye and say "It's not your money, it is the people's money." The politicians and the IRS must stop reaching into the pockets of people and taking what is their money because they need it for themselves, and that, my colleagues, is what today is all about. It is about a new beginning for a limited government, but it is also a return to America that knows no limits.

That is my dream. What a great new beginning it is, what a great unlimited future the people of this country face. We have pulled America together, Democrats, Independents, Republicans, and what a difference a Republican Congress has made.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the conference report.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER. The question is the conference report.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were— yeas 389, nays 43, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 350]

YEAS—389

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baesler
Baker
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berman
Berry
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bileley
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)

Bryant
Bunning
Burr
Dickey
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Cardin
Carson
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Cook
Cooksey
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crapo
Cubin
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeGette
DeLauro
DeLay

Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Ensign
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Fattah
Fawell
Fazio
Flake
Foglietta
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fowler
Fox
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Furse
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson

Gekas
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gingrich
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Green
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hansen
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hefley
Hefner
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (WI)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kanjorski
Kasich
Kelly
Kennelly
Kildee
Kim
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kleczka
Klink
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Livingston
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey

Lucas
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manton
Manzullo
Martinez
Mascara
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McGovern
McHale
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-McDonald
Miller (CA)
Miller (FL)
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Molinar
Mollohan
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Neal
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Pappas
Parker
Pascarell
Pastor
Paul
Paxon
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pickett
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Poshard
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Rangel
Redmond
Regula
Reyes
Riggs
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogan

NAYS—43

Blumenauer
Borski
Campbell
Clay
Conyers
Cummings
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
Delahunt

Dellums
Filner
Frank (MA)
Gephardt
Gutierrez
Hastings (FL)
Hilliard
Jackson (IL)
Kaptur

Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ryun
Sabo
Salmon
Sanchez
Sandlin
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer, Dan
Schaffer, Bob
Schumer
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Sisisky
Skaggs
Skeen
Skeltan
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (OR)
Smith (TX)
Smith, Adam
Smith, Linda
Snowbarger
Snyder
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stabenow
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Stupak
Sununu
Talent
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Thomas
Thompson
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tierney
Torres
Traficant
Turner
Upton
Vento
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins
Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Weygand
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Wise
Wolf
Woolsey
Wynn
Young (FL)

Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kilpatrick
Kucinich
Markley
Matsui
McDermott
McNulty
Oberstar

Obey
Payne
Rahall
Rush
Sanders
Scott

Serrano
Stark
Stokes
Towns
Velazquez
Visclosky

Waters
Watt (NC)
Waxman
Yates

NOT VOTING—3

Gonzalez

Schiff

Young (AK)

□ 1602

Mr. RUSH changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the conference report was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FAREWELL AND GOOD LUCK TO THE HONORABLE SUSAN MOLINARI

(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, after a momentous moment like today, when we have had an opportunity to vote in a bipartisan way for very important legislation for the people across this country, we are reminded that we can only act as a body with the same fairness, conviction, and determination that we exhibit as individual Members of the body. Today probably, as we know, one of our Members will leave the body. Her last day of service here in the House will be today, and it might very well be her last vote that we all just cast with each other.

I would like to ask the Members on both sides of the aisle to join me in saying farewell and good luck to one of ours as she leaves the House of Representatives today. We wish good luck to the gentlewoman from New York, Ms. SUSAN MOLINARI.

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. QUINN. I yield to the Speaker, the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, let me just say on behalf of the entire House that as a historian, there are few people who can claim that they met their husband here, that their dad used to bring them here, and that they left here for even greater fame and even greater achievement.

I just want to say that, SUSAN, I believe for all of us, we will miss you. We will not promise to watch every Saturday, but we will all watch carefully, and we cherish your friendship forever. You are a part of this family.

Mr. PAXON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. QUINN. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. PAXON. Mr. Speaker, this is a very momentous day for us all. We have once again made legislative history. I could not help, in listening to the Speaker's words and the words of my good friend, the gentleman from New York, Mr. JACK QUINN, I could not help but think what a great, important

piece of personal history this floor and this body has been in our lives.

SUSAN and I met literally in these Chambers, got to know each other here, through the encouragement of a lot of you, and I think of Ray McGrath, who performed wedding ceremonies before we were even dating. He said, you guys have got to get married. Our friends got us together, they lived with us through that dating period, and up in that corner one day when we got engaged, and then, of course, thanks to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. JIM GREENWOOD, we found a priest in a church in Pennsylvania that would marry us on neutral ground.

Then, of course, the Members have lived with us through our married life, and are now helping us raise our daughter. We need help all the time. This is the kind of family that we can never replace. Members have witnessed our lives together and helped us in so many ways on this floor. My colleagues are losing a colleague today, and I am losing my legislative partner. Every single day we come to this floor and we share our lives. We are going to miss that. We think we are going to have a little more interesting dinner conversation, having two different jobs to bring to the dinner table.

But while I am losing my pal on a day-to-day basis on the floor, I want to say this to you, SUSAN; every day that I come to this floor I am going to think of you, every moment, you and our beautiful daughter. While you are out in that other job, I wish you the best. I really thought I would never get to the point in my life where I would say this, that I love a Member of the press. I love you, SUSAN.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. QUINN. I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you, you hunk.

Mr. Speaker, Emerson said: What is civilization?

I answer: The power of a good woman.

I agree with this American philosopher. That is why the departure of our friend, the gentlewoman from New York, Ms. SUE MOLINARI from Congress saddens us all.

SUE always brightened up any committee room when she walked in because she was prepared, because she was witty, and ready for battle for her constituents and for our country. She never took these fierce battles personally if you disagreed with her, and she built strong bonds of friendship with many of us here in Congress.

All of us, especially the women Members of Congress, felt as if we were part of SUE's life as we rejoiced in her union with BILL and the arrival of Susan Ruby. SUSAN will excel at CBS in the same way that she has climbed to the leadership ranks in the House, through her intelligence, through her hard work, perseverance, and a terrific personality. The civilization of this House

will be diminished by SUE's departure, but we know it is the right decision for SUE, for BILL, and most especially for Susan Ruby.

We wish you the best, Mama SUE.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE SUSAN MOLINARI

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to join with my colleagues; and not really delighted, I would say to the gentlewoman from New York, Ms. SUSAN MOLINARI, but we want to wish the gentlewoman lots of good luck and success. I am not sure who I am going to miss more, SUSAN MOLINARI or Susan Ruby, because she clearly cheers up all our days. From one mother to another mother, I can tell you we are going to miss you both.

SUSAN and I have been fighting together on so many issues for the years I have been here, whether it is fighting to keep those planes in New Jersey away from New York, and I am going to have to call you, SUSAN, for some reinforcement. We just keep sending these planes back and forth, but we are going to make sure that they are not flying over Staten Island while you are away. We are going to make sure we continue to fight to make sure that our transportation in New York serves all the people of all of our districts.

The gentlewoman has been right there on the front line. Whether it is fighting together on Ellis Island, one thing after another, SUSAN is there to fight for New York. I know we are going to work very hard, SUSAN, to make sure that the battles continue in support of all the issues that we care about.

So we wish you good luck, with lots of love and admiration and support. You have always stood up for the right things, and I have been honored to be there with you.

BEST OF LUCK AND GODSPEED TO THE HONORABLE SUSAN MOLINARI

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to add my wishes of good luck to SUSAN. I know she does not need them. She is one of the most talented people that I have come up against. We debated each other every week on channel 2 in New York, and let me tell the Members, Mr. Speaker, she is one tough adversary, but underneath it all she is a very decent and honorable person.

I know this has been her wish for many, many years, to go where she is going to; and with a wonderful family, a great child, and a great new career ahead of her, I think I speak for all of