

I have got some additional reading material for some of you. These are good. I think you may have heard of these papers, the Wall Street Journal yesterday, Reno Review, "That could lead to GORE independent counsel." Washington Post, September 4, "U.S. set to probe GORE calls." Washington Times, "Justice looking anew at probe of GORE." Even the New York Times, that great conservative publication that it is, front page, "Inquiry on GORE fundraising." Lots of good reading material in here. I am going to leave it in the House Chamber because I know some of you maybe do not read or have not had time to, but I am going to encourage you to do that because when it comes time to talk campaign finance reform, there is a lot of material right here, and I say let us start doing it on a bipartisan basis.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). Members should avoid such references to the Vice President.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I have some additional reading material for the gentleman from Georgia and for all of his colleagues. This is it. You can read this page and you can get the full story of what the Republican Party has done in order to accomplish reform of our campaign finance system right here. It is one big blank. To get up and suggest that there can be a bipartisan discussion of this matter, as the gentleman just disclosed, is truly outrageous, because we have been denied any opportunity, either the Republicans, many of whom as individuals have come forward with constructive ideas on this, or the Democratic colleagues that I have, have been denied any opportunity to come to this floor and debate legislative proposals to try to improve this system in time for 1998.

We have as I count it 13 days left in this month to pass any reform to address the problems that the gentleman just referred to and all of the other corrupting influences on congressional elections in this Nation. Yet the Speaker of the House refuses to schedule an opportunity for full debate on legislative proposals so that they can go through the morning newspaper instead of providing real reform in time for the 1998 elections.

CALL FOR GENUINE CAMPAIGN REFORM

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to my friend

from Texas and certainly I think we all share great concerns about campaign finance, especially great concerns about those who do not seem to be able to follow existing law. Mr. Speaker, as we talk about campaign finance, let us join together to acknowledge that one thing should be done at the outset, to have people of both parties obey existing law. But for some to come to this Chamber and call for campaign finance reform in the light of recent reports is akin to having John Dillinger back in his heyday call a press conference and say there ought to be tighter rules against bank robbery.

Mr. Speaker, the facts are clear. I ask my friends on the other side to join with me for genuine campaign reform, including the inclusion of the Paycheck Protection Act so that working people will not have their wages taken coercively to go to political causes with which they do not agree.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, we know the answer to the question that my colleague raised. Existing law is not enough. We need to pass real reform. We need to pass campaign finance reform. Members of the other side of the aisle, they talk about reforming the system.

Yet the real reform, campaign finance reform, there has not been one single hearing on it in this Congress. How can the leadership of this House in good conscience talk about packing up and going home in October when they have not looked at, held a hearing, or done anything about the most crucial problem confronting this country? I am talking about campaign finance reform.

It is rather typical. We talk about actually doing something and they pack their bags and head for the hills. Some of my colleagues find it easier to strike the gavel of adjournment rather than hammer out the tough decisions here in Washington. There must be a vote on campaign finance reform in this Congress before we go home to our districts. We must vote on this issue before we ask our constituents to vote for us.

WHOLE MEMORY LEARNING

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, just when I thought it could not get any worse, I now know that liberalism is possibly incapable of hitting rock bottom. First, they give us whole language learning, which means that you never actually have to spell anything correctly, any guess will do, just make sure that you feel good about yourself when you do. Then just to push the envelope a little further, they give us

whole math learning. You can imagine what that is. Just do not ask anyone who is educated in this manner, and I use the term loosely, to build a bridge for you or do your taxes for you. But now we have got the most incredible thing of all, I like to call it whole memory learning. Made fundraising calls from the White House, did not make the phone calls, DNC credit card, not really fundraisers, soft money, hard money, whatever. I think we ought to call it whole memory.

FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

(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, the White House said, "We must stop campaign spending abuses. Our Government is not for sale." If that is not enough to cause you a hernia, check this out. Three Buddhist nuns who pledged a vow of poverty raised \$100,000 at a fundraiser held at a temple no less, now being called by the White House a community outreach program. I ask, reaching out for what?

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Souls? Or dollars?

The truth is, if it was not a fundraiser, why did the nuns shred all the evidence? The nun answered, "Look, I don't know what made me do it. Perhaps fear made me do it." I would like to add that is about as good a cover-up answer as anybody could give; after all, she could have said, the devil made me do it.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker, beam me up.

I guarantee one thing. They did not shred any cash over there at that temple, and I yield back the balance of all this innocence.

SUPPORT SCHOOL CHOICE AND EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

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

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, children in America are not getting the education they deserve. In my opinion, and in the opinion of many Americans throughout this country, the situation has only gotten worse since the creation of the Federal Department of Education.

Washington bureaucrats are a major part of the education problem. Washington keeps spending money on the schools, but the money spent, based on results, is not improving education. Taxpayer money is being wasted.

The best way to support education in America is to give control to parents, not to Federal bureaucrats. With solutions like school choice and education savings accounts, parents will play a more active role in their children's education. The system, in turn, will be better.

I trust parents in eastern North Carolina to make decisions for their children more than I trust bureaucrats in Washington, DC. When it comes to America's public schools, control should be in the hands of parents.

Mr. Speaker, for the sake of the children, I hope my colleagues will support school choice and education savings accounts.

IT IS TIME FOR BOB DORNAN TO STOP WASTING THE TAXPAYERS' MONEY

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise about the House election contest in California.

First, Bob Dornan is given unprecedented subpoena power which he uses to harass and violate the privacy rights of law-abiding American citizens simply because they have a Spanish surname. Then those actions amount to nothing short of a witch-hunt.

Now I read in yesterday's Roll Call that Bob Dornan will use his special privileges as a former Member to take his witch-hunt to the House floor. Surely, this casts an appearance of impropriety upon the House.

If this election were being challenged by any American other than a defeated Member of the House, that American could not come to the House floor to lobby on behalf of their own interests. They would not get special subpoena powers, and neither should Bob Dornan.

Bob Dornan should not use the privileges as a former Member of this House to influence his case. Mr. Speaker, there should not be a case at all. The Republican California Secretary of State certified the election of the gentlewoman from California, and there is no sufficient credible evidence to challenge it.

It is time for Bob Dornan to stop wasting taxpayers' money, to end this witch-hunt and end the influence that he is trying to use in this House.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO FIX LOOPHOLE PREVENTING USE OF LINE-ITEM VETO

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

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I spent most of my August break back in my district listening to my constituents, and many were pleased, in fact, when the President used for the first time the line-item veto. In fact, many wished that the President had had the authority for the disaster relief bill that we passed earlier this year, and so many other bills in recent years where so many things are tucked away in some of those bills that no one hears about them until after they are enacted.

I support budget reform, and in fact, as part of the Contract with America, we included the line-item veto, which passed this House by a very large margin, to allow the President to have the line-item veto, as well as the 43 other Governors across the country.

Lo and behold, we have discovered a loophole that causes the line-item veto to go away.

I am proud of the bipartisan legislation that we passed here in this House that puts us on a solid fiscal footing and, in fact, balances the budget by the year 2002. We even have a surplus. But, lo and behold, that loophole that we have discovered prevents us from using the line-item veto despite having a \$5½ trillion national debt.

We are introducing legislation to fix this, and I would urge my colleagues to support it.

THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES BORDER PATROL DESERVE BETTER

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

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support and defense of the hard-working men and women of the U.S. Border Patrol. Regrettably, last night on this floor the integrity, professionalism, dedication, and the ability of these fine men and women was attacked.

Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that some in this institution would resort to these kinds of tactics for the sole purpose of political agendas and end-justify-the-means mentality that question the outstanding and dangerous work being done by our Border Patrol agents.

The men and women that comprise our Border Patrol represent the best that this country has to offer, men and women of every description and background, men and women that come from every State in this country and have dedicated themselves to the dangerous job of Federal law enforcement, and while some in this people's House may not appreciate this, I do, and, Mr. Speaker, I speak from personal experience that spans 26½ years. I know how tough their job is, I know how dangerous their job is, and I know how important their job is because I have been there, I have seen it and I have done it.

Those who attack their integrity, their dedication, and their commitment are not only wrong but undermine the morale of a fine agency. The men and women of the U.S. Border Patrol deserve better, the people of this country expect better, and, frankly, those in this institution that attack them know better.

Mr. Speaker, all of us need to support the U.S. Border Patrol.

THOMPSON COMMITTEE CONTINUING PROBE DESPITE HAVING SO MUCH TROUBLE GETTING PEOPLE TO COOPERATE

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, it is becoming clearer with every passing day that one would have to dig to China to get to the bottom of all the campaign finance scandals in this administration. Although, come to think of it, I guess one would actually have to go to China to find all the shady characters who fled the country to escape justice. But even all the tea in China cannot force foreign fundraisers to come to the United States Senate and tell the truth.

While some Democratic Senators are gleeful that the Thompson committee is having trouble getting people to cooperate, those responsible Senators who actually care about performing their constitutional duty to find out the truth about campaign finance crimes that may have been committed will continue to probe this sleazy affair.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents and yours have a right to know if their elected officials really do believe that they are above the law. It is time to get to the bottom of this; it is time to start digging.

IMPROVED ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE ACHIEVED AS A RESULT OF TESTS AND MORE RIGOROUS STANDARDS

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, Democrats want to raise education standards across the country so that students in every State can master the basics of reading and math; and testing, I believe, is an important part of that effort to achieve national standards.

In my home State of New Jersey, we have seen improved academic performances as a result of more rigorous standards. Tests administered to all New Jersey students have been a significant ingredient in my State's efforts to improve student achievement. Education, I believe, and I will stress this, will always be primarily a State and local matter, but there needs to be a partnership with the Federal Government, and I believe the test national standards and Federal dollars made available to local school districts to rebuild crumbling and overcrowded schools should all be part of a national agenda to improve education.

We can work together on the Federal and the State and the local level to achieve excellence in education.

CHEATING IN THE WHITE HOUSE

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