

sent out each year by the Internal Revenue Service are wrong. They are wrong. Yet the IRS has a very unforgiving view when others make mistakes. For example, the IRS once fined a taxpayer \$46,000 for an alleged underpayment of 10 cents.

That is why I have cosponsored the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act: to provide taxpayers new protections and rights to address many of the abuses spotlighted in the Senate hearings. Once we provide more protection for taxpayers, we must then simplify the current system and end the IRS as we presently know it.

It is my goal, it is the Republican goal, to end overtaxation in America. It is my goal to help Americans keep more of the money they earn so they can do more for themselves, for their families, and for their communities.

I ask my colleagues to join with me to make it happen, and I ask Congress to work with us to make sure Washington wastes less of our money and our families are able to keep more of what we earn.

VIETNAM—THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

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

Ms. SANCHEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw the House of Representatives' attention to statements received at a Member's briefing I co-chaired on the human rights situation in Vietnam on September 30, 1997.

This briefing included testimony from experts from international, religious, and human rights' organizations on the social and political state of Vietnam. In addition to myself, the gentlewoman from California, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN, the gentlewoman from Ohio, Ms. MARCY KAPTUR, and the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. TOM DAVIS, were also in attendance to hear the recommendations from these witnesses.

Madam Speaker, I request the statements made at the briefing be submitted for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

This past June, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright visited Vietnam to formally open the U.S. Embassy. The recent establishment of diplomatic relations reflects historic changes of the United States-Vietnamese relations since the end of the Vietnam war in 1975 and the lifting of the embargo in 1994.

I believe that with the normalization of relations between the two countries comes a great responsibility. Now, more than ever before, it is of critical importance we pay careful attention to the progression of developments.

DEMOCRATS SHOULD STOP HELPING WHITE HOUSE OBSTRUCT JUSTICE

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

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

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Madam Speaker, more and more Americans are concerned about the fund-raising scandal going on and the coverup going on over at the White House. In fact, a majority of Americans are now calling for an independent prosecutor. Yet all the Democrats give us is the "they did it, too."

But the New York Times editorial said on July 16, 1997, quote, the White House fundraising scandal cannot be covered up by the standard spin of the "they-did-it-too" or the equally shop worn "whoops-sorry-about-that."

The Detroit News says there is a pattern here. The administration appears to have perfected the art of delay and obstruction. Democrats have been dragooned into doing the downfield blocking and tackling in Congress for the sleaziest White House since U.S. Grant. And videotapes, documents, and witnesses are discovered too late to be examined before congressional hearings. That is the New York Times and the Detroit News.

I ask the Democrats to show moral courage, step forward and stop helping this White House obstruct justice.

NO PRIVATE SCHOOL VOUCHERS

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, last week I visited six schools in Atlanta: Inman Park Preschool, Morningside, Adamsville, Cook Elementary School, Walden Middle School, and Grady High School. What parents, teachers, administrators, and students all told me was we should not allow Republicans to take money away from our public schools and give it to private and religious schools.

Madam Speaker, the American people want strong public schools, not private school vouchers for a privileged few. Nine out of 10 children attend public schools. Each and every one deserves a first-class education. That is why Democrats want to invest in public schools.

What do the Republicans propose? Abolish the Department of Education, divert resources to private and religious schools. And today we consider a sneaky plan that uses the Tax Code to undermine support for public schools.

Madam Speaker, our children deserve better than easy schemes and quick-fix solutions. Stop scheming and invest in public education.

THE EFFECTS OF NAFTA AND FAST-TRACK

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, since NAFTA has begun, Florida agriculture has lost

in excess of \$1 billion; Florida tomato farmers have alone lost \$750 million.

So much for level playing fields and reduced tariffs. According to the O'Conner & Hannan law firm of Washington DC, "For tomatoes, the losses are clearly due to the dumping of Mexican tomatoes in the U.S. market as determined by the Commerce Department. The primary cause of the injuries to Florida agriculture is NAFTA and its ineffectual safeguard provisions."

The Florida Department of Citrus has further informed me, that after 3 years of NAFTA, Florida citrus is still not even allowed into Mexico. How is this possibly free or fair trade?

Congress needs to stand up to this destruction of American industries such as agriculture.

The administration and the proponents of granting renewed fast-track authority have failed to articulate the economic imperative of granting such authority.

Trade deals should be negotiated when possible on a case-by-case basis and given the stature of a formal treaty.

AUTHORIZING USE OF ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL FOR A CEREMONY HONORING LESLIE TOWNES (BOB) HOPE

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Oversight be discharged from further consideration of the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 56) authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony honoring Leslie Townes (Bob) Hope by conferring upon him the status of an honorary veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

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

Ms. KILPATRICK. Madam Speaker, reserving the right to object, will the gentleman from Ohio please explain the resolution?

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. KILPATRICK. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, Bob Hope, of course we all know, has been successful in all the areas of show business, but the Committee on Veterans' Affairs believes that Bob Hope's most important contribution to our American society was entertaining the Nation's troops.

He actually attempted to enlist, in his adopted country, into the service, and he was told that the greatest service he could do for the country was to entertain troops, which he has done since World War II all the way through the Persian Gulf.

He was also cited by the Guinness Book of World Records as the most honored entertainer in the world. But I think what stands out most in the American population's mind in this country is how he put himself in harm's way, although he went with

other entertainers, but led the charge really to boost the morale and to visit with our troops and let them know that America was always behind them.

So, Madam Speaker, this resolution would authorize the use of the rotunda in the Capitol on October 29, 1997, for a ceremony to honor Bob Hope by conferring on him the status of an honorary veteran. And I would note that the status of honorary veteran will be officially conferred upon him by House Joint Resolution 75, and that passed June 3, and in the Senate on September 9, and has been forwarded to the White House.

So Mr. Hope will personally be here on Wednesday, and this will be the use of the rotunda, to honor Bob Hope's commitment to our veterans and who has made our country so great.

□ 1045

Ms. KILPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the explanation from the gentleman from Ohio. I too think Bob Hope is a fine gentleman who has really kept the morale up of many of our veterans and would concur with the resolution.

Madam Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 56

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That the rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on October 29, 1997, for a ceremony to honor Leslie Townes (Bob) Hope for conferring upon him the status of an honorary veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States. Physical preparations for the conduct of the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

The Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, the pending business is the question de novo of agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 364, nays 52, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 521]

YEAS—364

Ackerman	Edwards	Leach
Aderholt	Ehlers	Levin
Allen	Ehrlich	Lewis (CA)
Andrews	Emerson	Lewis (KY)
Archer	Engel	Linder
Armey	Eshoo	Lipinski
Bachus	Etheridge	Livingston
Baessler	Ewing	Lofgren
Baker	Fattah	Lowey
Baldacci	Fawell	Lucas
Ballenger	Fazio	Luther
Barcia	Foley	Maloney (CT)
Barr	Forbes	Manton
Barrett (NE)	Ford	Manzullo
Barrett (WI)	Fowler	Markley
Bartlett	Frank (MA)	Martinez
Barton	Franks (NJ)	Mascara
Bass	Frelinghuysen	Matsui
Bateman	Frost	McCarthy (MO)
Bentsen	Furse	McCarthy (NY)
Bereuter	Galleghy	McCollum
Berman	Ganske	McCrery
Berry	Gejdenson	McGovern
Bilbray	Gekas	McHale
Bilirakis	Gilchrest	McHugh
Bishop	Gillmor	McInnis
Blagojevich	Gilman	McIntyre
Bliley	Goode	McKeon
Blumenauer	Goodlatte	McKinney
Blunt	Goodling	Meehan
Boehlert	Gordon	Meek
Boehner	Goss	Mica
Bonilla	Graham	Millender-McDonald
Boswell	Granger	Miller (FL)
Boucher	Greenwood	Minge
Boyd	Hall (OH)	Mink
Brady	Hall (TX)	Moakley
Brown (FL)	Hamilton	Mollohan
Brown (OH)	Hansen	Moran (VA)
Bryant	Harman	Morella
Bunning	Hastert	Murtha
Burr	Hastings (FL)	Myrick
Burton	Hastings (WA)	Nadler
Buyer	Hayworth	Neal
Callahan	Hefner	Nethercutt
Calvert	Herger	Neumann
Camp	Hill	Ney
Campbell	Hilleary	Northup
Canady	Hinojosa	Norwood
Cannon	Hobson	Nussle
Capps	Hoekstra	Oberstar
Cardin	Holden	Obey
Carson	Hooley	Olver
Castle	Horn	Ortiz
Chabot	Hostettler	Owens
Chambliss	Hoyer	Oxley
Christensen	Hunter	Packard
Clayton	Hutchinson	Pappas
Clement	Hyde	Parker
Coble	Inglis	Pastor
Coburn	Jackson (IL)	Paul
Collins	Jackson-Lee	Paxon
Combest	(TX)	Payne
Condit	Jefferson	Pease
Conyers	Jenkins	Pelosi
Cook	John	Peterson (MN)
Cooksey	Johnson (CT)	Peterson (PA)
Costello	Johnson (WI)	Petri
Cox	Johnson, Sam	Pickering
Coyne	Jones	Pitts
Cramer	Kanjorski	Pomeroy
Crane	Kaptur	Porter
Crapo	Kasich	Portman
Cummings	Kelly	Price (NC)
Cunningham	Kennedy (MA)	Pryce (OH)
Danner	Kennedy (RI)	Quinn
Davis (FL)	Kennelly	Radanovich
Davis (IL)	Kildee	Rahall
Davis (VA)	Kilpatrick	Rangel
Deal	Kim	Redmond
DeGette	Kind (WI)	Regula
Delahunt	King (NY)	Reyes
DeLauro	Kingston	Riggs
DeLay	Klecza	Riley
Dellums	Klink	Rivers
Deutsch	Klug	Rodriguez
Diaz-Balart	Knollenberg	Roemer
Dicks	Kolbe	Rogan
Dingell	LaFalce	Rogers
Doggett	LaHood	Rohrabacher
Dooley	Lampson	Ros-Lehtinen
Doolittle	Lantos	Rothman
Doyle	Largent	Roukema
Dreier	Latham	Roybal-Allard
Duncan	LaTourette	Royce
Dunn	Lazio	

Rush	Smith (OR)	Tiahrt
Ryun	Smith (TX)	Tierney
Sanchez	Smith, Adam	Torres
Sanders	Smith, Linda	Towns
Sandlin	Snowbarger	Traficant
Sanford	Snyder	Turner
Sawyer	Solomon	Upton
Saxton	Spence	Walsh
Scarborough	Spratt	Wamp
Schaefer, Dan	Stabenow	Watkins
Scott	Stark	Watt (NC)
Sensenbrenner	Stearns	Watts (OK)
Serrano	Stenholm	Waxman
Sessions	Stokes	Weldon (FL)
Shadegg	Strickland	Weldon (PA)
Shaw	Stump	Wexler
Shays	Sununu	Weygand
Sherman	Talent	White
Shimkus	Tanner	Whitfield
Shuster	Tauscher	Wise
Sisisky	Tauzin	Wolf
Skaggs	Taylor (NC)	Woolsey
Skeen	Thomas	Wynn
Skelton	Thornberry	Yates
Smith (MI)	Thune	Young (AK)
Smith (NJ)	Thurman	Young (FL)

NAYS—52

Abercrombie	Gutierrez	Pombo
Becerra	Gutknecht	Poshard
Borski	Hefley	Ramstad
Chenoweth	Hilliard	Sabo
Clay	Hinchey	Salmon
Clyburn	Hulshof	Schaffer, Bob
DeFazio	Johnson, E. B.	Slaughter
Dickey	Kucinich	Stupak
English	Lewis (GA)	Taylor (MS)
Ensign	LoBiondo	Thompson
Evans	Maloney (NY)	Velazquez
Everett	McDermott	Vento
Farr	Menendez	Visclosky
Filner	Miller (CA)	Waters
Fox	Moran (KS)	Weller
Gephardt	Pallone	Wicker
Gibbons	Pascrell	
Green	Pickett	

NOT VOTING—17

Bonior	Foglietta	McNulty
Bono	Gonzalez	Metcalf
Brown (CA)	Houghton	Schiff
Cubin	Istook	Schumer
Dixon	McDade	Souder
Flake	McIntosh	

□ 1107

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a joint resolution of the House of the following title:

H.J. Res. 97. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1998, and for other purposes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2646, EDUCATION SAVINGS ACT FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 274 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 274

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 2646) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free expenditures from education individual