

[Mr. FORD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. CLAYTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the Virgin Islands [Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

STOP 245(I)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. BILBRAY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I am here to address an item that has not been discussed very much at all here on the House floor this year, but something that was discussed extensively last year with the passage of the Immigration Reform Act. This item will be considered under the Commerce, Justice, and State conference report very soon.

This item is called 245(I), the notorious illegal alien amnesty program. It is a program that allows that somebody who has violated our immigration laws can pay \$1,000 as a payment to be exempted from the immigration laws of the United States. This 245(I) allows those who have broken our laws to gain special status that those who are waiting patiently to immigrate into our country do not have access to.

245(I) means that the people who have played by the rules are being punished and that those who have broken the rules are now going to be rewarded.

Mr. Speaker, I think there was one very clear message that we tried to articulate in the Immigration Reform Act of 1997, and that was that it was unfair to punish those who played by the rules and to reward those who broke the rules. And in fact that bill, the immigration reform bill, which was aimed at ending these types of policies, was passed by an overwhelming majority, by 320 votes in this House.

Democrat and Republican joined together to tell the American people that we were going to stop the absurd process of rewarding illegal immigration. And also those 230 Members of Congress voted together here in this House to send a message not just to America but to the world that the days of rewarding people to come into this country illegally was going to end; and to tell everybody in the world that if they want to come to this country, then

come here legally. If they play by the rules, then we will reward them. Break the rules, and they will not be rewarded.

Well, 245(I), Mr. Speaker, continues to reward those who have broken the law and continues to punish those who have played by the rules.

Now, there is an action in the other body that discusses the idea of extending this again another 4 years. And this was a program that was snuck in 3 years ago and was only supposed to be around for 3 years.

Let me remind my colleagues that there are 3,000,500 people waiting patiently to immigrate legally. They do not have the chance to pay \$1,000 and get on the fast track, because they have played by the rules. The fact is there is a million people in this country today that have been identified by the immigration department that are potentially eligible to buy into this amnesty program with \$1,000.

Now, originally, when this bill was passed and this amnesty program was put in, it was estimated that only 10,000 people would take advantage of this program, and they said that only 10,000 would be initiated. The fact is 400,000 have applied, Mr. Speaker, 400,000 people that have said we want to buy our way out of our illegal status and pay a bribe to the U.S. Government so that they will forgive us for being illegal.

The fact is, Mr. Speaker, this number has gotten so big that over \$200 million is acquired by the United States from this bribe, what we call in my neighborhood "mordida," and it is a bribe to get the Government to look the other way.

Now, there are those who will say we have to keep this program now because we are making over \$200 million, and that somehow we are going to make benefits off of this. Let me remind my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, that a lot of these individuals who are paying the \$1,000 to acquire this legal status are doing so to qualify to receive public assistance benefits from the Federal Government for their children and so that they can then get a check. The fact is the \$1,000 will be recouped by many of these individuals if they have minor children who were born here in the United States while they were illegally in this country.

Now, I think it is quite unfair that there are those 3½ million people waiting patiently to immigrate who are not offered this kind of option. Their children are not given automatic citizenship, their children are not offered automatic welfare benefits, and they, by paying \$1,000, do not automatically qualify for public assistance and welfare in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I think that it is time that this Congress has the guts to stand up again, like it did last year, saying that the days of rewarding illegal immigration are over with, the days of punishing those who played by the rules are over with. Mr. Speaker, I

am asking for this body to publicly discuss the fact that if 320 Members said it was time to end this program a year ago, why is the Senate and why is this House even considering extending this program?

I think it is time the American people called every one of their Congressmen and said stop the alien amnesty program, stop 245(I), and let us start treating people fairly and rewarding them for playing by the rules.

STOP 245(I)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. ROHRABACHER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend my colleague, the gentleman from California [Mr. BILBRAY], for the remarks he just made and for the energy that he has put into this effort to bring our borders under control and to prevent hundreds of millions, even billions of dollars from being spent on people who have come to this country illegally.

I think it is incumbent on those of us who have been very active in this effort to prevent illegal immigration into the United States, to express our appreciation for the fact that legal immigration has done great things for the United States of America.

I know I am speaking for my colleague, the gentleman from California, [Mr. BRIAN BILBRAY], and I know I am speaking for myself and most of us, I think all of us who have been active on this issue in the House of Representatives. Legal immigration has served our country well. We are all immigrants, except perhaps for the American Indians who met us at our shores.

The people who have come here legally, however, are screened so that they are not carrying diseases, they are screened so that they can take care of themselves, so that they are not criminals, so that they are not people who would be involved in acts of terrorism. We have, in fact, the most generous legal immigration system in the world where we screen out people who will not be taking care of themselves or are not healthy or pose a threat to our society, and let other people come to our society who will be producing wealth and become productive members of our society.

We can be proud that the United States of America has a legal immigration system that permits more legal immigration into our society than all the other societies in the world combined. That is a wonderful thing, and we have benefitted from that. But what we have not benefitted from is a flood of illegal immigration in the last 10 years that is overwhelming many of the social systems that we put in place for our people.

In California we find our education system breaking down. Our young people's test scores are going down, down,

down, even as we pump more money into the system. They go in and they say the class size is too large. And then we find out a third of the members of the class are illegal alien children.

In California the health care system is breaking down, and those children in our school system are confronted with diseases that we thought we had knocked out years ago but perhaps are being brought in by illegal people from South America someplace.

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These are things we have got to care about, not because we do not like the people who are illegally coming into our country but because we care about our own citizens. The question the American people should be asking of their elected representatives, the question, the main question should be who do you care about, who are you representing. Are you representing some cockamamie liberal idea that they are going to share the wealth with everybody?

I was in a negotiation with someone yesterday who was literally talking about an amnesty program, another amnesty program for the 5 million illegal aliens who are in our system. And also during the discussion we talked about the people who are here illegally perhaps bringing their grandparents over, being able to bring their grandparents over. I just could not understand how anyone could suggest that we bring people over from overseas who are senior citizens, who have never paid a cent into our system, who would then partake in the social benefit packages that our own seniors have paid for all of their lives. They have worked all of their lives to build a little security for themselves, and then we are going to betray them by permitting people to come in great masses from overseas and partake out of the bowl until the bowl is dry, especially when for so long our own citizens have been contributing to that thing, thinking they would be helped by that when they became seniors.

Who are we representing? Who are we watching out for? If our people are not watching out for the well-being of the people of the United States, they should not be in the House of Representatives. We see this time and time again where there is a concept of a global concept here, that it is going to guide our decisions, what is best for the world or best for those seniors overseas.

I have a heart. I care for these good people who would like to emigrate here illegally. I have a heart for people who are trying to improve their economy overseas. But we cannot have policies that are aimed at helping others at the expense of our own people. It should be a fundamental principle. If we can give and help provide and support people who are building free societies and democracies overseas, their societies will progress, they will have prosperity, they can take care of themselves rather

than having their people having to emigrate and flood into the United States.

We have a great challenge ahead of us, to be the leader of a free world and to stand for decency. The first and most important responsibility we have in meeting that challenge is to watch out for the interests of the people of the United States of America.

ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN ORGANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALSH). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Washington, Mrs. LINDA SMITH, is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LINDA SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, last Friday Representative PELOSI, Representative WOLF, and myself, LINDA SMITH, asked the Attorney General, Janet Reno, to launch a formal inquiry and prosecute all violators of U.S. laws who have illegally trafficked in human organs.

A little over a week ago, there was a documentary shown by ABC, and it showed footage of men and women of Asian descent in China lined up in rows, with one person holding them with their hands behind their back and another person with a rifle to their head. You watched then a military leader, I do not know what the rank, walk behind them and reposition the gun. It was so that the execution made sure that the organs were left in the best order for the person that was in the red army, the People's Liberation Army hospital run by the military just a short ways away, ready for the kidneys from these executed prisoners. It went on to show that this was a common practice, as testified by doctors in the United States and China. People that have been involved, it is reported that there are nearly 4,000 of them at least last year just for the harvesting, as they call it, of their kidneys.

If these allegations are true, we are talking about men and women being treated like animals, no more than like cattle being lined up to be used for the benefit of someone else. I believe America is too good for this, but they are way too good for participating in it, because something more was revealed. I have known this for some time. Some of the tapes that were delivered to the administration a year ago asking them to defend, to do something, to speak out showed that Americans were involved. The tape goes on, though, and shows some things new, and it shows that the Chinese government or folks from China have been coming in on student visas and that they are actually the agents that market for \$5,000 down a prisoner's vital organ. In this case it was kidneys. They say, though, that they can match anybody, because they have thousands, maybe millions of people, of whatever match and they can take blood type and tissue type and make sure that the rejection is low, because they have so

many specimens to draw from in their prisons.

The reports we get from American Amnesty and other groups is that the increase in the arrests is growing at a great rate in China for folks that just get together to pray in a church, or are of the wrong religion, not okayed by the government, coming together, like possibly Moslem in some cases, Catholic, and that this is what they fill their prisons with. So this is not people even who are hardened criminals.

We have asked the Attorney General to go through all the American laws. We have found so far it is against the law to traffic in organs and to get consideration from them. So the people involved and the corporations that set up the dialysis and stayed involved and corporate heads who have testified to this, we have asked them to be deposed. We have asked the people that are selling, that we have identified and given the names and the visa numbers to the FBI, to be retained and not allowed to leave the country. But more than that, we have asked the President next week when he hosts a party for the President of China to ask him to put a stop to this atrocity carried off by his military in modern hospitals set up by American equipment, dialysis corporations. We need our President to speak out, because that has what has been good about America for many years. Often not foreign policy that is passed by Congress, but a leadership that speaks out and says we have a balanced approach to dealing with other countries. I plead with the President tonight to please speak out for people around the world, and I plead for this Congress to pass a resolution in the next few days, tomorrow, next week that calls for a united voice against this practice.

SOCIAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. SMITH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today in Budget Committee, we heard testimony about what we might do if there were more revenues coming into the Federal government than required under the existing caps for expenditures; in other words, if we reached a surplus sometime next year. That looks like it might be a possibility. We heard testimony that some of that money should go for infrastructure and more money for roads. We heard testimony that some of that money should go for tax cuts. We heard testimony that maybe it should simply go towards reducing the debt of this country that is now at \$5.3 trillion.

I would like to put in a suggestion, Mr. Speaker, that we use some of this money to start paying back the Social Security trust fund and start dealing with the huge unfunded liability that we are now faced with with this program of Social Security.