

charge a 10-percent copayment fee on home health care to some of the weakest and most vulnerable people in this country, and do not force seniors to pay more out-of-pocket for their health care costs.

I urge all Members of this body to join us.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, military readiness is the kind of thing that requires long-term planning and long-term commitment. Decisions made today about our military forces do not show up until years down the road. That is why it is easy for shortsighted or politically motivated leaders to shortchange our military for a few years because future generations will have to pay the price.

Similarly, the defense buildup that President Reagan made his top priority paid huge dividends only after he left office. The Soviet Union fell shortly after he left, and President George Bush reaped the benefits of our extraordinary military prowess in the Gulf War in 1991.

In my judgment, and in the opinion of many military experts, this administration has shortchanged our military systematically over the past 6 years. Our commitments grow, but the resources are just not there to meet them.

This House will soon have the opportunity to take action to change this course. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the DOD authorization bill.

SCHOOL SAFETY AND GUN VIOLENCE

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, how much longer do families have to live in fear before Congress acts? How many more memorials must our Nation have before Congress passes sensible gun control? Those are the questions.

It appears that the answer is that some politicians would rather have the National Rifle Association invest in them than for our Congress to invest in our children's future, investing with a sensible gun control measure.

Millions of families across the Nation agree that we need to tighten gun control laws. So it is time for the House to act. The Senate has done the right thing. Now the House must do the same. If that means coming to the floor every day demanding that the Republican leadership bring debate on child safety locks, on background checks at gun shows, and a prohibition on the import of large magazines, so be it, we are going to do it.

We must pass gun safety legislation, we must make our schools safe, and we must do it now.

CHINA HAS AMERICAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY

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

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I suspect I am one of the few individuals in this House who has worked at a nuclear weapons laboratory. I did this for one summer while I was a graduate student at Berkeley at the University of California. And I found it to be a very good experience to work at a nuclear weapons laboratory, even though my work was primarily on unclassified science.

What impressed me is that the individuals that worked at that laboratory were extremely security conscious and they were very concerned about any leaks of information about nuclear weapons. We seem to have lost that. We have lost that culture ever since the Berlin Wall fell.

But what is dismaying to me is the reaction of the White House to the discovery that the Chinese have managed to obtain information about our nuclear weapons. The spin doctors have gone to work full-time. The President's men seem to be more concerned with blaming the Bush and Reagan administration than with taking responsibility and trying to correct the problem as they should be doing.

□ 1030

It is the mark of strong individuals to take responsibility for the mistakes that they have made and to correct them, and I expect no less of the President and his aides. We do have leaks, we have to cure them, and it is absolutely essential that those individuals who are responsible take responsibility, correct the problem, and solve it.

SUPPORT GUN CRIME PROSECUTION ACT

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

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today along with the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) and the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) and other cosponsors, I introduce a bill that will put at least one Federal prosecutor in every State.

There is no question that our Nation is facing a growing scourge of gun violence that is holding an increasing number of our communities under siege. Crimes committed with firearms are among the most heinous and should be prosecuted as quickly and forcefully as possible.

While the Federal government has in the past approached the problem of gun violence by passing new Federal laws

and putting more cops on the beat, there is nothing that can be done to attack the problem if our prosecutors do not have the resources they need to enforce existing laws. Simply put, we must give them the resources they need to fully enforce existing gun laws. That is why we have introduced the Gun Crime Prosecution Act of 1999.

This legislation will give every United States Attorney for each judicial district an additional Assistant U.S. Attorney position whose sole purpose would be the prosecution of crimes committed with a firearm. Specifically, each new prosecutor position would give priority to violent crimes and crimes committed by felons by committing a full-time position within the United States Attorney's office to prosecuting gun crimes. We will be giving our prosecutors the tools they need to enforce the laws that already exist in the statute.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this bill.

A BETTER WAY

(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 neighbor from New Mexico offer a point which I think cannot be stated enough. You see, it is not enough to pass laws in Congress. The fact is, prosecutors and those who would uphold the law need to enforce existing laws and need to obey existing laws.

Mr. Speaker, that is one of the things I heard time and again visiting with my constituents in the Sixth Congressional District of Arizona. I know that different Members of this body spent their district work periods in different ways. For example, the minority leader of this body, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), spent time in Philadelphia bragging about how my friends on the left might take control of this institution in the year 2000.

Here is what the minority leader said:

"You've got to have a combination of taking it out of the defense budget and raising revenue. We can argue about how to do that. We can close loopholes or even raise taxes to do it."

There is the candor attack, the honesty episode from the minority leader. Cut defense and raise taxes. That is their prescription for the future? Mr. Speaker, there is a better way.

PLAUDITS TO COX COMMITTEE

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

Mr. COOKSEY. Mr. Speaker, I think every single Member of this body owes a debt of gratitude to the gentleman from California (Mr. Cox) my Republican colleague. The gentleman from

California headed the Select Committee on China and has been an outstanding example of even temperament, fair-mindedness and bipartisanship in his handling of the House investigation of Chinese espionage at our nuclear laboratories.

Although there is considerable evidence that the administration has been selectively leaking the most sensational stories to the New York Times, the Cox Committee has been a tomb. No one has accused Chairman COX or anyone on his staff of leaking information about his long-awaited report, an extraordinary achievement in Washington.

Thus far, public statements by the gentleman from California have been judicious and moderate and he has bent over backwards not to be partisan, even though most of the espionage occurred during the periods 1994 and 1995. Instead, he has focused on what can be done about the problems at our Energy Department laboratories.

CHRIS COX, well done. The American people have benefitted greatly from your outstanding work on this extremely important issue.

COMMENTS ON COX COMMITTEE

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, recently Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson stated, "I can assure the American people that their nuclear secrets are now safe at the labs." Somehow I do not think the American people believe him.

In fact, the unanimous conclusion of the Cox Committee is also at odds with the Secretary's reassurance. The committee concludes that "such thefts almost certainly continue to the present day."

I am quite distressed at the reaction of the administration's spokesmen who even to this very day are downplaying the significance of the Cox report finding. And, of course, they are changing the subject.

The big news is not that our nuclear secrets were stolen. The incomprehensible news is what this administration has done about it when it was discovered in 1995 that the crown jewel of our nuclear arsenal, the W-88, was stolen by the Communist Chinese.

No one told the President.

The Justice Department denied the FBI's request for a wiretap on the clear and obvious suspect.

The issue, my colleagues, is what was done in 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHAW). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question de novo of the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. 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 355, nays 46, answered "present" 1, not voting 31, as follows:

[Roll No. 170]

YEAS—355

Abercrombie	Davis (IL)	Hostettler
Ackerman	Davis (VA)	Houghton
Allen	Deal	Hoyer
Andrews	DeGette	Hulshof
Archer	Delahunt	Hunter
Armey	DeLauro	Hyde
Bachus	DeLay	Inslee
Baird	DeMint	Isakson
Baker	Deutsch	Istook
Baldacci	Dickey	Jackson (IL)
Baldwin	Dicks	Jackson-Lee
Ballenger	Dixon	(TX)
Barcia	Doggett	Jefferson
Barr	Dooley	Jenkins
Barrett (NE)	Doolittle	Johnson (CT)
Barrett (WI)	Doyle	Johnson, E. B.
Bartlett	Dreier	Johnson, Sam
Barton	Duncan	Jones (NC)
Bass	Dunn	Jones (OH)
Bateman	Edwards	Kanjorski
Becerra	Ehlers	Kaptur
Bentsen	Ehrlich	Kasich
Bereuter	Emerson	Kelly
Berkley	Engel	Kennedy
Berman	Eshoo	Kildee
Berry	Evans	Kind (WI)
Biggert	Everett	King (NY)
Bilirakis	Ewing	Klink
Bishop	Farr	Knollenberg
Blagojevich	Fattah	Kolbe
Bliley	Fletcher	Kuykendall
Blumenauer	Foley	LaHood
Blunt	Forbes	Lampson
Boehlert	Ford	Lantos
Boehner	Fossella	Largent
Bonilla	Fowler	Larson
Bonior	Frank (MA)	Latham
Bono	Franks (NJ)	LaTourette
Boswell	Frelinghuysen	Lazio
Boyd	Gallegly	Leach
Brady (PA)	Ganske	Levin
Brady (TX)	Gejdenson	Lewis (CA)
Bryant	Gekas	Lewis (KY)
Burr	Gilchrest	Lofgren
Burton	Gillmor	Lowey
Buyer	Gilman	Lucas (KY)
Callahan	Gonzalez	Lucas (OK)
Calvert	Goode	Luther
Camp	Goodlatte	Maloney (CT)
Campbell	Goodling	Maloney (NY)
Canady	Gordon	Manzulio
Capps	Goss	Markey
Capuano	Graham	Mascara
Cardin	Granger	Matsui
Carson	Green (WI)	McCarthy (MO)
Castle	Greenwood	McCarthy (NY)
Chabot	Hall (OH)	McCrery
Chambliss	Hall (TX)	McDermott
Clayton	Hansen	McGovern
Clement	Hastings (WA)	McHugh
Clyburn	Hayes	McInnis
Coble	Hayworth	McIntosh
Collins	Herger	McIntyre
Combest	Hill (IN)	McKeon
Condit	Hill (MT)	McKinney
Conyers	Hilleary	McNulty
Cook	Hinchey	Meehan
Cooksey	Hinojosa	Meek (FL)
Cox	Hobson	Meeks (NY)
Cramer	Hoeffel	Menendez
Crowley	Hoekstra	Metcalf
Cubin	Holden	Mica
Cummings	Holt	Millender-
Cunningham	Hooley	McDonald
Davis (FL)	Horn	Miller (FL)

Miller, Gary	Reyes	Stabenow
Miller, George	Reynolds	Stark
Minge	Rivers	Stearns
Mink	Rodriguez	Stenholm
Moakley	Roemer	Strickland
Mollohan	Rogan	Stump
Moore	Rogers	Sununu
Moran (VA)	Ros-Lehtinen	Talent
Morella	Rothman	Tauscher
Murtha	Roukema	Tauzin
Myrick	Roybal-Allard	Taylor (NC)
Nadler	Royce	Terry
Napolitano	Ryan (WI)	Thomas
Neal	Ryun (KS)	Thornberry
Nethercutt	Salmon	Thune
Ney	Sanchez	Thurman
Northup	Sandlin	Tierney
Norwood	Sanford	Toomey
Nussle	Sawyer	Towns
Olver	Saxton	Traficant
Ortiz	Scott	Turner
Ose	Sensenbrenner	Udall (CO)
Owens	Serrano	Upton
Oxley	Sessions	Velazquez
Packard	Shadeegg	Walden
Pascrell	Shaw	Walsh
Paul	Shays	Wamp
Payne	Sherman	Watkins
Pease	Sherwood	Watt (NC)
Pelosi	Shimkus	Watts (OK)
Peterson (PA)	Shows	Waxman
Petri	Shuster	Weiner
Phelps	Simpson	Weldon (FL)
Pickering	Sisisky	Weldon (PA)
Pitts	Skeen	Wexler
Pomeroy	Skelton	Weygand
Porter	Slaughter	Whitfield
Portman	Smith (NJ)	Wicker
Price (NC)	Smith (TX)	Wilson
Pryce (OH)	Smith (WA)	Wolf
Quinn	Snyder	Woolsey
Radanovich	Souder	Wu
Rahall	Spence	Wynn
Regula	Spratt	Young (FL)

NAYS—46

Aderholt	Gutknecht	Ramstad
Bilbray	Hastings (FL)	Riley
Borski	Hefley	Sabo
Brown (FL)	Hilliard	Stupak
Brown (OH)	Hutchinson	Sweeney
Clay	Kucinich	Tancred
Costello	LaFalce	Tanner
Crane	Lewis (GA)	Taylor (MS)
DeFazio	LoBiondo	Thompson (CA)
English	Martinez	Thompson (MS)
Etheridge	Moran (KS)	Udall (NM)
Filner	Oberstar	Vento
Gephardt	Pallone	Visclosky
Gibbons	Pastor	Weller
Green (TX)	Peterson (MN)	
Gutierrez	Pombo	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Scarborough

NOT VOTING—31

Boucher	Kilpatrick	Rush
Brown (CA)	Kingston	Sanders
Cannon	Klecza	Schaffer
Chenoweth	Lee	Schakowsky
Coburn	Linder	Smith (MI)
Coyne	Lipinski	Tiahrt
Danner	McCollum	Waters
Diaz-Balart	Obey	Wise
Dingell	Pickett	Young (AK)
Frost	Rangel	
John	Rohrabacher	

□ 1056

So the journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 170, I was unavoidably absent from the Journal vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives: