

Let me introduce to my colleagues Michelle and Shad Hallihan, public school teachers from Joliet, Illinois. They suffer the marriage tax penalty. Twenty-one million married working couples pay an average \$1,400 more in higher taxes just because they are married.

Now, \$1,400 in Joliet, Illinois, where Shad and Michelle live, is one year's tuition at Joliet Junior College. It is 3 months of day-care at a local child care center. It is also several months' worth of car payments.

This Republican Congress believes we should eliminate the marriage tax penalty. We passed legislation as part of the Financial Freedom Act, our tax cut, to eliminate the marriage tax penalty for a majority of those who suffer it, people like Michelle and Shad Hallihan.

My colleagues, the question is will the President join with us? Does he want to spend the money here in Washington, or does he want to eliminate the marriage tax penalty?

Mr. President, sign the tax cut. Let us eliminate the marriage tax penalty for Michelle and Shad Hallihan.

HOW MANY MORE CHILDREN'S LIVES WILL END BY GUNFIRE?

(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, how many more children's lives will be ended by gunfire? How many more tears will parents shed?

□ 1015

Mr. Speaker, it is time to act. We must pass gun safety legislation now.

Mr. Speaker, I am here to continue the roll of names of children who have been killed by gunfire since Columbine:

Dominic E. Johnson, age 16, killed by gunfire on June 1, 1999, St. Louis, Missouri;

A.J. Flores, age 13, killed by gunfire on June 2, 1999, Grand Prairie, Texas;

William Floyd, age 18, killed by gunfire on June 2, 1999, Washington, D.C.;

Ricky Salizar, age 12, killed by gunfire on June 2, 1999, Roswell, New Mexico;

Rodney Nelson, age 17, killed by gunfire on June 3, 1999, Detroit, Michigan.

DEFEAT H.R. 1402, CONSOLIDATION OF MILK MARKETING ORDERS

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, for 62 years dairy farmers in the upper Midwest have been placed at a competitive disadvantage. For 62 years we have received less for our milk simply because we are closer to Eau Claire, Wisconsin. No other product in America is priced based on where it comes from and what it goes into, only milk.

In response to this, a couple of years ago Congress authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to come up with modest reforms. Dairy farmers have spoken. They voted in a plebiscite to endorse Secretary Glickman's modest proposal.

Mr. Speaker, out in the Midwest we have an expression: A deal is a deal; and a bargain is a bargain.

The farmers have spoken, but unfortunately we are going to have a great debate today to undo those modest reforms.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please as we listen to this debate today, we should vote our consciences, not the special interests, defeat H.R. 1402.

THIS CONGRESS WILL NOT PASS REAL GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I stand here to offer the names of dead children, the names of children who were killed by guns since Columbine. I represent the mothers whose tears will not dry and the fathers who have broken hearts because of the loss of their children because this Congress will not pass real gun safety reform.

So this morning, Mr. Speaker, I am here to continue the roll of our dead children:

Robert J. Prough, age 13, killed by gunfire on June 4, 1999, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin;

Maurice Jiles, age 18, killed by gunfire on June 5, 1999, Gary, Indiana;

Joseph Sweeney, age 18, killed by gunfire on June 5, 1999, Washington, D.C.;

Lawanza Robinson, age 18, killed by gunfire on June 16, 1999, Detroit, Michigan;

Blaine Reeves, age 15, killed by gunfire on June 9, 1999, Atlanta, Georgia;

Raphael Rivera, age 14, killed by gunfire on June 10, 1999, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania;

Shannon Smith, age 14, killed by gunfire on June 14, 1999, Phoenix, Arizona;

Brandon Williams, age 3, killed by gunfire on June 15, 1999, Hollywood, Florida.

PORKER OF THE WEEK AWARD

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

Mr. HEFLEY. A study from the General Accounting Office reveals that President Clinton's trips last year to Africa, China, and Chile cost more than \$72 million. The President's six-nation tour of Africa required advanced, 10 separate advance, trips to arrange the itinerary, 1300 military and civilian officials, more than 200 White House aides, 13 helicopters and enough equipment to require 98 air cargo missions, all at a cost of \$43 million. A 10-day

trip to China costs nearly \$19 million, and a 4-day regional summit in Chile had a \$10.8 million price tag. Of the 72.1 million total for these three trips, 84 percent was charged to the Defense Department.

At a time when Bill Clinton is gutting defense budgets and asking for military personnel to do more with less it is offensive that he draws tens of millions of dollars for presidential trips that yield very little. Instead of perpetuating the 13-year downward defense spending cycle this administration has continually promoted, Clinton should build up America's military that he so readily uses.

Does not it appear excessive to pin \$72 million on three trips billed as goodwill tours? Bill Clinton gets my "Porker of the Week Award."

WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THERE WOULD EVER BE A CONGRESS LIKE THIS ONE?

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, who would have thought that our country would ever see so much gun carnage? Who would have thought that the killings would spread from districts like mine to districts of all my colleagues? Who would have thought there would ever be a Congress like this one who would have done nothing about the killing of children like those whose names I read killed since Columbine?

Lee Martindale, age 14, killed by gunfire on June 17, 1999, St. Louis, Missouri;

Roshon Hollinger, age 5, killed by gunfire on June 20, 1999, Atlanta, Georgia;

Darryl Hall, age 13, killed by gunfire on June 22, 1999, Jacksonville, Florida; Khari Bartigan, age 18, killed by gunfire on June 23, 1999, Boston, Massachusetts;

Deslond Glenn, age 17, killed by gunfire on June 24, 1999, Fort Worth, Texas;

Fred Warren, age 18, killed by gunfire on June 25, 1999, Miami-Dade County, Florida;

Chau Tran, age 17, killed by gunfire on June 26, 1999, Lansing Michigan;

Richard Rogers, age 16, killed by gunfire on June 29, 1999, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

PUTTING EVERYDAY AMERICANS AHEAD OF BIG GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, government confiscates too much money from the American family. In my view, the Republican tax relief package currently sitting on the President's desk improves the fairness of the Tax Code.

For example, it reduces the marriage tax penalty which seems to me an obvious step in the right direction. It also

gets rid of the estate tax, or as it is commonly known, the death tax. It will also make it easier for people to keep the family farm or the family business when an owner dies. It also makes it easier for people to obtain health insurance, a measure that will make a real difference in the lives of millions. It will also make it easier for families to save for their children's education, certainly something that should warm the hearts of those who wanted greater fairness in a tax code.

The Tax Code is unfair, but the President has threatened to veto our tax relief package maybe even today. I hope he will reconsider, Mr. Speaker, and put the everyday Americans ahead of big government.

WHILE REPUBLICANS ARE TAKING CARE OF BILLIONAIRES, WHO IS TAKING CARE OF OUR CHILDREN?

(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, there are other ways to take care of our children as well as gun control. The Republicans have tried for the past month to sell their \$792 billion tax package to the American people, but American people are smarter than that. They know that the Republican tax plan is designed mainly to take care of billionaires. What American people want to know is: Who is taking care of our children?

They also know that our Republican colleagues are not taking care of our children. Our children do not need tax breaks for the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans, they do not need corporate tax breaks. Our children need the surplus invested in their future by protecting Medicare, Social Security, and paying down our national debt. They also need gun control for their safety.

So I ask my Republican colleagues, while they are taking care of billionaires, who is taking care of our children?

THEY TALK ABOUT GUN CONTROL BUT CONSISTENTLY REFUSE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT CRIME CONTROL

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

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, first I want to say to my friends on the other side of the aisle who have been reading a list of names: I think that is entirely appropriate that we remember the names of children who died by gun violence at the hands of criminals. But that tells part of the story. Perhaps it would be appropriate today if we also read the names of liberals in this Chamber who have consistently voted against building more prisons to house violent criminals; the names of liberals

who consistently vote against tough-on-crime measures, the names of liberals who today support a President of the United States who grants clemency to terrorists.

We ought to read the names of innocent victims who have defended themselves against gun violence over the years. Let us read the names of women who have defended themselves against rape, or defended children in their home. Let us remember the names of the Founding Fathers who intended every law-abiding American to have that right of defense against gun violence. Let us hold people accountable for illegal actions, and let us hold politicians accountable that talk about gun control out of one side of their mouth, then consistently refuse to do anything about crime control.

MOO DOO ECONOMICS

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

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce today the creation of a new Federal program that will subsidize aqua farmers that raise lobsters to sell to consumers, and the amount of the subsidy will depend on the distance these lobster farmers are from Boston and Maine. Sound silly and ridiculous? Well, it is of course, but welcome to the world of our Federal dairy policy. Milk is the only product produced in this country that faces price discrimination based on where it happens to be produced and what it is used for, and that distance is based on a city in the heart of my congressional district, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

But today, Members of Congress have the ability to allow reform, much needed, long overdue reform, of that antiquated, depression-era policy to go forward by voting no on 1402 and saying good-bye finally to the "old moo-doo" economics that we have been operating under since the great depression.

AMERICANS WANT THEIR CHANGE BACK

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, recently I was in Wichita, Kansas, at a fast food restaurant, and the person in line ahead of me ordered \$4 worth of food. He handed over a \$5 bill to the cashier, and they expected their change back, as would every American. They overpaid their food order, and they expected their change.

Mr. Speaker, America has overpaid the cost of government, and they expect their change. What the Republicans have done is pay for the cost of the Federal Government, lock up all Social Security payments, protect Medicare payments, pay down the publicly-held debt, and after we have spent

all that money and set aside all that money we still have overpaid the cost of government.

Mr. Speaker, America deserves their change back, and that is exactly what our tax relief package does. It gives America back their change.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the President will not veto Americans right to get their change back, from their overpaid bill.

MORE TAX RELIEF FOR THE RICH

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

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the President's veto of the Republican tax proposal because it is a disgrace.

We hear the Republicans come up and say we want tax relief for Americans, but when we look at the facts and when we go behind the rhetoric, what we find is that this is more tax relief for the rich. Over 60 percent of the benefits in this tax package go not to the average American, not to the school teachers and the policemen, but they go to the very wealthy. They go to the people who are already doing very well in this society, the people who are making a killing on the stock market. The 20 percent of the wealthiest Americans in this country will get the lion's share of the benefits. That is not right.

We will hear my Republican colleagues talk about the marriage penalty, and we should not penalize married couples. Mr. Speaker, I agree with that, but what about the tax relief for the rich and the estate tax? Only 2 percent of Americans pay estate taxes, the wealthiest 2 percent in America. They have to have an estate over a million dollars in order to get estate tax relief, and that is who they want to give a tax break to.

Look further. What do we find? More special interest tax breaks throughout this \$800 billion monstrosity.

We can have reasonable tax relief, but we should pay down the debt, improve Medicare, provide prescription drugs, and invest in education not give more tax relief for the rich.

□ 1030

ILLEGAL DRUGS SHOULD REMAIN ILLEGAL, EVEN IN OUR NATION'S CAPITAL

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

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, some are urging President Clinton to veto the fiscal year 2000 D.C. appropriations bill, not because it spends too little, not because it spends too much, but, get this, because it simply contains a provision that says the District of Columbia can take no steps to legalize mind-altering drugs.