

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, we have a grave problem in our country today: illegal pornography and obscenity. It is rampant in our society. It is readily available to all our children on the Internet, and the health and safety of our children are at risk.

Under the Reagan and Bush administrations, the Department of Justice successfully and aggressively prosecuted illegal pornographers. They rarely lost any of the hundreds of cases brought to court. In one 2-year span, they successfully prosecuted over 200 obscenity cases.

Since President Clinton took office, prosecution of illegal pornographers and obscenity has all but ceased. Prosecutions are down 75 percent.

In 1997, there were only 6 prosecutions of illegal pornographers by all 93 U.S. attorneys. In March 1998, the Adult Video News Magazine, the trade magazine for the porn industry, announced it is a great time to be an adult retailer.

This lack of prosecution has sent a clear message to the makers of illegal pornography and illegal obscenity that it is okay to make and distribute such material. Under the Clinton administration they will not even be prosecuted for their crimes.

It is time for the Clinton administration to get to work and enforce existing anti-obscenity laws.

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BREAST AND CERVICAL TREATMENT ACT COMING TO THE FLOOR BEFORE MOTHER'S DAY

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, it has been a full 5 months since the Breast and Cervical Treatment Act was passed unanimously out of the Committee on Commerce. This life-saving bill currently has 289 cosponsors and enjoys strong bipartisan support.

Mother's Day is approaching. What better gift for mothers and grandmothers around this country than to provide treatment for breast and cervical cancer to underserved women?

I learned today that the House leadership has agreed to move H.R. 1070 before Mother's Day. I applaud this decision and urge the Speaker to bring a clean bill to the floor for a vote.

How much longer must the mothers of this Nation wait?

SUPPORT PASSAGE OF PNTR FOR CHINA

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

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations to China, so-called PNTR.

Some would have us believe that, by supporting China's session to the WTO, and by granting China PNTR, we will be sending jobs overseas. This is simply not true.

On the contrary, granting China PNTR will allow us to take full advantage of the bilateral agreement signed last November and drastically reduce the Chinese barriers to trade. As a result of increased opportunities to export, American businesses can only expand, creating new jobs of every kind, from unionized jobs to export control jobs.

With expanded exports, companies will grow, making them able to offer greater benefits to existing workers, not get rid of them.

I urge my colleagues to support PNTR for China on behalf of American workers, farmers, and businesses.

STOP TUBERCULOSIS NOW ACT

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) and I have introduced the Stop Tuberculosis Now Act. The legislation proposes to amend the Foreign Assistance Act. It authorizes \$100 million appropriation to USAID for the purposes of diagnosing TB in high incidence countries.

TB is one of the greatest infectious killers of adults worldwide, killing 2 million people per year, killing more people last year than any year in world history. Thirteen hundred Indians, for example, die every day from tuberculosis. It is the biggest killer of young women and the biggest killer of people with HIV/AIDS in the world.

The World Health Organization estimates that one-third of the world's population is infected with the bacteria that causes TB including at least 10 million individuals in the United States. Eight million people around the world will develop active TB each year. TB is spreading as a result of inadequate treatment, and it is a disease that certainly knows no national boundaries.

We have a remarkably cost effective strategy for TB control, DOTS, the Directly Observed Treatment Short course, that uses inexpensive drugs at a cost of as little as \$15 per person in developing countries. The strategy is only reaching one person in five. The question is not a medical one, it is a political one.

REPUBLICANS ARE REINVENTING GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, the Clinton-Gore administration talked about reinventing government, but the Republican Congress is actually doing it.

For example, Federal laws prohibit convicted criminals from receiving

supplemental security income. However, for years, the Social Security Administration relied on convicted prisoners to notify them of their ineligibility for SSI benefits. Not surprisingly, hundreds of prisoners convicted of robbery, rape, and assault continue to receive welfare benefits while in jail, courtesy of the American taxpayer.

Perhaps the worst example of this fraud and abuse, California's "freeway killer," William Bonin, responsible for killing more than 44 people, received \$80,000 in fraudulent SSI payments while on death row.

In response, Republicans developed and passed a solution to this problem. As a result, taxpayers today will save over \$3 billion.

GUN SAFETY

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

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, every day across this country, our children are dying due to gun violence. Yet, Congress has failed to stop the killing and protect our children.

Over 2 weeks ago, the House went on record in support of the juvenile justice conference committee holding a meeting within 2 weeks. Their deadline has been ignored.

I am outraged that Congress has failed to move forward on gun safety legislation. How many more children have to die before we pass strong preventative child gun legislation?

My bill, H.R. 515, the Child Handgun Injury Prevention Act, which I introduced in the first session of this Congress, is a bill to prevent children from injuring themselves with handguns.

If enacted, this bill would require child-safety devices on handguns and establish standards and testing procedures for those devices. As of today, we have 76 cosponsors.

We cannot call ourselves ethical leaders when we stand by and do nothing while our children are being killed by gun violence. We have a moral responsibility to pass laws that protect our schools, our communities, and our families, a great act on our part prior to Mother's Day.

LAWS DO NOT MAKE THE DIFFERENCE, ENFORCING CURRENT LAWS DO

(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, it is interesting as so many come to the well to try and make sense of the senseless. But it is extremely difficult to understand how we can undue senseless acts when current laws are not enforced. Penalizing law abiding Americans who freely exercise their rights under the Second Amendment does not improve anyone's safety.

Indeed, the tragedy in Michigan that so many of us mourn could not have been reversed by expecting a 19-year-old criminal to put a lock on a loaded gun in a shoe box, preventing a 6 year old from getting the gun.

Laws do not make the difference. Enforcing the current laws do. While we have an administration that refuses to enforce current laws and in some cases refuses to obey current laws, we have the crux of the problem confronting America.

IN MEMORY OF BEN RANDALL

(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, I have lost a very dear friend, and the Houston community has lost a dear friend, and as well Texas, and maybe even the Nation. Ben Randall, a community activist lost his life just about a week ago. I rise today to pay tribute to an individual who never said no to the community needs of Houston, Texas.

Energetic, creative, thoughtful, and caring was Ben Randall. He loved his family. He loved his two sons, outstanding as they are, leaders in their own right, academic geniuses. Ben Randall was always so proud.

He worked for Texas Southern University. He was a community relations activist, working for Enron. He worked for small businesses and tried to develop opportunities for minority businesses to do and have greater economic opportunities. He helped on issues of fund-raising for any charity one can imagine.

He loved his God. He loved his church, Windsor Village United Methodist Church. He was an activist there. He had prayer partners. He prayed for others.

Whenever there was an opportunity to share his values and his commitment to the greatness of this Nation, Ben Randall was there. He loved this country.

Mr. Speaker, I would simply say that, as we bury him and as we buried him in his hometown of San Antonio, the tears of those of us who lived in Houston continue to pour.

We memorialize him today on April 5 in Houston because so many friends could not make it to San Antonio, but they needed to honor him and say good-bye. It is right to pay tribute to him and to do it with love, and do it with respect.

I say farewell to my friend, Ben Randall. He may be gone, but he will be forever in our memories. We salute him for the great humanitarian efforts he made on behalf of so many people. God bless him and God bless America.

TAX COUNTDOWN

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the countdown is on. The tax clock is ticking. The day the American workers dread the most, tax day, is only 10 days away.

April 15 looms on the calendar each year as an ominous reminder of the crushing burden of the current Federal Tax Code. While the IRS often stands behind closed doors, American working men and women struggle to keep pace with an out-of-control Federal agency.

Over the next 10 days, taxpayers across this country will spend sleepless nights and countless hours in an attempt to figure out exactly the correct amount of their hard-earned money and how much they must send to the Federal Government.

Heaven forbid the amount will be off even by a single cent and cause the taxpayers the horror of facing the unbridled wrath of an audit by the Internal Revenue Service.

Mr. Speaker, we must act now to enact comprehensive tax reform, giving our working families a fairer, flatter, and simpler tax without an IRS.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back our antiquated and oppressive tax system that continues to burden too many hard-working Americans every year.

BALANCED BUDGET PROVES REPUBLICAN CONGRESS IS SERIOUS ABOUT ITS PROMISE TO BALANCE BUDGET AND CONTROL DEFICIT SPENDING

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, let me see if I have got this straight. I am supposed to be impressed that the government is not going to spend more money than it has. I am supposed to rejoice that the government is not going to make our \$5 trillion national debt any worse. I am supposed to brag to my constituents that Washington is going to balance its budget.

Well, Mr. Speaker, by the standards of Washington, yes.

Balancing the budget should not be a big deal; it should not be treated as some great achievement. But I must say, after 30 years of expanding the welfare state every year, balancing the budget is no mean feat. Balancing the budget, which to me is only common sense, is an extraordinary thing in a town that has seen nothing but deficits since 1969.

This balanced budget is proof of two things. First, the Republican Congress is serious about its promise to balance the budget. Second, deficit spending does not have to be a way of life.

Now that is something to brag about.

CENSUS BUREAU SHOULD GET AWARD FOR BIGGEST GOVERNMENT SCREW UP

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, if there were an award for the biggest government screw up of the year, the Census Bureau would win the award going away.

The Census Bureau, which has been planning the 2000 census for 10 years, now sent out 120 million pre-notification cards with the wrong address. That is right, Mr. Speaker, the wrong address. Most of us learned to address a letter by the time we left the third grade. I guess the folks at the Census Bureau were absent that day. This from the folks who want to use smoke and mirrors to adjust the final results of the census.

The American people know better, Mr. Speaker. The Census Bureau certainly has some explaining to do. If the Bureau cannot be trusted to address mail properly, how can we trust them with their risky statistical scheme.

GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO SPEND TAXPAYER MONEY WISELY

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, last year when the House proposed to Federal agencies that they cut out 1 cent of every dollar they spend, the Clinton administration screamed bloody murder. Cut out 1 cent from the Federal Government for every dollar we spend? There is no way. We are too efficient, too effective.

The Secretary of Interior said there is absolutely no waste in my department and yet went on to waste money after money.

Let me give my colleagues an example. The Social Security Administration sent out \$3.3 billion in checks to people who were ineligible for it. Well, they might look there.

How about the rocket launchers? AL GORE is a big gun control advocate, but when one of the \$1 million rocket launcher disappeared, there was no word from the administration. Now, that is scary enough, but then another one disappeared. Think about that. There are two rocket launchers at large somewhere in our society. Yet, the folks in the Gore-Clinton administration are telling us there is no waste in government.

Mr. Speaker, we have got to do a better job. We are not spending our money. Contrary to the government dogma that it is government money, it is not. It is taxpayer money. It is what people back home work real hard to send to us. We need to be fiduciaries of it. We need to spend it carefully.