

SENIOR HEALTH CHOICE PRESERVATION ACT

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Seniors Health Choice Preservation Act. This bill will protect Medicare Choice HMOs from additional payment cuts. Furthermore, the bill will assist Medicare HMOs that cover prescription drugs so that they can continue to provide this important benefit.

I believe we have a commitment to America's seniors to provide dependable health care through the Medicare program. I strongly supported giving seniors more options and flexibility when I voted for the Medicare Choice in the Balanced Budget Act.

Empowering consumers to choose their care is the best way to improve quality and affordability in the health care system. Unfortunately, more than 700,000 Medicare beneficiaries in the Medicare Choice HMOs nationwide will have had their coverage either disrupted or discontinued over the past 2 years.

In some Congressional districts, like mine, many seniors were forced to return to Fee for Service Medicare because there were no other options in their area. Even in areas that still have Medicare HMOs, seniors have been hit hard with increased out-of-pocket costs and reduced benefits.

Seniors in my district love their HMOs. They get things like prescription drug coverage, dental care, and eye glass exams.

At a time when HMOs are getting a bad rap in a lot of places, we want to keep our HMOs in Florida.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Seniors Health Care Preservation Act.

CHINA IS BUYING MISSILES WITH AMERICAN CASH AND THEN AIM- ING THEM AT AMERICAN CITIES

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, this China-White House business bothers me. China's trade surplus with Uncle Sam will exceed \$70 billion this year and it is common knowledge that China is buying missiles with American cash and then aiming those missiles at American cities.

Beam me up. I recommend that any deal with China, number one, require a 5-year waiting period before China can fire a missile at America; number two, that China cannot sell stolen U.S. technology at missile shows; and number three, all Chinese missiles shall have trigger locks.

Now on a serious note, I yield back the greatest threat ever to America's national security: Communist China.

THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT

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

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to return this week to continue my work in the House. I am rejoining my family, friends, colleagues and supporters in good health and I feel better physically and mentally. I am ready to resume my duties, including my legislative responsibilities, and serving the needs of my constituents. I look forward to the hard work necessary to successfully continue my service in the U.S. House of Representatives and to my country and to the Eighth Congressional District of Illinois.

This has been a deeply humbling experience for me as I continue on my road to recovery, but I want to thank everyone, including Speaker Hastert and my colleagues, for their understanding and the tremendous outpouring of support I have received on both sides of the aisle. God bless you all.

PROJECT EXILE

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

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor this morning in strong support of H.R. 4051, the Safe Streets and Neighborhoods Act of 2000. It will be coming to the floor today under suspension.

This legislation seeks to build on Project Exile programs which started in Richmond, Virginia, in 1997 and using the existing law to go after criminals who illegally possess firearms or use firearms in the commission of a crime.

Since the incorporation of Project Exile in Richmond, the program has spread throughout the entire State. Other cities and States have also taken up similar initiatives to rid their communities of gun wielding criminals. In fact, my own State of Colorado started a Project Exile program back in September and already we are beginning to see a rise in the number of prosecutions against criminals in violation of firearms law.

H.R. 4051 would provide resources to the States that have sought to stringently enforce firearms laws and ensure a mandatory minimum sentence for criminals who violate such statutes. Likewise, these funds can be used to defray the costs associated with tougher enforcement stance, whether it be hiring more prosecutors or expanding jail space.

At a time when our society is grappling with the plague of violence, I encourage Members of this body to pass H.R. 4051.

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JUDGE RULES AGAINST CONTROVERSIAL HISTORIAN

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

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, before I begin my 1-minute, on behalf of all of my Democratic colleagues, I want to welcome back to the House the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. CRANE), our colleague and friend. We are delighted to have him back.

Mr. Speaker, today we celebrate the victory of history over hate. The pseudohistorian in England, David Irving, who denied the Holocaust, had his comeuppance in a British court yesterday. The great American scholar of the Holocaust, Professor Deborah Lipstadt of Emory University, called David Irving a Holocaust denier. Yesterday, British justice agreed. That is why we celebrate history over hate.

Steven Spielberg and others in countless documentaries have used film to show what the Holocaust was, that it resulted in the mass murder of 6 million people. Pseudohistorian David Irving, a racist and anti-Semite, has destroyed his own career. He is banned from Germany, Canada, and Australia. Today, I am introducing legislation to ban him from ever visiting the United States.

CELEBRATING YOUTH IN THE 11TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF OHIO

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

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, in the City of Warrensville Heights, Ohio, in the 11th Congressional District of Ohio, we celebrated that the Warrensville Heights Tigers won the State championship in basketball. We also celebrated that in Bedford, they were the runners-up, right in the 11th Congressional District of Ohio. It is wonderful to be able to celebrate that our youth are doing great things.

Mr. Speaker, in addition, this coming weekend in the 11th Congressional District, we will be hosting our Reclaiming Our Youth Empowering Yourself leadership conference. We are looking to build leaders in the 11th Congressional District. One of the workshops is called "I am so angry." Another one is called "Decision-making, developing your skills."

We will be doing a workshop on the media and, finally, solutions and impacts. A panel of high school students and college students will discuss issues and choices that they make. It is a wonderful opportunity to be with such wonderful young people in the 11th Congressional District. In fact, our art competition is on Sunday, and we had 99 people who submitted artworks for our competition.

NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, the deployment of a national missile defense system will violate the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty. It will spark a global nuclear arms race. It will weaken U.S. military by crowding out effective and cheaper means of defending the United States. More than 162 nations, including Russia and China, have signed on to a United Nations resolution for an international ban on weapons in space.

Mr. Speaker, the United States must sign on to that U.N. resolution. The U.S. Space Command calls for expanded war fighting capabilities in outer space.

The guiding words in this country ought to be "thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven," not "war be done in heaven as it is on Earth." Let us work for peace on Earth, not war in space.

NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION

(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, nuclear nonproliferation must be the foundation of any U.S. security policy. I have introduced House Resolution 82 to codify this principle; but, unfortunately, a national missile defense system is contrary to nonproliferation.

Mr. Speaker, the British parliament, our closest ally, has put forth two motions, one, to acknowledge the importance of nonproliferation, and the second stating that the reduction and elimination of threat is far wiser than investing in the double and doubtful effectiveness of a missile defense system.

Mr. Speaker, we must allow our allies and we must follow our allies and recognize the principles of nonproliferation. I ask my colleagues to consider the NMDS and reconsider it as it relates to nonproliferation and to support H. Res. 82 that recognizes the true security interests of the United States by supporting total nuclear disarmament.

STEALTH 527 GROUPS:
DISCLOSURE NOW

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, when opponents of campaign finance reform opposed the Shays-Meehan reform bill last year, their alternative was disclose, disclose, disclose; but when asked to require disclosure on section 527 stealth political groups, Republicans cried conceal, conceal, conceal.

During debate on the Shays-Meehan reform bill last fall, the majority whip,

the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), said on this House floor, "What reform can restore accountability more than an open book?"

Last week, the Committee on Ways and Means had a chance to open the books on the shadowy political organizations being set up under section 527 of the Tax Code, but every Republican on the committee voted to keep the books closed on these stealth groups that have reportedly become a favorite tool of the majority whip, according to press accounts. Every Democrat on the committee voted to open the books.

When it comes to campaign finance disclosure, it is time for the Republican leadership to do what they say they believe.

STEVE BRUNS

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

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a familiar figure to the people in Newport, Oregon, one of the coastal communities in my district. After 37 years with the United States Postal Service, on March 30, Steve Bruns officially hung up his mail bag for good. Since 1963, Steve Bruns through wind and rain, and we have a lot of that on the Oregon coast, has always delivered.

Mr. Speaker, he has been a fixture and a beloved member of the Newport community. Steve is one of the most personable people that you will ever meet, and he is going to be missed on his daily route by the thousands of people that he has touched over the years.

Recently he was honored into the Million Mile Club by the U.S. Postal Service. To be inducted into this exclusive club, one needs to have walked or driven 1 million miles for the Postal Service. This would be equivalent to over 160 round trips from Newport, Oregon, to Washington, D.C. That is a quite a feat.

I commend Mr. Bruns for a job well done and for the commitment and service to his community that he has shown throughout his 37 years to the Postal Service.

SUPPORTING THE BREAST AND
CERVICAL CANCER TREATMENT
ACT

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

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1070, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act, legislation which will give the States the ability to provide treatment for uninsured and underinsured women battling breast and cervical cancer.

I am pleased that the leadership has finally agreed to bring this critically important legislation to the House

floor for a vote no later than Mother's Day, May 14. There is absolutely no excuse to miss this opportunity to save women's lives in this country.

To date, the bill has 290 bipartisan cosponsors, well over the required number to pass a bill on the Suspension Calendar. In addition, the National Breast Cancer Coalition and over 500 leading health care and women's organizations have said that passage of H.R. 1070 is one of their top priorities this Congress.

Let us give our grandmothers, our mothers, our sisters, and our daughters the gift of life. Let us pass H.R. 1070 at the earliest opportunity.

30 PERCENT SALES TAX IS NOT
TAX REFORM

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

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the tax deadline, our thoughts go toward tax reform. We ought to have genuine tax reform, code section by code section, unraveling the loopholes and the special interest provisions.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I regret what the Committee on Ways and Means is doing right now as we sit here. They are considering replacing our existing tax law with a 30 percent sales tax on everything every American buys, from rent to services to goods.

They disguise it as a 23 percent tax. They claim it is a 23 percent tax, and here is their logic. One buys something for 100 bucks, one pays a \$30 tax. They say that is only 23 percent tax on the \$130 total price. It is a 30 percent sales tax.

But the nonpartisan Joint Committee on Taxation says that, in order to be revenue neutral and replace all Federal revenues, the tax would have to be 59.9 percent. All of this so that Steve Forbes can make tens of millions here, spend it on the Italian Riviera, and not pay a penny in American tax.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

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

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY).

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman from Michigan for yielding me this time.

I have heard a lot this morning in 1-minutes on campaign finance reform and some tactics used in the Committee on Ways and Means in order to extract it. I did not hear anybody ask for the Vice President's e-mail records. I did not ask anybody to look at the memos from the Justice Department and the FBI about prior scandals in this administration.

Lo and behold, the sad tragedy today is the Justice Department refused to