

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

investigate at the request of the FBI, and yet two nuns in the Buddhist order have been indicted. Two nuns have been indicted. Yet everyone else in the administration is let off scot-free.

So my colleagues demand campaign finance reform today. I would urge them to ask Mr. GORE to submit his e-mail records. Let us look at Justice Freeh's memorandum of understanding to Mrs. Reno. Let us finally look at campaign finance reform as the laws apply today. But, no, let us create a smoke screen.

LEAVE STAR WARS TO THE MOVIES

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, 17 years and over \$40 billion, one would hope that such an investment would be directed towards upgrading our schools, providing job training, or making payments on our national debt.

Instead, this astronomical amount has been squandered on Star Wars. Now, they have changed the name to National Missile Defense, but it is the same thing. After 20 years of trying, it still does not work.

Reagan started it to beat the Soviets. Now they say we need it to protect us from Iraq. But Timothy McVeigh was not in Iraq.

The greatest threat to our country is having leadership that fails to recognize real threats. Instead of funding more government waste, deadly corporate welfare, and a missile build-up that jeopardizes the ABM Treaty, I suggest that we concentrate on our problems at ground zero and leave Star Wars to the movies.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on House Resolution 465 and H.R. 4051 will be taken after debate has concluded on those motions.

Record votes on remaining motions to suspend the rules will be taken later today.

ENCOURAGING GOVERNMENTS TO DISSEMINATE STATISTICS ON ABANDONED NEWBORN BABIES

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 465) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that local, State, and Federal governments should collect and disseminate statistics on the number of newborn babies abandoned in public places.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 465

Whereas April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, which provides Congress the opportunity to focus attention and raise awareness of the problem of newborn babies abandoned in public places;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services reports that, in 1998, 31,000 babies were delivered and abandoned in hospitals by mothers;

Whereas an unknown number of newborn babies are abandoned in dumpsters, trash bins, alleys, warehouses, and bathrooms;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services conducted an informal survey of major newspapers and found that, in 1998, 105 babies were found abandoned in public places in the United States, of which 33 were found dead, and that, in 1991, 65 babies were abandoned, of which 8 were found dead;

Whereas national statistics on the number of infants abandoned in public places are not kept, though States are required to submit data to the Department of Health and Human Services on the number of children who enter foster care as a result of abandonment in general;

Whereas Texas is the only State to have enacted a law designed to address this social problem, though 24 other states are considering such legislation, including Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Connecticut, Oregon, Illinois, Ohio, Wisconsin, Mississippi, Michigan, and New Mexico; and

Whereas there are innovative model programs in Houston, Mobile, Minneapolis, and Syracuse that protect mothers who take newborns to hospitals or some other safe haven rather than dumping them in a trash bin or leaving them on a doorstep: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That local, State, and Federal statistics should be kept on the number of babies abandoned in public places.

□ 1130

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE).

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of House Resolution 465, focusing our attention on the thousands of infants who are abandoned in this country every year.

In November of 1996, two college freshmen, Brian Peterson and his girlfriend, Amy Grossberg, were charged in the death of their newborn son, found wrapped in plastic at a Dumpster near a Newark, Delaware motel.

In June of 1998, the body of a 6-pound baby boy was found in a trash can at a Smyrna, Delaware car wash. The parents were never found.

Today, two Virginia teens are fighting extradition to Delaware where their baby girl was found abandoned on the floor of a portable lavatory on a housing construction site in Bear, Delaware.

This is my State of Delaware alone, the size of each of our 435 congressional districts by population.

Recently, a writer sorted through 1,000 newspaper articles on infant murders between 1990 and 1999 and found 700 cases in which the mother killed her child. Of course, these were the cases where the murder was committed, the mother was found, and the story was reported in the newspaper.

According to child welfare experts, States include infant abandonment with the abandonment of children of other ages in their records, so there are no specific figures on the number of newborns abandoned each year. Therefore, it is fitting that this resolution calls on localities, States, and the Federal Government to keep statistics on the number of infants abandoned in public places each year. With this data, we will have the ability to better assess the scope of this problem and then take steps to address it.

In fact, after 13 infants were found abandoned in the Houston area, Texas became the first State to pass a law protecting parents who leave newborns in safe places. In fact, State Representative Geanie Morrison, from Victoria, Texas, who was the sponsor of this legislation breaking the ice on this subject, is here with us in the gallery.

Many States, including my State of Delaware, are considering similar legislation designed to reduce the number of infant deaths.

For more than a decade, April has been recognized as Child Abuse Prevention Month. During April, public and private agencies, community organizations, volunteers, and concerned citizens unite to highlight the problem of child abuse and to educate the public about how it can be prevented. Therefore, it is only fitting that the House of Representatives pass this resolution to focus the national attention on the problem of infant abandonment.

I urge the adoption of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded they should not make references to visitors in the gallery.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I am honored to be sponsoring this resolution with my colleague, the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE).

Mr. Speaker, today's resolution, H. Res. 465, recognizes the necessity to keep statistics on the number of newborn babies abandoned in public places. This is a horrible and, unfortunately, an increasing situation. We need additional data so that we can better assess this growing problem so that we can strengthen our efforts to reduce it and prevent it entirely.

Too often, Mr. Speaker, we turn on the evening news or wake up to the morning papers to find out that yet another baby has been abandoned in an alley, on a park bench, or some other