

match in hundreds of thousands more people than they ever realized would be organized to keep guns away from their kids.

We should not ask why did they come to Washington; I want to ask what took them so long? The parents of America got a terrible, not wake-up call, but alarm bell from the Columbine High School massacre and all that has followed since.

It became clear that no matter where you live, this is one country, there is freedom of travel, and the guns have the same freedom of travel. Of course, there were people from my own district, countless people from my own district: Laura Wallace, Renae Marsh Williams, the mothers of the high school sweethearts from Wilson high school who were killed by guns; Gillian Bates, who also marched with us, whose son is still in Children's Hospital with a bullet in his brain following the zoo shooting on Easter Monday.

But, Mr. Speaker, these mothers and fathers and families are way ahead of us. They want registration and licensing. We are still stuck on "stupid." We are still stuck on mandatory locks and closing the gun show loopholes. They are way ahead of the game, and we are going to have to meet them one day on registration and licensing.

Over and over again, they talked about not minding the inconvenience of registering their cars, and they could not understand why people would be against the registering of their guns, which can do harm to their children.

If in fact there is any respect for the families of America, at the very least we will free this legislation that has been held in bondage in conference, that is, by any measure, modest, too modest, to do the whole job, but a start and the kind of start that these families deserve.

If we have any respect for the people who came here on Sunday, for the people who marched in five dozen cities, surely we will free up that legislation that has been locked down for so long, disgracefully, considering what happened at Columbine and what has happened since.

We should never underestimate the determination of mothers. If I have any criticism to be made for them, it is that they should have been here when children were going down one by one. It should not have taken 15 in Colorado. Well, it did, and they now get it.

They wonder if we get it, and, if we do not get it, Mr. Speaker, they are going to get us, because they are not going away. They are going to turn their march into votes. These are very diverse people, poor people, black and white and Hispanic people, but they include many well-educated people who know how to do their homework and know how to get the job done.

I come to the floor this afternoon with a warning on their behalf: Get the minimum bill we have before us out of conference and passed before we go home for Memorial Day.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PEASE) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Ancient Scriptures tell us: "Beloved, do not be surprised that a trial of fire occurs or when something strange happens to you."

You, O Lord, are the God of all consolation. We pray to You for all those who are startled by sudden events and are shaken by what happens to those they hold dear.

How fragile and how unpredictable is life here on earth. How violent the times. Strengthen us in steadfast faith. Renew us in foundational relationships. For even in the most surprising moments, You call us, "Your Beloved."

Freed of fear and confusion, create in us a new spirit which will unify Your people in hope. May the brokenhearted hold fast to the constancy of Your love.

For You live now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MAKING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS IN ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 434, AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 112) to make technical corrections in the enrollment of the bill, H.R. 434, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 112

(1) In section 112(b)(1), insert "(including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States and are wholly formed and cut in the United States)" after "yarns wholly formed in the United States";

(2) In section 112(b)(2), insert "(including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States and are wholly formed in the United States)" after "yarns wholly formed in the United States";

(3) In section 112(b)(3), strike "countries, subject" and insert "countries (including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States and are wholly formed and cut in 1 or more beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries), subject";

(4) In section 112(b)(5)(A), insert "apparel articles of" after "to the extent that";

(5) In section 213(b)(2)(A) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained in section 211(a) of the bill—

(A) in clause (i), strike "in a CBTPA beneficiary country" and insert "in 1 or more CBTPA beneficiary countries"; and

(B) in clause (ii)—

(i) strike "cut in a CBTPA beneficiary country" and insert "cut in 1 or more CBTPA beneficiary countries"; and

(ii) strike "assembled in such country" and insert "assembled in 1 or more such countries";

(6) In section 213(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained in section 211(a) of the bill, insert "(including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the HTS and are wholly formed and cut in the United States)" after "yarns wholly formed in the United States";

(7) In section 213(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained in section 211(a) of the bill, insert "(including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the HTS and are wholly formed in the United States)" after "yarns wholly formed in the United States";

(8) In section 213(b)(2)(A)(iii)(I) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained in section 211(a) of the bill, strike "United States, in an amount" and insert "United States (including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the HTS and are formed in 1 or more CBTPA beneficiary countries), in an amount";

(9) In clause (v) of section 213(b)(2)(A) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained in section 211(a) of the bill—

(A) strike "fibers, fabric, or yarn" each place it appears in the heading and the text and insert "fabrics or yarn";

(B) strike "fibers, fabric, and yarn" and insert "fabrics and yarn"; and

(C) insert "apparel articles of" after "to the extent that";

(10) In section 213(b)(2)(A)(vii)(IV) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained in section 211(a) of the bill, strike "entered" and insert "classifiable";

(11) In section 213(b)(2)(A) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained

in section 211(a) of the bill, strike "(vii) TEXTILE LUGGAGE.—" and insert "(viii) TEXTILE LUGGAGE.—".

(12) Strike section 412(a)(2) and insert the following:

"(2) in the flush paragraph at the end, by striking "and (G)" and inserting "(G), and (H) (to the extent described in section 507(6)(D))".

(13) In the article description for subheading 9902.51.13 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, as added by section 502(a) of the bill, strike "of 64's and linen worsted wool count wool yarn".

(14) In section 505(d), insert "to the United States Customs Service" after "appropriate claim".

The Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERMANENT NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TO 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, later this month, Members of this House will be casting their votes on one of the most important issues that Congress has faced in recent years. Of course, this is a vote to extend Permanent Normal Trade Relations to China.

As a result of decades of negotiations, China will soon become a member of the World Trade Organization. Congress now has the responsibility to extend PNTR to China in order for American workers and businesses to take advantage of this historic opportunity.

For those Members, like myself, who have concerns about national security with China, human rights, Taiwan and other issues, we cannot afford to miss this opportunity. PNTR represents the greatest opportunity that America has had to break down the walls of isolation in China and provide the Chinese people with the tools they need to pursue freedom and democracy.

By increasing the exchange of goods, services, and ideas between the United States and China, we will be taking strides to support reform for those who need our support the most.

INTERNATIONAL ABDUCTION

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell the story of Machael Heidi Al-Omary, who was abducted from Jonesboro, Arkansas to Saudi Arabia by her noncustodial father. There is a bench warrant issued against the abductor as well as Federal warrants for unlawful flight to avoid prosecution and violations of the International Kidnapping Act of 1993. The father had visitation rights, and the parents had reached an agreement in which Machael would stay 1 week at a time at each residence.

Machael's mother, Margaret McClain, corresponded with her ex-husband via e-mail for a short period of time while negotiations were attempted. Margaret is very determined to find and recover her daughter. She has initiated contact with many agencies and is the Director of Legislative Affairs of an organization called P.A.R.E.N.T. in Arkansas. She represents a coalition of over 20 missing children groups around the world.

Mr. Speaker, we should all be working as hard as Margaret McClain to bring our children home. Parents and children like Margaret and Machael should be together. It is a tragedy that countries are violating the Hague Convention and keeping them apart.

I urge my colleagues to help reunite these parents and bring H. Con. Res. 293 to the floor.

MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

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

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, just a few weeks ago, I convened Medicare town hall meetings with senior citizens in my district that I represent in the towns of South Holland and Joliet, Illinois, to listen to the seniors, the folks back home, about what they feel is needed in a Medicare prescription drug benefit, the proposal we now have before us in Congress.

What I heard, Mr. Speaker, were some horror stories about the cost of drugs today for our seniors. In fact, I met with one gentleman from South Holland who spends \$8,000 a year just for four injections. I heard from a retired steelworker in Joliet who wanted choices in drug plans, including the option to keep his current plan provided by his former employer if it is better.

A widow from Calumet City told me about the times that she will go without breakfast or lunch just to save \$15 or \$20 so she can afford her arthritis medication.

These are heart wrenching stories, Mr. Speaker. But one thing I heard over and over again is that this Congress should work together to solve the challenge for modernizing Medicare to include a prescription drug benefit.

We have seen what has happened in the last few years whenever we try to work to modernize Medicare. We have seen those who wanted to politicize it for partisan purposes using Medi-Scare and poison-pill politics.

Mr. Speaker, let us work together. Let us find a bipartisan way to provide prescription drug coverage for our seniors.

TIME FOR OVERSIGHT OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

(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, scientist Carl Gilliotti, a contract expert for the FBI who was deemed extremely competent by the FBI said, "The FBI lied under oath about Waco when the FBI testified that they did not fire automatic weapons into the burning building." Unbelievable.

Check this out. Shortly after Gilliotti's statement, Gilliotti came up missing. Gilliotti's 42-year-old body was found 2 weeks later in his own laboratory dead and badly decomposed. I say, Mr. Speaker, Gilliotti did not choke on a chicken bone.

A full investigation is warranted by Congress. Otherwise, the Justice Department will investigate the FBI, and the FBI will investigate the death of Carl Gilliotti. Beam me up. It is time for some oversight on the Justice Department by passing H.R. 4105.

BASEBALL, NOT TAX INCREASES, SHOULD BE THE AMERICAN PASTIME

(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, Will Rogers once said that "Baseball is a skilled game. It's America's game, it and high taxes."

Well, it seems like he was right. The Clinton-Gore fiscal year 2001 budget includes 106, that is 106, Mr. Speaker, separate tax increases. Taken together, these tax increases total over \$180 billion.

Mr. Speaker, the American pastime should be baseball. Unfortunately, the Clinton-Gore administration has a new pastime, increasing the crushing tax burden placed upon American taxpayers.

It seems that the administration wants to keep taking more and more money from hard-working Americans to pay for their growing, yet inefficient, bureaucracy.

I encourage my colleagues to reject the Clinton-Gore tax and spend plans and to let Americans keep more of their hard-earned money.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the Democrats' anti-American tax increases, which only serve to demoralize the American working families spirit.

MILLION MOM MARCH

(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, to all of the mothers yesterday that commemorated and celebrated Mother's Day, I hope for them that it was a very special day.

But I hope the Nation took note of more than 750,000 mothers who gathered in Washington, D.C., along with probably another thousands and thousands of mothers who gathered throughout 67 cities across this Nation