

We can work together for a responsible and effective plan to provide prescription drug coverage for all, and it is coverage that will be affordable and available for all seniors.

INTERNATIONAL ABDUCTION

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about another of the 10,000 American children who have been abducted to foreign countries.

Miranda Budiman was abducted from Georgia by her father, Mr. Clements Iwan Budiman, on Halloween of 1998 when she was 4 years.

Mr. Budiman and his wife, Tara, were separated prior to the abduction and Ms. Budiman had primary custody of Miranda.

On October 29, 1998, Mr. Budiman had taken \$10,000 cash advance from his credit card and bought two airplane tickets on Japanese Airlines. Mr. Budiman and Miranda left on a jet to Tokyo on November 2, 1999.

There is currently a felony kidnapping out for Mr. Budiman. He was born in Indonesia and has family in Jakarta. But the whereabouts of he and Miranda remain unknown. Miranda's mother has not had any contact with her since the abduction.

Mr. Speaker, we need to do everything possible to reunite parents and children like Miranda and Tara Budiman. We must continue to focus on this issue of abducted United States citizens and bring our children home.

GREENHOUSE EFFECT IS GLOBAL CHALLENGE

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

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with the House some interesting observations from a recent book that I just read called "Laboratory Earth" by Dr. Schneider from Stanford University.

Our atmosphere has a very tiny trace amount of carbon dioxide, which is natural for the atmosphere, but that tiny trace amount has a substantial effect on the atmospheric heat balance of our planet, which we call the "greenhouse effect."

In the last 100 or so years, we have increased because of our energy needs the amount of that trace gas in the atmosphere by about 30 percent, which is fairly extraordinary when we think that minute amount that causes a balance of heat on the planet.

Think about this observation, and I think it is interesting: When we burn a lump of coal today, we are recovering the carbon dioxide and solar heat of dinosaur times in fossil organic matter. While it took millions of years to make a coal deposit, we are releasing that same amount of carbon dioxide and other embedded elements in tens of years.

The speed of this human accelerated process creates one of the biggest global challenges that face us today. An interesting observation.

PASSING OF EARL SHINHOSTER

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

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, our Nation has lost one of its bravest warriors. Mr. Earl Shinhoster was one of Georgia's finest, one of America's finest.

This brave warrior fought for over 30 years with the NAACP to make America a better place for all of us. He worked tirelessly to empower the powerless and to give hope to the hopeless. He labored thanklessly to make a difference in my life. I knew him to be a loving husband, an understanding father, and a great friend to all of us.

Earl Shinhoster has now received his very last battle scar, but his memory will never fade. His mantle may not have been filled with trophies. His battles were not put to song. No chest of shiny medals. But true warriors do not wear medals. They wear scars.

Earl Shinhoster was a warrior in the truest sense of the word, and he will surely be missed by us all.

MIAMI RIVER CLEANUP

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in continuing support of securing Federal funds to dredge the Miami River located in my congressional district.

The 5½ mile River runs through the heart of Miami and is in desperate need of cleaning. Dredging of the River is necessary because sediment buildup in the River has impaired the \$5 billion cargo trade of the shipping industry. Many ships cannot load to capacity and are restricted to sailing only at high tide. The dredging is a key element of the River's revitalization.

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The project has the support of our local business and environmental communities. And we have a funding partnership with the State of Florida, Miami-Dade County as well as the city of Miami.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a full cleanup of the Miami River, as it will result in economic improvements to the private riverside development by stimulating the shipping industry and providing much needed inner-city jobs. Federal funding for this project would also restore the environmental quality of the river and improve the quality of life for local residents and neighborhoods.

We have the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and all of our local partners ready to do the work. Let us get going.

COMMEMORATING FLAG DAY

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

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, on this date, in 1777, 223 years ago, the Continental Congress approved the first flag of our Nation. June 14 is now known as Flag Day. It also represents today the 21st anniversary of the annual national pause for the pledge of allegiance that will take place this evening 7 p.m. at Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland. I think my colleagues are aware of the importance of Fort McHenry in our national history and the importance of our flag, particularly as an inspiration to Francis Scott Key and writing our national anthem.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Americans to join those that will be gathered at Fort McHenry this evening at 7 p.m. to pause for one moment and pledge allegiance to our flag.

WAKE UP, WHITE HOUSE, AMERICANS ARE BEING GOUGED AT THE GAS PUMPS

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I realize that Secretary Richardson has his hands full trying to find our nuclear secrets from Los Alamos that were apparently lost when they were moved to protect them from the out-of-control fire that was actually started by our own government.

Nevertheless, the Secretary and other high-ranking administration officials need to acknowledge and respond to what has become a critical problem throughout the country. Working families in Cincinnati, my district and elsewhere, are facing skyrocketing prices at the gas pump, and they need relief now.

Earlier this year, Secretary Richardson responded to rising gasoline prices by saying, we were caught napping. We got complacent. Earlier this week, White House Press Secretary Joe Lockhart said, but we are in the busy season where prices generally go up a bit. Well, they are closing in on \$2 a gallon in Cincinnati. That is not a bit; that is a lot.

President Clinton has substantial executive powers that can be used to send a strong message to the price-fixing OPEC cartel. He has chosen not to use them. It is time we got serious about this and let us do something about the gas prices in this country.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM LEGISLATION

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, our effort to mandate full disclosure from clandestine political organizations

began with a bipartisan appeal. Unfortunately, it has gone largely unanswered. Unlike the Senate, where an idea that began here in the House, was approved last week as the McCain-Feingold-Lieberman amendment, the House Republican leadership has steadfastly opposed reform.

Finally, last week, they promised a vote on this vital reform issue during this month. This morning we have a way to assure that promise is fulfilled through the signing of this discharge petition. I call on my colleagues, both Democratic and Republican, to join with us on the petition to guarantee that we get at least a little campaign finance reform in time for this year's election.

The developments since last week have not been all that promising. One Republican says their bill may exempt this year's election. Another says that TOM DELAY, who has been so involved in promoting these organizations is a principal advisor in drafting the reforms. Let us clean up this mess now. It can be done. It must be done. We can yet achieve a bipartisan victory on campaign finance reform, just as the Senate has done, by signing this discharge petition and having a full debate concerning reform this very month.

DISCHARGING ALL OF OUR MILITARY SECRETS

(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, let me assure this House and the American people that there will be full disclosure, and it will not be limited to 527 organizations. No, we will turn to those on a bipartisan basis, I might add, who willfully reach into the pockets and paychecks of union members, and we will make sure that real reform takes place.

Mr. Speaker, for purposes of full disclosure, we should point out another discharge petition, not on the floor of this House as apparently been put in motion, the effort by the Clinton-Gore administration to discharge all of our military secrets to foreign powers, the latest revelation, our most sensitive nuclear secrets of Los Alamos. By the way, they were swiped 4 days before the fire, Mr. Speaker, and of course, Bernard Schwartz, the largest contributor to the Democrat National Committee and his firm, Loral Aerospace, giving nuclear technology to the Communist Chinese. Oh, yes, my colleagues, the discharge has started, the discharge of our military secrets.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM LEGISLATION

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Our constituents have every right to know exactly who

is financing political campaign. That is why we must pass campaign finance reform. We must do it now, and this reform must require that all contributors and expenditures, including nonprofits, are disclosed.

Currently, many expenditures are protected from disclosure under section 527 of the Tax Code. We hear from the Republicans that they favor reforming the Tax Code. Well, I suggest a perfect place to start is with 527 disclosure. With that start, we will restore faith in government. We will give our children a system that they will want to participate in. The American people want campaign finance reform.

I urge my colleagues to sign the 527 discharge petition today. Our children are counting on us.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

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

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, in this Chamber we will soon be discussing the very important issue of prescription drug coverage for America's senior citizens. I am pleased that the House leadership has developed a bipartisan plan that will provide American seniors with comprehensive prescription drug coverage.

No senior should have to choose between food for their table or their prescription drugs. As a physician, myself, I know the importance of these drugs to the health of our seniors. Many of these drugs cost a lot of money. It takes years to develop them, sometimes even decades; and then after they are approved by the FDA, it can take months to promote them amongst physicians for their proper use.

Unfortunately, today while many excellent prescription drugs for arthritis, stroke prevention and high blood pressure are critical to the health of seniors, many of them cannot afford them. Our bipartisan plan will ensure that voluntary, affordable and comprehensive prescription drug coverage is available to all seniors. I encourage all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

REJECT REPUBLICAN EDUCATION COSTS

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

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on this House to reject the Republican leadership's bill to cut education to pay for a massive tax cut. This Congress must invest in our schools so that students get individual attention, discipline and quality instruction so they can learn the skills that they need to succeed in the new economy.

But the Republican bill would cut \$2.9 billion from next year's education

budget. It does not provide one plug nickel to repair crumbling schools or to build new schools to get our children out of trailers.

No school can provide adequate education if children are subject to substandard facilities.

Mr. Speaker, budget choices are about values. Do we not value investment in our Nation's future by providing our children unless we give them the best education they can have in this world? Or do we take this opportunity to fritter away the future by acting like drunk sailors with the Republicans' massive irresponsible tax scheme?

I support responsible tax relief for middle-class families, but we must not raid the Treasury and jeopardize our ability to make investments in our children and in our future.

SUPPORT THE BIPARTISAN PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

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

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, no American should be forced to choose between the food they need to live and the medicine they need to stay healthy. Yet that is the choice many of our senior citizens face each day.

Republicans are doing something about this. Working with our Democrat friends, we are proposing a bipartisan prescription drug plan that offers seniors the coverage they need.

Our bipartisan plan strengthens Medicare and provides prescription drug coverage for all seniors and disabled Americans, including those in rural areas like Pauls Valley, Altus, Walters, Waurika and Purcell, Oklahoma.

Our plan is voluntary. It is also affordable and available to all, no matter where you live, no matter what your income.

I urge my colleagues to work with us to make this prescription drug plan a reality so our seniors never again have to choose between buying food and buying medicine.

CHALLENGE TO SECRETARY SHALALA

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

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to respectfully challenge Secretary Donna Shalala.

Madam Secretary, there is something sad out there that I would like you to see. At the National Nutrition Summit, you said: "Except for a few isolated pockets, we have succeeded at ending hunger in America." That is not true.

According to dozens of American organizations, fighting on poverty's front lines, according to respected international organizations, like the WHO and UNICEF, according to what I have