

With this plan, senior citizens will no longer have to choose between food, shelter and medication. Instead, the only choice they will have to make is which prescription plan best meets their individual needs.

I urge my colleagues to support the House bipartisan prescription drug plan. It is the fair thing to do, but, more importantly, it is the right thing to do.

OIL COMPANIES REPORT RECORD PROFITS IN WAKE OF RISING GASOLINE PRICES

(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, as gasoline prices throughout the United States go from \$2 a gallon and even towards \$3 a gallon, I think it is instructive for this Congress to review the profits of the major oil companies even before this round of increases in the price of gas.

Listen to this, the profit increases over the last year: Texaco, 473 percent increase in profit. Phillips Petroleum, 257 percent increase in profit. Conoco, 371 percent increase in profit. Chevron, 291 percent increase in profit. BP Amoco, 296 percent increase in profit.

I do not know of anyone in America who is getting a raise of a few hundred percent. The American people are struggling to survive and the oil companies are ripping them off. We need a windfall profits tax. We need to make sure that there is some balance brought back in this economy. It is time to go after the oil companies.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONCERN FOR WELL-BEING OF CITIZENS INJURED IN MEXICO

(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 wish to commend my colleague the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) for sponsoring a resolution that expresses the concern of the Congress for the safety and well-being of United States citizens injured while traveling in Mexico and calls for the President to begin negotiations with the government of Mexico to establish a humanitarian exemption to that country's exit bond requirements.

No American should have to live through the nightmare faced by Michael and Lorraine Andrews, a couple from my congressional district, on a recent trip to Mexico. What was supposed to be a peaceful vacation cruise became a life-and-death situation after a serious car accident required Michael's immediate transfer to the United States to receive adequate medical treatment for a spinal cord injury. The Andrews couple was delayed by

Mexican authorities and had to pay off several individuals in order to board the plane to head home.

Humanitarian considerations should be allowed to supersede any regulatory bond that may delay an American's departure to receive proper medical care so that emergencies like that of Michael and Lorraine Andrews will be prevented in the future.

POLITICAL CORRECTNESS RULES AT SUPREME COURT

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. The Supreme Court says pornography is okay and it is okay to burn the flag, that Communists can work in our defense plants, that it is okay to teach witchcraft in our schools and that it is okay for our students to write papers about the devil.

But the Supreme Court says it is illegal to write papers about Jesus, it is illegal to pray in school, and now the Supreme Court says it is even illegal to pray before a football game.

Beam me up. I thought the founders intended to create a Supreme Court, not the Supreme Being. Think about that statement.

I yield back a Supreme Court that is so politically correct they are downright stupid, so stupid they could throw themselves at the ground and miss.

SUPPORT LINDER-COLLINS AMENDMENT TO VA-HUD APPROPRIATIONS BILL

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

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of an amendment the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) and I plan to offer later today to the VA-HUD appropriations bill. The amendment would simply ensure that Federal, State and local governments do not waste precious taxpayer dollars on air quality standards that have been rendered unenforceable by a Federal appeals court.

This would not be the first time the Congress has done this. In 1998, the 105th Congress passed TEA-21 which included language that extended the designation time line for a year because the matter was in court. That time line has now run out. Two hundred ninety-seven Members of this House supported that language. This change recognized both the burdens placed on States and localities by these standards and the need to stop any process that would interfere with litigation surrounding the standards.

The gentleman from Georgia and I bring our amendment before the House today in the same spirit. We have no interest in preventing reasonable clean air standards from being enforced. We

just want to make sure that the Supreme Court has an opportunity to rule in the case first. Continue the congressional tradition of holding harmless our constituents while the lawyers and bureaucrats debate the merits of policy. Support the Linder-Collins amendment today.

SUPPORT HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT

(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 would think that America would want its leadership to make the right kind of statement to the world. I do not know why we have not been able to pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1999, and now 2000. The other body vigorously debated Senator KENNEDY's legislation yesterday and today they vote. I think it is very important that today the Senate takes the first step to tell the world that America abhors hatred.

Just yesterday, I met with the relatives of James Byrd, Jr., and they told me that even today people are desecrating on his grave, trying to intimidate the community. Hate crimes are not individualized. It is a statement that says, We don't like you because you're different. Because you're African American, Hispanic, you're a woman, you are disabled, you have a different life-style, you are Asian, you practice your religion differently.

Can America not come under the umbrella of the Statue of Liberty that encouraged all of us to come to this free land? It is important that we stand up as legislators and denounce hatred in this Nation by voting for the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1999 and 2000.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded it is against the rules of the House to urge action in the other body.

PRESIDENT'S SCHOOL REFORM TOUR NEEDS GEOGRAPHY LESSON

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton has often used bus tours and the like to promote his latest proposals for new government programs. As you recall, his most notable tour advocated the First Lady's massive Federal health care plan. The President's latest road trip involves his school reform tour which will take him to four different cities in the United States. But before the President leaves for his tour, he may want to consult with a geography teacher. Apparently, the President's first official school reform tour website showed the State of

Kentucky relocated to the area currently known as Tennessee. The White House, justifiably embarrassed by the incident, has corrected its website. However, it begs the question, should a White House that cannot even correctly identify which States are which be mapping out key education reforms that will affect our children? This concerns me and it should concern the American people.

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AMENDMENT TO VA/HUD BILL TO PREVENT EPA MOVING FORWARD ON DESIGNATION OF NEW NONATTAINMENT AREAS

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

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, when a lower court ruled in 1999 against new Federal air standards, reasonable persons expected the EPA to delay further implementation of the standards until the Supreme Court ruled on the agency's appeal.

Instead, the EPA is pushing forward with rules that force State and local governments across the country to spend thousands of dollars to comply with new invalid standards.

To stop this waste of taxpayer money, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER) and I will offer an amendment to VA/HUD later today which will prevent the EPA from moving forward with the designation of new non-attainment areas until such time as the Supreme Court makes a decision.

State and local governments could better use their resources to help their communities to comply with the rules that may never become legally enforceable.

Our amendment is simple. It does not affect existing air quality standards, nor does it render judgment on the new standards. It only requires EPA to postpone further action until the Supreme Court issues a final ruling.

It is common sense to postpone the designation process until we are certain that it will not be a huge waste of Federal, State and local resources.

LOS ALAMOS LEAKS

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, the Founding Fathers saw a national security as the very first duty of government. First amongst the powers given to Congress is the power to provide for the common defense. The first duty listed for the President is to be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States.

National security is a very serious matter; and when nuclear secrets are lost, our national safety is threatened. Then why have we seen repeated security breaches at the Los Alamos National Laboratory?

Dr. Wen Ho Lee is still in jail awaiting trial for mishandling secret data a year ago. When that happened, Energy Secretary Richardson opposed new security measures, insisting that he wanted to be in charge and that he could handle the security himself.

Clearly, he has failed to do that. Some think we have better security at Wal-Mart than we do in Los Alamos. Richardson blamed the University of California, but even his director of counterintelligence says we cannot rule out espionage.

If the Secretary of Energy cannot provide security for our Nation's top nuclear secrets, the President needs to find someone who can.

LAX SECURITY AT LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY

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

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, last year, following disturbing reports of lax security at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, the Congress passed and the President signed a law creating an Under Secretary for national security at the Department of Energy. This new position was created to strengthen security at our labs. Now Secretary Richardson objects to filling this post; and as a previous speaker said, he specifically took personal responsibility for security.

Now we know of another massive security breach at the lab. But is Secretary Richardson taking personal responsibility for these lapses occurring on his watch? Nope, not a chance. He has found a scapegoat in the University of California.

Madam Speaker, UC does have a contract to manage the lab, but responsibility for security lies with the Secretary.

Mr. Speaker, blaming the University of California for the security breakdown at the lab is like the captain of the Titanic blaming the head waiter for the iceberg. Of course, the captain did not; he took responsibility and went down with the ship. It is time for the Secretary of Energy to do the same and resign.

SUPPORTING LEGISLATION CALLING FOR APOLOGY FOR SLAVERY

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

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support and cosponsor the legislation of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) that calls for an apology for slavery. I have heard the snickers, the snide comments, the perplexed faces from Members baffled by the gentleman's quest for justice. I think we all need to check ourselves.

This great Nation of ours did something terribly wrong during its infancy: I was written out of its Con-

stitution, and it turned its head on slavery. And when our country actually saw itself for the first time in a mirror, its response was to proclaim that the black man had no rights that a white man was bound to respect.

It took a second look, however, and began to exorcise its demons; that is what reparations to Native Americans, Holocaust victims, and Japanese Americans was all about. Sadly, nobody thought about me. Yet an unarmed black man can be murdered on the streets of America and no one blinks an eye.

Innocent black men disappear to death row. Crack cocaine dumped into our neighborhoods. Malcolm X and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., murdered in conspiracies.

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) is trying to close these wounds, not reopen them.

NONCOMMERCIAL BROADCASTING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION ACT OF 2000

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 527 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 527

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4201) to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify the service obligations of noncommercial educational broadcast stations. The bill shall be considered as read for amendment. The amendment recommended by the Committee on Commerce now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate on the bill, as amended, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Commerce; (2) a further amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the Congressional Record pursuant to clause 8 of rule XVIII, if offered by representative Markey of Massachusetts or his designee, which shall be considered as read and shall be separately debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent; and (3) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 527 is a fair rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4201, the Noncommercial Broadcasting Freedom of Expression Act of 2000. H. Res. 527 provides 1 hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking