

of values. We should never forget. We have an obligation to a lot of folks who made a lot of decisions for us before we were here and we do not need to pull up that net or that rope behind us for all those children who are out there.

□ 1730

We need to make sure they have a quality facility with the things they need, the things the teachers need to help. We need to make sure in this Congress we stand up and provide the leadership. We do not need to lay down and play dead for special interests.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Because if we lay down and play dead, our children die, and it is as simple as that. You are right, we cannot afford to lay down and play dead, because we have so many people who are depending on us. When you asked that question, when you made that statement, rather, you wondered how many of us would be here if we did not have the teachers that were involved in our lives and the education. I can tell you, I know I would not be here.

Someone once said that every successful child, if you look at the history of any successful child, you will realize that there was at least one cheerleader for that child standing on the sidelines rooting them on. And, guess what? In many instances they were teachers standing on that sideline, but not only standing on the sideline, but getting on the field and holding hands and nurturing and encouraging and running with them and telling them what they could do.

So that is what it is all about. I am so glad that the gentleman did take this time to dedicate to it. There are so many subjects we could have been talking about, but here we are talking about the field of education.

One quick other thing. When we talk about exposing our children to opportunities and exposing them to the kinds of things that they need, just a few weeks ago in our district, in the 7th Congressional District of Maryland, which is basically Baltimore City, what we did was we got a few computers, five computers, I think it was, from EPA, and we presented them to an elementary school.

I am going to tell you, the kids, you would have thought we had given them \$1 million. But in talking to the principal of the school, she said you know what our biggest problem is? She said our biggest problem is that the children do not want to go home. They stay in the computer room.

She said something else that really touched me. She said, you know, we used to have an attendance problems with our little boys. She says now our attendance situation is something like 99 percent for our boys. Why? Because, again, they are teaching to their strengths. They are teaching to their strengths, and that makes a difference.

It is not only that you expose children to various opportunities, but you also need to know what direction are

they going in. Some of them may want to be an artist, some may want to be a doctor, some may want to be a lawyer. But it is those teachers, I am telling you, that see it early on, and they can make a lot of judgment calls early on and begin to guide those children in the right direction.

Mr. ETHERIDGE. I thank my friend from Maryland. I thank him for joining in this special order this evening.

In closing, I would say that our communities need help in not only building quality public schools that have good discipline and foster positive learning environments for our children, they need resources for teachers to make sure we have reduced class sizes and the tools in it.

The final point I would make, having served last year on the Speaker's Bipartisan Working Group on Youth Violence, we came out of that talking about some of the things we could do to help make a difference. One of the reports that came out of that was character education. We put in a bipartisan bill on that now, to talk about those things we can do, schools can do, parents can do, communities could do, to make a difference in our school.

I think nothing is more important in our Nation for the public wealth than for the training of youth in wisdom and virtue. Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom. That is not unique. That was said by Ben Franklin. It is still true today, as much as it was over 200 years ago. That is important.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues for joining me this evening, and would like to call on this Congress to truly make education its highest priority this year, as we turn the corner on the 21st Century.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING A REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO THE SAME DAY CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Mr. DREIER (during the special order of Mr. ETHERIDGE), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-732) on the resolution (H. Res. 550) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

THE DEVASTATION OF CANCER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, before giving my special order on cancer, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) to

speak about a good friend of mine and his and this entire body.

TRIBUTE TO RON LASCH

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding. I will be brief, but I especially thank him for yielding, because I know this evening he is going to be talking about something very important and very personal to him.

I did want to take just a moment or two to pay tribute to, as the gentleman from Texas said, a good friend of ours, a loyal employee of this House of Representatives, somebody who served this House extraordinarily well for so many years, Ron Lasch.

It was just a little over 41 years ago that Ron Lasch came to the House of Representatives as a young page. I know, because I was also here at that time as a page. I was a page over in the U.S. Senate at that time when Ron came under Mr. Whitnall's sponsorship to the House of Representatives.

Along with Don Anderson, who, of course, went on to become the Clerk of the House of Representatives, we all graduated in 1960 from the page school. Most of us went on with our lives and did other things, went away to college and began families, went into the service, but Ron Lasch, along with Don Anderson, stayed here in the House of Representatives. I mention that because he has given an extraordinarily large part of his life and his service to the House of Representatives.

For the last 16 years I have served in the House and have had an opportunity to know Ron in a different capacity, in a professional way as well in the personal way that I knew Ron Lasch. His service here I think has been absolutely extraordinary.

His leaving the House of Representatives is something in keeping, I guess, with Ron's personality, in that he left without telling any of his friends that he was going to do this. He insisted that he was determined there would be no farewells for him, at least while he was around. I guess he cannot stop us once he is gone from here.

That is why I think many of us have taken an opportunity in the last couple of days to rise, realizing that Ron Lasch is not in the back of the Chamber like in his usual position there. We miss him, so we have taken this opportunity to rise and to reflect on just how much he means to this House of Representatives.

This institution gets criticized, and I think perhaps sometimes quite justifiably, but very often the unsung heroes of this place are the staff that make it work. Some of them get on television right behind the gentleman from Texas, and they are seen every day. Others of them are in the back of the Chamber or off the Chamber. But, together, collectively, they are what makes this place work. They are what makes this place run smoothly. They are the glue which often holds it together. They are very often the institutional history of this body.

Ron Lasch, with 41 years of service in the House of Representatives, knew the precedents of the House. He knew about the ways in which this House ran. He also knew the personalities of the House of Representatives.

I think that he epitomized what is so good about this institution. He reflected the very best of this institution. Ron could be sarcastic, he could sometimes even be caustic, but he was always honest. He told Members in a way that was extraordinarily honest about what he thought, about what was going on, and his views about things.

I think that was extraordinarily important, because we got an unvarnished view of what was happening around this place from Ron Lasch. He is the person we relied on when we came to the floor to help us understand what the votes were about, what the procedures were about, about what the time frame of what we were going to be doing would be, how we could proceed when we had a question about how should we handle a parliamentary issue. He was the one who helped us understand that. He is the one who helped us get the rules right. He is the one who, when the Republicans came into the majority 6 years ago, I think made it possible for us to make that transition so much more smoothly than we might otherwise have made.

So I just want to say to my friend Ron Lasch that we are going to miss him tremendously. We thank him for the service that he has given to this country, and, most particularly, to the House of Representatives.

But I also want to thank him very personally for the friendship and what it has meant to work with him and to know him for these last 41 years. He is not gone from among us. He will continue to be that friend of mine. But I will certainly miss him in the professional capacity that he has served. I know that many of my colleagues would join in this sentiment. We wish him well. We hope to see him back on the floor of the House of Representatives from time to time.

I thank my good friend the gentleman from Texas for yielding this time to me this afternoon.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to join in the accolades for Ron. There is a phrase that a lot of us use called "institutional memory." Ron Lasch is the institutional memory, at least on the Republican side, of the procedures here in the House.

I think it is well-known that I am a Congressman who lives in Texas and visits Washington, and I try to find the first plane out of town after the last vote. I used to check with TRENT LOTT when he was the minority whip and then Newt Gingrich, and now that we are in the majority I will check with Tom Delay or Dick Armey. But when I want to really know, I will go to Ron Lasch, and he always knows when we can leave.

So, in typical fashion, he has gone on leave to take his vacation. He is not of-

ficially gone yet, but we are not expecting to see him on the floor very often anymore. So I join in accolading Mr. Lasch as a friend of mine. I do not know him as well personally as the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE), but he is certainly a good man.

THE DEVASTATION OF CANCER

Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to talk about a terrible word, a terrible six letter word, it is one of the most frightening words in the English language, and that word is cancer, C-A-N-C-E-R.

If you have ever been in a doctor's office and had that word spoken in a personal way, or been with a loved one when that word has been spoken about their physical condition, it sends chills literally into your heart.

Cancer kills hundreds of thousands of Americans each year, and millions worldwide. In this Congress we spend billions of dollars researching cures for cancer. In this Congress in and the last Congress we passed close to a dozen bills to try to address what can be done to seek redress for the disease. It is a disease that knows no socioeconomic boundary; it knows no geographical boundary. It is literally a six letter word that chills us to the very core of our souls.

Most of us, fortunately, tend to look at cancer more academically or in a statistical sense, and we do not have to address it in a human sense. But there are times when we do. Now is one of those times.

I want to humanize cancer on a very personal basis this evening. The gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE), who was just here, informed me that his brother John Kolbe died of liver cancer last year. We have in this body the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE) who lost a daughter to cancer within the last year.

We are not used to congressmen and congresswomen and senators and public officials really being looked at as real people. Most of the time the general public looks at us as some sort of a political icon or something, but we are real people and we have real families, and, for some of us, we have medical problems that border on the tragic.

I have a brother, John Barton. John is 43 years old. He is a District Judge in Fort Worth, Texas. He is married. He has two beautiful sons, Jake and Jace. Jace is about to have a birthday, July 22, a beautiful wife, Jennifer, an outstanding career in the community.

About a year-and-a-half ago John Barton was diagnosed as having a cancer behind his nose, the ethmoid sinus cavity. The particular kind of cancer he was diagnosed with is a very rare form of cancer called a squamous cell carcinoma.

At that time he was given little chance to live more than 6 months to a year. Obviously, he was very concerned, his family was very concerned. We were able to get him in touch with some of the leading medical experts in the United States, and, thanks to the

good work of the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS), who is a subcommittee chairman of one of the Committee on Appropriations subcommittees, he had been able to get money invested in a special kind of proton beam accelerator at Loma Linda out in California. They had had some success in treating cancers that were inoperable.

□ 1745

John's cancer behind his nose, between the optic nerve and the olfactory nerve, the decision was made that it would be very difficult to surgically remove it, so they agreed to try to treat him with this proton beam radiation. Again, I cannot say enough about the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) and the work he has done to provide the funding for that facility. It bears his name, the Jerry Lewis Treatment Facility. My brother went out there; and in May of last year, John was given a clean bill of health, that the squamous cell cancer in his ethmoid sinus was gone. We literally thought that it was a medical miracle and religious miracle that he was cancer-free.

He went back to Texas and regrew his hair, regained weight, was living a normal life, and in January of this year, January of 2000, he got to feeling a little bit under the weather and he went in to see the doctor and they took a blood sample and his liver function was off the chart.

So they did a medical biopsy of the liver and found out that he had dozens, if not hundreds, of liver cancer tumors in his liver. They performed a round of tests, and first it was indeterminate whether this was a new cancer or a metastasized version of the cancer that had been in his sinus. Finally, the doctors decided that it was a metastasized squamous cell moderated carcinoma from the ethmoid sinus, and they gave him 3 to 6 months to live in February of this year. We had gone through this the year before; and so again, John was in shock and his mother and his wife and myself as one of his brothers, his brother Jay, his sister Jan, his friends.

So John decided to try to seek both spiritual assistance and medical assistance. He has gone through a number of treatment options. He has been treated with at least four different kinds of chemotherapy and was in an experimental protocol that we thought might help him; but last week, his liver bilirubin level, which is a measure of the efficiency of the liver, and for you and I, a normal bilirubin count would be one, my brother's is over 20. Life cannot be sustained at that level.

So I take the floor this evening to ask my colleagues if they are aware of a treatment somewhere in their district, somewhere that there is a researcher doing research on metastasized cancers that migrate to the liver, call me and I will get in touch with my brother's doctors.

In Texas, there is a famous Texan named William Barrett Travis who was

commandant of the Alamo, and he was surrounded by 6,000 to 8,000 troops under Mexican General Santa Anna. Things looked hopeless and Colonel Travis sent out a letter that is famous all over the great State of Texas that says, "To all freedom-loving people of the world, please send aid with all dispatch."

So I am here this evening on behalf of my brother, John, to ask all freedom-loving people of the world if you know of something that might yet help him, I would certainly appreciate hearing from you to see if we may yet be able to help him.

I see my good friend, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK), who is a cancer survivor, on the floor. Before I talk a little bit more about my brother, I would be happy to yield to her if she wishes to speak.

I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina to give us some words of wisdom.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, first I want to say I am extremely disturbed to hear about the gentleman's brother. These are things that none of us hope we will have to face. I assume the gentleman has checked with the National Cancer Institute as to their recommendations.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. I have, Mr. Speaker.

Mrs. MYRICK. Maybe somebody does know of something that can help him, because there is a lot happening in this field.

It is really scary, because one in four of us in this country today is getting cancer. If it were anything else, it would be an epidemic. Think about it: one in four Americans today gets cancer. It is very scary, and it is at a point where I believe we in Congress need to give it a high priority. We are doing well with treatment options and finding treatment options, but we really have not done as much as I think we should when it comes to prevention and causes. Why are one in four of us coming down with this dreaded disease?

I just recently finished treatment successfully, I am thankful to say, for breast cancer. And my cancer was known. I was feeling perfectly fine, had my normal mammograms every year. Started having a pain in my right breast and I went to the doctor here, he sent me out to Bethesda. They did another mammogram, showed nothing. I went to literally five different doctors who could feel nothing. Everybody said, nothing there, it is all okay. But I knew something was wrong, so I finally got a doctor in my hometown of Charlotte to do an ultrasound. Big as life, there the tumor showed up.

Immediately, they did a biopsy; and it was cancerous, and I immediately had surgery as soon as the biopsy healed. As I say, I went through chemotherapy. As the gentleman knows from his brother, you do not wish it on anyone. I also did radiation and now I am finished with all of that. So I am

very blessed. But the scary part to me is the number of women, because I went public with my story to see if it could help other women, the number of women who have said to me that they do not either get mammograms or they are afraid to find out what they might find out if they go do it. We wonder in America today why, with all of the so-called knowledge we have. There are a lot of people who are out there who are fearful, I mean really fearful, to even talk about cancer.

So I hope that by some of the things we are able to do here in Congress and by some of us who have been through this, being willing to share our stories, that we will take some of the fear out of this whole subject of what can happen to us and give people hope.

The other thing that is so important, I say to the gentleman, and I know that the gentleman will also relay it to his brother, is a positive attitude, because having a positive attitude and being determined to beat this is one of the best things that one can do personally. I know friends of mine who have been through this who have maintained a positive attitude that I am going to beat it are fine, and the ones that have just given in to it are having trouble after trouble after trouble and it does not go away, so there has to be something to do as well, and the spiritual aspect as well too.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, my brother's attitude is such that he peps us up. It is amazing to me that here he is, because it is the liver cancer, he is very jaundiced and has difficulty moving now, and yet when we talk to him on the telephone or see him in person, he is the most upbeat person in the room. It just amazes me the faith that he has and the attitude that he can be trying to cheer others up. I will call him, and I will be mad about something we have done in the Congress or we have not done in the Congress; and he will kid with me about, am I going to come back the next day and rectify that. I mean, it is just amazing.

So the gentlewoman is exactly right, that attitude is important.

Mrs. MYRICK. Well, and faith. The Lord has been very good to me and the Lord has been good to a lot of people, and a lot of people are healed when the doctors tell them they cannot be healed. Has anybody considered a liver transplant?

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have offered half of my liver. I am a little bit older than my brother, but I do not smoke and drink, so I am healthy, other than a lot of air miles back and forth to Texas. The problem with that is that his liver is so far gone and it has metastasized. They did not want to do a transplant or let me donate even half my liver because the theory is that they would have to lower his immune system to take a new liver and in doing that, the cancer may be other places and it would explode.

Now, there is some tremendous research being done. Stem cells and bone

marrow have shown that they can migrate to the liver and transform into new liver cells; and, of course, the liver will regenerate itself.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, they are doing that with the heart also.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Yes. I am absolutely confident within 5 to 10 years it will be possible to take my brother's own bone marrow cells and probably grow him a new liver and put his own new liver into his liver; but that may be 5 or 6 years down the road, or 10 years, and right now he is counting weeks if we are not able to help get him an option.

But we looked at transplants. We looked at Johns Hopkins, we looked at M.D. Anderson in Houston, we looked at Baylor Medical in Dallas, we looked at University of Pittsburgh. I mean, he has checked that option as late as last week, and it just does not appear that that is in the cards. But that would certainly be an option if it were not a metastasized cancer, if it were what is called a hepatoma, which is an original cancer in the liver. I think that would have been a very viable option 3 or 4 months ago.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I know that people in this country will join myself and I know a lot of others in sending up prayers for your brother. Like I said, miracles do happen.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. That is true. That is true. My brother has told me one miracle. He had to undergo chemotherapy last year for his sinus carcinoma and he said he wanted it as strong as he could take it. So they literally took him to the verge of death with his first round of chemotherapy, and he told me and his wife and our other family members that an angel came and sat on the edge of his bed in the hospital and was talking to him and telling him that things would be fine and that he did not have to worry about his wife or his children. It just gave John a sense of peace that the Lord was with him and had sent an angel down. Of course, at that time, he came back.

So I know that there is an angel that has been assigned to him. Of course, we are hoping that the angel does not have to come again real soon, that we want the angel to keep an eye on my little brother, John, but not take him from us yet.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, that is a real blessing.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Yes.

I would like to just humanize John a little bit, tell a few stories about his background. I have already mentioned that he is 43 years old, married, has two lovely children, two sons. But John is not perfect.

I remember the first week he got his driver's license and he was 16 in Waco, Texas, and my parents had one good car and one kind of second car, and so John got to drive the second car. It was a Ford Fairlane. The first week he got his driver's license he was driving down 25th street in Waco, and at that time

there was a movie theater called the 25th Street Theater; and the young lady who was in the ticket box, the box office, was a friend of his from high school, and John drove by, and trying to do some fancy maneuver with the car and wave at her, he hit three cars and totaled two of them and drove a car up into the front entrance of the local newspaper.

I happened to be a senior in college at the time and was home with some of my old high school football buddies; and when he called home, he did not ask for my father, he asked for me. He said, JOE, you are going to have to come down and help me out a little bit. So my buddies and I, we got in the car and they all knew him as "Little Joe," because when we were in high school, John was not more than 4½ feet tall, so he had grown up by the time I got to college.

□ 1800

We went down to see him and he was standing outside, looking at the car and not too knowing what to do.

After we got through laughing about it, we said, Well, John, you are going to have to call Dad. There is no way to get around it. So he did, and of course my father came down and he was not too happy about it. He did not laugh a bit.

One of my memories of my little brother in high school was standing there looking so forlorn, with the girl he was trying to impress in the box office at the movie theater laughing, and all of my friends laughing, and my father just absolutely chewing his tail out for having this happen: the first time he had his driver's license, or in fact the first time he had his driver's license and drove by himself, totalling two cars and sending another car into the front office of the local newspaper, which obviously the next day ran a very uncomplimentary story about Larry Barton's youngest son.

I can also remember in 1984 when I decided to run for Congress, now today we read routinely about million dollar campaigns and all these high-priced consultants and TV ads, but in the Sixth District of Texas in 1984 in the Republican primary there was not any of that. It was an absolutely family-oriented grass roots campaign.

By then John was an attorney who was living down in Corpus Christi, Texas. I convinced him to come to Ennis and help run my campaign. So he went from a beachfront apartment in Corpus Christi, Texas, down on the Gulf Coast, where there were sea breezes and just a really nice lifestyle, to sleeping on a cot in the kitchen of my home. My mother-in-law and father-in-law slept on a pallet out in the garage. My campaign driver slept on the couch. My sister slept in one room, a bedroom, with my oldest daughter, Alison. Jan and I slept in what was called the master bedroom, which meant it had an extra foot of space, with Christine, our youngest daughter, in the crib.

John would routinely be woken up in the morning by my 2-year-old Kristin looking into his eyes tickling him. We offered him a great salary I think of \$600 a month, but what that really meant was when he had a car note come due or a college loan payment come due my sister Jan, who was a campaign Treasurer, would say, you bring me the bill and I will pay the bill. And he did an outstanding job in that campaign.

I got into a runoff, and in the runoff I lost the runoff by I want to say 9 votes out of about 10,000 votes cast. To seek a recount you had to file a legal document in every county court, and there were 14 counties. So my brother, who was the only attorney on the payroll of the campaign, had to file those documents. He prepared the legal briefs. Within 3 days he went to all 14 county courthouses in the Sixth District of Texas and filed the legal paperwork to request a hand count recount of every ballot that had been counted, had been cast in the primary runoff.

In that runoff he coordinated some pro bono attorneys who represented me at each recount, and we went from losing the election by 9 votes to winning the election by 10 votes. To this day, I think if it had not been for my little brother, that might not have happened.

I can also remember when he came to see me about 4 years ago. By now he was married and had two children and was practicing law in Fort Worth, Texas. He said, JOE, I have decided that I wanted to run for office. I said, "John, have you not seen enough of me and what I have done to convince you that there are better ways to make a living than trying to get elected?"

And he said, "Yes, I have, but I do not want to run for Congress, I want to run for district judge." The county he was living in is the fourth largest county in Texas, so that meant that he had to run countywide in a county that has 1 million people.

I said, "John, how much money do you have to run for office?" He said, "I don't have any money." I said, "Okay, what kind of an organization do you have?" He said, "I don't have any organization." I said, "Okay. Have you done something notable in the county in a public way that your name is on the lips of all the voters?" He said, "I have not done that."

I said, "Well, why do you think you can win a district judgeship in Tarrant County, Texas? He said, "Well, if you can run for Congress and win, I know I can run for district judge and win."

I did not have an answer to that, so I said, Okay. So when he announced for district judge, he announced in a seat for a position for a courtship that he did not think he would have any opposition in. I felt pretty confident that he would win an uncontested election, but that did not work out. One of the biggest law firms in Fort Worth decide that they had an attorney that they wanted to run for that same position, so an excellent attorney in Fort Worth

who had an excellent reputation, was well known in the legal community, had impeccable credentials, decided to run against John.

Of course, when that was announced we were not real happy about that. But to make a long story short, just like in my campaign in 1984 for Congress where my mother and my father and my brother and my sister and my grandmother, my aunt and uncle, all the Barton family and the Bice family and the Winslow family were out campaigning. Those same family Members trekked up to Tarrant County, Texas, and we got on the telephones and we stood in front of the polling places and we handed out cards and we did all the grass roots things, and again, John was outspent, but when the dust had cleared, he won county-wide. He got the largest number of votes for any county-wide office on the ballot, and he almost got more votes than I did. That kind of upset me a little bit.

But he has gone on to do an outstanding job. In fact, he has done such an outstanding job that this year he is up for reelection and he has no opponent. When I go to Tarrant County, which is about half of my congressional district, more and more now I am introduced as Judge Barton's brother, which is a real tribute to him.

I really rise this evening to again appeal to all my colleagues and to anybody who may be watching in the country, if anyone knows of something that could help a metastasized cancer of the liver, please get in touch with my office so we can refer that to my brother's doctors.

John is one of the many cancer statistics. Liver cancer kills 14,000 people in the United States each year. It is a very, very difficult disease to arrest once it has progressed. In my brother's case, it is serious, but there is still some small hope.

Just like the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK), there are many miracles that have occurred in cancer. The Barton family is hoping for one more.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to commend the Speaker for allowing me to do this special order, I want to thank my colleagues for listening, and simply hope that we may yet find one miracle for John Barton in Fort Worth, Texas.

FAIR ELECTIONS IN MEXICO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I have taken this 5-minute special order this evening to talk about an event which has been likened to the crumbling of the Berlin Wall that took place a week ago this past Sunday.

I had the privilege of serving with a team from the International Republican Institute, co-leading, along with former Secretary of State James Baker and the mayor of San Diego, California, Susan Golding, a delegation of