

□ 1951

Mr. KINGSTON changed his vote from "aye" to "no."

So (two-thirds not having voted in favor thereof), the motion was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to official business in my district, I was unable to record my vote on the following bills: H. Res. 534 (rollcall No. 401); H. Con. Res. 319 (rollcall No. 402); H. Res. 531 (rollcall No. 403); and H.R. 3125 (rollcall No. 404). Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 401; "aye" on rollcall No. 402; "aye" on rollcall No. 403; and "no" on rollcall No. 404.

PERMISSION TO FILE CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4576, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the managers on the part of the House may have until midnight tonight, July 17, 2000, to file a conference report on the bill (H.R. 4576) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

ON THE NEED FOR MORE BORDER PATROL AGENTS ON AMERICA'S NORTHERN BORDER

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

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, I do not have to remind this House about the fine work of our border patrol officers. They put their lives at risk every day to slow the flow of illegal drugs into this country and to keep our border safe from dangerous aliens. Their work in helping to arrest a suspected terrorist near Port Angeles, Washington, last December was exemplary.

Due to the current inept management of the INS, however, the jobs of these officers are made much, much more difficult. Over the past two fiscal years, Congress has appropriated funds for the INS to hire 2,000 new Border Patrol Agents. The agency has failed to hire anywhere near that number, and the vast majority of the new agents they have hired have been assigned to the southern border.

There is no reason why northern border staffing should not be greatly increased. Since 1996, I have sent numerous communications to President Clinton, Attorney General Reno, and INS Commissioner Doris Meissner demanding a permanent end to the transfers of Northwestern Border Patrol Agents and urging higher staffing levels on the northern border.

Instead, Commissioner Meissner has recently ordered another reassignment of agents from the northern to the southern border. In addition, she has ordered every Border Patrol plane moved from the State of Washington. In a month's time, every plane along the entire northern border will be moved south.

A few days ago, in protest to these moves, the entire delegation from the State of Washington wrote to Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner Doris Meissner protesting her recent decision to transfer Washington State Border Patrol Agents and equipment to the Mexican border.

Ms. Meissner's latest raid on the northern border is unconscionable, especially because a July 8 story in the Seattle Times reports that "When Meissner made this decision, she possessed a confidential February report by the Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General which determined that 'The 311 Border Patrol Agents along the northern border cannot adequately patrol the approximately 4,000 mile border with Canada.'"

The February report also notes that between 1993 and 1998, agents along the northern border were nine times more likely to encounter someone smuggling drugs and 14 times more likely to encounter someone smuggling weapons than agents along the southwest border.

Despite this overwhelming discrepancy, more than 95 percent of INS's Border Patrol Agents are on the southern border. In addition, INS Commissioner Meissner's decision to move personnel was made knowing that last year's arrest of suspected terrorist Ahmed Ressam highlighted additional reasons to maintain maximum coverage on the northern border.

I have also previously asked Commissioner Meissner to hire additional northern border agents, for which Congress has already appropriated the money. She has not only not hired additional agents, she has again relocated some of the few agents we have.

□ 2000

In addition, she removed all of the patrol planes from the Washington border. Most outrageous of all, it turns out she has made these relocations while refusing to release the contents of a Department of Justice report that specifically highlights the severe personnel shortages on the U.S.-Canadian border.

Relocating agents and equipment while hiding details of the dangerous

understaffing problem at the northern border is a dereliction of duty. It is risky. It is wrong. It is irresponsible. If Commissioner Meissner cannot do an adequate job on our northern border, then we must get someone in the position who can.

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSES HIV/AIDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I had the honor of joining the Ambassador of the United States to the United Nations, along with the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), in New York.

We were invited to witness a historic debate at the U.N. Security Council on an issue of peacekeeping and security addressing the question of HIV/AIDS. For the first time, the world voice, the United Nations, took a unanimous stand to fight HIV/AIDS in the peacekeeping forces around the world.

Although we applaud their bravery, we realize that the military personnel that travel from one developing nation to another without the proper education and training are in harm's way, not only in terms of war, but in terms of the devastation of disease. Based upon our work, we are delighted that this kind of effort was made on behalf of the United Nations.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) who has been the moving force on fighting AIDS in this Congress.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) for her leadership and also for her efforts in helping the orphans and the children of Africa who are suffering now as a result of their parents dying of AIDS. I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership.

We participated in a mission last year. During that time in Southern Africa, we realized that we had to come back and do something. We looked in the eyes of babies, and there was no way that we could let these children live like this without us at least trying to do something for them.

This morning, I had the honor and the privilege to participate with the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) in actually witnessing the United Nations Security Council's historic discussion and vote regarding the importance of HIV and AIDS education and prevention as it relates to peacekeeping forces.

We all know that an ounce of prevention is really worth a pound of cure. We should be proud of the fact that our own ambassador, Ambassador Holbrooke, has and continues to take

the lead in raising the moral concerns, the humanitarian concerns, and, yes, the security concerns of the AIDS pandemic. He has done remarkable work in little time to educate the world community; and that is, definitely, he has put forth and set forth a course to actually break the silence in the world with regard to this pandemic.

We were waging war on this. I am proud of the Congress in terms of our bipartisan efforts to wage war on this deadly disease. I think today the resolution that was passed by the Security Council really takes us one step forward in waging the battle that we must wage on this.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, might I say that the leadership of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) in the United States Congress, along with the amendment on debt relief offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) last week brought us to where we needed to be by adding \$42 million back into the Foreign Operations appropriations.

I think it is important for the American people to understand that as the world is endangered by the devastation of the elimination of large populations by HIV/AIDS, we need to recognize here in America that we are fully impacted.

I know for many it seems as if we are looking distant, far away, but AIDS can be compared to the times historically of the bubonic plague when large numbers of Europeans were devastated and eliminated with this disease.

This disease is killing one in five in South Africa. Forty million children will be orphaned. I am very proud that the Ambassador to the United Nations joined in the causes with, first, the Vice President speaking before the United Nations, then our respective Senators, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), who has just returned from Durban, South Africa, to say that we really are in a war.

As we fight for peace, peace is intertwined in fighting against this devastating disease. I would hope that we will continue this effort. I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for her leadership, and, of course, I applaud the United Nations for its effort.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO GO TO CONFERENCE ON H.R. 4810, MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY ELIMINATION RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2000

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-752) on the resolution (H. Res. 553) providing for consideration of a motion to go to conference on any Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 4810) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 103(a)(1) of the concurrent resolution on the

budget for fiscal year 2001, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

TAKE BACK CONTROL OF URANIUM ENRICHING FACILITIES BEFORE AMERICA BECOMES DEPENDENT ON FOREIGN SOURCES FOR ENERGY

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

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I represent a district in Southern Ohio that is a part of the Appalachian area. I am very proud of my constituents.

Many of my constituents throughout the long years of the Cold War worked at a facility in southern Ohio which enriches uranium. During the early days of the Cold War, that facility enriched uranium which went into our nuclear weapons. In more recent years, that facility has produced enriched uranium necessary to create the fuel that produces the nuclear power generated in this country, the electricity through nuclear power.

Two years ago, this administration and this Congress privatized that industry; and just a few weeks ago, this new privatized corporation announced that it was closing the facility in my district, thereby terminating the employment of some nearly 2,000 men and women. These are individuals who have served our country well. Many of them have been exposed to dangerous chemicals and to radiation. They have developed cancers. Many have lost their lives.

Later on this week, Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation which will set in motion a process whereby this government can once again assume ownership of this industry. Why would I do this, and why is it important to the economic and energy security of our Nation? It is because some 23 percent of the electricity generated in this country is generated through nuclear power. Only two facilities in this country enrich the uranium which is necessary to produce the fuel for these nuclear power plants.

The direction of this privatized corporation troubles me. I am very concerned that their ultimate goal is not to be producers of enriched uranium, but simply to become brokers of enriched uranium. It is my concern that their ultimate goal is, not only to close my facility, but also to close the facility in Paducah, Kentucky.

If that were to happen, Mr. Speaker, this Nation would become totally dependent on foreign sources for at least 20 percent of all of the electricity that is generated in this country. We cannot let that happen. As a body, as a group of elected Representatives of the people, we must not allow ourselves to become dependent on foreign sources for a huge portion of all of the electricity generated within this country.

I am calling tonight upon my colleagues to join me in the introduction

of this legislation. It is essential and necessary. We made a mistake when we privatized this vital industry. We made a mistake when we turned it over to the private sector who are not necessarily loyal to this country or to the objectives of this government. They are not necessarily loyal to the energy security need of this Nation. Their primary objective is to their investors and their stockholders.

I am deeply troubled, Mr. Speaker, that the individual that oversaw the privatization process, the individual who was the CEO of the public corporation before it became private, was dealing with a major, major conflict of interest. As a government employee, he was making approximately \$350,000 a year. Once this became a privatized corporation, his salary skyrocketed to \$2.48 million a year. Not only that, but he convinced the board of directors to give him a golden parachute of \$3.6 million. If he is fired or he loses his job, he can walk away with \$3.6 million.

The workers in my district, many of them who have served this country as Cold War warriors who have exposed themselves to dangerous conditions, are being terminated of their jobs, many with only weeks to go before they qualify for retirement. It is simply wrong. It is wrong for my constituents. It is wrong for this Nation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in the efforts to once again take over the ownership of this vital industry and protect our country from being so totally dependent on foreign sources for energy.

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL SEES HIV/AIDS AS GLOBAL CRISIS, NOT JUST A HEALTH PROBLEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am really here to join two previous speakers, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), who were with me today at the United Nations Security Council in New York where the United Nation's Security Council for the first time in history voted for a united effort and attack on the AIDS crisis in the world and saw it as a security problem, not just a health challenge before us. It recognized that HIV/AIDS is more than a health problem but actually a global crisis. It set a very important target to work towards the reduction of AIDS by 25 percent by the year 2010 in the age group of 15 to 24.

It was a very significant and groundbreaking action, but it is by no means an end. It is a beginning of many more steps that we have to take.

Earlier in January, I was there when Vice President GORE announced his support for this effort, and I applaud the leadership, not only of the Vice