

is passing more gun laws. Beam me up. There is something wrong in America when one is 80 times more likely to be killed by a doctor than Smith & Wesson. Think about it, 80 to 1. Maybe we need a gun in surgery.

I yield back the fact that the second amendment was not written to cover just duck hunters.

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Gore Senior Tax Policy

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the Austrian philosopher Karl Krauss once wrote, "When the end comes, I want to be living in retirement."

Many Americans in this country feel that way. They put in countless hours anticipating the day when they will retire. Unfortunately, the Clinton-Gore administration sees these benefits as a prime opportunity to grab more money for the Federal Government.

In 1993, the Clinton-Gore administration decided to tax up to 85 percent of the Social Security benefits received by single seniors whose incomes were \$34,000, and married taxpayers, seniors, with incomes exceeding \$44,000.

Worse yet, Mr. Speaker, because these incomes were not indexed for inflation, the tax effects were more dramatic every year for our seniors.

This week the House will vote to end this burdensome tax and give seniors a well-deserved tax break. Seniors have paid their fair share of taxes. It is time we repeal the Clinton-Gore seniors' tax.

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Veterans Right to Know Act

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

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to commend this body for passing two pieces of legislation yesterday that enhance the benefits of our veterans, H.R. 4850 and H.R. 4864. It does not matter how many benefits we provide our veterans if they do not know what they are entitled to.

Throughout our Nation's history, millions of men and women have served in our Armed Forces during times of peace and times of war. They have defended the very freedoms our country was founded upon.

Too often our Nation's heroes are not adequately informed about what their benefits are and what they are entitled to. This is simply unacceptable.

We have introduced H.R. 3256, the Veterans Right to Know Act; and if anyone has a right to know, our veterans have a right to know. The Veterans Right to Know Act requires the Secretary of VA to prepare an annual outreach plan that will include efforts to identify veterans who are not otherwise enrolled or registered with the Department for benefits or services.

It enjoys the bipartisan support of 72 House members. Veterans have served

this country. We are accountable to our veterans, and we are going to deliver.

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Marriage Tax Penalty Relief Deserves Support

(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, have you heard Bill Clinton and AL GORE's latest definition of rich? Bill Clinton and AL GORE say that, if one is married and one is a homeowner or if one is married and one gives money to church and charity and one suffers the marriage tax penalty, one is rich.

Bill Clinton and AL GORE say now that they want to veto the Marriage Tax Elimination Act, legislation which wipes out the marriage tax penalty for 25 million married working couples who, on average, pay \$1,400 more in higher taxes. They say that there are people that are homeowners, there are people that give money to church and charity, and there are people that itemize their taxes, and because of that, they are rich, and they do not deserve marriage tax relief, and they should be discriminated against and should continue to receive and suffer from the marriage tax penalty.

I was so proud when this House passed just this past week legislation wiping out the marriage tax penalty for 25 million married working couples, on average, \$1,400. We made sure, if one suffers the marriage tax penalty, whether one is a homeowner or not, one receives relief. It deserves bipartisan support. I hope the President will change his mind.

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GOP Accomplishments

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, nothing we do in Congress can be accomplished alone. Today I want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who have worked to make the 106th Congress' record one of accomplishments and not of partisan gridlock.

This Congress has passed some of the most solid education reform ever brought before this body, measures that will give parents and teachers more flexibility to meet students' unique needs. But that is not all. We have also worked tirelessly to pay off our public debt portion of our national debt which is saddling children born this year with a \$13,300 debt burden. Our debt relief measures will save the average household an estimated \$4,000 in interest payments over the next 10 years. Think of what American families can do with \$4,000 in additional income.

The 106th Congress has an agenda for success, and I am proud to be a part of it.

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Big Brother Is Reading Our E-Mail

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

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, although it is 16 years after the titled date of 1984 in George Orwell's novel of the same name, Big Brother is really here and now he is reading our e-mail. Our constitutional rights to privacy are currently being trampled by government-sanctioned invasions currently over at the FBI. These privacy invasions use today's latest technology through the FBI's Carnivore system which monitors and captures our e-mail without our consent or our knowledge.

What business is it of the U.S. Government what I say in an e-mail to my family and to my friends? We must never knowingly allow any government agency to use our e-mail to do to us today what they did with other technologies to Malcolm X and Martin Luther King yesterday.

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Space Station Teaches Costly Lesson

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday's lead front page story in the Christian Science Monitor newspaper was headlined, "Late, Costly Milestone for Space Base." It was about the Space Station and U.S. costs now approaching \$100 billion. When this project was first started in 1984, cost projections were only 6 to \$8 billion. This is the old Washington con game: Drastically low ball the cost estimates at the beginning, then spread the project around to as many congressional districts as possible and it will never end.

As the well-respected Monitor pointed out yesterday, "The \$96 billion station is 2½ years behind schedule and costs are burgeoning," meaning still going up. U.S. taxpayers have even had to pay out an extra 3 to \$5 billion to help the Russians participate.

This Space Station will go down in history as the biggest boondoggle this Nation has ever produced. Mr. Speaker, it just goes to show once again that the Federal Government cannot do anything in an economical, cost-effective manner.

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Recognizing El Paso Vet Center

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

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an outstanding institution in

my district, the Department of Veterans Affairs El Paso Vet Center which has served the veterans of west Texas and southern New Mexico for the last 21 years. The center provides quality care to improve the lives of men and women who fought and defended our Nation's security and freedom. These services are provided with incredible compassion and understanding. Through counseling, guidance and rehabilitation programs, the center is an invaluable link between our veterans and the Department of Veterans Affairs. By reaching out to more than 100,000 veterans in the El Paso area, the center makes an incredible difference in our community.

It is veterans programs like this that deserve the full support and appreciation of this institution. Abraham Lincoln once said, "Let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the Nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan."

Wars indeed have left behind men and women who need our assistance. As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War, I am proud to recognize the El Paso Vet Center, an institution that has continuously provided assistance to our Nation's veterans in El Paso.

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THE FLEEING OF UTAH PROPERTY OWNERS

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

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Constitution says that if the Government takes private property, the owner of the property shall receive just compensation. In Washington County, Utah, the desert tortoise was put on the endangered species list. Therefore, the U.S. Government required hundreds of acres of tracts for that habitat. About 30 taxpayers were involved. They did not want to give up their ground. They wanted to keep it. But no, the Federal Government says, "We've got to take that ground for this habitat." And they said, "It's not taking your ground."

And then you ask, "What is it taking?"

"Well," they say, "you can keep your property but you can't put your foot on it. You can pay taxes on your property, but you can't use it. We're not taking your property."

So the Federal Government offered about one-fourth of the value of the ground. Now, is that fair? Is that just? Is that just compensation? I do not think it is.

Tom Brokaw of NBC does a program called The Fleecing of America. He used this land issue saying these poor taxpayers fleeced the American Government when they got it for that price. Well, he got it wrong, as the press normally does. I am just amazed that the media misses one so far. Who

really got fleeced on this, Mr. Speaker? The people who got fleeced were those people that gave up their ground for one-fourth of the value.

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REPUBLICAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Democrats are running scared. Their message of fear, class warfare and big government has failed again. Even their own focus groups and polls tell them Americans want the Republican agenda of less taxes, less government and local control.

And who can blame them? Just listen to what the Republicans have accomplished: we have created the longest economic expansion in America's history, balanced the budget, paid down the national debt, saved Medicare, locked away 100 percent of the Social Security surplus, eliminated the Social Security earnings penalty, and eliminated the marriage penalty and death tax. That is just to name a few.

The Democrats have attacked these accomplishments as risky. But I do not think it is risky to give something back to the very Americans who made this country great, the people.

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ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on each motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed on Tuesday, July 25, 2000, in the order in which that motion was entertained.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 4033, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 4710, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for the second electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

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BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT ACT OF 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 4033, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4033, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 413, nays 3, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 439]

YEAS—413

Ackerman
Aderholt
Allen

Andrews
Archer
Armey

Baca
Bachus
Baird

Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Bass
Bateman
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Boehler
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Carson
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth-Hage
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cook
Cooksey
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crowley
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards

Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fletcher
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fossella
Fowler
Frank (MA)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hansen
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill (IN)
Hill (MT)
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kleczka
Klink
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
Kuykendall

LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Largent
Larson
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Ose
Owens
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pickett
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich