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By the way, not a lot of countries in the world exercise this type of tax policy, but the United States does.

In Aspen, there are a lot of tales to be told with the conversion of former ranches into luxury homes or golf courses throughout this valley. Sometimes it was a simple financial decision, a choice to take advantage of soaring development values in the face of plummeting cattle prices. But for other families, the passing of a parent meant the passing of a life-style.

We have been around for a long time. The Maurin family's roots are deep in Long Capital Creek Road in Old Snowmass. For nearly a century, heritage and hard work, heritage and hard work for nearly a century were enough to sustain those that lived on that 300,000 acre stretch of land, but it all changed in 1976.

Until Dwight's father's death, each generation presided over a working cattle ranch that was both the life-blood and livelihood of our clan. His later years were lean years for Dwight's father, but the fate of the ranch was not at risk until the Internal Revenue Service showed up.

The tax bill on this ranch was to \$750,000, and what it took to pay the bill was to cut the ranch in half. No longer could the Maurin cattle migrate in winter months. It would be 10 years after cutting the ranch in half and selling off half of it, it would be 10 years of installments before the death tax could be paid.

What those taxes took was something very vital, the ability of our family to support the families by working the land that has so long been theirs. Maurin now works full time as a mechanic for the Roaring Fork School District, then helps with the ranch when he gets home at night. He does not mind the long hours he puts in.

What does get under his skin is the memory of an IRS agent overseeing his father's taxes either did not recognize that devastation was about to occur or did not care. It was just pay us, or we will seize everything. If anything is left over, we will keep it. If you cannot make ends meet on what is left, you can find work elsewhere.

We have no intention of selling the remaining 640 acres, but what happens to our daughters when we die? What choice will they have with only half of the land to graze. The ranch itself is only making enough to cover its operating costs and its annual property taxes.

It is Maurin's day job at the school district that pays the doctor bills, the car insurance, the grocery bills, and everything else. There is always hope that things will change before our daughters need to make a decision about the ranch.

But I wonder if people really think about the permanent changes that take place when a ranch is sold. It is not just a loss to the family, it ripples much wider. There are movements in

the right direction, but are they moving quickly enough? Because once it is sold to developers this ranch is gone forever.

Real quickly, "I Am a Businessman". So I am telling my colleagues this is not just families, farms and ranches.

I am a businessman. My business is all about what a small business is. I have 42 people employed, and we are in our second generation. I am all too familiar with the death tax, as my father passed away 2 years ago. My mother, my sister and I have been through the experience of paying estate taxes at 50 percent-plus rate. Let me explain how we were fortunate enough to get into this bracket.

My father left school after the 8th grade in 1938 and did odd jobs until serving for 3 years in World War II. Afterward, he purchased a small diner and built a 12-unit motel in a small town in Pennsylvania. He and mom worked 16 hours a day 7 days a week for 12 years before migrating to the restaurant supply business. That was better business. But it was not an easy task either.

I can remember him saying for many years that he hoped Monday's mail would have enough money to cover the payroll costs he had written on the previous Friday.

You can ask in this country, why would anybody start a business? There are obviously still Americans that are willing to risk everything to be in control of their lives. The satisfaction of proving that you can do better is still a motivator in our country. The key word is "risk". People are willing to take this risk, provide the jobs and tax base that makes this country grow.

Only by taxes from those who take risk does the government even exist. This is why when I see our Secretary of Treasury write about the repeal of the estate tax I can become exorcised. He seems to think that this money is the Treasury's money to dispense as it pleases.

Maybe it appears to be a simple view of fairness and equity if you spent your life in academia and never had to worry about making a payroll. But I resent like hell being told that I am selfish to want to keep what I and my family have earned and already paid taxes on.

In effect, the government is saying to businessmen, and I am skipping, by the way, some paragraphs, in effect, the government is saying to businessmen, since you worked harder and longer and were more successful, we will use your estate to pay for programs which we take political credit.

The original purpose of this death tax was to catch a handful of robber barons from the early industrial America. Now it reaches into the most productive parts of America. Is not the fact that 5 percent of our citizens now pay 50 percent of the tax bill evidence that there is more than enough progressivity in the Tax Code.

This was an article written in the Washington Post dated Friday, July

14th, 2000. I have other cases, more samples.

The key is this, Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we face on this floor a very significant vote. The President of the United States of America has made a decision that the death tax in this country should stand. The President of the United States of America has submitted to the U.S. House of Representatives in his budget a proposal, not only to let the death tax stand, but to increase it by \$9.5 billion.

The President of this country has vetoed a bipartisan bill. In other words, Republicans and Democrats sent to the President a piece of legislation saying, Mr. President, enough is enough. Get rid of this death tax. It fundamentally will not alter the revenues to this country. It is not a big revenue producer. Get rid of it. The President of the United States vetoed that bill, and tomorrow the President of the United States sends up to us on this House floor his veto message, and we have the opportunity to override it.

I am confident that we in these chambers and that the Democrats will come across the aisle and that, as a team, we will stand up and be counted and say that the death tax is not justified in this country, that the role of our government should be to encourage, not discourage the passing of business or property from one generation to the next generation.

Tomorrow we will stand, and we will take that vote. I am not sure how the result is going to be in the Senate, but I hope they vote to override it, too.

During my entire term in Congress, I cannot think of something that would be more pro family, that would help preserve more open space, that just out of fundamental fairness would go back to a fair and equitable tax scheme than doing away with the death tax.

Tomorrow it is on our shoulders. No way out. If one is going to be here to vote, one is going to have to post one's vote. Do not give one's constituents some magic tale about why one voted to keep the death tax in place. One is either for elimination of it or one is not.

Tomorrow my colleagues are going to make that decision. I hope for the sake of future Americans, I hope for the sake of the young people in their mid twenties that want to make their dreams come true, for the couples like my wife and I who want to make our dreams come true and for my parents who want to pass their dreams on to the next generation, I hope for the sake of those people, for my colleagues' constituents, that my colleagues stand tall against the President and vote to override his veto.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of attending a funeral.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BACA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PAUL) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SIMPSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. COBLE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ROHRBACHER, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS, A JOINT RESOLUTION AND A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REFERRED

Bills, a joint resolution and a concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 610. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in Washakie County and Big Horn County, Wyoming, to the Westside Irrigation District, Wyoming, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1894. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain land to Park County, Wyoming; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1936. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other National Forest System land in the State of Oregon and use the proceeds derived from the sale or exchange for National Forest System purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2020. An act to adjust the boundary of the Natchez Trace Parkway, Mississippi, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2279. An act to authorize the addition of land to Sequoia National Park, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2421. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing an Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area in Connecticut and Massachusetts; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2998. An act to designate a fellowship program of the Peace Corps promoting the work of returning Peace Corps volunteers in underserved American communities as the "Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program"; to the Committee on International Relations.

S.J. Res. 48. Joint resolution calling upon the President to issue a proclamation recog-

nizing the 25th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act; to the Committee on International Relations.

S. Con. Res. 53. Concurrent resolution condemning all prejudice against individuals of Asian and Pacific Island ancestry in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee did on the following dates present to the President, for his approval, bills of the House of the following titles:

On July 27, 2000:

H.R. 4437. To grant to the United States Postal Service the authority to issue semipostals, and for other purposes.

On July 28, 2000:

H.R. 4576. Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

On August 8, 2000:

H.R. 1749. To designate Wilson Creek in Avery and Caldwell Counties, North Carolina, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

H.R. 1982. To name the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Rome, New York, as the "Donald J. Mitchell Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic".

H.R. 1167. To amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide for further self-governance by Indian tribes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3291. To provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Shivwits Band of the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3519. To provide for negotiations for the creation of a trust fund to be administered by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development or the International Development Association to combat the AIDS epidemic.

On August 24, 2000:

H.R. 8. To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to phaseout the estate and gift taxes over a 10-year period.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, September 7, 2000, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

9481. A letter from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting the annual animal welfare enforcement report for fiscal year 1999, pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2155; to the Committee on Agriculture.

9482. A letter from the Administrator, Risk Management Agency, the Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Fig, Pear, Walnut, Almond, Prune, Table Grape, Peach, Plum, Apple and Stonefruit Crop Insurance Provisions—re-

ceived August 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9483. A letter from the Acting Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Exemption From Registration for Certain Foreign FCMS and IBs (RIN: 3038-AB46) received August 16, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9484. A letter from the Acting Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Exemption from Certain Part 4 Requirements for Commodity Pool Operators With Respect to Offerings to Qualified Eligible Persons and for Commodity Trading Advisors With Respect to Advising Qualified Eligible Persons (RIN: 3038-AB37) received August 16, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9485. A letter from the Acting Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Final Rules Concerning Amendments to Insider Trading Regulation (RIN: 3038-AB35) received August 16, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9486. A letter from the Acting Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Minimum Financial Requirements for Futures Commission Merchants and Introducing Brokers Amendments to the Provisions Governing Subordination Agreements Included in the Net Capital of a Futures Commission Merchant or Independent Introducing Broker (RIN: 3038-AB54) received August 28, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9487. A letter from the Acting Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Minimum Financial Requirements for Futures Commission Merchants and Introducing Brokers Amendments to the Provisions Governing Subordination Agreements Included in the Net Capital of a Futures Commission Merchant or Independent Introducing Broker (RIN: 3038-AB54) received August 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9488. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Spanish Pure Breed Horses from Spain [Docket No. 99-054-2] received July 28, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9489. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Hazelnuts Grown in Oregon and Washington; Increased Assessment Rate [Docket No. FV00-982-2 FR] received August 3, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9490. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Brucellosis in Cattle; State and Area Classifications; Louisiana [Docket No. 99-052-1] received July 31, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

9491. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Fee Increase for Egg