

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, on this historic occasion it is with great pride that I welcome the guest chaplain to the United States House of Representatives, the first Roman Catholic nun, and the first nonordained woman to offer the opening prayer, Sister Catherine Moran. Sister Catherine Moran is well known and widely admired in my hometown of Newark, New Jersey, where she lives and has made a great difference in our community with her over-15 years of service to the New Community Corporation and earlier as an assistant superintendent for secondary schools in the Newark Archdiocese.

A dynamic and forward-thinking leader with a passion for social justice, Sister Catherine works diligently to improve the quality of life in our community for all people. The New Community Corporation, which was founded by my good friend, Monsignor William Linder, has a tremendous record of success in restoring vibrancy to the city of Newark through a number of innovative economic development projects and community-based programs. I am pleased to have the opportunity to offer our heart-felt thanks to Sister Catherine for bringing such energy, creativity, and resourcefulness to our community.

Mr. Speaker, as a graduate of Seton Hall University in South Orange, New Jersey, I think it should be noted that Sister Catherine Moran is carrying on a legacy of another strong woman of faith whom my alma mater is named after, Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first saint who was born in the United States of America. I know my colleagues here in the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring Sister Catherine and congratulating her on this very special day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair and the House joins the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) in welcoming Sister Catherine to this historic event today. Sister, thank you.

#### BIBLE OF THE REVOLUTION

(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, on this day in history, September 12, 1782, 218 years ago, Congress made a significant decision reported in the records of Congress. The American Revolution had just concluded, and America was no longer bound by the British law making it illegal to print a Bible in the English language.

A plan was therefore presented for Congress to approve the printing of a Bible that would be "a neat edition of the Holy Scriptures for the use of schools." Congress approved the plan and on this day in 1782 our Founding Fathers issued the endorsement printed in the front of the "Bible of the Rev-

olution," now considered one of the rarest books in the world, and I saw one recently.

That endorsement declares: "The United States in Congress assembled recommend this edition of the Bible to the inhabitants of the United States." One historian observed that "this Congress of the States assumed all the rights and performed all the duties of a Bible Society long before such an institution existed."

This act by Congress on this day in 1782 shows that our Founding Fathers believed that it was appropriate for Congress to encourage religion and even the use of a Bible, a lesson many today would like us to forget.

#### INVESTIGATE THE CHINESE FIASCO

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Charles LaBella, Louis Freeh, David Shippers, even Justice Department officials who wish to remain anonymous all recommended an independent counsel investigation into this Chinese fiasco: the buying and spying of our secrets and literally making illegal campaign contributions to the Democrat National Committee, possibly threatening our national security.

Poll after poll shows that Americans overwhelmingly want an investigation; and on every occasion, Janet Reno said no. Janet Reno said no five times. In fact, Janet Reno said no every single time.

Mr. Speaker, Janet Reno has betrayed America and Congress has allowed it. Beam me up. I yield back the fact that Congress should demand through legislation an independent investigation of this Attorney General and this Chinese fiasco.

#### NO CONTROLLING LEGAL AUTHORITY

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, Vice President GORE made a promise to the AFL-CIO that he would keep Federal contracts from companies the unions did not like. This "blacklist" would be created under the proposed rules the administration released late last month and would allow unions to punish companies by holding hostage the yearly pool of \$200 billion in Federal contracts.

Mr. GORE's "blacklisting" regulations kick in far too easily. Under the proposed rule, all it takes for a contractor to be denied a contract is one adverse decision by an administrative law judge.

Mr. Speaker, when the Vice President got caught making questionable phone calls for campaign cash, his defense was that there was not any controlling legal authority. Well, Mr. Vice

President, administrative law judges' decisions are not "controlling legal authority" either. Their decisions are often overturned by agencies and by the Federal courts. In fact, a court recently overruled an ALJ and the board held that a company could lawfully fire a worker who sabotaged a company's repair work.

If Mr. GORE is going to try to punish honest companies and their hard-working employees, let him at least do it upon "controlling legal authority."

#### TAX BREAK FOR MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS

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

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, finally, today, Congress is going to push through a tax break that the President will rush to sign, not veto. Is it education credits, child care credits? No. A compromise on the marriage penalty or estate tax relief? No. How about how the other side loves to talk about tax breaks for small business. Will it go to small business? No. It is a tax break designed only for the largest multinational corporations operating in the United States. It will not produce a single American job, but it will cost American taxpayers \$5 billion to \$6 billion.

Over the next decade, \$750 million to GE, \$686 million to Boeing. It will double the tax break for arms exporters. It will give a generous tax break to tobacco exporters, and it will give a tax break to the pharmaceutical companies to sell even more of their drugs at prices lower than that that they offer to U.S. citizens subsidized by the U.S. taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker, this is outrageous. It will also go to foreign companies operating in the U.S.: BP, BASF, Daimler-Benz. Why are we rushing a \$5 billion tax break to these companies when Americans are still waiting?

#### RIGHTING A WRONG AND HELPING OUR FAMILIES

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, this week Congress will have a unique opportunity of righting a wrong and helping American families, all with just one vote. This week, we will vote to override President Clinton's veto of the Marriage Penalty Relief Act.

In an era of unprecedented tax surpluses, our Federal Government continues to force married couples to pay, on average, \$1,400 more in taxes than two single people earning the same salaries. It seems obvious to me and to the people of the State of Nevada that this tax discrimination is simply wrong and must be corrected, and now we will have the opportunity to correct this wrong.

Eliminating the marriage penalty will also help lessen the biggest concern facing American families today, and that is financial security. I want to give the working families of Nevada the opportunity to save more of their hard-earned money for their retirement, their children's education, and their families' future. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the hard-working American family and eliminate the unfair marriage penalty. It is time to give our families a break.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate is concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

#### SCHOOL SAFETY HOTLINE ACT OF 2000

Mr. TANCREDI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5123) to require the Secretary of Education to provide notification to States and State educational agencies regarding the availability of certain administrative funds to establish school safety hotlines.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5123

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) an estimated 255,000 violent incidents occurred in 1999 on school property, at an official school function, or while traveling to and from school;

(2) for the complete school year July 1, 1997, through June 30, 1998, there were 58 school-associated violent deaths that resulted from 46 incidents; 46 of these violent deaths were homicides, 11 were suicides, and 1 teenager was killed by a law enforcement officer in the course of duty;

(3) although fewer school-associated violent deaths have occurred in recent years, the total number of multiple victim homicide events has increased;

(4) in 1997, 5 percent of all 12th graders reported that they had been purposefully injured, while they were at school, with a weapon such as a knife, gun, or club during the prior 12 months, and 14 percent reported that they had been injured on purpose without a weapon;

(5) on average, each year from 1993 to 1997, there were 131,400 violent crimes against teachers at schools, as reported by teachers from both public and private schools, which translates into a rate of 31 violent crimes for every 1,000 teachers;

(6) tools should be created for, and provided to, students, teachers, parents, and administrators across the country so that they have the ability to provide the information necessary to law enforcement authorities to take action before other tragedies occur; and

(7) school safety hotlines allow students, parents, and school personnel the opportunity to report threats of school violence to law enforcement authorities, thus reducing incidents of youth violence.

#### SEC. 2. NOTIFICATION.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Education shall provide written notification to the States and State educational agencies of the ability of States or State educational agencies, as appropriate, to use State administrative funds provided under title IV and title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to implement programs related to the establishment and operation of a toll-free telephone hotline that students, parents, and school personnel use to report suspicious, violent, or threatening behavior related to schools or school functions to law enforcement authorities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDI) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDI).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TANCREDI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 5123.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. TANCREDI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5123, the School Safety Hotline Act of 2000, which would require the Secretary of Education to notify State education agencies so that they can use funding under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to establish school safety hotlines.

One of the effects of the recent rash of violence in our Nation's schools is that many of our students no longer feel safe. Recent studies and polls have confirmed this, showing that the number of students who fear violence in their school is at a record level. We cannot expect the educational process to continue unencumbered when teachers and students are as concerned with their safety as they are with teaching and learning.

School safety hotlines allow students, teachers, parents, and school personnel the opportunity to report threats or acts of violence to authorities. They give everyone back some of the security that they deserve, allowing them to concentrate on teaching and learning, the very reasons for which they are in school.

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According to the report "The School Shooter: A Threat Assessment Perspective" released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation last week, one of the most important aspects of identifying potential violent adolescents is detecting that point at which they begin to talk about the event they are planning,

when a student intentionally or unintentionally reveals clues to feelings, thoughts, fantasies, attitudes, or intentions that may signal an impending violent act.

Not too long ago we had the opportunity to hear from members of the Secret Service who came into our office and made us aware of the fact that they had been working on a profile similar to this, or a document similar to this, and looking at the number of people who have been involved with either threats against personnel or threats against elected officials or people who have carried out those threats, and then looking at what they found were similar characteristics among the people who had been involved with school shootings and school violence.

One of the things they told us, there were several common elements, but the one that struck my attention at the time was the fact that all of these people tell somebody; that none of them have acted alone, in a vacuum, without ever letting anyone know of their intentions.

If that is the case, in fact that happens and these people are inclined toward that and do in fact tell others, then something like the school safety hotline, the need for it is quite evident.

In the aftermath of the tragedies around the country, I worked in cooperation with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, the Colorado Department of Education, U.S. West, now Qwest, AT&T, and local sheriffs departments throughout the State to establish the Colorado school safety hotline. We were able to pool the resources of State agencies and private companies to provide this needed resource for the State which provides parents, students, and teachers with a valuable tool in our efforts to make schools safe.

We were able to come together as elected leaders, administrators, neighbors, friends, and families to search for ways to restore that sense of safety and security to our schools. Now if someone learns of a potential threat to a fellow student, a teacher, or a school facility, they have an opportunity to provide this information to law enforcement and school authorities who will follow up on their tip, and they can do so anonymously.

All reports to the hotline are kept strictly confidential. Here is how it works, and here is how it has worked in Colorado. The Colorado Bureau of Investigation answers the school safety hotline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This is enormously important. We have talked to other people and other school districts that have implemented these, but they are not really always available and accessible to a live person on the other end. Sometimes they go into a recording. That leaves a great deal of liability for the agency involved.

This hotline, the one we have in Colorado, operates, as I say, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It goes to a live person. Then the sheriff's department