

was what they were saying among themselves, because they had that same yearning for freedom and for opportunity, economic as well as political.

There is a great sharing between our Nation and Hungary, and to know that Hungary has set an example of endurance of a thousand years, I think, is a great challenge for the United States of America. I would love to see the day when the parliament in Hungary is passing a resolution commending the United States of America on 1,000 years as a nation. Anyone who has never had a chance to visit Hungary and Budapest, this is one of the most beautiful spots in the entire world there on the Danube River where the Hungarian parliament is located. So as well as commemorating Hungary, we urge Americans to visit this great land.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS); and of course, for him, it is not just a matter of his ancestors but himself who was born there, and he sets the example, as I mentioned, of being part of the melting pot: E Pluribus Unum, out of many nations has come one, the United States. And we want to remember this special land of Hungary and congratulate them on their millennium.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I want to thank my colleague and friend for his most eloquent remarks.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, may I just say that as one of Hungarian heritage, who is immensely proud of his heritage, it is important for us to realize that this small nation of 10 million people has been a leader globally in science, in music, in art, in sports, in almost every field of human endeavor. In the Sidney Olympics just concluded, again the Hungarian Olympic team acquitted itself with remarkable success. There is a tremendous list of Nobel laureates from Hungary, testifying to the scientific and educational and academic achievements of this small country.

I strongly urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution and, more importantly, to work along with those of us who have special interests in Hungary to continue building ties of business and culture and academic exchange and good fellowship with the people of Hungary.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LANTOS. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. ISTOOK), and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) for their work on this measure and for their supporting statements. This is an important resolution, and I just want to urge my colleagues to fully support the measure.

Mr. LANTOS. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman of the committee for his words.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DICKY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 400

Whereas the ancestors of the Hungarian nation, 7 tribes excelling in horsemanship and handicrafts, settled in the Carpathian basin around the end of the 9th century;

Whereas during the next century this tribal association had accommodated itself to a permanently settled status;

Whereas the ruler of the nation at the end of the first millennium, Prince Stephen, realized with great foresight that the survival of his nation depends on its adapting itself to its surroundings by becoming a Christian kingdom and linking its future to Western civilization;

Whereas in 1000 A.D. Stephen, later canonized as Saint Stephen, adopted the Christian faith and was crowned with a crown which he requested from Pope Sylvester II of Rome;

Whereas, by those acts, Saint Stephen, King of Hungary, established his domain as 1 of the 7 Christian kingdoms of Europe of the time and anchored his nation in Western civilization forever;

Whereas during the past 1,000 years, in spite of residing on the traditional crossroads of invaders from the East and the West, the Hungarian nation showed great vitality in preserving its unique identity, language, culture, and traditions;

Whereas in his written legacy, Saint Stephen called for tolerance and hospitality toward settlers migrating to the land from other cultures;

Whereas through the ensuing centuries other tribes and ethnic and religious groups moved to Hungary and gained acceptance into the nation, enriching its heritage;

Whereas since the 16th century a vibrant Protestant community has contributed to the vitality and diversity of the Hungarian nation;

Whereas, particularly after their emancipation in the second half of the 19th century, Hungarians of the Jewish faith have made an enormous contribution to the economic, cultural, artistic, and scientific life of the Hungarian nation, contributing more than half of the nation's Nobel Prize winners;

Whereas the United States has benefitted immensely from the hard work, dedication, scientific knowledge, and cultural gifts of hundreds of thousands of immigrants from Hungary; and

Whereas in this year Hungary also celebrates the 10th anniversary of its first post-communist free and democratic elections, the first such elections within the former Warsaw Pact; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) congratulates the Republic of Hungary, and Hungarians everywhere, on the one thousandth anniversary of the founding of the Kingdom of Hungary by Saint Stephen; and

(2) commends the Republic of Hungary for the great determination, skill, and sense of purpose it demonstrated in its recent transition to a democratic state dedicated to upholding universal rights and liberties, a free market economy, and integration into European and transatlantic institutions.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Concurrent Resolution 400, the matter just considered.

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

There was no objection.

PASS THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, over 900,000 women suffer violence each year at the hands of an intimate partner. We need the Violence Against Women Act to be reauthorized. It has provided over \$1.6 billion in Federal grants to prosecutors, to law enforcement officials, and to victim assistance programs; yet it was allowed to expire this past weekend.

Last week, this body passed it overwhelmingly. There is deep support in the Senate, with over 70 co-sponsors. Yet the Senate is holding this important piece of legislation up. Meanwhile, women fleeing domestic violence and children who live in violent situations wait and wait and wait.

I urge the other body to pass this bill immediately. Women and children around this Nation are counting on us. We should have passed it in the other body last week. We should not have allowed it to expire.

VITAL LEGISLATION NEEDS ADDRESSING BEFORE CONGRESS ADJOURNS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my support for moving along the Violence Against Women Act. I believe that we have more than an important responsibility to deal with this legislation. As Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, I can tell my colleagues of the terrible and horrific results that come from a child that has experienced violence in the home.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, I think it is vital that we spend these last waning hours to address the question of a patients' bill of rights to address the question of a guaranteed Medicare drug prescription benefit for seniors. Having come from my district, I know what people are crying out for.

I also believe, Mr. Speaker, that as we have seen three recent votes on the floor of the House this evening, it is imperative when we look at serious issues dealing with privacy and violence against women that we have

hearings and the opportunity to deliberate and add amendments to the bill so we can put forward to the American people important and vital and serious and valuable legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I think that the American people are not expecting us to be the "do-nothing" Congress. They, frankly, want us to do our jobs.

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.

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

(Mr. BILIRAKIS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. PORTER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

WIND FOR ELECTRICITY

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

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I represent San Diego, California, which is undergoing a tremendous crisis in terms of the price that we pay for electricity. In the last 3 months, prices have doubled and tripled. And while we have a short-term cap on those prices, we are looking to Congress to bring down the wholesale price of electricity and bring down the rates to consumers and small businesses.

Tonight, I want to speak about the long-range issue of energy and how that affects San Diego and the rest of our Nation. We all know that oil, natural gas, and home heating fuel prices are at a 10-year high. American consumers are facing record increases in domestic energy costs. This past summer households have been hit by soaring electricity rates in California, and motorists have faced astronomical gasoline price hikes. Now, in the coming winter months, high energy prices will affect households throughout the country.

The economic consequences are all too evident to individual consumers

both at home and overseas. In Europe we see gasoline shortages, panic buying, and massive protests over rising prices. Furthermore, the impact does not stop with the individual consumer; the whole Nation bears the consequences. A surge in the price of energy can derail the economic expansion that we have worked so hard to achieve and maintain.

I think we know that energy supplies and prices are indeed cyclical. We have been lulled into inaction by the long downside half of that cycle. Oil and gas have been in adequate supply and the moderate energy prices have made us forget the upside of that cycle. The energy crises of the 1970s and 1980s are forgotten history. Consequently, we have failed to implement policies to increase our energy supplies and to promote stable prices. We have steadily grown more dependent on conventional and imported energy. Congress has done very little to protect the Nation from the inevitable upswing in that cycle.

In particular, we have failed to support the development of alternative energy resources. In terms of domestic resource potential, wind energy is the most overlooked fuel source in this Nation. This resource is available in almost every State and can be utilized for electric generation more quickly than any other energy resource. Although California has been a leader, other States, such as Wyoming, Wisconsin, Vermont, Texas, Pennsylvania, Oregon, New York, Minnesota and Iowa, are beginning to utilize their wind energy resources. The use of wind power for electric generation is slowly growing.

Compared with the tax incentives for conventional nuclear energy, Federal tax support for renewable energy resources, such as wind, is relatively small. Aside from accelerated depreciation, which is shared by other fast-evolving technologies, wind facilities now qualify only for a temporary Federal production tax credit. This credit helps provide a price floor, but if the price of wind-generated electricity rises above a certain benchmark, the tax credit phases out and this credit took effect in 1994.

It was originally decided to sunset this credit in June of 1999. But several years after the credit was enacted, Congress considered repealing it when energy prices were at an all-time low. Fortunately, Congress retained the credit and later extended it until 2002. Despite wavering congressional policy, the credit has promoted use of domestic wind energy resources and has promoted technological development.

An uncertain credit and a temporary extension, however, does not support long-term planning, development and construction of electric generation projects. The experience with another credit program proves my point. Between 1986 and 1992, when the section 48 solar and geothermal credit was finally made permanent, Congress extended

this credit in 1-, 2-, and 3-year increments. Sizable projects could not be undertaken because of the short eligibility period; and small short-term projects that were attempted had to be rushed to completion at great cost to meet the qualification deadline. For both policy and practical reasons, the wind production credit should be made permanent, like the credit for solar and geothermal resources.

Our long-time reliance on conventional fuels has created a mindset which ignores alternatives. Mr. Speaker, the resulting institutional practices resist the use of nonconventional energy resources. Power management, transmission, and pricing practices need to adjust to the requirement of utilizing a new alternative resource. With the threat of another energy crisis looming in the future, Congress needs to reassess and redirect our national energy programs.

To spur that analysis and redirection, I have introduced today the Wind for Electricity Act to specifically promote the development of wind energy resources in this Nation. I know that San Diego is looking to this Congress for short-term relief from the high prices of electricity and to long-term alternative energy resources. I hope we all act soon.

RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS SPECIAL ORDER

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

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I have had the pleasure of serving in this body for 14 years. And during the 14 years, one of the things that I have learned about our colleagues is that we all have a feeling of high regard for each other. If someone is going to say something about another Member, the protocol usually has been that the Member be told about it in advance.

This past Thursday that did not happen, as the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) got up after everyone left Washington, late Thursday, and did a special order for 1 hour; a tirade mentioning a number of Members of Congress. Now, I will not do to him what he did to our colleagues. He only mentioned me briefly, but I told the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) this morning that I would come here personally and respond to the things he said regarding me.

The gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) said that we were too harsh in criticizing the administration for the possibility of having the administration transfer technology to China in return for campaign dollars. He went on to make two specific charges: number one, that the Cox Committee, which I served on, in fact totally exonerated the administration on those allegations; and, number two, that the Justice Department said there was no