

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, today, it is my privilege to welcome Father Thomas Kuhn as our guest chaplain. Father Tom is currently pastor of the Church of the Incarnation in Centerville, Ohio, one of the largest Catholic parishes in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

Father Kuhn has been pastor at Incarnation since 1989. He is leading a delegation of some 75 8th graders from Incarnation School, which has won the U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School award for excellence several times, most recently in 1999.

A number of his students from Incarnation are with us this afternoon watching these proceedings from the Gallery. We want to welcome you. I am sure the gentleman from Dayton, Ohio (Mr. HALL) will join me in welcoming Father Kuhn and all of you to the Capitol today.

Father Tom is the former principal of Cincinnati's Elder High School and the former assistant pastor of St. John's Church in West Chester, Ohio, and it was during that time that I came to know him, and he remains a great friend today.

Please join me in welcoming Father Kuhn as our guest chaplain and the students of Incarnation School as they explore our Nation's Capitol.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind Members that they are not to address or refer to the guests in the Gallery.

HIGH GAS PRICES

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, government investigators said, and I quote, there is no conspiracy by petroleum companies to raise gas prices in America. Unbelievable.

Who is kidding whom here? Gas prices are over \$2 a gallon, and, in addition, it just seems every weekend they just raise them 25 cents a gallon just for the sake of it.

Mr. Speaker, if that is not enough to flatulate your rectangle, the oil companies announced that gas prices will hit \$3 a gallon this summer.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker; those so-called government investigators are either on the payroll of those oil companies or they are smoking dope.

I yield back the biggest rip-off in the history of the United States of America.

URGING SOCIAL SECURITY COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATION TO KEEP SOCIAL SECURITY SOLVENT FOR NEXT 75 YEARS

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, through you to the President's Commission on Social Security, I would suggest many of us are very concerned that we are going to review a proposal that might not keep Social Security solvent for the next 75 to 100 years.

I think it is important that we urge the President, that we urge this Commission, to come back to this legislative body with a proposal that is going to at least keep Social Security solvent for the next 75 years. Social Security is a pay-as-you-go program.

It is going broke as we experience demographics that represent a decline in the birth rate and an increase in life expectancy. It is a good program for America. It is a serious problem. We need to protect Social Security.

INTRODUCTION OF IMPACT AID BILL

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

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, 21 of my bipartisan colleagues and I introduced my first bill, a measure important for the education of military children. Our bill is called GRADE-A, the Government Reservation Accelerated Development for Education Act, and it guarantees that federally-impacted schools receive the dollars they need from the impact aid program.

Mr. Speaker, over 5,000 military personnel qualify for food stamps, and people who wear their country's uniform sometimes fall below the poverty line while their kids go to schools financially teetering on the edge. As we boost military pay and housing, we must also care for military kids.

Mr. Speaker, over 90 percent of the funding for education comes from local funds, from funds such as property taxes. But what happens if that property is owned by the Federal Government and off the tax rolls? Kids report to class with no property tax dollars needed for their school.

GRADE-A guarantees that the Federal Government will step in to ensure that these kids have the resources they need for their education. It ensures that when the military and other children from Federal property report for school that they are welcomed in a good school with sound financial backing. GRADE-A has been endorsed by the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools and many school administrators across the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, as we make education our priority, let us remember the children of men and women in uniform.

SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESSES SUPPORTS AMERICA

(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, the United States was built upon and by small family-owned businesses, and America is today known for its unique, entrepreneurial spirit.

Even today, in the era of corporate mergers, small businesses remain the cornerstone, yes, the foundation of our economy.

They employ 53 percent of our work force and account for 99.7 percent of the Nation's employers. Yet burdensome regulations, a complex Tax Code, and an inaccessible health care system have been stifling the ability of small businesses to remain viable and successful.

As a Congress, we need to ensure that the entrepreneurial spirit that built this country does not diminish due to an unfair tax and regulatory system.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support small business owners in their pursuit of the American dream. I yield back all of the unfair taxes and regulations that have served as obstacles for the small businesses which make our Nation great and prosperous.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK 2001

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the House's attention to our country's most vital economic sector, our small businesses.

Each year, for the past 38 years, the President has issued a proclamation calling for the celebration of National Small Business Week. This year, National Small Business Week, which is sponsored by the SBA, is being held right now.

Mr. Speaker, this year's celebration will honor the estimated 25.5 million small businesses in America that employ more than half the country's private work force, create 3 out of every 4 new jobs, and generate a majority of American innovations.

Small Business Week also recognizes small business owners all across America for their personal achievements and contributions to our economy. From this group, in Indiana, the Indiana Small Business Person of the Year is Joseph A. Beckman. He is the owner of Home Lumber and Glenlord Lumber Company. This a retail lumber and land development concern that has grown steadily under his leadership and become a successful business in Indiana.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Mr. Beckman and all the winners from across America who work long hours and make huge sacrifices to build family small businesses that are the backbone of this economy.

CONGRATULATING JAMES TODD RATHER

(Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate James Todd Rather of Fairmont, Minnesota.

Todd will be in Washington this week to receive the Star of Life award. The Stars of Life is an American Ambulance Association program to honor dedicated professionals in the ambulance service industry.

Todd, who is a registered paramedic and is a team captain for Fairmont Gold Cross Ambulance Services, has been selected as one of three EMS professionals in Minnesota to receive this honor.

EMS providers are the safety net of the health care system. In rural areas, like the Minnesota district I represent, where physicians and other health care providers do not exist in every community, EMS provides the public their only access point to quality health care. That is why I introduced H.R. 1353, the Sustaining Access to Vital Emergency Medical Services Act to help our EMS providers.

Every day, EMTs and paramedics are heroes in their communities. I want to thank Todd for his commitment to serving his community.

Mr. Speaker, it is people like Todd Rather who give selflessly of themselves that make our communities a better place to live.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of 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 has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

HONORING NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 108) honoring the National Science Foundation for 50 years of service to the Nation.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 108

Whereas Congress created the National Science Foundation in 1950 to promote the progress of science, to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare, and to secure the national defense;

Whereas the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman on May 10, 1950;

Whereas the National Science Foundation strengthens the economy and improves the quality of life in the United States as the

Federal Government's only agency dedicated to the support of education and fundamental research in all scientific and engineering disciplines;

Whereas the National Science Foundation has worked continuously and successfully to ensure that the United States maintains its leadership in discovery, learning, and innovation in the sciences, mathematics, and engineering;

Whereas the National Science Foundation has supported the research of more than half of the United States Nobel laureates in physics, chemistry, and economics;

Whereas the National Science Foundation has been the lead Federal agency in a number of national science initiatives, such as those in information technology and nanotechnology;

Whereas the National Science Foundation funds almost 20,000 research and education projects in science and engineering at over 2,000 colleges and universities, elementary and secondary schools, nonprofit organizations, and small businesses throughout our Nation;

Whereas the National Science Foundation's innovative education programs work to ensure that every American student receives a solid foundation in science, technology, and mathematics through support for the training and education of teachers, the public, and students of all ages and backgrounds, and by supporting research into new teaching tools, curricula, and methodologies;

Whereas the programs funded by the National Science Foundation are an exemplary demonstration of the value of scientific peer review in selecting the most innovative and technically excellent research activities using a network of over 50,000 scientists and engineers each year;

Whereas the National Science Foundation's international programs promote new partnerships and cooperative projects between United States scientists and engineers and their foreign colleagues, and such partnerships play a key role in establishing and strengthening diplomatic and economic ties; and

Whereas research supported by the National Science Foundation has led to discoveries, technologies, and products which affect our daily lives, including a greater understanding of bacteria, viruses, and the structure of DNA; medical diagnostic tools, such as Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI); the Internet, web browsers, and fiber optics, which have revolutionized global communication; polymer materials used in products ranging from clothing to automobiles; Doppler radar used for accurate weather forecasting; artificial skin that can help recovering burn victims; economic research in game and decision theory which has led to a greater understanding of economic cycles; and discoveries of new planets, black holes, and insights into the nature of the universe: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) recognizes the significance of the anniversary of the founding of the National Science Foundation;

(2) acknowledges the completion of 50 years of achievement and service by the National Science Foundation to the United States; and

(3) reaffirms its commitment for the next 50 years to support research, education, and technological advancement and discovery through the National Science Foundation, the premier scientific agency in the Federal Government.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Michigan (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 108.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer this resolution H. Con. Res. 108 honoring the National Science Foundation for 50 years of service to our Nation. As chairman of the Committee on Science on Basic Research, which is responsible for oversight and authorization of the National Science Foundation, I wanted to take a few moments to mention some of the highlights of this highly successful and yet often unappreciated agency.

Congress and President Harry S. Truman established the National Science Foundation on May 10, 1950 to fund research in the basic sciences, engineering, mathematics and technology.

It is the Federal Government's only agency dedicated to the support of education and fundamental research in all scientific disciplines from physics and math to zoology and anthropology. For 50 years, NSF-sponsored research has developed the finest science and new technologies that have boosted our economic productivity, enhanced our national security, and preserved our citizens' health and well-being.

Throughout its history, NSF provided support to thousands of researchers and students across the Nation in university labs and in our schools and our industry, support that has fostered innovation, technical achievement, and a greater understanding of our world and our universe. From the depths of space to the depths of the ocean, from the North Pole to the South Pole around the globe, NSF-funded research has helped explain our world and led to innovations that have forever changed it.

The Internet, for example, and the technologies that enable it, began in part because of NSF support for networking technologies.

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NSF funded a network, linking computer science departments, then moved on to develop a high-speed backbone called the NSFNET that became the basis for what is now the Internet.

NSF-supported research has also led to miracle drugs, vaccinations, cell phones, and even bar codes that readers in supermarkets now use. NSF supports potentially life-saving research in developing the Doppler, research in weather prediction using the Doppler