

for all Americans everywhere, so that no one is left behind.

TIME TO GIVE BACK THE BUDGET SURPLUS TO AMERICA'S 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, many Nevadans have come to me and said, Jim, I just can't make ends meet. We are paying more and more in taxes. How are we supposed to save for our retirement, pay off our mortgage, or even send our kids to college?

Well, Mr. Speaker, these concerns are real. According to the Census Bureau, the average household today pays almost \$9,500 in Federal income taxes every year, and that is twice what it paid in 1985. By conservative estimates, the Federal Government will have a record-breaking surplus this year of \$5.6 trillion.

Now it is time to grant the hard-working Americans the tax relief they so deserve and need. The tax relief package that President Bush has outlined will give \$1,600 back to the average working American family of four. This \$1,600 could pay their mortgage for a month, help pay off a credit card debt, or the tuition at a community college for one year.

The surplus was created by the tax dollars of the American people. It belongs to them. There is no excuse for Congress not to give the hard-working Americans what they want, what they need and what they deserve, a tax break. It is time to give the extra money back.

WASHINGTON-LINCOLN RECOGNITION ACT OF 2001

(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, I am pleased to announce that yesterday on the 90th birthday of one of my favorite Presidents, Ronald Reagan, I introduced legislation that will honor two of my most favorite Presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

My legislation, the Washington-Lincoln Recognition Act of 2001, will accomplish two goals: first, my bill will correct a long-standing misconception regarding the Federal holiday honoring Washington's birthday, which in law is designated Washington's Birthday, but which is erroneously called President's Day by many since a 1971 Nixon proclamation.

Second, my legislation urges our President to issue a proclamation each year recognizing the anniversary of the birth of President Abraham Lincoln. Although this does not create a new Federal holiday, I believe it will serve to bring this great leader the recognition he deserves. At the present time,

there is no official Federal recognition of President Lincoln's birthday.

As I have always said, when you honor everyone, you honor no one. Simply celebrating a generic President's Day diminishes the accomplishments of great Presidents like Washington and Lincoln and rewards the mediocrity of others.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with my colleagues on this issue and the passage of the Washington-Lincoln Recognition Act of 2001.

BUYING OUR WAY INTO BANKRUPTCY

(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, the trade deficit is at \$10 billion a week, \$40 billion a month, a half trillion dollars a year. Unbelievable. Japan continues to take \$60 billion out of our economy a year, and China is now taking over \$100 billion a year out of America, and both Japan and China continue to keep American products out.

Now, if that is not enough to neuter your dragon, China has missiles pointed at us.

Beam me up. A Nation that buys more than they sell will go bankrupt, and a Nation that allows illegal trade destroys all American industry.

I yield back the bankruptcy of America's steel industry. Day after day the filings continue to mount up.

HIGHLIGHTING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RURAL HEALTH CARE COALITION

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

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCINTYRE) in highlighting the importance of a caucus here in this Congress, the Rural Health Care Coalition. It is a group of us, 160 strong, both Republicans and Democrats, who have come together to advance the cause on behalf of rural America and to make certain that our constituents, our citizens across this country, can access health care, regardless of where they live.

I would encourage my colleagues, the new Members of Congress and those who have not considered belonging to our organization, to do so, for the purpose of educating ourselves, advocating our positions with other Members of Congress and leveraging our votes.

We would encourage our urban colleagues to join us as well, because many of them have very similar issues, as our constituents try to obtain the health care necessary.

I commend the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUSSLE) and thank him for his leadership of this organization over the last 2 years and look forward to work-

ing with my colleague from North Carolina for the next two.

CLOSING THE PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE OF RACE RELATIONS

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

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, how in the world can a President who lost the African American vote, the Latino vote, the Asian American vote and the popular vote shut down the Presidential Office of Race Relations?

I thought George W. Bush wanted to change the tone in Washington. Or maybe changing the tone to President Bush means stifling minority voices. I hope not.

Our President confided to us that he is just a "white guy Republican." Well, we know that. But all of America is not white or Republican, and he has got to serve us too. He said he would be President for all Americans. Our President needs to listen to America's minorities and give us a chance to be heard.

The Office of Race Relations was an effort on the part of the previous President to allow minority voices to be heard. This is not a good move to restore healing in America or to allow this administration to bridge the racial divide. It sends a terrible message to whites and minorities who care about racial healing in this country.

I hope the President and his advisers will reconsider this action.

ENSURING TAX CUTS STRENGTHENS AMERICA

(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, we are now considering the question of tax relief: What kind of tax relief should we have? How far should we go to stimulate the economy?

It strikes me, Mr. Speaker, that we have heard a lot of bragging out of the White House for the last 7 years that the 1993 tax increase was part of the reason that we have had such a good economy. But now I see nobody, nobody on that side of the aisle or anywhere else, suggesting that we should have a tax increase now to stimulate the economy. It is ridiculous.

The question is, how do we have some kind of tax cuts that are going to help keep this economy strong? One of the greatest contributors to the surplus or overtaxation is the Social Security tax. That is where most of the surplus has come from. The challenge is—how do we use that money, how do we save that money—because we are going to need it starting in 2010 when the baby boomers retire. The challenge is great.

I urge the American people and this body to become familiar with the debate on how do we give the kind of tax

cuts that are best going to lead to a strong economy and a strong America.

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GORO HOKAMA POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 132) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 620 Jacaranda Street in Lanai City, Hawaii, as the "Goro Hokama Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 132

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

SECTION 1. GORO HOKAMA POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 620 Jacaranda Street in Lanai City, Hawaii, shall be known and designated as the "Goro Hokama Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Goro Hokama Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GIBBONS). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) and the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER).

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

On January 3 of this year, I introduced H.R. 132, to designate the Post Office on the island of Lanai as the "Goro Hokama Post Office." I thank the majority of this committee for allowing me to bring this bill up at this early stage in our session, and I know that this is a moment of great honor to Mr. Hokama, whom I advised yesterday. Although it is only 5:00 a.m. in Hawaii, I believe that he and his family are listening.

The Lanai Post Office came to my attention, and it is in my district; it is a small island with only 3,000 people, but the Post Office situation came to my attention several years ago. The population had grown at that point and there were post office boxes on the outside of the Old Post Office, and it became quite evident that a new building had to be constructed. So, after years of waiting, finally in February of the year 2000, a new post office was constructed.

I think that it is extremely appropriate, therefore, that this post office be named the Goro Hokama Post Office. I have known Mr. Hokama almost the entire time that I have been active in politics, since the late 1950s. I have known him as a person of enormous dedication and integrity. He has given of his life to the growth and develop-

ment of the island of Lanai where he was born and where his family currently resides. He was picked out as a person of great leadership potential. Even in his high school, he was elected to serve as the student body president.

Like most other young men, he went off to war, served in the army, came back and began his public service career. He was employed by the Dole Pineapple Company, which virtually ran the entire economic industry of Lanai for many, many years, and was a member of the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union and served in many important capacities.

I recall that he came to Washington during my first tenure here as a Member of Congress representing the interests of the working people of this Nation, as well as the people of his union, the ILWU. He continues to serve in many capacities as a member of that union.

His life story expands the traditional life story of most people who are active in civic affairs, in athletic programs, giving of himself in every possible way. But the thing that singles out Goro Hokama is someone who is deserving of this honor that we are bestowing on him today is his 42 years in elective office, representing his island on the Maui County Council and previously on that same board which was then named the Board of Supervisors. He chaired this County Council for 16 years, served in all of the various capacities, and really exerted not just a feeling of Lanai and his hometown, but the essence of Hawaii, the directions that we wanted to go, the concern that he always expressed about working families.

He also was active in the Hawaii Association of Counties and served as president 11 times and came to numerous meetings with NACO, the National Association of Counties. He has currently not abandoned his responsibilities; in fact, he has engaged himself in many, many more ways. He serves as the chairman of the Maui County Hospital Management committee and has been, since 1998, vice-chair of the Maui Civil Service Commission. In fact, when I called to reach him yesterday, he was presiding over that Civil Service Commission meeting over on Maui.

So with his family, his wife, Kiwae Deguchi and their two children, Riki and Joy, who I know are all very, very honored and pleased at this effort today in the naming of the central place on Lanai Island where everybody goes and to have the name of Goro Hokama emblazoned over this post office is just a small way to honor this humble and simple public servant for all of the years that he has devoted to the betterment of their lives. So I am pleased to stand and offer this bill and to ask Members to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from the First Congressional District of Hawaii (Mr. ABERCROMBIE).

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I want to particularly thank the chair-

man today for the opportunity to be here. Mr. Speaker, it is probably something that many of us tend to take for granted over time, that we have the opportunity to be on this floor and to sponsor bills such as the Goro Hokama Post Office Building bill, and in some respects could be seen by others as pro forma. I think, Mr. Speaker, we have learned, and I am sure the chairman has learned, that it is the obvious that we have to repeat to ourselves over and over again, because it is the obvious that sometimes we take most for granted and forget first. This, perhaps, Mr. Speaker, is one of those occasions, where we remind ourselves that we really, in fact, do have the high honor and privilege of serving the people of this Nation.

While the issues may be weighty in many respects and a somber and sober attitude required with respect to the adjudication of these issues and the resolution of these issues, today I can tell my colleagues, this is an occasion of joy for the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) and myself, and I hope, by extension in some small way, for the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) as presiding officer, and for the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) today, to be here because we have, in fact, the opportunity to recognize, as my colleague indicated, a public servant, someone who has seen himself always as the humble servant of the people of Hawaii and, most particularly, the people of Lanai.

As the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) indicated, the island of Lanai is a small island; small in population, small in size, known the world over as the Pineapple Island, and Goro Hokama is central to the history of this island, not only from the time that he spent as a young man before his service in the United States Army, but almost literally upon the time that he returned from the service to Lanai to take up his duties as a member of the ILWU in representing the working people of the island of Lanai. He was elected to public office. The people who knew him best, who knew him from the time he was a little boy, understood that in Goro Hokama, they had someone of extraordinary ability. That ability and insight, I might add, Mr. Speaker, was such that he encouraged people. He encouraged people to participate in the public life of Hawaii, and with statehood 41 years ago, the experience that he had with the county, the experience he had with my good and dear friend, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK), and in encouraging her, and this is not always possible. It is something we take for granted now, Mr. Speaker.

It was not easy to be a member of a minority. It was not easy to be seen as someone who did not have control of the levers of power, to be able to continue to succeed, to encourage others, to participate in a way that gave others confidence in him, and Goro Hokama was the person who did that.