

We bailed out the airline industry, only to see all of these airline people getting laid off. This House has not done anything for the very least of these people. We are spiritual, I believe; but Members are going to have to help my belief.

OVERSIGHT NECESSARY OF CHARITABLE AND RELIEF EFFORTS

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I welcome the gentlewoman from Indiana with her comments to this extent: honorable people can disagree. Where I take exception is when patriotism is impugned and motives are attributed when there is honest disagreement. That is the key difference.

Now, to a sense of unity and a sense of action, let me call the attention of the House to a matter of concern that is neither Republican nor Democrat but totally American. That is the fate of the survivors and the dependents of the horrible attacks on September 11.

Mr. Speaker, various charitable agencies have come together saying they will help fund relief for the victims of the disaster. And yet there has been a disconnect between that promise and reality.

As a member of the House Committee on Ways and Means, I have called upon the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) to take oversight interest in the status of these charities to make sure that we helped people who have suffered and in that way restore our sense of unity and legitimate oversight. These people need our help.

AIRLINE SAFETY MUST BE ADDRESSED

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

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, nearly 2 weeks ago the Senate passed a bill on airline safety. It is now time for the House to take up that bill, and we would urge the leadership of the House to bring that bill forward immediately. We took care of the airlines. We have not taken care of the industry: the riders, the American people, the people who work in the airports, the airports, the concessionaires.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that we take care of security, that we have all bags checked as they go onto our planes, and we make sure that the screeners who screen us are conviction-free and are able to do the jobs that it will take to secure the safety of the American flying public. Bring the bill forward now. We must protect Americans' right to ride airplanes, and we must protect the airports and the people who work in them.

CONGRESS SHOULD SUPPORT TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

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

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support granting the President Trade Promotion Authority, or TPA.

Formerly known as Fast Track Authority, TPA has worked well in the past, giving our Presidents the flexibility and authority they need to negotiate the best deals for America. From our first free trade agreement with Israel, to the FTA with Canada, the NAFTA with our two North American trading partners, and the Uruguay Round of GATT world trade talks which created the WTO, Trade Promotion Authority has proven effective.

Trade Promotion Authority for the President does not mean no authority for Congress and the American people. Our trade negotiators have proven their commitment to developing consensus positions so that, once the negotiations are concluded, the trade agreements will win the approval of Congress and the American people.

Without Trade Promotion Authority, there can be no more Free Trade Agreements. Without free trade, America loses.

AMERICA NEEDS AIRLINE SECURITY BILL

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

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, we need an airport security bill. This is not a partisan issue. I share completely the views of my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF), who is the chairman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary that appropriates money.

Mr. Speaker, we know what happened a few years ago in Northern Virginia. A Pakistani by the name of Mir Aimal Kasi walked up to several people sitting in line to turn in to the CIA, and brutally murdered them. Reached in with an assault weapon and killed them. It took years, but we found him. His roommate was a baggage screener at Dulles Airport. 87 percent of these people hired by Argenbright, who does the baggage screening at National Airport and Dulles Airport, are not U.S. citizens.

How can we do a background check on someone who is not a U.S. citizen, and many are illegal aliens, and they are doing the passenger and baggage screening at our airports? It is not working. The airlines have looked for the bottom line, the cheapest people who will work for the least amount of money. We need to federalize and professionalize them.

AIRLINE STABILIZATION BOARD SHOULD NOT HAVE FINANCIAL STAKE IN AIRLINES

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

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, several weeks ago we passed the airline bailout bill. I voted against that bill for several reasons, one of which is right now an airline stabilization board is deciding which airlines win and which lose. That is not a good position for the Federal Government to be in.

The Federal Government as a regulator of the airlines should not be in a position to pick winners and losers in the economy. What complicates this issue is that the legislation authorized this board to take a financial stake in those airlines through warrants, stock options, or other equity instruments. That is a bad idea, and I would encourage that board not to do so. By taking a financial position in those airlines, that board will then have an interest in making sure that those airlines that they choose to win will succeed, and that those airlines they choose not to fund and give loan guarantees to fail.

Mr. Speaker, as a regulator, the Federal Government should not be in that position. I would encourage that board not to take a financial position in airlines.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO REFOCUS ON SECURITY OF NATION

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

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, Americans want Congress to strengthen homeland security and help workers after the terrorist attacks. They want us to look at our borders and make sure that they are secure and make sure we have sufficient vaccine and make sure that we are sure that we have the security that is needed.

But at the same time, Christmas came early yesterday. The leadership of the House decided to give a tax break to the corporations and the special interests of this country. At a time when we should be looking at what is occurring as far as the security of this country, they chose to send checks out.

Mr. Speaker, Ford Motors will receive a \$2.3 billion check. Chevron will get \$314 million. Exxon will get \$254 million. IBM will get \$1.4 billion. General Motors, they are going to get a check for \$832 million. Christmas came early.

The only ones that are benefiting from the atrocity of September 11 are the corporations. We need to refocus and concentrate on the security of this Nation. I ask the leadership of the House to reconsider their position.

□ 1030

NATION NEEDS AN AIRLINE SECURITY BILL

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

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, this Nation is on a wartime footing and this House should be on a wartime schedule. We left this city last Wednesday. We came back and went into session at 6 o'clock on Tuesday. Yesterday morning, we went into session at 10 o'clock a.m. and finished our work by 5 p.m. We are leaving today by 2 o'clock. We have yet to pass an airline security bill.

The American people who get on airplanes today and tomorrow and next week will do so knowing that at least 95 percent of the luggage that is placed in the belly of that airplane will not be screened for explosives. How can we tell the American people to go back to life as normal? How can we encourage people to get on our airplanes and fly as long as this House is negligent and refuses to bring an airline security bill to this floor for honest, open debate and a vote? All we are asking for is the right to have a vote on this airline security bill.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.J. Res. 70, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2002

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the previous order of the House, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 70) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 70

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Public Law 107-44 is further amended by striking the date specified in section 107(c) and inserting in lieu thereof "November 16, 2001".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, October 24, 2001, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) each will control 30 minutes.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation before the House this morning is H.J. Res. 70. Its purpose is to extend the current continuing resolution through November 16. We had hoped, Mr. Speaker, that this would not be necessary, but as all of our colleagues know, the House was really not able to function for nearly a week because of the anthrax contamination that was located in some of our areas. In addition to that, some of the House office buildings were closed and we were not able to actually recover the information, the papers and the materials that we needed to carry on some of our appropriations work.

I might say, Mr. Speaker, we actually offered to put on some of those moon suits that the decontaminators were wearing so that we could actually get into the building and recover the files and the information we needed, but, of course, that suggestion was rejected and so we have had a delay. That is the reason why we come to the floor with another continuing resolution, but absent any further delays over which we have no control, we expect to complete our appropriations business by the end of this continuing resolution.

The terms and conditions of the previous CRs remain in effect. All ongoing activities will be continued at current rates under the same terms and conditions as fiscal year 2001. Last week, Mr. Speaker, we passed two conference reports, Interior and Military Construction. Yesterday, the committee reported out the Defense appropriations bill. We expect to file that bill sometime early next week.

In addition to the CR today, we hope to be appointing conferees on the Foreign Operations bill. We will meet in conference on the Treasury-Postal bill this afternoon and have that conference report on the floor next week. Next week, we also hope to go to conference on the Legislative Branch, the VA-HUD, and the Energy and Water appropriations bills. We also expect to appoint conferees on Agriculture which the Senate hopes to complete today, and also Transportation which they passed in August but we have not yet received a request to go to conference.

Next week, we also plan to put together a package to allocate the funding provided in the emergency supplemental bill to address military, domestic security, humanitarian assistance and recovery requirements related to the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Mr. Speaker, I would explain that in the \$40 billion supplemental that we enacted immediately after the attacks on September 11, \$10 billion of that had no strings attached, the President was able to use it quickly in any legal way that he chose. The second \$10 billion, the President is able to use, after he notifies the Appropriations Committees of the House and the Senate 15 days prior to releasing the funds. The

last \$20 billion, according to the law, had to go through the regular appropriations process.

Actually, we just received information on the \$20 billion from the White House on Wednesday afternoon last week as this building was being evacuated, and so we have not really had an opportunity to review what they have proposed relative to the \$20 billion. But we will do that very quickly now and hopefully will include it as part of the Defense appropriations bill when it comes to the floor.

We have a lot of work to do, and I appreciate the bipartisan cooperation and spirit that we have had here in the House all of this year and especially since the September 11 terrorist attacks. This Congress has come together. As one Member, it makes me extremely proud of my colleagues in the way that they have responded and joined with the President to assure the perpetrators of that tragedy, that terrible attack, are going to be punished and that we are going to do everything to disrupt their ability to ever do something like that to the United States again.

Mr. Speaker, I apologize for the hoarseness that overcame me there for a few seconds.

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 15 minutes.

I would simply observe for the gentleman from Florida that many of my constituents would say that the Republic has never yet been harmed when a Member of Congress has been hoarse, but let me simply make some points about the issue at hand.

Mr. Speaker, this body is an odd mixture of being both a legislative institution and a political institution. Sometimes I believe the fact that the cameras have come into this place have created all kinds of incentives for this place to be much more a political institution than it is a legislative institution, and I regret that.

I also think that we have another problem in the House. Woodrow Wilson wrote in his famous book a long time ago that Congress did its work in committee, and in my view Congress does its best work in committee. And I think there is always a tension in a legislative and political body between efforts of the two parties to get their messages out and to get their will forced through the House, and, on the other hand, the efforts of the committees of the House to do the work of the House on behalf of every Member and on behalf of the country. We have a committee system because none of us can be an expert on everything, and we are, through the committee system, given the opportunity to specialize and develop knowledge in discrete areas of government.

I think this is one of those times when the committee system needs to be allowed to work on behalf of the House rather than being frustrated by