

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on March 10 of this year, Russia imposed an export and import ban on United States poultry. Even though an agreement was reached with Russia supposedly on March 30 and they announced that the embargo had been lifted on April 15, the truth is that no American poultry has been shipped into Russia. In fact, over 20,000 metric tons that had been shipped prior to the embargo are still sitting in Russian ports waiting to be unloaded.

In my State of Georgia poultry has a significant impact of some \$10 billion a year, the largest segment of our agricultural economy. Over \$300 million a year are exported. Mr. Speaker, I think we should understand that the Russian embargo is costing American poultry companies \$25 million a day. It is time that this Congress send a message to our trading partners that we expect them to be fair.

Mr. President, as you go to visit with President Putin, I hope you will take the message that this Congress is paying attention and that if Russia wants the lifting of the Jackson-Vanik rules, and if they want admission into the World Trade Organization, it is time to stop playing games with the poultry issue and end the embargo.

WELFARE REFORM

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I am from a State that made great progress 5 years before we enacted welfare reform, and it is doubly sad for me to see us poised to turn our back on the principles that helped make my State successful.

The House has proposed new mandates which are unfunded. We are going to impose a new approach for work requirements that most successful States have rejected. But most embarrassing for the Republican leadership and the Bush administration is that this Chamber is not even going to be allowed to discuss a real amendment to provide the need for child care that is so essential to successful welfare reform.

Unfortunately, the House is again going to engage in an empty legislative process. The American public deserves better treatment for the critical major issues of our time.

WELFARE REFORM

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, today we embark on a vigorous debate relative to welfare reform in America. In 1996 in this Chamber, Congress actively debated how to bring financial independence to millions of Americans. Three times it was vetoed by the President of the United States, finally signed into law. Two years later, President Clinton

was bragging about being the author of the welfare reform bill that is now the law of the land.

Millions of Americans are now financially independent, working to bring pride and respect to their families, and today we continue that debate to bring more independence to more Americans. I am proud of that work, and I am proud that this bill contains additional money for child care, job training, and preparing our citizens for the future of this country and its economy.

I will welcome the debate vigorously on this floor today because I believe we are on the right path. My grandmother came from Poland, she was a maid at the Travel Lodge Motel, she worked hard all her life. All she wanted to be is a good citizen and an honest, God-fearing person of this country. I salute people like her, and I know we can do better with the bill on the floor today.

AMERICA NEEDS INFORMATION NOW

(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, as we address the Republican welfare bill that is unsettling and unhelpful to America's children, with very limited money for child care, for working mothers, some startling news has come from the White House.

After September 11, we were united to fight terrorism and we remain united. But it is difficult to understand and it is disturbing to hear about the information that was given to the White House regarding the notice of potential hijackings in the United States of America. I believe the American public needs to have now a full accounting of what occurred, of what was known by the White House, and when did the White House know, and what did they do about it.

Mr. Speaker, this is a question of national security. This is a question of the United States of America and the people of America being informed. This is a question of sunlight and shining the light on giving us the opportunity to fight terrorism united. It is of great importance that we have this information now.

NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, peace officers around the country are in Washington this week to commemorate and honor the 230 officers who died last year in the line of duty. Yesterday was National Peace Officers Memorial Day, where we paid tribute to the commitment to public safety these officers demonstrate on a daily basis.

As we all know, September 11 stands out as one of the most tragic days in

American history and law enforcement history. We lost 72 police officers on that Tuesday, the largest loss of law enforcement personnel in a single day ever.

While September 11 offered an extreme glimpse of law enforcement service and sacrifice, acts of heroism and valor are performed every day by police officers across our Nation. Mr. Speaker, 230 police officers who died last year represent the sixth deadliest year in law enforcement history.

Peace officers in every community have an admirable record of service and sacrifice, yet too many Americans lack a true understanding and appreciation of law enforcement's worth. That is why I worked 2 years ago to establish the National Law Enforcement Museum in Washington, D.C. Once construction is complete, the museum will highlight the proud history of the law enforcement profession and educate the public about the dangers and importance of the job.

Unlike most other jobs, peace officers face unprecedented risks while bravely protecting our communities and our freedoms. I hope colleagues will join me in expressing our gratitude for the work these men and women perform.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, our country is aging. The baby boomer generation is retiring soon. I am part of that generation, and more will be retiring.

Social Security will become a necessity for our seniors. Republicans are trying to bankrupt Social Security, so we will have no choice but to privatize, I say privatize; but privatizing forces benefit cuts, increases risks, and removes the guarantee that Social Security will be there for seniors when they need it.

I believe that working families have earned a secured retirement. Without Social Security, how will our seniors pay for medication, rent, food? They are on a fixed income. Privatizing Social Security breaks a promise to working families that if you work hard and pay into the system, no matter how rich or poor, Social Security will be there for your retirement when it is necessary.

Privatizing Social Security, especially for hard-working minorities, women, and working family folks will mean less savings for them. It is time that we start caring about the 95 percent of the population that do not have a trust fund, who live on a check-by-check basis, feed their families, and pay for expenses with no money to save or invest.

SAUDI ARABIA AND TERRORISM

(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, Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah has made a lot of headlines lately promoting his own plan for peace between Israel and the Palestinians. But if Saudi Arabia really wants to help fight terrorism and foster peace in the Middle East, they should take a long look at what is going on in their own country.

The Saudi Government not only permits, but also promotes, radical clerics who teach violence and hatred against Jewish people and the United States. Recently, a prominent Saudi Government cleric held a 2-day telethon that raised over \$100 million for the families of Palestinian homicide bombers. The Washington Times reported last week that the Saudi Government itself paid millions of dollars to the families of homicide bombers and to terrorist groups like Hamas. USA Today reported in 1999 that Saudi businessmen had transferred billions of dollars to bank accounts linked to Osama bin Laden. There needs to be an investigation into where all of this money is coming from.

Mr. Speaker, we should welcome Saudi Arabia's peaceful rhetoric, but actions speak louder than words. Saudi Arabia should be careful about lecturing about peace until her own hands are clean.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Social Security. Since the Social Security Act became law in 1935, it has reduced poverty among our seniors and allowed generations of retirees to live with dignity and with independence. So could there be a better reason not to spend Social Security on anything other than Social Security?

Well, my Republican colleagues have produced a budget that spends hundreds of billions of dollars from the Social Security fund on other programs. Democrats want to strengthen and to preserve Social Security. American families work hard and they pay into that system, and they should be able to count on Social Security when they retire.

That is why privatization is clearly the wrong approach. It forces benefit cuts, it increases the risk, and it removes the guarantee that Social Security will be there when we need it, when we retire.

Do not be fooled. Democrats believe that working families have earned a secure retirement. We want to strengthen and protect Social Security, not spend it on other programs or on tax cuts to the wealthiest.

CONDEMNING TERRORIST ACT IN KASHMIR

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to condemn the recent terrorist attack in Kashmir that killed 30 innocent civilians, including two dozen women and children, and which injured nearly 50 more. This terrorist attack is yet another aimed at civilians, specifically Hindus, in Kashmir. Just last month, the suicide squad attacked and killed innocent worshipers at one of the largest Hindu temples in Kashmir.

Innocent Hindus, Sikhs, and Muslims have been targeted by terrorists in Kashmir. An editorial in yesterday's Washington Post entitled "The General's Broken Promise" states that Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf has not done enough to rein in these terrorists who attack Kashmiri civilians. While President Musharraf has taken steps to assist the American war on terrorism, he must do more to stop these terrorist attacks from occurring in Kashmir and in India.

Once Pakistan moves away from the path of supporting terrorism, a real peace initiative can begin between India and Pakistan. After more than 50 years of hostility, it is time for India and Pakistan to live in peace as neighbors. This can only begin after Pakistan stops supporting terrorism in India.

PASS THE CORPORATE PATRIOT ENFORCEMENT ACT

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

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today on the House floor we should be considering much-needed marriage penalty relief. However, yesterday the Republican leadership withdrew consideration of the Marriage Penalty Tax Relief Act in order to protect financial traitors. Democrats only wanted to pay for this tax relief by implementing the provisions of H.R. 3884, the Corporate Patriot Enforcement Act, a bill authored by myself and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. MALONEY). Fearing that this House would vote overwhelmingly to stop the exodus of American corporations to tax havens, the leadership dropped the Marriage Penalty Tax Relief Act altogether.

While House leaders procrastinate, our constituents around the country want Congress to act. Last week commonsense folks out in Peoria at the Journal Star wrote, "Americans should be outraged, and so should Congress, which should move quickly to pass pending legislation outlawing the dodge." I guess the message was not heard here yesterday in this House.

As Congress does nothing, the exodus of two more corporations who voted this week to reincorporate in tax havens at the expense of honest corporations and hard-working Americans continues. Stop the delay, and close the floodgate to these corporate expatriates by passing the Neal-Maloney Corporate Patriot Enforcement Act.

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2002 WELFARE REFORM REAUTHORIZATION

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

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, prior to 1996 Deborah from California was a single mother caring for her two daughters, a disabled son and a niece. She had no high school diploma. She had no prior work experience. But in 1996 we passed a Republican welfare reform bill which enabled people like Deborah to get off of welfare and into work. The new support services and the new training programs enabled her to become a certified nurse at a hospital close to her home, and that enabled her to take care of her children.

Americans on welfare can now live better lives because of the passage of that bill. There have been 3 million children that have been listed out of poverty since 1996. Welfare caseloads have declined by 9 million and employment of single mothers on welfare rose by 40 percent. We have taken the first step in getting people off of welfare. This year we need to take the second step by decreasing welfare caseloads by promoting work and healthy marriages, by improving child well-being and quality of life and by strengthening families.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Social Security. Social Security is our Nation's most successful domestic initiative. It has lifted millions of Americans out of poverty. Social Security represents a solemn promise to our seniors that says if you work hard and play by the rules you will not be forced in your golden years into poverty, and no one has a right to break that promise.

The Republican leadership plans to privatize Social Security and replace its guarantee with a risky gamble. This privatization plan jeopardizes the requirement security of our seniors and our working families. Now the Republican leadership is trying to change the subject and duck the word "privatization." The American people will not be fooled by this trick. This House must