

CORPORATE CRIMINALS

(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, when one is an executive of a large corporation, one has a job that carries tremendous responsibility. Ford Motors, Chevron, Texaco, and IBM have more employees than many countries have citizens. Wal-Mart, EXXON, and General Motors have annual budgets larger than the gross domestic products of many nations.

When the executives of Enron, which was America's fifth largest company, cooked the books, the victims of their crime are not just a few people from Houston. Americans everywhere suffer, some severely. When the executives of WorldCom, which was America's 42nd largest employer, used tricky accounting to fool investors, everybody suffers, too.

When a mugger in a back alley sticks us up at gunpoint and takes our wallets, that is bad. But is it not worse when a man in a thousand dollar suit steals millions of dollars from people who are counting on his honesty to help them keep their jobs or to retire?

Yesterday, the House voted for a new law to severely punish corporate crooks for their crimes. We should conference with the other body immediately so we can send a bill to the President as soon as possible.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE
FOR AMERICA'S SENIORS

(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, let me start and indicate how important it is for us to not forget our seniors when it comes to prescription drug coverage.

Our seniors right now represent 34 percent of the prescriptions that are dished out every single year.

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Out of every dollar, 42 cents represents the amount of money that they dish out. Forty-two percent. Despite that, it is expected that sales and benefits of pharmaceutical companies will be over 18 percent. So at the expense of our seniors, the pharmaceutical companies continue to make these huge profits.

It is up to us to make sure we do what we can to make sure that we allow that opportunity for our seniors to have accessibility and be able to have affordable coverage when it comes to prescription drug coverage.

We know that those same pharmaceutical companies sell those prescriptions elsewhere, throughout the world and throughout Europe, at lower prices. These are the same products that are sold to our seniors here at higher prices. So it is up to us to push forward a prescription drug coverage

and allow Medicare to cover the prescriptions.

HONORING A GREAT AMERICAN

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me today to be able to honor an American war hero, First Lieutenant James Flowers, Jr. He enlisted as a private in the Texas National Guard in 1930, and from there worked his way up the military ladder and on July 10, 1944, Flowers was a platoon leader when he volunteered his four tanks to help an infantry battalion encircled by Germans.

His unit encountered enemy fire, and from there Flowers endured what can only be described as hell on earth. While 1 minute cannot do his sacrifices justice, please know this man embodies duty, honor, and country.

First, his right foot was blown away by enemy fire. While waiting for relief, he lost his left leg below the knee. After two nights of desperately needing medical attention and lying severely injured, Americans finally came to the rescue.

Nominated for the Medal of Honor, he was awarded four medals for his bravery and valor.

While some would be hardened and angry after this unspeakable kind of tragedy, Flowers persevered. After being discharged, he attended SMU and began working in the prosthetics department of the VA. He moved to the Dallas VA where he established the first prosthetics treatment center in the Nation.

Flowers has given so much to this country in his area of expertise. He exemplifies our greatest generation. God bless him and God bless our servicemen and women around the world.

AMERICANS SHOULD CONTRIBUTE
TO THE BETTERMENT OF THE
COUNTRY

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, last night this House was kept in session to a ridiculously late hour because there was a divide on the Republican side of the aisle over our Interior bill, where we are supposed to be finding the money to keep our parks open with enough bathrooms and visitor centers and parking spaces to accommodate a growing American public.

They were mad because they said there was not enough money. Well, let me contend where they should look for the money. They should not look for the money in the Committee on Appropriations. They should go back to the tax committee and figure out who they gave the money to.

Richey Rich is going to make \$20 million this year in our country. And if we

look at the buy-out packages that they permitted to the chief executive officers in this country and the tax breaks alone in the Bush tax bill, the tax bill to Richey Rich will amount to \$712,800 this year because his marginal rate was reduced to 3.6 percent. We might say, gosh, he is only going to make \$19.8 million this year, at the same time as we struggle for pennies and are forced to increase fees at our national parks across this country.

The answer is not inside the Subcommittee on Interior, the answer is to go back to the tax committee and make every single American contribute to the betterment of this Republic.

CONDEMNING TERRORIST ATTACK
ON KASHMIRI CIVILIANS

(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 condemn Saturday's terrorist attack in Kashmir that killed 28 people. This attack was just another reminder to the Kashmiri Pandit community that Hindus are still being targeted by Islamic militants in order to drive them from the Indian state of Kashmir. This was cold-blooded murder of civilian men, women, and children, who were innocently listening to a radio sports event at a tea stall.

More than 400,000 Hindus in Kashmir have been forced from their homes due to targeted attacks of Islamic militants. For many years, Pakistan's military worked together with its intelligence agency, the ISI, to coordinate attacks against civilians in Kashmir. These very same forces helped in creating the Taliban and al Qaeda.

Pakistan must stop the movement of al Qaeda members from the northwestern part of Pakistan into the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. Pakistan must also shut down its terrorist camps, remove the influence of extremist religious clerics from government affairs, and make generous peace offerings to India. Only then can a dialogue between India and Pakistan take place.

CONGRESS MUST PLAY A ROLE IN
ANY POSSIBLE ATTACK ON IRAQ

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, it is worth considering the headlines regarding Iraq in the last week. From United Press International: "U.S. Plans Massive Invasion of Iraq." From Associated Press: "U.S. Says Iraq Would Target Troops." From United Press: "According to officials who spoke to UPI, three dates are being discussed as possible times to launch the attack. The first would be before the

November elections." And from Associated Press: "U.S. worries Iraq's chemical, biological weapons would target invading American troops in Israel."

There has been discussion of a quarter of a million of our men and women being sent to Iraq. The discussion is in the media, it is not on the floor of this House. The New York Times editorial says as follows: "Congressional leaders, including top Democrats, have rushed to voice approval for the popular notion of getting rid of Mr. Hussein. They have not, however, lived up to their responsibility for demanding a full public disclosure about how to pursue this attractive goal with maximum chances of success and minimum risk to American forces' interest and alliances. Discussion of these issues is possible without giving away legitimate military secrets."

War with Iraq, if it comes, is still many months away. What is urgently needed now is informed and serious debate, and attention to article I, section 8 of the Constitution, which requires Congress has a role.

HOUSE MAJORITY ATTEMPTING TO MOVE LEGISLATION TO HELP AMERICA

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

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, most of us Republicans and Democrats come to the House to pass legislation and to help the American people. I heard a minute ago from one of the Members that the accounting bill that we passed on this floor was a sham. Well, I want to inform my colleagues that 118 Democrats voted for that. Only 40 Democrats, from the leadership, primarily, voted against it.

Instead of helping the American people in a time of crisis, when the markets are bad and people are losing confidence, the Democrat leadership, once again, is playing partisan election year politics.

They also say that tax relief is only for the rich. Well, listen to the facts, as stated by Alan Greenspan yesterday. Tax relief stopped the recession. It also put this economy back on a positive note. Yet my friends on the other side, the Democratic leadership, would rather say that the tax break was for the rich. This is partisan election year rhetoric.

Mr. Speaker, we are here to pass legislation, not to jam it up, like the other body, which is holding 54 of our bills.

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

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

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, the time is right for this body to act on corporate accountability. The other body

got it right when it passed the Sarbanes bill by a unanimous vote.

Corporate greed is affecting every one of our constituents, whether it is in their 401(k) plans or the performance of our economy, with job opportunity, and the list goes on and on.

Mr. Speaker, let us act now. Let us act as the other body did, in a bipartisan way. Let us take up today and pass the Sarbanes bill, and let us send it to the President. He has indicated he will sign it. That will help restore confidence among our constituents and our economy.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

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

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago, the House of Representatives passed a prescription drug benefit under Medicare. Since this has happened, I have received hundreds of calls from seniors thanking me for voting for this very important measure.

A significant number of seniors in the First District of Oklahoma are forced to live on a fixed budget. In order to live within their means, some skip a meal, some turn off their air conditioners, and some only take half the prescriptions that have been prescribed to them, to save.

It is a simple fact that seniors need permanent prescription drug benefit from this Congress. But simple is not always synonymous with easy, especially when politics are involved. The House has passed a good bill, and I encourage my colleagues in the Senate to follow the House's lead.

Our bill was based on simple, common sense principles. They are: To lower the cost of prescription drugs now and in the future; guarantee all seniors prescription drug coverage under Medicare; improve Medicare with more choices and more savings; and strengthen Medicare for the future.

Our seniors need a prescription drug benefit this year. I hope my colleagues in the Senate will follow suit.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The Chair would remind all Members giving 1-minute speeches that they cannot urge the other body to take action.

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

(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, increasing our energy independence is absolutely vital to ensuring America's national security.

Americans are 5 percent of the world's population. We use 25 percent

of the world's oil production, and yet we produce 30 percent of the world's output of goods and services. We are the most energy-efficient and productive Nation on earth, but America has only 2 percent of the world's known oil reserves. In pumping that 2 percent, we meet only 44 percent of America's needs.

America must import nearly 60 percent of our oil, up from 32 percent in 1992 and 34 percent during the last Arab oil embargo. Americans must pay billions of dollars to unstable or hostile regimes, such as Saddam Hussein's Iraq, for the oil we need to run our economy and our military. Every year since 1970, with only a tiny blip from Alaska's Prudhoe Bay, oil production in the United States has gone down, and experts agree it will continue to go down.

That is why conservation, efficiency, and alternative and renewable forms of energy are critically important parts of a balanced, comprehensive national energy strategy.

JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Chair's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 361, nays 50, answered "present" 1, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 309]

YEAS—361

Abercrombie	Boehner	Coble
Ackerman	Bonilla	Collins
Akin	Bono	Combest
Allen	Boozman	Condit
Andrews	Boswell	Conyers
Armey	Boucher	Cooksey
Baca	Boyd	Cox
Bachus	Brady (TX)	Coyne
Baker	Brown (FL)	Cramer
Baldacci	Brown (OH)	Crenshaw
Baldwin	Brown (SC)	Crowley
Ballenger	Bryant	Cubin
Barcia	Burr	Cummings
Barr	Burton	Davis (CA)
Barrett	Buyer	Davis (FL)
Bartlett	Callahan	Davis (IL)
Barton	Calvert	Davis, Jo Ann
Bass	Camp	Davis, Tom
Becerra	Cannon	Deal
Bentsen	Cantor	DeGette
Bereuter	Capito	Delahunt
Berkley	Capps	DeLauro
Berman	Cardin	DeLay
Berry	Carson (IN)	DeMint
Biggert	Carson (OK)	Deutsch
Bilirakis	Castle	Diaz-Balart
Bishop	Chabot	Dicks
Blumenauer	Chambliss	Dingell
Blunt	Clement	Doggett
Boehlert	Clyburn	Dooley