

in order to accommodate critics. It is common knowledge that the economic stimulus package we passed in December has enough support to become law. It has enough votes to pass not just in the House but in both Chambers of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, we in the House have done our part. We have passed a good bill, a bill that will help the unemployed, the underemployed, and those who would create jobs in the first place. We have shown that we care. We have done more than just talk.

Now the bill is out of our hands. I understand that it is against House rules to comment on the other body's inaction, so I will not. But I will say that the American people need this economic stimulus. I will say that the media reports that the stimulus has the votes to pass into law, and people are waiting for a vote.

#### A BALANCED FEDERAL BUDGET

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, in this past year and future year of war and politics and recession, I rise today to urge my colleagues to respond to that higher calling of Members of the United States House of Representatives under the Constitution of the United States and commit ourselves on this first day of this second session of the 107th Congress to be a Congress that balances the Federal budget.

The headlines, Mr. Speaker, are filled with an American corporation which through either mismanagement or criminality has done a disservice to millions of middle-class shareholders and to thousands of its employees, even some from my own family who live in Texas.

It is fundamentally a failure of that corporation to manage its budget. Let us not likewise fail in this Congress to give the American people, even in these recessionary times, a balanced Federal budget. Let us begin this day to live out that proverb that if you owe debts, pay debts. And let us live out our commitment in this Republican-dominated Congress to provide a balanced Federal budget for the American people.

#### TREATMENT OF DETAINEES

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, now comes the usual liberal cadre of bleeding hearts in America lead by the former Attorney General, Ramsey Clark, saying we are mistreating the prisoners in Guantanamo Bay.

I just returned from Quetta, Pakistan. Quetta is an interesting city, population around 200,000; and yet, it has been swelled by refugees from Afghani-

stan by 500,000 people, kids who are illiterate; kids who do not have any opportunity to have education; people who do not have work; 7 percent who have running water. And yet these victims of wars because of the Taliban and these wicked criminals who are in Guantanamo Bay must suffer.

What about the victims in America, those who lost loved ones and the families, who had their first bitter Christmas alone this year? What about them?

What does Attorney General Clark think in the morning? His passion goes out to the prisoners in Guantanamo Bay, yet never a thought about all the refugees, over 3 million refugees in Iran and Pakistan, out of Afghanistan, never a thought about the victims in the United States of America.

What is more important? Getting the headline one more time and showing the world what you are all about. Well, I am glad most of America has common sense and are wisely ignoring such allegations as the unfair treatment of prisoners. We have better things to do. We have a war to fight. We have to move on.

#### ASSISTING RETIREES AND UNEMPLOYED WORKERS

(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, I represent the 18th Congressional District in Texas, Houston, Texas, where we have found an enormous corporate and human tragedy. But the human tragedy is what I speak to today, the greatest tragedy, and that we in Congress have to fix the problem. We must help the retirees and employees who have been so negatively impacted by this debacle.

So I hope as we proceed in these hearings, we lay upon the minds and hearts of our fellow colleagues in this Congress, help the retirees across the Nation who have lost millions of dollars, let us put these unemployed workers and their families back on their feet.

Mr. Speaker, I intend to file legislation today to make sure that we prioritize our responsibilities, helping the retirees and helping the unemployed workers. I tell you that those in Texas are crying out for help and I hope that we will help them.

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#### REMEMBERING JACK SHEA

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, it saddens me to report to the House the tragic loss of a great patriot, a wonderful American, who on the eve of the Olympics was killed. I am referring to Jack Shea, a 91-year-old individual who was

the first American to win two gold medals in the Olympics in 1928. His son was in the Olympics in 1964, and his grandson Jimmy Shea is poised to participate for the first time in an Olympic event, which I personally participated in when our late departed colleague Mr. Solomon took me to Lake Placid; that is, the skeleton run, and we were going to have the opportunity for the first time ever to have third generation Americans participate in the Olympics.

We just got the news yesterday that Mr. Shea was killed in a horrible accident, and so I would like to at this moment extend my condolences to all of the family members and the friends of the Sheas and all of those participating in our very important team, and I know that his grandfather would want me to wish Jimmy Shea well as he prepares with his skeleton sled that is painted with the red, white and blue colors to have great success in Salt Lake City.

#### EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR SOLDIERS TRANSPORTING DETAINEES TO GUANTANAMO, CUBA

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

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our fighting men and women who have done so valiant and done so well in Afghanistan and in support of the measures that they have taken to secure and safely transport the detainees from Afghanistan, a cold and inhospitable climate and one in which medical support is not properly available, to Guantanamo, Cuba.

Additionally, I pledge to ensure that the safety of our men and women is maintained and the safety of the detainees by personally going to Cuba, by looking and seeing the conditions under which they are held to ensure that they are humanitarian, but as a military veteran to also ensure that the precautions are taken so that never again will either a detainee or our men and women guarding those detainees be killed because of the kind of uprisings that have occurred not once but twice in the region.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that this body should commit itself to understanding that problem and supporting our fighting men and women and their ability to maintain the safety of the detainees and themselves.

#### CONSIDERING MEMBER AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 548

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I might hereafter be considered as first sponsor of H.R. 548, a bill originally introduced by the gentleman from Florida, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, for the purposes of adding cosponsors and requesting reprints pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

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

There was no objection.

# 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.

Such record votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

## ASIAN ELEPHANT CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2001

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 700) to reauthorize the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:

Page 4, strike out all after line 12 down to and including line 19 and insert:

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—

(1) The matter under the heading "MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND" in title I of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (16 U.S.C. 4246; 112 Stat. 2681–237), is amended—

(A) by striking "section 5304 of" and all that follows through "section 6 of the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997" and inserting "section 5 of the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 5304), part I of the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4211 et seq.), and section 5 of the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 4264)";

(B) by striking "16 U.S.C. 4224" and inserting "section 2204 of the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4224)";

(C) by striking "16 U.S.C. 4225" and inserting "section 2205 of the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4225)"; and

(D) by striking "16 U.S.C. 4211" and inserting "section 2101 of the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4211)".

(2) Effective on the day after the date of enactment of the African Elephant Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2001 (107th Congress)—

(A) section 2104(a) of the African Elephant Conservation Act is amended by striking "this Act" and inserting "this title"; and

(B) section 2306(b) of the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4245(b)) is amended by striking "this Act" each place it appears and inserting "this title".

## SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION.

Section 10(a)(1) of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act (16 U.S.C. 3709(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking "2003" and inserting "2005"; and

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking "\$20,000,000" and inserting "\$25,000,000".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. Gilchrest) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST).

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This legislation was introduced by our distinguished colleague the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) and it was overwhelmingly approved by the House on June 12. This measure will extend the Asian Elephant Conservation Act at its existing authorization level.

Since its enactment in 1997, Congress has appropriated \$2.9 million to fund 46 conservation projects in 12 range countries. These funds, which are the only continuous source of money for the Asian elephants, have had a dramatic, positive impact on the ongoing international struggle to save this flagship species from extinction.

While many Americans were thrilled by the recent birth of an Asian elephant at the National Zoo, it is essential that natural habitat be preserved and protected for these animals. This is a fundamental goal of H.R. 700 because the battle to save the irreplaceable species is far from won.

During consideration in the other body, a number of technical corrections were made to the Multinational Species Conservation Fund. We have reviewed those modifications and support them.

Furthermore, the other body extended the authorization for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for 2 years and corrected a mistake made last year in their authorization levels. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation was created by Congress in 1984 to conserve fish, wildlife and plants and the habitats on which they depend.

In nearly 20 years, the Foundation has funded over 5,000 projects which have restored nearly 20 million acres of habitat, and over 11,000 miles of streams and waterways have been enhanced. In addition, the Foundation has been extremely successful in leveraging limited public dollars with corporate, private and other nonprofit funds. By any objective standard, the foundation has done an effective job of promoting healthy populations of fish, wildlife and plants.

I support these improvements and I urge an aye vote on H.R. 700 so that we can send this important legislation to the President for his signature, and I urge an aye vote on this legislation.

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

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY PRESIDENT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, your committee on the part of the House to join a like committee on the part of the Senate to notify the President of the United States that a quorum of each House has been assembled and is ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make has performed that duty.

The President asked us to report that he will be pleased to deliver his message at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, January 29, 2002, to a joint session of the two Houses.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I second the thoughts of the majority leader, and both Democrats and Republicans will welcome the President here on Tuesday night for the State of the Union.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the committee.

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

I rise in support, Mr. Speaker, of H.R. 700, a bill to reauthorize the Asian Elephant Conservation Act.

I would also like to recognize and applaud the bill's sponsor, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON), for his continued leadership in protecting these magnificent, yet imperiled animals.

Unlike African elephants, the steep decline in the population of Asian elephants was not widely known until 1997. Sadly, we have learned that this population, at one time flourishing, is now fragmented into ever-shrinking remnant populations scattered across 13 countries throughout Southern and Southeast Asia.

Fortunately, the Asian Elephant Conservation Act has helped range states address the multiple threats which have contributed to the decline of this keystone species in the wild.

Grants initiated under the Asian Elephant Conservation Program have provided valuable financial assistance to impoverished areas.

These funds have supported a wide assortment of projects within range states, including conservation, planning, scientific research, education and community outreach, as well as anti-poaching and law enforcement activities.

Progress on the ground is being made. That is why this legislation is fully supported by the administration and by many international conservation organizations, including the World Wildlife Fund and the Wildlife Conservation Society.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 700 is virtually the same legislation that the House passed earlier this year by the lopsided vote of 401 to 15. The other technical amendments made by the other body to H.R. 700 are noncontroversial, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to reauthorize this important wildlife program.

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

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON), the author of the legislation. (Mr. SAXTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, during the years that I have been involved in this issue, from