

WEALTHY CORPORATIONS AVOID THEIR FAIR SHARE OF TAXES

(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, the American people need to know what is happening. Wealthy corporations are choosing to leave America, go to Bermuda, get a post office box, simply to avoid paying their fair share of taxes.

This is happening at a time when our colleague, the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), tried to get an amendment to the Postal-Treasury appropriations bill that would say, if a corporation does this, they should not have access to lucrative Federal contracts. But the leadership in this House said oh, no, we cannot do that.

At a time when we are raising the cost of prescription drugs on our veterans from \$2 to \$7 a prescription, and at a time when the pension for wartime veterans' widows is a measly \$534 a month, we are allowing wealthy corporations, in a time of war, to avoid their fair share of American taxes.

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Who is going to pay those taxes? Are veterans?

BORN-ALIVE INFANTS PROTECTION ACT

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, thank you, Jill Stanck. Jill is an obstetrical nurse at Christ Hospital in Illinois. After observing a child born alive after an abortion procedure and left to die, she became involved in righting this wrong through the legislative process, hence, the Born Alive Infant Protection Act.

On July 18 the other body voted unanimous consent to approve the Born Alive Infants Protection Act. The bill is now sent to the President for his signature. This bill passed both Chambers easily because we all felt, pro-lifers and those that are pro-choice, that infants who are born alive at any stage of development are individual human beings who are entitled to the full protection of the law.

Thanks to the work of Jill Stanck, the Concerned Women of America, Members of both the House and the Senate, and soon President Bush, a baby born alive will not be left to die in a hospital again.

CUBAN POLITICAL PRISONER DR. OSCAR ELIAS BISSETT

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

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, many of us here in this Chamber have adopted

Cuban political prisoners in order to publicize their unjustified incarceration. We have done so in hopes of helping them to regain their freedom and shed light on the numerous injustices and human rights violations of the Castro regime in Cuba.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to discuss my adopted Cuban prisoner, Dr. Oscar Biscet. Inspired by Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Dr. Biscet's nonviolent resistance to the Cuban government has received international attention. As president of the Lawton Foundation for Human Rights, Dr. Biscet was arrested 40 times in three months for his peaceful opposition and organizing activities.

In 1999, he carried out a 40-day prayer fast and organized schools on non-violent tactics. This soft-spoken physician was condemned to 3 years in prison for hanging a Cuban flag upside down at a press conference.

Recognized by Amnesty International as a prisoner of conscience, Dr. Biscet has suffered through solitary confinement, torture, and an appalling lack of medical care. Still his faith in mankind endures, as he demonstrated when he told the policemen who were torturing him with lit cigarettes, God loves you.

Mr. Speaker, allowing for political dissent and debate is a fundamental reason why democracy adapts to, and represents the will of the people. I urge the Cuban government to listen to the will of its people, to end its continued human rights abuses, and to release Dr. Biscet and other political prisoners like him immediately.

COMMEMORATING INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

(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, on August 15, 1947, India became an independent nation. Just as Americans look forward to their day of freedom every July 4, people of all faiths come together in India to celebrate a struggle for independence begun by Mahatma Gandhi.

Both America and India fought against British domination to secure freedom for their nations. People in both countries cherish the freedoms found in our respective constitutions, such as freedom of speech and freedom of religion. The framers of India's constitution were greatly influenced by the founding fathers of America, James Madison, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and George Washington.

America is now the world's oldest parliamentary democracy and India the world's largest democracy. The future looks bright for both of our countries. We have grown closer since victory in the Cold War, and rightfully so since we share the same values. America and India should take action to boost our bilateral trade and must co-

ordinate defense strategies to maintain stability in South Asia. Both America and India serve as models for democracy and freedom around the world. And our independence days are symbols of these achievements.

STOP THE VIOLENT OFFENDERS AGAINST CHILDREN DNA ACT OF 2002

(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, this Nation must express outrage about its murdered, abused and sexually violated children. Samantha Runnion, and Elizabeth Smart and Laura Ayala in my own district and Danielle Van Dam and Rilya Wilson out of Florida missing for a year. We must express our outrage.

Only 22 States in this Nation require of sex offender registries to keep DNA samples, the very materials that allow those very effective law enforcement in California to find the horrific alleged murderer of Samantha Runnion. That is why this week I will offer the Save Our Children, Stop the Violent Offenders Against Children DNA Act of 2002, that will instruct the Attorney General to hold a separate, free-standing DNA database for all sex offenders and offenders against children in this Nation.

We wish we did not have this kind of violence against our children, our most precious resources, but we should give every opportunity to our law enforcement to be able to find the perpetrator quickly and bring he or she to justice.

What an outrage, killing our babies, and no one standing up to say a word. We must have the ability to solve these crimes and stop these crimes.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

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

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, shortly after the events of September 11, we made a promise that we would fight the war on terror to its finish in order to ensure security of every American. Recognizing this, President Bush has outlined a plan to consolidate homeland security functions into the Department of Homeland Security.

The President warned us that making such a major change could be very contentious and this has been proven to be somewhat true. Some are afraid that the traditional missions not related to homeland security may not be adequately filled after restructuring. Others simply balk at the idea of leaving the status quo.

We must use every resource to ensure that the loss of innocent life does not occur again. To achieve that again, we will cut through bureaucracies and consolidate numerous agencies to ensure that future terrorist attacks are prevented.

Our best tool to accomplish this goal is to establish a Department of Homeland Security. Let us keep our promise to the American people.

WAR WITH 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, last night the House passed a \$28.9 billion supplemental appropriations bill, \$14.5 billion of which was for military funding. Today the House has authorized another \$10 billion for an undefined war on terrorism. Barely a day goes by where we do not see reports that the administration is in the advanced stages of planning a preemptive military strike against Iraq. H.R. 4547, the Cost of War Against Terrorism Authorization Act, would authorize over \$480 million for chemical and biological defense as well as \$598 million in funding for a Tomahawk missile conversion.

Is this military hardware needed in Afghanistan or are these funding priorities directed at preparing the United States for war with Iraq?

EXCELLENCE IN MILITARY SERVICE ACT

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

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Excellence in Military Service Act. This legislation would increase the active duty service obligation of military service academy graduates from 5 to 8 years.

This free and highly competitive college education costs the average taxpayer approximately \$300,000 per cadet/midshipman.

As college tuitions continue to escalate, I believe our U.S. military academies will become even more attractive to prospective college students. In light of this fact, we need to ensure that a free education does not become a primary motivation for future applicants. I maintain that increasing the active duty service obligation is an effective way to accomplish this without jeopardizing the viability of these historic institutions.

I hope my colleagues will join with me in co-sponsoring this legislation, and I look forward to working with them to protect the U.S. taxpayers' investments and our Nation's future and ensure the integrity of one of our Nation's most precious resources.

CORPORATE REFORM

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

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of real cor-

porate reform legislation and urge the conference committee to adopt the proposals put forth by Senator SARBANES.

Financial markets around the world are in a highly anxious mood, U.S. fiscal policy is plunging our country back into deficits, and the credibility of some of our most trusted companies' financial statements is undermined. This is no time to delay the establishment of fully independent oversight of the industry by a newly created public accounting board that is not under accounting industry control.

As the conference committee nears its completion, the funding for the new oversight board must not be used as a means of undermining its independence.

Senator SARBANES' legislation provides the board with funding from public companies as they are audited, a mechanism that separates the board funding from the accounting firms it will oversee and it protects its independence.

The Sarbanes legislation will not turn the markets around by itself but it will send a message to investors here and abroad that Congress is serious about removing the conflicts of interest.

MEDICARE MODERNIZATION AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG ACT OF 2002

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

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, it is time to provide prescription drugs for our senior citizens. It is time to stop fussing and discussing and get down to business.

We just passed recently in this House a Medicare Modernization and Prescription Drug Act of 2002. This Act provides immediate relief from high drug costs with prescription drug discount cards and immediately implements a program to assist low income beneficiaries with their costs. It supplies significant front-end coverage of drug costs from government coverage. 80 percent paid on the first \$1,000. It saves seniors more on their drug costs than any other bill in Congress. It lowers pharmaceutical manufacturing drug prices by \$18 billion with best price provisions, offers catastrophic protection, 100 percent coverage after \$3,700 in drug costs, and it covers all costs except nominal co-pays for low income seniors up to 175 percent of poverty.

Mr. Speaker, it is time that the two bodies come together and provide our senior citizens with prescription drug coverage. Now is the time. Today is the day and we should do it before this year is out.

PUNISH CORRUPT CEO'S AND ACCOUNTANTS

(Mr. ISRAEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, as a New Yorker I know that on the hottest ticket on Broadway has been a comedy, *The Producers*. The tragedy with recent financial scandals is that we are running the plot line of *The Producers* in real life.

In *The Producers*, the accountant, Leo Bloom, is sent to conduct an independent audit of the producer, Max Bialystock. Bialystock begs the accountant to find a way to fudge the books to enhance his earnings. So the accountant finds a way to sell 2,000 percent of stock options in Bialystock's company, losing his independence and becoming part of a scam.

The difference is only on Broadway and in the movies do the accountants and CEO's go to jail. In real life, no one has gone to jail, no personal bankruptcies in senior management, no disgorgements, no accountability. Just victims who have lost it all.

Unlike in *The Producers*, no one is laughing, not our senior citizen, not our middle class families who are watching their children's tuition funds disappear, not hard-working taxpayers who have to put their retirements on hold. The American dream is turning into an American tragedy right before our eyes and no one is laughing.

BRING MAIN STREET ETHICS TO WALL STREET

(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, back in April 24 when the House Republicans passed Financial Accountability we had three main points to it. Number one, disclosure of facts. Disclosure of facts to employees, to shareholders, to anyone who may have something at stake that there are some problems, so that people can make intelligently investment decisions.

Number two, if you break the law you are going to jail. We have laws against robbing banks, but people still rob banks, but when they do we put them in jail. There is no difference when you steal somebody's pension plan, you are stealing money. You ought to go to jail. You do not have the guts of somebody who would grab a purse and do it in person. You do it behind the cloak of corporate secrecy, behind the cloak of some accounting firm that you are in cahoots with. But if you are caught, you are going to jail.

Number three, if you are the CEO of some big corporation and you have done this, you do not get to retire in your mansion. You do not get to go off to your mountain home. In fact, you get to be a guest of the government inside a penitentiary. That is what we are after.

Let me say this: We need to bring the ethics of Main Street to Wall Street. It is time to have corporate accountability and pass a Republican plan.