

GETTING THE AMERICAN ECONOMY ON TRACK

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

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to help get our economy going again, to get people investing again and to strengthen America's retirement.

My bill will help to boost stock market performance by providing a real incentive for investors to keep their hard-earned money in the market. This bill will achieve that goal by ending the double taxation of dividends.

Currently dividend income is taxed twice, first as corporate income and again as personal income. This tax policy diminishes the value to shareholders of dividend-paying stocks.

By treating dividend payments differently from interest, we are providing a disincentive for corporations to return earnings to shareholders. Not surprisingly, dividend payments have declined in recent years.

Encouraging the regular payment of dividends by ending their double taxation will attract new investors and help to stop the slide of the stock market.

□ 1015

TIME TO END INTEREST-FREE LOANS TO THE GOVERNMENT

(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, I am here today to call for an end to huge interest-free loans to the government. That is why I have a plan that would fix a portion of the alternative minimum tax problem for those who purchased incentive stock options from their employer. H.R. 5398 would allow taxpayers to apply their prepaid ISO taxes under AMT against up to half of their regular income tax liability.

Mr. Speaker, many taxpayers have prepaid thousands of dollars of taxes with little ability to use those accumulated credits. In essence, people are floating the government a huge interest-free loan. It is just plain wrong, and it must stop.

My bill fixes that so families who have put second mortgages on their homes, cashed out retirement savings, sold assets, and struggled to work out payment plans with the IRS can get their money back and get on with their lives. It is the least we can do for America.

TIME TO PASS PENSION PROTECTION LEGISLATION

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

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, it has been over 5 months since we passed H.R. 3762, the Pension Reform Security Act. This issue is still a concern to the third district of Arkansas, yet Congress has not completed work on the legislation that will protect my constituents' pensions.

The bill we passed back in April evens out the playing field between senior level executives and the men and women of their workforce. This bill relaxes diversification rules for rank and file workers, enhances worker access to quality investment, and provides a number of much-needed retirement security reforms.

Mr. Speaker, pension reform and protection are critical to restoring investor confidence in our faltering marketplace, and the completion of this bill is critical to the agenda of the 107th Congress. I encourage my colleagues in the House to reaffirm our commitment to pension protection by voting for House Resolution 540 today.

AMERICANS SHOULD PRAY FOR PEACE

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, tonight at 6 o'clock at Freedom Plaza at 13th and Pennsylvania, a number of area religious leaders will gather in a prayer vigil for peace. This afternoon, several of the victims from 9/11 will be here to affirm that they think peace is the better course, particularly since there has been a total inability of the Administration to connect the terrorist events of 9/11 with Iraq.

I believe that Americans must pray and must petition their elected representatives here in the Congress to be more than a speed bump on the fast track to war in Iraq, a war that will take thousands of lives, a war that will take hundreds of billions of dollars from American taxpayers.

Now is the time to speak out and speak out firmly in favor of the security of our country and our families, and doing it in a constructive and reasonable way, not by launching a war against a despot in Iraq.

HAPPY 75TH BIRTHDAY TO HENRY HILL

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

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and celebrate the 75th birthday of Dr. Henry Hill of Cobb County, Georgia. Henry is my friend and my mentor and, most importantly, he was my first successful campaign manager. But I do not rise for myself, I rise for thousands of parents, thousands of children, thousands of teachers.

Henry's life has been dedicated to public education as a principal, as a

coach, as a teacher, and as a counselor. Normally on birthdays we give the recipient a gift, but on this birthday, number 75 for Henry, I acknowledge the gift he has given to thousands and thousands of our children.

May God Bless Henry Hill.

PROTECTING AMERICA AGAINST TERRORISTS, THUGS, BULLIES, AND MURDERERS

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

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in response and in direct opposition to statements that have been recently made. Everyone in this House wants peace; the question is how. Those who say that we and the President have not connected the dots either cannot read or refuse to assess the information that is readily available in both secret and public briefings. We can look to the former weapons inspectors, we can look to the research data behind Prime Minister Blair's speech, and we can look at the research backing up the President of the United States' speech to the U.N.

Mr. Speaker, the evidence is clear. We will protect America against terrorists, against thugs, bullies, and murderers like Saddam Hussein. In visiting Fort Bragg, our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines are ready to do what it takes to protect America and the civilized world.

STAND UP FOR AMERICA'S PENSIONERS

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

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I thought we might take a minute this morning to talk about the fact that while our economy struggles and while families across America watch helplessly as their retirement savings dwindle away as a result of corporate greed and mismanagement, while health care costs soar to ever-higher rates, and while prescription drug prices rise at 5 times the rate of inflation, the leadership in this House can still be counted on to protect the interests of corporate moguls and wealthy special interests at the expense of hard-working American families.

A case in point. With the startling news that 401(k) and other defined contribution plans lost \$210 billion last year, and IRAs lost \$230 billion, the majority in this House still thinks it perfectly all right for companies to provide conflicted investment advice to their employees, advice from analysts who have a stake in the very stocks that they are touting, analysts who receive financial benefits from promoting certain stocks, even if they know they are of questionable value.

Some of us tried to do something about that and correct the inequity

when we considered the so-called pension reform bill last spring. My amendment would have provided truly unconflicted advice to investors, and that is the direction we ought to go. The bills that are in front of the House later on today, Mr. Speaker, do not move in that direction, and we need to stand up for the American people whose investments are dwindling and do the right thing.

AMERICA'S INTERESTS SHOULD BE FIRST ON THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE

(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, let us just kind of go back in time. Suppose it is August 2001, and a Member of Congress is speaking to a Rotary Club or something and says, listen, there is a guy out there, a known terrorist named Osama bin Laden. He has a group called al-Qaeda, and they have found sanctuary and training opportunities inside the corrupt Taliban government of Afghanistan. Now, I am telling you here and now, in August 2001, ladies and gentlemen, we need to instruct the President of the United States and instruct the CIA to take him out. We need to work with maybe an international coalition to get rid of this guy.

Now, if a Member of Congress had been saying that 13 months ago, he would have been laughed at, he would have been ridiculed, and he would have been called a warmonger and, yet, how right that statement would have been 13 months ago.

Now, are we not in the same position? We have Saddam Hussein, he hates America, he harbors terrorists, he has been directly and indirectly involved with all kinds of terrorist activity, many against America, all around the globe. Is it not prudent to take the course of action that our President is doing?

Mr. Speaker, this is not time for partisanship or cowering behind whatever boundaries or ideas that one has; this is time to put our best thoughts together and work together as a Nation, as Democrats and Republicans, and bring America's interest first to the floor of this House and get behind the President of the United States.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on the approval of the Journal and then on each motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed on Tuesday, September 24, in the order in which that motion was entertained.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

on approving the Journal, de novo; on H.R. 2982, by the yeas and nays; and on H. Con. Res. 297, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question de novo of the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question is on the Speaker'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. McNULTY. 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.

This will be a 15-minute vote followed by two 5-minute votes.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 366, nays 48, answered “present” 1, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 407] YEAS—366

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Akin
Allen
Andrews
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baker
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehkert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Bryant
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor

Capito
Capps
Cardin
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cooksey
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crenshaw
Cribb
Cubie
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers

Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Flake
Fletcher
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Frank
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Grucci
Gutierrez
Hall (TX)
Hansen
Harman
Hart
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hinojosa
Hobson

Hoefel
Hoekstra
Holden
Honda
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hunter
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (RI)
Kerns
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kleczka
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Lynch
Maloney (CT)
Manzullo
Markey
Matheson
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McGovern

McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McNulty
Meehan
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Mica
Millender-McDonald
Miller, Dan
Miller, Gary
Miller, Jeff
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Obey
Ortiz
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Owens
Oxley
Pascarell
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reyes
Reynolds
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)

Ryan (KS)
Sanders
Sandlin
Sawyer
Saxton
Schiff
Schrock
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Sullivan
Sununu
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thornberry
Thune
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Toomey
Turner
Upton
Quinn
Velazquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins (OK)
Watson (CA)
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Wexler
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wynn
Young (FL)

NAYS—48

Aderholt
Baird
Baldwin
Borski
Capuano
Crane
DeFazio
English
Filner
Fossella
Gutknecht
Hastings (FL)
Hilliard
Hinchey
Holt
Hulshof

Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kennedy (MN)
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LoBiondo
McDermott
Miller, George
Moore
Oberstar
Oliver
Pallone
Peterson (MN)
Phelps
Ramstad
Sabo

Sanchez
Schaffer
Schakowsky
Strickland
Stupak
Sweeney
Taylor (MS)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Waters
Weller
Wicker
Wu

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—1

Tancredo

NOT VOTING—17

Callahan
Clay
Ehrlich
Maloney (NY)

Mascara
Matsui
McKinney
Meek (FL)

Mink
Mollohan
Paul