

again, giving North Korea more assistance to stop making nuclear weapons.

This time we should not be intimidated into making concessions to a rogue regime because they want to extract more assistance. Kim Jong Il uses whatever money he can get to terrorize his people and threaten the security of the entire region. China, Japan, Russia, and South Korea all should make an effort to contain this rogue dictator and help put an end to his blackmail games.

TEXAS PATRIOTS

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to honor 51 Texas patriots, members of the Texas Legislature currently in Ardmore, Oklahoma, who are standing tall to defend Texas against the thirst of additional power of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), the House majority leader.

Congressional district lines are normally drawn only every 10 years, and the current 32 Texas congressional districts were put in place just 2 years ago and approved by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) was not happy with those lines. He now wants to force the Texas Legislature to draw new lines to remove Democrats from office. Until now, redistricting in the middle of a decade has not been done anywhere in the country in the last 50 years.

I want to salute the following heroes from the Dallas/Fort Worth area who are standing up to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY): Roberto Alonzo of Dallas, Yvonne Davis of Dallas, Dr. Jesse Jones of Dallas, Terri Hodge of Dallas, Steve Wolens of Dallas, and Lon Burnam of Fort Worth. I want to call on Governor Perry to stop using the Department of Public Service to harass the families of these brave legislators.

Leading Texas newspapers across the State are siding with the 51 patriot legislators, and when the annals of Texas history are recorded, these courageous legislators will be long remembered.

SUPPORT THE UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last year I met a courageous woman named Tracy Marciniak who had been beaten by her husband when she was 9 months pregnant. She survived, but her baby Zachariah died from the beating. Her attacker was convicted of the assault on Tracy, and he did minimal time. No charges were brought against him for the murder of Zachariah.

Tracy wrote: "Congress should approve the Unborn Victims of Violence Act. Opponents of the bill have put forth a counterproposal known as the Lofgren amendment. I have read it," she goes on to say, "and it is offensive to me, because it says that there is only one victim in such a crime; the woman who is pregnant."

"Please hear me on this: On the night of February 8, 1992, there were two victims. I was nearly killed, but I survived. Little Zachariah died."

Mr. Speaker, in a recent Fox News-Opinion Dynamics poll, 84 percent said that homicide charges are appropriate in the deaths of Laci Peterson and her unborn son Connor in the much-publicized Peterson murder case in California; only 7 percent said that a single homicide charge would be appropriate.

Mr. Speaker, Congress must pass the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, also known as Laci and Connor's Law.

TEXAS STATE LEGISLATORS—HEROES IN THE TEXAS TRADITION

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, 53 Texas Democratic legislators exhibited real courage when they refused to participate in an unprecedented redistricting power grab. This is a Texas kind of courage like General Sam Houston, who marshaled his resources to win the Battle of San Jacinto. What Joe Moreno, Rick Noriega, Jessica Farrar, Kevin Bailey, and the rest of these heroes did was stand up to this charade.

In a statement delivered from Oklahoma, these Texas heroes said, "We did not choose our path, TOM DELAY did. We are ready to stand on the House Floor and work day and night to deal with the real issues facing Texas families. At a time when we are told we do not have time to deal with school finance, and when we must still resolve issues like the State budget crisis and insurance reform, the fact that an outrageous partisan power grab sits at the top of the House calendar is unconscionable."

But not all Texans consider them heroes. Yesterday the Associated Press reported that the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) was investigating whether or not the FBI and U.S. Marshals could be used to track down and arrest these Texas legislators.

We should not use Federal resources committed to the war on terrorism and protecting our homeland. Not since Richard Nixon have we seen such a Federal power grab.

SUPPORT FOR THE UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT

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

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of legislation introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HART): H.R. 1997, the Unborn Victims of Violence Act.

The parents and family of Laci Peterson have asked that the name of this bill be changed to Laci and Connor's Law. I think for most Americans, this is, shall we say, a no-brainer. People are committing acts of violence against pregnant women, and, unfortunately, in some jurisdictions there is no way to prosecute in a situation where there has been the death of the unborn baby. We are talking about babies that are wanted by their mothers.

Indeed, we had a case of a military servicemember who specifically was trying to kill the baby inside his pregnant wife and succeeded in doing that. He did so on Federal property, and we had to prosecute in State court in that situation.

I think this law is very, very badly needed. It is the right thing to do. I encourage all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support it.

PRAISE FOR TEXAS LEGISLATORS

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand this morning to praise the 51 members of the Texas House of Representatives and, most especially, those from Dallas County. Representative Roberto Alonzo, Representative Yvonne Davis, Representative Terri Hodge, Representative Jesse Jones, Representative Steve Wolens, and our neighbor, Representative Lon Burnam from Tarrant County. I cannot forget my original classmate from the class of 1972 in the Texas House, Representative Senfronia Thompson, and Representative Pete Laney. They stand for courage, commitment, integrity, and principle.

They will not be forgotten, because we know that they are the ones who stand by children, their education, and health care. They care about working families and all of our senior citizens.

Again, we thank them and we praise them for looking out for regular Texans.

PRESIDENT BUSH RALLIES FOR INDIANA

(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, on Monday I had the profound honor of being the first Hoosier to welcome President George W. Bush to the great State of Indiana on his very first visit there.

As the President trod the sawdust of the Indiana State Fair Grounds, he was greeted with ovation after ovation from a State full of conservative,

profamily Hoosiers that appreciate his leadership at home and abroad.

But we were especially grateful that the President addressed his message to the issue of jobs. Ever since the last year of the Clinton administration, the economy of the State of Indiana has been in steep decline, with manufacturing jobs exiting the State, exiting the country. President Bush came and said he was in Indiana to talk about jobs. He extolled the leadership of this Chamber last week and called on all of Congress to pass his Jobs and Growth Act, and so do I this day.

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We were grateful to welcome President Bush to Indiana, but more grateful still for his focus, putting out-of-work Americans back to work.

TEXAS LEGISLATORS ARE HEROES

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, my Governor, Rick Perry, called some Texas legislative members children, and Speaker Tom Craddick called them Chicken D's. Well, I am calling them heroes. Joe Deshotel, Allen Ritter, Dan Ellis, and Craig Eiland are heroes to the citizens throughout Texas because of their willingness to stand up against the heavy-handed tactics of personal politics.

The Governor and Speaker sent Texas troopers to a hospital in Galveston where Craig Eiland's prematurely born children are being treated. And yesterday TOM DELAY said he was looking to get the FBI involved to arrest Texas Democrats because they refused to put his unconstitutional, gerrymandered restricting plan above an issue like school finance reform.

When a man like Craig Eiland has to go to another State rather than being there for his children, we have gone too far. The sad thing is, Mr. DELAY, you do not need to use the State troopers or the FBI to get those brave Democrats back in Austin. All you need to do is start paying attention to the needs of Texans instead of your own personal political agenda. Mr. DELAY, do not mess with Texas.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS). The Chair needs to remind Members to address the Chair and not others.

HONORING THE SACRIFICE OF LT. COLONEL MICHAEL VIERS

(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 today to thank Lt.

Colonel Michael Viers for his selfless sacrifice in helping to save the life of a little girl in the Second Congressional District of South Carolina. Ten-year-old Shawna Crawford, an uninsured immigrant child living with her parents in Hardeeville, South Carolina, faced certain death just a few months ago as her kidneys began to fail and her family had no money to pay for the needed operation. Her plight was championed by community leaders Fred Nimmer and David Allgood, along with GSA official Mary Joy Jameson.

JoAnn Coefield of the Second Congressional District's Midlands office was able to find the funds through Federal assistance, but Shawna still needed a donor kidney. Fortunately, Colonel Viers, a Marine stationed at the Marine Recruit Depot at Parris Island, South Carolina, stepped forward.

Michael Viers is a true hero. And just as his fellow troops were overseas risking their lives for freedom, he has risked his life to provide a future for Shawna Crawford. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Colonel Viers.

In conclusion, God bless our troops.

TEXAS REDISTRICTING POWER GRAB

(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, there is a light of hope in Texas. There are 51 heroes who have stood up. For so many Texas legislators to agree and walk out demonstrates the depth of their commitment, the strength of their purpose, and the nobility of their cause.

This is not just about a map. It is about democracy and participating and the rights of minorities to have a voice in the process. It is about education. It is about health. It is about priorities that confront Texas. Rather than just waste time on divisive redistricting schemes and pushing on from the Washington level, they have decided to do the right thing and make sure that the priorities get straightened out.

I take pride to recognize Representative Gabi Canales, Representative Timoteo Garza, Representative Ryan Guillen, Representative Mike Villarreal, Representative Carlos Uresti, Representative Ruth McClendon, Representative Roberto Puente, heroes of Texas.

PROTECTING UNBORN VICTIMS

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, also known as Lacy and Connor's Law. We have all seen the news stories about Lacy Peterson and her unborn son. As a physician who has delivered over 3,000 babies, I am an advocated of this legisla-

tion. Enacting this law would help to protect many who are unable to defend themselves in any way, the unborn sons and daughters of mothers who are victims of trauma.

This bill establishes legal consequences if an unborn child is killed or injured as a result of an act of violence against the mother. Further, it allows the prosecutors to charge the perpetrators with a second offense for the assault on the baby. And unfortunately, in my clinical practice I have seen cases of injury to the unborn child where no prosecution was deemed possible because of the absence of such protection. Federal law recognizes only one victim, the mother, when a pregnant woman is attacked and an unborn child is injured or killed. But 26 States have enacted laws to recognize unborn victims of at least some violent crime during some or all of the period of prenatal development.

This bill would extend protection to unborn children where none currently exists. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the need to pass this important legislation in support of those who cannot help themselves, the unborn victims of violence.

SUPPORT TEXAS DEMOCRATS

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

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, today we pause and say thank God that we have at least some members, men and women of the Texas House, men of honor, that work hard, that play by the rules, that stand for what is right. This week over 50 courageous Democrats told the Governor, the Texas Speaker, and the majority leader of this body, enough is enough.

I particularly want to recognize my east Texas representatives, my friends, Barry Telford, Mark Homer, Chuck Hopson, Dan Ellis, and Jim McReynolds. Men of honor. Men of respect. Men of conviction.

Texas Speaker Tom Craddick is unhappy because the Democrats broke his quorum. While Craddick has had time to whine and moan and complain and make up childish names for the Democrats, he has not had time to tell you, Mr. Speaker, one important fact: Mr. Craddick made history in 1971 as a leader of the Dirty 30, 30 Texas legislators who disappeared in protest of a heavy-handed speaker. This is hypocrisy at its worst. Now Craddick has the DPS and the Texas Rangers after the Democrats. The Governor is using the AMBER Alert System to try to find the legislators. The majority leader of the House is trying to get the FBI involved. This is absolutely shameful.

Thanks to Barry, Mark, Chuck, Dan and Jim. The people of Texas are depending on you.