

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.

□ 1015

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.

PROTECTING UNBORN CHILDREN

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

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, a piece of legislation that is now rightfully receiving overwhelming support and one that I am proud to now be an original cosponsor of.

It is the responsibility of every public elected official to try to do all that we can to protect those who cannot protect themselves. And that is exactly what this piece of legislation does. It does that by punishing those who would intentionally try to harm or in some cases kill an unborn child.

This piece of legislation has the further benefit of actually trying to encourage the efforts to discourage crimes against women, the mothers. It does that by punishing those who would inflict the crimes against women and their unborn children.

So I would encourage people today from both sides of the aisle to do what all public elected officials should do: protect those who cannot protect themselves.

PRACTICE WHAT YOU PREACH

(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, George Bush made his first address to the Nation as President-elect from the chamber of the Texas House of Representatives. Today that same House is in lockdown. He was introduced by Democrat Speaker Pete Laney. Today, Mr. Laney is at work with 50 courageous colleagues in Ardmore, Oklahoma, while some Republicans outrageously call them "fugitives" and "criminals."

Throughout his campaign, Mr. Bush professed to be a "uniter, not a divider." If that quickly-abandoned moniker is ever to achieve any meaning, perhaps home in Texas is the best place for him to practice what he preached. Mr. President, tell Karl Rove to stop messing with Texas. Mr. President, tell TOM DELAY to withdraw his redistricting plan that slices and dices communities across our State.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Remarks in debate must address the Chair, not the President of the United States. The Chair reminds the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) that he is to address his remarks to the Chair, not to the President of the United States.

Mr. DOGGETT. A distinguished predecessor as President of the United States, Dwight David Eisenhower, pledged, "I shall go to Korea."

To achieve peace, why don't you simply pledge, "I shall go to Austin."

UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the Unborn Victims of Violence Act. For too long Federal law has failed to recognize what is obvious to so many Americans, that when an unborn child is injured or killed during the commission of a crime of violence, there are two human victims, not just one.

Already 26 States have enacted criminal penalties. Now Congress must lead a national effort to bring justice to criminals who would harm pregnant women and their children. To those who would perform these heinous acts, we should say we, as Americans, will no longer tolerate your callous disregard for human life and for the families that you devastate.

Mr. Speaker, this bill requires the Federal law recognize an unborn child as a victim if he or she is harmed during a Federal crime by letting the assailant be charged with a second offense on behalf of the second victim, the unborn child, the exact charge depending on degree of harm done to the child.

We should all take a moment and reflect on the profound loss and sorrow suffered by a family and their community when a new life is extinguished by an act of violence and let that thought guide this debate.

HONORING TEXAS HOUSE DEMOCRATS

(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, let there be no mistake, this action by 51 heroes and heroines is by no means dealing with the political aspect of redistricting. These individuals are dealing with the constitutional principles of freedom and human dignity.

The Houston Chronicle today said the ability of the Democrats to thwart DELAY is good for all Texans. I am going to add something else: it is good for America. Because you do not know the kind of oppressive leadership that the majority leader is bringing to the State. He says he will not relent. He indicates that at a breakfast the President of the United States said when he said redistricting is ongoing, the President said, well, I would like to see that happen. Fair enough. But this is a divisive, impulsive act by the majority leader. This is Washington telling Texas what to do. And do you know why? Because TOM DELAY says he is not going to compromise because Republicans are in control in Austin and Washington.

Well, let me thank Garnet Coleman, Jessica Farrar, Joe Moreno, Senfronia

Thompson, Kevin Bailey, and Rick Noriega. The Governor of Texas said they should resign. Mr. Governor, you need to consider your own words. Maybe some believe you should do the same.

HONORING SAVANNA, GEORGIA, PORTS

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

Mr. BURNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contribution to the economy that the port of Savannah provides to the port city in Savannah, Georgia, in the 12th district.

Last year, the port city served more than 50 steamship lines serving more than 150 countries around the world. Exports of kale and clay, wood pulp and machinery helped send Georgia products abroad, and the port is responsible for more than 80,000 Georgia jobs, paying more than \$585 million in State and local taxes. These jobs provide a total of \$1.8 billion of personal income to the citizens of Savannah and the surrounding areas of Georgia.

The economic impact from my district and the State of Georgia is enormous, and we must make sure that the port remains open, efficient, and secure. I support the efforts of the Governor and the Georgia Port Authority to maintain and improve this vital commercial center. I look forward to working with all branches of government to secure the necessary resources to protect this asset and expand its influence in the community.

HONORING THE TEXAS 53

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

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor today to salute heroes in my State, the Texas 53. Yes, these 53 State House representatives have taken a courageous stand to preserve justice and democracy in Texas. As those State representatives said in a written statement, they are taking a courageous stand for fair play for all Texans. We refuse to participate in an inherently unfair process that slams the door of opportunity in the face of Texas voters.

The proposed redistricting plan blatantly violates the Voting Rights Act and the U.S. Constitution. In south Texas, border cities are cut up into as many as three different congressional districts and grouped into residents of downtown Austin over 350 miles away.

□ 1030

Democratic representatives have no voice in the development of this redistricting plan, nor did citizens throughout the State of Texas, in violation of State law.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I commend these 53 representatives for their courageous