

those while a Member of the Congress, but I learned that those who opposed me, those who disagreed with me could still be my friends, that I could have respect for them.

I look out and I see Ab Mikva, who served on the Committee on Ways and Means with me on the Democrat side. We rarely voted together, rarely. But we became very, very good personal friends, and I have always held him in high respect because he was motivated to do what he believed was correct, what he believe was right for the country. And it is an incredible miracle that we can come together, whether in this Chamber or over in the other body, and, see, I still know I cannot call it the Senate, and we can make it work.

This representative democracy within a Republic, the oldest democracy in the world, continues to work because we bring together the diverse views, and sometimes we get emotional, and sometimes we cloak our position in extreme rhetoric, but for the most part we do respect each other, and we do keep the country moving forward. I am sure that Washington and Franklin and Jefferson and Madison look down on what happens here and say, "We put down a pretty good foundation. It has worked." And I know that I always felt that the moments that I could be in this Capitol were the most stimulating events of my life because we can never forget that right here, right where we are today, is the center of freedom for the entire world, and what we do impacts not only the 280 plus million Americans, but the entire world. It is an awesome responsibility, but one that has been discharged by all of you who are former Members and continues to be discharged today by those who come together here to make democracy work.

I thank you so much, and I tried to keep my remarks within the 5-minute rule.

Mr. MAZZOLI. Will the gentleman yield just 1 second?

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that I am the only person in today who is a member, as our honoree, of our wonderful and fabled congressional class of the 92nd Congress. And as a Member of that class, Bill, I want to tell you what grace you have brought to our class, what an honor it is to have you in our midst.

Mr. BUECHNER (presiding). The Chair joins in the accolades of the gentleman from Texas and returns the time to the gentleman from Idaho.

Mr. LAROCCO. Thank you again, Bill, for your friendship and service and for being with us today and receiving this award from your peers.

Mr. Speaker, the members of the Association were honored and proud to serve in the U.S. Congress. We are continuing our service, and I hope that is demonstrated by our report today here on the floor of House of Representatives. Again, thank you for letting us return to the Chamber. I want to thank the Speaker of the House, DENNIS

HASTERT, for giving us this time to make our report.

This concludes our 33rd Annual Report by the United States Association of Former Members of Congress, and I hope you will join us today and tomorrow for our continuing activities here in the Nation's Capitol. Thank you very much. I am proud to be your President and proud to be part of this Association, and I thank you all for your participation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman from Idaho for his service both today and the past year to the Former Members Association.

The Chair again wishes to thank the Former Members of the House for their presence here today.

Before terminating these proceedings, the Chair would like to invite those former Members who did not respond when the roll was called to give their names to the reading clerks for inclusion on the roll.

The Chair wishes to thank the other former Members of the House for their presence here today, and, again, good luck to you all. We wish to have you join in the other proceedings today and tonight.

The Chair announces that the House will reconvene at 11 a.m.

Accordingly, (at 10 o'clock and 30 minutes a.m.), the House continued in recess.

□ 1107

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON) at 11 o'clock and 7 minutes a.m.

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING RECESS

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and that all Members and former Members who spoke during the recess have the privilege of revising and extending their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

PASSAGE OF H.R. 2

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

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, last week the House of Representatives passed the job package introduced by President Bush. This bill gives the economy an immediate shot in the arm by leaving working families with more of their hard-earned money through accelerated income tax relief. Right now too many workers feel a squeeze in

their wallet because they are taxed too highly, but help is on the way.

H.R. 2 will aid any American family looking to pay bills or put food on the dinner table by letting those families keep more of those hard-earned dollars. Just as importantly, H.R. 2 will help create more jobs for American workers by including provisions encouraging business investment. This bill breathes new life into every company struggling to survive by increasing tax-deductible investments. If we help businesses remain competitive and growing, we in turn can help them create new jobs.

There is yet one more hurdle for H.R. 2 to make a difference in America. H.R. 2 must pass the other Chamber. I rise today to urge my friends on the other side of the Capitol to move forward and pass the legislation quickly. The American people are waiting.

EXTENDING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

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

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, Congress just does not get it. That is exactly what I would be thinking if I was one of the 14,400 workers in my home State of Wisconsin or the 1 million workers nationwide who are unemployed and are about to exhaust their unemployment insurance benefits in 2 weeks. I cannot imagine the frustration these workers must feel after months of looking for jobs with little to no success, only to come home after a long day of looking for work to pick up a paper and read that the House of Representatives adjourned after another week of light legislative work without extending unemployment benefits.

Earlier this week more than 80 employees at Riverwood International Corporation, a beverage carton plant in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, were told that they were losing their jobs. This is just one example of many companies in Wisconsin that have decided to close their doors for good. Wisconsin had the third highest number of massive layoff claims this past March.

Congress should stay here and extend unemployment benefits.

NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK

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

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for House Congressional Resolution 172 introduced last week by our colleagues, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR), the cochairs of the Travel and Tourism Caucus. I commend them for their leadership on this issue.

The tourism industry is vital to the economy of the United States. It is the

bedrock of the economy of Guam, my district, and instrumental to the continued economic growth of our islands.

Last year nearly 1 million visitors alone came to Guam. In 1997, visitor arrivals peaked at 1½ million. Guam is 4 flying hours away from major markets in Asia such as Tokyo, Osaka, Seoul, Taipei, Hong Kong, Bangkok, and Manila. Guam is served by several major airlines including Continental, Micronesia, Northwest, Japan Airlines, Korean Air, and All Nippon Airways.

Guam has been struggling to rebound in the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks, Super typhoon Pongsona, the war in Iraq, and recently the SARS epidemic.

In February, in the omnibus appropriations bill, Congress included \$50 million for a promotional campaign to encourage travel to the United States, including territories. We need to continue our efforts here in Congress to promote tourism. Let us support the visitor industry. Support the American economy, support National Tourism Week.

MISUSE OF FEDERAL POWER

(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, not content as U.S. House commander, redistricting czar, and mapmaker for the Texas Legislature, J. Edgar DeLay apparently seeks a job directing law enforcement.

His first response to political differences is to call in the G-men, the FBI, the U.S. Marshals to brazenly pursue his political foes. [AP, Suzanne Gamboa, May 13, 2003] He told reporters that "bringing in either U.S. Marshals or FBI agents is justified because redistricting is a federal issue." [Houston Chronicle, May 13, 2003]

The United States attorney in San Antonio was asked to explore how to employ Federal resources. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram, May 14, 2003; Washington Times, May 14, 2003] Meanwhile, someone in the Homeland Security Department was enlisted to track a cotton farmer from Hale Center, Texas. [Fort Worth Star-Telegram, May 14, 2003] According to Plainview airport manager Marlin Miller, the Homeland Security official "made the comment that I think this is some kind of political people they're looking for." [Fort Worth Star-Telegram, May 15, 2003]

Americans had thought this Department was to look for terrorists. Perhaps those who attacked these courageous citizen-legislators would treat them as terrorists. This is how tyranny begins, and that is why 16 Members of the House are requesting an official Administration explanation.

America is waiting. Who is hiding now?

REPUBLICAN RUNAWAY FREIGHT TRAIN

(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, I read a poignant article in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram this morning. Mr. Sanders compares the legislative body in Texas and its lack of leadership to a runaway freight train that has been hijacked by a self-serving Congressman, Mr. TOM DELAY, who is willing to put his own agenda and the presumed agenda of the national Republican leadership ahead of the people of Texas.

□ 1115

He describes the freight train as carrying redistricting, but that it is also carrying other important cargo like school finance and the CHIPS program, and that this train with DELAY and Craddick at the helm is headed for a wreck. Fifty-three House Members saw the wreck coming, did what they thought was best for the State of Texas, and hightailed to Oklahoma to prevent this train from slamming into the Texas House. It is a stand that I see as nothing short of heroic.

They have put DELAY and Craddick, and in fact, the Nation, on notice that there are many of us out here who are willing to put it all on the line for what we think is right; that there are many of us who will not be threatened or bullied into an agenda that is bad for Texas. Joe Deshotel, Craig Eiland, and Alan Ritter, as well as their colleagues who have joined them, are risking everything for the people of Texas, not their party.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2003

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 229 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 229

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1527) to amend title 49, United States Code to authorize appropriations for the National Transportation Safety Board for fiscal years 2003 through 2006, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. Each section of the bill shall be considered as read. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member of-

fering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Culberson). The gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purposes of debate only.

(Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 229 is an open rule, providing for the consideration of H.R. 1527, the National Transportation Safety Board Reauthorization Act of 2003. The rule provides 1 hour of general debate, evenly divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions. Obviously, this is a fair rule. It is a totally open rule, one that provides ample opportunity to debate this important reauthorization before us today.

Last year, the House passed essentially the same bill by suspension, but the other body failed to consider the legislation. The House then must again act this year to ensure that the NTSB has the funding necessary to carry out its important tasks.

The NTSB was established in 1967 as an independent agency with the task of investigating transportation accidents, conducting transportation safety studies, issuing recommendations, aiding victims' families after disasters, and promoting general transportation safety.

Since 1967, NTSB has investigated over 114,000 aviation accidents. The NTSB's constant participation in transportation safety, evidenced through 12,000 recommendations to regulators, operators and users of transportation systems, has made them the government leader in crash investigation. I think what is even more impressive is that 82 percent of their recommendations have actually been adopted by these regulatory and transportation bodies.

This bill will increase the effectiveness of the board by authorizing funding through fiscal year 2006 at levels necessary to carry out their investigative mission both here and at aviation disasters abroad.