

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, the offshore casino industry would like us to think that Internet gambling is a harmless activity that can be tamed by Federal regulation. The problem is, it cannot happen.

Proponents of regulation are selling it because it sounds reasonable. Their arguments for regulation are nothing but a smoke screen to cover up what is already illegal activity. They seem to be more interested in regulating around the law than taking legitimate action to stop illegal activity.

That is the bottom line. Internet gambling is illegal according to the Department of Justice and the FBI. However, there is no effective way to regulate it. The only way to stop it is to cut off the financial flow through the legal Internet casino industry, and that is what H.R. 2143 does.

H.R. 2143 does not define what is legal and what is illegal. It simply ensures that law enforcement has the means to stop illegal activity. It is time to pass the bill.

RESERVIST PAY GAP

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our Nation's National Guard and Reserve. These brave Americans voluntarily leave behind families and their civilian duties to serve in our Nation's military for the sake of protecting our Nation. And how do we repay them? By requiring long terms of duty and often paying them less salary than they would earn by staying at home.

Today, the House will consider House Resolution 201, paying tribute to private companies who have been willing to support these troops in part by filling in this pay gap for some of our reservists. However, just last month, when my colleagues and I tried to introduce amendments to the Defense authorization bill that would have ended all pay gaps for reservists, they were not only defeated by my Republican counterparts, but they were not even allowed to be debated on this House floor.

It is time that Congress does more for the reservists than just pay accolades to private industry. To truly give tribute to our national reservists we must pass legislation so that all of these individuals who risk their lives for our country will not risk financial disaster.

PIED PIPER NURSERY

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

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, today I want to talk about Pied Piper Nursery in St.

Clairsville, Ohio. We have a lot of turbulence in the world, but I think we all ways need to point out the bright spots, Mr. Speaker.

The owners are Karen Griener and Jean Fulton, and the teachers are Cathie Cilles, Joan West, Joyce Snider, and Teri Coleman. There are 100 students in total, and it is strictly educational.

A while back, Mr. Speaker, I went to Pied Piper Nursery and the young children sang songs, they talked about their country and they asked questions. I just wanted to keep a promise that I made to those students that I would let our Congress know about a bright spot, and that is the Pied Piper Nursery. We applaud the parents, the teachers, the owners, and especially the young students.

BUDGET UNDERFUNDS VETERANS' HEALTH CARE

(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, this House recently passed a budget which woefully underfunds veterans' health care by \$6.2 billion. The result: Many veterans will no longer be able to get health care through the VA system. It is a shame that we are rationing health care for our veterans.

This House also passed a tax bill that takes care of the millionaires, but leaves thousands of children behind, even children whose moms and dads at this very moment are serving in Iraq. So this is what my Republican colleagues have done. They have taken care of the millionaires and they have left our veterans and our children behind. Shame on them.

IN HONOR OF PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ERIC BLEYTHING

(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, I rise today to honor one of America's bravest, Private First Class Eric Bleything of the 3rd District of Arkansas.

Private First Class Bleything, a scout with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment in Iraq, was wounded last week when the eight-vehicle resupply convoy he was with was attacked. He was shot in the stomach with an AK-47. Fortunately, the bullet missed all vital organs, and he is in good condition.

Private First Class Bleything is one of the many heroes currently stationed in Iraq. However, what makes his story even more special is that Private First Class Bleything had an opportunity to stay in the U.S. rather than ship out with his unit in April. His wife had just been diagnosed with cancer, and his commanders told him he could stay behind to be with her through the treatments. However, they decided he

should go and be with his unit. As Marcie herself said, he felt the obligation to go and serve his country.

Mr. Speaker, Private First Class Bleything embodies the courage and sacrifice of America's men and women. My thoughts and prayers are with him as he continues to recover from this attack.

BENEFITS OF BROADBAND

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, we all know the Internet is a powerful tool. It makes distance and location irrelevant. It evens the playing field between small and large businesses and increases worker productivity.

The next revolution is broadband. We will be able to do so much and do it more efficiently. But we can only do it if we have the infrastructure to do it with. The FCC ruled in February that DSL, telephone company-provided broadband connections, should not be subject to certain rules imposed on local voice telephone networks. This is a good beginning and it should start some companies on the road to more broadband deployment. Verizon, the largest phone company in my State, plans to make broadband available to 10 million more residences and small businesses nationwide in 2003 alone.

The problem is that the FCC has not issued its February order. That order will detail the new rules that companies know how broadband will be regulated and guides investment decisions. Until it is released, however, these companies cannot move forward. I urge the FCC to issue its order as quickly as possible so that millions of Americans can begin to experience the new opportunities that broadband will provide.

IN MEMORY OF DEPUTY SHERIFF SHELBY GREEN

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

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, in the early morning hours of Thursday, May 15, Deputy Sheriff Shelby Green, of the Anderson County, Texas, Sheriff's Department, was brutally murdered in the line of duty by an unknown assailant.

After attempting to stop a suspicious vehicle, Deputy Green pursued the assailant for 10 miles as bullets were smashing through his windshield. When the chase ended, Deputy Green was left dead with a fatal gunshot wound to his chest.

A decorated law enforcement officer, last year Deputy Green received the Award of Valor from the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor and mourn the loss of this 39-year-old hero, a family man. He served and protected

our community with distinction and valor. Our most heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to his family, his friends, his fellow deputies, especially to his wife, Diane, and their three sons, Steven, Trey, and Scott.

May his killer be brought to justice and may God bless and keep Deputy Sheriff Shelby Green.

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FULL FUNDING FOR NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT

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

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to call on Congress to fully fund the President's No Child Left Behind for school reform. Last Congress we passed legislation to create tough new standards our schools must meet and vigorous assessments to measure progress in meeting those standards.

As a former superintendent of North Carolina schools, I voted for this bill because my State has led the Nation in standard-based reform, and the administration promised historic new funding to make the bill work, but the administration has broken that promise. This year's budget request short-changes No Child Left Behind by \$9.7 billion; and over the first 3 years of the new law, the administration is proposing nearly \$20 billion in cuts to No Child Left Behind.

Mr. Speaker, a promise is a promise and a deal is a deal, and Congress must hold the administration accountable for its commitments. I am working with others to help make sure No Child Left Behind is fully funded before the tough new requirements take effect. If the White House is going to talk the talk, Congress had better make sure that they walk the walk. I urge Members to join me in this vital effort to do right by our schools and our children.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, several foreign governments have undertaken to distribute identification cards to their nationals living illegally in the United States. Some of these governments, specifically one of them, Mexico, has taken this one step further and decided to begin to use their consular offices here to lobby State and local governments in the United States to get them to accept these cards, thereby aiding and abetting people living in this country illegally.

Mr. Speaker, if the United States had asked its consular offices in Mexico or any other country to undertake such a practice, there would be a storm of protest, and rightly so. Consular offices

would be closed; officials would be recalled. It would be appropriate for governments to respond that way. Our government has not said a word about this. It is time, however, that the Government of the United States issue a formal protest to the Government of Mexico for this egregious, outrageous behavior, and it is time for this government to take control of its own immigration policy.

LOW-INCOME AMERICANS ENTITLED TO TAX RELIEF

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, Mark Twain said that humans were the only species that would feel embarrassment, or needed to. That is an appropriate quote today when many of my Republican colleagues are terribly embarrassed because they got caught with their hand in the cookie jar giving over \$90,000 tax relief to millionaires, and to children of families who earn less than \$26,000, gave them zero tax relief for the child deduction.

This is scandalous, and many of my good Republican friends are terribly embarrassed that they have been caught in this fashion. But now I call on my Republican colleagues to admit that they made a mistake and fix the problem. I am told that the majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), said that people who earn \$26,000 do not pay taxes. Excuse me, they pay property taxes, they pay withholding taxes, they pay sales taxes, and they are entitled to fair treatment.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot excuse the inexcusable. I am calling for my Republican friends to call the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) to fix this problem today.

SUPPORT GLOBAL PATHOGEN SURVEILLANCE ACT

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

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, today the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TAUSCHER) and I will introduce the Global Pathogen Surveillance Act of 2003. Identical to the Biden-Lugar bill in the Senate, it will assist in fighting the threats of bioterrorism and naturally-occurring infectious diseases.

International trade and travel offer new opportunities for pathogens to cross national borders. Infectious disease epidemics, wherever they occur, are a potential threat to all nations. Americans have become all too familiar with the threat from bioterrorism and deadly agents capable of spreading death, anthrax, Ebola, smallpox, and SARS. They are just the most recent examples.

The Kirk-Tauscher bill authorizes \$150 million over 2 years to assist de-

veloping countries to train personnel in epidemiological techniques, acquire laboratory equipment, and obtain equipment to communicate inside the country and with the World Health Organization. Our legislation has the strong support of Dr. David Heymann, the highest-ranking American at the World Health Organization. It will contribute to our homeland security while at the same time making other countries safer for Americans traveling abroad. I thank the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TAUSCHER) for cosponsoring this important bill.

CHILD TAX CREDIT UNFAIR

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, listen carefully, the growing sound and the roar we hear from the Senate is the sound of Republican Senators rushing to change their position on the child tax credit. What we hear is them now recognizing the incredible injustice they did to hard-working families with children who earned under \$26,000 a year who will not get that \$400 check for each of their children like other families this summer. The Republicans have recognized the injustice; but the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), the leader of the Republicans in the House—

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BASS). The gentleman will suspend. The gentleman will refrain from references characterizing the Senate.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am only reporting on what the Senate is doing. I am reporting; I am not characterizing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman must not characterize them or their actions.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, Senators are changing their position on the child care tax credit. It is in The New York Times. I could read the names of the Senators. That is what is happening there.

Here, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) says they are not going to correct this injustice to these families. These families will go without their \$400 check that is so important to the income of those families and the ability to raise their children. How dare the Republicans suggest that these children are less valuable than the children of other American families.

AMERICAN IDEALS ADMIRABLE

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share some good news about America's number one export: our ideals of democracy, freedom, and free enterprise.