

troubled Latin American waters. It deserves our support as a model for other countries.

As the world grows more prosperous and stable, America will be better off in terms of the enormous security burden that we have voluntarily undertaken in Iraq, Afghanistan, in about 100 other countries around the world in numerous treaties and alliances. Whether we are more economically secure depends on whether we exercise our leadership in honest trade policy at home and abroad.

Honest debate and ratification of the Chilean free trade agreement can be an important step in this new era.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m. today.

1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WHITFIELD) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: "You, our God, are good and true, slow to anger and governing all with mercy." Every moment of time stands before Your living presence.

Last week contained some accomplishments and a momentary glimpse of our place in history. In this Chamber there was a moment of rhetorical brilliance and a sense of great purpose. We rejoiced with our coalition forces as we mourned the sacred loss of life in Iraq. Lord, protect all the troops who struggle to establish stability and hope to bring peace to the Middle East.

Last week also showed the fragile nature of this noble institution and revealed such human frailty that it caused great frustration and sadness. Help us to always learn from our mistakes lest we be condemned to repeat them. Inspire us to set higher standards of communication and behavior for ourselves. May we treat others with respect and civility, even when under pressure or faced with differing opinions. Empower all in this House to live and act as the free and noble children of You, our Eternal Father, and may great deeds be accomplished in Your holy name. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KUCINICH led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

REPORT ON H.R. 2799, DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004

Mr. KOLBE, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-221) on the bill (H.R. 2799) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

REPORT ON H.R. 2800, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004

Mr. KOLBE, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-222) on the bill (H.R. 2800) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

THE TRUTH MUST BE REVEALED

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, yesterday The Washington Post revealed yet another piece of shaky intelligence used by this administration to go to war against Iraq. The claim that Saddam Hussein could launch a biological or chemical attack within 45 minutes was made twice by President Bush in a September Rose Garden appearance and in a Saturday radio address. This terrifying scenario, which was outlined in the famous "British Dossier," has since been called into serious question.

The White House now admits it did not seek CIA approval for this claim. How is it that the President can make unequivocal statements about evidence of Iraq's weapons to Congress and the

American people and not seek to see if it is true? The White House's admission reveals the administration's determination to take this country to war without regard to evidence.

The truth must be revealed about the administration's other claims to justify the war, such as Iraq's possession of chemical and biological weapons and alleged connections to al Qaeda.

Why did the U.S. really go to war against Iraq? The American people have a right to know.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:00 p.m. today.

TORNADO SHELTERS ACT

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 23) to amend the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to authorize communities to use community development block grant funds for construction of tornado-safe shelters in manufactured home parks, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 23

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Tornado Shelters Act".

SEC. 2. CDBG ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.

Section 105(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5305(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (22), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (23), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (23) the following new paragraph:

"(24) the construction or improvement of tornado-safe shelters for residents of manufactured housing, and the provision of assistance (including loans and grants) to nonprofit and for-profit entities (including owners of manufactured housing parks) for such construction or improvement, except that—

"(A) a shelter assisted with amounts provided pursuant to this paragraph may be located only in a neighborhood (including a manufactured housing park) that—

"(i) contains not less than 20 manufactured housing units that are within such proximity to the shelter that the shelter is available to the residents of such units in the event of a tornado;

"(ii) consists predominantly of persons of low and moderate income; and

"(iii) is located within a State in which a tornado has occurred during the fiscal year for which the amounts to be used under this paragraph were made available or any of the 3 preceding fiscal years, as determined by the Secretary after consultation with the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency;

“(B) such a shelter shall comply with standards for construction and safety as the Secretary, after consultation with the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall provide to ensure protection from tornadoes;

“(C) such a shelter shall be of a size sufficient to accommodate, at a single time, all occupants of manufactured housing units located within the neighborhood in which the shelter is located; and

“(D) amounts may not be used for a shelter as provided under this paragraph unless there is located, within the neighborhood in which the shelter is located (or, in the case of a shelter located in a manufactured housing park, within 1,500 feet of such park), a warning siren that is operated in accordance with such local, regional, or national disaster warning programs or systems as the Secretary, after consultation with the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, considers appropriate to ensure adequate notice of occupants of manufactured housing located in such neighborhood or park of a tornado; and”.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

In addition to any amounts otherwise made available for grants under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), there is authorized to be appropriated for assistance only for activities pursuant to section 105(a)(24) of such Act \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this legislation.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 5 minutes to speak in support of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank many of those responsible for the bill coming up today. I want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Chairman OXLEY), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY), the chairman of the subcommittee. I also want to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK), who has always been very supportive of this legislation. This legislation has had overwhelming, bipartisan support.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is a response to something that every day, during at least 6 months out of the year, almost every day, we open the newspaper and we read where someone has been killed by a tornado. Now, we cannot prevent tornadoes from happening, but we can save lives when those tornadoes do happen, because the technology is there. The technology today, particularly on an F4, F5 tornado, the technology is there to give residents a 30- or 40-minute warning of a tornado bearing down on their community.

Now, what many residents have when they get these warnings is they have a place of shelter, they have a place to go. Many residents have a site-built home, they go down in the basement of that home, and that offers protection; or they go into an interior room. Manufactured housing residents do not have a basement. That is pretty obvious. They often do not have an interior room. The Society of Civil Engineers, who have endorsed this bill this week, actually pointed out the fact that this is something that manufactured housing communities need, and they have endorsed this legislation.

Because what this legislation will do is it will allow, wherever we have concentrations of manufactured housing, sometimes referred to as mobile homes, it will allow community development money to be used, and this is the option of the city or the county, to be used for a storm shelter for those residents. I have actually in the past few months visited two storm shelters, and they offer almost 100 percent protection from these storms. Coupled with the warning and the shelter, we should be able to reduce fatalities substantially.

Last year, the House of Representatives passed this bill, and Senator TIM JOHNSON tried to bring it up or attempted to bring it up; he made efforts to bring it up in the Senate. But for whatever reason, that bill did not come up. Senator JOHNSON and many other Senators have joined with House Members in asking that this bill be a priority this year.

Last year, when this House overwhelmingly passed this bill, I introduced the picture of a little girl named Whitney. Whitney was a resident of a manufactured house, a mobile home in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. She shared that home with her mother and her 16-month-old baby brother, and also a sister. When a tornado struck their home, it threw Whitney out of the home several hundred yards. Because it actually took hours and hours to find her, and she was actually mistaken for a pile of rubble, but an Associated Press photographer was there on the scene when Whitney was found and her little picture with her torn dress and her bloodied face went all over the United States. What a lot of people that saw that picture did not know is that Whitney's little brother did not make it through that storm. Whitney's little sister and Whitney spent days and weeks in a hospital recovering, but now they are home with their mother.

What Whitney did not have and what a sixth of the people in the United States who live in manufactured housing do not have is they do not have a shelter from the storm.

This storm was predicted to go through her community some 30 minutes before it went through her community. Her parents had a warning, but what they did not have is a place to hide. In fact, they were advised wisely: do not get in an automobile.

So I close by simply saying, this legislation was too late for Whitney's little brother and Whitney's father, but it is not too late for millions of American families today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am glad to join in supporting this. The gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), a member of the subcommittee, worked collaboratively with the gentleman from Alabama. This has been an important cause that he has brought to our attention, and we appreciate that.

I should note that one of the ways in which we were able to cooperate on this bill was it is coming forward under the rubric of the community development block grant program, so we made sure that is, in fact, consistent with the community development block grant program. It is also additional money, so it does not take away from any existing programs, and it is entirely worthwhile.

I would just make two points about the broader implications of this bill. First of all, it is particularly for manufactured housing. Manufactured housing is a very important housing resource for low- and moderate-income homeowners and residents. And I hope that it will be a hallmark of this committee in a bipartisan way that we will find other ways to protect this important housing resource. It does not often get the respect it deserves, either in the culture or in the law.

□ 1415

I am determined that we will do our best.

Second, I am glad to be here joining my Republican colleagues in creating a new Federal program in which new Federal money is made available for an important societal need.

Now, it is not a huge amount of money for the whole country, \$5 million. It might, as the need evidences itself, go beyond that. What it shows us is that there are important needs in this society; and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) has just eloquently sketched out the need for this kind of shelter to protect vulnerable people from these tornadoes.

What we are saying is, this is a need that will not be met adequately for the people of this country unless the Federal Government creates a new category of funding and provides Federal funds for that. I am glad to do that because it is an important program that we are establishing. It is an important need that we are meeting, and as I said, it underlines the importance of manufactured housing and an appropriate Federal response to social programs.

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman and also the

gentleman from Alabama (Mr. DAVIS), my home State, who joined me along with my fellow Alabamans, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. EVERETT) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) in being original cosponsors of this bill.

What we saw was little Whitney and any citizen that lives in manufactured housing is basically discriminated against in Federal law today because there are not funds available for mobile home shelters for them. Had she lived on a site-built house, the Federal Government would have provided money for a tornado shelter.

One thing that we are doing with this legislation is we are going to allow all of our residents to be prepared for our next tornado, all our community, not just those that live in site-built homes.

We need to be careful as we move forward that we do have legislation that does not discriminate against any of our residents. And in this case, manufactured housing, many of our low- and middle-income residents choose this as a most affordable option, but when they choose this option they should not be discriminated against. They ought to, particularly in those areas that are tornado prone, also have an opportunity for those programs that had been created to protect them from this type of disaster or to mitigate the circumstances.

Had a shelter like this been in place in my community when this tornado hit, Whitney's father would be there to take care of her today. Whitney's little brother would be with her. Because they are not, she has continued to incur medical bills and her mother has continued to have to have assistance. And I do not want that to be the case.

I want us to be able to offer these people protection and security, and this is a very affordable way to do that and it is very sound. It works as the recent endorsement from the American Society of Civil Engineers shows.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, every year, an average of 800 tornadoes sweep across the United States, resulting in 80 deaths, more than 1,500 injuries, and millions of dollars in property damage. One of nature's most powerful and violent storms, large tornadoes often record wind speeds in excess of 250 miles per hour.

Despite rapid advances in tornado warning technologies, residents of manufactured housing communities often do not have adequate access to proper shelter. Prior to this legislation, federal monies were not available for tornado shelter construction within or around manufactured housing communities.

H.R. 23, the "Tornado Shelters Act," introduced by Congressman SPENCER BACHUS, amends section 105 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 by authorizing communities to use CDBG monies to construct or improve tornado-safe shelters located in manufactured housing parks.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is generally recognized as the primary vehicle for targeted community development of cities, counties and rural areas to principally benefit low- and moderate-

income persons. Grantees may use the funds for housing activities, economic development, public facilities (such as day care centers or health centers), public improvements (such as street repairs), public services (such as social programs for elderly, youth or abused), urban renewal, or planning and administration.

Shelters built under the auspices of this bill must be located in a neighborhood (including a manufactured housing park) that has twenty or more manufactured housing units, populated by persons of predominantly low- to moderate-income, and located in an area where a tornado occurred within the current or three (3) previous fiscal years. Each constructed shelter must comply with HUD's standards for construction and safety, and it must be of sufficient size to accommodate all residents of the manufactured housing park at one time.

The bill further stipulates that an operational warning siren, which ensures adequate notice of a tornado, must be located within a neighborhood where the shelter is located or within 1,500 feet of a manufactured housing park. The final provision authorizes \$5 million in appropriations for FY 2004.

In light of the recent devastating tornadoes in the South and Midwest, this legislation is not only timely, but also pertinent. As many of you may know, the tornado season began in early March and continues through early summer. Mr. Bachus has often said that in the face of a tornado threat we can do two things—pray and prepare. Pray it won't happen again and prepare for the next line of twisters.

While the citizens can pray, our government and this Congress can help them prepare. I would encourage members to support this legislation and I urge its final passage.

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to support H.R. 23—"The Tornado Shelters Act," introduced by my Colleague, the Gentleman from Alabama, Mr. BACHUS.

The legislation would permit the use of CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds to construct or enhance tornado shelters in manufactured housing communities or for residents of manufactured housing.

Mr. Speaker, while my area of the country suffers outbreaks of tornadoes, it is far from "Tornado Alley" located in other parts of the Midwest and the Deep South. Therefore, I understand and appreciate the urgency to pass this legislation.

As many of you may know, the tornado season started in early March and usually continues through July.

In this calendar year-2003, 54 people have died from 18 tornadoes, with the two worst in Tennessee and Missouri on May 4th with 11 and 8 fatalities, respectively.

In 2002, 55 people died from tornadoes.

The biggest outbreak of tornadoes occurred on April 3 and 4, 1974, and 147 tornadoes touching down in 13 U.S. states. The outbreak killed 310 in the U.S., 8 in Canada, with 5,454 U.S. injuries and 23 hurt in Canada. Forty-eight of the tornadoes were killers. Seven produced damage rated F5—the maximum possible—and 23 more were rated F4. This was one of only two outbreaks with over 100 confirmed tornadoes, the other being with Hurricane Beulah in 1967 (115 tornadoes).

The most destructive tornado in history was the Bridge Creek-Moore-Oklahoma City-Midwest City, OK, tornado of May 3, 1999, with

over \$1 billion in damage, both in absolute amount and normalized to 1999 dollars.

Community tornado shelters are excellent ideas for apartment complexes, schools, mobile home parks, factories, office complexes and other facilities where large groups of people live, work or study.

I am struck by the words of my colleague from Alabama, the site of far too many of these killer storms. Mr. BACHUS says that in the face of the tornado threat we can do two things—pray and prepare. Pray it won't happen again, and prepare for the next line of twisters.

While the citizens can pray, our government can help us prepare. This common-sense legislation would allow communities to build or improve tornado shelters in manufactured housing communities.

Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation and thank Mr. BACHUS for his leadership.

I urge passage of this legislation.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WHITFIELD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 23, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

IMPROVING THE UNITED STATES CODE

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1437) to improve the United States Code.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. R. 1437

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE AND CONSTRUCTION.

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to improve the United States Code by making necessary technical changes.

(b) NO SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE.—This Act makes no substantive change in existing law and may not be construed as making a substantive change in existing law.

(c) SEVERABILITY.—If a provision enacted by this Act is held invalid, all valid provisions that are severable from the invalid provision remain in effect. If a provision enacted by this Act is held invalid in any of its applications, the provision remains valid for all valid applications that are severable from any of the invalid applications.

SEC. 2. TECHNICAL CHANGES IN PUBLIC LAW 107-217.

(a) TECHNICAL CHANGES IN SCHEDULE OF LAWS REPEALED.—The Schedule of Laws Repealed, which is contained in section 6(b) of Public Law 107-217 (116 Stat. 1304), is amended as follows:

(1) In the item related to the Act of May 29, 1920 (ch. 214, 41 Stat. 642, 654), insert "on