

tactics carefully applied to each target."

Two months after he submitted this testimony here, Mr. Binh became a target and was taken into custody. This simply must stop.

I urge the Vietnamese government to facilitate the immediate release of Mr. Binh and to afford its citizens the freedoms that they deserve.

ANNIVERSARY OF LEBANESE WAR OF LIBERATION

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, 15 years ago today the Lebanese people and their last legitimate government, headed by Prime Minister Aoun, courageously engaged in a war of liberation against Syria.

For 19 months, this heroic people fought to save and defend that which Syria wanted to destroy, Lebanese sovereignty and independence. Tragically, the Syrian regime overpowered them and succeeded in turning Lebanon into a captive nation.

Today, Syria harasses, arrests, imprisons, tortures and disappears anyone who speaks out against Syria's domination of Lebanon, and its campaign of intimidation extends here to the U.S. Congress.

Late last year, General Aoun appeared before the Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia, which I chair, to address Members about Syrian occupation of and terrorist activities in Lebanon. For this, he was charged with treason, tried in absentia and sentenced to 15 years of hard labor.

We must send a clear message to Syria that its continued occupation of Lebanon will not be tolerated. Lebanon is a captive nation, and we must not rest until Lebanon is free from Syria's regime and their strangle hold.

TRANSIT FUNDING

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, Federal transportation law currently penalizes communities like Redding and Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in my district or like South Bend, Indiana; Lubbock, Texas; Shreveport, Louisiana; Wichita, Kansas; Jackson, Mississippi; Fort Collins, Colorado; communities like them all over the country.

When these communities reach 200,000 people, transit systems in these areas are required to spend Federal money like the big-city transit system. They lose their flexibility. What they need is a small system with unique needs. They are lumped in with the New Yorks and the Philadelphias. But areas like Lancaster and Redding are nothing like Philadelphia.

As a result, people in these areas and dozens of others lose out, and that is

why I introduced a bill to prevent the Federal Government from penalizing these thriving communities, the Transit Flexibility Protection Act. This bill does not authorize new money. It merely protects small transit systems and their ability to use Federal funds wisely.

If we are going to invest in public transit, we should at least do it in a way that truly promotes it in communities like these.

IN DEFENSE OF ANTHONY RAIMONDO

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

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to defend a good American and a good Nebraskan, Tony Raimondo, who lives the American Dream of building a manufacturing plant in Nebraska and having several others throughout the country, employing now 1,200 people that make farm equipment, fencing, tanks, metal buildings. The Bush administration has tapped his expertise to become the new American manufacturing czar; but of course, then this has to be roiled down into Presidential politics.

The Kerry campaign, in a rather deceitful way, attacking a great American, Tony Raimondo, because out of 1,200 American jobs that he has created, they have 180 jobs in China to make farm equipment to sell in China.

This is not an issue of outsourcing jobs. This is an issue of being efficient in a global economy. This is a great American, and I stand to defend him against these unwarranted, deceitful, political, presidential-year politics and attacks.

SIGNING OF IRAQI INTERIM CONSTITUTION

(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 wanted to come to the floor of the House today to recognize a momentous event and a momentous event that occurred earlier this week, and I do not think it has gotten sufficient press and that, of course, was the signing of the Iraqi interim constitution by the 25 signatories earlier this week.

We heard a lot of information on Friday when the signing was held up, but the press scarcely reported what will likely be one of the events that will shape not only the world events around us but shape events for the next century.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate our President on his leadership for getting this accomplished. I want to congratulate Ambassador Bremer in Iraq. I know he is looking forward to the conclusion of his term there when sovereignty is returned to the Iraqis. They

have got a hard job ahead of them. Four elections within the next year's time will be a daunting task for them, but they have laid the groundwork. They have laid the foundation.

Again, congratulations to our President, congratulations on his leadership for getting this interim constitution signed in a timely fashion.

AMERICA STANDS WITH SPAIN

(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, America awoke this morning to learn the tragic news that at least 170 people were massacred and over 600 wounded in terrorist attacks on the public transit system in Madrid, Spain. The Basque terrorist group, ETA, is believed to be responsible for these murderous bombings.

This is only the latest in a global campaign of terror that seeks to undermine freedom and democracy throughout the world by taking the lives of innocent civilians. Since the terrorist attacks of September 11 here in America, there have been deadly attacks from Morocco to Indonesia and from India to Turkey and Russia, along with assaults in Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

As British Prime Minister Tony Blair has rightly said this morning, "This terrible attack underlines the threat that we all continue to face from terrorism in many countries and why we must all work together internationally to safeguard our peoples against such attacks and defeat terrorism."

Our allies in Spain, led ably by the courageous prime minister, Jose Maria Aznar, should know that Americans mourn with them today. America is committed to stand by Spain to defeat global terrorism, as we are grateful for the Spanish heritage of America.

In conclusion, may God bless our troops; and we will never forget September 11.

RECOGNIZING ARIZONA CHAPTER OF ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS AND ARIZONA ROCK PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION

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

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to two local associations in my home State of Arizona: the Arizona chapter of the Associated General Contractors and the Arizona Rock Products Association.

Sunshine Acres Children Home, in my home district of Mesa, Arizona, was in desperate need of paved roads and paved emergency roads. These are required and mandated by the city of Mesa. The Associated General Contractors and the Arizona Rock Products Association were able to join forces and donate their expertise, materials,

equipment, and manpower to build these required road improvements, which otherwise the children's home could not afford.

Sunshine Acres Children's Home is often referred to as the Miracle in the Desert. It is a home for children who are separated from their parents who are either unwilling or unable to care for them. For 50 years, Sunshine Acres has survived primarily on private donations. The home does not receive any aid from the Federal, State, or local governments.

I had the distinct honor and privilege of visiting Sunshine Acres this last Christmas. My wife and family toured the campus, met the children and their house parents, and then served Christmas dinner to all the residents. It was a visit I will not soon forget.

Today, the residents of Sunshine Acres are enjoying smooth paved roads, perfect for riding their bicycles, roller blading and playing basketball, all thanks to the generosity and hard work of the Associated General Contractors and Arizona Rock Products Association. These groups deserve recognition and credit for what they have done.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT D. ORR

(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, last night the State of Indiana lost a giant. The honorable Robert D. Orr passed away at Indiana University's medical center.

Governor Orr served Indiana for 8 years in the State's top office from 1981 to 1989. He spurred our State's economy out of recession and overhauled its education system. He also oversaw the removal of the State license branch system from political and partisan control and led an aggressive effort to promote the export of Indiana products.

Mr. Speaker, his work did not begin in 1981, nor did it stop in 1989. Robert Orr enlisted in the Army in 1942, was commissioned a major for his service in the Pacific theater in World War II. At the end of the war, he went to Evansville and entered the family business, Orr Iron Company. He served as Vanderburgh County Republican chairman and was elected to the State senate in 1968 before being elected the State's lieutenant governor.

Even after leaving office, Governor Orr was appointed U.S. Ambassador to Singapore and helped build an international relationship with that nation that America still enjoys today.

Mr. Speaker, Hoosiers will remember Governor Orr for all these great achievements and his wise actions, but they will most remember him for his humility and his personal decency and kindness. Governor Orr embodied that very verse in Proverbs: "With humility comes wisdom."

Mr. Speaker, I mourn the death of the honorable Robert D. Orr, along

with millions of Hoosiers, as we send our heartfelt condolences to his wife, Mary, and his entire family. May Robert D. Orr rest in the peace that he so richly deserves.

□ 1015

SPEAKING OUT AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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

Ms. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out against domestic violence. Domestic violence encompasses all acts of forceful behavior that one person uses to maintain control over another person. While we are taking steps to eradicate the threat of domestic abuse for women and children, unfortunately the statistics demonstrate the need for more community outreach, funding for prevention programs, and help from Congress.

In my home State of West Virginia, there has been a 400 percent increase in the number of domestic violence complaints to our law enforcement agencies. I am committed to stopping violence against women. But women are not the only victims. Many times children are the victims. In our Nation, millions of children, 9 million children, have reported seeing violence in their home. These statistics are just an estimate, 9 million, but I believe one child is one too many. We need to take care of our children and ensure they are safe from violent crimes, particularly in their own homes.

With a strong commitment from Members of Congress to work together to decrease domestic violence in our Nation, hopefully we will see a drop in the domestic violence statistics in the years to come.

POLITICAL DEBATES SHOULD BE ABOUT VALUES AND IDEALS, NOT NAME CALLING

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, it is a presidential election year, and presidential elections are very important. Politics in general, in a republic like ours, is a substitute for Civil War. It is a very important process. At the same time, I think we need to control the rhetoric.

Last night, the leading Democrat nominee, JOHN KERRY, called, or seemed to call, the President of the United States and his crew "a crooked bunch of liars." Now, those are strong words, and somewhat ridiculous when we consider the fact that we should be having a debate of values, of ideals, and that that debate should be conducted with integrity.

As a Member of Congress, I call on our colleague, the Senator from Massa-

chusetts, to publicly apologize not just to the President of the United States but to the American people. We need a good debate. We need to look at the differences between these two candidates. One is obviously a big liberal and likes more government, higher taxes, and more regulation. The other one likes less. But the debate should be about those values, not name calling.

Senator KERRY, please apologize to the American people.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3717, BROADCAST DE-CENCY ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2004

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 554 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 554

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. 3717) to increase the penalties for violations by television and radio broadcasters of the prohibitions against transmission of obscene, indecent, and profane language. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed ninety minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. 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. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. 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. GOODLATTE). The gentlewoman from