

their children from unsafe and failing schools and enroll them into a more successful institution. Ensuring that Hispanics receive a quality education will assist bridging the wage and unemployment gap that exists here in America.

□ 1945

We have all learned that with higher education workers can earn more income with their jobs; and I would also note, with our commitment to education in the Republican Congress, when we worked with the President over the last 3½ years, we have increased Federal funding for education by 45 percent over just 3 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, these are just two examples of numerous legislative accomplishments of the Congressional Hispanic Conference, along with the Republican majority. The list continues, whether the issue is the Republican effort to increase the number of community health centers and access to health care, to lower taxes to strengthen and make our schools better, to support faith-based community organizations, or promote homeownership and develop a common market for all of the Americas.

Republicans, under the leadership of the gentleman from Illinois (Speaker HASTERT) and President Bush have worked hard to make our messages of support clear to our Latino and Hispanic communities and neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to serve as an associate member of the Congressional Hispanic Conference and commend the conference for a successful year in just 1 year. My colleagues and I will continue to promote the goals and aspirations of the Latino community and the opportunities for all Americans.

Los valores de los Hispanos son los valores de los Republicanos. Compartimos los mismos valores. Somos todos Americanos.

(English translation of the above statement is as follows:)

Hispanic values are Republican values. We share common values. We are all Americans.

TELLING THE TRUTH, FACING THE CONSEQUENCES IN THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION

THE SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, Richard Clark is a career civil servant and registered Republican who served in four administrations: President Reagan, President Bush, President Clinton and now our present President Bush. Most recently, he served for this President as a counterterrorism czar for President George W. Bush.

Apparently, he committed an unforgivable sin on "60 Minutes" Sunday night. In his new book, "Against All

Enemies," Mr. Clark lays out a detailed, factual, substantive critique of the President Bush's failure to adequately address the threat of terrorism and specifically al Qaeda before September 11.

I worked in the Clinton White House. I worked with Dick Clark. We did not always agree on everything; but we never doubted his patriotism, and working for four Presidents, one Democrat and three Republicans, he was committed to this country and to his mission in serving it.

Let me give my colleagues a quote from that show: "I think the way he," that is, the President, "responded to al Qaeda, both before 9/11 by doing nothing, and by what he's done after 9/11 has made us less safe. Absolutely."

"He [President Bush] ignored terrorism for months, when maybe we could have done something to stop 9/11. Maybe. We'll never know."

What has been the consequence? He has been castigated since the newscast aired Sunday night. The White House has attacked him professionally and personally, going to the point of questioning the loyalty and integrity of a man who clearly was not in the business for politics.

But Dick Clark joins a long list of ex-administration officials who have one thing in common: they told the truth. They told the truth in the face of great political pressure and personal risk, knowing they would be attacked for what they said, and this is a long list of people that exited the administration.

This administration prides themselves on having all these MBAs. The first thing you do when you have an MBA is assess the people around you. They have either got the greatest amount of names that have ever been assembled or the greatest amount of truth tellers, but they cannot handle the truth there.

I do not understand how they have hired Richard Foster, current chief Medicare actuary, who wanted to tell the truth about the cost of the prescription drug. Paul O'Neill, former Secretary of Treasury, former chairman of ALCOA, he told the truth about what was happening to America's fiscal house. Joe Wilson, former U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria. Eric Shinseki, retired Army chief of staff. John DiIulio, former White House director of the faith-based initiatives. Anthony Zinni, retired Marine general and President Bush's envoy to the Mideast. Larry Lindsey, the President's former chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, and now Dick Clark. These people told the truth despite the pressure to otherwise tell the American people the facts. For these acts of simple honesty, they deserve to be called patriots rather than be cast aside and have their patriotism and their professionalism questioned.

Let us review the facts: Richard Foster, current chief Medicare actuary. The truth: the chief Medicare actuary, Richard Foster, revealed the real cost

of the Medicare bill was \$550 billion, not \$400 billion. Consequences: he was warned that the consequences for insubordination are extremely severe if he told the Congress and the American people the truth.

Bruce Buckheit, EPA director for air quality. Truth: Mr. Buckheit said the new mercury standards were written to benefit the administration's corporate friends and polluters. Consequences: five current EPA officials corroborated Buckheit's story, but according to the Los Angeles Times chose to remain anonymous for fear of retribution. Mr. Buckheit resigned in December. EPA Administrator Leavitt is now reexamining the mercury rule and may propose a more stringent one, but he had to leave.

Paul O'Neill, former Secretary of the Treasury. Truth: Secretary O'Neill described in his book, "The Price of Loyalty," that President Bush is distracted, incurious and makes decision on the economy and national security based on poor information or for political motives. He called President Bush "a blind man in a room full of deaf people." He criticized his tax cuts and his plan to invade Iraq since week one. He criticized the tax cuts because he said they would leave America fiscally unsound. We have \$3 trillion additional debt because of these tax cuts. Consequence: it took the White House less than 24 minutes after Mr. O'Neill's "60 Minutes" interview to launch an investigation into his use of "classified" documents and then they fired him. He was actually fired before that.

I will submit the rest of my text into the RECORD herewith.

Joseph C. Wilson—former U.S. Ambassador to Niger.

Truth: In a July 6, 2003, New York Times Op-Ed, Ambassador Wilson challenged the President's claim that Iraq tried to buy uranium ore from Africa. The White House later admitted he was correct and the President's claim shouldn't have appeared in the State of the Union address.

Consequence: According to government sources, Administration officials leaked the name of Ambassador Wilson's wife, an undercover CIA agent, to a journalist. A White House senior official admitted about the leak, "Clearly, it was meant purely and imply for revenge."

General Shinseki—retired Army Chief of Staff.

Truth: Army Chief of Staff General Eric Shinseki told Congress that occupying Iraq would require "several hundred thousand troops."

Consequence: Deputy Secretary Wolfowitz criticized his estimate as "wildly off the mark." Shinseki later resigned.

John Dilulio—former White House Director of Faith Based Initiatives.

Truth: "There is no precedent in any modern White House for what is going on in this one: a complete lack of a policy apparatus," Dilulio told Esquire in January 2003. "What you've got is everything—and I mean everything—being run by the political arm. It's the reign of the Mayberry Machiavellis."

Consequence: Under intense pressure from the White House, Dilulio apologized for his

statement and was forced to say he didn't mean it.

General Zinni—Retired Marine General and President Bush's envoy to the Middle East.

Truth: Zinni, a retired Marine Corps General who was Bush's middle east envoy, told a foreign policy forum before the Iraq war that the Administration had far more pressing policy priorities than Iraq and said there could be a prolonged, difficult occupation after the war.

Consequence: Zinni was not reappointed.

Larry Lindsey—the President's former chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors.

Truth: Larry Lindsey told a newspaper that the Iraq war would cost \$200 billion.

Consequence: The President fired him.

As President Ronald Reagan said, facts are stubborn things. Richard Clarke and the many others we should recognize as Patriots have pulled back the curtain and revealed facts that are not only stubborn, but also inconvenient and damaging to Mr. Bush, the self-described "War President." They told the truth and are now facing the consequences.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. HULSHOF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HULSHOF addressed the House. His remarks will appear in the Extensions of Remarks.)

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL SPECIAL ORDER

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask to take the gentleman from Missouri's (Mr. HULSHOF) time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is entitled to only one 5-minute speech.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HINCHEY addressed the House. His remarks will appear in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereinafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentle-

woman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

TRIBUTE TO U.S. MARINE CORPORAL DAVID M. VICENTE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to honor a true hero, Marine Corporal David M. Vicente, who gave his life in service to this country in Iraq. Corporal Vicente was a resident of Methuen, Massachusetts; and he was deployed with the brave men and women serving in our Armed Forces as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

David arrived in Iraq just 2 weeks ago; and he died tragically on March 19, 2004, when a Humvee in which he was patrolling hit a land mine near the town of Hit, Iraq. David had just celebrated his 25th birthday and was newly engaged to his beloved girlfriend, Alexandria. His friends and family recalled David's knack for fixing things and a fondness for all things mechanical, from remote-control racing cars to his Chevrolet short-bed pickup truck.

Since he was a small child, David Vicente knew what he wanted to be, a United States Marine. While his friends dressed in overalls and T-shirts, David grew up wearing fatigues and combat boots. His friends at Greater Lawrence Technical School never doubted him when David would declare, One day, I want to be a Marine.

David's dream came true when he joined the Marine Corps 6 months prior to the September 11 terrorist attacks on our Nation. He trained as a rifleman while based at Twenty-nine Palms, California, and rose to serve his country valiantly and faithfully as a corporal with the 2nd battalion of the 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division.

David's parents, Orlando and Celeste, are proud of their son, not just for the supreme sacrifice he made on behalf of his country, but for the honor he brought to them as a Marine. The bumper sticker on the family's car affirms their pride, "My son is a United States Marine."

One morning following the tragedy of September 11, Celeste Vicente discovered someone had draped an American flag over their family car. She felt that it was not only touched by her son's service but wanted to honor all of our troops for their courageous efforts on our behalf.

I spoke to Celeste today, and like so many other parents of soldiers who have lost their lives, she expressed concerns about her son and other soldiers not having the equipment, the gear, the technology that they need. I told her today that I am going to work with other Members of the Congress to make sure that we get what our troops need immediately.

Today, I have also requested an American flag be flown over the United States Capitol in memory of Corporal David Vicente to honor his brave service to this country. This flag will be delivered to his family.

David died fighting for the country he loved, alongside comrades that he respected and with the family he adored forever in his heart.

Our Nation is humbled and grateful for his sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, we should all take a moment to recognize Corporal David M. Vicente, United States Marine Corps, who gave his life in service to the country he loved.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

IN MEMORY OF SERGEANT DANNY LONDONO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, last week this House passed a resolution offering our sincere thanks and this Nation's thanks to our men and women in uniform who have so bravely and brilliantly served the cause of freedom, justice, and democracy in Iraq.

While I fully support that resolution, offering our sincere appreciation to our armed service personnel, I personally wanted to add to those sentiments the great sadness and most profound sense of loss on behalf of the families of those young men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice in the fight against terrorism and tyranny in our time.

It is with such sadness today that I must add the name of Sergeant Danny Londono, from the neighborhood of Dorchester in the city of Boston, which I proudly represent in the Congress, to the list of those who have fought with extreme valor and given their lives for our country.

In my brief time here in the Congress, following the attacks of September 11, I note that we frequently speak of the grandest ideals and the noblest principles on which this country stands; and against the backdrop of world terrorism, it is easy to be persuaded that we are all paying the price equally in some small way to meet the cost of that confrontation between good and evil.

But, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say that there are some citizens, like Danny Londono, who are rendering all they have so that others might know freedom; and there are some families, like the Londono family, who are literally carrying this Nation forward on their backs and in their individual grief.