

However, shortly after the last of these elections when President Ilham Aliyev was elected president of Azerbaijan, the Azeri government rejected all of the advancements made by the Minsk group, the former Azeri president and President Kocharian, and flatly rejected the Key West Agreement. Furthermore, President Ilham Aliyev has noted that any negotiations on resolving the Nagorno Karabakh conflict would need to start from scratch and any advancements towards peace made in the past were invalid.

So today instead of witnessing the implementation of the Key West Agreement or even a revival of negotiations of a peaceful solution to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, we are witnessing a regression towards the type of behavior on behalf of the Azeri government that encourages the violence we saw in the early to mid-1990s. I am discouraged by President Aliyev's blatant disregard for the autonomy of Nagorno Karabakh and his country's effort to undermine any chance at a peaceful resolution to this conflict. In fact, President Aliyev has recently said that he is not in any hurry to reach a peaceful resolution to the conflict and recently cancelled a meeting between Armenian Foreign Minister Vartan Oskanian and the Azeri Foreign Minister planned by French, Russian, and U.S. mediators that was scheduled for this past Monday; and his excuse was that the agenda was not precise enough.

I am also discouraged by the current Bush administration in its failure to actively address a peaceful resolution to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict. During a recent meeting between Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage

and Armenian President Kocharian and Foreign Minister Oskanian, Armitage noted that "our Turkish friends have had their hands full recently," as an excuse that there would be little advancement towards opening the border between Armenia and Turkey or a move towards better relations between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to note that Armenia has been tremendously cooperative with the U.S. in its efforts in the war against terror and supportive of the stabilization of both Afghanistan and Iraq. However, rather than press President Aliyev toward considering peaceful resolutions of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, the Bush administration perpetrates the conflict by failing to maintain military assistance parity between Armenia and Azerbaijan in its fiscal year 2005 budget request to Congress. In fact, the Bush administration proposed double the military assistance to Azerbaijan that it did to Armenia.

Today I would call on Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev to stop promoting propaganda against the Armenian people and make every effort to consider the peaceful resolution of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict and begin an open dialogue with Armenian President Kocharian. I also call on President Bush and the administration to maintain parity in the region and recognize that pitting these nations against each other will move us further away from long sought-after peace that is much needed in this region.

ANALYSIS OF HOUSE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT (H.R. 3550)

[Mandatory BA by fiscal year in millions of dollars]

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2004–2008
2004 Bud Res Baseline	32,584	36,953	36,953	36,953	36,953	36,953	180,396
Bill Under Consideration	41,042	44,082	45,101	46,360	47,867	49,094	224,452
Increase in BA	8,458	7,129	8,148	9,407	10,914	12,141	44,056
Discretionary Action Available on 3–29–04 ¹	9,236	5,753	6,632	8,810	9,848	10,637	40,279
Amount Over (+) or Under (–) Appropriate Level	–778	1,376	1,516	597	1,066	1,504	3,777
Adjustment	0	na	na	na	na	na	3,777
Room Under Allocation	–778	na	na	na	na	na	0

¹ Excludes impact of temporary measures, which are subsumed by the bill.

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

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

THE TIME FOR CREATION OF JOBS IS NOW

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

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today we commemorate the 10 years of the tragedy of genocide in Rwanda. Before I speak to the issue that I rose to speak to, I want to, again, as I did earlier in the tragedy in

Iraq, acknowledge the importance of humanity and the respect for human life.

I ask that we have just a moment of silence in commemoration of the massive loss of life in Rwanda.

Mr. Speaker, my wish for the Rwandan people is the implementing of democracy, the protection of lives, respect for human life, and as well the opportunity for economic prosperity, educational opportunity for the children, and as well for them to take their rightful place in the world family.

Mr. Speaker, I rose today to comment on an issue that is extremely prevalent in my district, and that is the loss of 3 million jobs in the United States over the last 2 years and the failure of this administration to be

able to create one single job that has had a lasting impact.

Now, that sounds rather extreme, because the government is going to report shortly its job creation in the last month, and certainly they did so in the month preceding. But as they create jobs in certain areas and certain disciplines, job loss remains strong in the manufacturing industry; and there has been no effort, no, if you will, direct effort at building a long-standing opportunity for job creation by this administration. There has been no policy announced. There has been a complete, if you will, ignoring of the large numbers of industries that are leaving our shores and going overseas.

We recognize that as the world grows smaller, we will be interrelated, and trade is an important aspect of that;

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and we do not discount that. But, Mr. Speaker, there is nothing more devastating than a family that has lost their source of income. First maybe the father or the spouse, and then the mother or the wife, or then an individual single parent who has lost their job.

I can assure you that no amount of patriotic statements will quash the pain of not being able to make ends meet, of providing for one's family. And those families who are on minimal income have been hurt even more, because as they have sought to lift themselves up, as they have experienced the results of welfare reform, and they have taken the jobs at the Burger Kings and McDonald'ses, how interesting it is now to compete with individuals with higher education who have lost their jobs who can find no other work than to work at Burger King, McDonald's and other fast-food establishments, which we have the greatest respect for, because they are jobs. But, frankly, when you have those at the lesser income level competing, then you know that you have a serious problem.

You have more of a serious problem when officials of the Bush administration continue to emphasize that the putting together of the hamburger is manufacturing and are completely insensitive to outsourcing that is causing more and more jobs to leave the shores of the United States of America.

So, Mr. Speaker, my thrust this evening is to again put this very crucially in the minds of this administration: it is imperative that the President give a national, a national, call to job creation, and stop the reckless giving of large tax cuts to the richest of our Nation, and begin to take those dollars and invest in this economy, to provide more job training, to provide more bridges for those who are transitioning from jobs because plants were closed, such as the plant I saw in South Carolina when traveling in that area, and the plants throughout Texas that I have seen and throughout the rest of the United States. We need a real jobs effort to secure jobs on behalf of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to note that Americans want to work, but they cannot work where there is no work. They certainly cannot work where we do not have a policy that is definitively done on behalf of job creation.

Right now we have on the floor of the House a massive job creation bill, as well as a bill to help our crumbling infrastructure. One of the issues that we have noted in homeland security, as a member of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, is we have a crumbling infrastructure.

Again, I ask the President not to veto this bill, which will help the crumbling infrastructure of this Nation and transportation needs, but also will create jobs for millions and millions of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, the time for creation of jobs is now. The President must respond to this question and to this need.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Mrs. WILSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. HINOJOSA 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 New York (Mr. HINCHEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

CELEBRATING NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, as we gather to celebrate National Women's History Month, I rise to recognize not only the contributions of all women, but most importantly, the work of my constituents that made this month possible.

Sonoma County, in my district, is the birthplace of the National Women's History Project, the nonprofit education organization that is responsible for establishing Women's History Month.

In 1978, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women initiated a Women's History Week under my tutelage. I was the Chair, actually, of the commission at that time. Later, in 1987, with the help of museums, libraries, educators across the country, the National Women's History Project petitioned Congress to expand the celebration to the entire month of March. A resolution recognizing Women's History Month was quickly passed with strong bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate.

Since that time, Women's History Month has provided a perfect opportunity to discuss and honor the contributions that women have made throughout the history of our Nation, both here in our capital and in our classrooms.

There are so many remarkable accomplishments that deserve mention, from the fight for suffrage and reproductive freedom, to efforts to give women and girls equal access to education and employment opportunities. We have come so far in so very many ways; and, yet, Mr. Speaker, we seem to be losing ground on so much of the precious progress we have made.

Since we last celebrated National Women's History Month, the President

has signed a bill criminalizing a safe and accepted medical procedure for the first time ever. Legislators have now inserted themselves into the difficult medical decisions that should be left to a woman, her family, and her doctor. To add insult to injury, the Justice Department is seeking permission, permission, to rifle through women's personal medical records in the State Department's attempt to uphold this intrusive law.

These violations of privacy are without precedent and are simply, simply unacceptable. Women have worked too hard. They have fought too long to be told that they are not allowed to undergo a medical procedure recommended by their doctor, and that the Justice Department and their lawyers have the right to examine women's medical records.

It is not enough to devote a month every year to celebrating the progress that women have made in the battles that we have won. If we do not stand up after these recent impositions and insist on our right to make decisions about our own bodies, when will we? How many more restrictions must be placed on us before we insist that this must stop?

Well, on April 25 of this year, this month, actually, hundreds of thousands of women, men and children will come to Washington, D.C. to do just that. We will speak out, because women deserve accurate and balanced information about their reproductive options. We will speak out, because women deserve access to contraception and prenatal care.

These services are not a luxury for women. They are truly a matter of life or death. At the march on April 25, we will clearly convey that protecting women's lives is of paramount importance for Americans from all walks of life.

I look forward to being part of this truly historic gathering and joining with my colleagues, constituents, and people from all over the world to show the United States that we care about women's lives in America.

When we gather this time next year to recognize National Women's History Month, we will be able to list the 2004 March for Women's Lives as another notable accomplishment; and even more importantly, I hope we will be able to say that we have stopped the tide of anti-choice restrictions, to say that our private medical records will remain private, and to say that we have the right to undergo medical procedures recommended by our doctors.

In honor of National Women's History Month, we must not only remember the accomplishments of the women who have come before us; we must also commit to the protection of that progress on behalf of the women who will come after us.