

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California 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. RODRIGUEZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. RODRIGUEZ 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 Texas (Mr. FROST) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FROST 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 Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

#### HONORING OUR AFRICAN AMERICAN CONGRESSIONAL PIONEERS

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

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I asked for this time today because I felt as we finish up the month of February, Black History Month, it would be appropriate for this body to take a step back into history and remember the pioneering African American Members of this body as well as two men from my State, Illinois, who fought against the practice of slavery.

Mr. Speaker, the Members may not know this, but of the first 19 African American Members of the House, each and every one of them was a Republican. And of the 19 black House pioneers, most were freed slaves. My time only allows me this evening just to mention a few of them because I think they each have very impressive stories and records of serving this country and working towards the goal of civil rights for all.

The first African American to serve in the House was Joseph H. Rainey from South Carolina. Mr. Rainey's parents, Edward and Gracey, were slaves when their son was born in 1832 in Georgetown, South Carolina. Rainey's father was a successful barber in the area and through hard work was able to earn and pay for the family's freedom from slavery. After the Civil War broke out in 1861, the Confederacy conscripted Joseph Rainey to work on the military fortifications of Charleston's harbor. Rainey dreamed of escaping from the military drudgery to a life working without the stigma of color. The dream became reality when he and his wife boarded a ship bound for the

West Indies. Rainey took on the family trade and worked as a barber in Bermuda, and his wife worked as a dressmaker. He studied the manners and conversation of his educated customers, and hearing that opportunities for African Americans were better than they used to be in postwar South Carolina, the Raineys returned home. Rainey was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1868, took office in 1869, was a leader in the fight for civil rights.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce on this floor tonight that our own House Republican conference, led by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE), has initiated a program called the Joseph Rainey Scholars to honor the memory of Congressman Joseph Rainey. The Rainey Scholars program aims to get African American students involved in government and to learn about the history of African Americans in the Congress. Currently, there are 10 college students participating in this program, which includes the option of being a congressional intern.

In 1871, Robert Brown Elliott was elected to the U.S. House as a black Republican from South Carolina. He had previously served as the State House Speaker, again was an outspoken advocate for civil rights and often noted the role of African Americans in our own Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and on the side of the Union in the Civil War.

John Roy Lynch was elected to this body in 1873 as a Republican from Mississippi. Lynch was a Republican Party activist who served as a delegate to five Republican conventions. In fact, Mr. Lynch presided over the 1884 Republican convention in Chicago, serving as the first African American ever to preside over a national party convention.

Charles Nash, elected in 1875, a Republican, was the first black to represent Louisiana in Congress. John Mercer Langston was elected to the House in 1890 and later served as Consul General to Haiti. The first black Member of the United States Senate was also a Republican, Hiram Rhodes Revels from Mississippi. Senator Rhodes took over the seat once held by the President of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis.

Mr. Speaker, we salute these African American pioneers in Congress, and we remember the path they have made for African Americans to make a difference in our government and in our country.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not mention two other major figures in the Republican Party, both from my home State of Illinois. Though while not African American, both played a big role in the fight for freedom, opportunity, and equality. First, of course, was our 16th President, Abraham Lincoln. We all know under Lincoln's leadership the Republican vision of equality was advanced with the Emancipation Proclamation

of 1863, followed by Lincoln's insistence that the abolition of slavery be part of the 1864 Republican platform.

But, Mr. Speaker, I also wanted to draw to the Members' attention Owen Lovejoy from Princeton, Illinois, a community I represent in the 11th Congressional District. Owen Lovejoy came to Princeton, Illinois, in 1838 to assume the ministry of the Hampshire Colony Congressional Church. He was known as a fiery abolitionist who preached his views from the pulpit, causing much dissension in a community already divided over the slavery issue.

A strong supporter of Abraham Lincoln, Lovejoy, a Republican, was elected to the State legislature and then in 1856 began five terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. Lovejoy became known for his efforts on behalf of the abolition of slavery and was among the leaders in the House in advancing civil rights. His home was one of the most important stations in the underground railroad in Illinois. Runaway slaves were harbored by the Lovejoy family until arrangements could be made for them to travel to the next station on the way to Canada and freedom. Today the Lovejoy home stands as a reminder of Lovejoy's efforts.

Mr. Speaker, as Black History Month comes to a close, let us remember our heroes, those pioneers who stood for freedom and led the way to today's equality.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Mr. GILCREST. Mr. Speaker, in recent years there has been a significant conflict in our discussion and certainly differences of opinions from reliable sources about whether or not human activity is affecting the climate. So what I would like to do this evening in just the short time that I have is not to say that the Earth is warming, not to say that the Earth is cooling, not to engage in the dispute as to whether human activity is causing the climate to change or the climate to warm. But what I would like to do is to present some observations from various independent scientists including the National Academy of Sciences that did a study to evaluate the International Panel on Climate Change, a study that was conducted by about a thousand scientists from around the world, to draw from the President's own scientists to make a determination as to what really are or what can be seen as observations of the indicators of whether we are engaged in a climate change.

If we observe the world the way it is now and the way it was 100 years ago and through an analysis the way it was 400,000 years ago, can we make some determination about the type of climate we have today, what we had 100 years ago, what we had 10,000 years

ago, and what might happen in the future? To do this, there are certain understandings in the scientific community that the ocean, the land, and the atmosphere working together provide us with a type of balance in the heat distribution on the planet. No one would dispute that the Earth, the ocean, and the atmosphere work together through various means to make the type of climate that the planet has right now. The atmosphere and the elements that make up the atmosphere and all the different kinds of gasses are in a constant cycle with the Earth and the oceans. So that is not in dispute.

If we observe the planet today and 150 years ago, we will see that there is a warming trend both on the surface of the land, the surface and subsurface of the oceans. There is a significant retreat of glaciers around the planet, and the Arctic Sea ice is getting smaller and actually thinning. So if we look at these observations, someone could say that there is a natural cycle over the last 150 years and we happen to be in a warming trend. If we take the climate over the long range and we go back 10,000 years ago through an analysis of ice cores, certain seabeds, coral, crustaceans, et cetera, if we go back 10,000 years, we will see a natural range of fluctuation on the climate of the planet, a natural range of fluctuation due to a number of variables including the atmosphere, land, and ocean, the wobble of the Earth, the closeness we are to the sun, et cetera. There is a predictable change in the climate based on the last 10,000 years. In fact, we could go back 400,000 years and base that prediction.

What we are now seeing, though, in the last few decades of the 20th century and the first decade of the 21st century, are environmental variables that have not been seen for 400,000 years. If we look at what is making up our atmosphere and the kind of greenhouse gasses that we need in order for a distribution of the heat balance, we will see an increase in these greenhouse gasses, most notably carbon dioxide or CO<sub>2</sub>, a more significant increase now than we have seen in the last 400,000 years. The amount of carbon dioxide that has been in the atmosphere over the last 400,000 years has been a predictable amount based on the historical records which we find in ice cores and so on; but that natural range of fluctuation, the amount of CO<sub>2</sub>, the amount of greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere, was seen to have a pattern, a trend. But the increase in CO<sub>2</sub>, carbon dioxide, that we have seen now in the last 50 years is larger, stronger than has ever been seen before.

So is it a natural bump up in CO<sub>2</sub>? When we calculate the natural sources of CO<sub>2</sub> on the planet, and there are many, we will have a certain amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere. What is the percentage of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere? When we take in all of the natural variables, we still have more than we have ever had before.

When we take in another variable, which is interesting, human activity, this answers the question that human activity is increasing CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, changing the climate in ways that may not be predictable. Just a few facts to lay upon the table.

#### UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT OF 2003

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, the topic that I would like to take a look at this evening is the passing of a very important piece of legislation which is scheduled for this week, and that is the Unborn Victims of Violence Act.

But I would like to approach this standing back just a minute from a piece of legislation and try to put what we are trying to accomplish this week into context, in fact, into the American context. So I would challenge those, particularly those who are Americans, to answer a question, a very basic question, and that is let us say that someone from another country, and there were a television camera running, were to ask how would they define in a condensed sentence the uniqueness or the essence of what America is. What is it that has made America unique? What has created a Nation that people have come from all over the world to immigrate here? What has created a Nation where we have to have border guards to try to keep people out whereas other nations put minefields and machine gun nests to try to keep people in?

□ 1700

What is it that made America unique, and how would you say that in one simple sentence?

I suppose one of the rules that people who have been involved in politics for some period of time know is that you are not supposed to ask a question unless you have an answer to the same question. So if I were asked to try to summarize what America is about, I would go to our birthday document, to the document that separated America into an independent and unique Nation, and that is the Declaration of Independence, our birthday document.

In that document you find a long and somewhat complicated sentence, but a very important sentence in terms of defining who we are and what has made us so unique. It is the sentence that says, "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness."

Now, the sentence does not end with "pursuit of happiness." It goes on to say that governments are instituted among men for the particular purpose

of securing those rights, that is life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Let us say we take this long sentence, and, as a former engineer myself, we put it into a formula. The formula is pretty straightforward. It has three parts. The first thing is there is a God; the second thing is God grants to mankind, to all people, and in particular our Founders were talking about Americans, certain unalienable rights; and chief among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

And so it was based on this document, this simple three-point statement in a sense, that our forefathers declared this a free and independent Nation, and it is by this formula that we believe that all men everywhere are granted with certain unalienable rights, which has to a large degree motivated much of our behavior and defined America. It has also created in America, although it was there for the 170 years before, a culture of respect for life.

Now, how then does the piece of legislation that we are looking at connect to this culture of life in America? I think it is easy when you are discussing legislation to, first of all, talk about that there is some problem, and then you have a bill which is designed to solve the particular problem. So in order to help define the problem that we have in America legislatively, I have a copy here now of a testimony that was given by Tracy Marciniak before a committee, and I would like to read part of her testimony to help define what is going on and the need, the tremendous and important need, that we pass the Unborn Victims of Violence Act.

"I carried Zachariah in my womb for almost 9 full months. He was killed in my womb only 5 days from his delivery date. The first time I ever held him in my arms he was already dead."

The letter goes on. She is pointing to a photograph of her with this child in her arms.

"There is no way that I can really tell you about the pain I feel when I visit my son's gravesite in Milwaukee, and at other times, thinking of all that we missed together. But that pain was greater because the man who killed Zachariah got away with murder. Please don't tell me that my son was not a real victim of a real crime. We were both victims, but only I survived."

"Zachariah's delivery date was to be February 13, 1992, but on the night of February 8, my own husband brutally attacked me at my home in Milwaukee. He held me against a couch by my hair. He knew that I very much wanted my son. He punched me very hard twice in the abdomen. Then he refused to call for help, and prevented me from calling."

"About after 15 minutes of my screaming in pain that I needed help, he finally went to a bar and from there called for help. I and Zachariah were rushed by ambulance to the hospital, where Zachariah was delivered by