

shame. Plaintiffs and defendants are merely a means to an end for the trial lawyers, who get fat off the pain of one group or the hard work of the other.

The time for reform is now, Mr. Speaker, and this week, the House will continue its long-term strategy of taking back America's legal system from the "Lords of the Ambulance Chase."

Today we will take up four bills to rein in lawsuit abuse. We will pass bills specifically protecting interscholastic sports organizations from lawsuits concerning their athletic rules; protecting volunteer firefighters from lawsuits that discourage generous Americans from donating equipment to them; and protecting volunteer pilots who come to the aid of their communities in times of crisis. And more comprehensively, Mr. Speaker, we will take up legislation presented by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH), the Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act, which will impose mandatory penalties on those who file frivolous lawsuits.

This bill will also prevent clever lawyers from shopping around for favorable judges and venues wholly unrelated to the case, it will remove the "free pass" provisions in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure that many lawyers hide behind once their claim is exposed as a farce, and it will better hold lawyers accountable for their behavior during the discovery process.

In short, Mr. Speaker, these bills together will further help take back the judicial system for legitimate plaintiffs, real defendants, principled lawyers who serve the ideals of their honorable profession, our national economic health, and, finally, for justice itself.

PROPOSING A TEMPORARY MEMORIAL IN THE CAPITOL ROTUNDA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 20, 2004, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, last week we passed the 1,000th casualty mark in Iraq. Since then, we have lost another 12 of our fellow citizens in service to their country and its ideals. 1,012 American families are grieving the loss of their loved ones; 1,140 when we count the theater of Afghanistan and its conflict.

Mr. Speaker, we salute our Soldiers, Marines, Airmen, Sailors, Reservists and Guardsmen called to duty. We thank them deeply for their service and their sacrifice and that of their families. We must honor their service and pay tribute to their heroism.

For these reasons, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) and I have written a letter to the Speaker asking that the Capitol Rotunda be used for a temporary memorial to honor the troops from Iraq and Afghanistan.

This memorial would display pictures of each fallen soldier, along with bio-

graphical information, and would give visitors to the Capitol Rotunda, the People's House, an opportunity to pay tribute to the troops. They could write notes, letters, anything they want to the families, so they know in this time that they have the thoughts and the prayers of their fellow countrymen.

I have done this outside my office as an individual gesture, as the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES), a colleague of mine from the other party, has done outside his office, so you could write a note, you could write a card, some way to let this family know, whether they are from your State or not, that in this moment of pain and grief they are not alone; they have the thoughts and the prayers of their fellow countrymen.

The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is from the other party. This is not a Democrat or Republican issue, it is not whether you were or were not against the war; it is a way of paying respect.

Throughout our history, the Rotunda has been used for public viewing of our fallen heroes, bestowing upon them one of our Nation's highest honors. After World War I, we saluted fallen soldiers in the Rotunda. For World War II, Korea and Vietnam, we did the same. It is only fitting that we use the Capitol Rotunda to honor those who have fallen in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The war in Iraq is not over, and there will certainly be more lives lost, unfortunately. But this tribute is for all Americans, to show their respect for the men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice, as well as to their families.

I do not often agree with President Bush, but I do agree with the sentiment he expressed in his Saturday radio express. "Since September 11, the sacrifices in the War on Terror have fallen most heavily on members of our military and their families. Our Nation is grateful to the brave men and women who are taking risks on our behalf at this hour, and America will never forget the ones who have fallen, men and women last seen doing their duty, whose names we will honor forever."

I agree with the sentiments expressed by President Bush, and I hope that the Speaker and the Republican leadership would take up those sentiments and do a temporary memorial. I am now doing it outside my office. The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES), as I mentioned, is doing it outside his office. I would ask that it no longer be an individual gesture, but it be an institutional gesture of that sentiment that the President expressed Saturday in his radio address.

Mr. Speaker, since this Congress convened, we have found time to name no less than 70 post offices, and we named another one just yesterday. I think we can, indeed, it is our duty and responsibility, find the time to properly honor those who have sacrificed everything in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, this tribute was initiated by an individual Member of the House. We should make an institutional decision today in the People's House to expand it to an institutional gesture for all people who come to the People's House to remind those families that they have our love, our respect, our prayers and our thoughts in this time.

I hope that all this body will join me in saluting their families.

DRUG IMPAIRED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2004

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 20, 2004, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk briefly about H.R. 3922, the Drug Impaired Driving Enforcement Act of 2004 that the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) introduced in this House earlier this year, along with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD) and myself.

Mr. Speaker, we often hear about drunk driving, but we have not heard enough about drug-impaired driving. Let me read some of the findings in this bill.

Driving under the influence of or after having used illegal drugs has become a significant problem worldwide. 35 million persons in the United States age 12 or older had used illegal drugs this past year, and almost 11 million of those persons age 12 or older and 31 percent in the past year had driven under the influence of or after having used illegal drugs.

This is a sobering thought when you are driving down the highway. Not only may somebody be high on alcohol, but they may be whacked out on drugs, and they may be combining the drugs, alcohol and illegal drugs to put you and your family at risk.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, illegal drugs are used by approximately 10 to 22 percent of all drivers in motor vehicle crashes. In other words, when we talk about what the problems are on the road, we have to have illegal drugs in that mix.

Across the country, we do not have in many cases the ability to detect or prosecute, because we do not have the detection, the use of illegal drugs in automobile wrecks, particularly in higher incidence most likely of deaths than even other types of automobile wrecks. Too few police officers have been trained, and there is lack of uniformity and consistency in State laws.

What this bill would do is provide grants and money to the different States for model legislation on how to do drug-impaired driving statutes, to ensure drivers in need of drug education or treatment are identified and

provided with the appropriate assistance, to advance research and development of testing mechanisms and knowledge about drug driving and its impact on traffic safety, and to enhance the training of traffic safety officers and prosecutors to detect, enforce and prosecute drug-impaired driving laws. I hope that each Member of Congress will sponsor this bill and that we can move this bill, if not as part of the larger transportation will, as a free-standing bill.

I also wanted to call attention and will include in the RECORD this article about a DEA exhibit that highlights, among other things, the drug-impaired driving accidents. This was in USA Today yesterday, September 13, 2004, about an exhibit that is opening in One Times Square, New York City, today. It will be a three floor exhibit on the perils of drug use and what it is doing to devastate American youth, adults and people in our country, as well as around the world. The exhibit also links terror and drug traffic.

The picture here shows an automobile obliterated in a wreck, I believe in Ohio, a 1994 Ford Thunderbird, whose driver killed a woman and just obliterated the car.

We have had multiple deaths in my hometown because of drug-impaired driving, even though we have a very limited ability to test. It has been clear that the marijuana in particular has been the primary culprit. We have had multiple deaths related to meth, and in addition kids using that and taking other kids out. We even had a couple of grizzly murders where it appears the kids were either after the Ecstasy or some other drug, at the very minimum, marijuana.

In this DEA exhibit, among other things, in addition to the display regarding the automobile wrecks and the deaths due to drug-impaired driving, on the third floor they have a "Wall of Lost Talent," a display of prom, graduation and school photos of those who have died because of drugs. Visitors are encouraged to leave photos of friends and family members who have been harmed by drugs as well.

Karen Tandy, the Director of DEA, said, "I want Americans to realize that although they may not use drugs, everyone is impacted by drug use in this country. That car," and she is referring to the devastated car that caused the deaths, "represents the threat to every one of us on the road."

I am glad that the DEA administrator and the DEA is taking the message out to the general public that drug use is not just something you do at home on your own or a recreational-type thing. When you use drugs and you get behind the wheel, you are putting everybody else on the road at risk.

Mr. Speaker, I chair the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources of the Committee on Government Reform, and what we have heard in testimony after testimony after testimony is not

only when you go out on the road, but even in the home, is of young kids terrorized by their parents, who come home and beat them or just ignore them but use up their food money. This article also links the terrorists to drug money and much destabilization in other countries.

Mr. Speaker, it is very important that the DEA has done this, and it is very important that we pass the legislation in the House.

[From the USA Today, Sept. 13, 2004]

EXHIBIT LINKS TERROR, DRUG TRAFFIC

(By Donna Leinwand)

NEW YORK.—The crumpled green 1994 Thunderbird is a jarring sight in the lobby of One Times Square. The driver, DEA agents say, was high on cocaine, barbiturates and marijuana when he hit and killed a 31-year-old Ohio woman. The man is serving 10 years.

The car is the opening assault in an exhibit meant to lay bare the harsh world of illicit drugs from the intensely personal car accident to the global financing of rebel armies and terrorists.

Target America: Drug Traffickers, Terrorists and You is an expanded version of a Drug enforcement Administration Museum traveling exhibit that opens here Tuesday.

The exhibit, housed in three floors of borrowed space, is designed to illustrate through graphic photos and artifacts the societal costs of the production, trafficking and use of illegal drugs.

"I want Americans to realize that, although they may not use drugs, everyone is impacted by drug use in this country," DEA administrator Karen Tandy says. "That car represents the threat to every one of us on the road."

The car is the centerpiece of a field of debris piled in the lobby of the tall retail-and-office building. The wreck is surrounded by drug paraphernalia and barrels of chemicals used to make methamphetamine, as well as broken toys representing children neglected by drug-addled parents.

The overriding theme of the exhibit, visible from Times Square through plate-glass windows, is the link between drug trafficking and global terrorism.

The exhibit invites visitors to trace the path of cocaine and heroin from drug labs in Afghanistan and Colombia to the pockets of insurgents in Colombia and Peru and to such terrorist organizations as Hezbollah.

But it also makes a more controversial link between terrorism and the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The exhibit includes a large display of debris collected from both sites. The exhibit does not specifically tie the attacks to drug trafficking, but it uses the events to explain how terrorists use the drug trade as one of several methods to fund attacks. It cites U.S. intelligence linking the Taliban in Afghanistan, and by extension its thriving heroin economy, to Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda.

"Someone who thinks he or she is making an individual choice that won't harm anyone else is not seeing the larger picture of where their money eventually goes," says Anthony Placido, special agent in charge of the New York division of the DEA.

In Peru, for example, Shining Path insurgents "killed thousands of people, destroyed the economy, reduced the country to rubble, and paid for it all with the cocaine trade," Placido says.

After 9/11, Americans shifted their focus from the war on drugs to the war on terror, Placido says. The exhibit, he says, will help

relate the illicit drug trade to homeland security.

"The same techniques used to smuggle in drugs can be used to smuggle in weapons of mass destruction," Placido says. Terrorists and drug criminals "fish out of the same sewer."

Although the exhibit includes the events of Sept. 11, it takes a broader look at the drug trade, tracing its history from the Silk Road routes between China and Europe, says Sean Ferans, director of the exhibit and also the small DEA museum in the agency's headquarters in Arlington, Va.

The Times Square exhibit is loaded with whiz-bang law enforcement memorabilia. Visitors can keep into an actual cocaine lab uncovered by DEA agents in Colombia, dismantled and shipped to the USA; a Stinger missile launcher; heroin tax receipts from the Taliban; Ecstasy pills; and photos of arrested drug kingpins.

On the second floor, visitors will see a replica of a crack den cluttered with soiled diapers and guns. There are photographs of children rescued from their parents' meth labs, including one who was covered in car battery acid.

A "Wall of Lost Talent" is a display of prom, graduation and school photos of those who have died because of drugs. Visitors are encouraged to leave photos of friends and family members who have been harmed by drugs.

Parts of the exhibit have traveled to other cities, including Dallas and Omaha. Sections may go on the road again; no schedule has been set. In New York, hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily through January. Information: www.usdoj.gov/dea/deamuseum/website/index.html.

Admission is free.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 21 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. OSE) at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, as people loyal to diverse faith perspectives and hoping to be consistent in the commitment to serve the common good of the Nation, we pray today for the Members of the House of Representatives.

Lord, grant wisdom to the leaders of this Government by the people. We hear, "You, O God, give wisdom generously without finding fault to all who ask."

You provide people of faith with values, standards and principles. These need to be applied with human wisdom to specific events and recognized challenges of the times. You sustain believers, particularly in critical moments, that they may discern the real importance of needs and events and be able