

“Committee reporting requirements

“(q) The committee shall adopt rules to provide that—

“(1) whenever an investigative subcommittee does not adopt a statement of alleged violation and transmits a report to that effect to the committee, the committee may by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members transmit such report to the House of Representatives;

“(2) whenever an investigative subcommittee adopts a statement of alleged violation, the respondent admits to the violations set forth in such statement, the respondent waives his or her right to an adjudicatory hearing, and the respondent’s waiver is approved by the committee—

“(A) the subcommittee shall prepare a report for transmittal to the committee, a final draft of which shall be provided to the respondent not less than 15 calendar days before the subcommittee votes on whether to adopt the report;

“(B) the respondent may submit views in writing regarding the final draft to the subcommittee within seven calendar days of receipt of that draft;

“(C) the subcommittee shall transmit a report to the committee regarding the statement of alleged violation together with any views submitted by the respondent pursuant to subdivision (B), and the committee shall make the report together with the respondent’s views available to the public before the commencement of any sanction hearing; and

“(D) the committee shall by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members issue a report and transmit such report to the House of Representatives, together with the respondent’s views previously submitted pursuant to subdivision (B) and any additional views respondent may submit for attachment to the final report; and

“(3) members of the committee shall have not less than 72 hours to review any report transmitted to the committee by an investigative subcommittee before both the commencement of a sanction hearing and the committee vote on whether to adopt the report.”

DEMOCRATS SHOULD REFOCUS EFFORTS

(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, the American people elected us to represent their best interests, and Republicans in the 109th Congress are fulfilling their duties. In only 4 months, Republicans have made real progress in decreasing the deficit, strengthening America’s borders, preventing frivolous lawsuits, improving our highways, and providing our country with a comprehensive energy policy.

Unfortunately, in an effort to obstruct the successful Republican agenda, House Democrats have dedicated their time and energy to play politics and obstruct Republican Members of Congress.

Last week, Republican Members of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct agreed to impanel a formal investigation into the recent allegations regarding the majority leader. Today, the House considered another proposal to address this issue.

House Democrats prefer to attack our effective majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), instead of allowing Congress to hold an open and honest discussion on this issue. I am disappointed by their actions and hopeful that Democrats will refocus their efforts on providing real solutions for the American people.

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

TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS TO CUBA AFFECTING AMERICAN TROOPS

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

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, we heard the last speaker say “God bless the troops.”

I want to tell you the story of a man named Carlos Lazo. He is a Cuban-American. He joined the military. He served honorably in the National Guard in the State of Washington. He spent a year in Iraq as a medic in Fallujah, the most violent area of Baghdad or all of Iraq.

When he came back he thought, Maybe I would like to go see my children. So he went and applied for a visa to Cuba, and he was told, Well, we are sorry, you went in 2003. You can’t see your children until 2006.

Now, we are out here passing these ridiculous resolutions about how the Cubans act about travel. Why can Carlos Lazo not go and see his children?

I write a letter to OFAC up at the Department of Treasury. They do not even answer my letter. They give no justification for why a man who served cannot see his kids. And guess what? He is going back to Iraq. That is how much we respect the military in this country.

Somebody ought to act on his behalf. The Republicans have control of this Congress. They have control of the White House. And Carlos cannot see his kids. Some democracy you are selling in Iraq.

CONGRATULATING COACH GENE MAYFIELD ON HIS INDUCTION TO THE TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

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

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to congratulate Coach Gene Mayfield on his induction into the Texas High School Hall of Fame. On May 7, 2005, Coach Mayfield will be inducted into the Texas High School Hall of Fame.

Coach Mayfield was a master at turning mediocre football programs into State title contenders. A graduate of Quitaque High School, Mayfield played quarterback for Coach Frank Kimbrough at West Texas State University. In 1950, Mayfield led his team

to a Border Conference Championship and a win over the University of Cincinnati in the 1951 Sun Bowl. After serving as Kimbrough’s assistant for two seasons, Mayfield accepted the job at Littlefield High School, where his teams advanced to the Texas State semi-final games in 1954 and 1956.

Coach Mayfield began rebuilding the football program at Borger High School in 1958 with a district title in his first season. His 1962 squad was undefeated until losing the Texas State championship game to San Antonio Brackenridge 30 to 26.

In 1965, the “Father of Mojo” took over an Odessa Permian team picked to finish last in the district. The Panthers went on to win the Texas State championship, beating San Antonio Lee 11 to 6. Mayfield’s teams also advanced to the title game in 1968 and 1970.

Mayfield left Odessa Permian and took the West Texas State University job in 1971. He finished his coaching career at Levelland High School.

Coach Mayfield posted a career high school record of 156 wins, 35 losses and 4 ties. While his teams were very successful, Coach Mayfield’s greatest accomplishment was the influence he had on the lives of the young men he coached. He instilled in all of us the value of hard work, responsibility, discipline, and being prepared. Coach Mayfield left a lasting impression on everyone he coached.

I credit much of my personal success to his influence on my life during these years since 1965.

Congratulations, Coach Mayfield, on a life well led.

WELCOME HOME TENNESSEE NATIONAL GUARD FROM McNAIRY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to welcome home some of our Tennessee Army National Guard, our friends and neighbors from McNairy County who were deployed in 2004.

America relies on men and women who are willing to give of their time and effort and energy to defend our great Nation. These are men and women of courage and bravery, and that is what each individual has done. They have defended this Nation; they have defended our freedom.

I know the Tennessee National Guard Family Group Service of McNairy County has done a great job coming together to support the men and women in uniform and working to be sure that the families of those deployed had the help that they needed.

Mr. Speaker, McNairy County really has been a model community in this effort, and I hope all of my colleagues will join me in congratulating them and welcoming home their loved ones in the Tennessee Army National Guard.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CARTER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

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

(Mrs. MCCARTHY 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. HENSARLING) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take this time for my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

IN SUPPORT OF LIEUTENANT PANTANO

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

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today is the second day of the Article 32 hearing for Second Lieutenant Ilario Pantano, a marine who I have talked about at great length who has served our Nation bravely in both Gulf Wars.

In an action of self-defense a year ago, Lieutenant Pantano made a split-second battlefield decision to shoot two Iraqi insurgents who refused to follow his orders to stop their movement towards him. Two and one-half months later, a sergeant under his command, who never even saw the shooting and who was earlier demoted for his lack of leadership abilities, accused him of murder. Because of that, Lieutenant Pantano today continues to face an Article 32 hearing where a hearing officer will determine whether he will face a court-martial for two counts of premeditated murder.

Mr. Speaker, today's hearing came to a halt when it became apparent that Lieutenant Pantano's accuser, Sergeant Coburn, had recently violated his

superior's orders not to give interviews on this case. The defense showed that he has interviewed with many media outlets. Just last week, New York Magazine ran a cover story on this case with multiple quotes from Sergeant Coburn. It is clear that his testimony cannot be considered credible.

What is happening to this young man is an injustice. I see absolutely no way these charges can move forward any further when the accuser and key witness in this case is an individual who did not see the incident, has continually disobeyed orders, and who has clearly made it his mission to defame the character and integrity of a superior who demoted him for poor performance.

Lieutenant Pantano has served this Nation in great honor. My personal experience with him and his family convinced me that he is a dedicated family man who loves his Corps and his country. By all accounts, he was an exceptional marine.

I hope that in the next day or two as these hearings end, the hearing officer comes to the same conclusion that I and many like me have come to, that Lieutenant Pantano should never have been charged in the first place, and that all charges against him are dropped. I hope and pray that the truth will prevail.

Mr. Speaker, I have put in a resolution, House Resolution 167, to support Lieutenant Pantano as he faces trial. I hope that my colleagues in the House will take some time to read my resolution and look into this situation for themselves. But, most of all, I hope it is not necessary for us to discuss this further after this week.

I close with a quote from a witness in today's trial, Navy Corpsman George "Doc" Gobles, who was present during the shooting, but did not actually see anything. He did, however, testify to the character and leadership of Lieutenant Pantano. When he was asked about Lieutenant Pantano on the stand earlier today, he said, "I just felt a sense of security when a situation arose, I knew he would be able to take care of it. I felt the safest with this platoon, more than any other platoon in our company, more than anything because of Lieutenant Pantano and his leadership."

Mr. Speaker, as I close I want to mention that his mother, who is a wonderful lady from New York whom I have had the pleasure of talking to on several occasions, has set up an Internet Web site. It is www.defendthedefenders.org, and I would ask my colleagues to please look into this and join me on House Resolution 167. I ask the good Lord in heaven to please bless Lieutenant Pantano and his family, and I ask the good Lord to please bless all of our men and women in uniform and their families, and I ask God to please bless America.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS

Mr. PUTNAM, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-60) on the resolution (H. Res. 242) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REAL SOLUTIONS FOR IMMIGRATION POLICY

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

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to continue my ongoing efforts to offer real solutions to fix our immigration system and to highlight the real contributions of our Nation's immigrant community.

Last week, we talked about CNN's Lou Dobbs and his "Broken Borders" segment. We talked about how Mr. Dobbs uses his show to offer a venue to anti-immigrant extremists. We talked about how, between all of his regular guests, one would be hard-pressed to find a solution to the challenges we face, because they would rather demagogue and divide than offer tangible ideas or pragmatic proposals. I guess they think it is better for ratings, better for raising money for their organizations, or better for riling up their membership.

Well, let me say this: It is not better for America. It is not better for America to do nothing about an immigration system that hurts families, hampers businesses, and harms communities.

So, this evening, I thought we could continue our discussion on mending borders, and I thought we could do it by answering a few questions that Mr. Dobbs left unanswered at the end of his show last week.

Let me start with Ray from Michigan's comment. Ray wrote the following to Mr. Dobbs: "Isn't hiring illegal aliens just another way to outsource labor? The money doesn't stay in the United States."

Well, Ray from Michigan, since Mr. Dobbs did not refute the inaccuracy of your statement, let me point you to a recent study by the Inter-American Development Bank.

According to the study, approximately 16.7 million U.S. workers born in Latin America had a combined gross income of \$450 billion last year, of which 93 percent was spent locally. That means billions of dollars spent at local stores for local services, that means hundreds of thousands of jobs created. Just look at Chicago. According to a study by the Center For Urban Economic Development at the University of Illinois, the estimated 220 undocumented immigrants in the Chicago