

out of 10 adults are overweight and obesity rates among children have doubled in the last decade. Diseases associated with a lack of physical activity amounted to a yearly cost of \$76 billion. The direct and indirect medical costs of smoking are \$138 billion per year, and the costs of alcohol abuse are about \$184 billion in one year.

Businesses that educate people about healthy lifestyles can reduce health care costs. Companies like Motorola, Caterpillar and Johnson & Johnson have saved \$1 to \$4 in benefits for every dollar spent on these programs.

The Federal Government should lead by example and leverage Federal resources to promote preventive health care solutions to educate the public on health risks and personal responsibility to prevent these avoidable conditions and health care costs.

Want to learn more? I encourage my colleagues to visit my Web site at murphy.house.gov to learn more about these issues.

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MEXICAN HOLIDAY OF CINCO DE MAYO

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

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, today Americans and individuals will observe the Mexican holiday of Cinco de Mayo with celebrations and festivities. But sadly, most Americans do not know what we are really celebrating. That is why I have introduced H. Con. Res. 44, which recognizes the historical significance of Cinco de Mayo.

Cinco de Mayo is the anniversary of the date in 1862 on which the Mexican army, outnumbered, defeated the French in the Battle of Puebla, because they believed in the values of freedom and liberty, the same values that we celebrate today in the United States.

Today, that same spirit is evident in Mexican-American culture, and we pay tribute to that great spirit on Cinco de Mayo. Latinos have fought in all of America's wars, beginning with the Revolutionary War. They have given their lives, the ultimate sacrifice, for the freedoms that we enjoy here today. Many Latinos are fighting and dying today in Iraq. The foundation of our Nation was built by people from many nations and diverse cultures that were willing to fight and die for freedom.

We observe today Cinco de Mayo. Let us remember what it stands for and why many individuals have given their lives for this day.

ROBERT HUGHES

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, Dunbar High School, Fort Worth, Texas, for the last almost half century, their

men's basketball program has been guided by Coach Hughes. That is why I rise this morning to recognize the service and commitment of Robert Hughes of Fort Worth, Texas. Mr. Hughes, Coach Hughes, is our Nation's all-time winningest high school men's basketball coach and dedicated 47 years of service to coaching and educating students, helping them to succeed not only on the court, but also in life.

As Coach Hughes retires this year, we will no longer be measuring his wins on the court but the wins, the lives, he has helped create off the court. In taking time to teach his students, Coach Hughes chose not only to teach them about health and basketball, but about values and self-esteem as well. The loyalty with which Coach Hughes has served his students and Dunbar High is a testament to his passion for seeing every child succeed in life.

It is with great honor that I stand here today to recognize a man who has been a leader to so many throughout his lifetime. The legacy of Coach Hughes, on and off the court, shall serve as an inspiration to all those who wish to pursue their passion and make a difference in the lives of who they meet.

SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. THOMPSON of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, last weekend, the President finished his 60 stops in 60 days tour. He traveled to a lot of places, but I wish he had come to my district because my district and my constituents would have told him, in no uncertain terms, that privatizing Social Security just does not cut it.

I have here over 3,000 petitions that were submitted to me by Rosalind Peterson and Becky Curry on behalf of the residents of three of my counties—Lake, Mendocino and Sonoma. They speak for people all along California's north coast who know that privatization will do three things: it will worsen the solvency of Social Security, it will lead to benefit cuts for everyone, and it will cause an explosion in our already record level national debt and our deficit.

My constituents know that Social Security is the most successful Federal program in our Nation's history. We need to strengthen Social Security to make sure it is solvent for future generations, but privatization is not the answer.

My constituents know that, and given the nationwide opposition to the President's privatization scheme, his constituents know it, also.

FIRST 100 DAYS OF CONGRESS: SUCCESSFUL

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share good news with the American people. We are beginning to see signs that the economy is clearly on the road to recovery. In fact, since May 2003, more than 3 million Americans went back to work. We have had 22 straight months of job growth. Last month alone, more than 110,000 Americans found jobs.

Clearly, the economy's growth is a direct result of the pro-growth agenda of the President and this Republican Congress. By holding the line on fiscal responsibility in the budget and passing pro-growth bills such as the death tax repeal and the bankruptcy bill, Republican Members continue to show their commitment to America's economy.

However, other steps must be taken to ensure our economy continues to grow. Today I urge my colleagues in the Senate to give Americans some relief at the pump by passing the energy bill, which would create 500,000 new jobs and begin the end to our dependence on foreign oil. It has programs that allow us to depend on our own resources, and that is the American way.

Over the past 100 days, House Republicans have demonstrated that we are dedicated to promoting policies that better the economy and help families out there who are counting on us. I hope that we can count on our friends in the Senate to follow our lead.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE WAR IN IRAQ

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, President Bush and the Republican leadership in the House are asking us today to vote again on a huge appropriations bill to fund the Iraq war without any oversight. I do not understand how we can be asked to vote on another huge appropriations bill to spend money in Iraq, and yet we do not have any oversight, any hearings to determine what the costs are and what the money is being spent on.

Yesterday I talked about how there have been renewed reports about how our soldiers are not properly protected. There is no exit strategy. What are the overall costs of this war? And what does it mean when we continue to go into deficit and do not have money to pay for domestic programs without having an exit strategy or even any defined strategy of what our goals are in Iraq?

As was mentioned earlier today by other speakers, we know that we went into Iraq for the wrong reasons. The weapons of mass destruction were never found, were never there. Yet no one within the Bush administration or within the Republican leadership basically tells us what the reason is, why we are remaining, how long we are going to be there or what the cost is going to be.

I do not think we should be voting on this bill today until we have answers to those questions.

FIRST 100 DAYS OF CONGRESS

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

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, in the first 100 days of Congress, my Republican colleagues and I have worked to make America safer. Since the tragic day of September 11 when our country suffered a painful blow to its heart, we have persevered to make sure every American feels secure and knows our freedom will always be protected.

We continue to take strides in the war on terror, here at home and abroad. Our country will not yield to our enemies who lack humanity and principle. As our selfless soldiers move forward and yield freedom and choice overseas, it is critical that they have the most up-to-date protective gear available. In the supplemental appropriations, we designated funding to do just that.

In the REAL ID Act, we implemented the 9/11 Commission's recommendations. By applying critical driver's license reforms and stringent border protection, we ensure that licenses cannot be used by terrorists as a gateway to travel documents, weapons or firearms.

Mr. Speaker, we live in a Nation, a great Nation of liberty. I am privileged as a new Member to vote for these important pieces of legislation protecting our homeland, and I look forward to what our majority will accomplish in the coming days.

THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL

(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, today we have a very stark example of what is dysfunctional about the Republican's running of this House. We have done nothing about the livable wage that we all believe in. We have done nothing about providing health insurance for the people in this country. Forty-five million have nothing. We have done nothing about the housing prices and problems in this country. We have done nothing about cleaning up the environment. In fact, we continue to be addicted to oil and all we do is pass a bill that gives more money to oil and to coal.

Now, we are not dealing with the problems of the American people. Instead today what we are doing is continuing to pursue the Bush war of folly in Iraq. He has spent \$200 billion of our money so far. He says, "Please give me another 80. I don't know what I'm going to do with it, but I'm going to keep spending it over there."

□ 1030

The electricity is not up in Iraq. The sewer system is not up in Iraq. The telephone system is not up in Iraq. He cannot fix it there or here.

This is a bad bill, and it ought to be voted against.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1268, EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND TSUNAMI RELIEF ACT, 2005

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 258 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 258

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1268) making Emergency Supplement Appropriations for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

SEC. 2. The chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized, on behalf of the Committee, to file a supplemental report to accompany H.R. 748.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) is recognized for 1 hour.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday the Committee on Rules met and reported a rule for consideration of the conference report on H.R. 1268, the Emergency Supplemental Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief Act, 2005. The rule waives all points of order against the conference report and provides that the report shall be considered as read. Additionally, it authorizes the chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary to file a supplemental report to accompany H.R. 748.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1268, the emergency supplemental appropriation, is

intended to fully fund our forces overseas and at home. It helps to ensure the full funding of the important accounts which have been depleted during our global war on terror and our effort to assist the Iraqi and Afghan people in their efforts to establish functioning democracies in their countries.

Additionally, the bill includes important funding for Afghan reconstruction and counter-terrorism assistance, counternarcotics efforts, international food aid, and relief to address the terrible tragedies resulting from the massive tsunami that struck the Southwest Pacific and Indian Oceans in December of 2004.

Mr. Speaker, additionally, this rule provides important increases in coverage for the servicemembers' group life insurance and increases coverage for individual soldiers from \$250,000 to \$400,000. It also increases the one-time death benefit from \$12,000 to \$100,000. While neither of these benefits can ever replace the lives of brave American service personnel lost in action, they can assist their families through the hard times they will face while recovering from the loss of their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 258 allows us to fully debate the important issues surrounding the war on terror. Just yesterday we saw on the front page of The Washington Post a graphic photograph that captured the terrible effects of the war on an innocent victim and the courage and compassion of the American soldiers who are engaged in the battle. We should keep this image in mind as we commence the debate on the conference report today. More than any words I could ever utter, that picture illustrates the nobility of our effort, the valor and decency of our soldiers, and the evil and fanaticism of our enemies.

Many may wish to raise policy issues in this debate. That is certainly appropriate. Others may want to discuss issues that, however important, are superfluous to the war on terrorism. Mr. Speaker, I believe in this discussion we should focus our remarks on what truly counts. We have committed 170,000 of our servicemen and -women to fight terrorism and advance the cause of freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan. We owe them our full support in the battles they wage on behalf of the American people and the cause of liberty. This rule and the underlying bill represent the efforts of Congress to keep that solemn commitment to the sons and daughters of America.

Mr. Speaker, to that end I urge support for the rule and the underlying bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I think we can all agree that supporting our young men and