

SMART Security, which has the support of 50 Members of Congress, is a Sensible Multilateral American Response to Terrorism for the 21st Century, and it will help us address the threats we face as a Nation.

SMART Security will prevent acts of terrorism in countries like Iraq by addressing the root conditions which give rise to terrorism in the first place: poverty, despair, resource scarcity, and lack of educational opportunities.

SMART Security encourages the United States to work with other nations to address the most pressing global issues. SMART addresses global emergencies diplomatically, instead of by resorting to armed conflict.

Instead of maintaining a long-term military occupation of Iraq, our future efforts to help the Iraqi people must follow the SMART approach: humanitarian assistance, coordinated with our international allies to rebuild Iraq's war-torn physical and economic infrastructure.

That is what I mean when I talk about SMART Security. We can defend America by relying on the very best of American values, our commitment to peace and freedom, our compassion for the people of the world, and our capacity for multilateral leadership.

Mr. Speaker, we must follow a smarter approach, and we must do this as we work to help the Iraqi people. That means implementing a plan to end the war in Iraq. I invite the President, all Americans, and all Members of Congress to join me in this effort.

MEDIA SPIN

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

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, in this job, all of us are used to misinformation, lies and distortions and manipulation by the media. We refer to that as spin; but, Mr. Speaker, I never expected such spin to come from the no-spin zone of Bill O'Reilly.

Mr. Speaker, on Friday my staff confirmed that I was to do a television show with Mr. O'Reilly last evening. It was initially scheduled to be seven o'clock. I had a 5:15 meeting scheduled with the Secretary of Energy.

At some point in time yesterday morning, the O'Reilly show changed that appointment to 5:50. My 5:15 meeting was still in place. My staff was fully in touch with the O'Reilly show. We gave them the information, and I attended a very important meeting with Secretary of Energy Bodman in his office, a classified meeting, on the specific problems with the threats of the nuclear program and capabilities of the former Soviet states.

That meeting ran over, partly because the meeting was interrupted several times by important phone calls the Secretary had to make.

Following that meeting, which ended somewhere around 6:15, as my col-

leagues know, we had a series of six votes on the House floor.

Mr. O'Reilly proceeded to tell his national audience last night that I "snubbed" him; that I failed to call him; that I was inconsiderate; that I was rude.

Talk about spin, Mr. Speaker. So today, I sent a memo to Mr. O'Reilly explaining the facts, and I would remind Mr. O'Reilly that the Secretary of Energy and an important meeting on nuclear issues in the former Soviet States takes my top priority.

□ 1800

So do the six votes I had to pass last night on the defense appropriation bill for 2006.

Mr. O'Reilly, we do not need more spin. We need honesty and candor. You call for it every day. Now perhaps your staff is not providing the appropriate level of service to you.

Mr. Speaker, because I had some contacts from constituents and Members, I would put the summary of my statement to Mr. O'Reilly and the notes of my staff about their contact with Mr. O'Reilly's show into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

BILL O'REILLY, I have now witnessed the ultimate spin—from, of all people, you.

My scheduled taping last evening between 6-6:30 pm was pre-empted by a prolonged 5:15 pm meeting with the Secretary of Energy Sam Bodman regarding important National Security issues related to non-proliferation activities in the former Soviet states and by a series of 6 recorded votes on the Floor of the House that started at 6:30 pm and lasted until 7:15 pm.

Contrary to your spin, my staff did give notice to your staff of both conflicts and kept them informed of my status during the scheduled taping. In addition my staff offered for me to appear as soon as votes ended. Finally when I tried to personally reach you, your staff was not willing to provide my staff with a suitable number.

As much as I would have enjoyed returning to your show, my job as a Member of Congress and as Vice Chairman of both the House Armed Services Committee and Homeland Security Committee is to cast my recorded vote on issues that affect our nation, in this case, the 2006 Defense Appropriations bill and related amendments which will fund our troops through 2006.

I hope you understand these obligations and I apologize for any inconvenience this unanticipated series of events caused to you and your staff.

CURT WELDON.

As of Friday, O'Reilly was marked as tentative on the PR calendar and CW's calendar at 7:00 pm.

After I left on Friday the DOE meeting was set up for 5:15 pm.

At some point on Monday morning, O'Reilly was confirmed by PR and changed on their calendar to 5:50.

At 12:35 pm, I was notified of the change via e-mail from Kristina.

I spoke to Peter on the phone and asked if O'Reilly could be moved to later given Curt's 5:15 meeting. He informed me it couldn't but not to worry if Curt wasn't there right at 6:00.

The change was made to CW's calendar at 1:25 pm.

I spoke to Porter around 1:30 and informed him of Curt's schedule prior to O'Reilly (i.e. a meeting with the Sec. of DOE). I told him

Russ would be with him and gave him mine and Russ' numbers.

From 5:45-6:30 Porter called me looking for Curt and Russ. I informed him they were still in the classified meeting and I was not able to get in touch with him.

Around 6:15 I asked if they need to cancel—Porter said that wasn't an option.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEARCE). Members are reminded to address their comments to the Chair.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

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, as I raise this issue with my colleagues, first I want to acknowledge that I believe that there are a number of efforts trying to make their way through the House and Senate on immigration reform that really should give us an opportunity to have a degree of synergism to respond to the concerns of the American people.

I rise today because I just finished a hearing in the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims on the important topic of employer sanctions. It would seem we should have agreement that employers should be penalized when they engage in the hiring of undocumented aliens. But interestingly enough, there is not agreement. The business community is particularly sensitive to this, claiming they are not able to find enough workers to fill these jobs. Then, of course, I think the AFL-CIO has a meritorious argument that when you enforce employer sanctions, employers who are unscrupulous will then enforce them against innocent persons, some documented and some undocumented, by either massively firing them or punishing them with lower wages and bad working conditions.

Interestingly enough, those who are fired will go out the door and that unscrupulous employer will then find others who are more timid to fulfill those jobs and they themselves may be undocumented. There are many issues that cannot be handled piecemeal.

Let me share another thought that came up in the hearing. There is a basic pilot program that requires employers to provide certain documentation when they hire an individual. Interestingly enough, only a few of the employers around the Nation can participate. Why? Because we have not given the Department of Homeland Security enough dollars to work the program beyond it being a pilot program.

It was also brought to our attention that maybe we should look to those who make the fraudulent documents and find a way to weed them out.

What this Nation really needs is comprehensive immigration reform. And so

I offer to my colleagues the Save America Comprehensive Immigration Act of 2005. It is H.R. 2092. We call it the fix-it bill. There are many fine efforts going through the United States Congress. But what I think immigrants need is a bill that fixes some of the 1996 immigration reform effort.

So we start off by focusing on family-based immigration by increasing the allocation of family-based visas. In speaking to a group of IndoAmericans, it was sad to hear the complaint about not being able to have loved ones come to the United States simply for a visit or simply to visit relatives in the United States that are ill or having some event. I have heard that from many, many immigrant communities around America, many of them documented with status, but yet they cannot invite their relatives to visit.

Another issue is protection against processing delays. Many offices have had to deal with constituents of Members when they call the various centers that deal with immigration where they have lost paperwork or lost fingerprints, stopping the good flow of immigration.

This bill includes acquisition of citizenship for children born abroad and out of wedlock to a United States citizen father. It allows aunts, uncles or grandparents to adopt orphaned or abandoned children of the deceased relative so it does not leave in limbo children outside of the country who have a United States citizen father, or orphaned children here in the United States who do not have an immediate parent, a mother or father.

It provides earned access to legalization. We run away from the language of amnesty only because people give it just a bad name. But we give earned access to people who are hardworking and providing income and taxes to the United States. We realize that intelligence, meaning keeping the bad guys out, is important so we provide more resources for border security. And we understand the issues of OTMs, other than Mexicans, that are coming across the border, maybe some who may want to do us harm, and we want to build up security at the northern and southern border.

Employment-based immigration. We want to deal with the unfair immigration-related employment practices, and we have in this particular legislation protection for American jobs. We have in this legislation training of Americans and the ability for an employer to have to attest that they cannot find an American for this job before they can hire someone who is not a citizen of the United States of America.

We address the question of removal waivers. We address the question of diversity visas.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, we address the question of the violence against women who happen to be undocumented. This is a comprehensive approach to the broken immigration system. I for one look forward to work-

ing with my colleagues and to give a hearing to all of the immigration bills that bring together the various thought processes of this Congress, Republicans and Democrats alike. Until we open the door to listening to all of us who have these ideas, we are not going to move immigration reform along.

I call on the chairmen and ranking members of our respective hearings to call for hearings in the House and the Senate on this important legislation and the legislation of my colleagues so we can finally answer the concerns of the American people.

REMEMBERING THE HON. JAKE PICKLE

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

Mr. MCCAUL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Texas and our Nation has lost one of its most genuine and gracious public servants. Last Saturday morning, James Jarell Pickle, "Jake," passed away on Saturday, with his wife by his side. For 31 years, Congressman Jake Pickle represented my hometown in this esteemed body as a Representative to the 10th Congressional District of Texas. And he did so with integrity, humility, honor, and a sense of humor that we should all attempt to mirror.

As a current holder of Congressman Pickle's seat, I work hard every day to provide the same kind of service to my constituents that Jake Pickle did to those he served. He was not just good at what he did, he was the best.

His family talks about the proudest vote he ever cast was in 1964 when he voted for the Civil Rights Act. He was one of only six southern Representatives to vote for that important piece of legislation. In the 1980s, he worked hours on end to protect Social Security and keep it solvent. He worked even harder in the 1990s to turn Austin into the high-tech society that it is today.

It is because of Jake Pickle that Austin continues to see new high-tech businesses locate to Texas's capital city. The University of Texas has also benefited greatly because of Jake Pickle. UT would not be churning out the latest in technology and new patents, as it now does every year, without the help that Congressman Pickle provided. It is also my honor to represent the research arm of the University of Texas which bears the name J.J. Pickle Research Campus.

But even as good and as smart a politician as he was, he is known today not for his ability to influence legislation or to help bring new business to his district, but rather for being a good and decent man. It is for this reason his nickname was Gentleman Jake. This gentleman served in the Navy during World War II, and worked his way through college by delivering milk to Austin homeowners. During his first congressional campaign and every time

after when he was out in public, he was shaking the hands of those he served. He enjoyed hearing about their lives and telling stories about his. He listened to their problems and sometimes used his own money to fix whatever problems they were having.

Representative Jake Pickle was a good man who will be terribly missed by all who knew him.

So tonight as I stand in the well of this esteemed body, a place so loved and respected by Jake, I am comforted in the thought that the Lord above is thankful to have this great servant back home in heaven where I am sure he is telling stories and shaking the hands of everyone that he meets.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2985, LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-144) on the resolution (H. Res. 334) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2985) making appropriations for the legislative branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

DEFEAT CENTRAL AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

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, we have coming before us pretty soon an issue called CAFTA, the Central America Free Trade Agreement. I want to start my comments, Ross Perot, when he was a candidate for the Presidency on October 19, 1992 at a Presidential debate said, "You implement that the NAFTA, the Mexican trade agreement where they pay people a dollar an hour, have no health care, no retirement, no pollution controls, and you are going to hear a giant sucking sound of jobs being pulled out of this country right at a time when we need the tax base to pay the debt."

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Perot was exactly right. We know Ross Perot as a successful businessman and a man who loves and cares about America.

Let me tell Members what happened since December 1993 when NAFTA became the law of the land. Before NAFTA, we ran a trade surplus with Mexico. Now the U.S. runs a \$45 billion annual trade deficit with Mexico; from a trade surplus to a trade deficit.

In addition, my home State of North Carolina since NAFTA became the law of the land has lost over 200,000 manufacturing jobs. The United States has lost over 2.5 million manufacturing jobs.

Let me give some facts about illegal aliens coming from Mexico across the