

natural life under the terms and conditions applicable to such occupancy since 1980.

(c) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to require the Secretary of the Interior to permit continued occupancy and use of the property identified in section 2(b) by Betty Dick for the remainder of her natural life.

SEC. 2. RIGHT OF OCCUPANCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall permit continued occupancy and use of the property described in subsection (b) by Betty Dick for the remainder of her natural life, subject to the requirements of this Act.

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF PROPERTY.—The property referred to in subsection (a) are the lands and improvements within the boundaries of Rocky Mountain National Park identified as “residence”, “occupancy area”, and “barn” on the map entitled “Betty Dick Residence and Barn” dated January, 2005.

(c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—Occupancy and use of the property identified in subsection (b) shall be subject to the same terms and conditions as specified in the document entitled “Settlement Agreement” between the National Park Service and Mr. Fred Dick dated July 17, 1980, except that Betty Dick shall be required to annually pay to the Secretary of the Interior an amount equal to one twenty-fifth of the amount specified in section 3(B) of such agreement.

(d) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to permit construction of any structure not in existence on November 30, 2004, or to apply to occupancy or use of the property described in subsection (b) by any person other than Betty Dick.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This concludes the call of the Private Calendar.

AMERICA SUPPORTS YOU

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, as our troops fight the war on terror, it is imperative that we show our appreciation for all of their sacrifices, their efforts and their courage. As Secretary Rumsfeld said, “Our country is proud of every member of our Armed Forces, and we are deeply grateful for those who have sacrificed for the cause of liberty.”

Many Americans want to thank our troops; they just do not know how. There is a great program that America should know about. It is called America Supports You. It is a nationwide program run by the Department of Defense to recognize and communicate support by citizens for our military men and women. The program highlights many ways that Americans can get involved and join in the support effort.

By going to www.AmericaSupportsYou.mil, you can donate frequent flier miles to provide tickets to hospitalized soldiers and their families, provide prepaid phone cards so their family members can keep in touch or just write a letter of gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, it is time we showed the troops how much we care. With the 4th

of July approaching, let us take time to show our appreciation and give back to those who have made so many sacrifices for us and for our liberty.

AmericaSupportsYou.mil lets all Americans say thanks.

CORPORATE WELFARE DEMONSTRATES NEED FOR LOBBYING REFORM

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, oil topped at \$60 a barrel, and yet the House energy bill contains more than \$8 billion in taxpayer funded giveaways to oil companies.

American taxpayers are being asked to subsidize big oil to do one thing: execute their business plan. So we pay twice, once at the gas pump and once on April 15. That is just business as usual here in Washington.

As USA Today points out today, corporate donors have given more than \$120 million to Republicans during the last election, and now they are receiving their reward for loyalty.

Tobacco companies gave more than \$40 million to Republicans, and they got a sweetheart deal from the Justice Department.

Pharmaceutical companies gave over \$100 million to the Republican party and got a prescription drug bill resulting in \$138 billion in additional profits.

To those industries, it is just good business: Invest a little now for a bigger return from Congress.

Special interests have attached themselves to Congress, and this is a parasitic relationship that is having a corrosive effect on the People’s House. Congress has told corporate America to clean up their act. We have told professional sports to clean up their act, but when it comes to the People’s House, things are squeaky clean.

The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN) and I have introduced lobbying reform legislation.

Mr. Speaker, when the gavel comes down, it should mark the opening of the People’s House, not the auction house.

WHO TOOK MY HOME?

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court has opened the gate of chaos by allowing local governments to forcibly seize private homes so they can sell to private developers for the greater tax revenues. The result of this land-grabbing decision, in violation of the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution, the protection of private property, is occurring now even in the remote New England town of Weare, New Hampshire.

A developer has filed necessary papers with the city to condemn a local

home, have it seized and destroyed so he can build a brand new hotel and museum. That will give the city greater tax revenue.

The Supreme Court should realize there are consequences for decisions that they make. They affect all Americans. The homeowner has no recourse, no place to turn.

So I say, to the homeowner, Supreme Court Justice David Souter who voted for the land-grabbing decision, your decision shows the Supreme Court has lost its way, and you may lose your home.

VAWA REAUTHORIZATION

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of a comprehensive reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

Throughout my career and as chair of the Democratic Women’s Working Group, I have been actively involved in advancing domestic violence legislation.

Although domestic violence is blind to race, ethnicity, racial and ethnic minority women, immigrant women especially, we face unique challenges to reporting and getting help for these victims.

The comprehensive reauthorization of VAWA includes provisions that address these concerns.

The bill includes language that would help communities establish specialized domestic violence courts in order to speed up the processing time of domestic violence cases. Also, the bill includes a provision that would help educate minority and immigrant communities on how to prevent domestic violence and provide services available to those victims.

Our efforts to educate the public about domestic violence must directly address factors like cultural differences, linguistic differences and immigration issues.

It is my hope that the reauthorization for the Violence Against Women Act is comprehensive and meets the needs of all women.

GITMO GETS THE DEMOCRATIC GO-AHEAD

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight comments published in Tuesday’s edition of The Hill from Members of Congress who recently visited the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay.

One Democratic Senator described the tour as “an eye-opening experience.”

“We found a well-run and well-organized camp,” he added. “Everything we heard previously was negative, but what we saw was much different from

what we had heard and read about. While there may have been some inappropriate interrogation efforts in the past, they are not ongoing, and closing the prison is not one of the things we should pursue."

A Democratic Representative agreed, saying that "the Guantanamo we saw today is not the Guantanamo we heard about a few years ago."

Another Democratic Senator noted the care taken to respect the prisoners' religious beliefs, "they are given Muslim prayer rugs and Korans. There are arrows everywhere pointing them to Mecca. We even witnessed a prayer call announcing to the terrorists that it was time for them to turn to Mecca and pray."

Mr. Speaker, these praises for the Guantanamo Bay facility do not come from its supporters. They all come from Democrats.

It is unacceptable for anyone who has not visited this facility to condemn it and attempt to defame the military personnel who serve there. Comparing the staff with murderers and criminals is worse than hyperbole—it is uninformed, hurtful nonsense!

As one Democratic Senator who visited the camp asked, "Did the Nazis respect the Jewish faith? Did Stalin and Pol Pot practice religious tolerance?" The answer: Absolutely not!

INCREASE THE FUNDING FOR THE VA BUDGET

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

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans started off their 1 minutes today, as the President did last night, by saying it is time to show the troops how much we care. Show them how much we care, except when they come home!

How do we show how much we care?

We have cut the VA budget. The VA budget that was just announced is \$1 billion short this year, \$2.5 billion short next year.

Our troops come back with post-traumatic stress disorder, and can get no services. They come back with dental problems, and have to wait a year for an appointment. That is how much we show how much we support our troops!

Mr. Speaker, the Democrats tried through this whole appropriations process to raise the amount of money for our veterans. I asked for \$3 billion, which would have made up for this shortfall. I was ruled out of order.

Do my colleagues know what is out of order, Mr. Speaker? This administration is out of order. This Congress is out of order.

We have to show that we do support our troops by giving them the support they need when they come home to the veterans health system. We are not doing that today. Let us hope that we can add this money as the appropriations process proceeds.

HONORING THE LITHUANIAN KAIMAS FUND PROJECT

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the co-chair of the Baltic Caucus to commend the work of the Lithuanian Kaimas Fund Project. The project provides children in rural areas of Lithuania with educational opportunities.

In just its third year, the project is having a positive impact on the lives of more than 2,000 young people in more than 60 rural villages across Lithuania. The Kaimas, which stands for country-side, Fund is a private-public partnership between the American Lithuanian Economic Development Council, the Lithuanian Ministry of Education and the Lithuanian Embassy in Washington, D.C., and local non-governmental organizations who provide services to young people in Lithuania.

During a 2-week summer program, community centers throughout Lithuania will provide opportunities for youth to participate in educational and athletic activities, including computer training. Because the project is supported by contributions from American donors, the project also demonstrates the generosity of Americans and all the shared values between our two countries.

Most importantly, I would like to encourage the young people and leaders of the community centers who are participating in this program in Lithuania this summer; they are helping to strengthen the special friendship between Lithuania and America. They are also a vital part of the future of the special relationship that our two countries share.

BIG BIRD IS NOT A BILLIONAIRE

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, last week, we were told that Big Bird was a billionaire and did not need Federal support. Not true on either account.

The Sesame Street Workshop, the nonprofit educational organization, supports children's activities in 120 countries around the world for less than \$100 million a year. Yet, Sesame Street, now in its 36th season, gets only \$17.5 million, about 10 percent of that, from Federal sources.

The Federal money helped make it possible for stations to operate and to buy the programming.

The bottom line is, Big Bird is not a billionaire, and taking away the Federal money, he would still be here, but it would diminish the program and make it harder or impossible for kids to watch him on local, free, non-commercial public television, especially in small cities and rural communities.

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I urge my colleagues to visit their local stations during the summer break and find out the truth about Big Bird.

TEN EUROS FOR THE IRAQI RESISTANCE

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

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, extremist groups in Europe are providing financial support to the insurgents in Iraq, and they will be openly gathering later this year on Italian soil to continue their plotting.

Shortly after the commencement of Operation Iraqi Freedom, they began a fund-raising campaign, asking people to donate "ten euros to the Iraq insurgency." The revolting image behind me, dramatizing a violent assault on a U.S. soldier, was taken from the Web site of a group actively supporting the 10-year-old campaign.

It seems to me it conveys accurately the murderous intentions behind this fund-raising initiative. When questioned as to whether the campaign would support terrorism in Iraq, a spokesman for the fund-raising effort said, "We support the armed struggle in Iraq. Our money is to help them. It doesn't matter to us if they use it to buy weapons, Kalashnikovs, or medicines for the people."

The group reportedly sent supplies to the Al Anbar province as recently as February of this year. Now they are notifying comrades of a conference this October in Rome to grow support for insurgents throughout the world.

My colleagues, we hold different opinions about our efforts in Iraq, but we should all stand together in fighting those who support the insurgents, killing Americans and innocent Iraqis.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

(Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, this week I and over 60 of my colleagues will introduce a comprehensive reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. VAWA is set to expire on September 30 of this year, so it is vital that this Congress quickly consider and pass the reauthorization.

Since its passage in 1994, VAWA has been a great success. It has provided over \$5.5 billion in Federal funding to improve our criminal and community responses to domestic violence. But the statistics remain alarming. One in every four women will experience domestic violence during her lifetime. Last year, California law enforcement received 198,000 domestic violence calls, with weapons involved in over 136,000 of those cases.

The reauthorization that we are putting forward this week will go a long