

□ 1910

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 364, on H. Res. 333, I was in my Congressional District on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 364, I voted and left the Chamber. However, my vote did not register, and I was not aware of that until the vote was over. Had my vote been recorded, it would have been "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Madam Speaker, personal business prevents me from being present for legislative business scheduled for today, Monday, July 11, 2005. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on H. Con. Res. 168, a resolution condemning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the abductions and continued captivity of citizens of the Republic of Korea and Japan as acts of terrorism and gross violations of human rights (rollcall No. 363); and "yea" on H. Res. 333, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a "National Weekend of Prayer and Reflection for Darfur, Sudan" (rollcall No. 364).

ECONOMIC GROWTH: POLICIES OF REDUCING TAXATION AND LESSENING REGULATION WORK

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, today we are all returning from what has been a glorious July 4 celebration in our home communities, looking at what makes America great. And I was so pleased to pick up a stack of papers and leaf back through them, and I found an article of interest in the business section of The Washington Post, and the headline caught my attention: "Economic Growth, Tax Receipts Combine to Reduce Deficit."

We all know The Post is generally not our friend, but it goes on to state that the deficit will be as much as \$100 billion lower than the official forecasts and previous forecasts. Jobs growth is up 3.8 percent, as opposed to what they thought would be the estimate, 3.5 percent. Tax receipts are up.

It just goes to prove, Madam Speaker, that the policies of reducing taxation, lessening regulation work are revitalizing, stimulating the economy.

I commend our leadership for the tax reductions and look forward to more positive headlines.

DEFEAT THIS CAFTA AND RENEGOTIATE A CAFTA THAT WORKS

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), majority leader and the most powerful Republican Member of Congress, promised last year that we would vote on the Central America Free Trade Agreement. December 31 came and went. He promised we would vote on it by Memorial Day; we did not. He promised we would vote on it by July 4; we did not. Now the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) promises that CAFTA will come before us by the end of the month.

The reason we have not voted on the Central America Free Trade Agreement, the reason it has been 13 months since the President signed it, six times longer than any trade agreement in years, is that Republicans and Democrats, business and labor, food safety advocates, environmentalists, and religious leaders think the Central America Free Trade Agreement is a bad idea.

Defeat this CAFTA. Let us renegotiate a CAFTA that works for small farmers and ranchers and small business and workers and environmentalists and religious leaders in all seven CAFTA countries including ours.

□ 1915

STANDING STRONG IN THE WAR ON TERROR

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the tragic and reprehensible bombings in London last Thursday show the world once again just how vigilant we must be in protecting our citizens and continuing to fight terrorism wherever it leads.

This is a war unlike any we have ever seen, and victory will require greater resolve than we have ever mustered. The lack of human decency shown by terrorists proves that they will stop at nothing to kill innocent people in an attempt to strike fear in the hearts of us all.

However, terrorists are mistaken if they think cowardly actions will shake the resolve of those nations fighting the war on terror, and they are mistaken if they think people will see them for anything other than the evil terrorists they are.

As our friends in England begin the healing process, rest assured that we in America will stand by them. We will fight, side-by-side, together, as we have done before, in this war on terror, and, as the President has said, we will not falter and we will not fail.

May God bless England and continue to bless the United States of America.

YOUTH AND VITALITY DEMONSTRATED IN YOUTH OF GREEN ACRES BAPTIST CHURCH

(Mr. GOHMERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, the London bombings were indeed tragic. They bring us back to what really matters. We saw the resolve of the British people after the attack. Life would go on.

Here in America, we have been so deeply blessed, and just as the words above the Speaker's head say, in God we do trust. I have been reminded today why we do what we do; why we try to make a difference, why we push on and try to make this a better place.

There are 144 members of my church, my youth choir and sponsors, that have come in today, and with the vitality, the youth, the enthusiasm, the wanting to make a difference, it lifts me up, and I would encourage all of you to be lifted up by the hope that springs eternal in their breasts.

Mr. Speaker, God has blessed America, and with the youth and vitality as demonstrated in Green Acres Baptist Church, I know that we will in the future be blessed by God.

PROGRESS BEING MADE AT BLOWING ROCK ART & HISTORY MUSEUM

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the progress being made at the Blowing Rock Art & History Museum in Blowing Rock, North Carolina, and to pay my respects to a prominent artist who resided in my district.

For over 6 years, a small group of art and history lovers have been working diligently to plan for a new museum in Blowing Rock. The idea for the museum was inspired by a generous gift of outstanding original oils, pastels, water colors and line drawings created by one of North Carolina's most famous artists, Elliott Daingerfield.

Daingerfield moved from North Carolina to New York City following the Civil War. However, western North Carolina remained a special place to him. He continually spent his summers painting and teaching art classes in Blowing Rock.

Daingerfield went on to become a highly successful artist. His work is displayed in museums in New York, Washington, St. Louis, Augusta, Raleigh, Savannah and Charleston. I am pleased that his work will soon be on display in the Fifth District once the Blowing Rock Art and History Museum opens in a few years.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KUHL of New York). 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 gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

SUPPORT NO FLY, NO BUY LEGISLATION

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. Mr. Speaker, last week's tragic events in London reminded us that terrorists can strike anywhere, at any time. We must prepare to prevent any kind of scenario that will allow attacks. Terrorists have proven to be innovative in their methods to kill innocent people. We must work to shut down as many avenues of terror as possible or at least make it more difficult for them to carry out their acts.

But since 9/11, the U.S. has dedicated 90 percent of its domestic preparedness resources to preventing an attack involving commercial air travel. While safe air travel is important, we do not pay attention to other possible scenarios, and it is irresponsible of us to do that. It is time for all of us to be proactive instead of reactive in our homeland security strategy.

One area of homeland security that needs to be reviewed is our pre-9/11 gun laws. Mr. Speaker, we are at war, and our gun laws currently allow our enemies to arm themselves in our country.

At least 44 times in a 4-month period, people whom the FBI suspected of being members of terrorist groups tried to buy guns. In all but nine instances, the purchases were allowed to go through. Affiliation with a terrorist group does not appear on any Federal background check that would disqualify someone from buying a gun.

There certainly have been many more instances of suspected members of terrorist groups trying to buy guns since then, but since the Justice Department destroys background check records after only 24 hours, we will never know. So not only are we allowing suspected terrorists to arm themselves, we are destroying the records indicating how many guns they actually own. We are destroying critical intelligence in this war on terror.

The question my constituents ask me is, why are these people allowed to buy guns in the first place? It defies common sense. We saw what these terrorists are capable of doing just armed with only a box cutter purchased at a hardware store. Then why do we make it so easy for them to be able to buy guns at stores and at gun shows?

The very same people we spend 90 percent of our homeland security funds on to prevent boarding planes can walk into any gun store and purchase an Uzi, AK-47 or a 50 caliber rifle that can shoot down an airplane, whether it is taking off or landing. This is absolutely ridiculous.

Let me set the record straight: I am not trying to take away the right from anyone of being able to buy a gun. These are law-abiding citizens. They have a right to buy a gun. But we do need commonsense gun safety regulations to protect law-abiding gun owners while making it tougher for criminals and certainly terrorists to be able to obtain a gun.

That is why I introduced the No Fly, No Buy bill. Right now, if you are on a terrorist watch list and you cannot board a plane, you are allowed to go into any gun store or go to a gun show and be able to buy a gun. That is ludicrous.

What my bill would do, if you are on a terrorist no fly list, you would not be able to also buy a gun. I understand that mistakes can be made, and on those mistakes, the list that I have chosen that the FBI has, if you are innocent, you will be able to come off that list.

We have to start having a different dialogue on gun violence in this country. But certainly what we learned from London last week, and we do not know if we have terrorists in this country or not, they always wait until we are least suspecting them, we need to do what we can to make sure guns do not get into the wrong hands.

This is not going to take away anyone's right to own a gun, to go hunting, to protect their families. But we can do a better job, especially working in the times that we are working in today.

BENEFITS OF ETHANOL USE TO AMERICA

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

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, as many Americans are aware, the Senate has passed a version of the energy bill, the House has passed their version of the energy bill, and, as often happens, the two versions are not the same. So, at the present time, the energy bill is in conference.

One major difference between the House version and the Senate version is in the renewable fuels section. In the House, we mandate 5 billion gallons of ethanol be produced in this country by 2012. The Senate version requires 8 billion gallons rather than 5 billion. So there is a substantial difference.

In 2004, the United States produced 3.6 billion gallons; this year, 4.5 billion gallons of ethanol. And we should reach the 5 billion gallon standard by 2006. So the House version is relatively meaningless, because by saying that we want 5 billion gallons in 2012, we will have already reached that by 2006.

So we are obviously very supportive, many of us, of the 8 billion gallon standard, and I rise tonight to encourage that that be what is included in the conference report.

Currently, ethanol is produced in 20 States, including California and Kentucky. At one time, it was assumed that ethanol was something that was only produced in five or six midwestern states. Ethanol could be made from almost any type of biomass, and I think eventually we will see ethanol production in all 50 States.

The ethanol industry benefits all Americans, not just those in the corn-producing States of the Midwest. Currently, ethanol reduces the price of an average gallon of gasoline by roughly 29 cents, so if we are paying \$2.20 a gallon at the pump today, if it were not for the ethanol industry, it would be \$2.50, \$2.51, something in that rage. E-85, with 85 percent ethanol, at the present time is roughly 60 cents cheaper than regular gasoline. So in many areas of the country, E-85 is selling for \$1.60 a gallon as opposed to \$2.20 or \$2.25.

Ethanol creates more energy than it consumes. This is something lots of people are not aware of.

For instance, for every one Btu of energy, ethanol produces 1.389 Btu of energy. So by the time you have planted the crop, you have harvested it, you have processed it, you have refined it, you gain almost four-tenths of a Btu. The reason for that is that we are harnessing the energy of the sun in making ethanol.

Conversely, gasoline, for every 1 Btu of energy used, produces eight-tenths of a Btu of energy once it is refined. MTBE produces 6.675 Btus. So there is a considerable energy loss in these areas. Again, this is a misconception that many people have that ethanol uses more energy than it really produces. This is not true.

As MTBE is phased out due to groundwater contamination, ethanol is the primary remaining eliminator of greenhouse gas emissions. In 2004, ethanol reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 7 million tons in the United States, which was a huge environmental benefit.

The ethanol industry added \$25 billion to the U.S. economy in 2004. The ethanol industry has added 243,000 jobs to our economy, and above all, it has moved us away from dependence on foreign oil.

There are just a couple of other things I would like to mention that we have on the following chart. You will notice that, currently, ethanol adds \$51 billion to farm income over 10 years. The reason for this is that ethanol increases the price of a bushel of corn by 25 to 50 cents a bushel.

It reduces government farm payments by \$5.9 billion over 10 years. The reason for that is it raises the price of corn. Therefore, there are fewer farm bill payments that drain money from the taxpayers, so this is a good thing