

**STRONG RESOLVE IN THE FACE
OF TERRORISM**

(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, I conclude every floor speech with the reminder, "God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11," because I strongly believe that we must remember the lessons of that tragic day to protect American families.

After witnessing a handful of terrorists murder thousands of innocent Americans, our Nation immediately took action to defeat terrorism at home and abroad. Yesterday, I observed hundreds of terrorists now detained at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and witnessed the tremendous progress our Nation is making in defending our freedom and defeating terrorism.

Last week's brutal attacks on the streets of London demonstrated that we must remain on the offensive against terrorists who seek to murder innocent civilians and destroy our way of life. Terrorists who believe they can break our will through cowardly attacks are mistaken. As President Bush said, "America will not retreat in the face of terrorists and murderers. And neither will the free world."

In conclusion, God bless our troops; we will never forget September 11 and London's July 7.

**ANNIVERSARY OF THE MEDAL OF
HONOR**

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

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay homage to the Medal of Honor recipients and the values that the Medal of Honor symbolizes. On this date in 1862, President Abraham Lincoln approved the legislation that created the Medal of Honor, our Nation's highest military medal. The Medal of Honor is awarded for acts of valor and gallantry above and beyond the call of duty. In its 140-plus-year history, only 3,441 individuals have been awarded this distinguished medal; 121 of those individuals are still alive today.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to these brave individuals and to those men and women currently serving our Nation overseas. The Nation's highest award is facing a serious challenge to its meaning and symbol. I am outraged by the impostors who claim they have received this and other honors the military awards for deeds and actions of soldiers. These criminals not only dishonor themselves, but they dishonor the sacrifice that true recipients have made.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I plan to introduce the Stolen Valor Act of 2005 next week. This piece of legislation will make it easier for Federal law en-

forcement officials to prosecute phonies and impostors and restore the true meaning of these illustrious awards.

I hope my colleagues can join me in this effort to reclaim the meaning of honor and bravery and sacrifice in these United States.

RETURN TO FLIGHT

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

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I wish all the best for NASA and the crew of the Space Shuttle *Discovery* and the men and women of Kennedy Space Center on attempting to launch tomorrow. Those of us who support the program understand how critically important it is for the United States to have a continuing human presence in space.

After the loss of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* in February of 2003, we have not been able to launch our astronauts into space for almost 2½ years. With a successful launch tomorrow, we will once again show the world that our program and the dedicated people behind it are second to none and that our space shuttle fleet is unrivaled when it comes to technology and mission capability. This launch will be an important first step, a first step in the new vision for space exploration articulated by President Bush in January of 2004, a vision that is not only taking us back to low Earth orbit and the space station but that will lead us back to the Moon and one day on to Mars.

Again, I know I speak for all Americans when we wish the crew of *Discovery* God speed and a safe mission.

COLLAPSE OF A COVER-UP

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, in the last 48 hours we have witnessed the sad collapse of a cover-up. On September 29, 2003, Press Secretary Scott McClellan said that he had spoken with the deputy chief of staff of the White House and it was simply not true that he had anything to do with the disclosure of the identity of a CIA agent. He characterized it as "totally ridiculous." And again on October 10, 2003, he said the White House had nothing to do with this terrible disclosure.

The President was then asked on June 10, 2004, whether he would stand by the promise to the American people to fire someone responsible for this disclosure, and he answered with a simple "yes."

The American people do not want sensitivity training after this sad disclosure of a CIA agent. They need full accountability. The jig is up. The deputy chief of staff needs to come in front of Congress and answer questions about this. And this is not just a matter of a simple violation of Federal law. It is a

sad violation of democracy to try to punish a truth-teller, Joe Wilson, who blew the whistle on the "yellow cake" false statement made by the President. We know that that is wrong because Mr. McClellan said this is not the way the White House operates. We beg to differ.

**URGING SUPPORT FOR THE 527
FAIRNESS ACT**

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, all of us remember the summer of 527s. Groups organized on the left and right under section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code spent nearly \$400 million in the midst of the Presidential campaigns while the Nation's two major political parties, its most respected labor unions, associations, businesses, and constitutional groups seemed to stand on the sideline in mute amazement.

In response to that summer of 527s, some here in Washington, D.C. want to exert even more regulation and control, and that is certainly their right to pursue. But the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN) and I have a different approach. We believe that the only proper response to inequities in the political economy of a free society is more freedom, not less freedom.

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The Pence-Wynn bill is our effort to restore freedom and fairness to political parties and outside organizations, to give them the opportunity to compete more effectively with not only 527 organizations but their progeny that may arise if the Congress decides even yet to regulate them.

Thomas Jefferson said, "I would rather be exposed to the inconveniences attending too much liberty than those attending too small a degree of it."

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to consider the Pence-Wynn Freedom resolution.

REPUBLICAN PLAN TO MOVE SOCIAL SECURITY INSOLVENCY CLOSER

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

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, congressional Republicans have shown their hand once again. It is now clear that Republicans have no desire to strengthen Social Security for future generations. Instead, their only intentions are to privatize the guaranteed retirement program.

The Republicans' risky privatization scheme would create private accounts financed by diverting money out of Social Security. It does absolutely nothing to extend solvency of Social Security. In fact, the Republican proposal would actually move Social Security

insolvency up 2 years. The Republican plan actually harms Social Security by taking away money from the trust fund. Every so-called "surplus" dollar put into the trust fund is already earmarked to pay future benefits. There is simply no way to divert those dollars to private accounts.

If Republicans really want to strengthen Social Security, do we not think they would come up with a proposal that would really actually extend solvency?

The American public demands reform, but not in this manner. Privatization is not the way to go. In my own district, 60,000 people are on Social Security. They look forward to that continued support.

GROWING REAL OWNERSHIP FOR WORKERS ACCOUNTS ACT

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when my constituents find out that Congress has been spending Social Security money on programs other than Social Security, they are mad. That is why I am working to put an end to this immoral practice.

In the past, Congress has not had the discipline to keep its hand out of the Social Security cookie jar.

Our proposal says that future Congresses cannot get their hands on the money in the first place.

My commonsense solution is simple: make sure that Congress spends Social Security taxes on Social Security.

When workers can save part of their Social Security money in a personal retirement account with their name on it, Congress will have to cut spending from other bloated programs.

Our bill, the Growing Real Ownership for Workers Accounts Act, grows accounts and is an achievable first step toward sending the Social Security surplus back where it belongs, in the pockets of hardworking Americans.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill today.

KARL ROVE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN OUTING OF COVERT CIA AGENT

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

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, we now know that Karl Rove is one of the White House officials directly involved in the outing of a covert CIA agent.

Rove and his attorneys can parse the words all they want, but it is now clear that while Rove may not have given a reporter Plame's name, he clearly identified her by telling the reporter that Joseph Wilson's wife was a CIA agent.

Does Rove expect us to believe that any reporter worth a byline could not easily find out the actual name of Wilson's wife? And, as disturbing as this

is, it is even more disturbing that President Bush continues to support Rove.

In September 2003, President Bush told reporters, "If there is a leak out of my administration, I want to know who it is." Well, the President now knows at least one of the persons in his administration is responsible for this leak. The question is, will he keep his word and fire Mr. Rove?

President Bush should not forget the comments of his own father who in a speech before the CIA in 1999 said, "I have nothing but contempt and anger for those who betray the trust by exposing the names of our sources. They are, in my view, the most insidious of traitors." And right on, first President Bush.

If this President agrees with his father, he will fire Karl Rove and clear the way for his prosecution.

EXPLOSION OF TRIBAL CASINOS

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

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I am concerned about the rapid spread of gambling in the United States, now largely through the dramatic expansion of tribal casinos, which are devastating America's communities and families.

Gambling ruins families. It ruins communities. It ruins businesses. Gamblers often neglect their families and lose their jobs, careers and marriages to the habit. Gambling preys on the weak and gambling exploits the poor. Study after study shows that when a casino opens in a community, crime and suicide and bankruptcies rise.

As if our Nation is not saturated enough with gambling operations, now comes news of plans to open a casino two miles from the historic Gettysburg battlefield. Yes, Gettysburg. Thousands of Americans from the north and the south died at Gettysburg. It is hallowed ground. Its place in our history is sacred.

Is there no place in America immune from the lure of gambling?

I recently wrote President Bush urging him to issue an Executive Order to halt the explosion of gambling with a 2-year moratorium on new tribal casinos. Why will the Bush administration not act?

TIME FOR ROVE TO COME CLEAN WITH PUBLIC

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

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, when Karl Rove's attorney finally admitted to the Washington Post yesterday that Rove told a reporter Joseph Wilson's wife was a CIA agent, he was indeed identifying her. It does not take too much investigative reporting beyond that to actually come up with a name.

Now, Rove's attorney is trying to explain away Rove's actions by stating that he was merely "discouraging Time from perpetuating some statements that had been made publicly and weren't true." Convenient explanation, but are we supposed to believe this from an attorney who previously stated that Rove did not reveal any confidential information?

Clearly, Rove did reveal confidential information when he told Time reporter Matt Cooper that Joseph Wilson's wife was a CIA agent.

Karl Rove himself should come forward and level with the American people about his involvement in the Valerie Plame leak. Failing this, President Bush should ask for his resignation.

IMPROVING ECONOMY

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, 146,000 jobs were created in the month of June with the unemployment rate dropping to 5 percent, the lowest unemployment rate since September of 2001. Steady job growth has taken place each month over the last 25 months, and more Americans are working than ever before.

Economic indicators show strong and sustained growth, with real gross domestic product and real income revised up for the first quarter and inflation down. Profits as a share of GDP are up to their highest levels since 1967. Durable goods orders are on the rise, with new orders increasing 5.5 percent for May, the largest increase in 14 months. U.S. manufacturing continues to expand. For the 25th consecutive month, manufacturing expanded, again, in June. Consumer confidence is up, rising nearly 3 points in June to its highest level in 3 years.

Mr. Speaker, the improving economy is not empty rhetoric. What is crystal clear is that the policies of this Congress and this administration are pro-growth, leading the charge, and they are succeeding.

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the single most important vote of the week and one of the most important of the year is buried in the massive Water Resources Development Act coming before Congress this week: the Upper Mississippi Lock project. This is the "Big Dig" of water projects. Actually, it is like five or six big digs, since 10 percent of all water resources for years to come will be spent on this single project.

I urge my colleagues to look closely at the amendment that I will be offering with my colleague, the gentleman