

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

from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), which will require that before this project moves from planning to construction in 5 years, that the minimum justification for the demand for barge traffic, the rationale for the project, is justified. Taxpayers deserve no less for the largest water resources project in America's history.

REVISING THE NATIONAL FLOOD MAPS

(Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, my district is the fifth congressional district of Florida, and the area is commonly referred to as the "Nature Coast." Residents of this area, most of them are not owners of beachfront property; they live on what previously were pristine, swampy wetlands that were filled in. We certainly have a beautiful view and, unfortunately, while it is the Nature Coast, it also has historically been the area where many hurricanes have hit.

While this last hurricane, Dennis, did not directly hit our area, we had residual effects of the hurricane. We had storm surges, and a lot of areas were under water. Suddenly, residents thought they owned waterfront property, because right out front of their homes, waterfront existed.

I am very, very glad to see that we are looking at revising the national flood maps so people who previously were denied flood insurance now, once we revise those flood maps, they will be able also to be able to purchase flood insurance.

GAMING INDUSTRY FUELS ECONOMY

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

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I came down to the floor to speak about Social Security and the President's plan to privatize, but after hearing the comments of the gentleman from Virginia regarding the gaming industry, I felt it is my responsibility as the Congresswoman from Las Vegas to speak on behalf of the gaming industry.

I grew up in Las Vegas. I know the people well. I know the community well. And I know the industry well. My father has a ninth-grade education. He was a waiter when I was growing up. On a waiter's salary in a Las Vegas casino, he made enough money to put a roof over our heads, food on the table, clothes on our backs and two daughters through college and law school. That is not so bad on a waiter's salary. The reason he was able to do that was because of a strong economy fueled by the gaming industry.

For anybody that thinks that the social ills of this country are caused by

gaming, I invite them to come to my beautiful city of Las Vegas and see for themselves firsthand the strong economy based on the gaming industry that is run by some of the most reputable people that I have ever met. Come to Las Vegas and see for yourself the wonders of that amazing community.

TIME FOR KARL ROVE TO STEP ASIDE

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it appears that either President Bush's righthand man Karl Rove was deceiving his boss or the Bush administration was deceiving the American people in regards to the leak of a CIA agent's identity to the press.

When asked in September 2003 if he had any knowledge or leaked the name of the CIA agent to the press, Rove simply answered, "no." The deception continued earlier this month when, on July 4th, Rove simply amended his previous statements by saying, "I'll repeat what I said to ABC News when this whole thing broke some number of months ago, I didn't know her name, didn't leak her name." Last week, after Newsweek reported that the leak came from Rove, Rove's attorney shot back and said Rove "did not tell any reporter that Valerie Plame worked for the CIA."

Well, now Karl Rove's attorney is admitting that Rove did tell a reporter that Joseph Wilson's wife was a CIA agent. Sounds like a leak to me. So, it is now time for President Bush to ask for Karl Rove to go.

AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS NOT BUYING CONGRESSIONAL REPUBLICAN SOCIAL SECURITY PLAN

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

Mr. MELANCON. Mr. Speaker, America's editorial boards, both liberal and conservative, were not fooled by the Congressional Republican Social Security proposal unveiled this past month. The Republican plan would create private accounts out of the money now going into the Social Security trust fund.

The Baltimore Sun called the plan "the worst plan yet." While the Minneapolis Star-Tribune said, "It is so weird and ill-conceived that it wouldn't merit comment, except that prominent GOP lawmakers have rallied around it." USA Today examined the plan and concluded, "for every one part substance, the plan contains nine parts gimmick." While the New York Times wrote that the plan abandons "efforts to restore solvency in order to resuscitate those doomed, unwanted, unwise private accounts." Finally, the Roanoke Times and World News opined, "Republicans touting the plan say it will stop the 'raid' on the Social Secu-

rity trust fund. But if they wish to identify those perpetrating that 'raid' for the last 4 years, they need only look in a very large mirror."

Mr. Speaker, Republicans are no longer fooling anyone. It is time that they take privatization off the table.

□ 1030

KARL ROVE MUST GO

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

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, a couple of weeks ago, the right wing hit man, who is now the deputy chief of staff in the White House made an outrageously, consciously dishonest set of attacks on Members of this body by arguing that liberals had show ignored the terrible events of September 11, despite the fact that we virtually unanimously voted to go to war in Afghanistan, and voted for a homeland security department, in fact advocated it over the administration's objections.

We now have learned that the response of this hit man was to leak the name of a CIA agent, probably in violation of the law, certainly in violation of the rules that ought to be in place. And now we have this defense, the lawyer having previously denied that he did it, now says, well, it was not really a problem because he only said it was Joe Wilson's wife, he did not mention her name.

Now, perhaps the President's hit man maybe got him confused with one of his Saudi prince friends that thought that Mr. WILSON was a polygamist and had several wives and therefore identifying his wife would have thrown people off the track.

But I do not think that is really acceptable in a court of law. And as to the argument that by not naming her no one knew who he meant, does anyone doubt that the right wing hit man I am talking about, whose name I have not previously mentioned, is Karl Rove.

KARL ROVE MUST WALK THE PLANK

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, now that we know Karl Rove was one of the White House officials who leaked the identity of Valerie Plame, it is time for President Bush to hold his right-hand man accountable and ask for Rove's resignation. This is, after all, what members of his own administration stated would happen when the President learned the identity of those responsible for the leak.

In September of 2003, White House Press Secretary Scott McClelland told reporters, "If anyone in this administration was involved in it, they would no longer be in this administration."