

man with this questionable background to continue to go unchecked.

PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, Republicans are moving forward to protect one of the most foundational rights we cherish, the right to own private property. One of our great former Presidents, John Adams, said: "Property is surely a right of mankind as real as liberty." The first Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court said: "No power on Earth has a right to take our property from us without our consent."

We have seen our Supreme Court rule that property can be taken from one private owner and given to another. Republicans in Congress are taking action to fix this problem with legislation we will consider today on the House floor. Government should not and must not have the authority to take property away from private landowners for the sole sake of giving it to another private landowner.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the efforts of the majority in bringing forward this important legislation and look forward to supporting it on the floor this afternoon.

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

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

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the 27th annual National Hospice and Palliative Care Month. This month health organizations all around the country will be educating individuals on what it means to have an advance directive, or living will. So today I am joining with these organizations to encourage everyone to take a moment and discuss with their loved ones what their wishes would be in a health care situation where they were unable to communicate them.

Madam Speaker, the term "advance directive" describes two types of legal documents that can enable you to plan for and communicate your end-of-life issues in the event you are unable to convey them yourself.

First, Madam Speaker, is a living will. It allows you to document your wishes concerning medical treatments at the end of life. The second is a medical power of attorney, or health care proxy, which allows you to appoint a person you trust as your health care agent. This person would be authorized to make medical decisions on your behalf.

Madam Speaker, living wills and medical powers of attorney are valuable tools to help communicate wishes about future medical care. Thoughtfully prepared advance directives can ease the burden on those who must make health care decisions for us.

In conclusion, I want to encourage all Americans to set aside time to have what may very well be one of the most important conversations that a family can have.

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US VERSUS THEM

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, an esteemed colleague recently said, it is much better to be us than to be them. He is probably right. It is better to be us than a middle-class family burdened with high energy costs, rising health care inflation and \$8 trillion in national debt. It is probably better to be a Republican Member of Congress than a college student whose loans are about to be cut, or a child who has lost their health care because of a Republican Congress.

After years of reckless spending, the Republican Congress has left the Nation \$3 trillion further in the hole.

But rather than going after corporate welfare, like the \$16.5 billion handouts to oil and gas companies, this Congress is about to cut \$50 billion from investments in middle-class families. They are eliminating nearly 40,000 children's nutritional programs. And while the average year of tuition at a State university is now \$15,000 a year, the Republican Congress is cutting student loan programs by \$14 billion. They are slashing \$12 billion from Medicaid, affecting nearly 20,000 children currently covered by the program.

For what? So the Republican Congress can cut taxes for the wealthiest 1 percent. There is no question, it is better to be a Republican Member of Congress than a middle-class family.

Madam Speaker, the American people deserve better. We can do better. We need a new set of priorities, a change in the status quo.

SUPPORT FOR THE WAR IN IRAQ

(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, night after night we watch the left come to the floor and beat the drums of retreat on the war on terrorism. They want us out of Iraq, they want us out of the Middle East, and they want us to end our aggressive war on terrorism.

I have to admit in my heart I would like to see the troops home, but my intellect tells me we cannot afford to leave our children a world in which Middle Eastern terrorists have free reign.

I want our troops to know that they have a grateful Nation behind them, regardless of what they may hear from some in this body. I want our Tennessee National Guardsmen, our Fort

Campbell families and, as we approach Veterans' Day, all of our Nation's patriotic veterans to know we appreciate their service and their commitment.

As of October 4, 2005, a total of 206,500 Iraqi security forces have been trained and equipped. That is progress, and the American people can be confident that progress is being made.

So do not believe the ranting of the left when they tell you all is lost, that hope is pointless and that we are losing. We are not.

EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT WAR IN IRAQ

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to once again express my deep concern about this war in Iraq, which is a violent, endless quagmire. Those of us who dissent on this war support our troops. We honor our troops. We respect our troops. In fact, one of the things that we have tried to do is urge the other side of the aisle to provide budgets that actually support our troops when they come home.

It is shameful that our veterans' budgets get slashed each and every year. If Members of Congress are going to send young men and women over to Iraq to fight in this war, we had better make sure that when they come back they have the resources they need to get on with their lives.

We have lost 2,000 Americans in this war. There is no end in sight. There have been no weapons of mass destruction. There was no imminent threat. There was no nuclear threat. There was no tie to al Qaeda.

This war has nothing to do with the War on Terror. In fact, it has diverted important resources from the overall war on terror. We need to get our priorities straight. We need to focus on the war on terror. Let us end this war in Iraq.

HONORING PLAYERS, STAFF AND PARENTS OF COUNCIL ROCK-NEWTOWN LITTLE LEAGUE TEAM

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is my honor and privilege this week to host the players, staff and families of Bucks County, Pennsylvania's own Council Rock-Newtown Little League team to our Nation's Capital.

This past August, the CR-Newtown team defeated the Toms River American Little League team of Toms River, New Jersey, to qualify for a seat at the 59th Little League World Series. Their victory marked the first mid-Atlantic championship for Pennsylvania since 1960, and their 20 post-season victories

that led the team through the series has made Bucks County as well as Pennsylvania proud of their achievement.

I know that the team will remember this summer's season for the rest of their lives. They put their all into their sport, suffering injury and playing the underdog. Every one of the players on the team has done a wonderful job, and I am proud to acknowledge their achievement today.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on their historic season.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR APEC AND AMERICA

(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. Madam Speaker, next week, President Bush will attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum in Pusan, Korea, with representatives from 21 other member governments. His attendance at this forum will highlight the significance of the APEC region, which now accounts for nearly 40 percent of the world's population, over half of world trade, approximately 60 percent of the world's gross domestic product and creates millions of American jobs.

By discussing his efforts to maintain a robust trade, security and global health agenda, President Bush will strengthen our valuable partnership with APEC countries.

As co-chair of the Mongolia Caucus, I am particularly proud that President Bush will be the first American President ever to visit the 800-year-old nation of Mongolia, a true ally in the global war on terrorism. Mongolia has troops courageously serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. The President's visit will be a fitting way to express our sincere appreciation for Mongolia's partnership for freedom.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

IN SUPPORT OF JUDGE SAMUEL ALITO

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of President Bush's well-qualified Supreme Court nominee, Judge Samuel Alito.

Judge Alito has extensive experience in the American legal system. During nearly 30 years of public service, he has handled difficult and complex legal issues. He began his distinguished career with 15 years of service at the U.S. Department of Justice, where he served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney and Assistant to the Solicitor General.

Judge Alito has argued 12 Supreme Court cases and argued at least two

dozen court of appeals cases. After being unanimously confirmed by the Senate, Judge Alito served on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals for 15 years. He is widely respected for his fairness and even temperament.

Judge Alito is committed to the rule of law and understands the proper role of a judge in our society. His record as a Federal judge demonstrates that he strictly interprets the law and does not legislate from the bench or create new policies based on personal opinion.

Madam Speaker, Judge Alito has shown a deep commitment to justice and equality, a mastery of the law and strong personal character. I urge the Senate to study his record, hold fair hearings, and give him an up or down vote as soon as possible.

THE WAR IN IRAQ IS JUST

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, it has been an extraordinary series of days: closed door sessions in the United States Senate, accusations and re-creations by a former President of the United States.

President Jimmy Carter said in the last 24 hours that intelligence was "manipulated" in the runup to the war in Iraq. And yet, as the Wall Street Journal reports today, Madam Speaker, four separate independent investigations found otherwise.

Let me say from my heart, I was here the night we voted to give the President the authority to go to war, and it was a combination: Saddam Hussein's rejection of over a dozen United Nations resolutions, an appalling record on human rights, and the complete agreement of every intelligence service in the western world that he possessed weapons of mass destruction, a confidence that was derived from the fact that he not only had possessed them before, but Saddam Hussein had used weapons of mass destruction against his own people, killing thousands in the early 1990s.

There was no manipulation. The war in Iraq was just, is just, and the freedom of the teeming millions who established a constitutional republic 1 week ago supports that conclusion.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4128, PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS PROTECTION ACT OF 2005

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 527 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 527

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for

consideration of the bill (H.R. 4128) to protect private property rights. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 90 minutes, with 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary and 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Agriculture. After general debate the bill shall be considered under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommend with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 527 is a structured rule. It provides 90 minutes of general debate, with 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary and 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Agriculture.

It waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. It provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary and now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment, and shall be considered as read. It makes in order only those amendments that are printed in the Rules