

Right now, talk, not oil, is cheap. Shortsighted solutions will not be effective. I urge my colleagues to work together on behalf of all Americans. Our Nation certainly has the will to evolve our actions and the capability to meet these challenges.

#### HONORING THE CAREER OF DAN PIERCECCHI

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

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the career of a gentleman I have known for almost 20 years, Mr. Dan Piercecchi, who will be receiving a lifetime achievement award.

Dan has dedicated his life to public service throughout Michigan, having served on the Inkster Parks and Recreation Commission and then being elected to the Inkster City Council. He has also served on the Livonia Planning Commission and is currently a proponent and a champion of municipal government throughout America.

He is also a very dedicated activist to our own Grand Old Party, and he was one of the first people I ever met when I became involved in politics. He has the wisdom, sagacity, and tenacity of an old bull, and this young bull would like to thank him very much for the example he set of what one of man of integrity can do to move mountains.

□ 1415

#### FREE ACT

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

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, crude oil prices have exceeded previous records set after Hurricane Katrina, reaching over \$75 a barrel. This summer, Americans are expected to pay significantly more at the pump than last summer. In the meantime, oil companies continue to rake in record profits.

During five town hall meetings I held in Michigan in the past 2 weeks, the price of gasoline was the most troubling for my constituents. There are currently no Federal laws against price gouging. The only way the Federal Trade Commission can even attempt to prosecute unfair pricing is through antitrust and antimonopoly laws. To date, the FTC has never brought a gas price gouging case to court.

Recently, President Bush ordered an investigation into gas prices. However, because the Federal Government does not have a clear definition of what price gouging is, the FTC can do little more than study the issues. But we have had enough studies. Last September, I introduced a bill to increase the Federal Government's ability to prosecute price gougers. My bill, the

Federal Response to Energy Emergencies Act, FREE Act, will provide the FTC and the Department of Justice with the authority to investigate and to prosecute those who engage in predatory pricing, from oil companies down to distributors, with an emphasis on those who profit most.

The FREE Act will also allow State attorneys general to investigate unfair pricing practices. This includes the gouging of gasoline, home heating oil, and natural gas. The Federal Government has a responsibility to act responsibly and prevent price gouging, and I urge a vote on my legislation.

#### PRESIDENT SHOULD VETO SUPPLEMENTAL SPENDING BILL

(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, with a record deficit and national debt, now is the time for Congress to practice fiscal discipline, even where funding the war on terror is concerned.

While I have supported our troops and funding the rebuilding and reconstruction efforts along the gulf coast, I could not bring myself to support recent emergency funding legislation that left this House of Representatives at some \$92 billion, including many elements that the President of the United States thought were unnecessary.

Well, if things were bad before, they just got worse. Madam Speaker, the Senate is working on the emergency supplemental bill, and it is now at \$106.5 billion and rising, including such unrelated measures as \$3 million for southern and eastern Kentucky tourism and \$900,000 for Dartmouth College, to name two.

Let us support funding the war on terror and support the families and communities affected by the hurricanes that hit the gulf coast, but let us do it in a fiscally responsible way. This legislation has become a fruit basket of spending unrelated to our war efforts and Katrina; and I say plainly, Mr. President, veto this bill.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE). Members should direct remarks to the Chair and not to the President.

#### REACH OUT TO MODERATE PEOPLE OF IRAN

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, anyone following the news knows that tension is growing in our relations with Iran. But as we consider our response to this situation, let us be clear about where the problem lies.

The problem is with the radical new leadership of Iran, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, and his extremist regime. It is not with the good people of Iran, who have shown openness to freedom and moderation.

Historically, Iran has been a center of culture and civilization. Millions of Iranians still value these things and seek a future with greater freedom and individual liberty. We must be reaching out to these people through diplomacy, person-to-person diplomacy and other ways to encourage their desire for freedom.

The idea of nuclear weapons falling into the hands of a leader who calls the Holocaust a myth and openly says Israel should be wiped off the map is unthinkable and must be addressed. But the best way to do that is through reaching out to the moderate people of Iran who want better for their country than the current regime, not through military action.

#### MEDICARE SUCCESS STORY

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

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share yet another success story from a senior who is saving money with Medicare prescription drug coverage. These stories are plentiful, and it is important we share them with the American people so seniors will know the truth. They could be saving thousands of dollars a year with Medicare part D.

Mrs. Cornelia Kinnebrew lives in Rome, Georgia, in my district. Like many seniors, Ms. Kinnebrew's medication costs were astronomical. She was paying more than \$700 a month for her drugs, a huge portion of her monthly budget.

Well, after contacting my office, Ms. Kinnebrew is signed up for a Medicare prescription drug plan. We discovered that she qualified for the additional help available to our low-income seniors, and I am incredibly pleased to report that now, with Medicare part D, Cornelia Kinnebrew pays only \$37 a month for her prescription drugs. That is a savings of nearly \$700 every month.

Madam Speaker, the initial enrollment deadline for Medicare part D is May 15. With 3 weeks left to sign up, it is extremely important we put people over politics and help ensure all seniors have the opportunity to enroll.

My message to seniors is this: with Medicare part D, the D stands for deliverers. The President and this Republican-led Congress have done just that. Take advantage of it.

#### GAS PRICES

(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, gas prices are the topic right now, so

let us talk about energy, because we have heard some of our liberal colleagues take great delight in talking about the gas prices, and probably they should. It is their policies that have led us to this point.

The Democrat Party in this country is very tightly tied to environmental extremist organizations; and since the 1970s, they have been working day and night to halt domestic exploration for oil.

We cannot search for oil on the Outer Continental Shelf, meanwhile Cuba and Venezuela are. We cannot explore for oil in ANWR because it might hurt the caribou. We haven't built a refinery since 1976 because environmentalists use their influence over liberal policymakers to create a regulatory and permitting scheme that makes it virtually impossible to get approval. That is why we have fewer refineries today.

Madam Speaker, the House passed a bill last year to make price gouging a Federal crime and to streamline the process for building a refinery. Not a single Democrat in this body voted for that, and now it is languishing in the Senate.

It is time for action. That is the reality of the situation.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, April 7, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
The Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 7, 2006, at 9:20 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4979.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 360.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 371.

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 85.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,  
Clerk of the House.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, Speaker pro tempore WOLF signed the following enrolled bill on Tuesday, April 11, 2006:

H.R. 4979, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to clarify the preference for local firms in the award of certain contracts for disaster relief activities.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

#### HOOR OF MEETING ON THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2006

Mr. RENZI. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Wednesday, April 26, 2006, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 27.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

#### AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO DECLARE A RECESS ON THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2006, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Mr. RENZI. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order on Thursday, April 27, for the Speaker to declare a recess subject to the call of the Chair for the purpose of receiving in this Chamber former Members of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

#### TO MEMORIALIZE AND HONOR THE CONTRIBUTION OF CHIEF JUSTICE WILLIAM H. REHNQUIST

Mr. RENZI. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 83) to memorialize and honor the contribution of Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.J. RES. 83

Whereas President Richard M. Nixon nominated William H. Rehnquist to replace Associate Justice John Marshall Harlan on the Supreme Court on October 21, 1971, he was confirmed by the United States Senate on December 10, 1971, and served as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from January 1972 through September 1986;

Whereas President Ronald W. Reagan nominated Associate Justice William H. Rehnquist to replace Chief Justice Warren E. Burger as the Sixteenth Chief Justice of the United States on June 20, 1986, and he was confirmed by the United States Senate on September 17, 1986;

Whereas William Rehnquist presided as Chief Justice from September 1986 until September 2005 for a total of 19 years, making him the fourth-longest-serving Chief Justice after Melville W. Fuller, Roger B. Taney, and John Marshall, and the longest-serving Chief Justice who had previously served as an Associate Justice;

Whereas Chief Justice Rehnquist ably presided as chief administrator of the United States courts to insure the due administration of justice during times of rising case-loads and fiscal constraints;

Whereas Chief Justice Rehnquist was respected for his intellect, fairness, and humor by his fellow Justices and by members of the other branches of government; and

Whereas despite the debilitating effects of thyroid cancer, Chief Justice Rehnquist continued his service to the court and the country, and administered the oath of office to President George W. Bush at his second inauguration on January 20, 2005: Now, therefore, it is

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND HONOR

SECTION 1. The United States, acting through Congress, authorizes and directs the Curator of the Supreme Court, subject to the direction and approval of the Chief Justice of the United States, to procure a marble bust, including pedestal, of the late Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, and to cause them to be placed in the Supreme Court building to honor his memory and legacy to the Supreme Court of the United States.

#### AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 2. There is authorized to be appropriated \$50,000 to carry out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RENZI. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. RENZI. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

House Joint Resolution 83, introduced by Congressman RICHARD POMBO, chairman of the House Resources Committee, is offered to honor the contributions of former Chief Justice William Rehnquist by authorizing and directing the Curator of the Supreme Court to produce a marble bust, including a pedestal, of the late Chief Justice and have it placed in the Supreme Court Building.

Madam Speaker, Chief Justice Rehnquist served the people of this country and the court that he loved for 33 years. He was, in fact, the fourth longest serving Chief Justice. I believe a bust in the Supreme Court is but a small token of our deep appreciation for his dedication to this country and the rule of law.

Similar honors have been authorized by Congress for 13 other Chief Justices, and I believe Chief Justice Rehnquist is equally deserving. I encourage adoption of the bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.