

things, they totally forget the bigger picture that the committee has done a lot of work already. I want to just say to the House, Democrats and Republicans, I think we are moving in the right direction on appropriations bills. We are going to continue to do so and work together on it.

FBI RAID ON CAPITOL HILL

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

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I disagree with the bipartisan House leadership criticism of the FBI's search of a Member's office. I know nothing specifically about the case, except that the uncontroverted public evidence did seem to justify the issuance of a warrant.

What we now have is a Congressional leadership, the Republican part of which has said it is okay for law enforcement to engage in warrantless searches of the average citizen, now objecting when a search, pursuant to a validly issued warrant, is conducted of a Member of Congress.

I understand that the speech and debate clause is in the Constitution. It is there because Queen Elizabeth I and King James I were disrespectful of Parliament. It ought to be, in my judgment, construed narrowly. It should not be in any way interpreted as meaning that we as Members of Congress have legal protections superior to those of the average citizen.

So I think it was a grave error to have criticized the FBI. I think what they did, they ought to be able to do in every case where they can get a warrant from a judge. I think, in particular, for the leadership of this House, which has stood idly by while this administration has ignored the rights of citizens, to then say we have special rights as Members of Congress is wholly inappropriate.

HONORING SPEAKER HASTERT

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

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, I am proud to come down to the floor this morning to show my strong support for my friend and our Speaker, DENNY HASTERT. This is a man of intense integrity, a man of great character, a man who has worked tirelessly to bring honor and as much unity as possible to this institution.

When our former Speaker and successors resigned, we went to DENNY to be our Speaker because he was the right man for the job. He has never let us down. He set the standard for integrity. I would encourage ABC, who thinks it knows truth in its own definition and probably does, I would encourage them to tell the truth and to apologize to the American people for their assault upon the Speaker of the House.

A GOOD OFFENSE IS THE BEST DEFENSE

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, to follow on the words of Mr. FRANK from Massachusetts, I would like to say that we all know that a good offense is the best defense. That is true in any sport, whether it is wrestling or football or basketball.

But I would commend the Speaker and my colleagues to the words of Christ. In Matthew 7:3, He says, "Why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye," the press, the FBI, whoever. "Hypocrite, first cast out the beam in thine own eye and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote in thy brother's eye".

Madam Speaker, we have a very unbalanced set of perceptions in this House. If it goes favorable toward us, we think it is wonderful, and we proclaim it.

But if it happens to be unpleasant to us, suddenly, we cannot seem to find enough words to castigate it. This is a House in which the people expect us to be just and even-handed. That is what they expect from us. That is what they should get.

UDALL-SCHWARZ RESOLUTION ON IRAQ

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

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today with my colleague and friend, Representative JOE SCHWARZ of Michigan, I will introduce a bipartisan resolution that can be the basis for consensus about future military involvement in Iraq.

Our resolution recognizes progress in Iraq, including the establishment of a national unity government last week. But it also recognizes the need for more progress. In particular, it urges the Bush Administration to tell the new Iraqi government that they must seize this opportunity to complete the formation of their new government and agree to modifications in their own constitution.

We need to let the Iraqi government know this is no time for complacency. Iraqi leaders must seize this opportunity to complete the political process which could build trust and legitimacy in the new government and reduce insurgent-led violence and sectarian strife.

Only the Iraqis can unify their country and achieve a lasting peace. Our resolution makes it clear to both the people of Iraq and the American people, the presence of U.S. military forces is linked to Iraqi political achievements and the deadlines the Iraqis have set for themselves in their constitution need to be met.

I urge the support of my colleagues on this important bipartisan resolution.

THE SAFER NET ACT, H.R. 4982

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

Ms. BEAN. Madam Speaker, sadly we have all become familiar with the media reports of online child predators trolling for kids on the Internet networking sites like MySpace, unsuspecting Americans having their lives hijacked by online identity thieves and scams which swindle millions of Americans of their hard-earned money.

While our families want to access the tremendous resources available on the Internet, they now know that there are significant dangers lurking there. Unfortunately, most Americans do not know where to turn to for help. In fact, a Google search on Internet safety returns over 5 million hits.

To assist our families in their efforts to protect themselves, I have introduced H.R. 4982, The SAFER Net Act. This bipartisan effort would do three things: First, it would streamline existing Federal resources to coordinate and promote best practices for safe surfing.

Second, the SAFER Net Act would launch a national public awareness campaign to alert Americans to online threats and how they can protect their loved ones. Finally, this legislation would authorize Federal grants to support efforts that promote Internet safety, conducted by our schools, businesses, local law enforcement agencies and nonprofit organizations.

Madam Speaker, we have the resources in place. We just need to use them better. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4982.

WAGES IN AMERICA

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, the administration continues to mislead the American people about the economy. They boast about how fast wages are growing while ignoring the devastating impact on the real purchasing power of those wages, from higher gasoline prices and other increases in the cost of living.

Treasury Secretary Snow was befuddled at a hearing before the Financial Services Committee when the ranking member, BARNEY FRANK, asked him whether the data he cited on wages had taken inflation into account. It turns out, they had not, and his statistics were meaningless.

The fact is real wages have stagnated for the last 3 years, and this administration's policies are not working to benefit ordinary working Americans.

REAL ACTION NEEDED

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Another real problem confronting America, another symbolic gesture by the Republican leadership. The thirteenth House vote on opening the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge to drilling.

Now, real action would require taking on the price gouging, collusion, and market manipulation of big oil. Reign in the speculation in the commodities market, save 25 cents a gallon. Impose a windfall profits tax, reopen or build new refinery capacity, 70 cents a gallon. Take on the OPEC cartel but no, they are not going to take on big oil and protect American families who are reacting with shock and awe to costs at the pump because it might slow the gusher, the gusher of campaign contributions flowing into the Republican coffers. So families across America will pay 50 bucks to tank up this weekend and the Republicans will pretend they care.

HONORING ROBERT GIAIMO

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

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, the House of Representatives lost a giant this week. Robert N. Giaimo was a profound figure in this body, someone who represented the values, the dreams and aspirations of the people he represented.

For eleven terms he served the Third District of Connecticut that I am now honored to represent. And as a fellow child of Italian immigrants from North Haven, Connecticut, he did so with distinction, with honor and with special purpose.

During his 22 years in the Congress, 1959 to 1980, his contributions were as momentous as they were numerous. Serving during a time of great upheaval in this country, it was Bob Giaimo who led the first successful effort to end funds for the fighting in Southeast Asia. He co-sponsored legislation that led to the creation of the National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities, unleashing the creative potential of millions of Americans. And when the Congress decide it was time to get control of the Federal budget process, they chose Bob Giaimo to chair that committee which he did with integrity for 4 years.

Bob's priority was always making sure that the work that we did in the Congress, the programs and the funding impacted those who needed it most.

Madam Speaker, the legacy of Congressman Robert Giaimo lives on today in his former staff, some of whom went on to serve in the Connecticut State legislature. It lives on in the people he served in our district for whom he made opportunity real. It lives on in his successors, in the work that I do in the Congress.

Our thoughts and our prayers are with the family, his daughter, B.L., and his wife, Marion.

Bob Giaimo was an inspiration to so many and we will miss him. Just very, very briefly, I can recall being 8 years old when Bob Giaimo went to visit my parents, Louise and Ted DeLauro. He said he was running for the United States Congress and would they support his effort as they were involved in politics as well. They did support that effort. He won the race. I have in my possession, in my family's possession, a letter saying thank you to Louise and Ted DeLauro for their help in getting him elected.

He reached enormous heights, yet he never forgot where he came from.

DEFENDING THE SPEAKER

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

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I rise to address the House for 1 minute regarding DENNY HASTERT, the Speaker of the House.

As many people have previously observed, the Speaker is not under any investigation at the present time. I have been part of a group that meets with DENNY on a weekly basis for the last 2 years and have found this person to be a person of unimpeachable character. He is one that you can take his word to the bank; and so if there is any Member of the House who does not deserve this, it would be DENNY HASTERT.

Sometimes we are all painted with a very broad brush here, and I am very sorry that DENNY has been painted in such a way. I simply wanted to come to the House floor today to register my support, my regard of the Speaker, and the fact that it is very unfortunate that someone of his character would be attacked in this way. And I am sure this applies to others on both sides of the aisle.

RIISING GAS PRICES REACHING THE CRISIS STAGE

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

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, as we approach Memorial Day many of my constituents face the same dilemma as other Americans around the country. With gas prices out of control, many can hardly afford to drive to work, let alone drive on a vacation in their cars.

For 5 years now, House Republicans have refused to offer a real solution to the rising gas prices, choosing instead to rubberstamp CHENEY's energy task force meetings that boosted the profits of big oil while hurting working Americans.

The only plan that Republicans are offering consumers this Memorial Day is to allow drilling in the National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska, a temporary solution which would damage a natural treasure while providing no long term supply of oil. This makes no sense from a practical or environmental standpoint.

Democrats have a better plan. We have an innovative agenda that would help our Nation achieve energy independence within 10 years through clean, sustainable energy alternatives. We will provide tax incentives to encourage increased production of home-grown fuels.

Madam Speaker, let's protect the American consumers so they can once again afford to drive to work and take vacations with their families.

STANDING BEHIND THE SPEAKER

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

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to follow my good friend, Coach OSBORNE, to also address the malignment of our Speaker of this great House. No one cares more about the institution of this House than DENNY HASTERT. No one believes in the integrity of this House more than DENNY HASTERT. No Member is more aware of the need for us to be worthy of the respect and dignity that voters place in us when they elect us to serve in this House.

I want to reiterate that the Department of Justice for the second time has affirmed that there is no investigation into the Speaker of this House. And I quote from their release from Deputy Attorney General Paul McNulty, "With regard to reports suggesting that the Speaker of House is under investigation or 'in the mix' as stated by ABC News, I reconfirm, as stated by the Department earlier this evening, that these reports are untrue."

Two separate statements now from the Department of Justice exonerating the Speaker, saying that he is not under investigation, and yet ABC news continues to malign his good name and his reputation. Stand behind the Speaker of the House.

REPUBLICAN CULTURE OF CORRUPTION LEAVES NO ROOM FOR REAL LEADERSHIP

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

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, we have all seen the polls. We know that Americans are unhappy by what they have seen here in Washington. They are looking for real leadership on the important issues of the day and where is the leadership from this Republican Congress?

Madam Speaker, the Republicans control the House. Where are their new ideas to help reduce prices at the pump? Where are their new ideas to help seniors with the new prescription drug disaster plan? Where are their new ideas on how to help college students afford better college? Where are their ideas on how to help everyday Americans struggling to make ends meet or how to get 45 million Americans that lack health coverage, health