

all. Already we have reduced the cost on student loans and increased the size of Pell Grant scholarships, and President Bush signed our college affordability bill into law last week. We thank him.

We gave millions of Americans a pay raise by increasing the minimum wage and restored government oversight lacking for the last 6 years, saving billions of taxpayer dollars and exposing corruption. These investments, done for all Americans, are a few examples of how this Congress is taking America in a new direction.

EXPAND OUR NATION'S EXPORT MARKETS

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

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of expanding our Nation's export markets. Last week Congress was challenged to implement the proposed free trade agreement with Peru. It is a challenge we need to meet.

The agreement laid on the table will create significant new opportunities for American farmers, ranchers, businesses and consumers by opening new markets and reducing trade barriers.

Nebraska's agriculture producers, manufacturers and service providers deserve more access to foreign markets. Last month I hosted a forum on the importance of exports for Nebraska and the United States.

Trade supports nearly one in five jobs in Nebraska, and Nebraska exported \$2.8 billion worth of agriculture products in 2005.

Opening new export markets has long been a priority of mine. It goes without saying that agriculture markets are tremendously important to my district and the Nation as a whole, and I hope to help Nebraska's products continue to compete in the global marketplace.

PRESIDENT BUSH'S VETO THREAT ON CHIP

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

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Mr. Speaker, last week, Congress passed legislation, of course, to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program. It's a bipartisan bill, provides health coverage to 10 million low-income Americans. It's fully paid for, no change in eligibility requirements. And the President says he's going to veto it because it's going to lead to "socialized medicine."

We've had children who have received access to doctors for years. Many States have done it on their own. The Federal Government has supported it with the children's health care initiative. And what's happened? Children have been able to see a doctor. Parents have gone to bed at night with the con-

fidence that if their child was sick they'd have access to health care.

It is bipartisan. Republican Senator SUSAN COLLINS said, "I can't believe the President would veto a program that benefits low-income children."

CHARLES GRASSLEY: "The President's understanding of our bill is wrong. I urge him to reconsider."

Senator HATCH: "We're talking about kids who basically don't have coverage."

No justification for this veto, Mr. President. Change your mind.

AUTO INDUSTRY MOVING TOWARD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, the recent contract negotiated by General Motors and the United Auto Workers was really a historic watershed for the domestic auto industry.

By tackling the very tough issues of pension reform and job security and, most importantly, health care reform, the industry is now poised to compete and win against foreign competitors.

The domestic auto industry has momentum in moving toward a brighter future, a future that will include high-tech alternative fuel vehicles that will help us reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

I had the opportunity actually last week to check out one of these vehicles. This was the Ford Edge powered by a lithium ion battery. This is a vehicle that uses no gas and its only emission is actually water.

That is the future if we join the cause. This Congress needs to partner with the domestic auto industry and the UAW to ensure that we produce those automobiles right here in America.

What we should not do is enact draconian fuel economy standards that will stifle innovation, assist our foreign competitors and kill American jobs. Both management and labor are doing their jobs to strengthen the industry. Now is the time for Congress to step up and do ours. Focus on the future, focus on technology, and focus on American jobs.

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DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS PASSES BILL THAT FORCES BUSH ADMINISTRATION TO PLAN FOR RE-DEPLOYMENT

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

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, when President Bush announced that he was keeping the troop escalation plan in effect until next summer, it was clear that he had no plan for end-

ing the war in Iraq. In fact, the administration admits that they see our troops remaining in Iraq for at least 10 more years.

President Bush continues with the status quo in Iraq even though the Iraqi Government is not fulfilling its promise to meet the political benchmarks that were outlined by President Bush himself earlier this year.

House Democrats are not going to tolerate another decade of our troops serving as referees in a civil war. And while this Congress cannot force the President to change course in Iraq until some of our Republican colleagues break ranks with the administration, I think that they even see the value in forcing this administration to finally come up with an exit strategy that is strategic in purpose.

Today the House will vote on legislation that would require the President and his administration to develop and submit a comprehensive redeployment strategy within the next 60 days. This war cannot go on indefinitely, and this administration needs to begin preparing for the day that we can finally bring our troops home.

URGING THE PRESIDENT TO VETO THE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS'S SCHIP BILL

(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, in 1998 the Republican Congress enacted the State Children's Health Insurance Program to help children of families near poverty.

But now, true to their big government agenda, the Democrat Congress has sent the President a massive increase in the SCHIP program that will usher in a new era of socialized medicine in America. This bill will take a program designed to help children near the poverty level and expand it to include families with incomes of up to \$83,000 a year, and Democrats would pay for this middle-class entitlement with a 61 cent per-pack tax increase on cigarettes.

Let's provide health insurance for children of the poor and the near poor, but let's reject a liberal Democratic Congress's attempt to create middle-class entitlements on the backs of American smokers.

Mr. President, veto this bill.

MOURNING TAYLOR BRADFORD AND URGING CONGRESS TO PASS THE COPS BILL

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday night a football player, a young man named Taylor Bradford on the University of Memphis football team, was murdered on our campus. The football team, the City of Memphis, and the

university mourn the passing of this fine young man.

We play a game tonight on ESPN2 against Marshall, and there will be a moment of silence, a moment of silence for that young man's memory.

But while it is a national news event because he was a football player, he is an example of people who have senselessly been killed in this country, and there are crime problems everywhere. That is why we need to pass the COPS bill that this House has passed and the Senate should pass to provide community policing and aid for local governments to hire more policemen, to have feet on the streets to protect our citizenry.

While there are horror stories in Baghdad, there are horror stories in America; and we need to protect our own.

I will remember Taylor Bradford, and I will remember all victims of senseless crime tonight.

URGING MEMBERS TO VOTE "YES" ON H.R. 2003, ETHIOPIA DEMOCRACY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

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

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 2003, the Ethiopia Democracy and Accountability Act.

As Chair of the Ethiopia Caucus, I believe that if given the necessary tools, Ethiopia can truly be a lighthouse for Africa. In the dawn of the Ethiopian millennium, it is important now more than ever to celebrate this country with vigilance and genuine partnership.

I will continue to be an advocate of humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia and for supporting policies that promote trade and economic development there, but I cannot comply with clear offenses to the democratic process by the ruling government right now.

I believe that the financial and ideological backing of the United States administration can encourage the Ethiopian Government to allow for the effective participation of opposition parliamentarians and civil society.

I hope we can find a way to provide substantially more support for a true political and economic partnership with the Ethiopian people beyond this legislation.

I will vote "yes" on Mr. PAYNE's legislation. I ask my colleagues to do so too.

BIPARTISAN AGREEMENT ON CHILDREN'S HEALTH IS SOMETHING THE ENTIRE CONGRESS SHOULD SUPPORT

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

Mr. WILSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, last week the House and Senate passed

a bill ensuring that 10 million low-income children have access to the quality health care coverage they need to live healthy and productive lives.

Democrats and Republicans alike worked together to do what was right for our Nation's children. This bipartisan agreement will strengthen the SCHIP program over the next 5 years by ensuring that an additional 4 million low-income children receive access to health care coverage they desperately need.

At a time when the number of uninsured children is increasing, we need to do more, more to ensure that they have access to quality health care, and that is what this bipartisan agreement does.

Despite strong bipartisan support here in Congress, President Bush is threatening to veto this bill. Instead, he favors a plan that would take health care coverage away from needy children. A million children would lose health insurance coverage. He should reconsider his veto threat and support our bipartisan legislation.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ENFORCEMENT ACT

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

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3578, the Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement Act.

In recent weeks, the confidence of the American people has been shaken by the revelation that contaminated food and counterfeit products have entered our country, threatening the safety of American consumers.

However, for many manufacturers in my home State of Indiana, dealing with counterfeit products has been a part of everyday business. It is estimated that these products comprise almost 10 percent of world trade, that they are costing American companies nearly \$250 billion in revenue and an estimated 750,000 jobs.

In order to address this IP theft, I have joined with other Members of Congress and also with Senator EVAN BAYH and Senator GEORGE VOINOVICH on the Intellectual Property Enforcement Act. It has been endorsed by numerous groups, from the Chamber of Commerce to the AFL-CIO. This legislation creates a global task force to encourage our trading partners to join in a united effort to combat the practice of stealing intellectual property.

I ask my fellow Members to join me in supporting this legislation.

HONORING MAHATMA GANDHI

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today is a very special day. Today, October 2, marks the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. To honor him, the

United Nations approved a resolution that, beginning today, designates October 2 as International Day of Non-violence.

It's a start, one that was inspired by Sonia Gandhi after she successfully led an international conference called "Peace, Nonviolence and Empowerment—Gandhian Philosophy in the 21st Century." There is a yearning for peace, for an end to world hunger and poverty, and a world in which peace and justice for all is not a dream but a reality.

Gandhi showed us the way. He said: "Nonviolence is not a garment to be put on and off at will. Its seat is in the heart, and it must be an inseparable part of our being."

Gandhi's philosophy is a legacy he left to benefit the whole world. It is up to us to preserve this great gift. And I will do my part. I have introduced House Resolution 653 to express the sense of the Congress that the concept of nonviolence and the teaching of Gandhi remain relevant in this world.

As Gandhi himself said: "Nonviolence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man."

The U.N. resolution itself shows Gandhi's remarkable ability to change the world. A record 143 nations cosponsored the U.N. resolution, Gandhi uniting us again.

Let us resolve to honor his memory by dedicating ourselves to Gandhi's philosophy of peace through non-violence. It is the only path to true peace in the world.

BUSH AND CONGRESSIONAL REPUBLICANS HAVE MISPLACED PRIORITIES: WAR OVER CHILDREN'S HEALTH

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, last week Democrats and Republicans came together here in Congress to pass a bipartisan bill that will ensure that 10 million low-income children have access to private health care insurance. The bill would invest \$35 billion more over the next 5 years in the Children's Health Insurance Program. It's fully paid for, as this Congress has vowed to pay as we go.

Despite receiving strong bipartisan support here in Congress, President Bush is threatening to veto this legislation. He says the bill is simply too big. Instead, the President proposes a \$5 billion funding increase that the nonpartisan CBO concludes would force 800,000 children to lose their health insurance.

Talk about misplaced priorities. President Bush didn't bat an eye when the Pentagon said that it needed as much as \$200 billion, with a "b," over the next year to continue the war in Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, President Bush has no problem sending billions of dollars to