

And the defenders of overturning the Bush policy have contended for years and years and years now, number one, that there was great potential from human embryonic stem cell research, which is something I and others have questioned for years. Adult stem cell research and cord blood stem cell research have been showing great potential and clinical utility cures. Embryonic stem cells form tumors. They have never been shown to be safe or useable.

But nonetheless, many people felt, myself included, that the science would outstrip this debate; and recently, I was very pleased to see the publication in two publications, *Cell* and *Science*, from two different research labs, one here in the United States involving Dr. Jamie Thompson, the researcher who originally was credited with discovering human embryonic stem cells. I would disagree, he didn't really discover them; we always knew they were there. He was just the first one to isolate them. The other is a research lab in Japan, I believe, and they have shown that you can create human embryonic stem cells from skin cells.

Why is this so important? Why is this so significant? Well, for years in this body, in this Congress, we have been trying to pass a bill to ban human cloning. Everybody agrees human cloning is bad, but there have been people in this body and in the other body contending that we only want to ban attempts to create a baby; we shouldn't ban the creation of human clones in the lab because embryonic stem cells can never be used in therapy. I could never be treated for a disease from some other embryo because my tissues would reject it; but through embryonic cloning, we could do something called therapeutic cloning.

Now, I have contended that was a science fix in that it had never been done in a research setting involving animals; and, furthermore, that it was not necessary. Now, this research shows you could scrape my skin and create embryonic stem cells from that skin scraping that would be genetically identical to me and could be used in therapies.

So why is this important? Number one, I think President Bush has been vindicated. We shouldn't be funding this research. It is ethically questionable research, and it is unnecessary.

Number two, it is now time for the Congress of the United States to put on the desk of President Bush a bill to ban all forms of human cloning because it is just not necessary.

I started out talking about Henry Hyde and the sanctity of human life. Even if you don't believe in the sanctity of human life, one thing is absolutely certain: to create embryonic stem cells in the old way you needed human eggs. Where were we ever going to get all of these human eggs from? You have to get them from women, a very ethically and morally questionable thing for us to be doing, to ask women to donate through a painful,

difficult surgical procedure, to donate their eggs for a form of research that has never been validated in the lab, in animal models as being viable in clinical therapeutics.

So you don't have to invoke the sanctity of human life, but I must say I personally believe in the sanctity of human life. I believe Henry Hyde was right when he spoke over and over again on the importance of this. And it is now time for the Congress of the United States to act, put a bill on the President's desk to ban human cloning. The science is finally with us now.

MISGUIDED PRIORITIES BY ADMINISTRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, the American people are well aware of the White House's long record of misguided priorities, fear-mongering and incompetence. But over the last few days and weeks, the administration has sunk to absolutely new lows.

First we learned that the administration is planning to slash the Department of Homeland Security's request for counterterrorism funding. The Department has asked for \$3.2 billion to help States and to help cities protect their ports and transit systems and to give police, firefighters, and other first responders the tools they need to save lives.

But the administration is planning to cut the request by more than half. My State of California could lose more than \$200 million under the administration's plan. These drastic and life-threatening cuts are outrageous. Just consider the administration's logic. It has spent or requested over \$600 billion for the occupation of Iraq which hasn't made us any safer, yet now it wants to cut \$1.8 billion out of programs that actually do make us safer.

The administration's priorities are not only twisted; they threaten the life of every single American person. But the administration's misdeeds don't end there.

A few days after we learned about the homeland security cuts, the administration launched a fear campaign to scare American people into believing that there will be massive cuts in Department of Defense personnel and operations and that Congress will be to blame. But the truth is Congress has already approved nearly half a trillion dollars for the Pentagon, enough to continue its operations.

And the majority of Congress tried to appropriate another \$50 billion for our troops in Iraq, but the administration and its allies in Congress rejected the money because it was linked to the responsible redeployment of our troops which the American people are demanding.

But the final evidence of the administration's blundering came yesterday

when the National Intelligence Estimate reported that Iran stopped work on its alleged nuclear weapons program way back in 2003. It now appears that the administration knew about this months and months ago, but continued to tell the world that the danger of Iranian nuclear weapons was real and getting worse.

The President went so far as to warn about World War III, and even yesterday the administration continued to raise the threat of World War III. A key section of the NIE said that Iran stopped its nuclear weapons program not because of any saber rattling, but "in response to increasing international scrutiny and pressure." And it said that "Iran may be more vulnerable to influence on the issue than we judged previously."

This tells us a lot about what works and what doesn't work when it comes to solving threats to peace. Diplomacy works. International cooperation works. Saber rattling does not work. Threatening World War III doesn't work, and carrots work better than sticks.

Our leaders in the White House have never learned these lessons, and the result has been devastating to our ability to be safe in the world. We cannot lead other nations in the fight against terrorism if they see us as warmongers, if they don't see us as peacemakers. We cannot solve the problems that cause terrorism, such as poverty and social injustice, when we have squandered our own claim to moral leadership.

Madam Speaker, it is time for a brand-new course in American foreign policy, and the first step must be the responsible redeployment of our troops out of Iraq. This will set the table for the regional and international diplomacy needed, needed for reconciliation and reconstruction in Iraq. And it will send a clear signal to the world that America is ready to be America again, and that means an America that has compassion for the people of the world and an America that stands on the side of peace once again.

□ 1945

HONORING FORMER CONGRESSMAN HENRY HYDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, one of the great things that has happened in my political life and serving in Congress is to have known Henry Hyde. Henry Hyde I think was one of the greatest Congressmen to ever serve in this Chamber. He was a man of integrity. He was honest. When he gave you his word, it was his bond. He was loved by everybody. Even during the controversial impeachment trial of Bill Clinton, he did it with honor, and he did it in a way that everybody respected him even though it was very, very controversial.

He was a great chairman. He was the chairman of both the Judiciary Committee and the Foreign Affairs Committee, and he did a great job in both areas. I served with him on the Foreign Affairs Committee and I was one of his subcommittee chairman, and I want to tell you, he was a chairman you could be proud of. He was a man who was always ready to listen and work with his subcommittee chairmen and anybody in the Congress to solve problems facing this Nation.

He was known best, I think, for the Hyde Amendment, which stopped Federal funding for abortions, and it has been known throughout the time since that bill passed as one of the great human life amendments ever presented in this body or in the other body as well. He was a fighter. He was the kind of man who was very strong-willed, who would fight like the dickens. But he had a heart that was very, very soft where his fellow man was concerned. When he was on an issue, however, he had a heart that was very, very tough, and everybody that dealt with him knew that.

He was probably one of the greatest orators who ever served in the Congress of the United States in either body. When he came down to speak, everybody listened. You could hear a pin drop. I know when a lot of my colleagues speak today they have to bring the gavel down several times to bring the House to order and ask for regular order, but when Henry Hyde came down on a great cause and spoke, you could hear a pin drop in this place because people knew he had something to say and they wanted to hear what he had to say.

I am very proud to have known Henry. I knew him for over 20 years in this body. I can't tell you or any of my colleagues how great he was and how much I held him in high esteem. He will be missed not only because he was a great Congressman, he will be missed not only because he was a great chairman, he will be missed because he was a great American.

And before I leave, I have to tell you one little story about Henry that he was so proud of. When he went to college at Georgetown University, he played on the basketball team. And one of the greatest players, if not the greatest player of that era, was a man named George Mikan, and Henry used to smile and with great pride tell everybody that when he played against George Mikan, in the second half he held him to one point. And there aren't many people who could do that.

In addition to all of this, he authored the staunchest pro-life legislation in Congress in 30 years, and headed the impeachment hearings against President Clinton. Either of those efforts would naturally incite a whole camp of enemies.

"Henry Hyde spoke of controversial matters with intellectual honesty and without rancor," said President Bush.

"He was gifted as a legislator. There was a time when the Illinois House was divided

evenly and needed 89 votes to pass a bill, and nothing was getting done because of partisan wrangling. People were angry and debilitated.

"Henry stood up and said he had voted against something just because he was on the other side of the aisle, and asked the House to reconsider the last bill on its merits. They wound up going back to the last 32 bills that had failed, and he brought people back into an atmosphere of wanting to work together."

"Congressman Hyde played a big role in crystallizing the issue of abortion as central to politics and the culture," said Father Frank Pavone, director of Priests for Life. "He has always been a driving force in making it clear that abortion is not one among many issues." Hyde, a Catholic, was a vocal opponent of abortion. In 1976 Hyde attached an amendment to a spending bill that banned Federal funding for abortions.

The amendment later become known as the "Hyde Amendment" and has been at the center of the political fight over abortion since its passage.

"This erudite, scholarly man has walked with kings and kept the common touch," Bush stated. "They're quick to say it's not the same Congress without him—but that we're a better country because he was there. And colleagues will always admire and look up to the gentleman from Illinois, Henry J. Hyde."

Born in 1924, Hyde served in the House from 1975 to 2006 and retired at end of the last session. Hyde served as the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee from 1995 to 2001.

In a written statement, BOEHNER called Hyde "a constitutional scholar, a thoughtful legislator, and a passionate orator."

"But above all, he will be remembered as a gentleman who stood as a beacon for the bedrock principles of liberty, justice, and, above all, respect for life," BOEHNER said.

On November 5, President Bush awarded Hyde the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor the president can bestow on an American citizen.

Henry, we miss you, buddy. Godspeed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

WORLD AIDS DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening in recognition of World AIDS Day, which took place last Saturday, December 1.

Now, all through last week and into the weekend, events were held all around our country and throughout the world recognizing World AIDS Day. This solemn day provided us with the occasion to commemorate the lives of those who have died of this disease, more than 25 million people worldwide, and express our solidarity with those

who are currently living with the disease, over 33 million people.

I had the good fortune last week to travel with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation to South Africa, where we celebrated and commemorated World AIDS Day with Congresswoman Dr. DONNA CHRISTENSEN. Our delegation met with the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria in Johannesburg. We spoke to the group about our support for increased funding for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, or better known as PEPFAR, and the importance of the private sector in fighting the pandemic. Later, we visited an HIV/AIDS testing site located in the Zola area of Soweto, sponsored by Levi Strauss Red for Life Initiative, Centers for Disease Control, USAID, and State Department and other organizations, and I had the chance to talk to young people about the importance of getting tested and knowing their status.

Together, Congresswoman CHRISTENSEN and I helped lead by example by getting tested publicly, and we noted the very thorough pre- and post-testing counseling as well as the emphasis on maintaining confidentiality. We were very inspired to see young people sign up for testing, and some actually came up and told us that our speeches had convinced them to get tested. This really was remarkable and gave us a glimpse as to what we need to do more and more and more with our young people here in America also.

We ended our trip at the United States Embassy where we helped to hang a giant AIDS ribbon and spoke to the assembled diplomatic corps about HIV and AIDS and the importance of our collective struggle against the disease. We had an opportunity to meet with the great moral and religious leader Bishop Desmond Tutu, and Bishop Tutu had spoken earlier at the Swedish and Norwegian Embassy, and he talked about helping to fight this global HIV/AIDS pandemic just as we helped fight to end apartheid in South Africa.

It was especially important to be in Africa last week, because the discussions with regard to the reauthorization of PEPFAR will be coming up very shortly.

And tonight I must take a moment and ask that my remarks include my sympathy for Henry Hyde, Chairman Hyde's family. I thought about Chairman Hyde during our visit, because we worked together on the initial PEPFAR legislation. He was committed to address this HIV pandemic. He ensured that this bill became a bipartisan bill. And even though we didn't agree on every issue, tonight I commemorate him and I give my sympathy to his family because, as we reauthorize this, his spirit and his hard work and his legacy certainly will prevail as we move forward.

Many of the key issues which remain were addressed in South Africa as it relates to the PEPFAR reauthorization.