

governments, such as China, as they systematically dismantle the economic and physical security of their citizens and routinely violate universally accepted human rights principles.

However, this legislation continues a troubling pattern of addressing political and social issues in a cosmetic and superficial manner, while ignoring the devastating impact of our trade policies with China on the American economy and American families. The Economic Policy Institute recently released a report that asserted between 2001–2007, our trade deficit with China has more than tripled, from \$84 billion to \$262 billion. This trade deficit has led to a veritable hemorrhaging of jobs: the American economy has shed approximately 2.3 million jobs during that time span, the vast majority being manufacturing jobs.

Moreover, China continues its practice of currency manipulation, where the Yuan is pegged to the American dollar at a depressed and fixed rate. This distorts the prices of imports and exports, making American imports artificially high and Chinese exports low. China is currently one of the top two holders of U.S. Treasury bonds; the other is Japan.

Nonbinding saber rattling will not improve the human rights situation in China. We must get our priorities in order. If we take a hard look at the economic and financial policies that guide our relationship with China, we will realize that they continue to erode the American economy, attack the American family, and compromise our national security.

I will continue to advocate for the open channels of dialogue and discussions that will lead to real change and understanding, and I will reject demagoguery that has no real effect and serves no valuable purpose in our foreign policy.

PRINCIPLES FOR A NATIONAL STRATEGY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to speak about how the United States can best advance its national interests by adopting a new strategy. In my prior speeches, I have asserted that we currently lack an effective strategy and that the next President should engage in a focused effort, in concert with Congress and the American people, to identify and adopt a new strategy early in his Administration. I have noted that we live in a time when the U.S. is the world's preeminent power, but also in a time when transnational events are increasingly significant and in which several large nations, and some entire regions of the world, are returning to prominence. All of this stresses the international system.

I have asserted that the U.S. should continue to accept the challenge of world leadership, serving as the world's indispensable nation, just as we have for the free world since the end of the Second World War; that we should fulfill this role not to seek or to maintain power for power's sake, but by earning the mantle of leadership. We should advance our national interests not at the expense of others, but wherever possible in cooperation with

them, as part of an international system that offers fairness and opportunity to all nations.

So, I advise the next President, whoever it may be, to embark upon a process modeled on President Eisenhower's Project Solarium in order to develop a new strategy for America. In Project Solarium, President Eisenhower selected three of our Nation's top strategic thinkers to gather teams to study, propose, and report back to him on a national security policy. Should our future President follow this model, I recommend that he judge those new proposals against a simple set of principles:

1. The first priority of the Federal Government is the protection of the U.S. homeland and its citizens.

2. The foundation for continued U.S. leadership is the strength of our economy and our commitment to our values and principles.

3. Do not let an outside power dominate Europe or the Western Pacific, and in addition maintain freedom of the seas.

4. U.S. world leadership should be earned by virtue of the esteem other nations hold for us, engendered by our productivity and moral leadership, and not through a self-justifying hegemony which views the peaceful rise of other nations as an inherent threat.

5. Insulate the Western Hemisphere from hostile outside powers with a collaborative approach.

6. Transnational events that can undermine States and challenge or dislocate large numbers of people—the AIDS pandemic, terrorism, and global climate change to give a few examples—should be addressed by international coalitions coordinating globally, using the full range of national power.

7. Our military strength serves as both a source of deterrence for would-be aggressors, and reassurance for our friends and allies, but military action is a last resort. When it is used—whether multilateral or unilateral—strict adherence to the essential strategic tenets propounded by Sun Tzu and Clausewitz is mandatory.

These principles do not in and of themselves define our strategy, for they leave many questions unanswered. What kind of international institutions, coalitions and alliances are essential? What red lines should trigger a certain U.S. response, even if it must be a unilateral response? How do we define what constitutes a fair opportunity to advance for those nations which perceive their current share of the world's resources as inadequate? And what transnational events require a concerted international response? These are judgments for the next President; he should make them with input from a wide variety of sources. I ask all of my colleagues and all of those who have listened to these speeches to take part in a dialogue to help forge a new national consensus on a clear cut strategy that fulfills our principles and helps us answer these hard questions, ultimately guiding us to policies that are wise and just.

CONGRATULATING MRS. AUTINE BUCHANAN ON THE OCCASION OF HER 104TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor

Mrs. Autine Buchanan on the occasion of her 104th birthday.

Born in 1904, Mrs. Buchanan has witnessed much change in our Nation and world. The year she was born, the New York subway first opened and the teddy bear was first produced.

Mrs. Buchanan has lived through two world wars, and watched our nation develop into what it is today. She also witnessed the birth of many modern inventions—like the helicopter, penicillin, motion pictures, stainless steel, and even scotch tape. Through all this change, she has dedicated much of her life to feeding and caring for the needy.

Mrs. Buchanan has been a resident of Mobile and a member of the Fulton Road Baptist Church for 39 years. She is a proud mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. She is also a member of the LivingWell Health Center in Mobile.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mrs. Autine Buchanan on the occasion of her 104th birthday. She is a friend to many throughout south Alabama, and I know her friends and family join me in wishing her a happy birthday.

WHERE OH WHERE HAS CONGRESS GONE?

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, "Where oh where has Congress gone,

Where o where can they be?

With gas so high and this recess so long,

Where oh where can they be?"

Where oh where has Congress gone? Well Madam Speaker, they're not here, they've gotten out of Dodge. They have left the American people behind in a cloud of dust and high gasoline prices. Congress is on the run; it has not dealt with the energy crisis and not attempted to solve high gasoline prices. So it's sneaking out of town for five weeks-gone on vacation.

The American people won't be going on vacation, because they cannot afford gasoline to take a family trip. My 83 year old parents who are on fixed incomes can't even afford gasoline to go to church. So what is Congress' answer? Leave town in the darkness of the night?

The question Madam Speaker is why? Why don't they stick around and let us vote on taking care of America? For example, let's vote on offshore drilling—most Americans favor it. We are the representatives of America. Let's vote, up or down, on offshore drilling. It's an environmental myth that we cannot drill safely offshore. We need to drill in ANWAR. Why didn't Congress stick around and vote on drilling in ANWAR?

The American taxpayer shells out 425 million dollars a day to Saudi Arabia for crude oil. We pay this ransom because Congress won't take care of America. The United States is the only major power in the world that does not use its own natural resources. This is nonsense and rather than deal with this crisis Congress has turned its back on the American people—dispersed to parts unknown throughout the fruited plain and fled town. This is shameful conduct. The President should use his constitutional power and call for a special

session of this Congress to deal with energy. We should round up all those members of Congress that have fled the scene, bring them back and solve this energy crisis—specifically high gasoline prices.

"Where oh where has Congress gone,
Where o where can they be?
With gas so high and this recess so long,
Where oh where can they be?"
And that's just the way it is.

HONORING JULIE EUBANK

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Julie Eubank, a Smyrna, Tennessee native who has served the people of Middle Tennessee as a trusted member of my staff for the past six years. Julie has worked with me in a number of capacities. She started as an intern in my Murfreesboro District office and then moved to Washington as my scheduler. Julie ultimately became my Press Secretary, where she has served for the past four years.

A Press Secretary has a position of great trust with a Member of Congress. They are responsible for keeping the lines of communications open between citizens and their representatives. Julie has done an exceptional job keeping the people of the 6th District informed on the many issues being debated in Congress.

As a graduate of Smyrna High School and Middle Tennessee State University, Julie brings a special knowledge of the 6th District to her job that has been invaluable to me. She has treated every media outlet, regardless of size, with the same level of attention and care.

Julie has been a source of levity when deadlines were tight, and her opinions are valued by my staff and me. She is leaving us next Thursday to head to Montana for the fall, and I know she will bring the same humor, professionalism, and talent to the "Treasure State" that she has shared with the people of the "Volunteer State." Julie is a good friend and advisor and we will miss her in Washington, but wish her well as she pursues this new challenge.

COMMENDING THE MEDAL OF HONOR HOST CITY PROGRAM IN GAINESVILLE, TEXAS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Medal of Honor (MOH) Host City Program in Gainesville, Texas. The program was established in 2001 to recognize the contributions of MOH recipients. In order to honor their accomplishments, invitations are extended to former MOH recipients to visit Gainesville; all their expenses are covered during their stay. The city has hosted more than a dozen medal recipients since the program's inception.

The Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor that can be bestowed upon a member of

the United States Armed Forces for action against an enemy of the United States. The people of the United States will always be indebted to the recipients of the Medal of Honor for their courage, selflessness, and sacrifice.

The first MOH recipient to visit Gainesville was Colonel Don "Doc" Ballard, a Vietnam recipient. Impressed by that 2001 visit, Ballard has returned each successive year. Recipient Mike Thornton, another Gainesville guest, was generous enough to set up a college scholarship fund for the local high school. As the Gainesville program has gained momentum, an annual, three-day celebration was established around March 25th, Medal of Honor Day. MOH recipients have the opportunity to speak at local schools, play in the Host City golf tournament, and visit the city's historical Victorian homes.

Madam Speaker, it is truly an honor to rise today and commend this outstanding program. Its volunteers have shown great leadership and hospitality in hosting these honorable veterans. I am proud to represent the Medal of Honor Host City Program in the 26th District of Texas.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1338) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, in 2008, a year in which women have made unprecedented gains in public and private leadership—Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; chairwomen of powerful committees and subcommittees; chief executive officers and chairwomen of Fortune 500 Companies, among many others—it is simply unforgivable and unacceptable that women, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, continue to make only 77 cents for every dollar earned by a man. Over a lifetime, this is anywhere from \$400,000 to more than \$2 million dollars that cannot be spent by a woman on food for her children, clothing for her grandparents, for decent housing for her and her family. In an era in heightened economic challenges, we should not, we cannot undervalue, underappreciate and marginalize the hard work that women do each and every day.

TRIBUTE TO JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS, FOR BEING RECOG- NIZED AS ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO LIVE AND RAISE A FAMILY

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Johnson County,

Kansas, for being recognized by Forbes Magazine and CNN/Money as one of the best places to live and raise a family in the United States of America.

On June 30, 2008, Forbes ranked Johnson County as the third best place in the country to raise a family. Similarly, CNN/Money.com has called Overland Park, Kansas, a city of nearly 170,000 people located in Johnson County, the ninth best place to live in the U.S.

As a resident of Johnson County myself, I am particularly pleased that the county has earned such high praise. These media outlets have highlighted what my fellow Johnson County residents and I have known for years: great schools, affordable homes, and a growing economy have made Johnson County a great place to live.

Located in Northeast Kansas, in suburbs of Kansas City, Missouri, Johnson County is home to more than 500,000 people spread across 21 different municipalities. Six school districts enroll nearly 80,000 K–12 students each year. Major businesses, including Yellow Freight, Applebees Restaurants, and Sprint Nextel have been headquartered in the county. The strong schools and impressive job growth, along with affordable homes, short commutes, and the low cost of living led Forbes to rank Johnson County third out of more than 90 counties from across the U.S. that the magazine surveyed.

I'm proud to say that I have lived and worked in Johnson County for more than 30 years. I'm even more proud to have served the citizens of Johnson County, first as District Attorney for 12 years, on the Board of Trustees for Johnson County Community College for 7 years, and as their U.S. Representative for the past 9 years. I want to commend the many city and county officials, public service workers, business leaders, investors, and above all, the numerous parents and grandparents who have worked so hard to help make Johnson County the wonderful place that it is today.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIRAG SHAH AND KORI LORICK

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am grateful for this opportunity to wish a fond farewell to two extraordinary members of South Carolina's Second Congressional District Staff—Chirag Shah and Kori Lorick.

Hailing from the great State of Wisconsin and son of Kamal and Jagruti Shah and brother of Chintan, Chirag was first an intern in the Second District office during college at the University of Wisconsin. We were fortunate that he chose to return to Capitol Hill and serve first as scheduler and then as legislative correspondent for the people of the Second Congressional District. Chirag will be heading to the University of Missouri for law school this fall.

A native of Lexington, South Carolina, and daughter of Mary Alice Lorick and Neville Lorick, Kori joined the second district staff at the beginning of this year as a staff assistant following graduation from the College of William and Mary. Her important work on behalf