

Kansas farmers produce more than 350 million bushels of wheat, 200 million bushels of sorghum, and nearly 500 million bushels of corn, generating more than \$5 billion annually for our economy. Our ranchers produced more than 6.3 billion head of cattle this year. Each farmer feeds more than 130 people. It is their hard work that has ensured America a safe, low-cost feed supply.

Now, I learned about agriculture on the seat of a tractor, not a committee, and I know firsthand just how hard farmers work. Too many people here in Washington have no clue how the policies they pass affect farm life, often making things more difficult for farmers and ranchers.

Congress and bureaucracies need to freeze regulations and let the agricultural community do their job of feeding the world. We need to have the EPA step back from the regulations of everything from dust to cow gas. We need to eliminate the death tax so family farms can stay in the family. And please, let us restore the focus of the farm bill on the family farm and not on the cities.

So tonight, Mr. Speaker, as you sit down to dinner, remember to thank a farmer for making your meal possible.

#### CONGRATULATING JACK YATES HIGH SCHOOL LIONS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, there are many, many important issues that we will be debating over the next couple of days. I look forward to being engaged in helping America.

But all of us believe in saluting our youth, and so I rise today to salute Jack Yates High School in Houston, Texas. I salute them because of their achievement when things were going wrong. They are the AAAA State Champions in basketball, but they are rated as the number 1 high school basketball team in the Nation. So we stand here in the Congress saying thank you to young men that not only know how to play sports and basketball, but also know how to play the game of academics.

Let me salute their principal, Principal Mumphrey; their coach, Coach Wise; and all of the team, both the starting five and others, who showed courage and showed character. During the game Saturday at the Erwin Center in Austin, Texas, they suffered injuries. But they didn't give up, they didn't give out, and they didn't give up. They stood tall; they played; they ordered themselves, and they won this game. They have had a no-loss season.

They should be commended because they also stand for character. They have served their community. I'm proud of the Lions in Winter. Jack Yates High School should be congratulated.

#### PHYSICIANS SUPPORT HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I want to read a letter I got from a doctor talking about the disproportionate effect of our health care system on women. She says, "As a health care provider, I see patients in my office frequently who need surgery or medicine but who cannot get the health care they really need because they do not have insurance.

"These are young, otherwise healthy women who are coping the best they can with their personal health issues. It doesn't make the national press, but the idea of these women suffering day after day tugs at my heartstrings.

"We all have sisters, daughters, and cousins without insurance. We are all touched by someone who does not qualify for government insurance or cannot afford a private policy. At what point do you decide that enough is enough and that private insurance companies aren't doing their job?"

That doctor is right. That is why I support this bill. There are many provisions in the health care bill that we will be taking up this week that make sure that women are not disproportionately affected by the lack of coverage.

I look forward to voting for this bill.

#### FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to the following resolution:

##### S. RES. 457

In the Senate of the United States, March 17, 2010.

*Resolved*, That a summons shall be issued which commands G. Thomas Porteous, Jr. to file with the Secretary of the Senate an answer to the articles of impeachment no later than April 7, 2010, and thereafter to abide by, obey, and perform such orders, directions, and judgments as the Senate shall make in the premises, according to the Constitution and laws of the United States.

SEC. 2. The Sergeant at Arms is authorized to utilize the services of the Deputy Sergeant at Arms or another employee of the Senate in serving the summons.

SEC. 3. The Secretary shall notify the House of Representatives of the filing of the answer and shall provide a copy of the answer to the House.

SEC. 4. The Managers on the part of the House may file with the Secretary of the Senate a replication no later than April 21, 2010.

SEC. 5. The Secretary shall notify counsel for G. Thomas Porteous, Jr. of the filing of a replication, and shall provide counsel with a copy.

SEC. 6. The Secretary shall provide the answer and the replication, if any, to the Presiding Officer of the Senate on the first day the Senate is in session after the Secretary receives them, and the Presiding Officer shall cause the answer and replication, if any, to be printed in the Senate Journal and in the Congressional Record. If a timely an-

swer has not been filed, the Presiding Officer shall cause a plea of not guilty to be entered.

SEC. 7. The articles of impeachment, the answer, and the replication, if any, together with the provisions of the Constitution on impeachment, and the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials, shall be printed under the direction of the Secretary as a Senate document.

SEC. 8. The provisions of this resolution shall govern notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials.

SEC. 9. The Secretary shall notify the House of Representatives of this resolution.

The message also announced that the Senate agreed to the following resolution:

##### S. RES. 458

In the Senate of the United States, March 17, 2010.

*Resolved*, That pursuant to Rule XI of the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials, the Presiding Officer shall appoint a committee of twelve senators to perform the duties and to exercise the powers provided for in the rule.

SEC. 2. The majority and minority leader shall each recommend six members, including a chairman and vice chairman, respectively, to the Presiding Officer for appointment to the committee.

SEC. 3. The committee shall be deemed to be a standing committee of the Senate for the purpose of reporting to the Senate resolutions for the criminal or civil enforcement of the committee's subpoenas or orders, and for the purpose of printing reports, hearings, and other documents for submission to the Senate under Rule XI.

SEC. 4. During proceedings conducted under Rule XI the chairman of the committee is authorized to waive the requirement under the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials that questions by a Senator to a witness, a manager, or counsel shall be reduced to writing and put by the Presiding Officer.

SEC. 5. In addition to a certified copy of the transcript of the proceedings and testimony had and given before it, the committee is authorized to report to the Senate a statement of facts that are uncontested and a summary, with appropriate references to the record, of evidence that the parties have introduced on contested issues of fact.

SEC. 6(A). The actual and necessary expenses of the committee, including the employment of staff at an annual rate of pay, and the employment of consultants with prior approval of the Committee on Rules and Administration at a rate not to exceed the maximum daily rate for a standing committee of the Senate, shall be paid from the contingent fund, of the Senate from the appropriation account "Miscellaneous Items" upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee, except that no voucher shall be required to pay the salary of any employee who is compensated at an annual rate of pay.

(b) In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under this resolution, the committee is authorized, in its discretion and with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 7. The committee appointed pursuant to section one of this resolution shall terminate no later than 60 days after the pronouncement of judgment by the Senate on the articles of impeachment.

SEC. 8. The Secretary shall notify the House of Representatives and counsel for Judge G. Thomas Porteous, Jr. of this resolution.

The message also announced that pursuant to Senate Resolution 458, 111th Congress, on the appointment of an impeachment trial committee and Impeachment Rule XI, the Chair, upon the recommendation of the majority leader and the minority leader, appointed the following Senators as members of the committee to receive and report evidence in the impeachment of Judge G. Thomas Porteous, Jr.:

The Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) (Chairman).

The Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR).

The Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE).

The Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL).

The Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN).

The Senator from Delaware (Mr. KAUFMAN).

The Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) (Vice Chairman).

The Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO).

The Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT).

The Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES).

The Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH).

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER).

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PERRIELLO). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### FREE SPEECH IS NO LONGER RECOGNIZED IN THE NETHERLANDS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the God-given right of free speech to all people in all nations is no longer recognized in the Netherlands. The Dutch Government is intolerant of intolerance for terrorists. Thou shalt not criticize, says their commandment.

Dutch lawmaker Geert Wilders made a documentary movie about real terrorist acts and real radical Islamic clerics encouraging violence in the name of hate. Wilders now is on trial for insulting Islam. He's charged with discrimination and incitement to hatred.

In Amsterdam, it's illegal for a Christian or a Buddhist or an atheist or anyone else to criticize Islam because radical Islamic clerics will incite their followers to murder people. So the Dutch are no longer allowed to talk about terrorism.

The Dutch Ministry of Justice says—get this—it doesn't matter if Wilders was telling the truth. The Dutch court says it's irrelevant whether Wilders might prove his observations to be correct. What's relevant is his observations are illegal.

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Geert Wilders now lives under threat of a 5-year jail sentence from his own government for a violation of free speech. His trial is set to resume in July, the trial where the Dutch court said truth doesn't matter; it only matters if Wilders' words hurt somebody's feelings.

And Wilders lives in fear under the threat of death for speaking his mind about radical Islam. So-called religious leaders believe their radical religion says they can kill those who don't agree with them. Dutch filmmaker Theo Van Gogh, great-grand nephew of the famous painter Vincent Van Gogh, was a big believer in freedom of speech too. He and his partner, Hirsi Ali, made a documentary movie about women and Islam called "Submission." The radical clerics didn't like that one either, so they had Van Gogh murdered. Six terrorists were later arrested. One of the terrorists shot and then repeatedly stabbed Van Gogh as he rode his bicycle to work. He slit Van Gogh's throat and then stabbed him again, pinning a five-page radical rant to his body.

The rant listed all of the things they thought Hirsi Ali, his female partner in the film, had done to violate the Koran. And they threatened her with death. At the time, she was a sitting member of the Dutch Parliament.

Hirsi Ali was born in Somalia, and her family escaped when she was a child. She was raised a Muslim and subjected to the custom of female mutilation against her will. After surviving refugee camps in Africa, then a stay in Saudi Arabia, her family finally went to Canada. She was promised in marriage to a distant cousin she had never met. She refused that marriage and soon fled as a refugee to Holland. She became a warrior for women's rights, becoming an elected member of the Dutch Parliament. But after Theo Van Gogh's murder, she was run out of the country by her own government, the Dutch Government. They would not protect her. She was simply just too controversial. She resigned her seat in Parliament and she fled to the United States. She lives in this area around D.C.

Kurt Westergaard is one of the 12 artists who drew cartoons of the prophet Mohammed. Radical clerics then incited their followers to murder people in the streets. They rioted and they burned down embassies. Most of them, by their own admission, had never even seen these cartoons, and Westergaard had to flee for his life. He too lives in the United States under armed guard.

Threatening people and killing people for speaking their mind is just another

form of terrorism. Van Gogh, Ali, Westergaard, and now Geert Wilders, have never used or advocated violence. They simply exercised their God-given right of free speech. So now in Amsterdam, truthful insult speech is a crime. What kind of free society says truthful speech can be illegal? The most controversial speech is political, religious, and even truthful speech. That is why it's protected. Freedom of speech is a fundamental principle, a God-given human right to all people in all nations. It has been said, I may not agree with what you say, but I will fight to the death for your right to say it. But not in the Netherlands.

Geert Wilders should be able to speak his mind without becoming an enemy of his own country. The enemy of free speech is the court of the Netherlands and radical Islamic clerics who preach violence in the name of hate.

And, Mr. Speaker, that's just the way it is.

#### STORIES FROM NORTH CAROLINA

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

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss reforming the health care insurance market in this country. It is really time to put health insurance back on the side of the people back home. To me this issue has never been about politics; it's about people. It's about North Carolina families and small businesses. I have heard from thousands of North Carolinians from all perspectives. And I want to share some of their stories because my phones are still ringing. These are the stories of real people on North Carolina's Main Streets and country roads.

I talked the other day to a farmer in Johnston County in North Carolina, the county where I grew up in a family of tenant farmers. This farmer has health insurance that costs him over \$20,000 a year. He told me, We've got to fix this broken system that leaves too many families out in the cold.

A woman from Raleigh, North Carolina, our State's capital city, fears she will suffer the same fate as her sister who died from asthma because she could not get coverage. There's a lot of fear out there right now. Her fear is real. It is the fear of the consequences of a health care system that's not working for everyone.

She wrote me and said, Like many Americans, I take health care reform very seriously, and I feel that this is no time to bow to petty bickering or false arguments. This issue is also very personal to me. You see, my 33-year-old sister died just last December of asthma, a perfectly livable condition if only she had the right treatment. She didn't. She simply couldn't afford her medication, even with family help.

I also suffer from the same condition as my sister, and I have to say, it scares me to think that if it weren't for