

Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 2950, the Criminal History Background Checks Pilot Extension Act of 2009, will extend the national Child Safety Pilot Program for another 14 months. Passed in 2003 as part of the PROTECT Act, the national Child Safety Pilot Program assists organizations in checking the criminal records of volunteers before placing them as mentors with our children. Every year, millions of Americans generously give their time and energy to volunteer and mentor children throughout the country. While the vast majority of these volunteers act out of purely benevolent intentions, it is important that we are able to identify those who may seek to do harm.

Since 2003, the national Child Safety Pilot Program has enabled youth-serving organizations to work with the State governments to access the FBI's national fingerprint-based background checks system. By providing access to the more comprehensive data in the FBI's database, the pilot program has helped prevent child predators and sex offenders from getting access to children through legitimate mentoring programs. Notably, 6 percent of checks came back with serious criminal records.

This is a noncontroversial, fee-based program that we have authorized twice before, Mr. Speaker. It's been extremely successful in providing invaluable information to mentoring organizations, and it's at no cost to the taxpayers. Now we hope that this 14-month extension will give us more time to work with the Department of Justice on permanently authorizing this program.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Child Safety Pilot Program, originally created in 2003 as part of the PROTECT Act, has proven to be a valuable resource for groups that work with children, such as the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, the National Mentoring Partnership, and the National Council of Youth Sports. Using this pilot program, nonprofit organizations that provide youth-focused care, as defined in the National Child Protection Act of 1993, may request criminal history background checks from the FBI on applicants for volunteer or employee positions that involve working with children.

Currently, nearly 68,000 background checks have been administered through the Child Safety Pilot Program. Of

those checks, over 6 percent of all workers screened had criminal records of concern, including serious crimes such as murder, rape, and child assault cases. More than 41 percent of applicants with a criminal record committed crimes in other States other than the one in which they were applying to work as a volunteer. Only a nationwide check, such as the Child Safety Pilot Program, could have provided this information to employers.

A nationwide check is vital to these organization since many of these applicants are looking for work in other States specifically to escape their criminal pasts. That's why I support S. 2950, the Criminal History Background Checks Pilot Extension Act of 2009, which extends this program for 14 more months.

Unfortunately, organizations that work with children are often the targets of those with criminal backgrounds and less than honest intentions. We need to equip these organizations so they can spot individuals with criminal records before it's too late, allowing them to only hire professional and responsible people. S. 2950 extends the Child Safety Pilot Program that has successfully helped these groups and their missions to provide a safe learning environment for children. This is a commonsense piece of legislation that should enjoy widespread support, so I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2950.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

COMMEMORATING 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1044) commemorating the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, a Nazi concentration and extermination camp, honoring the victims of the Holocaust, and expressing commitment to strengthen the fight against bigotry and intolerance, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1044

Whereas during the Holocaust, an estimated 6,000,000 Jews and other targeted groups were murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators;

Whereas, on January 27, 1945, Auschwitz, a Nazi concentration and extermination camp, including Birkenau and other related camps, was liberated by the Soviet Army;

Whereas Auschwitz, located in Poland, was the largest complex of the Nazi concentration and extermination camps;

Whereas according to the Holocaust Memorial Museum, between 1940 and 1945, the Nazis deported at a minimum 1,300,000 people to Auschwitz, and of these, murdered 1,100,000;

Whereas an estimated 960,000 Jews were systematically murdered in Auschwitz during the Holocaust;

Whereas Auschwitz was also used to murder Poles, Roma, Soviet Prisoners of War, those helping to hide Jews and others the Nazis deemed inferior or that held different political views;

Whereas victims of Auschwitz were systematically murdered in gas chambers and many were starved to death, tortured, and subjected to forced labor and criminal medical experiments;

Whereas the complex of the Auschwitz concentration and extermination camp has come to symbolize the mass murder and inhumanity committed during the Holocaust;

Whereas the famous "Arbeit Macht Frei" (Work Will Make You Free) sign over the entrance to Auschwitz was stolen on December 18, 2009, and later recovered and the Polish police arrested the alleged culprits behind the theft;

Whereas according to the Contemporary Global Anti-Semitism Report released by the Department of State's Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, "[o]ver the last decade, United States embassies and consulates have reported an upsurge in anti-Semitism . . . and that [a]nti-Semitic crimes range from acts of violence, including terrorist attacks against Jews, to the desecration and destruction of Jewish property . . ."; and

Whereas in 2005, United Nations General Assembly resolution 60/7 established January 27, the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, as International Holocaust Remembrance Day for the world to honor the victims of the Holocaust: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commemorates the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz;

(2) honors the victims of Auschwitz and other Nazi concentration and extermination camps, and all those who perished at the hands of the Nazis;

(3) expresses gratitude to the Allied soldiers, underground fighters, and all those whose efforts helped defeat the Nazi regime and liberate Auschwitz and other concentration and extermination camps during World War II;

(4) reaffirms its commitment to enhance Holocaust education at home and abroad and to ensure that what happened in Auschwitz and other Nazi concentration and extermination camps is never allowed to happen again; and

(5) urges all countries to enhance their efforts to combat bigotry, racism, intolerance, and anti-Semitism.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Florida (Mr. KLEIN) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution and yield myself as much time as I may consume.

As an original cosponsor of this legislation, I would like to thank the author of this resolution, my good friend from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for authoring this important statement. This resolution recognizes the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

As the many in this Chamber know, Auschwitz was one of several Nazi concentration and extermination camps. Auschwitz served as a death factory of Eastern Europe's Jewish community and many others who were persecuted and murdered by the Nazis. On January 27, 1945, Auschwitz was liberated by Allied Forces, and that day is commemorated around the world as International Day of Holocaust Remembrance.

Today, Auschwitz is a reminder of the consequences of hatred, bigotry, and humanity's worst. The words, "Never again," are a mission, a goal to ensure that humanity never again sinks to those depths. This resolution reminds us of this purpose and focuses our efforts on education and prevention.

This is something that I have personally been working on for many years. As a member of the Florida Senate, I helped pass the first requirement for Holocaust education in public school curriculum. Now, many States have followed suit, and more American children of all walks of life are learning these important lessons.

In Congress, I have learned that Holocaust education can take many forms. Just down the street from the U.S. Capitol is the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Since I've come to Congress, Congressman MIKE PENCE and I have sought to bring new Members of Congress every 2 years to the Holocaust Museum so they can bear witness to this tragic history. They take this knowledge with them and bring it back to their districts across America and use their new understanding to raise awareness of anti-Semitism and bigotry around the world.

I would like to thank Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN for focusing this resolution on Holocaust education. As the generation of American liberators and Holo-

caust survivors begins to pass away, the mission of education and of "Never again" is more critical than ever.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the many ceremonies that were held last week in honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, including one at Auschwitz, attended by Poland's President and Prime Minister, along with education ministers from nearly 30 nations and about 150 Holocaust survivors. At this commemoration, Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu proclaimed, "We will not allow the deniers of the Holocaust . . . to erase or distort the memory [of what happened]." This is our mission as well, and today the House of Representatives should speak with one voice in support of this mission.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1545

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of my bill, House Resolution 1044, commemorating this year as the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the largest of the Nazi extermination camps. Over a million people were systematically tortured and brutally murdered there. The Nazis at Auschwitz conducted cruel medical experiments on prisoners, including children. They intentionally infected prisoners with diseases and performed forced sterilizations and castrations on adults.

Most of those who perished at Auschwitz were Jews. But others that the Nazis perceived as enemies or inferior to Hitler's Aryan image were also murdered at Auschwitz. It was hell on Earth. Leo Schneiderman, a Holocaust survivor said the following about his arrival at Auschwitz, and I quote: "When we came in, the minute the gates opened up, we heard screams and barking of dogs, and then we got out of the train. And everything went so fast. Men separated from women. Children torn from the arms of mothers. The elderly chased like cattle. The sick, the disabled were handled like packs of garbage. My mother ran over to me and grabbed me by the shoulders, and she told me, 'Leibele, I'm not going to see you no more. Take care of your brother.'"

After years of misery and suffering, only a few thousands had remained when the Soviet Army arrived on a snowy day in 1945. Most of those survivors were too weak to realize that they had been liberated. We must remember what happened and ensure that humanity always prevails over hateful savagery and oppression.

The resolution we are considering today, Mr. Speaker, commemorates the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and honors the victims who perished at the hands of the Nazis. It expresses gratitude to the people whose efforts helped defeat the Nazi regime.

It reaffirms the commitment of the House to bolster Holocaust education here in the United States and abroad, and to ensure that what happened during the Holocaust is never allowed to happen again.

And it also urges all countries to enhance their efforts to fight bigotry, racism, intolerance, and anti-Semitism. We must heed the lessons of history, remain vigilant, and stand firmly against purveyors of hatred who incite to violence against Israel, against the Jewish people, and all of us who stand for liberty and the fundamental rights of all human beings. As Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu said at a ceremony last week which marked the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, and I quote: "We will always remember what the Nazi Amalek did to us, and we won't forget to be prepared for the new Amalek, who is making an appearance on the stage of history and once again threatening to destroy the Jews. We will not take this lightly and believe that these are empty statements. We will never forget and always remember to stand guard."

So as we commemorate the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, I urge my colleagues to keep those words in mind and work to support and ensure that the world will never again see another Holocaust. I would also like to use this opportunity to say that I will be introducing a bill this week that will open the door for Holocaust survivors to bring Holocaust-era insurance claims against insurance companies in the U.S. courts. This bill will force insurance companies to disclose the names of Holocaust insurance policy holders.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to render their full support to this resolution.

I reserve the balance of our time.

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas, Judge POE, a member of our Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. POE of Texas. Auschwitz was one of several if not many concentration camps that were established by the Nazis. In 1945, a young, 18-year old teenager who'd never been more than 50 miles from home showed up, along with other members of the Seventh Army, at a place called Dachau in Germany, and he helped liberate that concentration camp. That camp had been open from 1933 to 1945, where scientific experiments were done on people, ordered by the Nazis. This was the first concentration camp in Germany. That 18-year old that helped liberate that camp was my father. And he never talked much about World War II. But from time to time, even to this day, he mentions the word Dachau because that had such a tremendous impact on him.

I have had the opportunity, along with my son Kurt, to go to Germany to

see this place where people were tortured, humiliated, and murdered by the Nazis. Auschwitz was one. There are many others. And yet we should remember all the places where people were tortured in the name of hate, and we should remember the survivors of these concentration camps, and we should remember them forever.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE), the ranking member on the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade.

Mr. ROYCE. I rise in support of this resolution commemorating the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. I'm an original cosponsor of this bill. But I'd like to thank the author of this resolution, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Chairman BERMAN as well for their leadership.

Mr. Speaker, during World War II, my father was part of the Allied Forces who liberated Dachau. It was a concentration camp of similar horrors to that of Auschwitz, as Mr. POE expressed. And when they took the camp, he took pictures to document the tragedy, to document the horror of what he witnessed, and he has used them ever since, even to this day, in terms of lecturing to high school classes.

Mr. Speaker, importantly, we are marking this anniversary. We do so to remember the Holocaust and its victims. Inevitably the refrain "Never Again" comes to our lips. But, unfortunately, we know that this type of terror continues. Maybe not on the magnitude that it occurred during the Holocaust, but in the North Korean police state, where 200,000 are held in a system of political concentration camps which are modern day gulags, and the pictures of those imprisoned in North Korea, malnourished, with striped pajamas, are jarringly familiar to those of us who saw those photographs, either at Dachau or at Auschwitz.

Of course, like Nazi Germany, many of the regimes that have no respect for their own, like North Korea, are hostile also to us. High school students my father has lectured about World War II often ask why the world was so asleep to Adolf Hitler's horrors. Of course the world was only slowly learning about the depth of what was occurring in camps like Auschwitz. But with respect to today's tragedies, we don't have such an excuse.

Mr. Speaker, on the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, all of us, Congress and the administration, can resolve to do more in the cause of freedom, to do more to commit the United States to make certain that nothing like the Holocaust ever occurs again. And we can do more to remember the victims of that senseless slaughter.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and we yield back the balance of our time.

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady and the speakers

this afternoon on this very important resolution. I urge Members of this Chamber to support this resolution and send a strong message worldwide, never again.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the Auschwitz concentration camp serves as a tragic reminder of the millions of innocent men, women and children who lost their lives in the Holocaust. Yet it also is a standing testament to all those who risked their own lives to defeat the Nazi regime.

I would like to thank the Ranking Member, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for bringing this resolution to the floor, and I am proud to cosponsor H. Res. 1044, a resolution commemorating the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

On January 27, 1945, Allied Forces liberated the Auschwitz concentration camp where victims were systematically murdered in gas chambers, starved, tortured and subjected to forced labor and cruel medical experiments. According to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, over one million people lost their lives at Auschwitz.

Auschwitz was the largest Nazi concentration and extermination camp, and its buildings have come to symbolize the sheer inhumanity of the Holocaust. As we mark the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, let us recommit ourselves to combating bigotry, racism, intolerance and anti-Semitism.

As the co-chair of the Congressional Anti-Semitism Caucus, I stand in support of the resolution. With its passage, we remember the truth of the Holocaust and say with one resounding voice, "Never again!"

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KLEIN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1044, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE TIM HOLDEN, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable TIM HOLDEN, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 27, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to rule VIII of the

rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with an administrative subpoena, issued before the Environmental Hearing Board of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for documents. This is in reference to the landfill in Blythe Township, Pennsylvania which I opposed due to environmental concerns.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

TIM HOLDEN,
Member of Congress.

COMMUNICATION FROM PROJECTS DIRECTOR, THE HONORABLE TIM HOLDEN, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from William Hanley, projects director, the Honorable TIM HOLDEN, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 27, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with an administrative subpoena, issued before the Environmental Hearing Board of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for documents.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that it is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House to notify the party that issued the subpoena that I have no responsive documents.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM HANLEY,
Projects Director.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 1, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on Monday, February 1, 2010 at 2:47 p.m., and said to contain a message from the President whereby submits his Budget of the United States Government for Fiscal Year 2011.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

BUDGET OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-82)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message