THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT A YES VOTE ON TERM LIMITS

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, today is a great day on the Potomac. it is a historic day. For a very long time the people of America have wanted open debate and a vote on term limits. As we say in Kansas, it is time to fish or cut bait. The American people think that Congress has cut enough bait. They want a vote on term limits.

Term limits are extremely popular with the American people because they want a citizen legislature. They do not want the same excuse that they have heard about we already have term limits every 2 years, because they do understand the system.

They know name recognition, the PAC's, franking all work for the incumbent.

The term limit vote is important. The American people want a ''yes'' vote for term limits or your congressional seat next year. So what are you going to do? Are you going to fish or cut bait?

WELFARE RECIPIENTS ARE HUMAN BEINGS, NOT ANIMALS

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

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, in politics, today, we make points by making good sound bites.

I wonder if my colleagues on the other side of the aisle got the sound bite they wanted on welfare this past weekend? The soundbite winner-by far was our millionaire friend from Florida who compared people who are forced to seek Government assistance to alligators.

Last week, I asked the question, ''Do we really have to divide America to reform welfare?'' I do not think so. But I am deeply afraid that others have a different agenda based on divineness, race-baiting and the meanest kind of speech I can think of.

I represent 1 of the 10 poorest districts in America. On behalf of my constituents, I ask for an apology from those who compared decent human beings to alligators, to wolves, and to mothers not capable of caring for a committee chairman's cat.

People forced on welfare are people. Not animals. They want to work—we owe them real solutions to provide them jobs and the tools to keep those jobs. We also owe them an apology for degrading them on the floor of this House.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. FOGLIETTA. A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TORKILDSEN). The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, it seems quite obvious that Members of the House have not abided by the ruling of the Chair concerning buttons would not be worn while the House is in session.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will state while a Member is addressing the House he or she may not wear badges or buttons. At other times it maybe permitted under previous rulings of the Chair.

TERM LIMITS

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

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise as a strong supporter of congressional term limits who has promised to voluntarily limit his own tenure, and I rise to congratulate those Members of the other party who have gone against their leadership and have joined us in support of term limits.

Unfortunately, it is obvious that there is one party in the House that is sympathetic to term limits and one party that is violently opposed to term limits.

I urge my Democratic colleagues to vote in favor of term limits to give us the votes to pass the amendment. Over 70 percent of Americans are in favor of term limits, and if we are truly a representative institution I believe our voting should reflect that.

This is your chance to prove that you are responsive to the public and to the national interest, and not just part of inside the Washington Beltway.

TIME TO REIN IN THE IRS

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, IRS testified down here that the Bill of Rights and the Constitution are great, but they should not be applied to taxpayers. Taxpayers should remain guilty in a tax court or they cannot do their jobs.

Check out this case: A woman, Edith LiButti, up in New Jersey, once had a great race horse, ''Devil His Due.'' The IRS says you do not own all of that race horse, your dad has a partial interest; we put a lien on the horse. They wrecked her business, destroyed her reputation, and now they are saying their evidence is ''they have reason to believe'' her dad has a partial interest.

Reason to believe? There can be no taxpayer Bill of Rights in America without changing the burden of proof. Taxpayers should at least be treated like a common criminal, by God.

Let me say this: It is time for the Congress to give the devil his due. That is the IRS. It is time to straighten this mess out. I want your support on H.R. 3, and I know the IRS is getting to all of the big people around here and scaring them that they are not going to be able to raise taxes.

Let us get on with our business.

A ROUGH DRAFT MADE BETTER

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

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the gentlelady from Colorado said the Constitution was not a rough draft. I agree that the bedrock principles upon which this Nation was founded are not in need of refinement. But 27 times—on 25 different issues if you subtract out the on-again/off-again concept of prohibition—the sons and daughters of our Founding Fathers revised the Constitution to better adapt those principles to the times. I am sure the gentlelady agrees that the Bill of Rights, the 13th amendment abolishing slavery, the 15th amendment affirming the right of all races to vote, the 19th amendment granting women's suffrage, or even the 22d amendment—which embodies term limits for the President of the United States—have improved upon the Founding Fathers' work. No, the Constitution was not a rough draft—it was a living document and it can withstand prudent modifications to reflect the march of time. Support term limits.

The author of the first Bill of Rights in this country said: ''Nothing so strongly impels a man to regard the interests of his constituents as the certainty of returning to the general mass of the people from whence he was taken.''

So said George Mason, IV, who refused to sign the Constitution because term limits was not in it.

TERM LIMITS

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, Speaker GINGRICH's whip organization has been awesome as he has rolled up victory after victory no matter how controversial his legislative agenda.

He rolled up a large majority of Republicans to push GATT through a lame duck Congress. Speaker GINGRICH did yeoman's work behind the scenes to deter any congressional scrutiny of the $40 billion Mexico bailout, and when we finally forced a vote on the floor the Republican leader threatened committee assignments, subcommittee chairs and other retaliations if his minions did not toe the line.

Just last week they flexed their leadership muscle gain on welfare and nutrition reform, but the muscles of the Speaker's whip organization have suddenly gone flaccid with the prospect of term limits.