Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, congratulations America. Today you begin to work for yourself. Tuesday was tax freedom day. For the previous 4 months and 7 days, Americans have worked solely to pay local, State, and Federal taxes. At last, working Americans are earning money to pay the mortgage and clothe the kids.

For too long, taxes have been piled on the American people because liberal politicians believe that they can make better choices with our money than we can. The Federal bureaucrats have never trusted our citizens to decide what is best for their families and communities. No one spends someone else's money as carefully as he spends his own. Washington has proven that.

Americans should be allowed to keep more and do more with their hard-earned money. The Government must stop taxing them into longer hours and second jobs. Not only is the Government taking Americans' money, it is essentially taking the precious time they would normally spend playing with their children, going to PTA or church functions, or volunteering in their communities. Higher taxes have become a tax on free time and family too.

## DO NOT CUT EDUCATION

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, last year our Republican colleagues sought to place a $5,000 burden on young people who want a 4-year college education. At the same time, they came along and proposed to give thousands of our youngest Americans a wrong start instead of a head start by defunding much of the program needed for early childhood education.

Fortunately, Americans spoke out against this extremism. In the early part of this year, our Republican colleagues yielded and we got an appropriations process approved for this year that protects education and the hopes and dreams of so many American families. But hardly had that victory been won than Sunday on television we had the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY], the majority leader, saying that he was willing to fund a tax break in order to do that through cuts in education.

Mr. Speaker, education is not the place to cut. Though our Republican colleagues suffered from shutdown fever last year and this year they are having sinking spells that the American people understand their agenda, please do not provide this gimmick that you feel you need in order to get a rise in the polls. Do not fund it by cutting education.

## OIL PROFITS ARE UP

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

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, here they go again. Snake oil salesmen looking for a magic cure. The Republicans have come up with this idea that the 4.3-cents-a-gallon tax that was put on back in 1993 somehow did not cause the price of gas to go up in 1993, did not cause it to go up in 1994, did not cause it to go up in 1995. But all of a sudden, in 1996, this pent-up tax caused it to go up 30 cents a gallon.

Well, we are not really buying that. We know that they are really reaching for straws. We heard Philip K. Verleger, Jr., who is an oil economist, say, if you cut taxes, the incremental difference is going to go to big oil, not to the motoring public. In fact, an analysis by the Democrats in the Committee on Commerce has shown that, while this gas price was going up, just during April and March of this year, that the value of the stock options by oil company executives rose by $32.8 million.

## GAS TAX REPEAL

(Mr. STUPAK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, we continue to debate how to deal with a sudden hike in gas prices.

This is an important issue in my district. The First Congressional District of Michigan sprawls across hundreds of miles of the upper Midwest.

With extensive forests and beautiful rivers, with shoreline on three of the Great Lakes, tourism is an essential industry in my district. It is the second biggest industry in Michigan.

But my district is also full of hard-working Americans who value education.

Title I, Head Start, drug-free schools, and student loan programs are essential investments in the future for families in my district and the rest of America.

But the majority leader has suggested education be cut to make up for lost revenue, if part of the Federal gas tax is repealed.

Mr. Speaker, through shutdowns and budget gridlock we have fought and won battles to protect education.

Now, in an effort to deal with an unrelated problem, we have to fight another Republican assault on education.

Let's not penalize American schoolchildren to help their parents at the gas pump. It makes no sense for my district or the Nation.

## PERMISSION FOR SUNDRY COMMITTEES AND THEIR SUBCOMMITTEES TO SIT TODAY DURING THE 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following committees and their subcommittees be permitted to sit tomorrow while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole House under the 5-minute rule: Committee on Agriculture, Committee on Commerce, Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Committee on International Relations, Committee on Resources, Committee on Science, Committee on Small Business, and Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the minority has been consulted and there is no objection to these requests.

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

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, my ear heard ''tomorrow.'' I believe it is to be today.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, be permitted to sit tomorrow.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I believe it is today.

Mr. SOLOMON. It is today; is that correct?

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for calling my attention to it. We would not want to include tomorrow, just today. In that case, let me renew my unanimous-consent request to ask unanimous consent that these committees be allowed to sit just today.

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

There was no objection.

## ESTABLISHING SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE UNITED STATES ROLE IN IRANIAN ARMS TRANSFERS TO CROATIA AND BOSNIA

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 416 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 416

*Resolved*, That (a) there is established a Select Subcommittee on the United States Role in Iranian Arms Transfers to Croatia and Bosnia (hereinafter referred to as the ''select subcommittee'') of the Committee on International Relations. The select subcommittee is authorized to sit and act during this Congress at such times and places within the United States, including any common-wealth or possession thereof, or in any other country, whether the House is in session or has adjourned.

(b) The select subcommittee shall be composed of 8 members of the Committee on International Relations appointed by the chairman of the Committee on International Relations, 5 of whom shall be members of the majority party and 3 of whom shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the ranking minority party member of the committee. The chairman of the Committee on International Relations shall designate one of the majority party members as chairman. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the select subcommittee shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(c) The select subcommittee is authorized and directed to conduct a full and complete investigation, and to make such findings and recommendations to the Committee on