

Local responsibility can and will be resumed for, after all, common sense tells us that the wealth necessary for this task existed and still exists in the local community, and the dictates of sound administration require that this responsibility be in the first instance a local one.

John F. Kennedy echoed these fundamental insights into human nature in 1962 when he said, "No lasting solution to the problem of poverty can be bought with a welfare check."

Finally, in 1931, President Roosevelt said, "The quicker that a man or woman is taken off the dole, the better it is for them during the rest of their lives."

Over four decades ago we launched a war on poverty with the best of intentions. But \$5.5 trillion later we have nothing to show but poverty, despair, hopelessness, broken families, and a damaged work ethic. We have ignored the basic law of nature, that when someone is given handout after handout after handout, without having something demanded in return, he or she is condemned to a lifestyle of dependency and the loss of personal dignity and self-worth.

Not surprisingly, this is also the root of a similar problem at the opposite end of the economic spectrum, children spoiled by affluent parents who shower them with material goods, but require nothing in return. This is literally the essence of what it means to spoil a child. Yet there are also millions of middle class parents everywhere in America who require their children to clean their rooms, make their beds, complete their homework, and do daily chores in exchange for a modest allowance. This teaches responsibility, an understanding that money is given in exchange for work, and it bonds a child to his or her family in a relationship of mutual commitment and responsibility.

Congress has just passed a plan that tries to apply the kind of tough love, common sense approach to welfare reform that Americans know is morally right and have said that they want. The plan is based on the simple proposition that welfare recipients should work for their benefits, just like you work to support your family and to pay your taxes.

It also recognizes that there will be no real welfare reform without tackling the appalling problem of illegitimacy. Fully one in every three American babies is born out of wedlock today.

So I ask the Speaker to commend to the attention of the President this bill. I hope that he signs it. I hope it becomes law. It will clearly bode well for the future of our country going into the 21st century.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the House stands in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 49 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CALVERT) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Protect us, O gracious God, all the day long until the shadows lengthen and the light is gone and we are alone. Remind us that we never walk the path of life alone or go through the valley by ourselves, but Your spirit leads and guides, Your strong arm is our strength, and Your grace is abundant for our every need. We place our prayers before You, O God, asking that You would bless us this day and direct us in the way of truth and peace and grace. In Your name, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California [Mr. MOORHEAD] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MOORHEAD led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken on Tuesday, July 30, 1996.

REPEALING OF PROVISION OF UNITED STATES CODE RELATING TO FEDERAL EMPLOYEES CONTRACTING OR TRADING WITH INDIANS

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3215) to amend title 18, United States Code, to repeal the provision relating to Federal employees contracting or trading with Indians.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3215

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FEDERAL EMPLOYEES CONTRACTING OR TRADING WITH INDIANS

(a) REPEAL.—Section 437 of title 18, United States Code, is repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 23 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 437.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The repeal made by subsection (a) shall—

(1) take effect on the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) apply with respect to any contract obtained, and any purchase or sale occurring, on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California [Mr. MOORHEAD] and the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. SCOTT] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. MOORHEAD].

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3215.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3215 which repeals a provision of the Criminal Code, 18 U.S.C. 437, that prohibits certain Federal employees from contracting or trading with American Indians. The gentleman from Arizona, Mr. J.D. HAYWORTH, introduced H.R. 3215 on March 29, 1996.

Section 437 prohibits employees of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service from entering into contracts with American Indians for the purchase, transportation, or delivery of goods or supplies for any American Indian. It further prohibits these employees from engaging in any purchase or sale of services or property from or to any American Indian. Because these provisions prohibit any of these transactions in any case in which the Federal employee appears to benefit, they effectively bar any such transaction with a family member of the Federal employee. A violation of this section is punishable by a fine or imprisonment of up to 6 months.

Section 437, first passed in the 1800's, was enacted to prevent Federal employees who are involved in administering programs to assist American Indians from taking advantage of those they are supposed to be helping. While it was well-intentioned when passed, today it is outdated and no longer necessary. In addition, the section has the perverse effect of making it harder for the Indian Health Service to recruit and retain good medical employees for remote reservations because those employees' spouses are prohibited from trading with the local Indians.

In 1980, Congress amended this statute to allow the executive branch to provide, by regulation, for exceptions