

offices and factories are all owned by the private sector. We need to help the private sector make their facilities more secure.

With this expensing provision of 30 percent expensing, they can recover the cost of electronic access equipment, biometrics, television surveillance, as well as computers and software to protect their data and information systems; also, electronic alarm systems and other components.

The bottom line is, this legislation, the Economic Security and Recovery Act, the legislation before the committee or the House this week, will reward investment, will create jobs. It will boost the technology sector, and will also help private companies make their offices and their factories much more secure.

I urge bipartisan support for this legislation. We need to get the economy moving again.

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF FEDERALIZING THE WORK FORCE FOR AVIATION SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, when the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) spoke in the well earlier about virtues of a privatized aviation security system and the handout of our colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA), I did not object to it being put in the RECORD. I should have, because it was not written by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA) or his staff; it was written by a former FAA senior employee who is now earning hundreds of thousands of dollars representing the private security firms, including the private security firm currently under indictment and prosecution by the Federal Government, Arkenbright. So that is his information, and the veracity of it is definitely in question.

In fact, according to an article in last week's Washington Post, at Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam, there are 1,300 police agents to supervise 1,500 private screeners, who are much better paid, trained, and have higher qualifications than in the United States.

If that is the route they want to go, we would end up having something more expensive than a totally federalized system with one Federal law enforcement person to supervise every two private employees. It would be bigger. It would be absurdly bigger than what we could do with the normal scope of supervision in a Federal agency.

The issue of private firms in the U.S., we have tried it. It has failed miserably. I am glad he had a good experience leaving Florida and they found his cuticle scissors, that is great; but they are missing other things, like fake hand grenades, fully-assembled weap-

ons, knives, bombs, or simulated bombs, which the FAA regularly gets through these systems.

The largest private security firm in the country, previously successfully prosecuted by the Federal Government, fined \$1.5 million, Arkenbright, and put on probation, who still is providing security, is now being prosecuted again.

Under the current system, the Federal Government cannot remove these incompetents and criminals from doing the job. This company is still employing known criminals, despite its probation. It is still hiring known criminals, despite its probation.

Thirty-two percent of its files include new violations and false statements on their employees. Yet, today they are providing security at Dulles, Reagan, Logan, LaGuardia, Los Angeles, Trenton, Detroit, Phoenix, Las Vegas, Columbus, Dallas, Fort Worth, Seattle and Cedar Rapids.

So my colleague, the gentleman from Florida, in his just visceral dislike of Federal employees, and more Federal employees and Federal bureaucracy, wants to continue a failing private bureaucracy that is not properly protecting the security of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, when we come through Customs, those are Federal law enforcement agents. When we come through INS, they are Federal law enforcement agents. If we go to Hawaii, the agriculture agents are Federal law enforcement agents. Even the beagles that they use in the airport have been deemed to be Federal law enforcement agents.

But my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, a minority of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, just cannot stand the idea that the people who are the first line of defense at the airport to screen the baggage and the customers might be Federal law enforcement agents.

This is a blinding ideological position to take. After all that has happened, after all the documented failures, after the continued prosecutions in court, we have given the private firms every opportunity and they have failed the American traveling public miserably.

We need legislation, and we should take the legislation up today. But instead, today we will take up, and no offense to any of these people, they are outstanding people, the Francis Bardanoue United States Post Office Building Act; the Earl T. Shinoster Post Office Designation Act; the Congressman Julian C. Dixon, of whom I was a great fan, Post Office Building Designation Act; a bill to make permanent the authority to redact financial disclosure statements of judicial employees and judicial officers, et cetera, et cetera.

It has been more than a month since the attack by the terrorists, and the use of our own civilian aviation as weapons. Yet, not one penny has been mandated by the House to change that system. Not one single line of statute has been changed.

The first line of defense is still failing us; the House of Representatives must not fail us. The bill should come up today, and if they cannot bring it up today, how about tomorrow? They have got an alternative, we have got an alternative. Let us have a legislative process and see whose alternative wins.

I do not think they want to do that, because I suspect that they know that many of their Members would vote for the more comprehensive approach, instead of continuing to buy the worst security we can get on the cheap.

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#### AMERICA SHOULD PROVIDE MEALS AND EDUCATION FOR THE WORLD'S NEEDY CHILDREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KIRK). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, over the past 5 weeks, discussions on how best to combat terrorism over the longer term have begun in the Congress and the Bush administration and in the international community.

The terrible events of September 11 are bringing governments and people together to reflect not only on how to meet the immediate challenge of rooting out the terrorist leaders and destroying the al-Qaeda network, but also on how to eliminate poverty, hunger, ignorance and intolerance, which often breed despair, disaffection, and deep resentment. It is not enough to demonstrate what we are against. We need to be equally forceful in showing the world what we are for.

Perhaps no one has articulated this longer term challenge better than Britain's prime minister, Tony Blair. Prime Minister Blair has called upon the international community to foster and use the "power of a global community for good."

He stated that such a community would encourage political inclusion and democratic principles throughout the world. It would more than redouble efforts to find just and lasting solutions to the world's lingering conflicts, including the Middle East. It would pledge to the people of Afghanistan that the West will not just walk away, as we have before, at the end of this conflict, leaving unresolved the political, social, and economic crises that have worn down Afghanistan for more than 2 decades.

Further, the international community should seize the moment as a new opportunity to tackle the serious problems of poverty, hunger, illiteracy, disease, and intolerance that have plagued so much of the developing world. We should forge partnerships to bring greater social and economic opportunities to Africa and other regions of the world.

This is an exciting agenda, one which will create a stronger international