So even from a conservative perspective, it does not make any sense. It really dos not if you are trying to stimulate the economy. And that is if you believe in that way, which I personally do not, and I think we could really help stimulate the economy and solve problems. I really feel that I have been elected here to solve problems, and we are not doing that here.

One of the problems that we are encountering is that the States have difficulties with their budgets. For homeland defense, we could be providing resources to them. The VA, for example, just since 9–11 it has cost them close to 50, $55 million just from going to code orange every time with more security and other things that they have to do. So it is costing them money and so we have to help our States, and we could help them by addressing the issue of health care and providing resources to health care. Not only would it help the States, but it also would solve a problem in a very critical area, which is the area of health care that would allow an opportunity for consumers to have access to health care.

It would allow an opportunity for the industry, the hospitals and the doctors who are having a rough time, in trauma centers who are thinking of closing down, it would have that opportunity for them to be able to get access to those resources and do the job they are required to do and do the job that is needed, so we would solve a problem and provide that access to those individual consumers out there that need access to health care. But we would also help in solving the issue and the problem that the States are having with the budgets, which is one of the issues of health care.

So instead of that $675 billion in the form of a tax cut, we can utilize that in a much better way in the area of health care, in the area of education, in the area of meeting the needs of our veterans.

So tonight I take pride in coming up and talking about a variety of issues, but our most important issue once again to pay tribute to the visionary Cesar Chavez who helped to inspire a great number of Americans in this country in a nonviolent way.

I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity in allowing me to be here tonight, and I want to take this opportunity to say thank you very much and good night.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. SIMMONS (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of attending the funeral of a constituent who was a member of the Armed Forces who was killed while serving in Iraq.

Mr. MCINNIS (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of surgery.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HOLT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CROWLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MALONEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LANGEVIN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CASE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. INSLEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mrs. BIGGERT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELDON of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TANCREDO, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 318. An act to provide emergency assistance to nonfarm-related small business concerns that have suffered substantial economic harm from drought; to the Committee on Small Business.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.) the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 2, 2003, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1613. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a copy of the Presidential Determination No. 2003-10, on Waiver of Conditions on Obligation and Expenditure of Funds for Planning, Design, and Construction of a Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility in Russia; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1614. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Public Housing Homeownership Program [Docket No. FR-4504-F-02] (RIN: 2577-AC15) received March 31, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1615. A letter from the Deputy Congressional Liaison, Federal Reserve Board, transmitting the Board's final rule—Truth in Lending [Regulation Z; Docket No. R-1136] received March 31, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1616. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Enforcement of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Department of Homeland Security Programs or Activities (RIN: 1601-AA05) received February 28, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1617. A letter from the Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting notification regarding the Energy Information Administration's report entitled, ''Performance Profiles of Major Energy Producers 2001''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1618. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''Fleet Alternative Fuel Vehicle Acquisition Report For Fiscal Year 2001,'' pursuant to Public Law 105—388 section 310 112 stat. 3481; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1619. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a listing of gifts by the U.S. Government to foreign individuals for the period of January 1 through September 30, 2002, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2694(2); to the Committee on International Relations.

1620. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Exports and Reexports of Explosives Detection Equipment and Related Software and Technology; Imposition and Expansion of Foreign Policy Controls [Docket No. 030213032-3032-01] (RIN: 0694-AB87) received April 1, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

1621. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period ending September 30, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1622. A letter from the Acting Director, Congressional Budget Office, transmitting the report to waive deduction of pay requirement for two reemployed annuitants; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1623. A letter from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of the Navy, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1624. A letter from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of the Navy, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1625. A letter from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1626. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the annual report concerning surplus Federal real property disposed of to educational institutions,