minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, another $82 billion for Iraq? Some will say this is to support the troops. If the administration cared about our troops, our troops would not have been begging for body armor and armor-plated vehicles.

Some will say we must rebuild Iraq. Yet $9 billion in funds that would have helped rebuild Iraq are missing, unaccounted for. Some will say we must not cut and run, but they have no exit strategy and permanent bases are being built in Iraq.

Some will say our cause is right, holy, and we are bringing peace and freedom to Iraq. I say the war was wrong, unholy, and the administration has brought death, destruction, chaos, and disruption to Iraq.

The Bible says ''that which is crooked cannot be made straight.'' This war is crooked. It cannot be made straight.

Not another dime for this war and for all those who have profited from it. Not another dime. Vote no on the supplemental appropriations.

HONORING VICTIMS OF ATLANTA COURTHOUSE SHOOTINGS

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

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of several Georgia residents who were shot and killed last week while doing their jobs at the Fulton County Courthouse in Atlanta.

Friday afternoon a gunman opened fire on the courtroom killing Superior Court Judge Rowland Barnes, Deputy Sergeant Hoyt Teasley, and Court Reporter Julie Ann Brandau. In his attempts to escape police capture, Mr. Nichols also shot and killed Federal Agent David Wilhelm.

The loss of these citizens is felt throughout the Atlanta community. While I am relieved the shooter has finally been captured, his actions leave me deeply saddened and angry.

There is no silver lining in a horrific event like this, but I hope these shootings will encourage other communities in Georgia and across this country to take a long hard look at the security measures in their own public buildings. By ensuring the safety of our public workers, we can help prevent terrible tragedies like this from ever happening again.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in mourning the deaths of these Atlanta citizens.

DO NOT SQUANDER SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, we all know that Social Security faces challenges. Fortunately there is no need to change Social Security for current and near-retirees like my parents. They can and should be able to count on 100 percent of the benefits they have earned. But due to longer life spans and fewer workers supporting each retiree, serious problems are on the horizon for future generations like my children.

Social Security faces an unfunded liability of almost $11 trillion. Unless we act today younger workers are going to face either a benefit cut of almost one-third or a 43 percent tax increase by the time they retire. This is unacceptable.

Washington is part of the problem. The Social Security Trust Fund has been raided 59 different times. Benefits have been cut half a dozen times. Payroll taxes have been raised more than 20 times. Clearly the riskiest plan for Social Security is leaving retirees' money in Washington for government to squander.

SOCIAL SECURITY PRIVATIZATION

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, at a hearing last week the GAO Comptroller General David Walker, a former Social Security trustee, said Social Security privatization would ''exacerbate the solvency problem.''

It would exacerbate the problem by eliminating the Social Security Trust Fund surplus and fail to increase the Nation's savings rate.

In today's economy families are taking on more and more risk. They face uncertain jobs, the loss of health care, jittery financial markets, rising costs of college education. Their retirements are less secure than ever.

Folks like the security that comes with Social Security. This debate is about choosing between privatization and the dismantling of Social Security as we know it or strengthening the guaranteed benefit that comes with Social Security. Rather than dismantling one of the most effective retirement programs in American history, we should be working together to strengthen Social Security for future generations.

In these uncertain times we should be helping American families, not exacerbating the risks that come with retirement. Privatization is simply the wrong direction.

OUR MOST IMPORTANT BUDGET PRIORITY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, under the leadership of President George W. Bush, the men and women of our armed forces are winning the war on terrorism. By dedicating their lives to fighting for the American people and stabilizing emerging democracies, our soldiers are protecting our country and defeating the goals of the terrorists. I am grateful for their service.

The President has submitted a supplemental budget request that will dramatically increase funding for body armor, hardened vehicles, and technology to protect our troops in the field. The supplemental also increases the maximum service member group life insurance benefits and the one-time death gratuity for combat fatalities. I strongly support the President's request.

Providing for our troops is the most important budget priority. Congress must deliver the necessary equipment and funding to our troops to ensure they remain safe and successful in their mission. Our family appreciates firsthand Iraq service with our son, Captain Alan Wilson of the South Carolina Army National Guard.

In conclusion, may God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

DROUGHT RELIEF

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

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to bring attention to what can potentially be the worst drought season the State of Washington has experienced in nearly 3 decades.

In my district and throughout the State precipitation levels are hovering at or near record lows. Mountain snow pack levels are at 26 percent of normal averages. Many rivers and streams are flowing at levels well below normal for this time of the year. Unfortunately, it looks as though the worst is yet to come as the National Weather Service has predicted that dry, warm weather will continue through the spring.

If these conditions persist as predicted, the drought will have a devastating impact on our State's agriculture, fishing, and recreation industries and will increase the potential of destructive forest fires this spring and summer.

I would like to commend Washington State's Governor Christine Gregoire for her leadership and foresight in declaring a statewide drought emergency and forming a Drought Emergency Command Center. This emergency declaration will allow the State Department of Ecology to provide assistance and relief, including the issuance of emergency water permits and the temporary transfer of water rights.

The Emergency Command Center will be able to work with State and local agencies to ensure that resources are reaching the areas that need assistance the most. Governor Gregoire has set an example of proactive leadership. I look forward to working with her and

my fellow members of the Washington State delegation to help the people of our State through this difficult time.

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FLIER FROM TERRISFIGHT.ORG

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I want to read from a flier from the Web site terrisfight.org:

''Terri Schiavo is sentenced to die of starvation by the Florida courts, however:

''Terri responds to verbal, auditory and digital stimuli.

''Terri breaths normally on her own.

''Terri smiles, tries to talk to her family and friends and will move her limbs on command.

''Terri is not in a coma. She is reactive and has sleeping and wakeful periods.

''Terri is not a burden. Her parents, brother and sister have offered to care for her in a safe environment and she has a fund so is not a burden to anyone, taxpayers included.

''Terri's condition can improve with proper treatment.

''Don't let the Florida courts starve this innocent woman to death. Terri's time is running out.''

Congress can and must act this week. We cannot allow the execution of this disabled young woman.

SECURE AMERICA'S COURTHOUSE ACT OF 2005

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this young woman's story, Ashley Smith, speaks of courage and valor and common sense, that she was able to direct authorities to a courthouse alleged killer, but I believe that her story speaks to an ill that is occurring throughout America, and that is the lack of security in the Nation's courthouses.

I realize that most who come into the courthouses come for justice, whether they are prosecutor or defendant, whether they are plaintiff or defendant; but in America's courthouses, there are challenges and difficulties, the killing of a judge's family in Illinois, the courthouse terror that occurred in Atlanta, Georgia, and the numerous, yet unannounced, threats against courthouse personnel throughout America.

Law enforcement officers who participate in the security of those courthouses are working very hard, but I believe the plight of courthouses and justice in America cries out for congressional response, congressional hearings and congressional legislation.

So I intend to introduce the Secure America's Courthouse Act of 2005 that will bring America's attention to its courthouses both in terms of resources, in terms of equipment and personnel and the protection of the Nation's judges. I ask my colleagues to join me in the Secure America's Courthouse Act of 2005.

WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, America's checkbook is being used and abused every minute of every day, and this is more than annoying to taxpayers. It is an insult.

The problems with financial management in the bureaucracy here in Washington cost hardworking taxpayers billions of dollars. Too often, money that comes to Washington never gets back home because it is eaten away by waste, fraud, and abuse.

When the Federal Government cannot account for over $17 billion it spent in 2001, things need to change.

When the Department of Agriculture recently was unable to account for $5 billion in receipts and expenditures, things need to change.

When the U.S. General Accounting Office will not certify the Federal Government's own accounting books because the bookkeeping is so bad, things definitely need to change.

Mr. Speaker, there are countless stories about how the government has not correctly paid on everything from Medicare to food stamps, and that is just the tip of the iceberg.

As we discuss ways to reduce spending and to increase savings, let us get serious about waste, fraud, and abuse.

It is important to remember that our government of the people, for the people is paid for by the people. It is time to stop wasting the people's money.

ASSOCIATION HEALTH PLANS

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, let us talk about association health plans. Over 60 percent of America's uninsured are small business owners and their families or the employees who work in a small business.

Now, if you are one of the many small business owners struggling to provide health insurance for yourself, your family and your employees, I need your help encouraging Congress to pass important legislation that would make health insurance more affordable for small business.

My legislation allowing the creation of association health plans would allow small business owners to band together across State lines to purchase health insurance as a group.

This week the House Committee on Education and the Workforce will vote on the Small Business Health Fairness Act of 2005; and on behalf of the 43 million Americans who want, need, and deserve access to affordable health insurance, I encourage the House to pass this soon.

Association health plans are the answer. Let us get behind them.

WELCOMING HOME HERNANDO COUNTY NATIONAL GUARD

(Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share some good news about what happened in my district this past weekend.

A gentleman by the name of Fred Glass organized a welcome home to Hernando County's National Guard unit. I was there, State elected officials were there, and local commissioners and locally elected folks were there; but most important, the citizens, family members, and businesses were there to sponsor and to welcome home the National Guard unit that was deployed for a year.

Our National Guard unit served in Iraq and Afghanistan and served with a great deal of dignity. The story was told about how at Christmastime the National Guard unit organized an ability to raise money and to give gifts to the children in Iraq and Afghanistan. Truly, this Member of Congress is very proud of the National Guard unit.

They presented me with a flag that was flown during one of their missions. It is a helicopter unit, and let me tell my colleagues that the pride that they had in their duty as National Guard members certainly was very evident.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1268, EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND TSUNAMI RELIEF, 2005

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 151 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 151

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1268) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. Points of