Don't laugh at me. Don't call me names. Don't get your pleasure from my pain. In God's eyes, we're all the same. Someday we'll all have perfect wings. Don't laugh at me.

. . . I'm fat, I'm thin, I'm short, I'm tall, I'm deaf, I'm blind, in a way, we are all. I'm black, I'm white, and I am brown. I'm Jewish, I'm Christian, and I am Muslim. I was born in Sarajevo. I was born in Kosovo. I was born in Northern Ireland. I was born in Africa. I'm of the Hutu tribe. I'm of the Tutsi tribe . . . I'm American Indian. I was born in Iraq, in Afghanistan, in Canada, in Mexico. I was born in Vietnam, in Sudan. I was born in the United States of America.

I'm very, very young. I'm quite aged. I'm Israeli. I'm Palestinian. I'm quite wealthy, and I am very, very poor.

My country 'tis of thee. Oh, sweet land of liberty. It is of thee that I sing.''

There are many stanzas to this song and I challenge anyone in this room or on either side of the aisle to listen to Peter Yarrow and what he stands for and not have tears in his eyes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for the support of Even Start, and we will put it back into the budget regardless of the President's bean counters.

You are very familiar with Peter Yarrow and his work. I'll summarize some Even Start talking points below.

Even Start serves children 0 through 7 years old and their families. The services provided include early childhood education, adult basic education, parenting education and interactive literacy instruction (parents and children reading together).

The San Diego and Poway programs are very successful and have documented significant gains in children's literacy levels as well as an impressive record in assisting parents in completing their GED. The focus is on assisting parents to be their child's first and best teacher. In addition, in San Diego we have been very successful in helping parents transition from Spanish to English thereby enabling them to be involved with their children's education as well as making them more viable in the local economy/job market.

Peter Yarrow has been a great friend to Even Start nationwide—his Don't Laugh at Me program which is a character education program in schools has been incorporated in many Even Start programs nationwide.

Goals of Even Start:

To extend learning, enrich language development and support high levels of success for children birth to age seven and their families.

To break the cycle of limited literacy, underemployment and high mobility of participating families by building literacy skills in both parents and children.

To provide 'simultaneous' services for families, where parents and their children learn together. This builds support for parents to succeed with their educational and employment goals, and develop habits of life-long learning for their children.

To support families committed to education and to economic independence.

DON'T LAUGH AT ME

(Written by Steve Seskin and Allen Shamblin, performed by Peter Yarrow)

I'm a little boy with glasses
The one they call a geek
A little girl who never smiles
'Cause I have braces on my teeth
And I know how it feels to cry
myself to sleep
I'm that kid on every playground
Who's always chosen last
A single teenage mother
Tryin' to overcome my past
You don't have to be my friend
But is it too much to ask

Don't laugh at me
Don't call me names
Don't get your pleasure from my pain
In God's eyes we're all the same
Someday we'll all have perfect wings
Don't laugh at me

I'm the beggar on the corner
You've passed me on the street
And I wouldn't be out here beggin'
If I had enough to eat
And don't think I don't notice
That our eyes never meet

Don't laugh at me
Don't call me names
Don't get you pleasure from my pain
In God's eyes we're all the same
Someday we'll all have perfect wings
Don't laugh at me

I'm fat, I'm thin, I'm short, I'm tall
I'm deaf, I'm blind, hey, aren't we all

Don't laugh at me
Don't call me names
Don't get your pleasure from my pain
In God's eyes we're all the same
Someday we'll all have perfect wings
Don't laugh at me

I'm fat, I'm thin, I'm short, I'm tall
I'm deaf, I'm blind, in a way, we are all.
I'm black, I'm white, and I am brown
I'm Jewish, I'm Christian, and I am Muslim
I was born in Sarajevo, I was born in Kosovo,
I was born in Northern Ireland, I was born in Africa
I'm of the Hutu tribe, I'm of the Tutsi tribe
I'm American Indian
I was born in Iraq, in Afghanistan, in Canada, in Mexico,
I was born in Vietnam, in Sudan, I was born in the United States of America

I'm very, very young, I'm quite aged
I'm Israeli, I'm Palestinian,
I'm quite wealthy, and I am very, very poor.

My country 'tis of thee
Oh, sweet land of liberty
It is of thee . . .
that I sing.

COMMUNICATION FROM RECEIVING AND WAREHOUSING SPECIALIST IN OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KNOLLENBERG) laid before the House the following communication from David Bogan, Receiving and Warehousing Specialist in the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 10, 2005.

Hon. DENNIS J. HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a criminal subpoena for testimony, issued by the Superior Court for the District of Columbia.

After consulting with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the rights and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

DAVID BOGAN,
Receiving and Warehousing Specialist.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. CON. RES. 95, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006

Mr. PUTNAM, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109–19) on the resolution (H. Res. 154) providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 95) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2006, revising appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2005, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2007 through 2010, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order.

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

There was no objection.

SMART SECURITY AND $81 BILLION IRAQ SUPPLEMENTAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, this week Congress is debating the President's request for more than 81 billion additional dollars to finance his misadventure in Iraq.

I will oppose this bill because I support the troops and have deep admiration for their courage. I will vote against the supplemental because I believe our brave soldiers are being used as pawns by their civilian superiors, whose wastefulness and incompetence is betraying their duty to keep us safe.

This supplemental will bring the overall Iraq price tag to more than $200 billion. What are the American people getting for their $200 billion? What kind of return on their investment?

We have created a hotbed of terrorism in Iraq. We have earned the wrath of the entire Muslim world. Meanwhile, we have a Swiss cheese homeland security system, and we have lost 1,500 of our troops, not to mention the more than 11,000 wounded and the many who will suffer mental trauma for the rest of their lives.

The Center For American Progress did a study of what $200 billion could really buy in terms of our security here in the United States of America.