PREPARE FOR PEACE

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, how is it that even with the constant moral and financial support of our Nation, our friend and ally, Israel, is still not safe and secure. If we insist upon the security and survival of Israel, and we must, then we must also insist upon the security and survival of the Palestinians and the Lebanese.

We say we will never negotiate with those who have sworn to destroy us or our allies, but history shows us that every conflict was resolved by doing exactly that. We prepare for war so grandly; let us prepare for peace grandly by looking fearlessly and deep into the hearts of those who wish us harm, and find that spark of recognition that connects us to a common humanity and from that draw a flicker of hope to enkindle the warm glow of peace.

After 9/11, we asked, Why do they hate us? Isn't it time for us to ask, Why do we hate them?

Do we think about what hate does to our own hearts? Isn't it time to put on the invincible armor of human compassion to explore human relations as the science of the human heart, in which we always have the capacity through courage, communication, patience and understanding to turn hate into love, and to beat our swords into plowshares.

LONE STAR VOICE: CHARLES HAMILTON

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, Americans pay millions a year of their money in health care costs for illegals. Now it is time for those renegade businesses that hire illegals and the Mexican Government to pay.

Charles Hamilton of Spring, Texas, writes me: ''Texas taxpayers should not be made to pay the brunt for the high concentration of illegals here that the Feds won't stop from coming into our country. It might be an incentive for employers not to hire illegals if a tax was levied on each illegal hired. Employee rosters showing names and Social Security numbers should be checked for each company each year. Companies with illegals would pay a tax to cover the illegals' hospital costs.''

Mr. Speaker, Dallas County, Texas wants to bill or even sue Mexico for the hospital costs of illegals. But get this: The Mexican consulate arrogantly says, ''You can't do that, it is illegal.''

Mr. Speaker, the coconspirators of businesses that exploit illegals and the Mexican Government that encourages illegal entry need to pay for this health care. It is morally wrong to expect American citizens and legal immigrants to pay.

And that's just the way it is.

SUPPORT EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH

(Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise disappointed and angered by the President's veto of the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act, and I rise in solidarity with my 237 colleagues and the 63 Senators who voted to overturn the Bush administration's policies that have stifled the promise of stem cell research and sound and ethical science.

Since 2001, stem cell research in the United States has been thwarted by the Bush administration's misguided policies. And yesterday, President Bush once again let politics, not science, not the health and well-being of American families, and not the will of the majority of Americans, dictate his decision making.

It is a sad day when the President of the United States acts to impede life-saving medical research. And with this veto, President Bush failed to give American families the promise of this research. American families want cures, not politics. And they want hope, not lost opportunities.

I, along with millions of Americans, am outraged, but we are not deterred. We will keep fighting and we will succeed in fighting the President's restrictions on stem cell research.

Those of us who voted to override the presidential veto, voted:

to maintain the United State's stance as the world leader in medical research and scientific advancement;

to advance scientific discovery in an ethically and responsible manner;

to enhance the ability of medical professionals to care for their patients;

to fulfill our obligation to use our human resources and capital for the greater good; and

most importantly, to benefit the millions battling disease and injury.

TRIBUTE TO SECRETARY NORMAN MINETA

(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, for more than 5 years, we have been honored to have Norman Mineta serve as Secretary of Transportation, selected by President Bush, to be the longest-serving Secretary in American history.

Secretary Mineta served as an intelligence officer in the U.S. Army in both Japan and Korea. He was the 59th mayor of San Jose, California, and served as a Member of Congress for 20 years. He was the first Asian American elected mayor of a major city, and the first to hold a Cabinet position when he served as Secretary of Commerce from 2000 to 2001.

As the Secretary of Transportation, Norman Mineta oversaw an agency with almost 60,000 employees and a $62 billion budget. Created in 1967, the department brought under one umbrella air, maritime, and surface transportation missions. Today, I honor his service to the American people and wish him and his wife, Deni, the best in their future endeavors.

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

PRESIDENTIAL VETO WRONG

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, when I voted to override President Bush's veto of stem cell research, I was thinking of ex-Governor Booth Gardner of Washington State. I saw Governor Gardner in the Sea-Tac Airport Monday as I was flying back here. He was flying to San Francisco for advanced treatment for Parkinson's, a disease he has been battling for some time with great courage and grace.

And yet this promising research, we have a President who decided he is not going to let Americans have because he, from his exalted realm on Pennsylvania Avenue, has taken it upon himself to dictate to Americans what our morals should be.

Let me suggest that the President who started the war in Iraq based on false information, the President that mishandled Hurricane Katrina relief, the President who has created the largest deficit in the history of the solar system, is not entitled by any law, religion, morality, ethics or common sense to dictate to the American people one sense of morality, much less any others.

It was wrong for him to deny Booth Gardner treatment, it is wrong for him to take it away from millions of Americans.

SUPPORT HOMEOWNERS TAX RELIEF ACT

(Mrs. KELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge passage of the Homeowners Tax Relief Act. I have introduced this act to help bring much-needed property tax relief to middle-class families.

Taxes are one of the most critical issues our constituents face. When I talk with residents of the Hudson Valley in my New York district, they repeatedly tell me they are at wit's end because their property tax rates are increasing faster than their incomes.

We have passed significant tax relief legislation in this Congress, but we can do more to show our constituents that we are committed to tax cuts, not tax increases.