

the way of reaching 100,000 new community police officers, and we cannot retreat from this goal.

Myth No. 2: Crime is only a big city problem, so the cops program only helps big cities. Not the case. Primarily it benefits small towns and rural America. This week's COPS FAST awards went only to towns and communities with populations under 50,000. \$433 million awarded under COPS FAST is going to enable over 6,500 such small jurisdictions to hire over 7,100 new community police officers.

Myth No. 3, the cops program is another bureaucratic Federal program that imposes so many restrictions on cities and towns. It is one of the least bureaucratic programs; one page application, one page and you can proceed to have an application looked at by the Justice Department. The Justice Department announced that the COPS FAST program grants less than 6 weeks after the application deadline.

Myth No. 4: Law enforcement officers oppose the cops program. Here are some quotes. "Not the case." "We strongly support you, Mr. President, in your resolve to fight any diversion of funds earmarked for the hiring of a hundred thousand police officers." Letter from Dewey Stokes, national president, Fraternal Order of Police, to the President.

Here is another quote from the Ohio Sheriff Gene Kelly: "Our President in 1992 said he would not forget the people in small towns and countries throughout America. He has more than kept his promise to us all."

From the chief of police in Maryland, Mary Ann Viverette, from Gaithersburg, MD: "Because of President Clinton's effort we will soon see a hundred thousand new police on the streets without smoke and mirrors. On behalf of my colleagues here and across America, thank you."

Mr. Speaker, let police versus pork make police the winner and politics versus public safety make public safety the winner.

H.R. 728 TERMED A "PORK BLOCK GRANT BILL"

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. OLVER] is recognized during morning business for 4 minutes.

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, last year I voted for the Crime Control Act of 1994 which promised Americans who live in fear of crime 100,000 more cops on the beat in community policing.

Already, 17,000 cops have been provided to more than 8,000 large cities and small towns. In my district alone 67 cops will make my constituents safer.

Today we are debating H.R. 728 the pork block grant bill which eliminates the Community Policing Program.

Community policing is not some new untried approach. It has been used in

many places across the country. Putting cops on the street makes people safer.

Community policing puts police on our streets who know the neighborhoods and work with residents to reduce crime. Officers who take the time to build relationships with citizens. Officers who get leads from contacts who see crime committed. Officers who understand the community's crime problems, and know the needs of the neighborhood.

Community policing takes cops out from behind their desks and puts them back on the beat to prevent crime, if possible, and to punish criminals.

Community policing does not simply add more police, it creates community leaders. These officers serve as role models, advisors, and assistants to the citizens they serve.

In my district, the Cleghorn neighborhood in the city of Fitchburg was deteriorating because of increasing crime. A community policing program started 4 years ago in Cleghorn caused a dramatic drop in crime. Here is what happened after 4 years of community policing: 25 percent decrease in assaults; 55 percent decrease in burglary; 55 percent decrease in weapons possession; 23 percent decrease in domestic violence; and 67 percent decrease in disorderly conduct.

The mayor of Fitchburg says there is no substitute for a consistent police presence in a troubled neighborhood. Community policing has helped make that neighborhood safe for families again.

And Fitchburg has received seven added cops under the 1994 Crime Control Act of 1994 to expand the Cleghorn experience to other troubled neighborhoods in that city.

But this pork block grant bill, H.R. 728, means fewer police officers catching criminals, fewer officers patrolling neighborhoods, fewer officers building partnerships based on trust, and fewer people safe in their neighborhoods.

In my district, violence and street crime are not just city problems. Community policing funds cops in small cities and towns.

The "COPS FAST" Program was designed specifically to help rural communities and smaller towns. In many of my communities, just one or two additional officers can make a world of difference.

Communities in my district and throughout the country have made decisions based on the commitment we made last year. We cannot walk away from this commitment. Community policing works. Now is not the time to break the promise we made to our citizens who live in fear.

Mr. Speaker, we, Republicans and Democrats, agreed that we need more cops on the beat to keep people safe. So why does the Republican contract cut funds for new police?

Under this pork block grant, the cops on the beat program would no longer exist. There the block grant does not guarantee a single new police officer

would be added. The block grant would not ensure that the hardest hit communities get help.

The block grant in H.R. 728 permits pork-barrel spending in broad categories without guaranteeing any more police on our streets.

Police will have to compete with street lighting, tree removal, and other pet projects.

H.R. 728 ignores the demonstrated effectiveness of community policing and does nothing to stop crime before it starts.

This bill promises everything to everybody and delivers nothing to nobody. It makes the communities in my district less safe than they were under last year's crime bill.

Wake up, America, the pork block grant in H.R. 728 is a sham.

It is not smart. It is not savings.

I urge my colleagues to vote against H.R. 728.

SPACE SHUTTLE COMPLETES SUCCESSFUL MISSION WITH FIRST WOMAN PILOT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA] is recognized during morning business for 3 minutes.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, this past week, parts of our country could gaze proudly upon the stars and see the outlines of space shuttle *Discovery's* historic 37-foot fly-by rendezvous with Russia's MIR space station. This shuttle mission, which was completed on Saturday, was historic not just because it was a dress rehearsal for the shuttle-MIR docking in June but also because it contained a number of firsts.

Discovery's mission not only paved the way for the first of seven shuttle flights to dock with MIR, but its crew of six included Air Force Lt. Col. Eileen Collins, the first woman ever assigned to pilot a shuttle, and Dr. Bernard Harris, the first African-American astronaut ever assigned to a spacewalk.

Ever since Sally Ride lifted off and became the first American woman in space, our space shuttles routinely have carried female crew members to perform research, spacewalks, repairs, and other functions. Nineteen other women, before Eileen Collins aboard *Discovery*, had flown on shuttles but none had ever piloted the spacecraft.

To commemorate this historic event, dozens of female pilots converged at Kennedy Space Center to watch Lieutenant Colonel Collins' launch. Inspired by the civilian women Air Force pilots who delivered planes to airfields during World War II, Lieutenant Colonel Collins made a point of inviting them as living examples of how far women and our Nation's aeronautics and space program have come.

To honor the role models who inspired her career, Lieutenant Colonel Collins carried with her a scarf worn by