

I was playing. It was through his efforts that this happened, nobody else's. Thank you very much.

Mr. HYDE. It was through your efforts, JIM, not anybody else's.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HYDE. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, Michigan would be remiss if it did not add its words of congratulations. I have the privilege of sitting on the Committee on Ways and Means with the gentleman from Kentucky, JIM BUNNING. I just want to say to you, to JIM, he is still throwing strikes, and now and then a curve ball. I am sometimes the recipient, and all I can say is I am glad I am receiving them in the Committee on Ways and Means, rather than on a baseball team.

JIM was a terrific person and a terrific pitcher for the Tigers, and brought moments of great glory to our State of Michigan. JIM, if I might speak on behalf of a lot of people, I think, from the State of Michigan to congratulate you on an award long in coming and more than richly deserved: Congratulations.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HYDE. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I had the honor to have the gentleman from Kentucky, JIM BUNNING, in my congressional district. I represented Ted Williams. Ted Williams being a constituent of mine, he wanted to meet with JIM BUNNING, so the two of them met in my congressional district at a dinner, and we had a wonderful time. I would point out to my colleagues here that JIM BUNNING struck out the greatest hitter of all time, Ted Williams, three times in one afternoon. He has that kind of staying power and that kind of pitching power.

But one thing that Ted Williams did say to me confidentially is that "JIM BUNNING should be in the Hall of Fame, and God willing, JIM BUNNING some day will be in the Hall of Fame," so I think Ted Williams was forecasting what has occurred. I congratulate him, and I think, on behalf of Ted Williams and others, we wish JIM BUNNING the best. We are glad that he was finally recognized.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1963 AND H.R. 1972

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1963 and H.R. 1972.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROGERS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for a number of recent rollcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: rollcall No. 20, "no"; rollcall No. 21, "yes"; rollcall No. 22, "yes"; rollcall No. 23, "no"; rollcall No. 24, "yes"; rollcall No. 25, "yes"; rollcall No. 26, "no"; rollcall No. 27, "no"; rollcall No. 28, "no"; rollcall No. 29, "no"; rollcall No. 30, "yes"; and rollcall No. 43, "yes".

MOST-FAVORED-NATION TREATMENT FOR BULGARIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the title of H.R. 2778, to provide that members of the Armed Forces performing services for the peacekeeping effort in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall be entitled to certain tax benefits in the same manner as if such services were performed in a combat zone, passed earlier today, is amended.

There was no objection.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to provide that members of the Armed Forces performing services for the peacekeeping efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Macedonia shall be entitled to tax benefits in the same manner as if such services were performed in a combat zone, and for other purposes."

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Small Business:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
March 5, 1996.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I hereby resign from the Committee on Small Business.

Very truly yours,

CHAKA FATTAH,
Member of Congress.

CALLING FOR REFORM OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. CHRISTENSEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I also serve on the Subcommittee on Social Security, and I am honored to call the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. BUNNING] my chairman, and it is indeed with honor that I serve on his committee.

Mr. Speaker, today I want to talk about another issue. If I have learned anything over the past year in Congress, it is that there are two opposing views on crime in our country. There are those who believe that crime is not

necessarily an issue of personal responsibility, but of environment. They tend to believe that the slick criminal trial lawyers, the liberal jurists, and endless death penalty appeals have been a good development for our criminal justice system. They advocate rehabilitation, lenient sentences, and legal loopholes, often in the name of compassion.

Then there are those like myself, those who are sick and tired of criminals preying on our families and children. We are tired of our kids being afraid to walk to school alone, we are tired of illegal drugs that are poisoning our youth, eating away at their futures. We are tired of slick criminal defense lawyers pushing criminals to freedom through legal loopholes. We are tired of seeing our prisoners treated better than the working men and women of this country.

I would like to give you just one recent example of what those of us in the silent majority are tired of. A recent decision by Federal Judge Herald Baer illustrates what is wrong with the liberals' view on crime, and why it is so important that we put justice back into our criminal justice system.

Judge Baer was appointed by President Clinton, due to, in President Clinton's own words, "his outstanding record of achievement." One wonders if President Clinton would stand by those words today, after reading Judge Baer's recent opinion.

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This is an account of his recent opinion.

During the early morning hours of April 21, 1995, police officer Richard Carroll and his partner, Sergeant Bentley, were assigned to plainclothes duty patrol on the north end of Manhattan, an area well known for being a hub for the drug trade. At about 5 in the morning, these veteran officers observed a woman slowly driving a car with out-of-State license plates. The woman stopped the car, double-parked, and waited.

Soon four men approached the car, walking single file. Without saying so much as one word to the female driver, the men lifted open the trunk of the car and placed several duffle bags into the car.

For obvious reasons becoming a little suspicious, Officers Carroll and Bentley drove up to the four males. Immediately the four males began running. Unable to apprehend the fleeing men, the officers immediately pulled over the woman's car.

Upon opening the trunk of the car, the officers discovered more than 80 pounds of cocaine and heroin in the trunk with a street value of over \$4 million. The woman admitted that she was purchasing drugs, even stating that she had expected to be paid \$20,000 for the trip and that she had made 20 similar trips in the past.

Now, where I come from in Nebraska, common sense tells us that people like that should go to jail. These trained officers clearly had a reason to pull over