

be many copies of them to perpetuate their image and their ideas.

Mr. Speaker, I want to make it clear in my opposition to this possible practice that I am not a Luddite. I do not automatically react against technological and scientific advances. Obviously not, for I am a scientist and have participated in many advances. But this issue of creating human beings through the cloning process raises such fundamental issues of ethics, morality, theology, and religious belief that I believe we should not only do as the President suggests, withhold funding, but I believe we should have an outright ban on experimentation on human cloning within the United States.

Human life is sacred. The good Lord ordained a time-honored method of creating human life, commensurate with substantial responsibility on the part of the parents, the responsibility to raise a child appropriately. Creating life in the laboratory as we do with human cloning is totally inappropriate and so far removed from the process of marriage and parenting that has been instituted upon this planet that we must rebel against the very concept of human cloning. It is simply wrong to experiment with the creation of human life in this way.

There are other aspects as well. What do we do with the failed experiments, the clones that go wrong? Are we simply going to say, well, they do not really matter because they were created in the laboratory? Will we simply dispose of them as we do with laboratory animal experiments that go wrong? Obviously you cannot. We are dealing with human beings.

So because of the importance of this issue, the importance of preventing human experimentation of this sort, I will be introducing very shortly a bill that will ban the use of Federal funds for human cloning research and a second bill which will provide an outright ban on the practice of human cloning.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF MRS. BEVERLY HOOVER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 21, 1997, the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. TIAHRT] is recognized during morning hour debates for 3 minutes.

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Beverly Hoover of Wichita, KS.

Nominated for the Governor's Arts Award, Beverly Hoover is an arts volunteer extraordinaire. Last year the Wichita Art Museum gave her just that title, volunteer extraordinaire in honor of her 17 years of service. She became volunteer to the Wichita Art Museum in 1980, serving as a docent which she still does today. Bev was instrumental in raising funds for the Hands On Gallery in 1982. She served as president of the volunteer council, chairman of bake sales, coordinator of holiday trees, and president of the annual art

and book fair. She is currently on the board of directors of the Friends of the Wichita Art Museum, which helps support the museum endowment. She has been a member of the friends boards for 8 years.

But Bev does not limit herself to just one arts group. She is capable of serving multiple organizations at one time and has served her community tirelessly in any number of capacities for 20 years, including school coordinator for sculpture in the Wichita Elementary School Art Project when her grown children were youngsters. Bev is the quintessential volunteer, a fast-fading commodity in most communities. She serves on committees, takes leadership roles on boards, gives generously of her time and resources and is an art collector and a patron of Wichita and Kansas art.

Bev serves on the board of directors of the Metropolitan Ballet of Wichita and served as president of that organization from 1983 to 1986. In her 16 years on the board, she has sold advertising for the ballet programs, raised money for guest artists, entertained the board and guests in her home, spearheaded a fundraising drive for a new studio, helped paint and repair the studio, supervised painting and mailing of countless invitations and acted as usher to thousands of Wichita elementary school children who have come to enjoy and appreciate the ballet through Bev's efforts and those who volunteer like Bev.

As if she were not busy enough, here is a sampling of the other activities for which Bev has volunteered over the years: the Music Theater of Wichita Association, 1987 to present; Wichita/Sedgwick Historical Museum, women's support group, from 1994 to present; American Diabetes Association of Kansas; Wichita Center for the Arts—Designing Women's Support Group, from 1995 to present; the Women's Association of the Wichita Symphony from 1987 to present, where she has served in various capacities, including young people's concert chairman and in various leadership positions with the Decorators Showhouse.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and my colleagues in Wichita Arts Enthusiasts by honoring Bev for all of her years of hard work and dedicated volunteerism.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the House stands in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

We pray, gracious God, that though the journey for justice may seem arduous and the necessary tasks of life seem too burdensome, yet in Your mercy we ask for support along the way. May there be nothing that keeps us from achieving a full measure of Your blessings or overwhelms us in our tasks. Teach us to walk by Your spirit, be lifted by Your presence and ennobled by Your grace. This is our earnest prayer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. CHABOT] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CHABOT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MORNING 1-MINUTE SPEECHES SERVE AN IMPORTANT FUNCTION

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, the bipartisan practice of beginning each legislative day with a series of 1-minute topical speeches is under attack. There is an effort in some quarters to muffle debate by pushing this segment back to the end of the day's proceedings. If that attempt succeeds, those Americans who try to follow this portion of the proceedings may be deprived of this important opportunity.

These 1-minute speeches at the start of the business each day give Members, even of low seniority, the chance to speak on issues of real concern to the Nation. I know that I hear from people all over the country responding to what has been said during these 1-minutes, and I think those people all over the country who want to follow our proceedings would be deprived, and I do not want to see that happen.

When individual Members seek to advance an agenda more far-reaching than even their leadership would propose, these 1-minutes provide a good forum for discussion. Morning 1-minutes were tolerated by Democratic leadership and they have been continued under Republican leadership. They should not be shoved to the end of the

day in an effort to squelch the exchange of views.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH CARE COVERAGE A TOP PRIORITY

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, may I first associate myself with the remarks of my colleague in terms of the opportunity to talk about issues that come up and do it at the beginning of the day. I think the 1-minutes are a useful tool, and helpful to the public in terms of following the debate here.

Mr. Speaker, I came to Congress to fight for working families, and there is no issue more important to the health of families than the health and well-being of their kids. Expanding health care coverage for the 10 million uninsured children in this Nation must be at the top of our legislative agenda.

There are kids without health insurance in all kinds of families. The vast majority, 90 percent, are the children of working parents. But their parents either lack health insurance themselves or their health plans do not cover their kids.

Children living without health insurance are hurt in so many ways. They are less likely to have a family doctor, less likely to receive preventive care, less likely to receive treatment, even for serious illness, and thus are less likely to grow up healthy and to be productive adults.

I urge the leadership to move the expansion of children's health care to the top of their legislative agenda, so we can make sure that the 10 million uninsured kids in this country have a chance to grow up healthy, ready to learn, and to succeed in life.

SUPPORT THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the Conservation Reserve Program, or CRP. Originally it was used as a supply management and conservation tool. Over time, it has become the conservation program of choice for most producers. In addition, it has gained the full-fledged support of many different conservation, environmental, and sportsmen's groups.

The 1996 farm bill gave the U.S. Department of Agriculture broad authority to develop a CRP policy that would provide the Nation with the most conservation benefits for each of the dollars invested. USDA has worked hard to develop such a policy, and I applaud their efforts.

However, many of my constituents, like me, are concerned with the untimely manner in which the rule was

issued. Many farmers in my district are agonizing over whether their land will be accepted into the CRP or if they should prepare to plant a crop.

I will be keeping a very close eye on how USDA handles the sign-up process, and will be more than ready to act should things not go as planned. I urge my colleagues to do the same.

END VOODOO ENVIRONMENTALISM IN YELLOWSTONE PARK

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, it is time to hold the Park Service accountable for its management of Yellowstone National Park. For 30 years Yellowstone has been managed with a hands-off policy called natural regulation: a 1960's idea that scientists last week in testimony described as both foolish and misguided.

We have a crisis brewing in Yellowstone Park. As a result of overgrazing, the beaver population, deer population, even the endangered grizzly bear's habitat have been severely damaged. Tall willows have been reduced by 95 percent. Aspen trees are disappearing. Stream banks are eroding 100 times faster inside the park than outside its boundaries.

Bison, however, are so numerous they have overgrazed available pasture land. This winter over 1,000 bison starved to death or fled the park looking for food, and officials at the Department of the Interior say the cruelty of starvation is good for the herd. One of every two bison now carry a disease that causes abortion in cattle and death in humans.

Mr. Speaker, this plan, a "let it starve" version of the old "let it burn" policy, can be replaced. We can do better. Let us stop this voodoo environmentalism, and preserve and protect Yellowstone Park.

REASONS TO SUPPORT THE WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, employees want more flexibility and choice in their work schedules. Unfortunately, there is a provision in the Federal law which prevents employers from being able to provide their employees with flexibility in one area: giving them the choice of paid comp time or cash wages for working overtime.

The Subcommittee on Workforce Protections recently heard testimony from witnesses in support of the Working Families Flexibility Act, which would allow employers to offer employees their choice of time or money.

As Peter Faust, an employee with the Opportunity Village in Iowa said,

"There are a lot of ways to make money in this country and lots of ways to spend it, but there's only one way to spend time with yourself, family, or friends, and that's to have time to spend."

Linda Smith, an employee with the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in Miami, FL, testified that she could save her overtime hours up for furthering her education, taking care of a debilitated parent or spending time with her young daughter.

Please support the needs of these employees and others by supporting H.R. 1, the Working Families Flexibility Act.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOODLATTE). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5, rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on the motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall vote, if postponed, will be taken on Wednesday, March 5, 1997.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO ENTERTAIN MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1997 AND THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1997

Mr. CANADY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that on Wednesday, March 5, 1997, the Speaker be authorized to entertain motions to suspend the rules and agree to the following resolutions:

House Concurrent Resolution 17, congratulating the people of Guatemala on the success of the recent negotiations to establish a peace process for Guatemala; House Concurrent Resolution 18, congratulating the people of the Republic of Nicaragua on the success of their democratic elections; and Senate Concurrent Resolution 4, commending and thanking the Honorable Warren Christopher for his exemplary service as Secretary of State.

And that on Thursday, March 6, 1997, the Speaker be authorized to entertain a motion to suspend the rules and pass the following bill:

H.R. 513, the District of Columbia Council Contract Review Reform Act of 1997.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

REGARDING THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Mr. CANADY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 31) expressing the sense of Congress regarding the display of the Ten