PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall votes No. 204, 205, and 206 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yes'' on rollcall No. 204, ''yes'' on rollcall No. 205, and ''yes'' on rollcall No. 206.

GOP TAX RELIEF PLAN PUTS MIDDLE-INCOME FAMILIES FIRST

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, the Democrats today seem to be characteristically void of facts and rich in rhetoric in their deliveries of one-minutes.

Under the Republican tax bill, the income level of $75,000 per household or less than $75,0000 is going to get 76 percent of the tax relief. Families with incomes over $200,000 get 1.2 percent. I do not understand how they can say that is giving more taxes to the wealthy.

Mr. Speaker, in 1992 the President ran on the platform of middle-class tax cuts but instead, as President, in 1993 passed the largest tax increase in history, including the largest-ever increase in welfare. But after a lot of debate, welfare was reformed. Today the number of dependents, people who are dependent on government, has decreased by 15 percent. Yet, the President wants to expand welfare and not give middle-class tax relief.

What I am saying is he wants to give a $500-per-child tax credit to people who are on welfare and not give it to 11 million middle-class children who need the money very, very desperately for school and education and shelter.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD this information from the Committee on Ways and Means:

The following table shows the amount of tax relief received by people of various income categories over a 5-year period, according to data provided by the Joint Committee on Taxation.

Income level	Tax relief	Percent of tax relief
Under $75,000	−$89.0 billion	76.4
$75,000 to $100,000	−19.3 billion	16.6
$100,000 to $200,000	−6.7 billion	5.8
$200,000+	1.4 billion	1.2

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members are recognized for 5 minutes each:

THE DETROIT NEWSPAPER STRIKE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, from grocery stores in Kansas City to casinos in Las Vegas, from the strawberry fields in California to the K-Mart stores in North Carolina, to the poultry workers who are working across the South, working people across this country are speaking out for justice, and unions are their voices.

There is something special that is happening in the country that a lot of the media is missing. Working people's wages and benefits have been eroding now since 1979. Eighty percent of the American people have only gotten 2 percent of the income increases since 1979, and they are finding out that what made the middle class and what made people strong in this country during the 1940's and the 1950's was joining together and banding together so they could get a decent reward and wage for their work.

This weekend, we will again hear those strong voices loud and clear from Detroit. At least 50,000 workers, their families, and supporters are expected to participate in Action Motown '97, which is a mobilization solidarity for the Detroit community, locked out newspaper workers, and union members.

I am going to be there, and we will be speaking out to workers, to the labor movement in our community and against the management of the Detroit News and Free Press. The News and Free Press have locked out nearly 2,000 hard-working men and women since February of this year, and these workers sought to resolve a 2-year labor dispute by unconditionally offering to return to work.

How were they treated when they tried to jump-start contract talks and tried to return to work? They were locked out, replaced and told to go home.

□ 1300

It is clear to me that the News and the Free Press are willing to lose millions of dollars in an attempt to break the unions. How clear is it? Their combined circulation is down 286,000 readers. Despite huge ad rate discounts, 1,500 advertisers have stayed away from the papers, causing a 24-percent dip in advertising revenue.

Yet the most startling fact is not statistics but a quote made 1 month after the newspaper workers took a stand for justice by Detroit News editor and publisher Robert Giles. He said, ''We're going to hire a whole new work force and go on without unions, or they can surrender unconditionally and salvage what they can.''

Does that sound like someone who is willing to bargain in good faith? Despite a 1994 Free Press editorial, which stated, ''The U.S. Senate should approve a bill that would prohibit companies from hiring permanent replacements for striking workers. The right to strike is essential if workers are to gain and preserve wages.''

That was the Free Press in 1994. It seems clear that the hiring of permanent nonunion replacement workers has been a newspaper goal all along, because the Free Press does not practice what it preaches. The Free Press and its editor Joe Stroud reneged on their editorial and took a gutless way out, turning their backs on these workers. This is what they said in an editorial that was written in an about-face in 1995, and I quote. They said, ''We intend to exercise our legal right to hire replacement workers.''

I think Cardinal Adam J. Maida of Detroit best put it when he said, ''The hiring of permanent replacement workers is not an acceptable solution. If striking workers are threatened with being permanently replaced, this practice seems to undermine the legitimate purpose of the union and to destroy the possibility of collective bargaining.''

The News and the Free Press are owned by two of the biggest conglomerates in the world, Gannett and Knight-Ridder, who have deep pockets and are willing to lose millions of dollars to set an example in Detroit. They are trying to break the backs of unions and deprive 2,000 workers of their jobs and their families of sustenance. Their actions are unfair, they are unjust, they are illegal, and we will be marching as we marched in Decatur for workers in that city, as we marched for strawberry workers in California. We will be in Detroit because many of our parents and grandparents fought too hard and too long for the gains that unions have made, for the 40-hour workweek, for pensions, for health care benefits, you name it.

I could go on for 10 minutes here with all the things that unions have brought America, not just people who belong to unions. Those benefits benefited everybody in our society. Now they are being taken away one by one, piece by piece by conglomerates and multinationals like Knight-Ridder and Gannett. We are going to be there, I encourage everyone to be there, I encourage everyone to join Action! Motown '97 this weekend.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CHAMBLISS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GEKAS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. GEKAS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

RESOLUTION APOLOGIZING FOR SLAVERY

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

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, last week, I introduced House Concurrent Resolution 96. This is a resolution that apologizes for slavery in the United States. It is rather simple. It is only one sentence long. Let me read it:

Resolved by the House of Representatives that the Congress apologizes to African-