

sign on to a letter to the European Union clearly stating Congress' belief that Europe should not meddle in the internal affairs of U.S. businesses. Europe should have no say in American markets' decisions that ultimately cost American jobs and American sovereignty.

□ 2130

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California [Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

BOTH DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS WANT TO HELP PEOPLE, AND VOTING FOR LESS GOVERNMENT IS FREQUENTLY THE BEST WAY TO ACHIEVE THAT

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, it is totally false to say that one party cares more about the environment or children or senior citizens than the other party. I do not understand why we have to constantly attack each other or question each other's motives to express our views.

Neither party has a monopoly on virtue. Neither party has cornered the market on compassion. I know I am going to state some things that should be obvious but that are often questioned around here.

Republicans love children just as much as Democrats do. Republicans want a clean environment just as much as Democrats do. Republicans have just as much compassion and sympathy for the disabled and senior citizens as Democrats do. Republicans support education just as strongly as Democrats do, and vice versa. I repeat, no one has cornered the market on compassion. No one has a monopoly on virtue.

We do have differences of opinion. We have different philosophies and beliefs

about the best ways to help people. But all of us, both Democrat and Republican, want to help people. We all want to make this Nation a better place in which to live.

Republicans believe that big government hurts children by taking so much money away from parents and spending it instead on bureaucrats, fat cat government contractors, and administrative costs. Republicans have looked all over the world and have seen that big government benefits the few, the elite, those who work for or have connections with the government. Republicans believe government means a minute, elite class and a huge underclass, and that conversely, a small government means a huge middle class.

Look at the former Soviet Union, where the leaders of the Communist Party had their limousines and dachas by the sea and special stores in which to shop, while almost everybody else led a starvation existence. Look at the United States in 1950 where the average person paid 2 to 4 percent in taxes to the Federal Government and another 2 to 4 percent to State and local governments. We had a huge middle class and a much smaller difference between the rich and the poor. Now almost 50 years later, Government has exploded and the average person pays almost half of his or her income in taxes when we count taxes of all types, Federal, State, and local.

What has happened? Many middle-income people are finding it harder and harder to keep ahead. Personal bankruptcies hit an alltime record of 1.1 million last year. The gap between the rich and the poor is growing wider and wider.

Also, where many mothers formerly had their choice of staying home with their children if they wished, today, with half of the average family's income going in various forms of taxes, one spouse has to work to support the Government while the other spouse works to support the family.

My point, Mr. Speaker, is simply this: Sometimes the best way to help children and families is not through another Government program which has a good apple-pie-and-motherhood title but which really helps only a few bureaucrats and Government contractors.

The Job Corps is a prime example. Today we spend \$25,000 per Job Corps student. This would shock most of these students, because almost all of this money is going to bureaucrats and contractors. We could take each Job Corps student and give them a \$1,300 allowance and send them even to an expensive private school and still save money. This is how ridiculously expensive this and many other Federal programs have become.

My time is limited, Mr. Speaker, but let me mention the environment. The worst pollution in the world has occurred in the Socialist and Communist countries. Big government is bad for

the environment. Only in a free market system can we generate the funds necessary to do the good things for the environment that all of us, both Democrat and Republican, want done. Also, people take better care of their own property than they do someone else's. Private property is not only good for the environment, it is essential.

John Stossel of ABC News had a special on television a couple of years ago in which he pointed out that to clean our air to the almost impossible standard demanded by some groups would cost so much that it could throw millions of people into poverty. He presented a study which showed that we might add one day to the life of the average person by getting tougher on clean air, but that poverty decreases lifespans by 7½ years.

Is it compassionate, Mr. Speaker, to vote for some bill because it does some microscopic good for the environment if in the process it destroys millions of jobs, drives up prices, and hurts the poor and working people? Is it compassionate to go overboard on the environment if it throws possibly millions into poverty?

Finally, Mr. Speaker, all I am saying is this: that both parties want to help people and make this Nation better. Sometimes we do that by voting for government programs. Today, with our huge out-of-control Federal Government, more frequently we help people by voting for less government.

AMERICA NEEDS A BALANCED APPROACH TO FIGHTING JUVENILE CRIME

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

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the issue of juvenile justice in this country. Everyone knows that juvenile justice and juvenile crime is a growing concern in this country. But with the majority party, it seems that they cannot make up their mind on how they want to approach this issue.

Yesterday, in a bipartisan approach, we suspended the rules and we passed H.R. 1818, the Juvenile Crime Control and Delinquency Prevention Act, sponsored by the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. SCOTT], the gentleman from California [Mr. MARTINEZ], and the gentleman from California [Mr. RIGGS]. The bill reauthorized the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and made several changes to that office to refocus the Federal effort to prevent juvenile crime before it occurs.

The bill contained four core requirements which States must comply with: deinstitutionalization of status offenders, separating juveniles from adults in prison, limiting the time that juveniles spend in adult facilities, and addressing efforts to reduce disproportionate minority confinement.