

Mr. Speaker, this is the American dream as the Republican Party has worked for it. We have worked in a bipartisan fashion. We believe that families like the Collins' are all over America.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

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

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, we have seen great cooperation in the House Democrats, Republicans, the White House, all coming together on some incredibly complex issues. Taxes, health care. Now we can take our time and finally act on the promises we have had from the Speaker and from others in this institution over the last 3 years. Let us do campaign finance reform. Let us at least end soft money. Americans are being driven out of the political process when they see hundred-thousand-dollar contributions given to both political parties.

The Speaker says there is not enough money in politics. Every indication is, the more money that goes into politics, the less people are participating. Get rid of soft money. Let us take a first strong step to clean up of the election process.

#### WEARING OUT OUR WELCOME

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

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, this week angry Haitian mobs protested the planned 4-month of extension of the U.N. mission to Haiti, an extension that received surprise Chinese sign-off for an as yet undisclosed price. Frustrated and victimized Haitians accused U.N. troops of only guarding the palace and Aristide's house instead of providing the law and order they are there for.

Ironically the United Nations also had to issue an apology recently for what Haitians saw as too much attention from U.N. troops in Port-de-Paix, where the U.N.'s soldier had to be rescued from the mobs by airlift. Haitian parliamentarians have also demanded an end to the occupation.

If we have worn out our welcome in Haiti, let us send our troops and the United States trainer/builders out of range of rock-throwing mobs and save further wear and tear on American taxpayers wallets. Aside from time, what can we buy in Haiti in a 4-month extension that \$3 billion could not buy in the past 2½ years?

#### EVERYONE TAKES CREDIT

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

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, yesterday everyone in the leadership took credit for getting the budget deal. It demonstrated that leadership means that we can get things done when we pull together.

But where is the leadership in campaign reform? The President stood here in this room and asked for it by the Fourth of July. Members of the House and Senate have both introduced comprehensive legislation. They have introduced legislation to do it in small ways or big ways. Yet nothing is moving, Mr. Speaker. Nothing is moving.

However, soon we will see big contributions moving into the coffers of the Republican Party. It seems only smart that we should have a vote on campaign reform before someone suggests that there is a link between tax breaks and campaign contributions. The public wants a vote, Mr. Speaker. The President wants a vote. I authored a comprehensive campaign reform, H.R. 600. I want a vote. This House wants a vote. When do we get it?

#### GOOD NEWS FOR AMERICA

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

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to talk about the good news that is here for America. It is good news.

□ 1015

For the first time since 1969 we are going to have a balanced budget in the United States of America. For the first time since 1969, the people that are here in Washington are not going to spend more money than what they take in. They will do the responsible thing.

The news even gets better. After a balanced budget, in addition to a balanced budget we are also going to pass bills that lower the taxes on the American people.

I have heard a lot of rhetoric about who gets these tax cuts. I want to cut through all that rhetoric and get down to what it really means to a family of five in Janesville, WI. A family having three kids living in Janesville, WI, earning \$40,000 or \$50,000 a year because both parents are probably working, they have that income coming in, what they should do on January 1 of next year, this is not Washington rhetoric, they should walk into their place of employment and tell their employer they want to keep \$100 more every month of their own money. Because that is what this tax cut package means to a family of five in Janesville, WI, or anyplace else in America.

For each of the children in the family there is a \$400 per child tax cut, \$1,200 for a year. That is \$100 a month. And on January 1 the American people should start keeping that money instead of sending it to Washington.

#### BOTH PARTIES CIRCUMVENTING CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, as the ongoing Senate hearings and news reports have revealed, both parties are circumventing our campaign finance laws to raise hundreds of millions of dollars in soft money. The time has come to ban soft money.

Over 2 years ago the Speaker and President Clinton shook hands on campaign finance reform, but since that time nothing has been done. How many more pressing issues will Congress fail to address because of the insidious influence of money and politics? As we all know, delay means death for campaign finance reform.

Recently 25 Members and I wrote to the Speaker asking for a floor scheduled vote on banning soft money in the 1998 election cycle. If no such schedule is designated before we leave this week, Mr. Speaker, all Members should be prepared to arrive at work early and stay late, because regular order is intolerable while campaign finance reform remains absent from our calendar.

#### WHY CHANGE THE SUBJECT?

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

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, this is fun. We have just agreed to the largest new budget proposal in generations, a balanced budget, tax cuts for everyone in America, and they want to change the subject to campaign finance reform.

The fact of the matter is both sides do not do it, the only side accused of taking illegal foreign contributions are the Democrats. The fact of the matter is, when Bob Dole accepted \$75 million of taxpayers' money to run the Presidential campaign, that is all he spent. It was the President that took \$75 million and then spent \$40 million more illegally. They are not arguing with that. They want to say the system is broken because everyone does it.

That is not the evidence. That is not the evidence before the Thompson committee. But if I were in as deep a trouble as they are with respect to cheating on the current laws, I would want to change the laws too.

#### STOP HARASSMENT OF HISPANIC CANDIDATES AND VOTERS

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

Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have singled out the gentlewoman from California [Ms. LORETTA