

warned that we are headed toward a failure in the census. We believe that before America spends \$4 billion on the census done by polling, we should find a way to do it the way we have for 200 years, by counting each American.

MANAGED CARE REFORM

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

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to share with my colleagues a letter I recently received from two Republican State legislators from Texas.

Representative John Smithee, Chairman of the House Committee on Insurance, and Senator David Sibley, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Development opened their letter with a plea to Congress not to disturb the substantial progress already achieved in Texas on managed care reform. Their letter is written because the two Republican leaders of the legislature in Texas read the Gingrich Insurance Protection Act that was passed by the House and they know what it would do to the protections already passed by the Texas legislature. It would render them useless.

In place of the strong patient protections passed in Texas, which include HMO accountability, binding independent reviews, coverage for emergency care and the elimination of gag clauses, Texas would be left with a sham bill that for every patient protection, it gives the insurance companies a loophole they can drive a truck through because of the bill that passed on this floor.

Like many States around the country, Texas has passed laws that meet the needs of its citizens to deal with insurance companies licensed by the State. We should not undermine their work, we should complement it on a national basis.

THE FIRESTORM COMETH

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, a lot of people criticize the current scandal, the most visible, the most popular scandal at the White House as being overblown and overdiscussed and so forth. I think perhaps that they have something to say. I think there is a lot of validity in that statement.

I for one frankly am a lot more concerned about why the Chinese communists funneled into the Democrat National Party \$3 million in illegal contributions during the last election. What was that all about? And why suddenly after that did we give them unprecedented missile technology, transfers from Loral Corporation, whose CEO Bernie Schwartz gave \$600,000 personally to the reelection efforts of the Democrats and the President.

But this is something that is not just Republicans getting mad at Democrats. This is what the liberal-leaning, Democrat-endorsing New York Times said, that Charles LaBella, who has been leading the Department of Justice campaign finance investigation, has now advised Attorney General Janet Reno that under both the mandatory and discretionary provisions of the Independent Counsel Act, she must appoint an outside prosecutor to take over this.

I agree with Mr. LaBella. It is time to have an outside prosecutor to figure out why 3 million illegal contribution dollars went to the Democrat Party.

CENSUS

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

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, later this morning we will be having a debate over the upcoming decennial census concerning an amendment by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOLLOHAN). Unfortunately this issue has become very politicized, and that is wrong because the census should not be part of the political debate here, it should be just counting people in this country, not speculating and guesstimating by utilizing polling techniques. That is what exactly has been proposed by the President.

What the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), the chairman of the committee, has proposed is that the decision be made next spring. That is under agreement by the President, by the Census Bureau, the decision should be made next spring. That is when we should face the decision.

Unfortunately the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOLLOHAN) says, "Congress, you're not relevant in this decision. We think only the President knows best to decide and we'll let the President decide next spring and we're not interested in what Congress has to say on the issue." What we believe is it should be a bipartisan decision next spring when all the facts are in, we can make the decision, not now, and we should have an agreement with Congress, the Democrats and the Republicans and the Administration. That is what we want to do. I hope everybody will vote down the Mollohan amendment.

PROVIDING AMOUNTS FOR FURTHER EXPENSES OF COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Oversight be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H.Res. 506) providing amounts for further expenses of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct in the second session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 506

Resolved,

SECTION 1. FURTHER EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT.

For further expenses of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (hereafter in this resolution referred to as the "committee"), there shall be paid out of the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives not more than \$200,000.

SEC. 2. VOUCHERS.

Payments under this resolution shall be made on vouchers authorized by the committee, signed by the chairman of the committee, and approved in the manner directed by the Committee on House Oversight.

SEC. 3. LIMITATION.

Amounts shall be available under this resolution for expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 1998, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 1999.

SEC. 4. REGULATIONS.

Amounts made available under this resolution shall be expended in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Committee on House Oversight.

SEC. 5. ADJUSTMENT AUTHORITY.

The Committee on House Oversight shall have authority to make adjustments in amounts under section 1, if necessary to comply with an order of the President issued under section 254 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or to conform to any reduction in appropriations for the purposes of such section 1.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4276, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

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

There was no objection.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 508 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4276.

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IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole