

## COLOMBIA AID PACKAGE

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, let us face it, illegal drugs are killing our kids at an alarming rate. Every year we lose 52,000 young lives to drugs, nearly equal to the number of Americans killed in Vietnam over 10 years.

According to the U.S. drug czar, one of every two American kids will try illegal drugs by the time they reach the 12th grade; many will become habitual users, leading to a life of crime, or worse, death.

This is staggering. The cost of drug abuse to our society is estimated to be \$110 billion per year. Not to mention the cost of countless lives lost and dreams broken.

Each day that we put off consideration of the Colombia aid package, more of our kids will fall victim to the estimated 14 metric tons of heroin and 357 metric tons of cocaine which enters our country each year.

With our strong support, Colombia could be successful at slowing the flow of drugs from their country to ours. Failing to provide this important aid now may result in the loss of Colombia to the drug cartels and future generations of Americans to the drug addiction.

I urge support for the Colombia aid package.

## INTERNATIONAL ABDUCTION

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell the story of Jim Rinaman and his daughter Julia. Her story is the sixth account in my series of 1-minutes of more than 10,000 children who have been abducted to foreign countries.

In 1996, Mr. Rinaman's ex-wife, Sylvia Breitbart, escorted her mother back to Germany and took Julia with her. Ten days later Jim was notified via fax that she would not be returning and that she was keeping his daughter in Germany.

He immediately filed a Hague petition. And at an initial hearing, Sylvia was ordered to return Julia. She appealed the decision and has gone on to delay further court proceedings.

Jim has been through the German court process three times and still has not gained custody of nor access to his child. He has no contact or had had no contact with Julia since her abduction.

Mr. Speaker, these 1-minutes are about families and reuniting children with their parents. They are just the first steps in what will be an ongoing dialogue with the American people, the foreign countries who have our children, and my colleagues to bring our children home.

## HISTORICAL LEGACY OF RONALD AND NANCY REAGAN

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I had the great honor and privilege of appearing before the House Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policies to share with them my thoughts on the historical legacy of Ronald and Nancy Reagan.

And yet perhaps a greater honor to me was listening to the eloquent words of Caspar Weinberger, Jeane Kirkpatrick, Peggy Noonan, and Martin Anderson. These close friends and trusted colleagues of the Reagans reflected on the dedication of our 40th President and his wife Nancy to our great Nation.

Even the former leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, submitted a letter to the subcommittee expressing his deep respect for former President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be the sponsor of H.R. 3591, a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Ronald and Nancy Reagan. Currently, this bill has approximately 280 cosponsors. It is a bipartisan effort to bestow a fitting tribute on the Reagans in recognition to their dedication and commitment to public service and to our country.

I encourage all of my colleagues to become cosponsors of H.R. 3591 and join me in saying "thank you" to the Reagans for dedicating so much of their lives to the people of the United States.

## U.S. BORDER IS WIDE OPEN

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the border is wide open. Heroin and cocaine are coming across the border at, listen to the report, "record volumes." And nobody is doing anything about it.

Now, look, when a 10-year-old kid can get heroin as easily as he can get aspirin, something is dangerously wrong with America.

It is time to secure our homeland, time to secure our borders; and we cannot do that with the neighborhood crime watch. It is time to use the military.

My colleagues, I yield back the failed national drug strategy that we have in effect.

By the way, the victims are our own street kids. There is no war on drugs.

## CENSUS 2000

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

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Census 2000 is underway. If my colleagues have not received their form,

they will receive it shortly. Please complete that form and send it back as soon as possible. It is so important for this country and our own communities because so much money flows from Washington and our State capitals based on the population of our area. Whether it is health care or education or roads or sewers, it is so important.

Unfortunately, the minority yesterday started playing politics with the census again. And that is unfortunate, because there is no substitute for counting people. The sampling issue was settled by the Supreme Court over a year ago. And they could not have picked a worse day of a worse week to bring up the issue and to undermine response for the census, and that is indeed sad.

Everyone counts, black or white, Hispanic, Asian, young or old. Everyone counts in this country. Please complete this form and send it back today.

## CHILD GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

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

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, in less than one week, it will be a whole year since the school shooting in Jonesboro, Arkansas. And almost exactly one month later will mark the 1-year anniversary of the tragedy at Columbine High School just outside my district.

A month after that, a whole year will have gone by since the Senate passed their version of child gun safety legislation.

Mr. Speaker, what has been done here in the House? The sad answer is, nothing. We have done nothing to protect our citizens, to protect our families, and most importantly, to protect our children.

When is this House going to stand up against the gun violence being perpetrated against our children? When are we going to stand up for the safety of our families?

This Congress will be judged for as much as what it does not do as what it does. And, Mr. Speaker, it has not gone unnoticed by the public that we have done nothing to protect them from the horrific gun violence that continues to pollute our proud country.

The very least this House can do is pass common sense child gun safety legislation and pass it now.

## HOW TO COME TO AGREEMENT ON THE BUDGET

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

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, many people ask me, How can you come to agreement on a budget with the President whose vision for America is so different from your own?

That is a fair question. And the answer is, with much difficulty.