

and has a bold proposal, who wants to move off the status quo and wants to take charge. Someone who has enough guts to stand and say, hey, I am going to lead, I am going to take us into some positive territory, so either move with me or stand aside.

The minute the system, the bureaucracy of the Social Security or any government bureaucracy is challenged, watch out. Because, as my colleagues know, they will turn on you and try to tear you apart from every angle they can. And how interesting it is that that is exactly what is happening with the Governor of the State of Texas and his proposal to fix Social Security. He ought to receive a pat on the back from everybody in this Chamber. We ought to go up and say thanks for being bold enough to propose something with seriousness and be ready to charge forward with a change to Social Security. We should also thank him for being smart enough not to throw it all out; not to put it all at risk; and, most importantly under this proposal, he allows choice.

If a person in Social Security does not want to invest in any of those choices, they do not have to. If a government employee does not want to participate in the Thrift Savings Plan, they do not have to. It is a program of choice and it is a program, which, in my opinion, is the most viable option we have out there today to move Social Security out of the red into the black on an actuarial basis. That is the beauty of this thing.

Now, I know that since that proposal was made, first of all, after the Governor of the State of Texas advocated it, we had a lot of fire come from frankly the administration's policy and the vice president. But then, all of a sudden, the pollsters went out there and they came back with poll results that said the American people wanted to see us shore up Social Security; that the American people were willing to look at choice; the American people are willing to take reasonable, reasonable, risk, well, then all of a sudden the administration starts to change their policy. So now they have come up with a plan. That is good. Let us take these plans, let us put them together and let us save Social Security for the future.

Let me wrap it up. My colleagues have been very patient with me this evening. I appreciate the opportunity to address my colleagues.

I talked about toll roads, toll roads being proposed in the State of Colorado simply to punish people for being on the road. Not to build new highways, but to simply institute what I believe is congestive pricing. There is too much congestion, too much traffic on the road, let us take the people who built the roads with their taxes and let us tax them off the road. It is unacceptable.

Unacceptable as far as I am concerned, especially considering the fact they are putting the toll gate at the entrance of the Third Congressional District of the State of Colorado.

Secondly, I talked about the death taxes and how unfair that tax upon a person's death is. Whether an individual is wealthy or whether they have a ranch or whatever, think about the consequences of penalizing somebody upon their death. It is an unjustified tax. It is a tax we should eliminate. I hope we will not let these editorial writers in some of these papers convince us that it is a good way to attack the rich, that it is a good way to get a vendetta going among people who have taken the American Dream and lived it and accomplished it.

And, finally, as my colleagues know, I just wrapped up on Social Security. Let us take a plan that is a bold plan. Not a risky plan, not a risky plan for this next generation, but let us do something, let us make the next generation have something better than we have. After all, the American Dream is to make sure that the people, the generation and the children beyond us, live a better life than the best life we have ever lived. And we can do it if we just stick together.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and July 11 on account of business in the district.

Mr. McNULTY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of family illness.

Mr. SMITH of Washington (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of personal business.

Mrs. FOWLER (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of travel delays.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MINGE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. WELLER) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. WELLER, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported

that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 4425. An act making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 148. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance in the conservation of neotropical migratory birds.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee did on the following dates present to the President, for his approval, bills of the House of the following titles:

On June 30, 2000:

H.R. 3051. To direct the Secretary of the Interior, the Bureau of Reclamation, to conduct a feasibility study on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4762. To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require 527 organizations to disclose their political activities.

On July 1, 2000:

H.R. 4425. Making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, July 11, 2000, at 9 a.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8437. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Pine Shoot Beetle; Addition to Quarantined Areas [Docket No. 99-101-1] received June 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8438. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Tobacco Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Tobacco Inspection; Subpart B—Regulations [Docket No. TB-99-10] (RIN: 0581-AB65) received June 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8439. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service,