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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Ronald Auch, Pastor, Prayer House Assembly of God, Kenosha, Wisconsin, offered the following prayer:

Father in Heaven, I thank You for this day that You have given us. We hold Your name in reverence. As we look at our world with its various needs, we realize how wonderful it would be for Your kingdom to come into the hearts of all men. We pray for Your will to be accomplished. We are a needy people. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us also as a Nation for the times we trespassed others' rights. Make us willing to forgive those who have done the same to us. Keep us from truly evil activities so that we can be a moral standard to our children, our families, our Nation and the world. I pray that You would bless each of the Members of the House of Representatives this day. In Jesus' name. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SUNUNU led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

REVEREND RONALD AUCH

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

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure of mine to be here to hear the words from Pastor Ron Auch from the Prayer House Assembly of God Church in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

It is a pleasure to celebrate the things that he has done on behalf of the residents of Kenosha County, and the fact that he was able to address the Nation in prayer this morning is a tribute to the sacrifices that he and his family have given to all of the folks in Kenosha.

Mr. Speaker, I know first hand the kinds of healing and gifts that he has done for constituents. He has helped friends of mine in their problems. He has brought the Savior into their lives and brought hope and spiritual healing to countless people.

Now he is building a new church, the Prayer House Assembly of God. It is 2 years old in Kenosha and up and running quite well. He has brought spiritual healing to the people of Kenosha, Wisconsin. I thank Pastor Ron for giving us a wonderful word to start our day's business today.

MARCUS BARTLETT HAS MADE INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO ARTS AND MUSIC CULTURE

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Mr. Marcus Bartlett for his invaluable contributions to the arts and music culture in the South. Mark has been a long-time friend of Mary Plumer, a community activist in my congressional district. Involved in music and entertainment during his 50-year career, Mark has contributed to our American cultural and artistic heritage. He is viewed as a pioneer in radio, television, and cable. Mark is the former executive vice president of Cox Broadcasting Corporation.

In 1924, young Marcus went to Atlanta and began providing piano accompaniment for choral groups and orchestras that performed each day on ''The Voice of the South.''

Today, still guided by genuine generosity, he continues to dedicate his time to entertain senior citizens at retirement homes, hospitals, and churches in Atlanta.

I thank Mark for truly being in tune with the community spirit, and I wish him many more years of happiness and harmony.

FAITH-BASED INITIATIVES

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

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, in today's Washington Post, President Bush was quoted as saying those who disagree with his faith-based initiatives ''do not understand the power of faith.'' He then referred ''to the skeptics of faith in our society.''

Mr. Speaker, I personally respect the President and his right to offer his proposals. However, I do not think it is fair to question the religious faith of decent Americans who happen to disagree with his policy proposals. Challenging people's religious faith because of public policy differences is not a way to bring Americans together; rather it is a prescription for religious divisiveness.

Numerous groups such as the Baptist Joint Committee and the American Jewish Committee differ with the President on faith-based initiatives, not because they question the power of faith, but because they want to prevent government from regulating our faith.

As we proceed in the debate on faith-based initiatives, I urge all sides to

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focus on the specific issues at hand and not to challenge the religious faith of those with differing views of conscience.

REMEMBERING THE SACRIFICES MADE BY OUR SOLDIERS ON JUNE 6, 1944, D-DAY

(Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind our citizens of the sacrifices made by our soldiers on June 6, 1944, D-Day.

Mr. Speaker, on that day the war in Europe reached a dramatic turning point. The Americans and British invaded France from the air and sea. They brought with them a respect for the law, human rights, and democracy. Only through their sacrifice was France and later Europe freed from the grips of an evil tyrant.

Mr. Speaker, it is a fitting tribute on the eve of D-Day's 57th anniversary that the President signed The Veterans Opportunities Act of 2001. I was honored to have my language included from H.R. 1015 to retroactively increase the maximum benefit for SGLI coverage, and I am grateful that on this day when so many soldiers gave their lives to secure freedom for Europe, that we were able to help the families of those killed in tragic accidents.

Mr. Speaker, this would not have been possible without the critical support of the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH).

FBI AGENT WHO KILLED VICKI WEAVER CAN BE PROSECUTED

(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, a Federal court ruled that the FBI agent that killed Vicki Weaver can be prosecuted. Finally, a Federal court with some anatomy. Check the facts. The Department of Justice once again investigating the Justice Department once again concluded that Agent Horiuchi accidentally shot Mrs. Weaver. Accident, my BVDs. Vicki Weaver was shot stone cold right between the eyes while holding her infant child.

Mr. Speaker, the FBI is beginning to look more and more like the KGB. I yield back the fact that if the FBI and Justice Department were not guilty at Ruby Ridge, why did they pay Randy Weaver $3 million and his wounded friend, Kevin Harris, $400,000 to shut them up? Think about it.

EVERY TAXPAYER WILL GET A REFUND IN THE MAIL

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, for months now pundits have been talking about whether America has been teetering on the brink of a recession. Gross domestic product has fallen from a whopping 7.3 percent in the last quarter of 1999 to just 1.3 percent in the first quarter of this year. The current quarter is a mystery. We do not know if GDP grew or contracted for the second quarter until it is over.

But through all of this, the President has told us if his tax cut package was passed into law, it would provide a much-needed stimulus to the economy. Now it is going to happen. Tomorrow the President signs the bill into law. Every taxpayer will get a refund in the mail and see more take-home pay in their paychecks.

David Wyss of Standard & Poors says, ''Roughly half the population is struggling and living paycheck to paycheck. Those folks will use the rebate almost immediately.''

Mr. Speaker, this President promised and this President delivered. This Congress promised and this Congress delivered. This should help stimulate our economy; and this, my friends, is good government.

TAX RELIEF IS VICTORY FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES

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

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, tax relief for American families has been one of my top priorities; so when George Bush ran for President, he made the promise to bring relief to families, and that was like a breath of fresh air.

This year, President Bush laid out specific proposals for tax relief. Some scoffed at the idea of tax relief. Many actively worked to keep Americans from keeping more of their hard-earned tax dollars.

Mr. Speaker, we have now passed tax relief for American families, and later this summer every American who pays taxes will actually get a tax rebate check. These checks come as a promise kept to the American people and are only the first installment of a long-term tax reduction.

When this tax plan is fully implemented, a typical family of four will see their taxes nearly cut in half. Soon American taxpayers will be keeping more of what they earn. This truly is a victory for American families.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN SHOULD BE PUT IN MOTHBALLS

(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, this morning I want to take a brief moment and address some of the concerns of shipping and storing nuclear waste.

Recently, a former DOE official publicly announced that plans for a nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain should be abandoned. Mr. W. Kenneth Davis, Energy Undersecretary from 1981 to 1983, had supported the Yucca Mountain repository site under the Reagan administration. But now, Mr. Davis maintains that shipping deadly nuclear waste across the country to Yucca Mountain should not occur. He said, ''Yucca Mountain, which is unlikely to be licensed, is unreasonable in view of the shipping required, if nothing else, and in my opinion should be put in mothballs.''

Mr. Speaker, shipping nuclear waste across America to Yucca Mountain endangers the lives of every American. Let us heed Mr. Davis' advice, and put the plan for Yucca Mountain in mothballs, where it belongs. There is not enough time in 1 minute to name all of the dangers of shipping nuclear waste across America or to list all of the dangerous plans of storing nuclear waste in Yucca Mountain. This will be addressed as we further debate this issue.

MILITARY MANEUVERS BY PRC AND PLA APPEAR TO THREATEN TAIWAN

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I come to the well of the House today to call my colleagues' attention to the recent military maneuvers by the People's Republic of China and the People's Liberation Army that appear to threaten Taiwan.

The PLA's response to nearly every political development seems to be to increase its military posture. I wonder, Mr. Speaker, what is the People's Republic of China afraid of. To my knowledge during the modern era, there has never been a credible threat to the security of mainland China. The amphibious military training maneuvers currently underway are similar to 1996 exercises that resulted in a missile launch aimed at the Taiwan Straits. You may recall that the U.S. responded to that launch by deploying an aircraft carrier to the region. Now, as then, the United States is committed to stability in the region.

The threatening nature of these recent maneuvers and their proximity to Taiwan challenges the territorial stability of the island and long-term peace of the region. It is written that it is for freedom that He set us free. Let China hear that in this Congress we will stand with those who will stand for liberty.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in monitoring the conduct of the Chinese military in the coming weeks.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NARVELL L. ARNOLD, CONGRESSIONAL PAGE

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

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to congratulate my congressional page, Narvell L. Arnold. This is the first time I have had an opportunity to nominate a congressional page. I am very pleased. Narvell attends John F. Kennedy High School in my congressional district. In fact, just this week I was at John F. Kennedy High School speaking with his principal and counselor. I am so pleased that Narvell, who is captain of the football team, the captain of the basketball team, had an opportunity to be a part of a number of community programs: the Urban League Career Beginnings and another program called Look Up to Cleveland. Narvell, you have made me very, very proud.

Mr. Speaker, I trust that Narvell's future years as a student and politician will be great. And to all of the rest of the congressional pages, it has been wonderful having them. I know they will enjoy their summer.

□ 1015

A VICTORY FOR HARDWORKING TAXPAYERS

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, families are overtaxed, businesses are overregulated, and our economy is suffering as a result. Clearly there is room within the enormous tax surplus to pay down the debt and fund priority programs while ensuring working families receive the tax relief they both need and deserve. Full, fair, and immediate tax relief has been and will continue to be one of my top priorities here in Congress.

The easiest thing to do in Washington is to increase spending. One of the hardest things to do is to reduce taxes. But thanks to the President's steadfast leadership, hardworking taxpayers will get the significant tax relief they deserve.

Already this session of Congress, the U.S. House has passed key tax relief proposals, including repeal of the death tax, marriage penalty tax relief, and the expansion of the child tax credit.

Mr. Speaker, our new President has been in the White House just over 100 days and already we have helped him to deliver this incredible tax relief package to the American people. This is not only a victory, it is a victory accomplished with incredible speed. Within this year, hardworking Americans across this Nation will be benefiting from more dollars in their pockets.

BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA CAUCUS

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

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, just by looking around us at our homes, our offices, our roads and our local infrastructure, we can see that construction has an important impact on our lives. Members of Congress and the public need to better understand the tremendous contribution the construction industry makes to our Nation's economy.

The value of construction put in place in the United States for the year 2000 was over $800 billion, about 8.25 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product.

Because construction is such an important part of our everyday lives and to bring a pro-construction perspective to Congress, I believed it was necessary to start the Building a Better America Caucus. The purpose of the caucus is to educate Members of Congress and staff on building-related issues that impact our districts and our constituents, from affordable housing to airport construction, to increasing access to training in the construction trades.

I urge all of my colleagues to support our Nation's builders by joining the Building a Better America Caucus.

FBI BACKGROUND CHECKS NEED TO BE SPEEDED UP

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, in this week's National Journal, Norman Ornstein, resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, calls the number and length of FBI background checks ''insane.''

I read in Insight Magazine last week that only 55 nominees for sub-Cabinet positions have been confirmed out of 436 positions.

Paul Light of the Brookings Institution's Presidential Appointee Initiative was quoted as saying that the Bush administration will be ''lucky'' to have these positions filled by March 1 of next year.

In other words, the Bush administration, which is already being blamed for problems that started long before it came into office, will not really have its people in upper-level positions until well over a year after the President was sworn in. This is ridiculous.

Mr. Ornstein said most of the 1,250 top positions should have a simple, quick computer background check.

I read in the Knoxville News-Sentinel that even Senator Howard Baker who spent 18 years in the Senate and 2 years as chief of staff at the White House had to fill out a detailed 85-page questionnaire, one question of which was, ''Have you ever been involved in a controversial issue?''

Mr. Speaker, this process has become ridiculously bureaucratic and needs to be greatly speeded up.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1000) to adjust the boundary of the William Howard Taft National Historic Site in the State of Ohio, to authorize an exchange of land in connection with the historic site, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1000

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''William Howard Taft National Historic Site Boundary Adjustment Act of 2001''.

SEC. 2. EXCHANGE OF LANDS AND BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT, WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, OHIO.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) HISTORIC SITE.—The term ''historic site'' means the William Howard Taft National Historic Site in Cincinnati, Ohio, established pursuant to Public Law 91–132 (83 Stat. 273; 16 U.S.C. 461 note).

(2) MAP.—The term ''map'' means the map entitled ''Proposed Boundary Map, William Howard Taft National Historic Site, Hamilton County, Cincinnati, Ohio,'' numbered 448/80,025, and dated November 2000.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF LAND EXCHANGE.—

(1) EXCHANGE.—The Secretary may acquire a parcel of real property consisting of less than one acre, which is depicted on the map as the ''Proposed Exchange Parcel (Outside Boundary)'', in exchange for a parcel of real property, also consisting of less than one acre, which is depicted on the map as the ''Current USA Ownership (Inside Boundary)''.

(2) EQUALIZATION OF VALUES.—If the values of the parcels to be exchanged under paragraph (1) are not equal, the difference may be equalized by donation, payment using donated or appropriated funds, or the conveyance of additional land.

(3) ADJUSTMENT OF BOUNDARY.—The Secretary shall revise the boundary of the historic site to reflect the exchange upon its completion.

(c) ADDITIONAL BOUNDARY REVISION AND ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.—

(1) INCLUSION OF PARCEL IN BOUNDARY.—Effective on the date of the enactment of this Act, the boundary of the historic site is revised to include an additional parcel of real property,

which is depicted on the map as the ''Proposed Acquisition''.

(2) ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may acquire the parcel referred to in paragraph (1) by donation, purchase from willing sellers with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange.

(d) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(e) ADMINISTRATION OF ACQUIRED LANDS.—Any lands acquired under this section shall be administered by the Secretary as part of the historic site in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 1000, introduced by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), would authorize the Secretary of Interior to adjust the boundary of the William Howard Taft National Historic Site in Cincinnati, Ohio. This site commemorates the only man to serve as President and Chief Justice of the United States.

Specifically, the legislation authorizes the Secretary to acquire a parcel of adjacent private property of less than one acre and exchange it for a parcel of National Park Service property of less than one acre located nearby. The transfer would be beneficial for the Taft site as it would allow the facility to sit on a more contiguous site and facilitate a more convenient parking facility.

In addition, the legislation authorizes a boundary expansion of the historic site by allowing for the acquisition of an additional parcel of property adjacent to the Taft site.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is not controversial. It is supported by the majority and minority and the administration. At the proper time, I urge an ''aye'' vote on the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, William Howard Taft served as the President of the United States from 1909 until 1913 and Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court from 1921 until his death in 1930. Taft is the only person to have served in both capacities. The Taft National Historic Site located in Cincinnati, Ohio, includes the house where Taft was born, restored to its original appearance, as well as exhibits on the former President's life and work.

H.R. 1000 authorizes the National Park Service to exchange a parcel of Federal land at the site for a parcel owned by a nearby charter school. If completed, the exchange will allow visitors to park closer to the Taft home and facilitate a planned expansion of the charter school.

In addition, the bill would alter the existing boundary on the Taft site to include another parcel of private property adjacent to the original Taft estate. The National Park Service has requested that the property be included within the boundary so that the land could be acquired if the owner ever decides to sell.

President Taft, we would all agree, is a significant figure in American history, and we join our colleagues and the administration in support of this legislation to improve the Taft historic site.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in very strong support of the legislation before us today, H.R. 1000, legislation I introduced providing for an important land transfer and boundary adjustment for the William Howard Taft National Historic Site in Cincinnati.

I would like to thank my cosponsor and colleague the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) whom I believe will speak in a moment. I would also like to thank the leadership of the committee, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY), the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES), the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) for her nice words and her help on this legislation as well as the committee staff that helped put this together and have brought H.R. 1000 to this point.

Mr. Speaker, William Howard Taft, as was noted, is the only person to have served as both President of the United States and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Family influence, a love for the law, and personal ambition propelled Will Taft into public service at a very young age. As Solicitor General, Governor of the Philippines, and Secretary of War, he represented our Nation well. He was then elected as the 27th President of the United States in 1908 by an electoral vote count of 2 to 1. His significant legacies from the Taft administration are still an important part of American life.

William Howard Taft realized a long-held dream in 1921 when President Warren Harding named him 10th Chief Justice of the United States. In fact, Mr. Speaker, my colleagues will be interested to know that President Taft was so proud of his distinguished tenure as Chief Justice that he was once quoted as having said, ''I don't remember having been President.''

President Taft's boyhood home is located at 2038 Auburn Avenue in Cincinnati. He lived in the home from the time of his birth until 1886 when he married Helen Herron and embarked on a journey that led him to the White House and the highest court. This beautiful home where he grew up and much of the original property is now the William Howard Taft National Historic Site. It is administered by the National Park Service which has an excellent relationship with the greater Cincinnati community. There is a lot of community involvement in the birthplace. H.R. 1000 is commonsense legislation to enhance the cultural heritage of the beautiful Taft home.

The legislation provides for a simple land transfer between the Park Service and the SABIS International School of Cincinnati. This transfer is very important to the Taft home as it will bring the facility together on one contiguous site. Currently when visiting the Taft home or the education center that is next to it, visitors must park either on a very busy street or in a parking lot that is located away from the home at the other end of the block. The land the Park Service would receive in this transfer would allow for a more convenient and safer parking facility that would help attract more visitors. It would also enable the Park Service to revert a portion of the area to green space which is how it would have appeared, of course, when young Will Taft was growing up in that home.

The transfer is also beneficial to the school. SABIS School likes this because it allows the two plots of land they own to be located directly across the street from each other. We have been working very closely with the members of the SABIS administration, Mr. Speaker; and I am pleased to say this morning that they are fully supportive of this land transfer.

Mr. Speaker, the cost of H.R. 1000 to the Federal Government will be at little or no cost depending on how the transfer of the lands are exchanged because the parcels of land are actually of equal value.

Finally, the bill expands the park's boundary to include a 40-unit apartment building. The owners of the building are fully supportive of being included within the boundary and have an excellent relationship themselves with the Park Service. They have worked closely with us and with the Park Service. In fact, the Park Service currently rents office space in the building and the facility's parking lot is already part of the historic site. In effect, Mr. Speaker, this boundary adjustment will give the Park Service an important right of first refusal should that building ever be put up for sale.

In conclusion, I would like to thank again the leadership of the committee, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY), the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES), and others, for helping us enhance the legacy

of William Howard Taft. I very much appreciate their assistance in getting us to this point.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT).

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from North Carolina for yielding me this time. It has been an honor serving in the House with him. We both came at the same time. He is truly a great American.

Mr. Speaker, I am also pleased to join with my very good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), in sponsoring H.R. 1000, the William Howard Taft National Historic Site Boundary Adjustment Act of 2001. This legislation will enable the Department of Interior to complete a land transaction that will allow for more contiguous plots of land for President Taft's boyhood home in Cincinnati, Ohio and authorize the acquisition of another parcel of land adjacent to the site.

The City of Cincinnati is very proud to be a steward of this national landmark and, as has been stated, the Taft historic site commemorates the birthplace of the only man who served as both President of the United States and as Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court and that is Cincinnati's son, William Howard Taft.

During his distinguished career, William Howard Taft served as a Federal judge, as President McKinley's appointee as Governor of the Philippines, as President Theodore Roosevelt's Secretary of War, and in 1909 was sworn in as the 27th President of the United States. In 1921, President Warren Harding appointed him as Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

The House where President Taft was born has been restored to its original appearance and visitors to the site are treated to a tour of the home, including four period rooms that reflect family life during President Taft's boyhood. The home also includes educational exhibits highlighting the 27th President's life and career, and the Taft Education Center which houses classrooms for visiting school children.

Mr. Speaker, thousands of Americans enjoy visiting the William Howard Taft historic site each year. I would urge students of American history to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity when they visit our great city of Cincinnati sometime, we hope, in the near future. I want to again thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) who has been a great leader in this House on many other very, very important pieces of legislation for his hard work on this issue. I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1000, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMENDING NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM ACT

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 37) to amend the National Trails System Act to update the feasibility and suitability studies of 4 national historic trails and provide for possible additions to such trails, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 37

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REVISION OF FEASIBILITY AND SUITABILITY STUDIES OF EXISTING NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS.

The National Trails System Act is amended by inserting after section 5 (16 U.S.C. 1244) the following new section:

"SEC. 5A. REVISION OF FEASIBILITY AND SUITABILITY STUDIES OF EXISTING TRAILS FOR POSSIBLE TRAIL EXPANSION.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(A) ROUTE.—The term 'route' includes a trail segment commonly known as a cutoff.

''(B) SHARED ROUTE.—The term 'shared route' means a route that was a segment of more than one historic trail, including a route shared with an existing national historic trail.

''(2) STUDY REQUIREMENTS AND OBJECTIVES.—The study requirements and objectives specified in section 5(b) shall apply to a study required by this section. The study shall also assess the effect that designation of the studied route as a component of an existing national scenic trail or national historic trail may have on private property along the proposed route.

''(3) COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF STUDY.—A study listed in this section shall be completed and submitted to the Congress not later than three complete fiscal years from the date of the enactment of this section, or from the date of the enactment of the addition of the study to this section, whichever is later.

''(4) IMPLEMENTATION OF STUDY RESULTS.—Upon completion of a study required by this section, if the Secretary conducting the study determines that a studied route is a feasible and suitable addition to the existing national scenic trail or national historic trail that was the subject of the study, the Secretary shall designate the route as a component of that national scenic trail or national historic trail. The Secretary shall publish notice of the designation in the Federal Register.

''(b) OREGON NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—

''(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of the routes of the Oregon Trail listed in paragraph (2) and generally depicted on the map entitled 'Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870' and dated 1991/1993, and of such shared routes that the Secretary considers appropriate, to determine the feasibility and suitability of designation of one or more of the routes as components of the Oregon National Historic Trail.

''(2) COVERED ROUTES.—The routes to be studied under paragraph (1) are the following:

''(A) Whitman Mission route.
''(B) Upper Columbia River.
''(C) Cowlitz River route.
''(D) Meek cutoff.
''(E) Free Emigrant Road.
''(F) North Alternate Oregon Trail.
''(G) Goodale's cutoff.
''(H) North Side alternate route.
''(I) Cutoff to Barlow Road.
''(J) Naches Pass Trail.

''(c) PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of the approximately 20-mile southern alternative route of the Pony Express Trail from Wathena, Kansas, to Troy, Kansas, and such shared routes that the Secretary considers appropriate, to determine the feasibility and suitability of designation of one or more of the routes as components of the Pony Express National Historic Trail.

''(d) CALIFORNIA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—

''(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of the Missouri Valley, central, and western routes of the California Trail listed in paragraph (2) and generally depicted on the map entitled 'Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870' and dated 1991/1993, and of such shared Missouri Valley, central, and western routes that the Secretary considers appropriate, to determine the feasibility and suitability of designation of one or more of the routes as components of the California National Historic Trail.

''(2) COVERED ROUTES.—The routes to be studied under paragraph (1) are the following:

''(A) MISSOURI VALLEY ROUTES.—
''(i) Blue Mills–Independence Road.
''(ii) Westport Landing Road.
''(iii) Westport–Lawrence Road.
''(iv) Fort Leavenworth–Blue River route.
''(v) Road to Amazonia.
''(vi) Union Ferry Route.
''(vii) Old Wyoming–Nebraska City cutoff.
''(viii) Lower Plattsmouth Route.
''(ix) Lower Bellevue Route.
''(x) Woodbury cutoff.
''(xi) Blue Ridge cutoff.
''(xii) Westport Road.
''(xiii) Gum Springs–Fort Leavenworth route.
''(xiv) Atchison/Independence Creek routes.
''(xv) Fort Leavenworth–Kansas River route.
''(xvi) Nebraska City cutoff routes.
''(xvii) Minersville–Nebraska City Road.
''(xviii) Upper Plattsmouth route.
''(xix) Upper Bellevue route.

''(B) CENTRAL ROUTES.—
''(i) Cherokee Trail, including splits.
''(ii) Weber Canyon route of Hastings cutoff.
''(iii) Bishop Creek cutoff.
''(iv) McAuley cutoff.
''(v) Diamond Springs cutoff.
''(vi) Secret Pass.
''(vii) Greenhorn cutoff.
''(viii) Central Overland Trail.

''(C) WESTERN ROUTES.—
''(i) Bidwell–Bartleson route.
''(ii) Georgetown/Dagget Pass Trail.
''(iii) Big Trees Road.
''(iv) Grizzly Flat cutoff.
''(v) Nevada City Road.
''(vi) Yreka Trail.
''(vii) Henness Pass route.
''(viii) Johnson cutoff.
''(ix) Luther Pass Trail.
''(x) Volcano Road.
''(xi) Sacramento–Coloma Wagon Road.
''(xii) Burnett cutoff.
''(xiii) Placer County Road to Auburn.

''(e) MORMON PIONEER NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—

''(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of the routes of the Morman Pioneer Trail listed in paragraph (2) and generally depicted on the map entitled 'Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870' and dated 1991/1993, and of such shared routes that the Secretary considers appropriate, to determine the feasibility and suitability of designation of

one or more of the routes as components of the Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail.

''(2) COVERED ROUTES.—The routes to be studied under paragraph (1) are the following:

''(A) 1846 Subsequent routes A and B (Lucas and Clarke Counties, Iowa).

''(B) 1856–57 Handcart route (Iowa City to Council Bluffs)

''(C) Keokuk route (Iowa).

''(D) 1847 Alternative Elkhorn and Loup River Crossings in Nebraska.

''(E) Fort Leavenworth Road; Ox Bow route and alternates in Kansas and Missouri (Oregon and California Trail routes used by Mormon emigrants).

''(F) 1850 Golden Pass Road in Utah.

''(f) SHARED CALIFORNIA AND OREGON TRAIL ROUTES.—

''(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of the shared routes of the California Trail and Oregon Trail listed in paragraph (2) and generally depicted on the map entitled 'Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870' and dated 1991/1993, and of such other shared routes that the Secretary considers appropriate, to determine the feasibility and suitability of designation of one or more of the routes as shared components of the California National Historic Trail and the Oregon National Historic Trail.

''(2) COVERED ROUTES.—The routes to be studied under paragraph (1) are the following:

''(A) St. Joe Road.

''(B) Council Bluffs Road.

''(C) Sublette cutoff.

''(D) Applegate route.

''(E) Old Fort Kearny Road (Oxbow Trail).

''(F) Childs cutoff.

''(G) Raft River to Applegate.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

□ 1030

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 37, introduced by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), would amend the National Trails System Act to authorize the Secretary of Interior to study a number of specific routes and cutoff trails that may be suitable and appropriate for designation as components of the Oregon National Historic Trail; second, the California National Historic Trail; third, The Pony Express National Historic Trail; and, fourth, the Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail.

Since these four trails were established in the 1970s, dozens of additional routes and cutoffs have been identified that may qualify as integral parts of these trails. After determining that the additions or cutoff trails are suitable, the Secretary would designate the routes and cutoff trails as components of these four national trails.

Mr. Speaker, no condemnation of private lands or Federal leases are to be contemplated for any of these routes to these trails.

The bill is not controversial. It is supported by both the majority and the minority and the administration, and at the proper time I urge an aye vote on the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 37 would amend the National Trails System Act to update previously-completed studies of the Oregon, California, Pony Express and Mormon National Historic Trails. There have been public and private efforts to commemorate and interpret the history and resources of these historic trails. These preservation efforts have spawned additional research on the trails that has indicated there may be additional routes and cutoffs associated with each of these trails which merit designation as a segment of the existing national historic trail.

The purpose of H.R. 37 is to examine those additional routes and cutoffs that were not considered in the initial studies of these trails to determine whether they do, in fact, merit historic trail designation.

A hearing on H.R. 37 was held in April, at which time we received favorable testimony on this matter from the administration, as well as public witnesses. At the full Committee on Resources markup of H.R. 37 in May, a technical and conforming amendment to the bill was adopted by voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, we support the amended bill and favor the passage of H.R. 37 by the House today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member, of course, is in strong support of H.R. 37, a bill this Member introduced on January 3 of this year. This Member also introduced similar legislation in the 106th Congress.

I would begin by commending the distinguished gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY), the chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands; the distinguished gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), the ranking member of the subcommittee, the distinguished gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), the chairman of the Committee on Resources; and the distinguished gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), the ranking member of the Committee on Resources, for their work in bringing this legislation to the floor. I might say to my colleague, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES), I thank him for managing this legislation.

The bill is necessary and should be noncontroversial. It is a straightforward effort to provide a one-time feasibility study updating the background for the four national historic trails, the Oregon, the California, Mormon and Pony Express trails. The measure simply recognizes the fact that there are additional routes and cutoffs which may deserve inclusion in the National Trails System.

During the update period, the National Park Service will work with the appropriate trails groups and other interested parties to develop information on any new segment of trail in an effort to determine if it meets the criteria for addition to the system. No condemnation of private lands, as indicated by the gentleman North Carolina (Mr. JONES), or Federal leases is to be contemplated to add any of these routes to the trails.

Although the National Park Service is supportive of efforts to examine additional routes, it has determined that legislation is needed to be provided to it, such as this authorization legislation, and that is the purpose of H.R. 37.

All four trails covered in this legislation were instrumental in opening the American West, but each has its own unique story to tell. The California Trail enabled 70,000 people to follow their dream to the Golden State. In 1848 and 1850, the Oregon Trail made it possible for fur traders, settlers and others to reach the Pacific Northwest; and although it lasted only 18 months, the Pony Express achieved a cherished role in American lure. Its daring riders, which included Buffalo Bill Cody and Wild Bill Hickok, were able to deliver the mail from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California, in 10 days.

The Mormon Pioneer Trail allowed the church members an opportunity to head West in search of religious freedom. These trails all follow at least part of the Platte River and Nebraska is proud to have as one of its nicknames the Historic Trail State. Many used the route through Nebraska to reach their goal further West. Those with more foresight decided to settle in Nebraska.

This Member is pleased to note that during the 102nd Congress, he introduced the legislation which was enacted to designate the California National Historic Trail and the Pony Express National Historic Trail as components of the National Trails System.

The bill being discussed today will build on that effort and enable even greater recognition of the contributions made by these bold and courageous pioneers. Those that used the trails endured hardships that are difficult to imagine. They survived hazards such as wild animals, blizzards and floods, as well as scarcity and disease.

To those who bravely made it to their destination but those who died along the way, we owe a debt of gratitude. This Member believes that H.R. 37 will help to give the proper recognition to the many historic and heroic individuals who played such an important role in settling the American West.

Mr. Speaker, this Member would like to take this opportunity to express his

appreciation to the many dedicated volunteers who have been so supportive of these national trails. Particularly, this Member would like to thank Bill and Jeanne Watson with the Oregon-California Trail Association; Pat Hearty with the Pony Express Trail Association; Ron Anderson with the Mormon Trail Association; and Loren Horton with the Iowa Mormon Trail Association.

The efforts to preserve and provide recognition of these trails is truly a grass-roots labor of love involving thousands of individuals. By the way, they are also involved in some of the upkeep responsibilities as volunteers.

Mr. Speaker, this Member urges his colleagues to support H.R. 37.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 37, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS NATIONAL RECREATION AREA BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 640) to adjust the boundaries of Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 640

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Boundary Adjustment Act''.

SEC. 2. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.

Section 507(c) of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (92 Stat. 3501; 16 U.S.C. 460kk) establishing Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking '' 'Boundary Map, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, California, and Santa Monica Mountains Zone', numbered SMM–NRA 80,000, and dated May 1978'' and inserting '' 'Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and Santa Monica Mountains Zone, California, Boundary Map', numbered 80,047, and dated February 2001''; and

(2) by adding the following sentence after the third sentence of paragraph (2)(A): ''Lands within the 'Wildlife Corridor Expansion Zone' identified on the boundary map referred to in paragraph (1) may be acquired only by donation or with donated funds.''.

SEC. 3. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

Section 507 of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (92 Stat. 3501; 16 U.S.C. 460kk) establishing Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(1), by striking ''Committee on Natural Resources'' and inserting ''Committee on Resources'';

(2) in subsection (c)(2)(B), by striking ''of certain'' in the first sentence and inserting ''certain''; and

(3) in subsection (n)(5), by striking ''laws'' in the second sentence and inserting ''laws,''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 640, introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. GALLEGLY), would adjust the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation area by adding 3,700 acres of public and private lands to enhance a wildlife corridor and protect a key watershed between the Simi Hills and the Santa Monica Mountains across the 101 Freeway in Southern California.

Most of the acreage that would be added to the National Recreation Area will be transferred from the Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy, a State agency, to the National Park Service. The balance of land will include developed residential areas from within the cities of Saratoga Hills and Agoura Hills, as well as land from the County of Los Angeles.

Unlike many park units where lands within the authorized boundaries are almost entirely in Federal ownership, there exists an extremely complex mosaic of publicly- and privately-owned lands within the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

The superintendent of the National Recreation Area assured members of the Committee on Resources that the National Park Service has not and will not regulate land use on private or non-Federal lands within the park boundary.

The bill is supported by the majority and the minority and the administration. At the proper time, I urge an aye vote on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area includes more than 150,000 acres between Los Angeles and the Pacific Coast. It is the largest urban unit of the National Park System, including five area codes and 26 zip codes.

H.R. 640 would adjust the boundary of the recreation area to include an additional 3,697 acres. The purpose of the addition is to facilitate wildlife migration between the Santa Monica Mountains and several mountain regions in the north. Some have expressed concern that the addition of this acreage would place a number of parcels of private property within the boundary of NRA. It should be noted that such concerns are completely unwarranted since inclusion of private property within a federally-designated boundary does not alter the owner's private property rights in any way.

In this particular instance, the relevant property owners are aware of the proposed boundary change and no opposition to the measure has developed. This is not surprising, given that the area last operated smoothly for years with thousands of private property owners living within the boundaries.

We join our colleagues and the administration in supporting this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. GALLEGLY), the sponsor of this legislation.

(Mr. GALLEGLY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friend, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES), for giving me the time this morning. I would also like to thank the chairman of the Committee on Resources, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), for moving H.R. 640 through the committee and placing it on the schedule this morning.

Mr. Speaker, the Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area stretches from West Hollywood in Los Angeles County to Point Mugu in my district in Ventura County. It was established in 1978 and is managed by the National Park Service. Twenty-six distinct natural communities make their home there, from freshwater aquatic habitats to the oak woodlands. It is a critical haven for more than 450 animal species, including the Golden Eagle.

It is considered unique among the National Park Service's holdings and is easily accessible to over 12 million people living in Ventura and Los Angeles Counties.

This bill, which I introduced with my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), would adjust the boundaries of the Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area to enhance and protect the principal wildlife corridor between the Simi Hills in my district and the Santa Monica Mountains in the district of the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN).

It adds nearly 3,700 acres of publicly and privately held lands to the recreation area at no cost to the taxpayer. Of that, 2,797 acres donated to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, a State agency, will be transferred to the Park Service. Another 570 acres is publicly- and privately-owned open space. The rest is about 330 acres and is comprised of developed residential areas in the cities of Calabasas and Agoura Hills.

I want to stress that the recreation area designation would have no impact on the ability for either the cities or private owners to develop their land according to the applicable State laws and local ordinances. It does, however, give property owners greater access to Park Service assistance to environmentally enhance their properties if they so choose.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 640 is an important addition to the recreation area and enjoys widespread support from the local community, including the private property owners. The bill also unanimously passed the House Committee on Resources.

I would ask my colleagues to join with me today in passing this bill.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), who represents a portion of this area and is a cosponsor of this legislation.

□ 1045

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me time.

I rise in support of H.R. 640. I am pleased to join in that effort with my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Ventura County, California (Mr. GALLEGLY).

Mr. Speaker, my colleague from California has explained the importance of the Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area. I should point out that 33 million people visit this national recreation area each year, for both its mountains and its beaches. It is within an hour's drive of 17 million Americans.

In terms of recreation, it is the most important unit of the National Park Service. The park since its inception has been run cooperatively with local government, State government, and local community groups. It has the overwhelming support, I would say the unanimous support, of everyone in the area. For example, its general management plan included input from over 70 elected officials, 15 public meetings, all in the continuing effort to make sure that park management meets local needs.

H.R. 640 would expand the park boundaries to include some 3,700 acres of non-Federal public and private lands. This would allow the Park Service to assume management over a number of parcels which donors have in effect already donated to the National Park Service. These include the 107-acre Abrams property, the 2,300-acre Upper Las Virgenes Creek area, and the 390-acre Liberty Canyon/Morrison Ranch area. These parcels now have their title held by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, an agency of State government, but they would be better administered as part of this national recreation area.

I want to stress that this bill will not cost the Treasury one cent. This bill does not authorize the expenditure of any money. Just as importantly, assuming management over these additional acres will not require additional operating funds for the management of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

Further, the bill provides that land within this area shall be acquired by the Federal Government only by donation or with the use of donated funds. I will not be back here next year asking for funds from this Congress to buy land in this newly added area of the national recreation area.

The gentleman from California (Mr. GALLEGLY) has talked about how this bill and the expansion of the park boundaries has the support of the affected local property owners. Some 900 acres of privately owned land will now fall within the park's boundaries. Almost all of that privately owned land, at least 99 percent of the private landowners, are in my district. All of them support or have voiced their support for this bill through their homeowners associations. It is amazing, because I represent, I think, one of the most opinionated districts in this country. On every other subject, I get opinions on both sides. This is one area where our communities stand together.

The three homeowners associations included in these boundaries have all sent letters of support. The Saratoga Hills Homeowners Association has been particularly vocal, and some 100 of its members have signed a petition. In addition, this bill is supported by all of the relevant municipalities, by the relevant State senator, the relevant State assembly member, the relevant county supervisor in the L.A. County portion of the area, and enjoys strong support in Ventura County as well.

I ask my colleagues to pass this bill, because it will provide for new land to be managed as part of this national recreation area, a wildlife corridor that is critical to the preservation of species in the area, and will do so with no adverse consequences to local landowners and at no cost to the Federal Government.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 640, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENDING AUTHORITY OF WASHINGTON, OREGON AND CALIFORNIA TO MANAGE DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERY

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1661) to extend indefinitely the authority of the States of Washington, Oregon, and California to manage a Dungeness crab fishery until the effective date of a fishery management plan for the fishery under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1661

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY OF STATES OF WASHINGTON, OREGON, AND CALIFORNIA TO MANAGE DUNGENESS CRAB FISHERY.

Section 203 of the Act entitled ''An Act to approve a governing international fishery agreement between the United States and the Republic of Poland, and for other purposes'', approved November 13, 1998 (Public Law 105–384; 16 U.S.C. 1856 note), is amended by striking subsection (i).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST).

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1661 is a bill to extend the existing State management of the Dungeness crab fishery off the coasts of California, Oregon, and Washington. The bill is sponsored by the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN).

This is not the first time State management of the Dungeness crab fishery has been addressed by Congress. In 1996, in conjunction with the Sustainable Fisheries Act, Congress authorized the States of California, Oregon, and Washington the interim authority for the management of Dungeness crab for 3 years. During that period of time, the States showed they could cooperatively and effectively manage the Dungeness crab fishery.

When the interim authority was due to expire in 1998, the Pacific Fishery Management Council, which has the Federal management responsibility for conservation and management of the fishery, wrote to Congress requesting an extension of State management authority.

For the past 5 years, the States has been cooperatively managing the Dungeness crab fishery, which occurs in Federal waters adjacent to their States. This is an extremely valuable fishery. In fact, in the 1999–2000 season, 41.3 million pounds of Dungeness crab were landed, which had a value of $84.2 million. This is a healthy food source for thousands of Americans.

H.R. 1661 will extend the authority for State management indefinitely. Until the Pacific Council decides it should regain its authority through a Federal fishery management plan developed by the Council, the States will

continue their cooperative management.

Congress has acted favorably on this issue in the past, and I urge passage of this non-controversial bill. I want to thank Members on both sides of the aisle for their cooperation, especially the Members who sponsored this legislation; and I want to thank the staff on both sides of the aisle for helping this legislation along.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill as well. As my colleague has explained, H.R. 1661, introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), allows the States of California, Oregon, and Washington to continue to cooperatively adopt and enforce State laws to manage the Dungeness crab fishery in Federal waters along the West Coast of the United States.

The States were first granted this interim authority in 1996 while future options for managing its fishery were explored. The compelling reason at that time was a need to accommodate the rights of Northwest Indian tribes to harvest a share of the crab resource off of the coast of Washington while the options for future management by the Pacific Fisheries Management Council were explored.

The State management program worked well, and the Pacific Fishery Management Council has requested that the Congress allow the State management authority to be extended in lieu of a Federal plan.

We have done that once already through legislation, and this bill would continue that authority indefinitely. It does not override the Council's authority in any way, as State authority would expire should the Council ever decide to develop a Federal plan. In the meantime, however, it ensures strong conservation and management of the Dungeness crab fishery, that it will continue, and is supported by all three States, the tribes, the processors and the fishermen. I urge Members to support the passage of H.R. 1661 today.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1661.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CHILD STATUS PROTECTION ACT OF 2001

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1209) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to determine whether an alien is a child, for purposes of classification as an immediate relative, based on the age of the alien on the date the classification petition with respect to the alien is filed, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1209

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Child Status Protection Act of 2001''.

SEC. 2. USE OF AGE ON PETITION FILING DATE, PARENT'S NATURALIZATION DATE, OR MARRIAGE TERMINATION DATE, IN DETERMINING STATUS AS A CHILD OF A CITIZEN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 201 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(f) RULES FOR DETERMINING WHETHER CERTAIN ALIENS ARE IMMEDIATE RELATIVES.—

''(1) AGE ON PETITION FILING DATE.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), for purposes of subsection (b)(2)(A)(i), a determination of whether an alien satisfies the age requirement in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) of section 101(b)(1) shall be made using the age of the alien on the date on which the petition is filed with the Attorney General under section 204 to classify the alien as an immediate relative under subsection (b)(2)(A)(i).

''(2) AGE ON PARENT'S NATURALIZATION DATE.—In the case of a petition under section 204 initially filed for an alien child's classification as a family-sponsored immigrant under section 203(a)(2)(A), based on the child's parent being lawfully admitted for permanent residence, if the petition is later converted, due to the naturalization of the parent, to a petition to classify the alien as an immediate relative under subsection (b)(2)(A)(i), the determination described in paragraph (1) shall be made using the age of the alien on the date of the parent's naturalization.

''(3) AGE ON MARRIAGE TERMINATION DATE.—In the case of a petition under section 204 initially filed for an alien's classification as a family-sponsored immigrant under section 203(a)(3), based on the alien's being a married son or daughter of a citizen, if the petition is later converted, due to the legal termination of the alien's marriage, to a petition to classify the alien as an immediate relative under subsection (b)(2)(A)(i), the determination described in paragraph (1) shall be made using the age of the alien on the date of the termination of the marriage.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply to all petitions and applications pending before the Department of Justice or the Department of State on or after such date.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1209, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1209, the Child Status Protection Act of 2001, was introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS), the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims, and the ranking member, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

This bill is another example of Congress having to clean up a mess made by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Under current law, aliens residing in the United States who are eligible for permanent resident status must adjust their status with the INS. However, INS processing delays have caused up to a 3-year wait for adjustment. For alien children of U.S. citizens, this delay in processing can have serious consequences, for once they turn 21 years of age, they lose their immediate relative status.

An unlimited number of immediate relatives of U.S. citizens can receive green cards each year. However, there are a limited number of green cards available for the adult children of U.S. citizens.

If a U.S. citizen parent petitions for a green card for a child before that child turns 21, but the INS does not get around to processing the adjustment of status application until after the child turns 21, the family is out of luck. The child goes to the end of the waiting list. The child is being punished because of the INS ineptitude, and that is not right.

H.R. 1209 corrects this outcome by providing that a child shall remain eligible for immediate relative status as long as an immigrant visa petition was filed for him or her before turning 21.

The fact that we have to consider debate and pass this bill is just one more reason why the Immigration and Naturalization Service needs to be dismantled and restructured. I await eagerly for the administration's INS reform proposal, because it cannot come too soon. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to offer my support for the Child Status Protection Act of 2001 and to thank our subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS), for joining me and leading on this particular initiative, which is the

result and the culmination of a bipartisan agreement, that addresses the status of unmarried children of U.S. citizens, who turn 21 while in the process of having an immigrant visa petition adjudicated. In particular, Mr. Speaker, let me say that we have been working on this for a very long time, and we are delighted that the House will have an opportunity to vote on this today.

The age and marital status of the offspring of U.S. citizens determine whether they are eligible for immigrant status as immediate relatives or under the family-first preference category. Briefly, H.R. 1209 would protect the status of children of United States citizens who age out while awaiting the processing and adjudication of immediate relative petitions.

Let me thank our chairman, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER), and the ranking member, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS). I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin (Chairman SENSENBRENNER) for his remarks in support of this legislation today and join him in realizing that we all look forward to the INS restructuring in order to have these problems internally fixed.

In this instance, we have had to fix this by legislative initiative. The child of a U.S. citizen is eligible for admission as an immediate relative. Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens are not subject to any numerical restrictions. Again, this is a focus on accessing legalization or ensuring that those immigrants who are here are able to seek legalization and become citizens or legal residents, as is important.

That is, visas are immediately available to immediate relatives under the statute, subject only to the processing time required to adjudicate the immediate relative visa petition. Thus, the only wait that such children are required to endure is the time it takes to process their paperwork. When a child of the U.S. citizen ages out by becoming 21, the child automatically shifts from the immediate-relative category to the family-first preference category.

□ 1100

This puts him or her at the end of a long waiting list for a visa. It, therefore, diminishes the ability to access legalization.

Generally, 23,400 family-first preference visas are available each year to the adult, unmarried sons and daughters of citizens. As of January 1997, 93,376 individuals were on the waiting list. For nationals of Mexico, visas are now available for petitions filed by April 1994. For nationals of the Philippines, visas are now available for petitions filed by May 1988. Thus some sons and daughters of citizens will have to stay on a waiting list from 2 to 13 years entirely because the INS did not in a timely manner process the applications for adjustment of status on their behalf.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1209 addresses the predicament of these immigrants seeking legalization who, through no fault of their own, lost the opportunity to obtain an immediate relative visa before they reach age 21.

This bill corrects the problem of aging-out under current law. However, once children reach 21 years of age, they are no longer considered immediate relatives under the INS. Thus, instead of being entitled to admission without numerical limitation, the U.S. citizens' sons and daughters are placed in the back of the line of one of the INS backlog family-preference categories of immigrants.

This bill, with the new added compromise language that I proposed last year, will solve the age-out problem without displacing others who have been waiting patiently in other visa categories. In essence, Mr. Speaker, we have a bill that provides a solution, but is also equitable. It is fair to all who are now under this particular process; and more importantly, it gives the INS the tools it needs to work with to be fair to those who are themselves seeking to be governed by the laws of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank our chairman, our ranking member of the full committee, and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS), the subcommittee chairman; and I look forward to further bipartisan agreements in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims.

(Mr. GEKAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

The explanation of the bill as offered by both the chairman and the ranking minority member of the subcommittee in question suffices to place on the record an opportunity for the House of Representatives and eventually the entire Congress to approve this piece of legislation. My biggest fear that it might not pass is that it makes sense. The bill makes adequate, perfect common sense. That has always been a drawback to final successful passage of legislation as we have noted over the years.

Why does it make common sense? It simply makes certain that an individual who is a minor at the time that his or her parents filed for the adjustment of status and who then turns 21, under the current law, is thrown into a completely different category and could wait years for final adjudication of that particular status. What this bill does is treat the person who turns 21 as if he were or she were a minor at the time that the status was first filed.

What I hope this is is a signal to all that our subcommittee and the full Committee on the Judiciary have been and will continue to be very sensitive to individual cases of injustice on a whole range of issues. These injustices were perpetrated in this particular set of circumstances inadvertently by the way that the original law was fashioned. What we do here today is adjust, through the use of common sense, a bad situation. We know that horror stories of other types will confront us, but at least we have a chance to correct a series of horror stories here today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for everyone to support this legislation.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I simply want to conclude by saying that we worked two sessions on this legislation. We believe that this will reunite families. This is what our immigration laws are all about, to unite families.

Again, I want to offer my thanks to the chairman of the full committee and the chairman of the subcommittee, as well as the ranking member of the full committee.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my colleague, GEORGE GEKAS, Chairman of the Immigration and Claims Subcommittee, and Subcommittee Ranking Member SHEILA JACKSON-LEE for introducing H. R. 1209, the ''Child Status Protection Act of 2001.''

This legislation addresses a problem I have been concerned about since the last Congress. Children of citizens are penalized because it takes the INS an unacceptable length of time—often years—to process adjustment of status applications. In some cases the wait is so long that minor children become adults while waiting for the INS to act. When they become adults, they lose the privileged status of immediate relatives of citizens and are placed at the end of the first preference waiting list. This means an additional wait of 2–13 years for their green cards.

H. R. 1209 provides that an alien child of a U.S. citizen shall remain eligible for immediate relative status as long as an immigrant visa petition was filed before the child turned 21.

I hope that after Congress restructures the INS and the federal government provides immigration benefits in a more professional and expeditious manner, we won't need to pass bills such as H. R. 1209.

I urge my colleagues to support this piece of legislation.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1209, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

FARMER BANKRUPTCY CODE EXTENSION ACT

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1914) to extend for 4 additional months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code is reenacted.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1914

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AMENDMENTS.

Section 149 of title I of division C of Public Law 105–277, as amended by Public Law 106–5, Public Law 106–70, and Public Law 107–8, is amended—

(1) by striking ''June 1, 2001'' each place it appears and inserting ''October 1, 2001'', and

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''June 30, 2000'' and inserting ''May 31, 2001'', and

(B) by striking ''July 1, 2000'' and inserting ''June 1, 2001''.

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by section 1 shall take effect on June 1, 2001.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) and the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1914, the bill currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1914.

Without question, the family farmer has always played and continues to play a critical role in our Nation's economic health and well-being. Unfortunately, bad weather, rising energy costs, volatile marketplace conditions, competition from large agribusinesses, and the economic forces experienced by any small business affect the financial stability of some family farmers.

In response to the special needs of small family farmers in financial distress, our bankruptcy laws offer a particularized form of bankruptcy relief available only to these individuals and businesses. Typically referred to as chapter 12 of the Bankruptcy Code, this form of bankruptcy relief was enacted on a temporary basis as a part of the Bankruptcy Judges, United States Trustees and Family Farmers Bankruptcy Act of 1986. That has subsequently been extended on several occasions, most recently on February 28 of this year, and the extension expired on June 1.

While statistically chapter 12 is utilized rarely; in fact, less than 250 chapter 12 cases were filed in the 12-month period ending March 31, 2001, its availability is crucial to family farmers. Absent chapter 12, family farmers would be forced to file for bankruptcy relief under the code's other alternatives. None of these forms of bankruptcy relief, however, work quite as well for farmers as chapter 12. Chapter 7, for example, would require a farmer to sell the farm and to pay the claims of the creditors. With respect to chapter 13, many farmers would simply be ineligible to file under that form of bankruptcy relief because of its debt limits. Chapter 11 is an expensive and often time-consuming process that does not readily accommodate the special needs of farmers.

By virtue of H.R. 1914, chapter 12 will be reenacted retroactive to June 1 of this year and extended for 4 months through October 1, 2001. It is, however, important to note that H.R. 333, the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2001, which the House passed by an overwhelming majority earlier this spring and its Senate counterpart, which the other body also passed by a substantial margin, would make chapter 12 a permanent fixture of the Bankruptcy Code for family farmers. It is my sincere hope that in the very near future, we will be able to proceed to conference on pending House and Senate bankruptcy legislation and to present a conference report for approval by both Houses. In the meantime, I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 1914.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, once again, we are here today to renew chapter 12 bankruptcy protection for our Nation's family farmers. The bipartisan legislation before us today, H.R. 1914, which I am happy to cosponsor with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH), would allow chapter 12 bankruptcy filings to continue through the end of this fiscal year.

Bankruptcy often requires liquidation of real property rather than reorganization if debtors have significant assets. Of course, for family farmers, this means that their farm equipment and other assets often disqualify them from reorganization under chapters 11 or 13, and they are forced into chapter 7 liquidation. Chapter 12 is specifically tailored for family farmers, and it allows these family farmers to keep essential farm assets and reorganize their debts.

In February, the House passed H.R. 256, also sponsored by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) and myself, which retroactively extended chapter 12 of the Bankruptcy Code through May 31 of 2001. That legislation was signed by President Bush on May 11. However, the chapter 12 authorization has now expired once again, and this legislation will extend chapter 12 protection until September 30, 2001.

The bankruptcy reform bill which has passed both Houses of Congress, H.R. 333, includes a permanent reauthorization of chapter 12; but since the current authorization has expired, our farmers need immediate relief. With the current year's crops in the ground, farmers need to know that they can reorganize and keep their farms. Our bill will provide the security that those family farmers who are in crisis will need to decide whether to stay in business for one more year.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3½ minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH), the author of the bill.

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, the next bill we introduce should be that we make this permanent. This seems to me ridiculous that we come before this body every 4 or 5 or 6 months to make a temporary increase in legislation in the bankruptcy law that is so important to American farmers. Let me just tell my colleagues why it is so important to farmers.

Farmers, under the other provisions of the bankruptcy law which the two previous speakers related to, have to file either under chapter 13 or 11 or 7; and in most cases, they are required to sell a lot of their machinery, which means that if they want to try to work themselves out of that financial situation, there is no possibility of doing it without machinery.

It was just a few months ago that we were on this floor of the House urging our colleagues to vote for H.R. 256. This was a bill to retroactively bring chapter 12 to May 31. I am pleased that the bill was signed by the President, but also now we are with this bill that I urge my colleagues to support. I had hoped that by the end of May the House and Senate would have agreed to a major bankruptcy reform package that would have included permanent chapter 12 protection. Unfortunately, and through no fault of this House, these two bodies have still not reached agreement. Further, it is unclear when such an agreement is going to be reached.

In the meantime, since May 31, family farmers have been without chapter 12 reorganization protection, and that is what brings us here today. Let us not allow the situation that has taken place this last year and the last several months to again disrupt farmers in their effort to be accommodated by

chapter 12, which is especially designed for family farmers.

□ 1115

This protection is vitally needed. American farmers continue to suffer drops in net farm income, and farmers are being forced into bankruptcy, and not having chapter 12 means greater hardship for those family farmers.

Enacted, as the chairman said, in the 1986 farm crisis, chapter 12 made significant bankruptcy relief available to a group of Americans that has had difficulty getting credit and managing its assets since the country's founding over two centuries ago.

For example, chapter 7 was accessible to farmers to give them the so-called ''fresh start'' promised to debtors under the Bankruptcy Code. However, under chapter 7, the farm, which might have been in the family for generations, was usually lost. Congress needed to find a way to ensure that creditors were protected while also ensure that the family farms were able to work themselves out of their current financial problems.

In conclusion, let me say that family farms are in need of permanent chapter 12 relief. Until such relief is enacted, we have a responsibility to protect family farmers in the uncertainty that comes with the on-again off-again provision of chapter 12 protection.

This bill provides protection to family farmers and provides enough time for Congress to reach agreement on permanent Chapter 12 protection a part of a larger reform effort.

Before closing, I would like to thank the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on the Judiciary, the gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, and my colleague from Michigan, Mr. CONYERS, and the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, the gentleman from Georgia, Mr. BARR, and the gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. WATT, for their help in bringing this bill to the floor today. I also want to express my thanks to the original co-sponsor of this bill, Ms. BALDWIN, who also was a co-sponsor of H.R. 256, and who agrees that this provision should be made permanent.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1914 is a noncontroversial bill that deserves widespread support from both sides of the aisle. I urge my colleagues to vote yes on H.R. 1914.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARR), the chairman of the subcommittee of jurisdiction.

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1914. Chapter 12 of Title XI of the United States Code provides bankruptcy relief that is available exclusively for family farmers. It was developed to respond temporarily to the special needs of financially-distressed farmers as part of the Bankruptcy Judges, United States Trustees and Family Farmer Bankruptcy Act of 1986. Extended several times subsequently, it expired on June 1 of this year.

Family farming is constantly beset by forces of nature, and should not have also to deal with forces that we in the Congress can reasonably mitigate. According to a CNN report from last October, ''The number of family farms and farmers in the United States are dwindling, and is expected to continue to do so through at least the year 2008, according to the United States Department of Labor, this despite the fact that the country's agricultural exports are expected to grow as developing nations improve their economies and their personal incomes.''

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1914 reenacts chapter 12 of Title XI retroactive to June 1, 2001, and extends it for 4 months to October 1 of this year. I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 1914.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises today to express his support for H.R. 1914, which retroactively extends chapter 12 bankruptcy for family farms and ranches to September 30, 2001. Chapter 12 bankruptcy expired on May 31, 2001. This legislation, which this Member agreed to cosponsor on June 5, 2001, is very important to the nation's agriculture sector.

This Member would express his appreciation to the distinguished gentleman from Michigan [Mr. SMITH] for introducing H.R. 1914. In addition, this Member would like to express his appreciation to the distinguished gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. SENSENBRENNER], the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, for his efforts in getting this measure to the House Floor for consideration.

This extension of chapter 12 bankruptcy is supported by this Member as it allows family farmers to reorganize their debts as compared to liquidating their assets. The use of the chapter 12 bankruptcy provision has been an important and necessary option for family farmers throughout the nation. It has allowed family farmers to reorganize their assets in a manner which balances the interests of creditors and the future success of the involved farmer.

If chapter 12 bankruptcy provisions are not extended for family farmers, it will be another very painful blow to an agricultural sector already reeling from low commodity prices. Not only will many family farmers have no viable option other than to end their operations, but it will also cause land values to likely plunge. Such a decrease in value of farmland will negatively affect the ability of family farmers to earn a living. In addition, the resulting decrease in farmland value will impact the manner in which banks conduct their agricultural lending activities. Furthermore, this Member has received many contacts from his constituents supporting the extension of chapter 12 bankruptcy because of the situation now being faced by our nation's farm families—it is clear that the agricultural sector is hurting.

In closing, this Member urges his colleagues to support H.R. 1914.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1914, the Family Farmer Bankruptcy Relief Extension. This legislation will extend bankruptcy protection for family farmers by allowing them to reorganize their debt rather than forcing them to liquidate their assets.

This bill will help family farmers in my own congressional district in the ''Black Dirt'' region of Orange County, New York. Growers in this region have experienced severe and disastrous weather conditions four of the past five growing seasons, leading to a severe reduction of total farms, causing devastation not only for those businesses dependent upon the onion and vegetable $100-million industry in New York, but for the Valley's families and agricultural community.

Under this bill, chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code will be extended for another 4 months from the current expansion date of June 1, 2001.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this family farm friendly bill.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1914.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

HONORING ERIK WEIHENMAYER'S ACHIEVEMENT OF BECOMING THE FIRST BLIND PERSON TO CLIMB MOUNT EVEREST

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 150) expressing the sense of Congress that Erik Weihenmayer's achievement of becoming the first blind person to climb Mount Everest demonstrates the abilities and potential of all blind people and other individuals with disabilities.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 150

Whereas misconceptions and negative stereotypes about blindness and other disabilities significantly contribute to the challenges that individuals with blindness or other disabilities encounter;

Whereas in order to help promote a positive public perception of blindness, the National Federation of the Blind sponsored the quest of Erik Weihenmayer to become the first blind person to climb Mount Everest;

Whereas on May 23, 2001, Erik Weihenmayer, as part of a climbing team, successfully climbed to the summit of Mount Everest, which, at a height of 29,035 feet above sea level, is the highest summit in the world;

Whereas Erik Weihenmayer has climbed to the summit of Ama Dablam, Mount McKinley, El Capitan, Kilimanjaro, Aconcagua, Vinson Massif, and Polar Circus, which is a 3,000 foot ice waterfall in Alberta, Canada;

Whereas despite his blindness, Erik Weihenmayer is a speaker, writer, acrobatic skydiver and scuba diver, long-distance cyclist, marathon runner, skier, mountaineer, and ice and rock climber;

Whereas Erik Weihenmayer's many accomplishments have earned him the Health and Fitness Association Award, the Glaucoma Foundation's Lifetime Achievement Award, Connecticut's Most Courageous Athlete Award, ESPN's ARETE Award for courage in sports, the Distinguished Arizonan Award, the Gene Autry Award, induction into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, and the honor of carrying the Olympic Torch through Phoenix, Arizona; and

Whereas Erik Weihenmayer's achievements demonstrate that blind people and other individuals with disabilities can accomplish extraordinary goals if they are provided with the proper training and opportunities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) Erik Weihenmayer's achievement of becoming the first blind person to climb Mount Everest demonstrates the abilities and potential of all blind people and other individuals with disabilities; and

(2) individuals with blindness or other disabilities can overcome almost any obstacle if they are provided with the appropriate resources.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Concurrent Resolution 150.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 150, a resolution in which we are honoring Erik Weihenmayer for his recent climb to the top of Mount Everest, and underscores the vast potential of individuals with disabilities.

Mount Everest, towering 29,028 above sea level, is not only the highest mountain on Earth. The sudden storms, the freezing temperatures, and the brief window of opportunity afforded by the weather conditions make Everest a particularly hostile climbing environment.

Although the mountain has been climbed many times since Sir Edmund Hillary first ascended the mountain in 1953, Erik is the first blind man to successfully climb and stand on the summit of Mount Everest.

In addition to Mount Everest, Erik has accumulated quite an impressive list of achievements. He has climbed Mount McKinley, the highest point in North America, as well as many other challenging mountains. In fact, with the successful climb of Mount Everest, Erik has climbed the highest peaks on five continents.

In the future, he hopes to build on these successes by conquering the highest mountains on all seven continents, a challenge that easily rivals Mount Everest.

Besides mountaineering, this former schoolteacher turned motivational speaker is also a sky diver, skier, a long-distance biker, marathoner, a wrestler, a SCUBA diver, and an ice and rock climber.

In all, Erik's story is about having the courage to reach for near impossible goals, and in so doing, he helps us to challenge social attitudes and misconceptions about individuals with disabilities. As Erik has said of his recent climb, ''The climb might shatter people's conceptions about blindness, which are often more limiting than the disability itself.''

For all these reasons, I am pleased to draw our attention to Erik's accomplishments. He is an outstanding example of what individuals with disabilities can accomplish. I congratulate Erik Weihenmayer on his incredible climb, and urge my colleagues to join me by voting aye on this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 150, which commends Erik Weihenmayer for climbing Mount Everest, and recognizes that visually impaired individuals and others with disabilities have great potential.

Climbing Mount Everest is a feat in itself, given that only about 1,000 people have been able to do so, and well over 100 have died trying. Yet the fact that Erik is the only blind person to ever climb Mount Everest makes the accomplishment all the more remarkable.

I could spend the rest of my time talking about just this one accomplishment and how he did it. Yet, Erik's mountain climbing experience is not limited to Everest alone. His list of outdoor achievements reads like a wish list that many able-bodied mountaineers would like to have.

He has never let his inability to see obstruct his passion for travel and for mountaineering. He has hiked the Inca Trail in Peru. He has trekked in Pakistan and Tajikistan, including a traverse of the Baltoro Glacier, from which rise ten of the world's 30 highest peaks.

He has crossed the jungles of the Irian Jaya, near Carstan's pyramid, and the highest peak of Australia. In 1995 he climbed the 20,320 foot summit of Denali. In August of 1996, he made it to the top of El Capitan, the first blind person to do that. Erik has also climbed Mount McKinley, Aconcagua in Argentina, Vinson Massif in Antarctica, and the Polar Circus, a 3,000 foot ice waterfall in Alberta. Interestingly, even his wedding took place at 12,700 feet en route to the summit of Kilimanjaro.

Erik represents the reality that all people, regardless of their physical disabilities, can achieve amazing accomplishments. To quote Erik Weihenmayer, ''My message is much greater than go out and climb a mountain. It is to have passion for whatever you do in life.'' Few people can match the passion that Erik has shown for life. Through his feats, he teaches us that individuals can overcome their personal challenges, large or small, in reaching their goals and succeeding in life.

Erik has also wisely said, ''Someone told me that blind people need to realize their limitations. But I think it is much more exciting to realize my potential.'' This resolution recognizes Erik's potential and the potential of all of us humans, and it deserves the support of all of my colleagues today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO).

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, we offer this concurrent resolution today to honor a brave and courageous mountain climber from Golden, Colorado.

On Friday, May 25, Erik Weihenmayer reached the summit of Mount Everest, one of several Americans to top the peak last month. However, Erik's accomplishments demand much more attention because he became the first blind person in the world to stand triumphant at 29,035 feet.

When Erik was 13 years old, he lost his eyesight, and began rock climbing just 3 years later. Erik, a loving husband and father of a 1-year-old daughter, scaled the mountain by following the directions of his climbing mates, Erik Alexander of Vail, Colorado, Luis Benitez of Boulder, and Jeff Evans of Denver, and listening to bells that were attached to the climbers ahead of him.

Just think of that for a few seconds. I am not sure I could close my eyes and even with directions follow them from here to the podium and 20 feet in front of me, yet Erik climbed the world's tallest mountain.

Here is how Erik describes one section of the climb: ''It is just 2,000 feet of jumbly ice where you are just weaving in and out of ice blocks. There are big crevasses, and you are either stepping over or jumping over them, and sometimes there are tiny little narrow bridges that you have to tiptoe across, or there are ladders that you are walking across.''

On May 25, Erik became the hero of not only the blind community but all Americans. He showed all of us what we can accomplish; that we can accomplish our goals, regardless of the curve balls life throws us.

Erik has also accomplished the important goal of pulling down barriers

that are constructed in the minds of individuals regarding what persons with disabilities can accomplish in life. His success will cause all of us to stop and think about his monumental climb and the struggle of disabled Americans every day.

There are thousands of Mount Everests. Some of them may be as small as taking a single step. Others may be as monumental as Erik's climb. Erik has brought all of them to our attention. Erik put it best when he recently said that his climb ''. . . does not just ask people to change their opinions about blind people. It sort of forces them to.''

Erik is scheduled to arrive home in Colorado from Nepal today. He has said he is looking forward to hugging and smooching his daughter and wife. I would imagine that those were two of the great incentives he had to reach the top and get home safely.

I believe this Congress should give Erik a fitting welcome home and pass House Concurrent Resolution 350, thanking him for inspiring all of us. We welcome Erik home and thank him.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN), who continues to inspire us with all that he has accomplished, and I might add, the sponsor and author of this bill.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday I teamed up with my colleague, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO), to introduce this resolution to honor Erik Weihenmayer. Before I explain just how amazing Erik is and what his achievement epitomizes for people with disabilities, I would first like to thank the leadership, and the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. All of them have provided strong support for this legislation and helped bring it to the floor in an expeditious fashion, which ensures timely recognition of this great feat.

I am an ardent fan of Erik Weihenmayer. Little does he know that I and millions of others with disabilities have followed his trek not since May 23, when he summited Mount Everest, but many months ago when I first learned of his expedition.

Since 1926, when George Mallory was the first man to reach the top of Mount Everest, only about 1,000 people have successfully climbed it, and more than 150 have died trying. Not only has Erik conquered a mountain few people with 20/20 vision would ever fathom climbing, but he has also become an inspiring example of how to live life to its fullest.

At the young age of 32, Erik has already climbed Mount McKinley, Mt. Kilimanjaro, and even the Polar Circus, a 3,000 foot ice waterfall.

□ 1130

Erik is the consummate athlete. He is an acrobatic skydiver, SCUBA diver, long distance biker, marathon runner, skier, mountaineer, and an ice and rock climber. He has received countless awards from the Health and Fitness Association, from the Glaucoma Foundation, ESPN, and many more. He has even carried the Olympic torch.

But Erik's successes reach far beyond physical challenges. As an inspirational speaker and writer, Erik has shared the lessons learned in turning obstacles into opportunities. He has pioneered, not just the people with disabilities, but for all of us struggling to overcome our own tribulations.

What Erik shows us is that, despite obstacles and challenges that we all face in our lives, each of us can make our own dreams come true.

But myself personally, I had dreamed of being a police officer my entire life, and that dream ended for me at the age of 16 when, as a police cadet, a police officer's gun accidently discharged in the police locker room and severed my spinal cord. But with the help and support of my family, my friends and my entire community, I was able to persevere and find a new dream. Today I join my colleagues as a Member of the United States Congress.

Erik's spirit and determination symbolized my philosophy for living life to its fullest; that is, to dream it, to do it, and to dig a little deeper.

It is so important for us to experience life and to have dreams, to know that there is something out there that we want to accomplish; and then, yes, we put that plan into action and just do it.

Believing in ourselves, knowing that, despite the difficulties and the obstacles that we can overcome, we all can persevere, and that is when we need to dig a little deeper.

When the obstacles present themselves and we think we have nothing else left to give, all of us must know that it is possible and we must dig deep within ourselves and then to push forward and to persevere. That is a lesson and a message that we all must share and that Erik has certainly demonstrated for all of us today.

In his first inaugural address, FDR said happiness lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of creative effort. I cannot think of a person who embodies this spirit more than Erik Weihenmayer. Today we will pass a resolution to honor this perfect illustration of the accomplishments people with disabilities can make if they are provided with the proper resources, training and opportunity. But most important of all, this is a powerful example of the triumph of the human spirit.

I thank my colleagues for embracing and encouraging this drive to achieve in valuing the need for all of us to experience this great joy.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I was inspired by the message of the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) in his own circumstances, having been disabled early in his life. Anybody who is not inspired by Erik's story has never even climbed a hill much less a Mount Everest or Mount McKinley or some of the other mountains.

But the stories of both of these gentlemen and what they have achieved while they are a symbol of what those with disabilities are able to achieve in this world today, also I think are a symbol of something else that I have seen certainly in my lifetime; and that is the improvement of opportunities for those who are disabled in America.

I am not talking about just the curb cuts and the access to buildings and other facilities and amenities, all of which are of vital significance, and I am proud to say that the Congress of the United States and Washington in general has played a major part in that, but just the awareness of and in our society of what people with disabilities can achieve.

At the very highest levels of governance, at the very highest level of corporate governance in athletic pursuits such as we see here, Special Olympics and other circumstances, we have seen so many individuals who have lighted the way for everybody else in terms of what they could do. It is a huge inspiration, not only to others who might indeed have some disabilities, but I think to all of us with the recognition that the great abilities that are there generally make up for and overcome the disability that may have been the root problem to begin with. I think for that we can all be thankful.

We often talk about all the negativism out there, how things are worse in the world today. In my judgment, this is one area where things are much better. Erik is truly a hero and should truly be recognized and honored as such, and that is what we do in this resolution. For all these reasons, I believe this resolution is one that is deserving of the support of each of us here in the Congress of the United States.

Hopefully sometime we will have an opportunity, after he returns and hugs his wife and child, to be able to meet Erik and to be able to congratulate him personally for all that he has achieved.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to thank the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) for his inspiring remarks about another inspiring individual. I think there is a lesson for everyone here, especially those who do not intend to scale the highest peaks in the world, the highest physical mountains in the world, but scale, surmount other difficulties that they face.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) if he wishes to say anything

further. He made an elegant statement already.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure listening to the gentleman discuss the accomplishments of Mr. Weihenmayer. Although I have not had the opportunity to meet him in person, I am certainly looking forward to that. Our office has sent him a letter congratulating him. I hope he is receiving it even as we speak here today, because I know he is scheduled to be returning as I mentioned early today.

The fact is that there are a number of people that achieve the recognition that is set forward in the resolution of this nature. We do this routinely in the House. But I must admit to you that I think this particular resolution and this particular individual is something other than routine, I should say, that the accomplishments go far, farther than those of many, many of the people that we have identified in the past year. So it is especially fitting today that we are able to provide him with this kind of tribute.

We always wonder here what it is that we can do to inspire others. What we can possibly do on this floor to encourage other people to take on the tasks taken on by individuals like Mr. Weihenmayer. I am not sure if it is anything that we can do here, because all of it has to come from something internally. All of it has to come from something that builds in an individual over which we probably have very little control.

But to whatever degree we can add our support for those people who are out there throughout our land and throughout the world, for that matter, who have this sort of burning inside of them something, an ember starting to smoulder, to do something with their lives of major accomplishment, even if they are disabled, we say Godspeed to you all. Mr. Weihenmayer is a great example for everyone.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues today in extending my congratulations to Erik Weihenmayer on his remarkable achievement. On May 23, Erik reached the top of Mount Everest, which is a triumph for any athlete. The fact that Erik is blind makes the achievement all the more impressive. As the first blind person to ever reach the summit of Mount Everest, Erik symbolizes the athleticism of all mountain climbers, as well as the determination and ability of people with disabilities.

Those with disabilities can accomplish extraordinary goals if they are provided with the proper resources, training and opportunities. Erik took advantage of these opportunities and now joins the small rank of individuals who have conquered Mount Everest.

At the age of 32, Erik has climbed not only the highest mountain in the world, but also Mount McKinley, El Capitan, Kilimanjaro, Vinson Massif in Antartica, and Polar Circus in Alberta.

Today's resolution pays tribute to Erik and, in turn, all people with disabilities. I congratulate Erik on his achievement and his determination to succeed. His accomplishment proves that we are all capable of achieving great things when we set our hearts and minds to accomplishing a goal.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 150.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Debate has been concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on each motion to spend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 1209, by the yeas and nays; and

H.R. 1914, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for the second electronic vote.

CHILD STATUS PROTECTION ACT OF 2001

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 1209, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1209, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 416, nays 0, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 152]

YEAS—416

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Allen
Andrews
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Bryant
Burr
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cooksey
Costello
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Flake
Fletcher
Foley
Ford
Fossella
Frank
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Grucci
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hansen
Hart
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kerns
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kleczka
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Largent
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Mascara
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mink
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reyes
Reynolds
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaffer
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrock
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder

Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Stupak
Sununu
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Toomey
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Velazquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—15

Burton
Buyer
Cox
Dingell
Eshoo
Ferguson
Goode
Goodlatte
Harman
Houghton
Millender-McDonald
Nethercutt
Solis
Waters
Waxman

□ 1205

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 152 on H.R. 1209, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOKSEY). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on the additional motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

FARMER BANKRUPTCY CODE EXTENSION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 1914.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1914, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 411, nays 1, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 153]

YEAS—411

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Allen
Andrews
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Bryant
Burr
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cooksey
Costello
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Flake
Fletcher
Foley
Ford
Fossella
Frank
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Grucci
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hansen
Hart
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E.B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kerns
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kleczka
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Largent
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Mascara
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mink
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reyes
Reynolds
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaffer
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrock
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Stupak
Sununu
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Toomey
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Velazquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Wamp
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson
Wolf
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NAYS—1

Paul

NOT VOTING—19

Burton
Buyer
Cox
Dingell
Eshoo
Ferguson
Goode
Goodlatte
Harman
Houghton
Jefferson
Millender-McDonald
Nethercutt
Solis
Walsh
Waters
Watkins
Waxman
Woolsey

□ 1214

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 153 on H.R. 1914, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to vote during consideration of rollcall Nos. 152 and 153. I would have voted "yea" on both these rollcall votes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the following four suspensions passed earlier today: H.R. 1000; H.R. 37; H.R. 640; and H.R. 1661.

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

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 157) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 157

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable John Joseph Moakley, a Representative from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the decreased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate very much the leadership of both parties for their support of this resolution.

□ 1215

On behalf of JOE MOAKLEY's family and staff, I want to thank my colleagues who traveled to Boston for the funeral services last week. I know those Members who could not be there in person were with us in their thoughts and prayers, and I appreciate that very, very much.

I have been very blessed to have had the opportunity to speak with our friend JOE MOAKLEY in other settings over the past week, including at the funeral, so I will not take too much of the House's time today. I know that many other Members wanted to speak. But I would just like to say a couple of things. As somebody who worked for JOE MOAKLEY for over 14 years and who served with him in the House for nearly 5 years, I never met a person who made me feel better about politics or about public service. I learned an awful lot from him, and I saw him do some amazing things.

Mr. Speaker, I had a front-row seat to watch a real master in action. JOE was guided by the simple but powerful principle that no one is unimportant. From the streets of South Boston to the jungles of El Salvador, JOE MOAKLEY stood for and fought for fairness and fought for justice. He made sure that Mrs. O'Leary got her lost Social Security check. He fought to make sure that our veterans got the health care services that they were entitled to receive. He cared deeply about the environment, and he had a passion for civil rights and equal rights and human rights.

And yes, Mr. Speaker, he was a Democrat and very, very proud of it. He believed in the Democratic Party and he fought hard for the principles and the values that he believed in. But as I am sure that my Republican colleagues will acknowledge, JOE respected and admired those who had different views and even a different party affiliation. JOE MOAKLEY was a people person and his influence and his power in this institution was based not merely on his seniority or his status on the Committee on Rules but instead it was based on personal relationships and friendships with men and women of both parties.

His advice to me after I first got elected to Congress was not to give the most fiery or partisan speeches or even to hire the most experienced or expensive press secretary but to get to know everyone on a first-name basis. Building coalitions and building friendships, he would say, was the surest way to be effective. He told me shortly before he died that what bothered him the most during these past weeks was not the disease or even the inevitability of his death, rather what bothered him and made him emotional was not being on the ballot again. He loved this job so very, very much.

He worked literally to the very end. I recall visiting him a few days before he died in the hospital at Bethesda Naval Hospital and he had an IV in one arm and a phone cradled in the other, and he was doing constituent services. Mr. Speaker, he loved the Members of this body, he loved both Democrats and Republicans, and he loved the staff and not just the staff of the Members but also the support staff, from the Capitol Police to the elevator operators to those who worked in the House dining room.

JOE MOAKLEY approached death like he did his life, with a great deal of grace and dignity and humor. He always had a quip or a joke. He always put a smile on everyone's face. In fact, wherever you saw JOE MOAKLEY, you saw a whole bunch of people gathered with smiles on their face.

Last week, the people of Massachusetts said farewell to our friend. We had two Presidents there, a former Vice President, a lot of our colleagues here in the House. But really what was the most moving tribute I thought was the fact that there were thousands, literally thousands of people who had lined the streets of Boston to pay their last respects: construction workers who took off their hard hats out of deference to JOE, senior citizens, people in wheelchairs, young children, people of every background, of every religion, of every conceivable socioeconomic background came to pay their respects to this guy whom they not only respected but whom they loved.

JOE MOAKLEY was not only a good man, he was a great man. I feel very privileged to have had the honor to work with him not only on his staff but as his colleague. He really was my best friend, like a second father to me, and I miss him a lot.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank my friend from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) the former Rules Committee staff member and now our distinguished colleague and obviously, as he said, a very close friend of JOE MOAKLEY's.

This has been a very challenging and difficult time for all of us. It is obvious that we are saddened by the passing of JOE MOAKLEY, but we are here today to, I believe, spend some time talking about the wonderful life and the amazing impact that he had on so many of us. Just yesterday, I was very pleased that the Committee on Rules was able to report out a resolution which I would like to share with our colleagues, Mr. Speaker. Every member of the Committee on Rules was present and participated in speaking in support of this resolution which reads as follows:

Whereas, JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY served in the House of Representatives beginning in the 94th Congress;

Whereas, JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY served on the Committee on Rules beginning in the 95th Congress;

Whereas, JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY served as Chairman of the Committee on Rules from 1989 to 1994;

Resolved, that the Committee on Rules, with profound sorrow, marks the death of JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY on Memorial Day, May 28, 2001, and expresses its gratitude for his many years of dedicated service to the Committee and the House of Representatives.

We, as I said, reported that resolution from the Committee on Rules last night. I have a lot of things that I want to say and I plan to take time doing that, but I would just like to begin with the resolution that was offered here in the Committee on Rules.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST), the ranking member of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. FROST. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, JOE MOAKLEY was a great Member of this body, and I rise in support of this resolution with a heavy heart. JOE's passing has left a very large hole in the fabric of this institution, a hole that will be difficult to mend. JOE MOAKLEY and I were colleagues for 23 years on the Committee on Rules. In that time, I was privileged to serve alongside a man whose heart was pure and who never ever forgot where he came from.

Last Friday, I traveled to Boston to JOE's funeral mass. That mass was in reality a celebration of JOE's life and the values he brought to service in this institution on behalf of the people of South Boston, of Massachusetts, and the entire country. JOE was a man who embodied Tip O'Neill's maxim that all politics is local, but JOE was also a man whose ideals transcended borders.

JOE believed in the intrinsic decency of all humankind and in the ideal that every man, every woman, and every child in this country and around the world deserves basic human rights and freedoms no matter their station in life or political affiliation.

His work to bring justice to the cowardly killers of priests and women and children in El Salvador was truly a noble fight. His courage, his determination and his dedication to doing what

is right, no matter the danger, no matter the cost, should be taken to heart by every Member of this body. His ability to work with all Members of this body, to treat every Member fairly and to always have a good word for even his political foes should also be what every one of us should strive for each and every day we are privileged to work in this institution.

Mr. Speaker, I was so deeply moved by the words spoken at Joe's memorial last Friday. It was plainly obvious how beloved he was by his community. But for this House, we should all hope that our own actions we take as Members will be as celebrated as were the actions, words and deeds of my very good friend JOE MOAKLEY.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Sanible, FL (Mr. GOSS), the very distinguished vice chairman of the Committee on Rules and the chairman of the Subcommittee on Legislative and Budget Process.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding me this time. I chose to speak from this desk about JOE MOAKLEY rather than the well. How many times I stood at this desk in the past 9 or 10 years to yield time or to receive time from the distinguished gentleman from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, our colleague and friend, JOE MOAKLEY, to do the Rules Committee business.

I cannot possibly cover all of the things that are on my heart or that we should say about JOE MOAKLEY in the time allotted. So many praises are already out there as they should be, so many stories, so many personal anecdotes, all very favorable because JOE was truly just an extraordinarily remarkable guy.

The President of the United States, referring to JOE as a bread-and-butter Democrat, paid him the supreme compliment, I think, by saying, and I quote, ''He made cares and concerns of everyday people his business.'' That is, after all, what the House is about. That is what we are supposed to be doing. I think that is about the best you can do.

The strength and the humor, the way JOE faced life and death, I think, showed a depth of decency and character, the kind of values that we all aspire to and hope to achieve. He set a high standard. I guess I could think of a number of things in common we had: frustrations, the Boston Red Sox, his beloved Red Sox. Every year we hoped they would do better. His desires for Central America which paralleled mine. Lots of things we talked about, the stories he told, which were so well told. I am no JOE MOAKLEY. I could never tell a story like that and I would not dare tell some of those stories to some of my senior citizens, but JOE MOAKLEY had a way of telling those stories and it worked. Maybe somebody will fill those shoes someday. I do not know how.

After JOE was diagnosed the last time I had a conversation with him following on a previous one when he had had his liver transplant and he was sitting right there in the front row. I said, ''JOE, my gosh, you have certainly earned a rest. There are good things in life, go out and enjoy them a little bit while you have still got some time.'' He said, ''You know, I love this place. I never want to leave here.''

I guess the message I have today for all of us, Mr. Speaker, and I speak this from the heart for JOE MOAKLEY, is that JOE MOAKLEY never will leave this place. There will always be a bit of him here. Whether I see George Crawford coming down the hall or other staff or perhaps sitting in the Rules Committee, now under the gaze of JOE MOAKLEY's portrait staring right at us as we go about our business to remind us to do it the right way, when I pick up a sports page and see how the Red Sox are faring, when I hear a South Boston accent somewhere among our colleagues, all of these are the kind of things I think that will quickly bring back a very happy recollection of one of the true great guys we have had here.

I am sorry to say I missed his memorial service in Boston. I was out of the country. Obviously I miss JOE already. But I guess the good thing is that part of JOE will always be with us.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), my distinguished colleague and the dean of our delegation.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. I would like to begin by thanking the gentleman from Worcester for the incredible effort which he has put in over the last 2 weeks in ensuring that our colleague JOE MOAKLEY was able to have the kind of services and the kind of attention which his life merited. I know that he has thought of him as a second father. I think so many of us all thought of him as our favorite uncle as well. I just wanted to let him know how much we all appreciate it.

JOE MOAKLEY actually became Boston in his life. The face of JOE MOAKLEY will be the face of Boston for generations to come: the Big Dig, changing the transportation system, the cleanup of Boston Harbor, the Boston Harbor Islands National Park, the JOE MOAKLEY Courthouse which appropriately is going to be the centerpiece of the new Boston Harbor overlooking, by the way, the Evelyn Moakley Bridge.

□ 1230

So that that as well all becomes a part of this new Boston inner city, as generation after generation walks the streets of Boston.

What was unique about him? Well, he had an open door for everyone but he had an open heart as well. He combined these qualities of spirituality and statesmanship that are so rare, and I think that the real tribute to him was how many Republicans came to his services as well because I think that he came to symbolize all that was good about politics in our country; in fact, all that was good about our country, because he had the wit of Will Rogers. He had the humility of Jimmy Stewart, but he had the tenacity of Saint Patrick when he was fighting for justice or poverty or just trying to help any ordinary person who was down on their luck. He gave the same amount of attention to fighting for people whom he had never met, who were being discriminated against, oppressed in El Salvador, as he did to chasing down every Social Security check that he might have felt was a little bit late in the mail for one of his constituents.

It is altogether fitting and appropriate that he died on Memorial Day, because this was a great man from the greatest generation. I do not think that it is just a coincidence. I think that this is actually altogether fitting and appropriate that he would have passed away on that day. I know that right now he is up there with his beloved Evelyn in heaven, smiling down on this institution which he loved so much. Each one of us is indebted to this great man who, as we all went over to console him in these front rows over the last 2 months, all left being consoled by him as he regaled us with his jokes and his stories and we all left feeling that he, in fact, had reconciled himself to being rejoined with his beloved Evelyn.

I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for everything that he has done and for bringing this resolution today.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Atlanta, Georgia (Mr. LINDER), the very distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Technology in the House.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I served with Joe on the Committee on Rules for a little over 6 years now, and in those 6 years-plus I do not think I ever heard him say a harsh word. He was a kind and decent man. It will not be said very often, but he was a fierce partisan and a fighter for his party, for his ideas, for his causes, and he carried out those fights with great dignity and skill and great good humor.

I do not know how many times I have heard him use his wit or his humor to lighten the tension or to get his way, but he did it with great skill.

He impressed me, I suppose, as any member in politics for 27 years has ever impressed me. He loved his job. He loved his community and he loved this House. We will be sorely missing him for a long time to come.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to just take a moment to commend JOE MOAKLEY's

staff, his staff from the Committee on Rules, his personal staff here in Washington and in Massachusetts. I want the record to reflect that these are extraordinary individuals who were like family to him and a lot of the great tributes that occurred last week and over the previous weeks were as a result of their dedication and their commitment. If he were here today, he would want me to acknowledge their wonderful work and to let everybody know how much they meant to him.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to my colleague, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS).

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), for yielding and for bringing this resolution before this body.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the resolution in honor of our dear friend and colleague JOE MOAKLEY. He was a good and decent man. Some would say he was too good, he was so good. He was a tireless worker and fighter for the people of his district and for all of the citizens of our country. He had a deep concern for human rights, for civil rights, for those who had been left out and for those who have been left behind.

He will be deeply missed by the people of his beloved Boston, and he will be missed by all of us here in this House.

Mr. Speaker, our friend, our colleague, JOE MOAKLEY, took to heart what Horace Mann said when he said we should be ashamed to die, we should be ashamed to leave this world until we have made some contribution to humanity.

JOE MOAKLEY made more than a contribution. When we look at Boston, look at the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, when we look at America, when we look at our world, we live in a different place, we live in a better place because of the work, the commitment, the dedication and the vision of this one man.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK), a very distinguished member of the Committee on Rules and the former mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I am very honored to just be able to say a word about JOE because JOE was truly a friend to all of us. He was always a gentleman and he was one of those people that if the rest of the Congress could be like him, I do not think we would have any problems. Yes, he was partisan and I was not of the same party, but we were good friends. He respected people as people. I think back at the things JOE has gone through because he had so many medical challenges in his life that probably would have gotten a lot of the rest of us down, but he always kept going and he always had that smile on his face. No matter what was happening, that smile was there and that just kept a lot of us going.

I know last year when I went through breast cancer, he was probably my greatest encourager in this House. He just was always saying, you can do it and you are going to make it and do not give up. He said all of this to me constantly, and he just was somebody that I really admired and looked up to.

It really did my heart good when we went to the funeral because when you saw all of those people in Boston lining the streets and really just in honor of JOE, it was because they knew him as just plain JOE. They did not look at him as Congressman MOAKLEY. He was JOE. He never forgot where he came from. He never forgot his roots and people loved him because of that.

He leaves a very, very big hole in this body. I was just very privileged to have a few years to be able to call him my friend.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), the ranking member of the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I have found a long time ago at my age that the best way to handle losses like this is to take a deep breath and to thank God that you were so privileged in knowing such a great guy.

I lost a brother, and I manage every day to wrestle with the problem in realizing how many people just never had a brother to love and to care for and to be with. So even though I miss him, it eases the pain to know that I knew him.

With JOE, I remember once many years ago I was at the prayer meeting and it was my turn to tell the people just how wonderful I was and all of the hardships that I had, and he came to me in feigned resentment. I said what did I say wrong? He said, you stole my story. I am on next week.

Next week, he told the same story. It was not black. It was Irish. It was not the Army. It was the Navy. It was not a hotel. It was a bar. But when he got here, he felt so satisfied not with the rough times that he had but with his dedication in trying to make certain that other people had the opportunity to come from our background, to be members of this wonderful body and to try to make it possible for someone else to be able to say, yes, I am from the old neighborhood and I am trying to make it easier for them.

Maya Angelou, a poet, said recently what JOE said in his own way, that she was on life's train and was prepared to enjoy every minute of the ride, but if someone tapped her on the shoulder and said, this is your stop, you have to get off, she would say, it is not a big problem because it has been a very, very good ride.

JOE made certain that he did not allow us to feel sorry for him. He really lived life to the end and we know that he knew it was a good ride.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), my friend and the very distinguished former chairman of the Committee on International Relations.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our good friend and distinguished colleague, JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY, who passed away on Memorial Day due to complications of leukemia.

I want to commend the gentleman from California, our distinguished chairman, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), for arranging this time for us, and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for taking the time to bring this resolution to the floor honoring our good friend, JOE MOAKLEY.

I had the pleasure and honor of serving in the Congress with JOE for more than 2 decades. I really remember how JOE used to guide us through one problem after another when we appeared before him in the Committee on Rules. I vividly recall, too, how the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) and I, as part of a congressional delegation, went to Boston under JOE's leadership to bring our fight against drugs to Boston. JOE was devoted to that fight.

JOE was a kind-hearted man. He was dedicated, devoted to serving his constituents. He was elected to represent the Ninth Congressional District of Massachusetts back in 1972, appointed to a seat on the Committee on Rules where he served as the chairman from 1989 to 1994. Much of the time in my capacity on the Committee on International Relations, I appeared before JOE on a number of our authorization measures and JOE was always a true gentleman as he handled the important debates before him.

We all recall, too, that back in 1989, following the murder of six Jesuit priests and their housekeeper and her daughter in El Salvador, Congressman MOAKLEY was appointed to head a special task force to investigate the Salvadoran government's response to those killings. The Moakley Commission issued a report which revealed the involvement of several high-ranking military officers in Salvador in those murders, and that Moakley report resulted in the termination of our Nation's military aid to El Salvador and is often credited with helping to end the brutal civil war in that nation.

JOE's commitment to the people of South Boston, to those in need throughout our Nation and to the advancement of human rights throughout the world stands as a benchmark of his tenure in the House. When Congressman MOAKLEY announced in February that he suffered from an incurable form of leukemia, it was gratifying to see how the House came together around him and his family and how many of us took the time to meet with him on the floor. Moreover, I was pleased that my wife Georgia and I had the opportunity to spend some time with him during his last days.

□ 1245

JOE was truly a man of public service, service in the military in World War II, public service in the Massachusetts State Legislature, and in the Congress. He had an amiable personality, often using his good humor to diffuse difficult political arguments.

Georgia and I send our prayers and condolences to JOE's family. He will be sorely missed in this body.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), one of JOE's close friends and colleagues on the Committee on Rules.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, a giant of a man has fallen; and I do not think this House will ever be the same. JOE MOAKLEY was so deeply rooted in his beloved South Boston and grateful, to the moment of his death, that the people who lived there had entrusted him with the greatest thing that they could give, to let him represent them here in the House of Representatives. And represent them he did. On our way to the funeral, we drove by many works in process in the city of Boston that are a credit to JOE MOAKLEY.

Most of all, though, he was a human being, to his core. He told me a story that I think sort of summarized JOE, that when he was growing up, he was always big for his age, which was one of the reasons he was able to talk himself into the Navy at the age of 16. As they would be driving down the street, if they saw anybody being bullied or anything that did not look quite right to JOE's father, he would say, ''Well, JOE what are you going to do about that?'' He would park the car, and JOE would get out and fix it. And I think that trained him very well in that JOE WAS expected when he saw something wrong to do what he could to fix it.

I think he was most proud, at least I am most proud, of what he did in Central America, because he stepped up against his own government to right a wrong, and all of us benefited from that.

I considered him, I expect like most of you did, to be my very best friend. I know that JOE was the person I could always go to when I had anything in the world on my mind, say anything that I thought, and that was the end of it, and he always helped me out.

I was his singing partner. We sang a lot of duets. He knew songs I had never heard of in my life, I am not even sure they were songs. I am pretty sure he made some of them up as he went along, like ''Come into the parlor if you are Irish.'' That was one that I had never heard.

But, anyway, serving with him on the Committee on Rules from the time that I was appointed there was one of the greatest joys of my life.

I had never seen anyone live with such joy and contentment, nor die with such courage. As has been mentioned, JOE had several physical infirmities that bothered him over the years, but none of them ever slowed him down.

But the nicest thing for him, while he was not a publicity seeker, and maybe everybody in the country would not know who JOE MOAKLEY was, everybody in the State of Massachusetts knew. And the wonderful things that happened to him, the courthouse that was named after him he told me was built on a piece of ground where he played as a child. And what a magnificent thing at that dedication, that Old Ironsides, the USS Constitution, gave him a 19 gun salute. I think that is the greatest gift you could give a son of Massachusetts or a son of the United States. And everybody showed him and had the opportunity to tell him how much he was beloved.

I picked up a copy of the Boston Globe while we were in Boston on Friday at the service, and, as everybody else has said, it was a most remarkable event. The sailors who serve on Old Ironsides served as his pallbearers bringing the casket from the church.

It said in the Globe, among other things about JOE, that he was so loved in his neighborhood and area that at one point he was asked if he would open up his house for Christmas for an open house as a fund-raiser, and he was kind of loath to do it, but he said okay, if you want me to, I shall do that.

It went off very well, and they decided they would like to do that again, and they thought they would ask early. So the following August the group asked JOE if he would do it again, and JOE said, well, absolutely, I would be happy to; the Christmas tree is still up. Which was typical JOE again.

But one of the things that I read in the paper too that struck me so was that nobody ever parked in front of JOE's house, out of respect for him. Nobody ever told anybody not to; it was just the feeling that they had that somebody special lived there.

But with all of that, every inch of him was one of them. He was from the old school, I know that, and frankly I liked that old school, and I do not think that we will see his like again. But I personally am grateful for the years that I had an opportunity to work with and to get to know one of the most incredible human beings I have ever known, JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT), the distinguished Speaker of the House.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Chairman for yielding me time.

JOE MOAKLEY. I first encountered JOE when I was a young Congressman and took an amendment up to the Committee on Rules. It was probably an ill-advised amendment, but JOE was very gentle and very kind and kind of let me know the errors of my way and was straightforward. On subsequent times, when JOE was chairman and in charge of that committee, I used to go up there, and he was about as straight as you could get as a person you would find on either side of the aisle. He was fair, he was honest, and he did not hesitate to tell you sometimes the error of your ways.

But I got to know JOE probably even better. He shared an office down the hall. When I became deputy whip, we shared an office across the hall, and we would meet. In those days JOE was not in very good health, but JOE was always cheerful; he always had a good word to say and an optimistic outlook. Even though I was not here in the days of Tip O'Neill, I think probably Joe carries out the best tradition of the Irish-Catholic-Boston politician. He was of good nature, of good humor, and knew the art of politics very, very well.

The last experience I had with JOE is I had the great honor of sharing a trip to Rome with him this January. He co-chaired a Congressional delegation to Rome to carry the Congressional Gold Medal to present to the Pope. I think I saw JOE MOAKLEY probably in his very best time. He relished that trip. He relished the opportunity to present that medal to the Pope, and he said to me that was one of the greatest experiences he had while serving in the Congress of the United States.

We will remember JOE for a lot of things, first of all his service on the Committee on Rules. We will remember him for his work in El Salvador, something we did not always agree with, but certainly something that was certainly from his heart, and he was committed to that.

But I last saw JOE 2 weeks ago. I took a quiet trip to Bethesda and stopped to see him. JOE was sleeping, probably one of his last days, but he was at peace.

I remember just a couple of weeks ago when we unveiled his portrait in Statuary Hall. JOE, I think, looked forward to that. It was certainly a time that we had to honor him while he was here and we could appreciate it. The glow on JOE's face that day pretty much matched the glow on that portrait. I think that is how we will always remember him, that cheery face that today hangs in the Committee on Rules.

We will always remember JOE MOAKLEY in this place.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL).

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for organizing this special order today, and to all of you who have assembled for the purpose of remembering our dear friend, JOE MOAKLEY.

Just before he died, even though he had the courage to call all of us on a Sunday evening in the delegation to tell all of us that the end was near, and he did it without flinching, incidentally. He still maintained that great sense of humor that we all can identify

with. He was sitting in the corner, and a colleague rushed over to him very sincerely and was all over him and said, I am so upset, JOE. I am so troubled by this. I am so bothered.

When the colleague walked away, JOE said, he is more upset than I am about this. I thought that was classic JOE MOAKLEY.

But there is a great lesson in this life, and if I can just spend a couple of seconds on it, I would like to.

He loved the job that he had and thought that it was a special privilege to serve in the House where Mr. Madison and Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Johnson and Mr. Nixon and Mr. Ford and Mr. Bush, Sr., had all served. They had come from this House. And what have we watched here for the last 2 decades? We have watched the people that have gotten elected here overwhelmingly come here by running against and then running down the institution.

JOE MOAKLEY was unabashed in his support of the appropriations process. He believed strenuously in the notion that the great privilege that had been offered to him in life was to be a Member of the Congress. He could be as partisan as anybody in this House.

He was a great Democrat, an old school Democrat. But do you know who he liked to have dinner with? This is going to kill them in Alabama when they find this out, the voters down there; SONNY CALLAHAN, TERRY EVERETT, HAL ROGERS. That was the group he assembled with after hours. He enjoyed their company socially. He loved those stories about rural Alabama and how they had come here, because we all came here under an interesting scenario. We all got here for different reasons. We all came to this marvelous institution, the great deliberative institution in the history of man and womankind, because of special circumstances.

It is the memory of MOAKLEY that we honor today.

If I might for just a second, he is the answer to this argument that we should have term limits. Remember the great deeds that Members do here? They generally do them in the latter part of their careers. He thought the line item veto was perfectly foolish. Why would we have a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution? Does the law not say we are supposed to do that without disturbing the Constitution? Imagine trying to use that rhetoric to soothe the public today: Gees, I love my job. This is a marvelous institution. I am as comfortable back in the streets of ''Southy'' with the ''townies,'' as he would call them, as I could be anywhere.

He came to this institution with a special reverence, he treasured the friendships, he was the great heir to McCormick and O'Neill. That was his memory. It was a snapshot in time. He would talk about those great battles.

Just a couple of weeks ago, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN) and I had this marvelous opportunity the night that they dedicated his portrait. We fought to get him to go to that dinner, fought to get him to go to that dinner. He was not going to go that afternoon, and when I got there, he was sitting at the head table.

One of the things we understood in our delegation was when he spoke, there was deference. You listened to what he had to say. That night he talked about the great political battles that he had won. And do you know what else he talked about? The battles he had lost along the way.

He explained how he had handled many of those difficult moments, and he held forth in a way that everybody in the room was mesmerized, as he spoke of names that are legendary in Massachusetts politics, and he spoke how he had handled many of those controversial races.

But I am going to close on the note I opened with. JOE MOAKLEY loved service in this institution, and when I hear the rhetoric of some Members of this House that come to the microphone to vilify the other side, to vilify the institution that we serve in day in and day out, he was never part of it.

He could be as partisan as they would come in this institution, and yet he loved his service here, and he loved the Members that he served with; peculiar friendships, peculiar alliances, but he understood that day in and day out.

I think it is time that we all thought, look, this is the best job that the public could ever offer to any of us, to be a Member of this old House, as members of the American family.

I think that I would just say this, that his friendship to me, from committee assignments, to everything else that I ever asked for, never once in 13 years did he say no; and do you know what? Never once in 13 years did I not say thank you.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield such time as he may consume to the very distinguished gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS), an able member of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I, like all my colleagues, was saddened by Joe's death, even though we knew that it was inevitable. But I had an opportunity to serve with him on the Committee on Rules for 5½ years, and if I were to describe Joe as simply as I could, he was a very courteous individual, and I think that was something that obviously was not made up.

He had a great wit, and there are a number of times when we have these late night rules meetings that that wit would disarm tension, and it would disarm tension here on the floor. But I also discovered that he was very principled in his philosophy, but yet he was one who very much wanted to work together.

I guess because of the job that we have here, there are a lot of people that draw impressions of all of us through how we communicate on C–SPAN. I recall before I was elected to this position, to Congress, that there was a show that featured JOE MOAKLEY on C–SPAN. It went on for about an hour, and he would talk about his background, he talked about his philosophy, he talked about getting a Federal building here or there in his district, and I was struck by that program. I watched it the whole time.

At that time, of course, I was not a Member of Congress, I did not think that I would ever be here. But I discovered when I got here that the JOE MOAKLEY that impressed me with that show on C–SPAN was exactly the same JOE MOAKLEY that was portrayed there.

□ 1300

I think that is probably the highest compliment one can pay to somebody who was in politics for as long as he was, is that there was not anything phoney about him. JOE MOAKLEY was JOE MOAKLEY, and that is the individual that we will all miss.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK).

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, we are all grateful to our colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), for the grace with which he is carrying out what is for him a personally difficult process, as he has for the past couple of months.

Speaking of personal, people have talked about JOE MOAKLEY. It is impossible to convey what he was like. All I can say is that he was a walking antidepressant. You could be in the worst possible mood and you walked in here and you went to talk to him. For those of us who had the privilege of being his friend, it is just not going to be as much fun to do this job for a while.

But that is personal. We are here in the Congress of the United States, and we have to talk about what is public. People have said over and over, correctly, that JOE MOAKLEY never forgot where he came from, and he deserves credit for that. People become important sometimes, and they forget where they came from. JOE MOAKLEY did not forget where he came from. But there was another element of JOE that I think explains what, to me, constituted greatness. He was able constantly to remember where he came from and also to remember where he and the rest of us ought to be going.

Human nature being what it is, when people are very good at a certain set of skills, when they are very rooted in a particular set of circumstances, when they are based in an ethnicity, a political tradition, a particular way of doing things, inexorably they become resistant to change, because when you are the master of a given set of circumstances, change can seem threatening to you. It is a rare individual who can be as good at the existing set of arrangements as JOE MOAKLEY was

and still be one of those who uses the power he gets from that to help bring new things into being.

He represented a tough, somewhat insular, political tradition in Massachusetts; and he became its undisputed champion. In an area where people fought with each other, in an area that was fractious, he was everybody's idol; and he used that power, not simply to perpetuate himself, but to help the people he represented and others reach out. In other words, he took the values which he represented in his particular area and taught people how to apply them to new situations. He represented an area where, frankly, race relations were troubled; but I would venture to say that the members of the Congressional Black Caucus counted him justifiably a close friend. He dealt with prejudices of various sorts, prejudices that he and his friends and neighbors grew up with, and he was a leader in combating them.

He took his prestige into foreign territory: El Salvador. As he himself joked, an area that when he grew up he knew nothing about and cared nothing about, and what he did was to recognize that the same set of values that reminded him where he came from ought to be motivating him to where we should go in the future, and that is greatness. That is a man who was secure in himself, able beyond what most people are gifted with in terms of his insight, his personal dealings, his ability to read the situation and move forward; and it is precisely that he never preached to people.

This was a righteous man who was never self-righteous. This was an example of morality at its best, who made sure that no one ever thought that he felt he was somehow better than they are; and by the force of his personality, which was considerable, and his example, which was even greater, he helped move this country and this House into a new era.

I do have to note in the end that JOE MOAKLEY was several things that are not fashionable. He was a career politician. He was a longtime Member of this House of Representatives. People who denigrate politics, people who think that after you have served here for a few years, you somehow become soured, I guess they are going to have to forget that JOE MOAKLEY ever lived. Because in his person, he repudiated more stereotypes of the area that he came from, of the profession that he had, of the whole way he lived; he transcended differences that people have used to divide us.

So yes, personally, all of us who had this wonderful man as a friend will miss him. We will console each other by telling stories. I dare say that we are sad to lose JOE MOAKLEY, but people watching television and I will ask for unanimous consent to violate the rules by referring to them, they have seen us laughing and smiling, not because we are not sad, but because we console ourselves and our loss by remembering how much fun it was to be around him; and if we cannot be around him, we can suffuse ourselves in his memory.

My thanks to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) and to all of us for giving ourselves this opportunity to celebrate this man and, even more important, to celebrate what he stood for and exemplified.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), another great friend of Mr. MOAKLEY's.

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I commend him and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for putting together this well-deserved tribute to a great friend of all of us, JOE MOAKLEY. It was really my privilege to be able to call JOE MOAKLEY a friend. So much has been said here today, and this is one time when everything that is said about someone is true. JOE MOAKLEY was a Democrat to the core; but he never, ever allowed partisanship to enter into his personal relationships, his friendships. He never let that come between himself and any other Member of this House who wanted to work with him on any issue, or just wanted to sit down and talk with him.

To me, he was a fountain of knowledge and wisdom, advice. He personified what politics should be. He personified what the House of Representatives should be: a person who fights hard for what he believes in, but also respects his adversary and understands the nature of this business, the give and take; that the combat should end when the day is over, and there is no reason why we cannot at least have some attempt at friendship and solidarity.

The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) mentioned that dinner that he was at with JOE MOAKLEY just a few weeks ago. I was a tag-along for that dinner, because I figured this is one time where I would not get stuck by these guys for picking up the tab. It was actually one of the most memorable evenings that I ever had, just to be able to sit there and listen to the stories. It seems as if JOE had one last infusion of adrenaline. He came alive. He was telling stories about John McCormick and Tip O'Neill and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL), and the entire delegation. They were great stories.

Yet throughout it, there was a constant thread. He was never the hero of any of his stories. Somehow, on the battles that he spoke about that he won, he almost positioned himself as being a spectator and those he lost, he put himself right in the middle of it. He had a tremendous self-deprecating sense of humor. He had an ability to see beyond the moment. He had an ability to realize what this is all about and what all of us are here for: to try to get a job done and make some friends along the way.

So this House is really diminished by his absence. I know his portrait is going to hang; I know his memory is going to remain here forever. But the fact is that he is not here, and that is something that is going to weigh on all of us, because he will be missed. May he rest in peace.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. BALDACCI).

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I thank my colleagues for the opportunity to speak for just a couple of minutes about a great person.

When I was first elected to the House in 1994, I had the opportunity to sit with JOE, because he was the dean of our delegation, and talk about committees, talk about issues, and I found that advice and counsel to have stayed with me through my service of four terms.

I have always found JOE to be JOE, to be somebody who you could talk with, listen to, and to be able to strategize with, especially during the very turbulent times when we first started in 1994 with Speaker Gingrich and the change in power.

I remember we had one time where one of the Boston schools was playing one of the Maine schools and one of the bets was for a box of lobsters, and I remember bringing it up to the Committee on Rules, and I remember JOE opening it up and Jerry Solomon was the Chair of the Committee on Rules at that time, and taking one of the lobsters out of the box and chasing Jerry Solomon with the lobster. He said back to me, he said, the only problem with these Maine lobsters is you still have the rubber around the claws so that they cannot get at them anymore.

Mr. Speaker, JOE was always there for me, and he was always there for everybody else. One of the things that I really appreciated about him and his service in the House is that you can tell an awful lot about a Member when you recognize a Member's staff; sort of, the apples do not fall far from the tree. The leadership in the office is usually given to those on the staff, and they carry forward. In JOE's office, I really got to meet an awful lot of nice people, a lot of people who are very dedicated, as JOE was. We would do the Horton's kids charity; we would be involved and they would be involved. After hours, after they finished their work in the office, they would be going into the inner cities here in Washington and trying to help kids get the education and training they need. It seemed to be the entire office was working together as one large family, and I know that is how JOE felt about them.

In closing, I would just like to say that it is always ''JOE,'' because it is an honor to be called by your first name by your constituents and the people that you serve, because it is a recognition of the people that you represent that you are indeed one of them.

So I would like to thank my colleagues for the opportunity, and I

would like to say God bless to JOE MOAKLEY.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU).

Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts for putting together this tribute today.

As I drove down to the memorial service on Friday, I listened to the radio and there were two ''townies,'' as the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) would describe them, Mike Barnical and Will McDonough, and they paid a wonderful tribute to JOE MOAKLEY. They talked about his personality, the way he threw himself into his work and, most important, his dedication to his community, to South Boston. I think they understood that he was so good at what he did because he was a product of that community, and there is no service that is easier to render than when you are helping a neighbor, than when you are helping your town, than when you are helping the people you grew up with. They told story after story about JOE walking the neighborhoods, sitting in a restaurant, reading the newspaper, saying hello and reaching out to everyone who came by to talk to him and everyone that came by to offer a favor. It was a very personal tribute, but I think it was one that recognized the goodness in the man.

Even a more powerful tribute, however, was the description that Jim gave, the description of the outpouring of emotion in the town of South Boston itself. As I got to South Boston, of course the roads were closed off leading to Saint Bridgett's and I got out of the car and walked the last 4 or 5 blocks. It was astounding, it was heartwarming and touching to see people lined up four and five deep, even five blocks from the church, school children, construction workers, police officers, and they were all people that were of the community that knew JOE, that knew the kind of dedication that he brought to his people and to his neighborhood.

It could not have been a better day. It was a glorious, sunny day. There was an enormous American flag at the crest of the hill on Broadway. There were schoolchildren lining the streets, and the Red Sox had won the night before; and I thought, if you were going to pick a day to be remembered, it could not be a much finer one than that. JOE was a great politician, as many people have pointed out. But I think he was a great politician because he was such a good man; and more than anything else, that is what his service will be remembered for, and I think that is what his friends and neighbors and South Boston will remember him for.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. I am glad to join him. All of us have staff members and they have become extraordinarily close. We work together sometimes some intense and long hours, and I know how much JOE MOAKLEY thought of the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN). To the extent that JOE is gone, he certainly will live on in the gentleman on this floor who replicates his decency, his honesty, his integrity, and his ability, and his commitment to people. I say to the gentleman, we count him as a colleague who will reflect JOE's values on this floor for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, this is D-Day. It was the beginning of the end of the great conflict in our lifetime. There were other conflicts, and there will be others, but Tom Brokaw correctly reflects on the JOE MOAKLEY generation as being the greatest generation.

□ 1315

On December 7, of course, 1941, that war began essentially for the United States. We had been participating to some degree, but it began for us then, that day that will live in infamy.

Days after, JOE MOAKLEY, at the age of 15, said, ''I am going to be a part of the defense of freedom,'' and he volunteered for the United States Navy. Initially, as I understand, even he could not get away with it, being 15. But a few months later he bulked up, I suppose, and maybe grayed his hair a little bit. I am not sure what he did, but he made it in, because he wanted to serve. He wanted to be in the forefront of the defense of liberty of the country that he loved.

It has been said so many times here that JOE MOAKLEY did not forget from whence he came. I went to the Maryland State Senate at the age of 27, and there was an individual there who I thought was old then, but he is probably younger than I am now. His name was William Hodges. They called him Bip Hodges. He had been a fighter, a prize fighter. He represented the Sixth District of Baltimore City.

He was, from my perspective, sort of a Damon Runyon type figure. Everybody loved Bip Hodges. Everybody in his district referred to him as Bip. I thought when I went there fresh out of law school that this was sort of a rough-hewn guy that really did not know what was going on.

I had the privilege of serving with him on the Senate Finance Committee, and every day that I served with him, every week and every month and every year, I became more aware of how in touch he was with his district, of how in touch he was with his people.

I do not frankly think it was so much that JOE MOAKLEY never forgot his district; JOE MOAKLEY was what he came from. To that extent, I think everyone who has spoken reflects the truth that JOE MOAKLEY represented exactly what the Founding Fathers wanted this body to be: representatives of their people.

No one with whom I have served better reflected that representation, that sense of his people, of their decency, of their fortitude, of their faith, of their courage, better than our friend, JOE MOAKLEY. The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) spoke of it, as have others.

He loved this institution. He loved what it represented, as well as the opportunity that it gave him, as he did as a boy of 15 defending freedom on the front lines, and here defending freedom at every opportunity; as has been mentioned, sometimes in the front lines, and sometimes when his people perhaps did not exactly understand what the defense of freedom was and what he was representing.

We have all been blessed to have served with a person of the wit, of the warmth, of the well-grounded and in-touch nature that was JOE MOAKLEY. There are a lot of smart people in the world, but there are not so many wise people. JOE MOAKLEY was smart, JOE MOAKLEY represented his people, and JOE MOAKLEY was a wise and extraordinarily good human being.

The Founding Fathers, were they on this floor speaking, I think would say, ''JOE MOAKLEY is what we had in mind when we created the House of Representatives.'' His friend, Tip O'Neill, has been called a man of the House, and he was. His dear friend, JOE MOAKLEY, was equally a man of the House, a man of south Boston, a man of Massachusetts, a man of the Irish, a man of America. How blessed America was by the life of JOE MOAKLEY.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Palm Beach, Florida (Mr. FOLEY).

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) for the opportunity to speak today.

For a moment, let me be the boy I was, born in Newton, Massachusetts. Coming to this Congress, I always follow things that happen in Florida and Massachusetts, and none was more exciting for me than having conversations with JOE MOAKLEY.

JOE and I would spend frequent July Fourths together in Chatham. We would have wonderful times. We would break out in song and JOE would tell stories, and like many people have reflected on, JOE would be the life of party, but not try to be the center of the party.

I was over on the side of the Chamber where JOE sat 2 weeks ago. I saw JOE, and he was sitting in his chair. I said, ''JOE, we will see you in 6 weeks. We are going to have our July Fourth kickoff. You will have to lead us in song again.'' He said to me matter-of-factly, ''MARK, I won't make it this year. You are going to have to do the duties yourself.'' It knocked the wind out of my sails, because he looked so evidently healthy and content as he sat there. Even knowing he was sick, he never burdened us with his pain or his anguish.

Many times on this floor, Members complain about the time they spend

here and the schedule being so frenetic, and not ever being able to plan their days. I would sometimes pass JOE and I would say, ''This place is a mess, isn't it, JOE?'' And he said, ''Hey, MARK, I have no place to be. Evelyn is waiting for me in heaven. This is great. I am fortunate the people in South Boston gave me the chance to rise to a position where I could help my neighbors.''

Some of the Members have commented today about how brutal this process can be. We needed only to spend a moment with JOE MOAKLEY to know that there was hope for all of us; that if we looked into his eyes and into his heart and recognized how gifted we are to serve the people we represent, that rather than rhetoric, we should apply ourselves to the principal Golden Rule of helping and serving.

JOE had a unique quality about him. It is hard to quantify in words, even though my colleagues have done such a wonderful job in doing it. South Boston, many people probably do not realize, has had its share of tough times, but JOE always, there again, put the best face on his community and talked about how neighbors help neighbors.

In reading the press accounts over the weekend, we realize that there was a living patron saint of a community. God has a unique way of blessing people with unique talents. He blessed JOE with the tenacity to stick up for the underdog. He gave him the ability to tolerate some of the excesses of Members who serve here. He gave us a chance to look in the mirror at times and reflect that we are here only by both the grace of God and the best wishes of our constituents.

I tell freshmen Members when they come to this process to recognize a few points: one, that we are only here and invited to the parties because of the title that precedes our names. When our time in office is over, we will be quickly forgotten, so we should not take ourselves too seriously. JOE never did. He never did. Yet, being the congressman from the district he represented was his joy in life.

I know we have had some late nights, and I know the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) and others have had some real heated debate with Mr. MOAKLEY. But the thing that came away from all of these contests is that we can disagree without being disagreeable.

If JOE MOAKLEY were here today, he would laugh and tell us to sit down and stop all this babble because we are taking far too much time of the House's business on celebrating him. But I believe in my heart that as we proceed to pass this resolution unanimously commending him for service, we also know deep in our hearts that Boston, South Boston, that all of the cities not only contained within JOE's congressional district but the entirety of Massachusetts and of our Nation thank JOE MOAKLEY for his service.

The one thing I would always do, though, and it was funny, when we would spend this time in Massachusetts, I would avoid long durations of conversations with JOE simply because I have settled in Florida now for 44 of my 47 years on this Earth. If I stayed with JOE too long, I would start talking about things with my accent, because he would see me on the floor or in parties and he would say, ''Hey, MARK, how are you, kid? How are you doing? Hey, I love your car. I saw your car. It is a good-looking car, kid.'' If I would stay too long, I would get that Massachusetts accent back.

So I salute JOE. I thank God I got a chance early in Congress to get to know him early on in my term, and to be able to witness what I believe is a legend of this process. His guidance to many of us in this process is appreciated, and I know if we can try and emulate his style, if we take a moment to appreciate his gentle touch, and if we would all refrain, when we are here at the well and when we have a chance to blurt our words over the airwaves, that we pause just a minute and think of the Moakley rule; pause just a minute before we say something inappropriate or hurtful; pause just a minute and say, how would JOE approach this situation? It is always fun to win, but it is better to win with honor. JOE knew how to do that with great style.

So let us institute the Moakley rule from now on as a tribute to our colleague, our hero, and our friend, JOE MOAKLEY, and think before we speak; and if we have to speak in loud tones, do it civilly, responsibly, and with respect for this great institution.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN).

(Mr. MEEHAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I too want to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. McGovern) for all of the wonderful work he has done over the period of the last several weeks. JOE loved him very much. The op ed piece the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) wrote for the Boston Globe was a powerful, powerful expression of love and an expression of JOE MOAKLEY'S life.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to acknowledge all of the people from JOE'S staff who are here. I would daresay that there is not a Member of Congress who had a closer relationship of love with his staff than JOE MOAKLEY did. I also want to compliment all of the members of JOE'S staff for all of the work they have done over the last few weeks, as well. I know JOE is looking down and is very, very proud of the job that members of his staff did.

It has been, I guess, about 4 months since JOE announced that he had an incurable form of leukemia. I remember the Sunday when he called the members of the delegation. I had gone to Taunton in JOE'S district as a member of the Committee on Armed Services. JOE was not going to an event, and they asked me to go and sort of say good-bye to a group of Reservists who were going over to Kosovo.

I went in and did the ceremony, and there were a lot of television cameras there. I got home and my wife said, ''Gee, you were on all the stations.'' I got a call about an hour and a half later, and it was JOE MOAKLEY on the line. They said, ''Do you want to wait?'' I covered over my phone and said, ''It is JOE MOAKLEY. He is going to give me a hard time about those television cameras down in his district.''

Then he got on the phone with the shocking news that he had an incurable form of leukemia.

□ 1330

I will never forget that conversation, anticipating what I am going to say to have a split second response, not knowing what he was calling for.

JOE was a remarkable person, a very, very funny, sharp person. I was reminded listening to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) talking about some of the stories, and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), I was fortunate enough to have been at a dinner 2½ weeks before JOE passed away. I want to remind the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) that JOE MOAKLEY ran, he told us that night, as an independent for Congress to avoid the Democratic primary because he had figured out exactly what the people in his district were thinking and knew that he could be sworn into the Congress as a Democrat having gone directly to the general election. What a wonderful night of stories. So many stories, so little time to tell them.

But one of the stories that stands out to me was, after the President had recognized JOE for his battle with cancer, has recognized him. The gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) was over the next morning, and JOE would sit over here, and the gentleman from New York ran over and said, ''JOE, how do you do it, the President of the United States coming up to you and praising you that way, everybody spending so much time, JOE MOAKLEY. What a tribute. How do you do it?'' JOE looked up with a split second response and said, ''PETER, believe me, it is not worth it.'' The strong message that he sent with that.

There was 2 weeks ago, JOE was very committed to Suffolk University, and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) had gotten an honorary degree and went over to thank him, JOE is a member of the board of trustees, for recommending him.

Now, JOE looked up and he said, ''Now, you are going to get the doctor, right? It is the doctor.'' He said, ''Yeah, it is all set.'' ''But, RICHEY, you know it is the doctor, the doctor of law.'' RICHEY said, ''Yeah, it is the doctor of law.''

JOE looked at him and he looked at me, and he said, ''You know, MEEHAN

has one of those. If he has one, you ought to have one as well.

JIM's op ed piece in the Globe, JIM goes in to see JOE at the hospital, and everyone is concerned about JOE. JIM looks at him and says, ''JOE, you look better than I do, for crying out loud. You look great.'' JOE looks up and says, ''Better than you, huh? That is not saying much.''

At the end of the day with all of the events, wonderful events, the foundation raising millions of dollars at a wonderful dinner here in Washington, a wonderful dinner up in Boston, the wonderful dedication of the courthouse, and what a beautiful ceremony that was, the wonderful portrait unveiling here, and then the wonderful ceremony at Saint Bridget's in South Boston, to see the lines of average every-day working people, seniors, waiting in line for hours and hours and hours.

There was someone in back of me that said, ''Excuse me, you are a congressman. You serve with JOE, right?'' She said, ''You know, JOE threw me out of a night club when I was 19 years old,'' and with a smile. I said, ''Oh, you did not mind.'' She said, ''Well, he was a bouncer.'' I said, ''How did he know enough to throw you out?'' She said, ''My brother was a pal of his. I was under age, and my brother tipped him off, says I am going to call JOE MOAKLEY and let him know to keep you out.'' She smiled.

So many wonderful stories. The ceremony at the State House, thousands of people waiting in line. Then the wonderful tribute that everyone across the Nation had the opportunity to see at the church on Friday.

When all is said and done, though, the difficult part for all of us in the Massachusetts delegation was coming back to this Chamber on Tuesday at about 6:15 when, after every weekend, we would come back, and JOE would be over here in the left-hand side, and every member of the delegation would go up to him and talk to him about what had happened. He would have great stories. He did not miss anything that happened over the weekend. If one wants a news program or newspaper article, JOE read it, and JOE had something to say about it. That is a part, I think, all of us are going to miss the most is not having that unique opportunity to interact with a great American, JOE MOAKLEY.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume the gentleman from Staten Island, New York (Mr. FOSSELLA).

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time as well as to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for his efforts here just for two reasons. One is to pay honor to a man that I got to know in my brief time here in Congress. Obviously I did not know JOE MOAKLEY as well as so many others here and regaling the stories over the years. But the brief time I did know him, I came to respect him and honor him. Those are things that I think if we can just set some time aside to pay tribute, that is why I am here.

But the second and probably more important reason why I am here is that my great grandfather served in this body, 1935. He died when he was in Congress. He died from cancer. Obviously I did not know my great grandfather. His name was James O'Leary, probably not too dissimilar in his politics than JOE MOAKLEY. Although one distinction, everyone has been focusing on JOE MOAKLEY, the Irish politician. The fact is he was half Italian, and I guess the unofficial head of the Gaelic and garlic caucus, as he liked to put it, as am I.

But the fact of the matter is, while my grandfather served in this body and, again, probably had similar views to JOE MOAKLEY, a few years before my grandmother died, she gave me a leather-bound book. In that book were transcripts of a ceremony similar to this. That had my grandfather's colleagues on the floor of the House paying tribute to then-Congressman O'Leary.

I read it, and it gave me an inkling of sort of the sense of what the man was like, an understanding that perhaps few great grandchildren could share, but to me was important. What I got out of it was he was a man of honor, of witness who had a sense of humor, who loved this country, who loved the Congress, who loved serving the people and never forgot where he came from, again, things that we have heard all today that JOE MOAKLEY was and represents.

So while this may be not necessarily for the folks who are here today, nor for the folks back in South Boston that truly loved JOE MOAKLEY or throughout Massachusetts, but 55 or 65 years from now, perhaps one of JOE's relatives will open up a book and see what his colleagues thought about him. It is for those folks who may be reading it, let them know that we respected him and we honor him.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER).

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, we in the Massachusetts delegation have lost our dean and our lodestar. I will always be grateful to JOE MOAKLEY for helping to define my role in Congress. Like everyone in our delegation, I looked to him for guidance, and he reminded all of us to be true to our roots.

JOE MOAKLEY is gone, but he will never be forgotten. JOE MOAKLEY chose to spend the last few months of his life fighting for the causes he believed in. He never yielded, and he never gave up. JOE served as an example and an inspiration both throughout both his long career and final days, particularly his final days, bringing determination and humor to every issue that he tackled. He leaves an impressive legacy.

Whether JOE was working to increase funding for low-income home energy assistance or fighting to end the oppression in Latin America, the unifying threat of his service was that he stood up for those who were being overlooked. He cared for people who needed help the most.

I am deeply saddened by his passing, but I feel lucky to have known him and served with him in this Congress.

As long as there are Members of this body who fight for human rights around the globe and here at home for the rights of American workers and their families to live with dignity, JOE's spirit will be with us. The Nation will miss JOE MOAKLEY. He will not be forgotten.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. Kaptur).

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for bringing us all together today on behalf of this resolution, and also the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), the chairman of the Committee on Rules.

We all loved JOE MOAKLEY, and it is among the highest privileges of my career to express the deepest appreciation for his life on behalf of the people of Ohio's 9th District, extending sympathy also to the people of Massachusetts' 9th District, indeed the people of the entire State of Massachusetts, to his relatives, to his good friends, many, many of them here in this House.

We all deeply admire the life of this golden-hearted gentleman from Massachusetts, JOE MOAKLEY. I truly, as one who served with him for 19 years, will deeply miss him, will miss his presence on this floor, usually sitting here or usually sitting here, but always accessible to all the Members and always making us feel a part of a family.

I think it was interesting for Members not from Massachusetts to watch how all of the Members from Massachusetts would gravitate around him. It was a lesson to all of us about how to build family in one's own delegations. It is a lesson, I think, that is not lost on any of us.

For myself, on Memorial Day, the day of his passing from this life, I happened to travel to Vietnam and did not have access to the news for almost a week. I dedicated my presence in Vietnam during a ceremony at which we returned the suspected remains of two of America's service members from the Vietnam era to our government. I dedicated my presence in his honor, and not until I was flying back home several days later and picked up the newspaper did I realize that he had died on Memorial Day. It hit me very, very hard.

When I think of him, I think of the words love and affection, a gentleman with no affectations, someone who had such great perseverance in every aspect of his life. I remember how he weathered the loss of his wife, which is a loss I know that he felt every day, and that

he had the type of bearing that automatically drew respect from all those that he met.

There are many people who teach us how to live, but I have to say also, JOE MOAKLEY took some of the most difficult moments that any human being could experience, and he weathered them here with us, with his friends on this floor. He taught each of us how to die. He had such strength. He had such greatness to him that even those of us who saw him just a few weeks ago down here on this floor could not even imagine he was ill. Yet, none of that difficulty did he share in any verbal way. He maintained that sense of inner strength and outer strength and gave us the strength to walk alongside him as he journeyed in his last days on this earth.

I shall never forget him. He made me, I hope, a better Member of this House and a better Representative. I want to thank the people of Massachusetts for sending him here to serve the people of the United States in the cause of freedom. He did it ably, and he did it with dispatch. He did it every day. He made each of us better through knowing him.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). All time has expired. The gentleman from Massachusetts, Mr. TIERNEY, is recognized for one hour.

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, this should come to no surprise to us that there are more Members here that want to commemorate JOE, and I ask unanimous consent that we have another hour to have Members express their condolences and memories; and I ask that one-half of that time be managed by the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) and one-half of that time be managed by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN).

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for introducing this important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Maryland's 8th Congressional District, but my roots were in Massachusetts, so I always felt an affinity to the delegation of Massachusetts and followed what was going on there also.

But I rise, Mr. Speaker, to honor and praise our good friend, JOE MOAKLEY, a great man, a great leader. He was a man who literally gave a lifetime of service, a patriot, a public servant, a dear friend.

He enlisted in the Navy at the age of 15, served courageously in the South Pacific during World War II. He served in all he did with grace, commitment and integrity. A great leader, a great politician.

He represented South Boston with ferocious dedication and passion, not only here in the Congress, but also in the Massachusetts State legislature and the Boston City Council. He was, I think, in his own words, a bread-and-butter politician working day after day for his people.

The community of South Boston was blessed to have him, and we are blessed to have known him. He delivered for the people of South Boston as few Members have delivered for their districts. I know his favorite song was ''Southie Is My Hometown''.

Outside of Boston, outside of South Boston especially, he is perhaps best known for his work on behalf of human rights in El Salvador, that Moakley Commission that did the investigation work and resulted in better relations and movement toward peace in El Salvador. His passionate quest for truth and justice made him a true international leader.

□ 1345

He once said compassion is a strength, not a weakness. He said that helping people is our obligation. These actions are the proper responsibilities of our government. He not only said it, he acted it. He made us proud to serve.

I do remember, though, he once said at one of the tributes to him, ''You know, until I became part of the El Salvador Commission,'' called the Moakley Commission, ''to me, foreign policy was going to East Boston for an Italian sub.'' Well, I said to him one day, ''Well, Mr. MOAKLEY, I note that you made that statement, but I also saw you listed as a member of the Italian American delegation.'' And then he confessed to me that it was his mother who was Italian. So he very well represented both groups.

We will all miss our colleague, JOE MOAKLEY. We will miss his integrity, his honesty, his laughter. He will be deeply missed by all of us but remembered in love.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to thank the gentlewoman from Maryland for her kind remarks and reminding us that JOE MOAKLEY loved music. Yes, ''Southie, My Hometown,'' was one of his favorite songs, which commemorates his hometown of South Boston, but the record should also reflect that he liked, ''If you're Irish, Come Into the Parlor,'' ''Steve O'Donnell's Wake,'' and his favorite was ''Redhead,'' which I do not know whether under the House rules I can submit the words for the record or not. I will have to check that with the Parliamentarian. But he really did love music.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. TIERNEY).

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I was just going to suggest to the gentleman if he started singing that, we were going to start leaving.

I just want to start by saying that JIM MCGOVERN was a friend to Mr. MOAKLEY in life and continues to be a loyal friend even now, and I want to thank him for putting together this time and for all he did in the last couple of weeks, as well as throughout JOE's latter years of his life and being that kind of friend and doing us all the honor of befriending him in that way.

I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) for participating in this hour and for also being a friend, even though he was, of course, of another persuasion in party. I think Joe transcended that, as does the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) and others.

I think the public would be well served to remember that JOE MOAKLEY gave people an idea of what people down here strive to be, and that is a person who really wants to do the people's business and wants to do it in a civilized fashion, and he did that every day of his life.

I want to also mention the staff of JOE at home in his district offices, as well as here in his Washington office and on the staff of the Committee on Rules. I know how lucky he was to have such tremendous staff, and I trust they already know and have shown us how much they know they were lucky to have had a mentor and a friend that they could love and work with. I know we will all benefit in the House with their continued good services, and I want to thank them for all they have done for him and all they do for us.

It is fashionable in Massachusetts now, Mr. Speaker, to start resurrecting the memory of John Adams. Joseph Ellis has written a book, ''The Passionate Sage,'' and others have started to remember the good that John Adams did as our second president and begun to wonder why he has not been memorialized. The two words that come to mind when we think of John Adams are also words that describe JOE MOAKLEY. One is integrity. JOE always had integrity. He always let people know exactly where he stood and why he stood there. He was always on the right side of things and it did not matter whether you were rich or poor, where you came from, what your background or education, Joe seemed to know what the right thing was and he knew how to stand for people at the right moment.

The other is, of course, authenticity. Just as John Adams was the authentic deal, JOE MOAKLEY was the authentic person all the time. He never put on airs. He never tried to be something he was not. And in fact it is just as well, because he was all that any person should be. He was, in fact, somebody that everybody in the delegation looked up to. We had respect for him.

Joseph Ellis talks in his book about John Adams, ''The Passionate Sage,'' about John Adams' theory that everyone strives for something, whether it was to be the captain of the economy, whether it was to be a person of title in the ministry, the clergy, the military, in politics. Whatever it might be, they all really were looking for respect. And in fact, JOE MOAKLEY lived a life sort of

subconsciously looking for respect because he just lived a life that had that agenda to him day in and day out.

We all respected JOE MOAKLEY and what he stood for. We respected the relationship he had with his constituents and with all the people down here. It was best shown, I think, by the tremendous outpouring of people that stood out there in that line from South Boston to Braintree's Blue Hill Cemetery stood there for a long period of time just so they could finally say good-by to JOE MOAKLEY. It has been an honor to know and serve with this gentleman, and I think we will always remember his authenticity, his integrity, and we all know what great respect everybody here has for him.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to my very good friend, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON).

(Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues for taking out this special order to a great American and a great friend to all of us. My favorite quote from JOE MOAKLEY was a statement he made in 1989. It summarizes JOE MOAKLEY, I think, to the inner soul of his body. He said, ''As soon as we're born in Massachusetts, we're baptized into the Catholic church, we're sworn into the Democrat party, and we're given union cards.'' That was JOE MOAKLEY's legacy.

But JOE MOAKLEY, in the 15 years I have been here, has been the most tolerant person I have ever met. When I went through some health problems 5 or 6 years ago, it was JOE MOAKLEY who was the first to approach me, not only to ask me how I was but, on a continual basis throughout that year, would prod me to continue to control my weight, to watch what I was eating, and to exercise. He was concerned about me. And as JOE developed problems and I knew he had become sick, he would still ask me every day about how I was feeling or how I was doing.

JOE MOAKLEY could disagree with you on an issue and be as far on the opposite side of the spectrum as you could get, but he was always a friend. I had a particular relationship with JOE in dealing with our Nation's firefighters. I have a special fondness for them all over the country and so did JOE MOAKLEY. JOE MOAKLEY was a firefighter's friend. He was concerned about the Boston firefighters, he was concerned about the volunteers in rural America, and he was always willing to step up and make sure we did the right thing to pay respect to these brave heroes, and that truly was JOE MOAKLEY.

He was a role model. When you come to Congress, you look to certain people that set role models for how you should act and how you should conduct yourself. You could not find a better example of that kind of person than JOE MOAKLEY. He was someone that was always there as a friend, always had a smile on his face, always willing to reach out and shake a hand. And any time another colleague had some request, JOE MOAKLEY was always prepared to try to assist.

Mr. Speaker, we come to this body as politicians from across America; and some of us leave this body in different forms. JOE MOAKLEY left this institution as a statesman.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, last Friday, at the funeral for Mr. MOAKLEY, his lifelong friend, the former president of the State Senate in Massachusetts, now president of the University of Massachusetts, Bill Bulger, encapsulated the Aristotelian view of politics when he said that ''Politics is the art of making people happy.''

We all know that JOE MOAKLEY spent a great deal of time making people happy in many ways. First and foremost would be the very serious responsibility he took with his work here, knowing that public policy was very important to ensure happiness for people. He obviously focused on that great sense of humor because he knew that that brought happiness to so many of us. And he also focused on his very important constituent service, and by constituent service I mean any other human beings. We were all constituents of JOE MOAKLEY's because he wanted to help us.

The Speaker of the House stood here and talked about how JOE helped him with an amendment, he regularly helped me with many, many different things. So I think that view that was first outlined by Aristotle is a very appropriate one when it comes to the life of JOE MOAKLEY.

There are many stories, I said last night up in the Committee on Rules, as we reported out our resolution, that I was going to share some of them with our colleagues here on the House floor. This is a very sad time, but we obviously are celebrating his life. And among those stories I am reminded of what was described by this great Massachusetts delegation, who has no Republicans. There are no Republicans in the Massachusetts delegation, I know they are happy about that, I wish we had one or two Republicans at least in the Massachusetts delegation. While I am not an honorary member of the Massachusetts delegation, having chaired the committee on which JOE served and having the job Joe used to have, and he desperately wanted to have back, in my chairmanship of the Committee on Rules I sort of feel as if I am in many ways tied to them. And, frankly, through JOE's illness, have spent more time with members of the Massachusetts delegation than my California constituents would like for me to, probably.

But during that period of time we were able to hear many of JOE's great stories, and his partisanship, his commitment to the Democratic party did come through because he often ribbed me with stories. And I will tell you one of them that came to mind when I went to the funeral and JOE's two great brothers reminded me of one of the stories that I had regularly told. Joe liked to tell this story, and I said that I did not think he was ever going to die because he told the story about Mr. O'Leary, who went to the registration desk and said that he wanted to change his registration from Democrat to Republican. The man at the registration desk said, ''Mr. O'Leary, you've been a Democrat your entire life. Your brothers and sisters are all Democrats. Your father is a Democrat. Your grandfathers were both Democrats. Why in the world would you consider changing your registration from Democrat to Republican?'' He said, ''Well, I just went to the doctor last week and he told me that I have 6 weeks to live, and I'd much rather lose one of them than one of us.''

That is why I said to Joe that I did not think he was ever going to die because he did not change it. Well, when I went to the service, his brother Bob came up to me and he said, ''David, I took JOE a registration card to his deathbed, but he would never change from Democrat to Republican.'' And he was extraordinarily loyal and dedicated to so many.

The comment that he made about loving this institution, I mean it was such a thrill for all of us to be able to see this litany of honors that we were able to present to JOE before he passed away. They have all been mentioned: the fact that the President of the United States in his first address to a joint session of Congress, he a Republican, JOE a Democrat, recognized JOE MOAKLEY and the challenges that he was facing; the fact that we were able to waive the rules and pass a bill naming, while he was still alive, the John Joseph Moakley Courthouse in Boston; the fact that the President of the United States held his first Rose Garden signing ceremony in recognition of the signing of that bill that named the Moakley courthouse; the fact that we had a great dinner with over 800 people here in Washington honoring JOE; the fact that we saw the dedication of the John Joseph Moakley Courthouse and then a big dinner that followed that; and then, of course, the portrait unveiling which took place here in Statuary Hall. And only Speakers of the House have had portrait unveilings in Statuary Hall, so it was a great tribute to Joe that we were able to unveil his portrait there.

I quoted the artist, Gary Hoffmann, who said to me just before we had the unveiling that when he began to paint JOE's portrait, he had what he called sort of a regular-sized canvas. He gave the dimensions, and I do not remember exactly what the dimensions were, but he said then, that just meeting JOE and the presence that he had, he had to do a larger canvas, he said, because JOE

was such a commanding individual. And I think that that demonstrates the great presence that he had for us and that so many people had for him.

When he announced that he had this terminal illness, he went before the press and said that he had been told by his doctors not to buy any green bananas. And so when he came back from his first meeting following that announcement in the Committee on Rules, I had Vince Randazzo, our staff director, get the greenest bananas I could possibly find because we wanted him to hang around for a long time. And so I presented him with green bananas when the Committee on Rules convened, and in that typical Moakley fashion, he looked to me when I handed him the green bananas and said, ''I'd much rather have the gavel.''

He very much wanted to again be chairman of the Committee on Rules, and I have to say I have somewhat mixed emotions about that. But I was very pleased that I was able to spend so much time with him. He was an inspiration. I said at the close of our meeting last night that his interview on the Today Show saw the question posed to him, ''What is it you would like to most be remembered for?'', and he said, ''I'd like to be remembered for having done a good job and for having not forgotten the people back home.''

□ 1400

I know this has been said over and over again, but that really does come through.

I think it should be an example for all of us to not forget the people back home, to focus on those individual concerns that people have.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say that I will miss him greatly. He was a wonderful friend. There is no way we will be able to see anyone meet the great standard that he set for this institution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Without objection, the gentleman from Massachusetts will control the remainder of the time.

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) for those very eloquent words on behalf of our friend, JOE MOAKLEY. JOE MOAKLEY had a great deal of respect for the chairman of the Committee on Rules and really treasured their friendship. Those words are especially meaningful to JOE's family and staff, and I thank the gentleman for the courtesies that he has extended us over the last few weeks.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take a moment to recognize the House Chaplain, Father Coughlin, who is on the floor today, and thank him on behalf of JOE's family for the many kindnesses that he extended to JOE during his final days. Father Coughlin provided JOE a lot of comfort and peace of mind in his final days.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. CAPUANO).

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot about what JOE MOAKLEY was; but I would say I have known JOE all my life, even before I knew him. JOE MOAKLEY is of South Boston. It is not just South Boston. JOE MOAKLEY is of the entire Ninth District.

When I spoke to JOE, I did not just see a Congressman who happened to be a Congressman. I saw a bus driver, I saw a truck driver, I saw a priest, I saw a milkman, I saw a longshoreman, I saw a teacher, I saw a cop. I saw a secretary. JOE MOAKLEY had in him what we all have in us when we first try to enter the political realm: the love of the people we want to represent, the feeling that we know them so well. He was one of the few who was able to keep it for so many years. That is why we are here today honoring him: because he earned it.

Mr. Speaker, he did not earn it because of the legislative accomplishments that he had, although he did earn many accolades on that level. He earned the love and admiration of the people at home because he loved them back. That is really what JOE was. He was just a man who never could stop giving of his heart and his soul of the people who elected him.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I wanted to express my personal appreciation for everything he stood for, for all of the best of politics and the best of the people from Massachusetts.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CALLAHAN), the chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and a good friend of JOE MOAKLEY.

(Mr. CALLAHAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, JOE MOAKLEY was a friend, a true friend. In reflecting on JOE'S history here in this House of Representatives, he recognized something that very few first-term Members of Congress, very few second-term Members of Congress recognize: that this is an institution that runs solely on respect. It is an institution of compromise where you must compromise. You do not compromise your principles; you compromise the issue of the day in order to keep our country running.

JOE MOAKLEY chaired the Committee on Rules when we were in the minority. Mr. Speaker, I told this to JOE MOAKLEY, that sometimes he could come up with some of the darnedest recognitions of power that that committee has of anybody I have ever known. Some of the statements that he was in the minority when he was ranking member on the Committee on Rules, I accused JOE at dinner one night of going back into the 1980s and extracting some of the opposition's opposition to a rule. We were fighting the same rule that JOE MOAKLEY had devised then. And now JOE MOAKLEY was fighting the same rules that JOE MOAKLEY had devised.

This institution, it is a mystical institution; and few people understand what we are all about. They do not think that we have families and that we love one another in this House, that we have respect for one another. The only thing they see is partisan division.

Well, JOE MOAKLEY and I overcame that. We would have dinner quite often together, and we would not talk about issues on the floor. Sometimes we would joke about them, but we would not discuss them. We would talk about our families and our home. We would talk about this institution, not whether or not we were Republicans or Democrats.

It was a pleasure for me to grow friendly with JOE MOAKLEY, and it is a pleasure for me to remember JOE MOAKLEY as my friend and to join with my colleagues in the House on both sides of the aisle in extending to JOE's family for the passing of their husband, father, their loved one, and our friend.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ESHOO).

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, let me say to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), as blessed as each one of us felt to know JOE MOAKLEY and to have his friendship, I do not think that he had greater love for anyone here than he did for you. We feel the same way. We know that the gentleman is going to continue in JOE MOAKLEY's great footsteps, in his beliefs and everything that he fought for. You are our new JOE.

Mr. Speaker, let me thank Mr. MOAKLEY's staff for serving him so well because through their service, the fullness of his representation was felt here.

Whenever I think of JOE since his passing, and I know the angels stood outside the gates and greeted him with open arms, and I think Tip O'Neill was right there, too, to bring him through the gates, he has earned the highest place in heaven because of how he lived on this Earth. Thank God JOE MOAKLEY was born because in that person, in the soul and the person that was shaped, he did great things because they were good things.

I think his goodness emanated out of his faith, first of all. He believed in the beatitudes. He understood that there was a holiness to each human being. So it was that he set out in everything that he did to actually feed the hungry, to cloth the naked, to stand next to the extraordinary, ordinary person because he saw the face of almighty God in each person.

Mr. Speaker, his constituents understood that because they knew how much he loved them and that the service that he gave back to them was really embedded in the beatitudes. So he celebrated the Constitution. He lifted

it up. He made each one of us feel extraordinary. I think also because his life was so instructive to us, we recognize that he was the real thing. He was the real thing. He was totally authentic. He did not smoke his own exhaust. He never thought of doing that. He loved life. He loved this place because he saw the dignity of America and what this country represented around the world to people.

When the world came to him in terms of El Salvador and he took that delegation there, his outrage over the assassination of modern day martyrs, those Jesuits then gathered at the altar of God to celebrate the mass to say farewell to a man who had lived life so nobly.

So he is not only their hero and the hero of the Southies and the townies, but to all of us. Today we are saying, Thank God, JOE, you were born. You taught us how to live. You taught us how to represent. You taught us about conscience. You taught us about friendship, you taught us about dignity, and you taught us very well how to best love our country and the world, that is, to bring the love of God and the dignity of his face to every single human being.

Mr. Speaker, I thank our colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), for organizing this; and I thank our Republican colleagues who have joined with their voices and their tributes to honor this beautiful man. I do not think we will ever be the same again; but if we take the lesson of his life up, we might get to be partly as good as blessed JOE.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I might think of Congressman MOAKLEY as having the luck of the Irish, and know that I have learned about his Italian heritage, the spirit of Italians. I know JOE MOAKLEY through his staff, and I thank them for the kindness they have exuded as reflected by his spirit; and I thank JOE MOAKLEY for being a Member's Member.

Mr. Speaker, JOE MOAKLEY was the chairperson of the Committee on Rules, and I did not have the privilege of serving with him as chairman, but to me he was always the chairperson. What I like about him, he appreciated the work that Members had to do. He appreciated Members. And he realized as we came before the Committee on Rules, we were doing our work and he treated us as such.

He also realized that many times, although he was governing the rules portion of the debate, many Members would come to the floor and say just a minute, talking about everything but procedure, really talking about their belief and the issues, and he understood that; and I want to say thank you.

As I looked at his bio, I am moved by the fact that he started life as an adult very early because at 15 he enlisted in the United States Navy and served in the South Pacific.

Mr. Speaker, I do not know what it was about Memorial Day. I was in Houston, and I had just finished a Memorial Day service, and I felt compelled to reach out to him as he was hospitalized. I wanted to say to his family, You are in our prayers. Obviously, I was not able to get to JOE or a direct family member, but I did speak to a member of his staff; and I simply said, Our prayers are with you, we will keep you in our prayers.

I probably needed that more than JOE because I simply wanted to be able to let him know how important an institution, yes, institution, he was to this body, but as well to his great State and this Nation.

Of course we do not see him as that. He was a people's person. He cared about everyone, and I believe the long lines in his beloved State evidenced not people's desire to give special acknowledgment to a politician, although he did not step away from that; but it was to give acknowledgment to their special JOE, JOE MOAKLEY, their Congressperson, the person who believed in them.

My tribute is to be able to thank him even more than the conversations we had the pleasure of having when he, too, sat on the floor of the House, the words we passed, the comments about this process and democracy, and his strong and deep abiding compassion.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to simply add in the RECORD seemingly the words JOE MOAKLEY used to describe himself, a quote that says: "I believe that compassion is a strength, not a weakness. I believe that helping people is our obligation. Many would call this old-fashioned politics. For me these actions are the proper responsibilities of our Federal Government." So says our Congressman, JOE MOAKLEY.

Mr. Speaker, I close again with a deep abiding thanks for what he personally was to me, his kindness exhibited, his ability to rise above, and his willingness to share with those of us who were simply trying to do the business of our constituents.

□ 1415

To him I say this:

Isn't it strange that kings and queens
And common people like you and me
And clowns that caper in sawdust rings
Are builders for eternity.
For unto each of us is given a book of rules
And a bag of tools
And each must make ere life is flown
A stumbling block or stepping stone.

JOE MOAKLEY, not a stepping stone but a giant mountain, a giant of a man. God bless you.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the eulogy delivered at JOE MOAKLEY's funeral by Monsignor Tom McDonnell of St. Augustine's Parish in South Boston as well as the eulogy delivered by the president of the University of Massachusetts, William M. Bulger.

MONSIGNOR TOM MCDONNELL, ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARISH, SOUTH BOSTON

St. Augustine once wrote that if we ever wish to find hope, we must learn to remember. And it is this remembering that leads to the hope that must be the center of our reflection today as we give our brother, friend, colleague and public servant back to God.

My own memories will I know color my words. I remember a political novel about a thinly-disguised mayor of Boston. And years later, I can remember the words of the fictitious Monsignor about the hero. With due application, they apply so aptly to Joe. His words were to the effect that "to die in God's grace, to have loved many and left behind many friends, and to have done a great deal of good—what more needs to be said about any man." Indeed, we might leave our thoughts here, except for one thing. The phrase quoted above overlooks what contributed to Joe's goodness and greatness. It overlooks the Congressman's roots as a So. Boston Irish-Italian Catholic American.

There was a spiritual depth in Joe which could easily be overlooked. After his public announcement regarding his disease, he asked to meet with me—and had one question: "What more should I be doing to get ready to meet God?" He had received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and he was given the sacrament of the sick by his friend Cardinal Law. But being the pragmatist he was, he wanted to know if he should be doing anything else.

This question, coming from the deepest part of himself, was a natural one to those of us who were raised in the Catholic tradition—where we were taught that the purpose of our existence was to lead us to spend an eternity of happiness with God. It was a question which took on the aspect of prayer—spoken in the language of the heart. And ultimately, it pointed to the faith-dimension of Joe's life.

It would be wrong, however to look at Joe simply in terms of a local politician. I believe his pursuit of justice for those murdered in El Salvador proved that Joe was a true statesman who did not, however, forget his roots. His was a passionate pursuit of justice. And as the first Scripture reading notes, the just are in the hands of God.

I doubt whether Joe ever read Aristotle on his frequent trips between Boston and Washington, but he instinctively embraced the ideas of this Greek philosopher that the vocation of the politician is to strive to make others happy. This idea, combined with the Christian belief expressed in the Acts of the Apostles that Jesus was one who "went about doing good" explains the motivating forces for Joe's political life and successes. As the Gospel points out, there are many ways to our Father's home.

As we have seen in the past few months, Joe exercised a great appeal to so many people. I believe people saw in him 2 virtues for which people are hungry; integrity and authenticity.

But there is something else which also must be mentioned. While Joe was not without fault, his virtues outweighed his faults. It was the visible virtues of his care and compassion which earned him such ecomiums as the "voice of the voiceless." But I think the key to Joe's personality and his success as a politician is to be found in a few verses written by the poet politician Patrick Pearse. He wrote:

Because I am of the people, I understand the people,

I am sorrowful with their sorrow, I am hungry with their desire:
My heart has been heavy with the grief of mothers,
My eyes have been wet with the tears of children
I have yearned with old wistful men,
And laughed with young men . . .

Because Joe never forgot he was a man of the people, he had an empathy and compassion for them. These virtues likewise are expansive. And Joe's legacy to us was to be a role-model of these virtues. But he also challenges now—to make these virtues come alive in our hearts. If we do—whatever our vocation is—the world will become a better place.

PRESIDENT WILLIAM M. BULGER, REMARKS DELIVERED AT THE FUNERAL OF U.S. REPRESENTATIVE JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

It is of surpassing significance, isn't it, that Joe was summoned to the joy of eternity on Memorial Day? A day set apart for reflection and tribute in grateful memory of all who have given their lives for the strength and durability of the country we love.

Joe's spirit enlivens Memorial day for us: patriotism, gratitude, remembrance. Long years of unselfish devotion to bringing the ordinary blessings of compassion to those most needy among us stand as silent sentinels to his inherent goodness, to his desire to make a difference in the quality of life for less fortunate friends and neighbors.

His helping hand was always extended in genuine recognition of the responsibility he believed was his to make things better for those in need of encouragement and inspiration. To him the ideal of brotherhood was not simply something to be preached but, more importantly, he was challenged by his soul to exemplify this ideal in positive advancement of the common good.

Everyone knows the facts of Joseph Moakley's background and career. They are impressive and worth knowing, but they reveal little about the man himself, little of who he was, of what he was, and of why.

He lived his entire life on this peninsula, and it was here in this place that his character was shaped. It was, and it still is, a place where roots run deep, where traditions are cherished, a place of strong faith, of strong values, deeply held: commitment to the efficacy of work, to personal courage, to the importance of good reputation—and withal, to an almost fierce sense of loyalty.

No one spent much time talking of such things, but they were inculcated.

And no one absorbed those values more thoroughly than did Joseph Moakley. To understand them is to understand him.

In recent months Joe Moakley would reassure his friends in private conversation that he slept well, ate three meals easily, and was not afraid.

He had a little bit of the spirit of the Irish poet (Oliver St. John Gogarty), who said on the subject of death:

Enough! Why should a man bemoan
A fate that leads the natural way?
Or think himself worthier than
Those who braved it in their day?

If only gladiators died or heroes
Then death would be their pride;
But have not little maidens gone
And Lesbia's sparrow-all alone?

The virtue of courage was his in abundance. But Joe had, during his lifetime, become the personification of all that was best in his hometown.

And he was a man of memory; he recognized the danger of forgetting what it was to be hungry once we are fed . . . and he would, in a pensive moment, speak of that tendency to forget as a dangerous fault.

Joe exemplified the words of Seneca: You must live for your neighbor, if you would live for yourself.

And he abided by the words of Leviticus in the Old Testament and St. Matthew in the New Testament, ''Thou shalt love they neighbor as thyself.'' These are words that he would have absorbed at home, at St. Monica's, St. Augustine's and at St. Brigid's.

And Joe brought his competence, dedication, his lofty principle to the public purpose that he saw as most worthwhile. His steady determination in his various public offices, and as a member of Congress, earned him the respect of his colleagues and the confidence of his party's leadership. It also explains the overwhelming support he received from a truly grateful constituency as expressed in their many votes for him solidifying his position of public responsibility.

His devotion to justice and an imbedded sense of humanity moved him to investigate the Jesuit murders and the ravishing of innocent women in El Salvador. He volunteered for a task most unusual for him. But he, guided by his aide, Jim McGovern, brought to bear his own deep commitment and those old solid working principles that had become a cornerstone in his lifetime quest for fairness and equity. The success of his effort is recognized by all, especially by an appreciative Jesuit community that had suffered from a sense of abandonment.

When I saw how he thought about that particular achievement in his life, it brought to mind the wonderful words of Pericles: ''It is by honor, and not by gold, that the helpless end of life is cheered.''

Joe, dear friend and neighbor through these many eventful years, we are struck, as we think about it, by your startling contradiction: humility and pride. You were never pompous seeking the applause of the grandstand. You diligently shunned the glare of the spotlight. You did not expend your energy in search of preening acclaim. You were too self-effacing for that. Humble, indeed.

One the other hand you were a proud, proud person: proud of your religious faith, proud of your family, proud of your South Boston roots and neighborhood, proud to proclaim the ideals that animated your public service—ideals that have been expressed in the unsought torrent of tribute that has flooded the press and airwaves in recent sad days. Humility and pride, seemingly contradictory traits, coalesced in your admirable character, commanding abiding recognition, respect and, yes, affection.

Joe, the dramatic focus on you during the President's recent appearance before the Congress highlighted your humility and pride. During the course of his address, our eminent President Bush paused for a moment to digress. He singled you out Joe, for special recognition. He described you as ''a good man.'' Whereupon, as you stood in your place, spontaneous bipartisan applause shook the Congress. This episode also reverberated in thrilling dimensions throughout your Congressional District. Thank you President Bush for this tribute to a good man and for other manifestations of your respect for our Joe and his services to his country.

Joe, you were good enough, as one neighbor to another, to ask me to participate in this liturgy of sacrifice, sorrow and remembrance. With many another heavy heart it is wrenching to say goodbye. God is with you, I'm sure Joe, as you now join your beloved Evelyn and your parents in the saintly joy of eternity. We pray He may look favorably on us who lament your loss and who are challenged to follow your example of integrity and justice and useful service.

Fair forward, good friend.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

In the rough and tumble of the people's House, sometimes we can obscure the humanity of this institution. I have been thinking a great deal about that these days, just finishing reading a biography of Tip O'Neill in which JOE MOAKLEY was prominently featured.

During the last 30 years, JOE MOAKLEY has left his mark. He left his mark on his district to be sure in a physical sense; and we have found out in this last week again, spiritually. He left his mark on hundreds of pieces of legislation during his long tenure on the Committee on Rules. He left his mark in the area of foreign affairs. Just as he helped speed El Salvador's transition to democracy, in recent years he was helping evolve a more rational United States policy toward Cuba with his meetings with Castro and the Pope. But it is here in the House where JOE MOAKLEY's legacy will be most strongly felt.

In the 5 years I have been a Member of this Chamber, I have never heard an unkind word or an unfair word from him or about him. In these years, it was difficult for him not only leading the good fight from the position of the minority leader on that committee, but personally he had significant travail. But he never modified his principled politics, his strong convictions or his gentle manner, offering his friendship and humor until his last minute as a Member of this Chamber.

Today, our remembrance of JOE MOAKLEY allows this House a chance to hold a mirror up to itself. This little glimpse that we have witnessed here over the last several hours of the House being humane is an important part of his lasting legacy.

Thank you, JOE, for reminding us what the people's House could be.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT).

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time for this tribute and for organizing this tribute.

I think the thing that I probably most underestimated when I came to Congress 9 years or so ago was the extent to which Congress is a family of people. It has the same kinds of personalities that all families do. Some of them are socially inclined and some of them are distant and some of them are friendly and some of them not so friendly. To some extent, to a great extent, we each individually have the opportunity to make our choice about how we become a member of this family. We have had a lot of vexing over those 9 years that I have been here about the erosion of the family aspects of this institution, and we have retreats periodically to deal with that.

The family aspect of this, I think, for me was more personified by JOE MOAKLEY than almost anybody else I know in this institution. He was a Member's Member, as a function of his position on the Committee on Rules, I am sure in part, but probably more as a function of his personality and who he was and how he chose to be a part of this family. He was always, always readily willing to share a joke of some kind every single time you had a conversation with him, and you never heard, at least I never heard, the same joke more than once. Maybe he could remember what jokes he had told to what people. I just think that this tribute and JOE MOAKLEY's life is a testament to this family nature of our institution.

I thank JOE, I thank his staff on the Committee on Rules, and his personal staff for personifying that family attitude. I am just delighted that I had 9 years to be a part of this part of JOE MOAKLEY's family.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI). I also want to thank her for organizing a wonderful get-well card to JOE that was delivered a few days before he died of all the women Members of the House. They all wrote very personal and very uplifting notes. He got such a kick out of it that he could not help but brag about it to everybody who walked in that room. I want to thank her for that.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time and for organizing this tribute in honor of our precious JOE MOAKLEY and for the great friendship that he had with JOE. The words that he expressed on many occasions on events honoring JOE in the months before his leaving us, in expressing those words, JIM MCGOVERN expressed so much of what all of us felt about JOE. Of course he felt it more intensely and more universally, but we all had some level of participation in those comments.

We all know how much JOE loved JIM MCGOVERN. Indeed, I think JIM's election to Congress at one point meant more to JOE MOAKLEY than his own. It was his mission. When you were elected, it was in your own right but with great pleasure to JOE MOAKLEY.

To JIM MCGOVERN, a former staff member and then colleague to the great JOE MOAKLEY and to his personal staff and the staff of the Committee on Rules, thank you for all that you did to make his work in Congress so great. The sympathies of my own office and those of my constituents go out to the staff, both staffs of JOE MOAKLEY. We are all in your debt for all of the work that you helped JOE do in this Congress.

The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) mentioned the card. I am glad he did, because one of the wonderful things at JOE's funeral is when I met his brothers and sisters-in-law, they said to me how much JOE enjoyed the card. The note I sent with it was that this card was signed by every woman, Democrat and Republican, in the House of Representatives. I think that is unprecedented. We all competed to have the most important message for JOE that would get his attention. Some of us did better than others. JOE's family told me that they were going to frame the card and place it in his library in Suffolk. That should be a source of great pride and enjoyment to the women Members. It was a card from the women Members. With an accompanying note we said that we wanted everyone who took care of JOE in the hospital and everyone who cared for JOE personally to know how precious he was to the women Members of Congress; that the men were jealous they could not sign the card, they thought we were putting our phone numbers, but I guess that was just to amuse JOE.

Also at JOE's funeral, we were blessed to see such an outpouring of support from his constituents and from the clergy in South Boston and indeed from the Boston area led by the Cardinal. Our own Chaplain was there. We all know that the cocelebrants were overflowing from the altar and filling pews in the church. Such was the recognition of the greatness of this man and the humanitarian contribution that he made. One of those participants, Monsignor Thomas J. McDonnell, whom the gentleman from Massachusetts has entered his full eulogy into the RECORD, but in that eulogy, Monsignor Tom McDonnell emphasized JOE's roots as South Boston Irish-Italian Catholic American.

I was so delighted to hear the Italian part because Moakley being an Irish name that is where a lot of the emphasis was, had been in the final tributes. But JOE took great pride in his Italian American heritage as well as has been mentioned here and of course the Italian American community took great pride in JOE MOAKLEY.

No wonder he understood coalition politics. He was the personification of it himself, being Irish, Italian, Catholic and Democrat from South Boston. I think that the pride that he took in his ethnicity, in his Italian and his Irish background, that pride he took made him understand more clearly the pride that so many other ethnic groups and nationalities take in their own backgrounds. That gave him a sense of respect for all the people that he came in contact with.

We all know his important work with the Jesuits in El Salvador, but I wanted to take a half a moment to talk about his work with the Salvadorans in America. Our colleague the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ESHOO) talked about JOE and the Gospel of Matthew of the least of our brethren and seeing the spark of divinity in all of these people. He certainly did with the Salvadorans and the Guatemalans, in this case focusing on the Salvadorans when they were about to be deported to El Salvador because the U.S. Government did not view the fear of persecution that they had in the same way as they viewed the fear of persecution for Nicaraguans. JOE MOAKLEY stepped in to stop that deportation.

He was a leader. He came to my district. We had 80,000 Salvadorans and Guatemalans to be deported in San Francisco. JOE came and met with the representatives of that group. They received great hope from that meeting. They saw in his eyes his understanding, his empathy, his sympathy for their cause; and they knew that they would be better off for it. I just wanted to add that to the, of course, great history that we all know of JOE and the assassination of the six Jesuits, their housekeeper and her daughter.

For the last 14 years, I and everybody who has been in this body even one day, some of our very newest Members who may have shared only a week or two of being a Member of Congress while JOE was, will always be able to take pride in the fact that they served as a colleague to JOE MOAKLEY. That is a badge of honor, to have been his colleague.

He did great work which many of our colleagues have discussed here in detail. He never forgot his roots, his South Boston, Irish-Italian, Catholic American roots, and he worked in this body to represent those people, to represent the needy. In doing so, he was working on the side of the angels; and now he is with them.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I want to begin by first of all thanking the leadership of both parties. I want to thank Speaker HASTERT and Majority Leader ARMEY. I want to thank our Minority Leader DICK GEPHARDT and our Minority Whip DAVID BONIOR and the leaderships of both parties for helping bring this resolution to the floor today and also for all that they did to help us expedite the naming of the Joe Moakley Courthouse in South Boston. That dedication meant an awful lot to JOE. It was an appropriate way to honor him because that courthouse stands for justice. JOE MOAKLEY's entire career, whether it was in South Boston or whether it was in El Salvador, was about fighting for justice. I think that that was an honor that meant a great deal to him.

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I also want to thank the medical staff here in the Capitol, Dr. Eisold, and all of his doctors and support staff for all that they did for JOE. Their assistance and their advice was invaluable. I know he would want me to thank them, as well as the men and women at the Bethesda Naval Hospital who provided him the very best care and did so in an incredibly warm and caring manner. I think all of us who were with JOE during those final days will never forget their generosity and I want to acknowledge them here today as well.

I want to thank my colleagues who have come to the floor to express their

love and respect for JOE. It is evident that people felt passionately about him and felt strongly about him, as he did about the Members of this House.

He loved this place. He loved his colleagues. He did think of everybody as family, and I say thank you to them not only on behalf of myself, but his brothers Tom and Bob, who I know are watching in Boston; his Boston staff; his Washington staff, some of who are here on the floor; those who are in the offices. All of us who cared about JOE MOAKLEY really do appreciate those comments and take great comfort in hearing some of the stories.

Mr. Speaker, at times like this I wish I were a better orator. I wish I could describe better JOE's career and JOE's accomplishments, which are many. I wish I could better describe what he meant to me. We have heard speaker after speaker talk of his great accomplishments in Boston and all the construction and all the projects that are going on. He used to like to joke that his favorite bird was the crane, and if one goes to Boston it looks like a giant breeding ground for cranes.

He was very proud of all that he did. He was very proud of the work he did in El Salvador, fighting for justice on behalf of those six priests who were murdered.

I remember when Speaker Tom Foley had appointed him to head up this task force to investigate those murders. There were a lot of people who were skeptical that JOE was up to the assignment. After all, this was JOE MOAKLEY, a bread-and-butter Democrat from South Boston.

I remember in response to a question to that end, he said, look, you do not need a Ph.D. in diplomacy from Harvard to know the difference between right and wrong; and what happened to those priests in El Salvador and what happened to countless civilians in El Salvador who were victims of this senseless violence was wrong. We need to act and we need to do something about it, and he did. In the end, he helped bring peace to El Salvador.

People talked about his humor. I wish I could tell all the JOE MOAKLEY stories. Some of them are a little off color, and I cannot do that on the House Floor.

The day he died, his family had asked me to announce to the world that he had passed away. I said then and I will say it again here today, the world is going to miss JOE MOAKLEY, and I already do. He was not only a good man, he was a great man and I really appreciate all of my colleagues participating in today's tribute.

[From the Boston Herald, June 2, 2001]

FOND FAREWELL: MOAKLEY TOOK COMMON TOUCH TO D.C.

(By Peter Gelzinis)

Before the Washington honor guard glided with exquisite precision toward the hearse, tender voices sent a jubilant rendition of ''Just A Closer Walk With Thee'' floating out over East Broadway. In the sweet, unfiltered echo of the St. Brigid School choir, Deborah Spriggs could see her boss' smile . . . and hear him greet her with the usual, ''Hey, good morning, kiddo, what have ya got for me today?'' When the crisp soldiers eased John Joseph Moakley's flag-draped coffin into the warm sunlight, a cold reality seemed to ambush his devoted secretary as she waited for him one last time outside the church. ''All I could think of when the honor guard carried him right past me and up the steps,'' Deborah Spriggs said, ''is that when I walk in the front door of House-152 on Monday, there'll be a huge pile of mail on my desk, like always. ''But there'll be no one to talk it over with. He won't be there to say, 'Deb, tell me what I'm doing today.' ''

The world called him Joe. But the woman who served as Joe Moakley's palace guard in Washington, who doted on him like a mother hen and over the course of 20 years came to love him like a daughter . . . Deborah Spriggs always called him ''Congressman,'' or ''Mr. Chairman.'' ''To be honest, it took a little while for us to click in the beginning,'' she recalled, shortly after placing a rose on his casket. ''We had this language problem. I couldn't understand his Boston accent, and he couldn't understand my Tennessee accent. But once that got straightened out—after I learned what a frappe was and that 'lastics' was another way to say rubber band—taking care of Joe Moakley became a dream. These past couple of days I've told people that I've got to get myself a job. Because it feels like I've been on a vacation for the last 20 years.''

Yesterday, Deborah Spriggs belonged to a ''family'' who stood somewhat apart from all the luminaries and the vast, grateful universe of ordinary people. As Joe Moakley's staff prepared to follow his casket into the church, they drew close to one another, as if sheltered by the rare gift of memories that belonged to them alone. After Joe told the world he was dying, he urged his staff to take flight, to seek other opportunities, to think of their own futures. No one left.

As the cardinal delivered words of resurrection, Deborah Spriggs leaned on the memory of sharing the last few days of Joe's life, of listening to his brothers, Bob and Tom, share stories around Joe's bed. ''All of us, we lived at the hospital those last few days,'' Deborah said, ''even when it became too late for me to bring him his coffee frappes, we never left his side. We just stayed close to him, crying and laughing, then laughing and crying some more.'' ''Do you know,'' said Deborah's husband, Sterling, ''that when our oldest son was born and we had a problem setting up day care, Joe Moakley insisted that we set up a playpen right there in his Capitol Hill office.'' ''For two months, our son, Brandon, slept and cried and ate in a U.S. congressman's office. And if he was sleeping, Joe would go to a smaller room to do his work. He didn't want to lose my wife for three months, but at the same time he wouldn't allow her to be away from her newborn son. And this was back in the days when there was no day care on the Hill.''

After a day of tribute and tears, after people from Southie to Braintree lined the roads with signs of love, after Friday afternoon traffic was shut down on the Expressway and Route 128, Deborah Spriggs recalled the day Joe Moakley picked them up at Logan and spent a weekend proudly showing them his city. ''I knew how deeply he felt about my wife,'' Sterling Spriggs said, ''still, we had come to Boston to celebrate his 25 years as a congressman . . . and he's driving us around. I just couldn't get over it.'' ''How can I ever forget it,'' Deborah said. ''He picked us up for breakfast, took us out to the Kennedy Library and then sat in the car until we came out. 'Don't worry,' he says, 'take your time, I have a spare pair of shoes right here in the car.' After he got through driving us all over South Boston, taking us up to Castle Island . . . he looks at both of us and says, 'Whaddya say we go to a movie?' So we did.''

We buried a hero, yesterday. Deborah Spriggs bid farewell to a joyous part of her life. On Monday, she will go to work in an office that won't be the home it once was. And she will listen for the unfiltered echo of a lovely man. ''Good morning, kiddo, what have ya got for me today?''

[From the Capitol Corridors, Feb. 22, 2001]

JOE MOAKLEY—WE MISS HIM ALREADY

(By David Baumann)

Reporters aren't supposed to take sides in elections. But back in 1994, some of us Capitol Hill correspondents were unhappy with the results simply because the Republican takeover meant Rep. Joe Moakley, D–Mass., wouldn't be visiting the press gallery four or five times a day.

You see, the House Rules Committee, located across from the daily news gallery, doesn't have restrooms. So Moakley, then the Democratic chairman, had to use the press gallery's men's room. Each time he'd walk through, he'd rub someone's shoulders, offer a compliment, follow it with an insult, then ask for a needle and thread to sew a button or settle in and tell a story. He'd also patiently answer any question a reporter might have. It was worth hanging out in the back room of the gallery just for Moakley's visits.

Now, as Washington learned last week, Moakley is retiring. After surviving a liver transplant, a rebuilt hip and various other ailments, the 73-year-old South Boston congressman has an incurable form of leukemia—so incurable that reportedly his doctors are frank in saying he might not even survive this term.

The news left people all over Capitol Hill devastated. To put it bluntly, Moakley is one of those people who make Capitol Hill livable, even in the face of government shutdowns, impeachment and disputed elections. He's among the last of a breed of old-style pols who understand that politics is a game—not a blood sport—and that it can be played with good humor. In that sense, he is most often compared to his close friend, the last House Speaker Tip O'Neill. ''Tip O'Neill and Joe Moakley were both masters of the politics of the old school,'' said Rep. *Barney Frank*, D–Mass. But Frank added that Moakley proved ''you could be a master of old ways and welcome the new.''

The grandfatherly Moakley also is one of the few members of Congress who can get away with kissing a young woman reporter on top of her head. And he is so well-liked that he may have set the record for having a courthouse named after him. As the Massachusetts delegation took to the House floor to credit the 73-year-old with delivering the projects to rebuild Boston, both the House and Senate passed *a bill* naming the Boston federal courthouse after Moakley within two days of this retirement announcement.

The outpouring of affection is not surprising, given the good will and humor Moakley displayed throughout his career.

In 1998, for example, he was asked to compare the reign of hard-line conservative and then-House Rules Committee Chairman Gerald Solomon, R–N.Y., to his own reign from 1989 to 1994. ''Actually, Solomon has been fair,'' Moakley told National Journal's CongressDaily. ''He's been as bad as I was.''

Solomon, who retired from Congress last year, recalled sitting in the chairman's seat talking to someone before a 1993 committee hearing. All of a sudden, he heard Moakley: ''Solomon, hell will freeze over before you ever sit in that seat.''

''Of course,'' Solomon, added, ''a year later hell froze over'' and the GOP captured the majority. Solomon said Moakley made his job chairing meetings much easier, despite their fiercely partisan differences. ''When things would get tense... he would tell an Irish story or some other story'' and the tension would be broken, Solomon said.

Moakley enjoyed watching the Republicans try to govern in the early years of their majority. One of his funniest lines came after reports circulated that former Rep. Bill Paxon, R–NY., had participated in the attempted coup against then-Speaker Newt Gingrich. The revelation came shortly after Paxon's wife, then-Rep. Susan Molinari, R–N.Y., announced she would resign from the House to *anchor a new CBS Saturday news program*. Moakley's take on the matter? ''Now, the Molinaris have two anchors. One is at CBS and the other is around Gingrich's neck.''

Moakley tried to retire once before—resulting in one of the true unscripted surprises on the Hill. With his wife battling brain cancer, Moakley decided he wasn't going to run for election in 1996 so he could spend more time with her. He scheduled a late-afternoon news conference on the Hill and word leaked out that he would retire. Members of the Massachusetts congressional delegation and democratic members of the Rules Committee showed up to pay tribute to Moakley. The congressman appeared at the news conference, only to declare to a shocked audience that his wife had persuaded him to run again. Unfortunately, Moakley's Boston news conference brought no similar surprises.

[From the Washington Post, June 2, 2001]

''REGULAR JOE'' MOAKLEY IS LAID TO REST

(By Pamela Ferdinand)

BOSTON, JUNE 1.—Rep. John Joseph Moakley (D–Mass.), known simply as ''Joe'' to his constituents, was laid to rest here today, hailed by a vast community of admirers that included two presidents, as a powerful man who never forgot his working-class South Boston roots.

Moakley, 74, died Monday of leukemia. With occasional laughter and tears, thousands of mourners—including President Bush and former president Bill Clinton—accorded him all the pomp and circumstance in death that the self-effacing dean of the Massachusetts congressional delegation never sought in life. At the late congressman's request, his funeral Mass took place in the tiny parish church where he often sat unnoticed in the 10th pew from the back. But his death brought together Bush, Clinton and former vice president Al Gore for the first time since Bush's inauguration—a feat some said only Moakley could have orchestrated.

Bush strode down the church's red carpet at the stroke of noon, a lone figure in an overwhelming sea of liberals and Democrats. He sat next to Massachusetts Gov. Jane Swift (R) in the left front pew, which also included Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D–Mass.) and his wife, Victoria; Gore, Bush's bitter rival for the presidency; Rep. David E. Bonior (D–Mich.); Clinton; and Rep. Richard A. Gephardt (D–Mo.). ''It was one of those Kodak moments. It truly was,'' said Rep. William D. Delahunt (D–Mass.), who sat behind Gore. ''Joe symbolized every man, and he was every man's hero.''

Bush, who did not address mourners, previously honored Moakley in his first address to Congress after the congressman announced in February that he had terminal cancer and would not seek a 16th term. The president barely paused to shake hands with Clinton and Gore before slipping out a back door with Swift at the end of the nearly two-hour service. The president's attendance underscored Moakley's stature and friendship with members of Congress on both sides of the aisle. Others in attendance included Sen. John F. Kerry (D–Mass.), White House Chief of Staff Andrew H. Card Jr., House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert (R–Ill.) and former representative Joseph P. Kennedy II (D–Mass.), among others. ''He and the president didn't always agree, but Congressman Moakley always brought a human touch, an affable nature to the business of the Congress and to his relations with the White House,'' said Bush spokesman Ari Fleischer.

Clinton stopped first at the State House, where more than 5,000 people knelt and prayed before the late congressman's flag-draped casket during a seven-hour vigil Thursday. ''Joe Moakley proved you could disagree without being disagreeable, that you could fight and have honest differences without trying to hurt your adversary,'' Clinton said. ''He brought a certain nobility and meaning to public life.'' Outside St. Brigid Church, hundreds of people crowded sidewalks in silent, prayerful tribute as bagpipes played and a military honor guard stood at attention. Earlier in the day, the funeral procession arrived slowly from Beacon Hill, passing City Hall, where Moakley served as a councilor, and the federal courthouse and homeless veterans shelter that bear his name.

Moakley, a Navy veteran, was later buried with full military honors in a cemetery south of Boston next to his wife, Evelyn, who died in 1996. The couple had no children. ''It's a pretty sad day for South Boston,'' said Robert Loughran, 54, a Vietnam veteran standing outside the American Legion on West Broadway, where storefront posters read, 'We love you' and 'We'll miss you.' ''He was just a real genuine guy who made a great politician. He was a good soul.'' A children's choir opened the service led by Boston Cardinal Bernard Law. Moakley was eulogized as a regular Joe who performed extraordinary deeds, one of the last Boston Irish Democrats in the tradition of House speakers John W. McCormack and Thomas P. ''Tip'' O'Neill Jr., who believed ''all politics is local.'' ''His helping hand was always extended in recognition of the responsibility he always believed was his to make things better for those in need of encouragement and inspiration,'' said University of Massachusetts President William Bulger, a close friend who recalled Moakley's humility and humor, even in the face of death. ''The virtue of courage was his in abundance, but Joe had in his life become the personification of all that was best in his home town.''

Sen. Kennedy, who addressed mourners Thursday, called Moakley ''a remarkable congressman, outstanding leader and one of the best friends Massachusetts ever had.'' ''Service to his nation. Service to this state. Service to his people. Service, service, service. It's no wonder God chose to call him home on Memorial Day,'' Kennedy said.

Born and raised in South Boston, Moakley spent his entire life on the peninsula of Ward 7. At age 15, he enlisted in the Navy and served in the South Pacific during World War II. He spent nearly two decades in the Massachusetts legislature and won a seat on the Boston City Council in 1971. Moakley was elected the next year to represent the 9th District in Congress, where he was appointed chairman of the House Rules Committee in 1989. An ardent and unapologetic hometown champion, he helped secure record federal funding for Boston Harbor, the ''Big Dig'' highway project and historic landmarks. He fought to boost support for welfare programs, higher education and fuel aid for low-income families. He won 78 percent of his district's vote in 2000.

Moakley said he considered his greatest achievement his work to cut off military aid to El Salvador and the effort to prosecute the murderers of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter in 1989. Moakley led a special congressional task force whose findings helped convict two Salvadoran soldiers and put an end to U.S. aid to the Central American nation. ''It is never a crime to speak up for the poor and helpless, or the ill; it is never a crime to tell the truth; it is never a crime to demand justice; it is never a crime to teach people their rights; it is never a crime to struggle for a just peace,'' he said about his effort. ''It is never a crime. It is always a duty.''

Today's service capped weeks of tributes to the late congressman, but many here said Moakley will be remembered in much smaller ways. They will miss him sitting in his car by Castle Island, having a beer at the corner table at Farragut House under his black-and-white portrait or standing in line for a hot dog at Sullivan's. Out of respect, no one ever parked in front of his two-story shingled house, even in a snowstorm. They came to him when a brother needed a job, a mother did not receive her Social Security check or when they fell on hard times. ''He was a person you could talk to about anything,'' said Alice Faye Hart, a 62-year-old great-grandmother whose home was saved by Moakley from foreclosure. ''He was what you'd call a real friend.''

[From The Boston Globe, June 1, 2001]

A NEIGHBOR TO ALL PEOPLE

(By Brian McGrory)

The words will tumble forth today in magnitude and gratitude, so many important people standing at the altar of St. Brigid's paying tribute to Joe Moakley as the last of a dying breed. They'll describe him as a common man who rose to lofty heights but never forgot those back on the ground. They'll say he was every inch, every day a product of South Boston, true to his beloved hometown until the moment on Memorial Day afternoon when he drew his final breath.

But there is another truth, a seldom spoken truth, that explains as well as anything else the depth and breadth of the grief that has engulfed this city all week like a fog bank that refuses to blow out to sea. It is a truth that should be instructive to politicians across the nation, and here at home, who strive to someday be mourned rather than defeated. And that truth is this: Moakley transcended South Boston even while being faithful to its needs. In a famously parochial neighborhood where too much of life is divided along racial lines, he casually but relentlessly championed the causes of those who looked markedly different than his base of support. And no one—not blacks, not whites—ever felt shortchanged.

We've heard an outpouring of memories and tributes these past few days from men who look a lot like Moakley. But what's been left largely unsaid is that in the blackest neighborhoods of Boston, there are hundreds if not thousands of residents who have benefited from his work and are crushed by his death.

Bryon Rushing, the black state representative from the South End, shared a story yesterday. The bulk of the state's black voters used to be split between Moakley's 9th District and the 8th District. The Legislature wanted to consolidate the minorities into one district in the early '90s. After much indecision, Moakley told state officials that he'd prefer to see blacks in the 8th. The reason: He someday wanted to see a black congressman elected from Massachusetts—a feat he didn't think probable if Roxbury shared a district with Southie.

But Rushing remembers receiving a telephone call from Moakley a week or so before the districts were approved. ''If you took every black person I have,'' Moakley said in his inimitable way. ''I want some back.'' ''He was quite remarkable,'' Rushing says with a laugh.

Always, Moakley had blacks and Hispanics working in his congressional offices in Washington and Boston. He fought tooth and nail—and successfully—for funding for the African Meeting House site on Beacon Hill. Even with a redrawn district that was just 7 percent black and 5 percent Hispanic, he continued bringing money back to Mattapan, Roxbury, and Dorchester for public housing and neighborhood health centers.

He greased the skids for untold numbers of foreign-born constituents trying to gain citizenship. He once helped a Haitian family fly an ailing family member to Boston from their native country.

''We have lost a giant and a giant who really reached across racial and ethnic lines,'' says state Representative Marie St. Fleur of Dorchester. ''What he did was reach out and build bridges. He never left the minority community behind. He helped us not just in words, but in deeds.''

He is famous for championing human rights in El Salvador, less famous for his cosponsorship of the Haitian Refugee Fairness Act. A Moakley friend recalls the congressman dining with colleagues and diplomats as he rattled off detailed reasons why the United States should ease embargos on Cuba. He knew it cold. None of this is to suggest that his beloved Southie didn't warrant his immense skills and attention. He looked within even as he looked beyond, and his proudest moment may well have come last month, when they named the Federal courthouse after him on the same land where he spent his boyhood scavenging watermelons that fell from the freight trains.

It will be said today that Joe Moakley was a man of the people. Indeed he was—a man of all the people.

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our colleague JOE MOAKLEY, who passed away May 28.

JOE MOAKLEY was the kind of Representative we all should aspire to be. He was a dedicated public servant who enjoyed doing his job. He was a kind, generous, thoughtful, courteous individual who in nearly 50 years in public life made few if any enemies and earned the respect and affection of his adversaries as well as his allies. He represented his constituents ably while also taking the lead on important national issues like aid to El Salvador and the School of the Americas. He will be sorely missed.

JOE MOAKLEY was true to his roots. Born and raised in South Boston, he lived in this neighborhood all of his life. He served his country in the military. He was low-key and unpretentious. JOE never forgot where he came from. He served his constituents well during his 16 years in the Massachusetts statehouse, and he worked hard in Congress to secure Federal funding for the people and institutions of Boston and Massachusetts throughout his congressional career.

JOE MOAKLEY served on the House Rules Committee for many years, including 6 years as chairman and 6 years as the ranking member. In that capacity, he demonstrated a remarkable ability to reconcile the often-contradictory demands of partisanship and collegiality. JOE MOAKLEY defended his legislative positions aggressively while strengthening the institution of the House through his consistent decency and fairness. He was a credit to this institution.

In short, JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY was a man who dedicated his life, his considerable talents, and his energies to public service. His death is a tragic loss to his country as well as to his friends.

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and colleague, JOSEPH MOAKLEY. JOE was a dear and true friend. He was always there to give advice and share his personal experiences. He has been an outstanding member of this House, working tirelessly for the people of his district and our nation. Like his friend and our former Speaker Tip O'Neil, JOE never forgot where he came from and never forgot that ''all politics is local.''

I have enjoyed working with JOE on human rights issues. JOE's dedication to fairness and justice was demonstrated in bringing to justice the ruthless murderers of six Jesuit priests and their housekeeper in El Salvador in 1989.

In addition, JOE's ability to work with members from both sides of the aisle helped him lead the Rules Committee for six years. JOE's humor and unfailing courtesy have set a high standard for all of us to follow in the House.

JOE achieved impressive levels of achievement and accomplishment, and I have always been especially impressed by his devotion and dedication to service. I believe it is important to honor his legacy by continuing to support his goals and ideas. It is most fitting and proper that we honor JOE MOAKLEY, and Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in appreciation of this extraordinary individual.

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I come before my colleagues to pay parting tribute to a beloved friend and mentor of mine in this body, the late Congressman JOE MOAKLEY of Massachusetts.

I got to know JOE originally through another close long-time friend, Tip O'Neill. I was a young freshman right out of Vietnam when I came here and quickly gravitated to Tip and JOE because they brought to Congress and to our country principles I admired and sought to uphold: a strong commitment to helping people, working for the less fortunate, pulling together to get things done, and doing what is right. That is what JOE and the Speaker exemplified and I am grateful to have served with both of them and to have learned so much from them. I learned a great deal about statesmanship and how to get things accomplished in this body through JOE's leadership. JOE MOAKLEY was without a doubt one of the most influential, dedicated and effective Members of the U.S. Congress.

The country and this House have been lucky to have a man of such great character as JOE MOAKLEY serving here for so many decades. It goes without saying how much he will be missed. There have been many of us Members of Congress, but there are few who will always be remembered by those who served with them the way that JOE will be remembered. JOE MOAKLEY is one of those rare solid friends and outstanding Americans we will always feel blessed to have known. We will remember his friendship, his character, his grace, his concern for people and for our country, his tireless work in service to them, his example. I pray we will always strive to live up to it. God Bless and Keep you, JOE.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our departed colleague and friend, JOE MOAKLEY.

JOE was the type of person that just about everyone could relate to. His humor and his kindness set even his political critics at ease. Who didn't like JOE MOAKLEY?

I could relate to JOE on several levels—not the least of which being our common name. We both entered politics at about the same time in our lives, we both came from similar Irish neighborhoods—he from South Boston, myself from Queens, and I would like to think we both got into politics for the same reason.

There is no mystery why JOE got into politics at the age of 25. He truly saw politics as the tool for action for the greater good. JOE always said that being elected to Congress was the greatest job of all, because he had the ability to directly impact people's lives. He wouldn't have had it any other way—as he often said—caring for the person ''upstairs, downstairs and across the back fence.'' His constituents describe him as the embodiment of his district in South Boston.

Hard work on behalf of people defined JOE's life. He became an early defender of the environment in the Massachusetts legislature. JOE's long commitment to the clean-up of Boston Harbor carried over to his days in Congress where he helped secure millions of dollars in Federal funding to restore the harbor to the beautiful waterfront it is today.

As a fellow Irishman, I respect JOE MOAKLEY's distinguished record on Irish affairs. JOE came to Congress at the height of the violence in Northern Ireland. Over the years he was in Congress, he was instrumental in ensuring that the peace process succeeded. From the unrestrained aggression of the 1970s to the prospects for long lasting peace and reconciliation today, JOE MOAKLEY kept his finger on the pulse of the Northern Ireland Peace process.

In public service, JOE represented the ideals of St. Ignatius of Loyola—to be a man for others. JOE's legacy is not only bricks and mortar in South Boston, but his moral voice and commitment to service to our nation.

For Salvadorans, including many in my district in New York, as well as human rights activists, JOE MOAKLEY will always be most remembered for his work to end the abuses of human rights in El Salvador. After six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter, were murdered in El Salvador in 1989, then House Speaker Tom Foley appointed MOAKLEY to head a special task force to investigate the Salvadoran government's response to the killings.

The Moakley Commission issued a report that revealed the involvement of several high ranking Salvadoran military officials in the murders. This report resulted in the termination of U.S. military aid to El Salvador and is often credited with helping to end the brutal civil war in that country. JOE remained passionately involved in the situation all his life. In a fitting homage, JOE's work to help end the decade long war which claimed 75,000 in El Salvador has been immortalized in the PBS documentary ''Enemies of War.''

I feel privileged to have served with JOE in this Chamber. I learned from his humor, his intelligence, and his heart.

I join this Chamber in wishing our friend a fond farewell.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in both sorrow and celebration to pay tribute to a life well lived by JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY, a man who died with the voices of his friends and

colleagues raised in his praise. We prayed even as we knew better, that God would let him stay with us, because this House needs men like Joe Moakley. We need his spirit, his courage, and his strength of purpose that kept him in public service for so many years. But God needed JOE more.

JOE MOAKLEY was to die as he had lived: in the service of his people right up to the end. I will not forget the way in which he let us know that he had not much longer to dwell among us. He said: ''My doctor told me not to buy any green bananas.'' Who but JOE would have had the courage and the wit to thus announce his imminent leave-taking from the House and from the world. JOE was leaving the place where he spent so many years in tender service to the people of south Boston—the people he loved and respected all the days of his life. JOE MOAKLEY's natural sense of humor was well known, often bringing laughter to bear against the times his colleagues despaired of compromise or consensus.

But JOE didn't just serve the people of south Boston—although he would tell you they came first. He served the entire Nation as he upheld the Constitution he swore he would uphold on behalf of people's rights, working long hours in Washington, and even longer hours spent among his constituents against poverty of body and soul. His constituents who were faithful to him to the end knew they will never see the likes of Joe again.

When someone like JOE MOAKLEY passes on—who died as he lived in passionate pursuit of the rights of people everywhere—the whole world mourns his passing. He died as he would have wanted to die—working till nearly the very last day before the Memorial Day recess. Dying, he carried on with his life, speaking to the hardships of others and none of his own. Dying, he remained totally pledged to the people who sent him to do a job only he could do. Dying, he was full of grace, and nearly always full of his special humor.

And speaking of humor, who but JOE, would announce that he had only a short time more to live in this world by saying his doctor told him not to buy any green bananas? Who but JOE MOAKLEY could look into the face of death still smiling? JOE's smile was the solace he offered to you and to me, so that we would be comforted and unafraid at hearing his news. This did not mean that he did not love life. No one loved life more than JOE MOAKLEY. But maybe after having toiled in these fields for so long, he tired of the battles of the flesh, and welcomed the spiritual journey ahead.

Just as he committed himself to public service more than 30 years ago, he committed himself to his leave-taking mere months ago, using humor as his walking stick. And as he stepped into the sunset of his life, he understood the love that poured from the hearts and minds of best friends and mere acquaintances and knew it was all for him. I am glad he knew of the great well of love and respect that we had for him before his death. That he could receive his bouquets while he lived.

I take this opportunity to pay tribute to JOE MOAKLEY, friend and colleague, and to quote Shakespeare in his memory:

''And when he shall die, take him and cut him out in little stars and he will make the face of heaven so fine, that all the world will be in love with night, and pay no worship to the garish sun.''

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember and pay tribute to our dear departed colleague, JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY and I thank Congressman MCGOVERN and Chairman DREIER for bringing this resolution to the floor. America lost a giant with the death of JOE MOAKLEY. All of us here in the House lost a good friend. JOE handled his incurable leukemia with great courage. He taught us how to live and he taught us how to die.

Congressman MOAKLEY's background and his record have been well-chronicled and I won't take the time to repeat it here. He began his long distinguished career in public service at the age of 15 when he enlisted in the United States Navy and served in the South Pacific during the Second World War. Upon returning from his service in World War II, he attended the University of Miami and we are proud in South Florida to claim him in even a small way as one of our own.

Suffice it to say that in over 28 years of service in this House since his election in 1972 as the Member from the 9th District of Massachusetts, Mr. MOAKLEY served his constituents in South Boston and the American people with great distinction. He brought great passion, commitment, and a tremendous zest for public service to his work. JOE was fair. He was honest. He was cheerful, and, above all else, he was always straight with you.

His work as Chairman and then as Ranking Member of the Committee on Rules is very well-known. He was always willing to lend a helping hand to Members, whether it was a brand new Member or the Speaker of the House. His pioneering work dedicated to ending human rights violations around the world, particularly his work against the death squads in El Salvador, will always be remembered. The working people of this country had no better friend than JOE MOAKLEY.

JOE MOAKLEY was a man of the people who never forgot where he came from. He was serious about his work, about serving his constituents, and about helping anyone in need, but never too serious about himself. He possessed a modesty, friendliness, and humility that made him accessible and easily approachable. His warmth and his wit were his calling cards. JOE was always ready with a story or a joke. Whether here on the floor, in the Rules Committee, or just in a chance meeting, I always looked forward to seeing Congressman MOAKLEY. He always managed to brighten my day, and I know that he had the same effect on all of his colleagues.

JOE was an outstanding Congressman, a man who fought hard for his district, for the principles of the Democratic party, and for his beliefs. Yet he always had room in his mind and his heart for all of his colleagues, whether or not they agreed with him. He personified decency.

His legacy and the memory of his achievements will always serve as a role model for all of here in House. I will be forever grateful that I had the honor and privilege to serve with JOE and I will miss him. God bless you JOE. May you rest in peace.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, JOE MOAKLEY was one of the most upfront even-handed Members that I have had the privilege to serve with. This House will sorely miss him.

As Ranking Member of the Rules Committee, JOE always had a joke for the members, a smile for the staff, and a twinkle in his eye even as we worked late into the night. He was a friend to all and a mentor to many.

A classic Bostonian politician, JOE's life was dedicated to serving the people well. And last week, I learned first hand just how much South Boston and those whom he represented loved him. It was an honor to join his community in their sad good-bye.

For the Members of the Rules Committee JOE will not be forgotten. His presence remains with us and his portrait hanging just upstairs in our committee reminds us that he is watching over us.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in paying tribute to one of the finest public servants to grace this floor, JOE MOAKLEY. Congressman MOAKLEY was a friend, a leader, and a gentle teacher to the scores of us who looked to him for advice and guidance.

Much has been made of JOE MOAKLEY being one of a ''vanishing breed'' of politician, but I don't think that's true. I think he was, and will always be, a shining example of the ultimate public servant, someone universally respected by his peers and revered by the constituents he never forgot. The crowds of people who came to say their final goodbyes to him along the streets of Boston are a far stronger testament to JOE MOAKLEY's life than anything that we could ever say here.

This is a man who lived his own saying: ''It is never a crime to speak up for the poor, the helpless or the ill; it is never a crime to tell the truth; it is never a crime to demand justice; it is never a crime to tell people their rights; it is never a crime to struggle for a just peace. It is never a crime. It is always a duty.''

I join my colleagues in gratitude to JOE MOAKLEY for his leadership and his friendship during my years in this House. While we will never be able to fill his shoes, I hope my colleagues and I will try.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, last month the House lost a valued Member when JOE MOAKLEY passed away. I didn't always vote with JOE and there were a number of areas we disagreed about. But you didn't have to see eye-to-eye with JOE MOAKLEY to recognize that he was a great American.

When people speak fondly of the way things used to be, I believe what they're really missing are the qualities that carried America through our most challenging moments. Courage, compassion, integrity, patriotism, perseverance, and faith in God. He had these qualities in abundance.

When our country faced the daunting challenge of the Second World War, JOE MOAKLEY was so eager to join the fight that he broke the rules to shorten the odds for America. He was only fifteen when he sailed off to the South Pacific to defend freedom.

Over the course of his life, he carried out the commitment to service he learned from his father. Hard work defines his life because he never stopped working for his constituents in South Boston. Those of us who served with him soon grew to understand his commitment to the House.

On the Boston City Council, in the Massachusetts State House and here in the House of Representatives, he won elections, lost elections, overcame adversity and always maintained his deep loyalty to the people of his district.

In his manner, he was open, friendly, and down to earth. We can all learn a lot about life by remembering the way that JOE MOAKLEY faced a challenge.

From the beginning of his life until his final struggle drew to a close, he greeted adversity with determination, he met fear with courage, and he lived out the last days with the calm confidence of a good man strengthened by a deep and sustaining faith.

To know JOE MOAKLEY was to respect him. We honor his service to this House and to our nation. America can always use more of the qualities JOE MOAKLEY brought to public service.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my most admired colleagues in the House of Representatives, Congressman JOE MOAKLEY of Massachusetts.

JOE MOAKLEY was the quintessential Boston Irish public servant. For more than 50 years he served his nation, his state of Massachusetts, and the hard-working men and women of South Boston in one form or another. In the long, and inspiring tradition of such great men as former Speaker Tip O'Neill, JOE was the kind of Representative that has shown time and time again that he is a leader on the national and international stage, yet remained ever loyal to the people of South Boston and all of Massachusetts.

When I first arrived here as a freshman member in 1999, JOE MOAKLEY, who was the Dean of the New England House delegation, was one of those remarkable people I looked to as a model of how I wanted to conduct myself as a Member of Congress. With character, dignity, devotion, and loyalty, Congressman MOAKLEY continues to serve as a constant reminder that we are indeed part of a noble profession.

JOE MOAKLEY'S remarkable time in public service began when he was a mere 15 years old, when he enlisted in the United States Navy for service in the South Pacific during the Second World War. After graduating from college in Florida, and law school, JOE MOAKLEY ran for the Massachusetts State Legislature in 1952 where he served until 1960. And in 1964, he was elected to the Massachusetts State Senate where he served until 1970. It was in 1972, after briefly serving on the Boston City Council, that he was first elected to the United States House of Representatives from the 9th District.

It was not long after he began his second term that he gained a seat on the House Rules Committee, where he still serves today as Ranking Member. In 1989, he was made Chairman of that Committee. As Chairman, he conducted himself with his characteristic sense of integrity and humor.

Through all his years of service, he worked tirelessly for his District, giving them the same full measure of devotion that he gave to other matters, such as human rights abuses in Central America, which he helped investigate and report on. His actions helped expose injustice, and likely contributed to the end of a brutal civil war in El Salvador.

I've always believed that the measure of a person's life is not contained merely in the years they spend in office, but rather in how their actions in office continue to positively affect the neighborhoods, District and people they served, long after their time in service has drawn to a close. If a person's actions have improved the life of even one person, or one family, or one community, then there is no end or limit to what their service has meant to others. And for JOE MOAKLEY, there is no end in sight.

No matter how long I spend as a member of this body, I am now, and will always be, proud to say that I served with JOE MOAKLEY.

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in paying tribute to a special member of this House and a good friend to many, JOE MOAKLEY.

An unapologetic liberal Democrat from South Boston, JOE had a remarkable ability to reach across the aisle and make friends with the most unlikely of people.

Not long after coming to Washington, I was invited to join a regular dinner gathering of conservative Republicans and Democrats. Among them was JOE MOAKLEY. I don't mind telling you that my time spent with Joe was some of the best in this Congress.

I count myself fortunate to have befriended JOE, or did he first befriend me? JOE was that kind of guy. Perhaps you didn't think you had anything in common, but he would quickly make you feel welcome no matter what your political differences. JOE had the capacity to cast aside partisanship and bring people together. That is a rare quality that is woefully in too short supply in this House. We need more JOE MOAKLEY's in this Congress.

The passing of JOE MOAKLEY is not only a deep personal loss to me and to all who count themselves his friends; and there are many. It is also a loss to this body and to our great country. I learned a lot from JOE. He reminded us that it is possible to look above our daily disagreements and love this institution and one another.

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply saddened by the passing of JOE MOAKLEY, who was a wonderful man and a great leader for his constituents of Massachusetts and for our Nation. He was an easy-going, good-hearted gentleman with a great sense of humor that I will always treasure. As the dean of the New England Congressional delegation and the ranking member of the House Rules Committee, JOE wielded a great deal of power. Yet when you were in his presence, you never felt out of place because he made you feel so comfortable and at ease.

JOE MOAKLEY is a House colleague that I have always tried to emulate. Despite his seniority in Congress, he was an 'ordinary Joe' and a true man of the people. Spending a half-hour with JOE MOAKLEY was a great way to get a lesson in old style politics, the politics of the people. And he always said it the way it was . . . JOE always got right to the point. When I talked to him a few weeks ago, he wasn't pondering his imminent death. Instead, he was celebrating his great life. It was terrific these past several weeks that JOE had the opportunity to enjoy many tributes to him. So many people from all walks of life had the chance to tell him how much he really meant to all of us. I know that JOE is already on the fast track to heaven. He was a treasure to the House and one of the most effective legislators this chamber has had the fortune to have. We wish him farewell, and keep his family and friends in our prayers.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to pay tribute to one of the finest Members of Congress to have served in the United States Congress. JOE MOAKLEY was more than a colleague, he was a personal friend of mine and he was a great American.

I was one of the driving forces behind the effort to name the U.S. Courthouse in Boston after JOE, and no one is more deserving of such an honor. The constituents of the 9th District of Massachusetts were blessed to have this great man represent them, and I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to serve this great country with him.

I want to pass my sincerest condolences to the family of JOE MOAKLEY. The U.S. Congress will never be able to replace him, nor will it ever forget him.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, JOE was a vital member of the Democratic Caucus and left a deep imprint on every Member who served with him in the House of Representatives. He served with wonderful distinction on the House Rules Committee. He brought to his constituents the things that they wanted and that made a meaningful difference in their lives.

But what truly set JOE apart was his humanity. Quite simply, he was one of the warmest human beings I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. He always had a kind word, a sense of respect and sympathy for his constituents. He worked every day in his years in Congress fighting to bring the values of his hometown, in South Boston, to our corridors, and this floor. When a senior citizen had trouble getting her Social Security check, JOE was there. When a student had trouble obtaining a loan for college, JOE was there. People of every age, every race, every religion and ethnicity could come to JOE and talk with JOE and have his undivided attention because he cared deeply about them.

Those values found expression in JOE's work abroad. During the 1980s, JOE traveled to El Salvador after the horrible murders of the six Jesuit priests and their housekeeper. Before this time, JOE used to joke that, ''my idea of a foreign affair used to be driving over to East Boston for an Italian sub.'' But JOE heard about horrible human rights abuses in Central America and decided to do something about them.

He pursued justice in El Salvador. And, perhaps more than anyone else, he was responsible for bringing the perpetrators to justice. He struck a blow for human rights. It reflected who he was and the essential decency for which he stood.

He called his constituents part of ''his family.'' But it wasn't just constituents who were part of JOE's family. It was everyone he came into contact with. He had the ability to make better and bring hope to the lives of other people, and this is a quality that we in this body will never forget, will always cherish, will continue to fight for every day, every way in honor of JOE and the best values in our country.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the resolution and to pay tribute to the memory of my friend and colleague, JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY.

For the last 20 years, I sat with JOE on the House Rules Committee. He was not combative, but in his gentle way he fought for the interests of his party and his principles. His friendly style endeared him to members on both sides of the aisle despite the highly partisan nature of the committee.

JOE'S great strength as a member of Congress came from his love of the job. Public service was his calling. He believed that government could help people. Here was a man who was proud to be a politician. It was an old-fashioned view, but thankfully, one that never went out of style. The people of his district loved him for it.

When I attended his funeral in South Boston, I was struck by the outpouring of genuine affection from his constituents. They lined the streets to pay their last respects to JOE.

I hope that JOE'S legacy will be the enduring belief that politics can be honorable and that government action improves our lives.

I will miss JOE—his humor, his stories, and his warmth. I will miss his unflagging efforts to make the world a more just place.

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, the list of JOE MOAKLEY's achievements is long and impressive. He was a champion of obtaining funding for projects to improve Boston. Courthouses, Libraries, dredging the Boston Harbor were among them. And he was a committed Member of the Massachusetts delegation. But above all he was a generous, kind and compassionate man. He never had a mean word for anyone and he had a real compassion for everyone in the world. In the course of his duties as a congressman he met with several El Salvadoran refugees who feared returning to El Salvador where they might be killed. Accordingly, he made it his business to see that this did not happen and that other refugees in the same situation be allowed to remain in the United States.

My first personal memory of him was because of the massacre of six Jesuit priests in El Salvador and his appointment by the Speaker in 1989 to investigate this slaughter. I was also appointed to this special committee and got to know him well as we interviewed everyone who had anything to do with this terrible incident. Conscientiously, he reported back the failures of the Salvadoran Judicial and military systems. His report and the attention to the overall situation was helpful in ending that terrible tragedy.

One of my own passions, closing the School of Americas, was his too and although we never closed the school in fact we worked very hard together to do so. We also worked very hard to open up Cuba. This kind, loving man, should be commended for the universal view he took of life. He knew that one is sent to serve one's constituents but there is a larger duty too, to root out injustices all over the world. To help everywhere that you can. We will miss you JOE—the world and me.

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to our former colleague, JOE MOAKLEY. All the stories and praise we are hearing this morning on the Floor are all sincere and well-deserved, because JOE was the kind of Member that we would all like to be: smart, well informed, energetic, good humored and always a gentleman.

I was proud to call JOE a friend, and we had worked with each other since I entered Congress. The one issue we worked very closely on together was LIHEAP. JOE was dedicated to making sure the amount of money to help low income people was increased, and he was a tireless crusader on this issue.

Members on both sides of the aisle respected JOE. No one doubted his genuine concern for people, and that he always fought for what he thought was right. Even in the face of his illness, JOE never gave up fighting for his constituents.

His district, the Congress, and the Nation have lost a very dedicated public servant. He will be greatly missed, and I send my prayers to his family, friends and staff.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks, and include extraneous material on H. Res. 157.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TIBERI). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO ATTEND FUNERAL OF THE LATE JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Saturday May 26, 2001, the Speaker on Friday June 1, 2001, appointed the following Members to attend the funeral of the late Honorable JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY:

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts;
Mr. GEPHARDT of Missouri;
Mr. BONIOR of Michigan;
Mr. FROST of Texas;
Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts;
Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts;
Mr. OLVER of Massachusetts;
Mr. MEEHAN of Massachusetts;
Mr. DELAHUNT of Massachusetts;
Mr. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts;
Mr. TIERNEY of Massachusetts;
Mr. CAPUANO of Massachusetts;
Mr. HALL of Ohio;
Mr. DREIER of California;
Mr. HOYER of Maryland;
Ms. SLAUGHTER of New York;
Ms. PELOSI of California;
Mr. ANDREWS of New Jersey;
Mr. MORAN of Virginia;
Ms. PRYCE of Ohio;
Mr. SCOTT of Virginia;
Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island;
Mrs. MYRICK of North Carolina;
Mr. SESSIONS of Texas;
Mr. SUNUNU of New Hampshire;
Mr. RODRIGUEZ of Texas; and
Mr. LANGEVIN of Rhode Island.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

HAS THERE EVER BEEN A TIME WHEN ONE COULD NOT BUY A GALLON OF GAS FOR A BUSHEL OF CORN?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, the sign at the gas station and the sign at the co-op tell the story. Gas is $1.93 a gallon. Corn is $1.81 a bushel. We have suffered through some tough times in farm country, but I can't remember a time when one could not buy a gallon of gas for a bushel of corn.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about a crisis that affects my constituents and everyone living in rural America. We are facing an economic one-two punch. The price of the principal product we sell, grain, is at an all-time low while the price of the principal product we use to grow that grain, fuel and fuel-derived inputs, are at an all-time high.

One does not have to be an accountant to know that we cannot sustain this economic environment for much longer. Over the Memorial Day recess, I hosted nine of the 66 county townhall meetings that I conduct each summer across western and central Kansas. The concern was the same at every stop. How can we make a living with $1.93 gas and $1.81 corn?

Since I came to Congress in 1997, my priorities have remained the same: Preserving our way of life for the next generation of Kansans. The current economic situation puts rural communities and the family farm in jeopardy. In the long-term, all Americans will suffer if we ignore America's agriculture producers. High gas prices today are the result of a failed energy policy. At the height of the so-called energy crisis in the 1970s, we were importing 30 percent of our oil needs. Today, we import 60 percent. In Kansas, we lost a good chunk of our oil production and the related jobs because it was easier to buy foreign oil than to support domestic producers.

Now our energy policy essentially amounts to using the U.S. military to protect our foreign sources and then begging them for mercy when they meet to set prices. Ironically, we run the risk of repeating the same mistakes in agriculture that we have made in energy. If we do not act to save our farm infrastructure today, we will be dependent upon others for our food tomorrow.

For several years, Kansas producers have been able to survive low prices with high yields. However, a drought last year and poor growing conditions this year have left most farmers with few options of where to turn. This is an issue of importance to all of us. Our rural energy and agriculture producers are vital to the prosperity of our country. Congress must act to sustain the way of life in rural America and to ensure a prosperous, self-sufficient America tomorrow.

As we develop a sound national energy policy and as we draft the next farm bill, I encourage my colleagues to consider the concern of my constituents of $1.93 gas, $1.81 corn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PAUL 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 North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. CLAYTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

WHEN WILL GOUGING ON OIL PRICES STOP?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, the outrage of the week in energy is that finally we know how much some of these companies have been charging. During a brief time last winter in a desperate attempt to keep the lights on, California paid $3,880 per megawatt hour to Duke Energy of South Carolina who now owns plants, thanks to deregulation, in California. Of course, they do not feel much of an obligation to keep the lights on. What they are trying to do is maximize profits. Price gouging, it is open season on price gouging in the western United States. Yet, the Bush administration says there is nothing and they will do nothing about this. They will not even investigate whether price gouging is going on.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is charged with determining whether or not there is a market, a functional market, and prices are fair and reasonable. The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the staff, the professionals, has found that in fact what is going on in the western United States is not fair; it is not reasonable. But guess what? The chairman, Mr. Hebert of Louisiana says he is just not going to do anything about that. He will pray for us, he has told us, but that is it.

Now, this is extraordinary. This is the chairman appointed by President Bush. Now, we might wonder about the motivation. Well, there are others other than Duke Energy involved, and perhaps that is the motivation. Many of these companies that are making profits up to 1000 percent over last year's profits are based in Texas, many in Houston, Texas. Many are very large contributors to the Bush administration.

The CEO of one of these energy monoliths, the Enron Company, the chief architect of much of the legislation that has brought about this disaster, has personally, personally, one individual contributed in his lifetime more than $2 million individually, personally, to George Bush as a candidate for many different offices; $2 million.

His company, of course, is in for many, many times that but, hey, they make it back in about a minute in these energy markets so it is a really good investment on their part. The same gentleman is now hand picking other people to go on to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. So we cannot expect that we are going to see much relief there.

So then we turn to the Bush energy plan. Does this offer us relief? Well, I do not think so. If we look at the Bush energy plan, we had Secretary Norton before the Committee on Resources today, it is dig, drill and burn. We are not going to conserve.

I asked her, I said if we went into the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge, if we went every place you want to go, if we went to the most sensitive coastal areas off Florida, which I doubt will happen because we have another Bush as governor, but let us say we went to the most sensitive areas off California, who this administration seems to be willing to stick it to every day, and off Oregon and Washington and other parts of the country, and found all the oil, went into Alaska and found all the oil, I said can you envision that we could increase possibly our supply of oil by a factor of ten, that is, instead of having x number of years, 100 years' supply, we would have 1,000 years?

She said, oh, no, we would never get there.

I said, let us just say you did. Let us just say there is a heck of a lot more oil out there than you thought. People want to talk about we are going to become oil self-sufficient. If we continue to increase our consumption at the current rate, we do not conserve, if we found a thousand-year supply of oil in the United States we would use it up in 79 years; the miracle of compound interest, of compound increasing demand.

Conservation has to be a robust part of this plan. But guess what? Conservation does not put profits in the pockets of the oil companies based in Texas and Louisiana and elsewhere, and the new energy companies based in Texas, Louisiana, South Carolina and elsewhere, but price gouging at the gas pump, price gouging in the wholesale electric markets does. So that is the energy future that is being promised in this plan.

Now one can turn to Congress. Are we going to get relief out of Congress? Luckily, today the so-called Emergency Energy Relief bill being offered by, strangely enough, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON), backed by the chairman from Louisiana, strangely enough, can I see something going together with this crowd here where they produce this stuff as the people who do not want to do much about it?

□ 1445

Their bill finally came crashing down today. That is good, because it would have done nothing for the consumers in the Western United States, nothing for us at all. It would have done nothing to rein in price gouging.

They did not want to have to consider a price cap amendment to rein in what has become publicized more and more in recent weeks as outrageous manipulation of the market by some of these energy companies. The Reliant Company, putting their floor traders, their commodity traders, on the phone to the people who actually operate the plants in California; and when the price drops in the national markets, they tell them to shut the plants down. They do not care if the lights stay on. They are just trying to maximize their profits.

The American people know this. They know they are having it stuck to them every day at the gas pump. They see the facts, that Exxon-Mobil is the most profitable corporation in the world, with profits of $15 billion last year. They see those prices going up and on and up and know they are being had. This administration is engaging in inaction and stone-walling real relief, at its peril.

WITHDRAWAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1271

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be withdrawn as a cosponsor of H.R. 1271. My name was added in error.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TIBERI). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

AN ODE TO THE SIXERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker,

"It hasn't happened in 18 years,
But it's the NBA Finals and the Sixers are here.

It's been a long time since Moses and Dr. J.,
But the Sixers are playing like the good old days.
Shooting and defense, both ends of the floor,
They've shown every team in the East the door.

First we took out the Pacers, without breaking a sweat,
Then we clubbed the Raptors, and cut down the net.
The Bucks from Milwaukee took us the full seven,
But the final game was a rout, and we're in hoops heaven.

We have the Answer, Alan Iverson, the league MVP,
The best little scorer you ever did see.
No one can guard him, he's just too quick,
No team of five can do the trick.

We have the Coach of the Year, the great Larry Brown,
A man who has been around many a town.

A strategist, a motivator, a leader of men,
He's the best coach since . . . I don't know when.

Big Dikembe Motumbo is the Defensive Player of the Year,
His swats in the paint make grown men fear.
Aaron McKie, the league's best super sub,
Has joined the NBA's Best Sixth Man Club.

Short-handed, banged-up, backs against the wall,

The Sixers bandwagon refuses to stall.
Owner Pat Croce is on the edge of the seat,
Waiting to hand the Lakers a monumental defeat.

The Lakers await, after their sweep,
But they can put away the brooms and get ready to weep.
They played well, blowing through the West,
But they will need every minute of their long 10-day rest.

Shaq and Kobe can play with the best,
But we will not be denied in our championship quest.

The Staples Center will be the place,
Just as in the Presidential race.
The Dems crowned Al Gore there,
While George W. was nominated, do you remember where?

That race turned out exactly right,
So when the day turns into night,
The Sixers will turn out the lights,
And it won't be from a rolling blackout,
But rather from the Philadelphia Sixers knockout.''

Go Sixers.

FREE TRADE COMMUNITY RELIEF ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, recently I introduced H.R. 1819, the Free Trade Community Relief Act. The bill has 68 cosponsors, Democrats and Republicans; and we represent large cities, small towns and rural counties. Our districts are diverse, but we all have something in common: We have lost jobs because of the impact of NAFTA since it was implemented in 1994.

Since then, factories have shut down across the country, including my district in Mississippi, and moved to Mexico, exploiting cheap labor and leaving thousands of dedicated American workers in trouble. Our once vibrant communities suffered immeasurably. Countless Main Street businesses have closed their doors.

My own county which I represent in Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi, has nearly 11 percent unemployment. Virtually no manufacturing jobs are left.

NAFTA included a job retraining program, that is what it is supposed to be called, to cope with the NAFTA-related job losses. However, not only has this program been underfunded, it completely misses the point that in many rural and inner-city areas, when a factory shuts down, there are no jobs to retrain the people for.

People who live in these communities do not need to be retrained for jobs that do not exist, they need actual jobs. The Free Trade Community Relief Act tackles this problem. It authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to designate NAFTA-impacted communities, similar to enterprise zones. They will get business tax incentives to locate in each community and hire local workers.

We have to give them a reason to want to go there. They need the tax incentives. These rural areas cannot survive like they are going right now.

This is not an anti-trade measure or a statement against NAFTA. Indeed, NAFTA has earned at least passing grades for its overall impact on the American economy. But as we hear more and more about new trade agreements, such as the Free Trade Area of the Americas, we must be mindful of their potential and what they can do for jobs that leave our part of the country. We must protect the people and communities that might lose jobs if we do not build in protections for them.

The Free Trade Community Relief Act acknowledges the damages done by NAFTA and will serve as a model for community protection provisions that must be included in any future free trade agreements. The Free Trade Community Relief Act bill is a win-win for business and labor. It needs to become law, because there are so many unemployed Americans who are counting on us to act quickly.

If you look at the economies across not only Mississippi, but a lot of rural parts of the country, we find that jobs have left, and they are not being replaced. We need to act quickly, Mr. Speaker.

THE WOMAN ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about an issue that is critical to women's health: direct access to OB–GYNs. Too many women are denied access or forced to jump through numerous bureaucratic hoops before they can see their OB–GYN. This is simply unacceptable. A woman should not need a permission slip to see her doctor.

OB–GYNs provide basic critical health care for women, and every woman deserves direct access to her doctor. A recent American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists/Princeton survey of OB–GYNs show that 60 percent of all OB–GYNs in managed care reported that their patients are either limited or barred from seeing their OB–GYN without first getting permission from another physician. Nearly 75 percent also reported that their patients have to return to their primary care physician for permission before they can see their OB–GYN for necessary follow-up care. Equally astounding is that 28 percent of the OB–GYNs surveyed reported that even pregnant women must first receive another physician's permission before seeing an OB–GYN.

After meeting with women, obstetricians and gynecologists, health plans and providers in the State of California, I wrote a State law that gives women direct access to their OB–GYN. That law was a good first step. However, it still does not cover over 4.3 million Californians enrolled in self-insured, federally regulated health plans. In March, I introduced the Woman Act to close this loophole and ensure all women in California have direct access to their OB–GYN.

Clearly this problem is not unique to California. There are still eight States that do not guarantee a woman direct access to her OB–GYN. Equally important to remember is that even if a woman lives in a State with direct access protections like California, she may not be able to see her OB–GYN without a referral if she is covered by a federally regulated ERISA health plan. This means that one in three insured families are not protected by State direct access to OB–GYN laws.

The time has clearly come to make direct access to OB–GYN a national standard. I urge you, Mr. Speaker, and all my colleagues to pass this critical legislation quickly into law.

REMEMBERING THE 57TH ANNIVERSARY OF D–DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, this is June 6. Fifty-seven years ago today, June 6, 1944, a day that we now refer to as D-Day, was the day that the American and Allied Forces invaded Normandy, France and began the arduous task of winning Europe back against the Nazi tyranny. And they did this, and they did it well. World War II in Europe came to a close, beginning with the Normandy invasion on June 6.

I wonder how many people across our country remember today? There are those that were there, those that parachuted in, those that landed at the beach and fought their way through France and Belgium into Germany. But many hardly know the word ''Normandy'' or what it stands for.

Mr. Speaker, we think of our veterans and those that were lost in the conflicts of yesteryear on Memorial Day; we honor the veterans on November 11, Veterans' Day; but, in between, we do not seem to remember them. There seems to be a gap between civilian America and military America, whether they be veterans or whether they be the active duty and National Guard and reservists who wear the uniform at the present time.

I hope that we can pause for a moment and pay tribute to the valor of those who stormed the Normandy beaches, who parachuted into France that day and began to end the tyranny of Hitler's rein. And I hope that in the days ahead we can pay tribute to those, not just the veterans of yesteryear, but those who are serving in the Armed Forces, Guard and Reserve today, for without them we would not have nor be able to celebrate the freedoms that we enjoy.

TRIBUTE TO CHANCELLOR JULIUS CHAMBERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last month a gathering of distinguished North Carolinians assembled in Durham to pay tribute to Julius Chambers upon his retirement from the chancellorship of North Carolina Central University. Speaker after speaker praised Chancellor Chambers for his many contributions to the university and to the community.

Today, along with the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT), I want to pay tribute in this House to Julius Chambers, to his distinguished and path-breaking career, to his bold vision, perseverance, and ability to inspire that have meant so much to the university, to North Carolina and to the Nation.

Julius Chambers served as chancellor of his alma mater for 8 years, and his vision for NCCU reminds me of another leader of a great Durham university, Terry Sanford, who led Duke University with what he called ''outrageous ambitions.'' Julius Chambers brought that tradition of ''outrageous ambitions'' to Central, and he left the university far stronger than he found it.

Julius Chambers accepted the call to return to Central after a distinguished history of leadership in the civil rights movement, the legal profession, and higher education. He came back to Durham with a reputation as a premier civil rights lawyer, having argued landmark desegregation cases in the 1960s and 1970s. His most famous case was Swann vs. Board of Education, in which he persuaded the U.S. Supreme Court in 1971 to approve Charlotte's comprehensive plan for school integration.

At Central, he moved quickly and effectively to increase public and private funding, to raise admissions standards and strengthen curricula, to recruit talented faculty and add major facilities in biotechnology and education, and to involve Central students in community service as an integral part of their curriculum.

□ 1500

He had an active agenda at the Federal level as well. I enjoyed working with him on matters ranging from the impact of the Higher Education Act on Historically Black Colleges and Universities to the Eagle Village project, which is developing the community around NCCU; the highly promising NCCU–EPA partnership at the Biomedical/Biotechnology Research Institute, which bears Mr. Chambers' name; and the restoration of Shepard House, the home of NCCU's founder.

Julius Chambers graduated summa cum laude from NCCU in 1958, earned a master's degree in history from the University of Michigan in 1959, and he completed his law degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1962 and earned a master's degree in law from Columbia University School of Law in 1964. He was the first African American to edit the UNC Law Review. He was selected by Thurgood Marshall to be the first intern for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. He founded North Carolina's first interracial law firm, which continues a distinguished and wide-ranging practice today.

As he presided over his last commencement this year, Chancellor Chambers told students how he felt when he graduated from Central 43 years ago. Despite being black and poor, he believed he could accomplish anything: ''You are expected to succeed. You are expected to dream,'' he told the graduates of NCCU. As Julius Chambers returns to Charlotte and his law practice, we are grateful for the foundation he laid at Central; and we pledge to continue to build on his dream for the benefit of all.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WATT), a close friend and associate of Mr. Chambers.

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE), my friend and colleague, for yielding to me and for joining in this tribute to Julius Chambers. I am proud to join with the gentleman in paying tribute to Julius Chambers who, while we were out during our most recent break from Congress, retired from the chancellorship at North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina, on June 1.

North Carolina Central, of course, was in my congressional district for the first 6 years of my service in the Congress; and then, because my district lines were redrawn, North Carolina Central went out of my congressional district and into the district of the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE). At that time, Julius Chambers was the chancellor of North Carolina Central.

My relationships with Julius Chambers go back to well before he became chancellor of North Carolina Central University in Durham. More than 35 years ago, when I was about to enter undergraduate school in 1963, I had the pleasure of meeting Julius Chambers when he was about to open his law firm in Charlotte, North Carolina. Nobody knew at that time, of course, what impact Julius Chambers would have on North Carolina. Nobody knew that he would become a renowned civil rights lawyer and be involved in so many landmark civil rights cases, such as school desegregation, employment discrimination, and criminal cases with substantial civil rights implications.

But Julius Chambers was there about to start a law firm, and I was about to start undergraduate school; and he was already encouraging me, even before I started undergraduate school, to consider going to law school and returning to my native city, Charlotte, to practice law. This was 7 years before I even got a law degree, and 4 years before I got an undergraduate degree, and even then, Julius Chambers was having an impact on my life.

I stayed in contact with him for the next 4 years, for the next 3 years after that 4 years while I was in law school, and got an offer to return to the law firm that he had started in 1970, and did, in fact, go back to Charlotte to practice with Julius Chambers in that law firm, the first integrated law firm in North Carolina, one of the first integrated law firms in the South at that time. He was solely responsible for talking me into returning to North Carolina. He was solely responsible for talking other professionals, young black professionals in particular, into setting up medical practices, accounting practices, law practices of various kinds in Charlotte, North Carolina, and coming and having an amazing impact on our area of North Carolina.

I happened to be with him when he had a conversation with Harvey Gant in which he talked him into coming to Charlotte, North Carolina. He was from South Carolina and was not really thinking about coming to North Carolina, but came at Julius' insistence and with his persuasion to North Carolina, and, of course, has had substantial impact on the politics of North Carolina from being the first African American mayor of the city of Charlotte to running in 1990 against JESSE HELMS for the United States Senate, a substantial impact on the politics of North Carolina.

So I want to pay special tribute to Julius Chambers today for all of the impact he has had on North Carolina Central University, but more importantly to me, for the impact that he has had on my life, because I know I would not be standing here as a Member of the Congress of the United States, but for the influence that he had on my life. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to join in this tribute.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Julius Chambers, who retired on June 1st as Chancellor of North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina, which was in my congressional district from 1993 until 1998 and is now represented by DAVID PRICE.

Thirty years ago, I was privileged to get to know Julius Chambers as a friend and learn from him as a lawyer when he hired me to join his law practice, which was the first integrated law firm in North Carolina. In its first decade, his law firm did more to influence evolving civil rights law than any other private practice in the United States.

After serving as Director-Counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, he became Chancellor of North Carolina Central University in 1993. His vision has helped transform the school into a major research institution.

Julius Chambers has one of the most brilliant legal minds and is one of the most effective civil rights leaders of our time. I am personally and professionally indebted to Julius Chambers in so many ways and wish him my very best in all future endeavors.

WEST COAST ENERGY CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TIBERI). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, those of us living in California have reached a critical point in determining how Congress and the President will address the West Coast Energy Crisis.

Earlier today, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce canceled its consideration of a bill that would have prevented price-gouging and blackouts in California and other Western States. The President and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission have said ''no'' time after time to Californians. Now it looks like the Republicans in Congress are saying ''no'' to California; also, ''we will not help you.''

This is very disturbing. The West Coast energy crisis threatens not only the health of our economy, but the health of our citizens, because the blackouts roll out through hospitals, through disabled individuals living in their own homes, in nursing homes and other facilities across our State. The President has said no. The Federal Energy Commission has said no, because they believe that price caps will not help the situation.

The President recently said in his visit to California that price caps would not help California, they would not increase supply or reduce demand. Yet we see that 10 of this Nation's leading economists wrote the President to politely disagree with him. They, in fact, made a very strong case. The cost-based price caps temporarily, until the energy supply can be reached in California, would, in fact, help stabilize, stabilize the supply of energy to California.

A majority of Americans recently expressed their opinions in the Washington Post, where 58 percent said they favored temporary price caps. Much of the energy crisis in California is beyond our own control, and certainly in the rest of the West. Because we are in the second driest year on record, we do not have the water behind the dams because of the drought to create hydroelectric power. The American people understand this, but the Republicans in Congress do not, the President of the United States does not, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission does not.

What is very disturbing is we watched the President develop an energy policy as we started to see the closeness between the administration, the White House and America's mainline energy companies. This past weekend we saw disclosed the strong personal financial ties of top members of the Bush administration's energy team to those very same energy generators. Many of us have been concerned about this for some time, but we now saw evidence of it.

Chief political strategist Karl Rove had a $100,000 to $250,000 investment in Enron, one of the major marketers of energy on the West Coast. Lawrence Lindsay gained $50,000 as a consulting fee from Enron. Condoleeza Rice, the National Security Advisor, $250,000 to $500,000 in Chevron and earned $60,000 as the director on the Chevron Board of Directors. Clay Johnson, director of the President's personnel, held stock valued between $100,000 and $250,000 in El Paso Energy Partners, a Houston oil and natural gas company, involved in the West Coast energy problems. The Washington Post also says that Mr. Johnson has been involved in selecting the people who will serve on the Federal Energy Commission, the very same people who will be regulating the companies in which he has a financial interest. Many of us were concerned that they were creating an office of special interest in the White House, and I think that concern is starting to come forward.

Mr. Speaker, one of the things that is kind of interesting is when we look at the President's energy policy and we look at the annual report of Exxon-Mobil, we find that many of the same consistencies are there. We see in the President's energy policy that he shows us that, in fact, they have energy for a new century, and here we have offshore oil drilling that is familiar to us; we have been doing it for many, many years. When we pick up the Exxon-Mobil annual report, we see the same dedication. This is not about energy for a new century, this is about an old fossil fuel-dependent economy from which America must move on.

Exxon wants to highlight its drilling techniques. We see the drilling techniques that show us that from one rig one can drill a number of different pockets of oil, one can do directional drilling, and one can reduce the supply. We go back to the President's energy policy, and we see that, in fact, we have essentially the same graphs, the same pictures, telling us that this is the way that we can get into the ANWR Wildlife Refuge, that if we drill it just the way that Exxon told us we could in their report, all things would be fine and there would be no environmental damage. Again, we see the closeness of the two. It goes on until we see the same points being made about refinery capacity, the same pictures, the same discussion.

The time has come for the administration to separate itself from a very old and tired energy policy, and to move on and engage the full ingenuity and the talent of the American economy and its creative energies and to move on to renewables, to move on to replaceable energy supplies so that America, in fact, can move on with its economy and its families will not have to continue to be gouged because of the greed of the same energy generators who are doing it on the West Coast of the United States.

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, since 1965, when Medicare was enacted, virtually all senior citizens and most people with disabilities have been able to access mainstream medical care. Each working day, Medicare beneficiaries make almost 1 million physician visits.

□ 1515

Medicare serves 39 million Americans, and deals with about 1 million health care providers: doctors, nurses, hospitals, nursing homes, and others.

Since 1974 when, as a medical student, I first started seeing patients, and for the next 20 years as a physician prior to coming to Congress, I saw firsthand how important Medicare was to my patients. Medicare has been a very important part of our Nation's health care system, and I want to preserve and protect it.

A couple of years ago, I served on the Bipartisan Medicare Commission: I resigned after I became concerned that my very active role in the bipartisan patient protection legislation would affect the chances of consensus being reached on the commission.

However, based on my past experience actually working with Medicare patients, after culling from my work on the commission, and after listening and learning from testimony before the Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, on which I sit, I have a few suggestions for improving Medicare's administration.

Mr. Speaker, these suggestions are not about sweeping Medicare reform. They do not deal with the long-term solvency of Medicare when the baby boomers retire. Those types of ''big picture'' decisions are beyond the scope of what my remarks are about today.

I make this observation: to ensure the long-term survival of Medicare, additional funding will be necessary. And, contrary to the intentions of others, ''Medicare reform'' will not pay for a prescription benefit and will not ensure the long-term solvency of the program without additional funds. The demographics and the costs of services and supplies are a factor we will have to deal with when we are talking about the baby boomers in Medicare.

I recently asked Secretary of Health and Human Services, Tommy Thompson, who was testifying before my committee, two questions: First, ''Do you think senior citizens are being overtreated in Medicare''; second, ''Do you think Medicare providers are overpaid?''

He replied that, with the caveat that we always need to be vigilant against abuse, it was not his experience as a Governor of Wisconsin that senior citizens in general were being overtreated,

or that providers were being paid too much.

I agree with him. It is certainly the case in Iowa, where our reimbursement rates rank right at the dead bottom of the Medicare rates. I believe that anyone who thinks that ''Medicare reform'' is going to save much money is going to have to consider either tighter price controls or further rationing of care or both.

Mr. Speaker, that does not mean that we in Congress should not consider a more rational way of structuring the program, or that we should not learn from other health care delivery systems, or that we cannot introduce or maintain choice in the system. It does not mean that dealing with Medicare's future cash short-falls is not important. It really is. It is one of the big entitlement programs we are going to have to deal with.

However, Mr. Speaker, in addition to the big picture concerns about Medicare, there are increasing concerns about Medicare's current complexity, the difficulties that both the beneficiaries and providers have in understanding its operations and the decision-making processes, and its failure to communicate to and to serve them effectively.

Until we deal with the big picture issues, the traditional fee-for-service public part of Medicare is going to be around for a long time, especially in the less urban areas.

So I think we need to address the ''little picture'' ways in which the Health Care Financing Administration, known as HCFA, implements Medicare policy. It would be easy to call HCFA a ''bureaucratic monster.'' Having dealt with HCFA from the perspective of a doctor, I appreciate the frustration in dealing with this agency that I hear from my fellow medical colleagues, from Iowa's hospital administrators and from other health care providers.

There are now over 110,000 pages of Medicare rules, policies, and regulations. In a recent AMA survey, more than one-third of the 653 responding physicians reported spending 1 hour completing Medicare forms and meeting administrative requirements for every 4 hours of patient care.

Physicians are now filling up volumes of charts for documentation, not for the patient, but for the government. The additional paperwork in patients' charts can actually impede or delay necessary care as the doctor sorts through voluminous paperwork trying to find the truly relevant information.

I am not here to bash the people who work in the agency, who by and large try to do their job. HCFA has been underfunded, and Congress has to share some blame for how poorly the system sometimes functions, because Congress frequently gives HCFA very complex and sometimes conflicting tasks, usually without necessary resources.

Furthermore, some of the problems are inherent in the way Medicare was set up to use the regional intermediaries. Some criticize HCFA's lack of national uniformity, but others criticize its lack of flexibility and its proscriptiveness. It is not easy drawing the right line between all of these concerns. Nevertheless, there are many ways that Medicare and HCFA function that not only lack common sense but, in my opinion, are blatantly unfair and unjust.

Take the case of Dr. Taylor, a Florida physician who received notice from Medicare requesting a refund of $66,960.01 for an alleged overpayment, to be paid within 30 days. So Dr. Taylor sent the refund to Medicare, and he requested a fair hearing.

It was more than 1 year before the hearing date. In the meantime, Medicare sent a letter to his patients stating that they had been overcharged and that a refund was due them from their doctor. Of course, that was pretty bad for that doctor's reputation, and it hurt his practice.

After his hearing 1 year later, it was determined all but $584.91 of the claims reviewed were accurate, and he was entitled to $66,357.10 back from the agency. But, it took another 15 months before he received the refund. No letter was sent to his patients explaining HCFA's mistake, and he was told by Medicare to forget about collecting any interest on his funds that were held by Medicare for 15 months.

Or take the case of a neurologist in good standing in New York who moved to Florida. He has not been able to get a Florida Medicare number for 4 months because of bureaucratic red tape. Since 60 to 70 percent of his patients are Medicare beneficiaries, he is running out of money to keep his practice going.

Or how about Dr. Wilson, an internist who gave influenza shots to patients? Bills were sent to the Medicare carrier and payment was sent for the shot, but not for the visit. The carrier was called and Dr. Wilson was told to use a number 59 modifier. The carrier agreed that the rule had not been advertised in Medicare publications, but that Dr. Wilson could buy a subscription to the information for $265. So now he has to pay HCFA to get the information he is supposed to have.

Dr. Wilson asked if he could resubmit the bill. The carrier said no. Dr. Wilson's office manager was subsequently told by a Medicare staffer that the carrier was in error. After a long time and a lot of hassle, he was finally properly reimbursed.

Or how about the cardiologist who went through prepayment review, i.e., an audit, for 793 claims. These claims were worth about $50,000. The cost to his practice of processing and producing documentation and reprocessing was $44,000. Eight denied claims, for which service was provided but for which the physician and his staff ultimately decided they did not have sufficient documentation, were ultimately worth $356.

Or consider this example. In March, 1999, an elderly man in heart failure was seen for 50 minutes by his doctor. The physician billed Medicare for a level 5 visit based on counseling services and the time required. The physician documented the time he spent with the patient. It was consistent with HCFA guidelines.

This service was denied by the carrier in February 2000. When the denial was appealed, the HCFA official held that the coding was based on time and was irrelevant, and thus, downcoded the service. This ruling was made despite a clear directive from national Medicare, from the Medicare carrier's manual, that the carrier should pay for counseling services when appropriately documented.

Thus, in this case the physician provided a medically necessary and appropriate service. He documented it correctly, and ultimately required 2 years and a hearing to be paid part of the appropriate fee. By the way, since the amount was for less than the $500 minimum required for appeal, the doctor had no administrative appeal rights.

These inconsistencies are not isolated instances. In Minnesota, for instance, there are 107 local medical review policies by the Medicare carrier. Just across the river in Wisconsin, there are 244 local medical review policies. Minnesota has nine policies for cardiovascular disease, Wisconsin has 27. I daresay that the heart care in Minnesota is just as good as the heart care in Wisconsin.

Years ago when I was in reconstructive surgery practice in Des Moines, Iowa, Medicare stopped giving prior authorization for certain types of reconstructive surgery. For example, some elderly patients have such droopy upper eyelids that they cannot see laterally. That is a hazard when they drive. They cannot see a car alongside them when they are on the freeway. I would point out that this hazard is not just to them, but to other drivers on the road as well.

What I would do is I would give a visual field examination; send the patient to an ophthalmologist, get a consultation. They do tests to see how much vision was lost. Then I would take some pictures. Then I would include all of that information in a letter to the HCFA carrier requesting prior authorization, just so that the patient would know that their surgery would be covered by Medicare and would not be considered ''cosmetic.''

However, a number of years ago, HCFA said, ''We are not doing prior authorizations anymore. Tell the patient we will look at the case afterwards and then decide whether we will pay for the service.''

□ 1530

Well, this haphazard policy scares a lot of elderly from getting the care that they need. If a carrier makes a decision to deny the claim after the fact as being noncovered, the provider has

no right to appeal and then he must bill the patient.

This is not just about surgery. Cancer, heart disease, hypertension, diabetes are common conditions in elderly Americans. Those conditions are often treated with medications. In all these conditions, the patient's status may remain stable, but it is important to regularly evaluate the patient's disease to make certain the medications are satisfactory. These services are part of the continuing care of patients, and they should not be subject to an arbitrary local decision concerning coverage.

Mr. Speaker, hospitals are in the same position with HCFA as physicians: overwhelming paperwork, confusing rules, punitive penalties for honest mistakes. Some rural hospitals have almost as many billing clerks as they do beds. Memorial Hospital in Gonzales, Texas has 33 beds, and it has a billing staff of 20 employees.

Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago spends more than 3,200 staff hours per month sorting through Medicare billing requirements alone. This year alone, Northwestern Memorial Hospital is adding 26 new employees solely to ensure compliance with regulations.

Direct care is affected, too. A cardiologist recounts how when he made rounds one day on one of the hospital floors, two nurses were taking care of patients and the other six nurses were checking documentation to make sure it complied with Medicare regulations.

A critical care physician whose practice staffs a local hospital 24 hours a day and who actually advises the carrier on coding issues is now going through a post-payment audit. In years past, the carrier has cited that physician as providing laudable care. However, the carrier has denied the physician's nighttime critical care claims.

Now, since his practice staffs the hospital 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, I would suggest that it is absurd to suggest that patients do not require care in the middle of the night. In fact, this 24-hour-a-day service resulted in reducing mortality rates in that hospital.

Secretary Thompson, in his confirmation hearing said, ''Patients and providers alike are fed up with excessive and complex paperwork. Complexity is overloading the system, criminalizing honest mistakes and driving doctors, nurses and other health professionals out of the program.'' I agree.

So what can Congress do? Well, the following is a list of about 25 suggestions that I have. It is not comprehensive. Some are specific; some are general. Many of these are garnered from testimony before my committee. But I think if we would implement these, it would go a long way towards helping the Health Care Financing Administration work better. I will try not to get too technical.

First, the Medicare Regulation and Regulatory Fairness Act of 2001, known on Capitol Hill as MRRFA, H.R. 868, introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) and the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY) would require HCFA contractors to educate physicians and providers as to coding, documentation and billing requirements so that fewer billing errors ultimately occur.

The approach by HCFA should be education rather than heavy-handed audits. MRRFA would also provide health care providers with greatly needed due process rights in those post payment audits.

Number two, last August, the previous administration issued regulations that would require physician practices to treat Medicaid patients and other program beneficiaries to include, at their own expense, the cost of hiring trained clinical interpretors to assist those patients who have limited English proficiency.

Mr. Speaker, I was in practice for quite a while. There are a lot of immigrants in Des Moines, Iowa: Hispanic, African, Bosnian. Many would come to my office without being proficient in English, so we would make arrangements to have a translator. It would be a member of the family. It would be a friend who spoke English. It would be a person who works with a nonprofit agency or a religious institution that was helping those immigrants get settled. We could work it out. This regulation needs to be looked at.

Number three, we need to look at the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act, or EMTALA. HCFA has been attempting to expand the scope of this bill to reach well beyond hospital emergency departments to encompass nonemergency inpatient facilities and hospital outpatient department care.

We need to seriously consider the effect of those regulations, and we need to look at the EMTALA law itself. We need to and see how well it is working and the implications that it has had in terms of our oversight and the ability for emergency rooms to staff the type of specialty care that they need.

Number four, Congress should require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to publish in the Federal Register, no less than a quarterly basis, a notice of availability for all proposed policy and operational changes which can affect providers and suppliers. This would include, but not be limited to, changes issued through amendments in the carrier manuals.

The Secretary should require contractors to notify all providers and suppliers in their service area of such changes within 30 days of the Federal registered notice. The Secretary should further provide that any changes issued in the final form should take effect no earlier than 45 days from the date of such final change in the Federal Register.

Number five, Congress should require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to create and distribute a user-friendly manual that contains all the information necessary for medical Medicare compliance. The manual should be organized and accessible. It should be on-line. It should be free. One should not have to pay $265 for a Medicare manual when it is required to follow the rules. It should contain, in addition to actual regulations, a summary of each issue, including questions and answers.

Number six, Congress should require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a site on the Internet, something that people can access, where Medicare providers and suppliers can post questions and obtain feedback to understand what those regulations are.

Number seven, Congress should require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to furnish all education and training materials and other resources and services free of charge to providers, eliminating user fees. This Congress, for many, many years, opposed the user fees that the Clinton administration wanted to impose on a wide variety of areas. This should be no different.

Number eight, Congress should instruct Health and Human Services to provide better oversight of its contractors to ensure a more uniform application of national policies and a more efficient administration of the Medicare program.

Number nine, this cuts across a lot of providers, we need to look at and fix some of the costly and needlessly burdensome HPPA medical privacy regulations. I am encouraged by Secretary Thompson's decision to re-open the privacy rule for comments and urge him to spend the effective date and fix the rule. I believe a better privacy rule would benefit patients and providers alike. Many provisions in the time rule and the aggressive implementation schedule were written without consideration of the impact on patient care.

Number 10, emergency services needed to stabilize patients should not be denied payment. Participating providers in the Medicare program are required to screen any individual who comes to the emergency department to determine whether that person has an emergency medical condition or is a woman in active labor, and if so, to stabilize him or her. To adequately screen and stabilize a patient, hospitals often employ ancillary services that are routinely available to the emergency department. Medicare sometimes denies payment for the services furnished in the emergency department because they exceed the ''local medical review policies or utilization guidelines for coverage.'' We need to look at that.

Number 11, we need to limit data collection to what is necessary for payment and for quality. Prospective payment systems should be simple, predictable and fair. Unfortunately, the patient assessment tools for skilled nursing, rehabilitation and home health are far from ideal. In fact, HCFA has devised three separate instruments, the outcome and assessment information set, the minimum

data set, and the MDSPAC, which collects a lot of extraneous information. They lack statistical reliability and are extremely burdensome to many providers. We need to look at that.

Number 12, we need to provide adequate and stable funding levels to the HCFA carriers. We need to assure adequate funding levels so that the contractors can perform the range of functions necessary for an efficient operation of the Medicare program.

If I, as a physician in Des Moines, Iowa, have to deal with my local Medicare carrier, and they only are provided enough funds for a couple of employees, then I am going to have long waits, and my patient are too. This is something that Congress needs to look at.

Number 13, we need to avoid counterproductive reforms. We need to look at the way that we award contracts for the carriers. I am concerned about fragmenting and weakening the Medicare administration. This has broader implications as well. Some people are proposing that we break apart certain functions from Medicare. I would be very careful of that, particularly on the bigger issue of prescription drugs.

Number 14, we need to direct HCFA to utilize a consistent standard for the calculation and application of the ''low cost or charges'' rule during the transition from cost reimbursement to the prospective payment system for home health care.

Number 15, we need to eliminate the inappropriate demands for documentation to support reimbursement claims by requiring fiscal intermediaries to adhere to professional auditing standards and generally acceptable account practices. That should be a no-brainer.

Number 16, we need to restrict HCFA's ability to demand financial records from commonly owned or controlled organizations that do not have financial transactions with a Medicare home health agency. It is not their business.

Mr. Speaker, some of these will be a little bit more generic, and some of these are suggestions that were made before my committee by Bruce Vladick. Dr. Bruce Vladick, is the recent administrator for the Health Care Financing Administration. Mr. Vladick and I served together for a while on the Medicare Commission. I respect his opinions a lot. Many of these suggestions are ones that he has made to Congress.

Number 17, despite significant improvements through the Medicare handbook, the beneficiary hotline and Medicare Internet site and the program of the size of Medicare, the beneficiaries need, not just the providers, they need better customer service.

□ 1545

So we should improve the customer service by ensuring that each beneficiary has access to an individual to assist with Medicare problems. We should contract for at least one Medicare representative for every Social Security office in the country. That is like an ombudsman.

Number 18: We should reduce uncertainty and unplanned spending by requiring carriers to provide beneficiaries and providers advance guidance on certain procedures and services. This gets directly to what I was talking about earlier on the issue of prior authorization.

Number 19: Beneficiaries are subjected to too much and confusing paperwork, particularly if they have Medigap coverage. So a solution would be to reduce paperwork by requiring Medicare and Medigap health insurance carriers to transfer information and claims to one another electronically.

Number 20: This is really important. A lot of providers for Medicare are operating in an atmosphere of distrust and fear because of accelerated fraud and abuse activities. Make no mistake, we need to be firm and strong on preventing fraud and abuse. However, at the same time, we need to be fair; and we should not be counterproductive. And so to increase the comity and the provider confidence in the Medicare program, we should eliminate, in my opinion, the application of the False Claims Act to bills submitted by providers. We are talking about, in some of these situations, the mere slip of a finger, where one number could be recorded wrong on a form and then that physician could be held criminally at risk. That needs to be looked at.

Number 21: Many providers cannot obtain assistance with their Medicare questions. So to fix that we should improve customer service by assigning each provider an account executive and increasing the number of contractor and HCFA staff to interact with the provider. We should provide the patient an ombudsman, and we ought to provide the providers a similar service.

Number 22: The paperwork requirements for physicians, particularly surrounding the documentation of evaluation and management activities, is very, very onerous. I hear this from my colleagues all around the country. Oh boy, you ought to read the volumes to try to figure out how you code and then bill for an office visit. We should reduce paperwork by replacing those EMM codes with a simpler classification system. There are a number of ways we could look at doing that.

Number 23: HCFA's response to issues and problems is slowed considerably because of the multiple layers of bureaucracy in the Department of Health and Human Services and competing constituencies. So in order to improve responsiveness and timeliness, we should, I think, at least consider establishing HCFA as an independent agency. I am not, however, in favor of splitting functions away from HCFA.

Number 24: I have mentioned this before in this talk, but Medicare operations are severely underfunded. It reduces the efficiency, timeliness and customer service. To improve customer service and efficiency we should fund HCFA operations from a trust fund similar to that of the Social Security Trust Fund.

Number 25: With new life-enhancing technologies, the Medicare process to determine whether a new item or service will be covered is slow, confusing, and very contentious. We had testimony before Congress from Art Linkletter. He said it is just a shame that it can take up to 5 years to get an authorization for a new treatment or a new medical technology, and I agree. And we ought to assure availability of up-to-date but effective technologies by looking at an independent advisory board.

Number 26: The efficient organization, performance, and oversight of Medicare fiscal intermediaries and carriers is hampered by legislative prohibitions against competition and financial incentives for good performance. We should improve contractor performance by modernizing the legislative authorities, including the authority to compete for contracts and to financially reward good performance.

Well, Mr. Speaker, that is a lot of detail, but my committee, the Subcommittee on Health of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, is working on HCFA reform bill now. We are putting together a bill on this.

I want to finish this special order with a quote from Dr. Bruce Vladeck, former director of the Health Care Financing Administration. Mr. Vladeck said this. ''While debate about the future shape of the Medicare program rages on around us, tens of millions of beneficiaries and providers are interacting with Medicare on a daily basis, often in a suboptimal manner. As these big picture discussions continue, taking incremental steps to improve those interactions can significantly improve the lives of Medicare patients and the persons and institutions who serve them. Our citizens deserve nothing less.''

NATION'S ENERGY CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TIBERI). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, we intend to spend the next hour of the House's time in discussing the electricity and energy crises that are confronting this Nation today. This has become the issue that is paramount in the minds of families all over this Nation. Whether they live in California, which as in many other areas has pioneered the problem, where we have an economy that is teetering as the prices of natural gas and electricity and gasoline hit us, hit our families, hit our businesses, people see this crisis spreading to the other parts of the far West, in the mountain States and now to the East.

As people contemplate the incredible increases in natural gas, they wonder how they are going to heat their homes come next winter. When American families get on the road and find out they are paying well over $2 maybe even $3 a gallon for gasoline, every family in America, every business in America will know that we have a crisis, and yet it seems this Congress cannot act. It seems that this administration cannot or will not act.

People's businesses and homes are threatened. They know that if there were a flood or an earthquake or a tornado, the Federal Government would be in their areas immediately with all kinds of help and all kinds of cameras, and the President would be there and the Federal Emergency Management Administration would be there and everybody would be in there trying to say how do we help in this natural disaster. Well, in California and in Oregon and in Washington, and now many other States, we have a man-made disaster that is worse than all of those others combined. And yet where is the Federal Government, where is the President, where is the Secretary of Energy?

Nobody seems to want to act on a crisis that threatens the whole national economy, and people are wondering why. When we look at poll results today, not only is energy the highest economic issue of concern to families all across America, but the approval ratings of officials who are not acting are going down and down. Clearly, the American people want action. They do not see it coming from Washington.

Just today, our Committee on Commerce decided that it would not hold a hearing on an electricity emergency relief act. The Republican leaders of this House apparently were afraid to bring this item to a committee and then to a floor vote because they fear that the outcome might not be in line with their ideology. They blame not bringing this up on Democratic intransigence; that is that the Democrats would not look at any bill that did not have anything to say about the prices and price mitigation for electricity and natural gas on the west coast. And I say to the Republican leadership, you are absolutely right. We are not going to consider legislation without that, because it is the prices that are killing us.

California and other States in the West are being bled dry by this electricity crisis. The State of California is paying $3 million an hour for electricity. We are paying $70 million sometimes up to $90 million or more a day for electricity; $2 to $3 billion a month. And California State is paying for this electricity because the utilities in California are bankrupt. They have not been able to buy the electricity, so the State has stepped in.

Now, the State of California is the sixth biggest economy in the world. But the sixth biggest economy in the world cannot sustain a $3 billion a month drain on its budget, and so the State of California's economy is teetering. And I will tell the President of the United States that if the California economy goes, so goes the rest of the Nation. So it is in our national interest that the problems in California, in Washington, in Oregon, and now in Montana and in New Mexico and Wyoming and in New York, become the interests of all Americans and this administration because our whole economy is at stake here.

When we look at the prices that people are paying for electricity and natural gas in California, what we see is an incredible disaster that has taken place and is in motion. In San Diego County, the area I represent, 65 percent of small businesses face bankruptcy this year. Imagine what that means; 65 percent of our small businesses in one county facing disaster. That wipes out all of Southern California. And I predict the rest of the Nation will go next. We cannot sustain this kind of situation.

School districts cannot hire teachers because they are paying for their electricity bill. Libraries cannot buy books because they are paying for their electricity bills. YMCA and other youth-serving organizations have to close up part or most of a week because they cannot afford the electricity bills. The hotels in San Diego County have an energy surcharge on their room bills because of the cost of electricity. Restaurants in San Diego have an energy surcharge because the costs of energy are so high. What happens to the tourism industry in our area if we add these surcharges to our bills? San Diego and California, the West, and the Nation are in economic trouble.

The Republicans refused to act on their bill today. The President issued an energy plan several weeks ago which does virtually nothing for immediate relief for the west or for the Nation.

□ 1600

Mr. Speaker, the President says, well, we can solve the energy problems in California by drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. I do not know what one has to do with the other; and even if it did, it would be a decade before we got any oil out of that reserve. We have so many choices, we do not have to wreck the environment, we can do many, many other things; and we will be talking about that during this hour.

The President and the Republican Party assume that this is a crisis brought out by a lack of supply caused by environmental whackos in California who overregulated and prevented supply from being brought in. Mr. President, that is flat out wrong. This is not fundamentally a supply and demand problem; this is a problem brought about by criminal manipulation of the market by an energy cartel that is hell-bent on making as much profits as they can make. They have taken $20 billion out of the State of California in the last 10 months, and they are going on to other States.

Mr. Speaker, those same companies report earnings increases in their quarterly reports of 300, 400, 500 percent, 1,000 percent. They move up to the Fortune 500 a hundred positions out of the profits that they are making from small businesses going bankrupt and big businesses leaving California. The third biggest business in my district may close up this year because they cannot deal with the uncertainty and the cost of electricity prices.

Mr. Speaker, we have to do something about the prices, and that is to bring in what was always the rule under a regulated situation, and that is cost-based rates for electricity: the cost of production plus a reasonable profit. Utilities made a fortune on that kind of pricing; and yet the pricing we are seeing now are four, five, 10 times that, 50 times that at various times during the day.

We need cost-based pricing, and we need to have refunds of the criminal overcharges that have taken place. Californians are demanding cost-based prices to stabilize the wholesale market and refunds of the criminal overcharges since last June. That is how to stabilize the situation. The Governor of California is doing everything he can to bring on new capacity. The State is doing everything it can for conservation. We just met a goal of 11 percent for last month, and that is a tremendous achievement for Californians; and I thank all Californians for doing that.

But the people of Oregon or California or Washington can do nothing about the wholesale prices, and that is killing us. I speak from experience from California. I see the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) with us, and I hope that he will enlighten us on the issues that this country is facing. If this President and this Congress and this Nation do not wake up, we are going to have economic disaster in the summer ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO).

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, before the missteps of deregulation, the United States of America throughout the 20th century, basically from the time we regulated energy after 1932, through 1992 when Congress, in a little-noticed action buried in a so-called energy-efficiency bill allowed deregulation to go forward. During that time the words blackout, brownout, price spikes, price gouging, these were not part of our electrical energy vocabulary. Now in 8 short years, the wonders of a so-called deregulated market have delivered that. They have delivered that not only because the concept itself is faulty, and something that is inherently monopolistic or oligopolistic, but also because of the active encouragement and inattention at best by the Bush administration.

There are still laws on the books, the gentleman would not believe it, there

are laws on the books that require that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission determine whether prices will be based on cost or market-based. They are not supposed to be market-based where markets do not exist. Clearly there is no effective market in the western United States. It is not only California that is suffering these outrages. It is also Oregon, Washington, and other western States.

There is no effective market. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, their own economists, their own staff found in December that prices were unjust and unreasonable, but the chairman, a Mr. Hebert from Louisiana, a former staffer to the former recently deposed majority leader of the Senate, is refusing to do anything about it. The mantra from the Bush administration is price caps are bad. They do not work.

They are right, if we have a functioning market where one has the normal laws of supply and demand, price caps are not a good idea. Energy is unique. It requires that you have a 10–15 percent reserve margin at all times to have reliability. There are very few sellers. There are very limited ways of delivering that energy to your house. Most of us only have one wire that comes into our house. Most businesses only have one wire that comes into their business. There are a couple of routes over higher voltage lines to get to that neighborhood or communities. There are few options. We are not actively buying and selling and chasing after a multiplicity of sellers. This is clearly a manipulated market. One can look at the prices and know it is manipulated.

Mr. Speaker, it just came out that the record, so far as we know, is a price charged by Duke Energy Corporation of the Carolinas to California last winter, low-demand period in California when strangely enough about a third of the generation in the State went missing. Just was not available. No one knows where it went because under deregulation, a company does not have to operate their plant. They can say, freeze in the dark, sucker; you are not paying me enough money. That is what deregulation means. There is no longer a duty to serve.

Duke Energy, being a benevolent organization, sold energy for only $3,880 per megawatt hour. I tried to figure that out in terms of what it would mean for my electricity bill. I have an energy-efficient house with a heat pump. It is an all-electric home. In my case, it would have meant that my energy bill for 1 month would have exceeded my mortgage by a factor of eight if I had to pay that price individually.

That is the outrageous extortionate price that Duke Power, and they are not alone. We have Enron. We have Reliant Company, I believe they are based in Texas, which tied their energy commodity traders, their speculators who produce nothing except profits, to the people running a decrepit plant that they bought in northern California; and as the market went down, they told them to shut down the plant; and when the market went up, they told them to crank it up. They were attempting to directly manipulate the plant, destroying the plant, obviously not providing reliability; but guess what, it is legal. It is legal because the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission says that is not market manipulation, that is not price gouging, that is just fine, according to the Bush Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would yield, we were promised under deregulation competition and lower prices. What it sounds to me that is happening is that the so-called deregulated market, under control of a cartel, has not only increased prices but it has decreased the supply because they are withholding it to create a market where they are getting higher prices.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would yield, the United States had until the late 1990s, on average the lowest-cost energy in the entire industrial world through a system of regulation.

We have quickly gone to a system which is totally unreliable, has blackouts and brownouts, and has price spikes where prices are going up to 100 times the so-called normal price. A 10,000 percent increase. The gentleman referenced earlier these energy companies, these new energy companies, many of whom are based in Texas, are making profits that are up 400, 500, 600 percent in 1 year. You do not get those kinds of profits in 1 year in a normal and functioning market. Something is very wrong here, and what is wrong is the people of California have been on the forefront of people being fleeced under this system, but now they are sticking it to the people in the Northwest; and it will come to other parts of the country.

Mr. Speaker, under deregulation in New England, Pacific Gas & Electric of California, which says they are broke, sent billions of dollars to the mother company, Pacific Gas & Electric of America, whatever it is called, who sent the money to Pacific Gas & Electric of New England, who now is one of the larger owners of plants in New England. And since they deregulated New England and since Pacific Gas & Electric bought plants in New England, the same one that says that they are broke in California, reliability, they are having the same kind of outage problems. The plants are not available, and the price goes up. This is becoming a nationwide phenomenon.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would yield, we have roughly a 45 to 50,000 megawatt capacity to produce. During the winter months that we just experienced, the demand is roughly two-thirds, roughly 30 to 35,000 megawatts. So there is a demand of 30,000, there is a capacity of 50,000; and yet we had blackouts during this time. Why did we have blackouts? We are supposed to have 20,000 megawatt surplus.

Well, somehow all of the plants at once were shut down. They had maintenance problems or other problems. Or, and this is why I say it is a price problem, not just a supply problem, they could not get paid by the utilities for their electricity so they just shut down.

Mr. Speaker, this is not the promise of deregulation. This is the fact of a manipulated market, that we have blackouts. You know what happened in San Diego, a day's blackout, we had near fatalities at traffic intersections because the traffic lights do not work. We had near fatalities because elevators shut down. And the threat of blackouts means that people cannot have any orderly budget or orderly future, so they were thinking of leaving California. A blackout for a few hours in certain industries means millions of lost inventory and production. So blackouts maybe for an hour or for a day and maybe only once or twice during the winter, but they are catastrophic; and we are looking at the possibility of 30 or more days of blackouts in California for the coming summer.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, this administration says if we put in a price cap it will make things worse. Absolutely to the contrary. In Oregon, Washington, and California, people are building and proposing the construction of plants as quick as possible. Westinghouse is years out on generation. We are building them. We are also having a drought. That compounds the problem.

Mr. Speaker, actually the inverse would happen. If you had a price cap, there would be more energy available because right now what we have is people gaming the system to try to drive the price as high as possible because they think if I shut down part of my generator, I can drive the price up, only operate part of the plant and still make more money. But if you set a cap and say you are over that cap, then suddenly we would have more generation. We would not find the withdrawal and the manipulation and the withholding from the market that is causing some of these blackouts and brownouts this summer in California.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, let me read the press statement of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality. He issued a statement on why the Republican leadership refused to continue consideration of what they call their energy emergency relief act. He said, in the face of all of this disaster that is looming, in the face of this incredible price catastrophe for the West, he blames taking the legislation from the table on ''the national Democratic leadership which has exhibited unwillingness to forge ahead without a price caps measure.''

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Texas is absolutely right, it is the

prices that have got to be brought down. It is the prices that are causing the crisis. And in fact, as has been demonstrated, a price cap would make sure that we had reliable supplies, and not the other way around.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would yield back, they talk about market signals. What is the market signal that Duke Energy and its investors are getting at a price of $3,380 per megawatt hour for electricity, electricity that 2 years ago sold for $30 a megawatt hour. That is 1/120 times the price. I mean, this is just extraordinary. What is the market signal these folks are getting? How efficient is the plant going to be that they are going to build? What is their long-term look at the market? What about future reliability?

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Actually in the Northwest, we recently had a company that has what is called a server farm, that is a headquarters for a bunch of systems and companies and others that operate computers, computer servers, they were told, ''Yeah, we've got to admit it's a little problem when we crash the electricity to your server farm. We can understand you would get upset.'' So the local company there said, ''Hey, if you only pay us 400 percent of the current price, we'll guarantee reliability.'' Is this the new wonders of the market that the Bush administration is talking about? If I do not want to have to reprogram everything in my house or have the lights go out when I am not there or have a problem with my heat pump, my defroster in the refrigerator, things melting, the other things that happen, or senior citizens in nursing homes, if we want reliability, by God, you have just got to pay three or four times as much. I do not think so.

This works. It worked successfully. We became the greatest industrial Nation on Earth under such a system. I realize people say, ''Oh, you're a socialist, DEFAZIO. You want government to get into this.'' I say, ''The government was in this.'' What do you think the policy was when the Reagan administration was in office?

Regulated utilities when the Reagan administration was in office. We did not have these kinds of problems. This was signed by Bush the senior back in 1992, and it only took 8 years to destroy the western energy supply and grid under national deregulation. It is coming to the rest of the United States soon. People know it. They want us to go back to a system that works. This is too essential to our economy, too essential to our senior citizens, too essential to small businesses and residential ratepayers. We cannot have something that is unreliable and plagued with price spikes or blackmail, where they say, ''Look, if you don't want your lights to go out, just pay me five times your bill.'' Gee, I guess I would only have to pay up from $170, if I would be willing to pay $850 for my electric bill in a winter month, they would guarantee that my lights would stay on.

Is that not great? This is sure a functional market. And the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the chairman appointed by George Bush, Jr., unlike George Bush, Sr., who brought about this system, is saying there is nothing wrong, he is not going to do anything about it. He is defying and suppressing his staff. Hopefully the changes that have come about on the other side of the Hill will bring some investigation and subpoena into this where we get some of the professional staff to come in or we get even Commissioner Massey to come in and tell us what is really going on at FERC, which is that they are there for the profits. As long as they can milk this for the Reliants, the Dynergys, the Entergys, the Enrons, the Dukes and all these other predatory new energy companies, they are going to do it because they are major contributors to this administration and to the majority party in this House and, by God, they are not going to do anything to hurt their profits and JOE BARTON was making sure of that and that is why he killed that bill. They did not want a vote on price caps because they are afraid it might win.

Mr. FILNER. I thank the gentleman from Oregon. We have, I think, shown that there is an incredible disaster both in being and looming further. We have shown there is a manipulated market that needs to be brought under control, that cost-based rates ought to be brought in in order to stem this tide while other solutions come about. And we know that there are long-range solutions involved in all this. We know that even though we are concentrating right now at getting the situation in California and the West stabilized through cost-based rates, we have to move into other directions in terms of renewable energy sources and a much different way of approaching our energy. One of the leaders in the Congress in making us think about these things has been the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY). I thank her for joining us and for her efforts on behalf of an energy future that will give us back some control of our own life.

Ms. WOOLSEY. I thank the gentleman from California for organizing this special order to highlight the energy crisis facing Californians and the west coast.

Like my colleagues, I rise this afternoon in outrage, outrage that my constituents in Marin and Sonoma County and across California are still dealing with rolling blackouts and skyrocketing energy bills while the power companies are raking in record profits. We need a responsible energy policy that helps in the short term by allowing, insisting, that FERC do its job, FERC, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, do its job by imposing cost-of-service based wholesale rates, at least temporarily, to stabilize this situation. And in the long term by making significant investments, time, money, incentives and focus in clean energy sources to supplement our current electric supply so that we can ensure that we never repeat these shortages.

In the short term, the Federal Government must take action to protect California consumers and stabilize our market. But despite repeated and urgent requests from California Democrats and Democrats from the Pacific Northwest, President Bush refuses to order FERC to impose wholesale cost-based rates in California and the western region. It is outrageous that the President dismisses this straightforward action that would protect 34 million California consumers, consumers who are being gouged by big energy producers. With two oilmen in the White House, it is absolutely no surprise that this administration turns its back on consumers and sides with big oil special interests. But that certainly does not make it acceptable.

What is acceptable is this: recognizing that we need to increase renewable energy resources while reducing demand for electricity. We can do this by promoting and using more efficient energy technologies. These are policies that will protect our environment and guarantee a better future for our children.

Since passing the National Energy Policy Act in 1992, Congress has generally ignored energy issues. But power problems in California and the higher prices of natural gas and oil throughout the Nation have brought energy back to the top of our Nation's agenda. The energy shortage we are experiencing in California is just a signal. It is a signal to the country that Congress must raise the stakes in search of sensible energy policy. Obviously what we are doing is absolutely not enough.

As Congress and this administration work to forge a long-term energy policy, it is imperative that we make a true, honest commitment to renewable energy sources, to energy efficiency and to conservation so that we prevent future energy crises and we protect our environment.

When President Bush stood before Congress in this very Chamber and told the American people in February that he would pursue environmentally sound policies, including renewable energy sources that would help solve our energy crisis, I thought that was too good to be true. Unfortunately, I was right. As soon as the cameras went off, the commitment went away.

Sadly, the Bush administration's budget reneges on the commitments the President made to pursue renewable energy sources. Critical R&D programs were cut. Energy efficiency and technology deployment programs were cut between 35 and 50 percent. That is unacceptable. And it is a disaster for our energy future. Actions speak louder than words. That is why I am outraged but not surprised that the administration's commitment to environmentally friendly sources of energy

lasted only as long as the television cameras were rolling.

I would say to our President, if he were here, now is the time to increase funding for national energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. It is absolutely not the time to cut funding. Cutting funding for vital energy efficiency and renewable energy programs is a step backward, a step in the wrong direction, and a serious blow to our efforts to craft a sensible national energy policy.

This is especially frustrating because we do have bipartisan support for renewables and clean energy policy. In fact, it is pretty overwhelming. As the lead Democrat of the Subcommittee on Energy of the Committee on Science, I am preparing energy policy that is environmentally sound, that will result in lower cost solar energy, wind power, bio energy and geothermal energy. Relief for the American people, in the short and long term, is where our Federal priorities should be, not on increasing our dependence on fossil fuels as the administration intends to do. This dependence on fossil fuels got us into this situation in the first place.

Like my constituents and my colleagues, I strongly believe there is an important role for the Federal Government to encourage sensible short-term and long-term policy in order to solve the energy crisis. As this Congress debates energy policy, we must broaden our horizons by thinking out of the box. We must encourage policies for the future.

I urge the Bush administration to rethink their recent actions to join us in this endeavor because, after all is said and done, what happens in California, the sixth largest economy in the world, will happen across this Nation. It is time to step up to the problem now. It is time to make a short-term commitment to California to make sure we stabilize this situation. And it is absolutely time to look at smart energy policy for our future so that we will no longer have blackouts.

I very much thank the gentleman from California for doing this and for letting me be part of it.

Mr. FILNER. We appreciate the leadership of the gentlewoman from California on the Committee on Science and hopefully someday her chairmanship of the subcommittee. We are looking forward to her report on renewable energy sources.

There are supposedly several plans that have been put on the table to look at this energy problem in its broadest sense. President Bush put out his energy plan several weeks ago. It had 105 recommendations. Not one of them gave any hope or any help to the western States for immediate relief. Overall, his plan is an unbalanced one that puts big oil and utility special interest friends of his who are already reaping record profits ahead of the consumers, all of us as consumers and the environment. He wants to drill in the Arctic and other pristine areas. There is no relief for consumers facing high gas prices and high energy costs. There is no help for the consumers out West who are being gouged by utilities. He wants to produce some of the fossil fuels and give tax breaks for nuclear plant construction. In fact, when his Secretary of the Treasury, I believe, was giving testimony to a congressional committee, he said on the safety record of nuclear energy, if you leave out Three Mile Island and Chernobyl, there is no problem with nuclear energy. That is coming from the Cabinet of this administration.

He does nothing for fuel efficiency in his plan. The President claims to want to do something about it but slashes funding as we have just heard for energy efficiency and renewable energy by more than 25 percent. He delays putting in our fuel efficiency standards. He has rolled back such standards for air conditioners. He is using the excuse of the California crisis to roll back all environmental regulations, breaking his campaign promises on clean air, for example, and undercutting all kinds of other protection. And he benefits not the consumer or the average American but the oil and gas industry, the utilities, the nuclear and coal producers who have contributed, coincidentally, millions to the Bush campaign.

There is another plan on the table, a plan that was devised by the Progressive Caucus of the Democratic Party. With us this evening is the chairman of that Progressive Caucus, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) who will outline a plan which actually will help us in this crisis and not hurt us as the Bush plan does.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Progressive Caucus, I am proud to be here this afternoon to present our alternative. But before I do, I would like to offer a perspective on this issue. My father and mother, Frank and Virginia Kucinich, when they raised a large family in Cleveland, Ohio, many years ago, I can remember vividly the scene in the kitchen where they were counting their nickels and their dimes at the kitchen table, you could hear the click of the coins against the table, one of those old enamel top tables, and they were counting their nickels and dimes so they could have enough money to pay their utility bills. I am sure that there have been a lot of families in this country who had to worry about those nickels and dimes in being able to pay the utility bills because today more and more families are finding out that the cost of electricity is beyond their meager budgets.

□ 1630

Families are finding out that even if they are blessed enough to have even the tiniest bit of economic security, that they cannot keep up with rising utility bills. Families are finding out that even if they have a little bit of affluence, they cannot keep up with rising utility bills. The nickels and dimes have turned to five dollar bills and ten dollar bills, and people are counting them out and they cannot keep up with the rising electric bills.

Today, all eyes are on California where the people of California have been the target of a deliberate manipulation of energy supplies by energy companies that has raised prices in that State. Blackouts in California have been the result of a policy which has tried to strangle the market in favor of energy companies that have done nothing but manipulate the market and manipulate energy prices and gouge consumers.

Now, this is not just a humble Member of Congress from Cleveland, Ohio, stating this. These conclusions have been reached by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, by the California Public Utility Commission, by the California Independent System Operator, by Credit Suisse and by the Public Utilities Fortnightly publication.

Now, there are people around this country who say, well, it is a California problem. Do not believe it. This is a matter that is coming to a light switch near you in your neighborhood soon. Rolling blackouts and outrageous prices are today strapping citizens of California because deregulation has permitted energy companies to rig the market and price electricity as high as the market will bear.

The Tellus Institute's report, called the Progressive Pro-Consumer Solution to Today's Electricity Crisis: Just and Reasonable Rates show that these events are not from a lack of supply and, Mr. and Mrs. America, they are not unique to California. I quote from this Tellus Institute report about the solution being just and reasonable rates, and they say every State that chose to restructure its electric industry and deregulate generation did so in the hope that tangible benefits would result. The general assumption was that retail electricity prices would decline relative to what rates had been under regulation. As a matter of fact, everyone remembers they told the American people, if they deregulate their rates are going to be cheaper. That is what they told the people of California. That is what they told the people of Ohio. That is what they are telling people all over the United States.

In California and in many States, almost every one of these States now faces rising electricity prices. In California, deregulation has helped to create rolling blackouts, has caused exorbitant electricity prices, threatening the financial health of the State. In general, the goals of restructuring go unfulfilled. The price of electricity is higher than before and the quality of service has declined dramatically.

The Progressive Caucus has moved into this breach, into this massive evidence of price gouging, to come up with a solution that I will go over very briefly. That solution, the general approach is, it mandates a fair electricity

market nationwide and mandates sustainable energy policies. We define the problem as saying that deregulation has led to price gouging and rolling blackouts. The solution to the high prices: Fair prices nationwide, with federally-set cost-based rates, including refunds. That does not mean caps, because you could create price caps, but if the rates are already sky high, what does that do for your family's budget? Very little.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to show this chart, which shows the coalition of organizations and individuals which support that concept in the Committee on Energy and Commerce, which is called the Price Gouging and Black-out Prevention Amendment. We can see not only all the governors of the western States, but farmers and businesspeople and working people and consumers, public safety people, health care providers, all of which support the end of the price gouging that the gentleman has advocated.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FILNER. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I just want to point to that chart. The bill before this Congress to provide for rate caps or for regulation of these wholesale energy prices is supported not only by the governor of California, but by the governors of Oregon and Washington, and by the American Association of Retired Persons, AARP, the Consumers Union, the Consumer Federation of America. These are organizations that look out for consumers and there should be no doubt as to what approach is in the interest of consumers.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) for those comments.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) to continue the outline of the Progressive Caucus.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Sherman Oaks, California (Mr. SHERMAN) for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, in going back to the solution to high prices: Fair prices nationwide with federally set cost-based rates, including refunds.

Utilities are entitled to a modest profit. Any business is. But when one starts talking about California electricity generator profits that for one company, Calpine, increased first quarter of 2000, 424 percent; Dynergy, 102 percent; Williams, 100 percent, all of those figures were increased for the first quarter of 2000 over the last year. People are making a killing at the expense of the consumer.

So we are trying to address that in the Progressive Caucus by coming up with a solution and a plan that provides for fair prices nationwide with federally cost-based rates, including refunds. The solution to rolling blackouts is to mandate generators to produce electricity. The solution to issues relating to energy efficiency is to mandate increased energy efficiency.

With respect to renewables, mandate increased renewable energy production. Clean air aspects, mandate the development of clean air technologies. Public power, provide financial incentives to encourage public power systems and remove key barriers.

Now, what most people are not aware of across this country is there are actually over 2,000 municipally-owned electric systems, one of them being in Cleveland, Ohio. What most people are not aware of is that the right of utility franchise, now listen to this, Mr. and Mrs. America, the right of utility franchise belongs to the people. There is no inherent right for the private sector to own a utility. Understand that. The people have the right to a utility franchise. We give the private sector, in theory, the right to operate a utility in exchange for reliability of service and low cost. That is the way it is supposed to work, but, Mr. and Mrs. America, it does not work that way.

Consumers are getting gouged by these companies that are using our own rights; they are using the right that we give them to operate a utility.

We have a plan here with the Progressive Caucus to take back the right that we have through a measured approach that would mandate fair electricity markets nationwide and mandate sustainable energy policies. But the truth is that if these energy companies do not respond, if they insist on price gouging, if they insist on price manipulation, then the people have a right to take that franchise back because that is a Democratic right. That right is vested in the people. It is in our State constitutions and we have the right. What we give, we can take back. If they do not want to give us decent rates, then we punch their ticket, take their charter and reclaim our government and reclaim the ability to save our nickels, our dimes, our $5.00, our $10.00, to save our families, to save our way of life.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROGERS of Michigan). The Chair would just remind Members to please address all remarks to the Chair.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH), the former mayor of Cleveland, for his leadership on this issue. We hope that the caucus program can be, in fact, on our agenda at some point in the future.

Mr. Speaker, as California experiences this problem, the Congressional representatives all over California have been trying to make sure that our State and our Nation does not go under, and one of the leaders in this effort has been the gentleman from Sherman Oaks, California (Mr. SHERMAN). We thank the gentleman for his ideas and his energy and his contributions in coming up with a solution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN).

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to begin by commending our colleague, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH), who, in an earlier lifetime, was mayor of Cleveland and fought against overwhelming odds to maintain municipal ownership of the utility company there.

In my City of Los Angeles, we also have municipal ownership of our utility system, and we do not have any of the problems that are hitting the rest of the State, and which hit San Diego so hard.

Mr. FILNER. Any price increases?

Mr. SHERMAN. None.

Mr. FILNER. Any blackouts?

Mr. SHERMAN. No blackouts. Good service. No problems. Where we had regulation, as we had in our State for well over 50 years, no problem; where we have municipal ownership even today in the City of Los Angeles and other cities in California, no problem. As I understand it, no problem in Cleveland today.

Mr. KUCINICH. Right.

Mr. FILNER. I will tell the gentlemen, by the way, that because the situation in San Diego has become so grave with doubling and tripling of rates, with scores of businesses facing bankruptcy and closing their doors, the whole community is virtually united as saying we must get control of our future. We are going to establish in San Diego a municipal utility district where we can begin to get some leverage on the system. If we owned 1,000 megawatts of electricity, one-third of our needs, we could have tremendous impact on the whole situation.

So we in San Diego, like the State of California in general, is moving toward a municipal ownership, to get out of, really, the heel of the cartel of energy wholesalers that is destroying our economy.

Mr. SHERMAN. I should point out that while I say Los Angeles has no problem, we are bound together with the rest of the State, just as the whole country is bound to California, an the economic problems facing the other cities in the State of California affect us.

I should also point out for our colleagues, who might think well, if Los Angeles has no problem, a huge part of California has no problem, that the Los Angeles municipality is roughly 10 percent of the State of California. So much of, as the gentleman knows, the Los Angeles area lies outside the city limits and outside the protection of municipal power. What has happened to our State is that we are being bled dry. We paid $7 billion for the generation of electricity for our State in the year 1999. In the year 2000, we used the same amount of electricity but instead of paying $7 billion, we paid $32.5 billion. This year for the same amount of electricity, we are going to pay $60 billion to $70 billion.

Now, this has fully hit home in San Diego because the utility there had a

different deregulation deal than the one in the rest of Southern California, or Northern California. So San Diego has seen the doubling and tripling of some electric bills because the local electric utility was not required to use up its entire net worth in order to protect consumers from the gouging being done from those who have purchased these electric plants.

In contrast, those in my district who live just outside the city limits were somewhat protected, protected for months. We saw disaster in San Diego, but we, just outside the city limits of Los Angeles, were safe because billions of dollars of Southern California Edison's net worth was used up, paying the gouging prices and selling to consumers at a regulated price. Of course, that could not go on forever because the gouging reached such a level that it bankrupted enormous utilities, threatens to wipe out the surplus of the State. The gouging reached levels that we never imagined as we thought that only San Diego consumers would be faced with this problem.

The voraciousness of these companies reached an incredible level.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I may bring my colleague, the gentlewoman from San Diego (Mrs. DAVIS), just to share with us some of the experiences that San Diego has had and what conclusions they lead for us to take in this Congress.

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Mrs. DAVIS of California. I wanted to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) for providing us this time today. We have been talking about how people generally are feeling about this; and those of us in San Diego, we were at the epicenter last year.

I can tell you as we walked around the community, and the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) was certainly aware of this, it was almost as if all the businesses were dying. We have not got to that point yet, but people felt that way, that that could happen.

I see now there is new information out really across the country about the way people are understanding what is happening. A Washington Post-ABC poll just released Tuesday showed that 56 percent of the people across the country understand an electricity crisis should be cost-based. In California I would suspect that the percentage is even higher. People are not saying there should not be some profits, but that they should be cost-based. They should not be based on some market in the sky that is just a dream.

But we keep hearing that the administration is saying that cost-based prices will not increase supplies or decrease demand. That has really been their mantra.

They are just not listening. Californians, I think, have not been claiming that rational, cost-plus profit prices would address the growing energy supply needs of the western states, but they are saying that that kind of cost-based pricing is critical for today's problem, today, considering what is going on in the economy.

Building a power plant is a financial investment decision, and financial investment decisions that for a while people chose not to make. For the last 20 years it was not clear that more power was even needed, so energy companies did not make the financial decision to build more plants throughout the West.

Now it is clear that with a 40 percent population growth just in Nevada in the past decade, and with a 20–25 percent growth in our other neighboring States, and 10 percent growth in California, that more power at peak times will be needed. And, guess what, in the last year, 16 new plants in California alone have been approved, and four will be on line this summer. Nevada businesses are considering building new plants not only to cover the needs of their enormous growth, but also to export to other States.

We are seeing this growth in other places as well. In Baja, California, they are looking at the economic opportunities for selling electricity to the United States. In addition, it is working on a joint venture with U.S. companies to build a liquid natural gas conversion plant and terminal to bring liquefied natural gas economically from Australia and other areas of the world to increase our supplies. In fact, people are responding.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I know the gentlewoman wants to show how we are dealing with the supply issue. I want to have the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) show through this chart that the crisis now that we are experiencing with the price is not primarily one of supply. We have supply.

I would ask the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) to explain this chart, what these energy companies are doing to us.

Mr. SHERMAN. Well, yes. What has happened is that because we do not regulate these wholesale costs, they have an incentive to withhold supply and drive the price up. Instead of making a megawatt for $30 and selling it for the regulated price of $50, they produce fewer megawatts, drive the price up to $500, and make a killing.

What they will do when they shut down a turbine is say the turbine is closed for maintenance. The chart in front of you there illustrates how many megawatts were not produced on the average day in April, a couple months ago, because turbines were closed for maintenance. As you can see, over 15,000 megawatts were not produced on the average day. That is the yellow line.

You might say, is that not typical? No. You look at the prior April; and you see that blue line, roughly 3,000. You say was April just an anomaly? You compare the yellow and the blue lines, and the pattern is clear, 8,000 to 12,000 to 13,000 megawatts not produced on the average day to drive up the price, not because the plants needed to be closed for maintenance, but in addition to the regular maintenance that was done just 12 months ago.

I might point out, that is about one-fifth of the power we need in California. Closed for maintenance means closed to maintain an outrageous price for every kilowatt.

Mr. FILNER. We only have a minute left. I want to share with my colleague from San Diego a little frustration.

The President visited our city last week. We are in the middle of a crisis. As I said earlier, if it was a tornado or earthquake, he would have been there. He chose not even to come to meet people or the press. He went to one of our great Marine bases, Camp Pendleton. No contact with ordinary people. He said nothing really about the crisis and how he was going to solve it, and people had no opportunity to deal with the President face-to-face.

I think this was an incredible abdication of responsibility for a major crisis, and I know those of us from San Diego were especially aggrieved by that.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. I wish that the President would have had an opportunity to walk into just some of the cafes, the mom and pop restaurants in our communities, because I think it was there that people really felt this shift a number of months ago in San Diego. When you have sitting on those cafe tables a charge that they are asking people to pay in addition to the cost of the lunch, of the dinner, just explaining to people what has happened in terms of their own particular costs, I think that is quite astounding.

The other issue is not just the mom and pop shops. Certainly our seniors who have been so affected. But we have great concern and great fear in the community now that in fact some of the progress that they have been making, and I will take the biotech industry as one, that some of that progress may go out the window because we are faced with some of the problems that we are faced with today.

Mr. FILNER. I would say to those industries that really their survival is at stake, and yet they see a Republican President, and they may be Republicans, they feel they should not get into this. I will say to the businesses of California and the West and this Nation, for your own survival, tell the President that it is time to act. Tell the President that the Federal Government must intervene for our economic survival. He will listen to you more than he may listen to our Congress people here. So I beg you to ask.

I thank our colleagues, the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) on the floor with me today. Apparently our time is up, but we will be back here every day to talk about this crisis, until this Congress and this President act on behalf of all of the consumers in this Nation.

THE AMERICAN IMMIGRATION CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROGERS of Michigan). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, America is in the midst of another crisis. It is not just the energy crisis that we face and that was so lengthily dealt with here for the last hour. It is almost ironic, I suppose, that I end up following a discussion of the energy crisis in California, because a lot of what I have to say this evening revolves around that crisis, but it takes perhaps a little bit of a different look at the reason why we have such a crisis.

I believe very strongly, Mr. Speaker, that America is in the midst of an immigration crisis, a crisis far greater in terms of its impact on the United States of America than the energy crisis that presently confronts us in several States and perhaps even around the country.

Since 1970, more than 40 million foreign descendants have been added to the local communities of the United States. Just last month, the New York Times reported that the Nation's population grew by more people in the 1990s than in any other decade in United States history.

Is it not time that we ask ourselves, what level of immigration is best for America and what level of immigration into the United States is even good for the rest of the world, to help the rest of the world?

These can be difficult questions to ask about immigration, because we recall, all of us here I am sure, our own families coming to the United States, entering probably through Ellis Island during the height of the immigration period that we sometimes refer to as the golden age of immigration, the early 1900's, the late 1800's. That was a period of time most people believe that the greatest number of immigrants entered the United States through those gates.

That is incorrect, Mr. Speaker. It is a myth. The greatest number of immigrants ever taken into the United States during the ''golden age'' of immigration was 200,000, approximately 200,000.

Every year, every year, for the last 8 years at least, exactly five times that many immigrants enter the United States legally. Our immigration cap now is approximately 1 million people, plus another 300,000 or 400,000 that we classify as looking for refuge. This would be refugee status. So we have about 1.3 million or 1.4 million immigrants coming into the Nation every year legally. We have probably double that many people coming into the United States illegally every year; and when I say ''coming in,'' we probably have 10 million people coming in, but we end up with about a 2 million person net gain every year, from illegal immigration alone.

Now, what does this mean? Numbers like this are really quite extraordinary. If I could get a page to put up one of the charts over there, I will refer to it in just a moment.

I think back to my own family's background, and certainly I am a relative newcomer to the United States. My grandparents came here in the late 1890's. They settled, all of them, in Colorado, in and around the Denver metropolitan area, strange as it seems, because most people had some intervening place they stayed, New York or Chicago or someplace like that. But not mine. They came right to Colorado.

I often talked with my grandparents, my grandfather specifically, about the trip over from Italy to the United States and the kind of trials and tribulations that he faced. It is an interesting story. I certainly enjoy it. I tell my friends about it. I enjoy my heritage. I understand perfectly the desire for anybody to come to the United States, especially poor people, as my grandparents certainly were. They were looking for a better life. I completely sympathize with all of those people who are looking for that better life. I am sure that if I were in their shoes, I would be trying to do exactly the same thing they are doing, get to the United States.

But we have another responsibility here in the United States. It is to our own country and to our own countrymen, because at some point in time we have to wonder how many more people we can absorb and how many more people this Nation can afford to provide for.

I know all of the issues that have been debated about immigration and about immigration reform. Many people suggest that we have no reason to be concerned about massive immigration across our borders, that in fact it is an issue of economics; that the more people we let in, the more lower priced help we have, the lower priced labor that businesses can access, meaning in the long run lower prices for the American consumer.

Well, I will tell you, what that is is really a euphemistic way of describing what happens when immigrants come here, especially illegal immigrants. They come here, and they are, oftentimes, unfortunately, given jobs that perhaps other Americans would not take, and they are exploited. They are exploited oftentimes by the employer, who pays them less or will not give them the benefits they deserve, because he knows that this person is probably not going to go and complain about it, because they are probably here illegally anyway. Even legal immigrants have an effect of depressing the wage base for people with mid or low skills, low-level skills.

So, immigration of this nature, of this kind, massive immigration, is five times greater just in terms of the legal immigration coming into the country, five times greater than it ever was during the heyday of immigrants coming to the United States around the turn of the century, the last century.

□ 1700

Well, these numbers have an impact on everything in the United States. It has an impact on the quality of life that we all share here.

Do you ever wonder why, when you are driving down the street and you remember that just a few months ago, maybe even a month ago, when you went past this very same point that was at that time a nice pasture land or open area, a greenbelt, do you remember thinking to yourself, gosh, is it not amazing? Now all of these houses are being built here, all these apartments are being built. Is it not incredible how many cars are on the road? I cannot get to work anymore in the same amount of time that it took me just a few short months ago to get here. What is going on? How come there is so much talk about growth? How come there is so much concern about growth in the United States? Is it because our country, the people who live here are simply having so many kids that they are placing this kind of infrastructural pressure on the system? No, Mr. Speaker, that is not the case.

The chart I have on the easel down in the well is a very interesting chart. It is a population chart starting in the year 1970. The green area on the bottom is what we would identify as the population growth in this Nation from those people who are already here. These are what we would call indigenous Americans. The fact is that we have had population growth among that group. We call it the baby boomers. There has been a baby boom echo; and it has gone up, as we can see, from about 203 million people living here in 1970 to 281 million people here at the last census, the 2000 Census. But we also see there that of the 281 million of us that there are now in the United States, that 243 million of those would have been the natural growth rate of the country. Those reflect the natural growth rate of the country. The rest, those identified in red, represent what has happened to us from immigration and their descendents.

So we can see that we have had the same amount of growth among that particular group as we have among native-born Americans. So we have essentially doubled our natural growth rate in this country by immigration patterns.

Is it surprising, then, to anyone that we heard our colleagues on the floor from California spend the last 1 hour complaining about the lack of resources, about the incredible problems that the State of California faces from an absence of energy? I also recognize that my colleagues from California were complaining about the administration's proposals to increase the amount of energy available to all of us.

Well, let me suggest this, that there is another responsibility that is uniquely the responsibility of the Federal Government, that the States have

absolutely no power to control whatsoever, and that is immigration policy. That is the responsibility of all of us who serve in this body, to establish an immigration policy for the country. And when we ignore the fact that people are coming into the country at the rates they are coming into the country, then it is very difficult for me to get terribly excited about the impact that those numbers have if no one wants to address the issue, no one wants to talk about it.

Everybody wants to talk about just simply the fact that we no longer have a lot of oil, or we no longer have a lot of electricity, and is that not terrible, and how are we going to get more. What I am saying is that the reason we do not have the resources is because the demands being placed on our resource base are so great that they are depleting it faster than we can replenish it. Why are the demands so great? It is because of the numbers, the huge numbers of people coming into this country and the children that they both bring with them and have here. It places an enormous amount of strain on our resource base.

Now, it is all right, it is perfectly fine for us, I think, to go ahead with a massive immigration policy if we have it, as we have, if everybody in this body agrees with it, understands it, knows what we are doing and says, yes, we have debated it fully. We recognize that bringing a little over a million, a million and a quarter people in here legally and have at least 2 million immigrants into this country net every year is okay. We understand all of the implications of that. We recognize that it will cause California, for one thing, to have to build a school a day, a school a day in order to keep up with this population pressure. We understand that. We understand that we will have rolling blackouts. We understand that we will not be able to buy gas at a price that most of us would consider to be convenient or acceptable. It is going to get a lot more expensive. So is every other form of resource we have in the United States, natural resource. Why? Demand.

Well, where is the demand coming from? We are, in fact, making products every single day that use less and less energy. The refrigerator that is in your house today uses far less energy than the refrigerator that was in your house even a short 5 or 6 years ago. Air-conditioning. Cars getting better gas mileage. All of these things should, in fact, determine a downward energy use per capita in the United States. But it does not matter if there is a downward spiral or a downward pressure of per capita energy use if the number of people keeps going up so rapidly, so dramatically. We will have to continue to exhaust the supplies, to go elsewhere in the world, rely on both our friends and our enemies for help in providing oil resources. We will have businesses going bankrupt, having their business interrupted by these blackouts. All of these things we see are a result of numbers, the numbers of people. And this is something that we cannot seem to get across.

I recognize fully well, Mr. Speaker, that I am one of the individuals here who has taken on the challenge of trying to make this a public debate. It has gone on plenty of times in the halls of this Congress. It goes on around the water coolers of Americans in their jobs, I understand and I believe that. I know it happens a lot. I know people sense the problem that exists in the United States with regard to massive immigration; but no one is willing, or I should say, very few people are willing to actually bring these issues forward for public debate, because, of course, there is always someone who is going to stand up and say, this is a racially tainted issue that we cannot talk about it. Any discussion of it, any attempt to reduce the numbers has some sort of racial implication. I say, for one, Mr. Speaker, that it has absolutely nothing to do with race or ethnicity from my point of view; it has to do with numbers. I do not care whether they are coming from Mexico or Guatemala or Nigeria or Canada. I do not care where they are coming from. It is the numbers that we have to deal with.

Now, there are other implications of massive immigration from countries that do not have English as their primary language and I will speak to that in a moment or to. But originally, my point is to make reference again to this chart and to show my colleagues that if we were to actually have just relied upon the population growth from the baby boomers in a short time, in just a few years, we would actually see a leveling off of population growth in the United States and an actual decline as we got to 2100. Now, that is not going to happen. Because, as I say, we have already increased the numbers dramatically, and so we are going to have to deal with the fact that the population of this country is going to go up, even if tomorrow we were to stop immigration totally.

Growth has enormous impacts, as I have suggested, on all of us, every single State. I can recall just coming back from our district work period and looking at what was happening in my own State of Colorado, the incredible number of highway projects that are being undertaken, the incredible number of schools that are trying to be built, the incredible amount of money and tax dollars that we are going to require from taxpayers in order to pay for all of those things.

Now, Colorado is a beautiful place to live. There are no two ways about it. I certainly can recommend it. But I also just recommend that you come and visit and not stay for very long. The reality is that immigration into the country has actually had an impact on Colorado. Most people think that some of the southern tier States, Texas, Arizona, southern California, are the only States that are impacted by massive immigration. That is not true. All States are impacted by immigration. The fact is that huge numbers of people move into these southern tier of States and, in many ways, displace people who were living there. They move because they do not like the quality of life anymore. They move to other States. They move to Colorado in huge numbers, but so have immigrants directly from other countries coming to Colorado.

Our numbers are up dramatically in the State. My district is adjacent to the fastest growing county in the Nation, Douglas County; and I should tell my colleagues that when we look around, again, as I drive down the street and I see all of these houses popping up out of the ground where there were simply meadows before, prairies before, I do not like it any more than anyone else. I remember Colorado. I was born there, I remember a much more pristine environment. It is not benefiting us to have this kind of massive immigration. It is a cost to us.

Where is it coming from? Do we all just assume that it is from people from other States moving in to where all of us are experiencing growth, just people coming from other States? It is wrong. There are not that many States losing population. Every State gained population. It is not an issue of people leaving all of the rust-belt cities and now moving just to the south; it is an issue of massive immigration, immigration from all over the world. People have to be somewhere. We are going to see the effects of it over and over and over again.

Mr. Speaker, I have mentioned the impact on our roads, the impact on highway systems, the impact on our water, electricity; but there is another impact, a huge impact of massive immigration. It is on our schools. Our children are in temporary classrooms all over the place, all over the Nation. We hear about this again and again and again. How come? Where are these people coming from? Remember California? I mentioned that they would have to build a school every day of the year to keep up with the State's increase in population, every day of the year. Well, they cannot do it. So kids, of course, are housed in various facilities, temporary facilities. It will not be long before Colorado, before Arizona, before Texas and other States are indistinguishable from California in terms of immigration patterns and the things that we have to do to deal with it.

I guess the attitude of many countries, we talk about the need for other countries to take care of their own people, to develop an economy that would provide jobs and benefits for those people who live there today so that they would not be looking for the need to leave the country; they would not be looking to immigrate. And we get a lot of talk, by the way, we hear a lot of talk from other countries about their willingness to do something to help stop the flow of immigrants, specifically Mexico. President Vicente Fox

and others have suggested that they would, indeed, try to help us deal with the massive numbers of people coming across the border.

Well, Mr. Speaker, do we know what form that help has taken? Right now, on the border with Mexico, the government is providing people who are embarking upon an illegal trek into the United States, they are providing them with a care package. This care package consists of some food, it consists of a map, it consists of water, it consists of little books about how to take advantage of the system once you get here and oh, yes, condoms, of course. Why that has to be a part of the care package, I do not know, but it is in there.

□ 1715

This is how the government of Mexico is in fact helping us deal with massive immigration on its border.

The reality is, Mr. Speaker, that most of these countries look to the United States as a safety valve. They do not look to do something constructive in their own country, they look to us to be able to take what they cannot handle; to take all the people in their country that are impoverished and that would become a highly, highly unstable portion of the population if they were kept there because they cannot find jobs for them.

One reason, of course, that they cannot find jobs for these people is because they refused to embark upon a free market economy. The only thing I think that will ever get them there is to say to them, it is sort of a tough love thing, to say to the President of Mexico, ''We are going to shut down the border. We are going to put troops on our border.''

That is the only way that we can actually curtail the number of people coming across. It is almost at the flood stage. It could be thought of as an invasion, and therefore, it is appropriate for us to actually put American troops on the border to protect our borders, and we are going to do that. We are going to cut down illegal immigration, and we are going to cut down legal immigration.

We are going to put a moratorium on all immigration. That is what I, of course, hope we would do in a very short time. That is what we need to tell Vincente Fox and others. We need to tell people like Sheikh Hasina Wajed, the President of the Nation of Bangladesh, who, when he was confronted with the kind of population explosion that is almost unbelievable, he said, and Bangladesh, by the way, has a population that is expected to reach 120 million by the year 2050.

When asked how his country could feed, educate, employ, and house a population of that size, President Hasina answered, ''We will send them to America.'' That is a candid statement. It is not often made by these leaders, but I congratulate these people for actually saying the truth. That is exactly what they think they will do.

Our task is to try and figure out what we will do in response, what we will do in response to the enormous pressure that is going to be placed on the United States from a variety of different places in order to achieve some other country's goals.

There were a number of people on the other side condemning the administration for what they considered to be a lack of attentiveness to the energy problem, people preceding the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER). It is my contention that there is absolutely a way to deal with the energy problem in California, and the one that is going to get worse for the rest of the country, and that is to deal with immigration, because to a large extent, it is the numbers.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my friend and colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER).

Mr. ROHRABACHER. First of all, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) for yielding to me. He is a relatively junior Member of the House.

Mr. TANCREDO. Not even that, Mr. Speaker, I am a sophomore.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. The gentleman has taken on a tremendous responsibility and has done a terrific job in calling attention to some issues that are vital to our national security and vital to the interests of the American people.

Unless we address the problem of immigration, and I would put it, of illegal immigration, and we might have a little disagreement on that, but the fact is that those people who are concerned about immigration, and we have about 1 million people a year who come here legally into this country, which by the way, legally those people entering the United States, if we put the rest of the world all together, it has about the same legal immigration into their countries as we do into our one country.

But, on top of that, there still continue to be millions of people, probably 3 million or 4 million people a year, entering this country illegally. It is frightening to see the lack of attention that has been given to this very serious threat by our government, both in the Clinton administration, and we will have to wait to see what happens with President Bush.

But even among the Republican leadership, we have not been able to move forward with a program designed to stem this flow. I think it is basically because there is a fear among people who are politically active of being called racist. It is just this basic element, we do not want to be called names, and we are afraid that someone will impugn not only our integrity but our good hearts, so we have shied away from this issue.

This issue will destroy this country. This issue will destroy the standard of living of our people, and it is currently doing so. In California we feel this acutely, but again, no one wants to face it.

Proposition 187, which tried to hit at some of the real problems caused by illegal immigration, passed overwhelmingly. In fact, it was a landslide, and even right before the vote they were saying it was going to be close. Since that time, those same people who said it was going to be close and might lose have perpetuated the myth that in California we have in some way lost the Hispanic vote by being against illegal immigration.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Colorado is offering the leadership that is so vital to our country and to our well-being, because the people throughout the country understand what a threat this poses.

When we talk about education and class size in California, we are talking about illegal immigration. There is plenty of money in California to educate our children and to have a class size that is appropriate so that our children can learn. Instead, because we have permitted illegal immigration to go unabated, our children, the children of U.S. citizens and the children of legal immigrants who are here in this country and who are going to our schools, are being shortchanged.

Why are we doing that? Why are we permitting the education standards to drop like a rock, and our kids to not be taught or be given training they need to sustain a good life? Why is that? Because we are afraid to be called racists.

Give me a break. What is our responsibility? We have got to step forward and say that we care about those young people who come from another country illegally. We care about their families and fathers and mothers, because they are mostly, and I am sure the gentleman from Colorado agrees with me, 95 percent of all the people who come to this country, even the illegal ones, are good people. But the fact is that we cannot take care of everyone in this country from everywhere in the world who wants to come here.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I have mentioned before that it sometimes gets lonely on this floor talking about this issue, and I should have remembered that there is always one person that I can rely on, because he has both the integrity and the guts to come up and also address the issue with me. That is my friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER).

The gentleman is absolutely right when he talks about the fact that this is a dagger pointed at the heart of America.

I do not for a moment want to be misunderstood. My desire is not to see a reduction in a certain group of people, a certain ethnic group of people. It is simply the numbers game we play, from my point of view. It is overwhelming us.

I will tell the Members that I do have a concern about the way we deal with immigrants from countries where the language is not English, and the kinds of problems that poses to us from a cultural sense.

I happen to believe that there is one thing we need, and this is a country of many different colored people, many different kinds of ethnic backgrounds. We do not all worship at the same churches, we do not all eat the same kinds of foods, we do not all dress and think alike. We have a great disparity among Americans. That is, in a way, an aspect of our greatness.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Yes.

Mr. TANCREDO. But there is one thing that is absolutely imperative, it seems to me, in a situation like that. That is to have a common language, so that we can in fact communicate with each other about the things that are important.

When we see that, along with massive immigration from countries that do not speak English, English is not the primary language, when we see the pressure that places on us here to expand the number of languages that we teach in schools, let me tell the gentleman an interesting and almost I think incredible fact.

Not too long ago, I read that a gentleman who could not speak English was operating a nail gun and, because of whatever reason, he ended up shooting himself in the leg with this nail gun. The gentleman could not speak English. He therefore determined, or I am sure it was some lawyer who determined this for him, that his best thing to do was to sue the manufacturer of the nail gun because the directions and the warnings were not printed in more languages than English, in his particular language.

There are places around the country where police have to go on calls and have to take with them linguists, people who will speak a variety of languages, when they get to the door. The reason is because if they get to the door and they cannot speak the language of the person who has made the call, they, the police, could be sued for not appropriately addressing the situation.

We have had a 911, and this actually happened, a 911 call that comes in from someone who was not speaking English. The person on the other side of the phone could not speak the language. A lawsuit is developing as a result of this. Manufacturers are being told that they have to start providing all these warning labels in a whole bunch of languages.

I ask the gentleman, where will this stop? How many signs do we put up on street corners? How many one-way signs? How many languages do we print them in?

Mr. ROHRABACHER. If the gentleman will continue to yield, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Colorado brings up a serious, serious issue.

First and foremost, the reason we would like immigration to be in a very controlled and rational process, rather than what we have today, which is totally out of control, a chaotic situation, is because people who come here should come here and be able to, number one, speak the English language, because they should be able to take care of themselves, that is number one; they should be healthy; and they should be honest; just those three things. If they cannot speak the English language, obviously, in a country like ours, they are not going to be able to earn a good living and take care of themselves.

I have no complaints, as I say, about the level of 1 million people coming in here, especially when we consider we have 2 million or 3 million that are coming illegally, and many of the people that the gentleman is describing right now are people who have come here illegally and expect to have the services provided to them in their own language. This is adding insult to injury.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, there are 375 voting districts in this country where ballots are provided in more than one language. This is a fascinating phenomenon. I ask my colleagues to think about this, and people who may be observing us here.

If we have to print a ballot in a language other than English so that a potential voter can understand it, what does that tell us about that voter's ability to have understood the debate leading up to that election? How do they know what the issues are? How do they know how any one of those candidates they are voting for feels about an issue if they cannot understand English?

It is an idiotic thing to present someone with a ballot in another language when that means they could not have understood the debate leading up to that election.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. The gentleman makes a good point. If he would yield, I would also point out that in order to vote in this country, one is supposed to be a citizen of the United States. In order to become a citizen of the United States, one has to be proficient in the English language. That is part of the requirement of citizenship.

By the way, in Orange County, just like most of California and the rest of this country, our people were conned into, for many years, this bilingual education concept. It was not until 3 or 4 years ago that we finally got rid of bilingual education.

Mr. TANCREDO. I would like to know how the gentleman did that.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. We had an initiative on the ballot, and the people overwhelmingly voted to get rid of bilingual education. I might add, even in the Hispanic community they voted to get rid of bilingual education. In our county, in Orange County, we pushed hard to make sure that that law was complied with and bilingual education was eliminated.

Does the gentleman know what the results have been in? In the last 15 years, we have had bilingual education in Orange County and the Hispanic kids have been, in the test scores, always at the bottom of the deck, always down there at the bottom of the ladder. The Hispanic kids always came in last in all the tests.

Since we have eliminated bilingual education, the Hispanic kids now are getting higher grades, and they have averaged out like every other child in the school district.

□ 1730

Bilingual education was a cruel hoax perpetrated on the Hispanic community by liberals who were trying to tell people that they were giving them something for nothing by appealing to some sort of anti-American nationalism when, instead, they should have been appealing to the better instincts of these people and trying to help them learn English, which was a prerequisite to success.

We have done a monstrous crime. The liberals have done a monstrous crime against the young people in our Hispanic communities throughout this country in making sure that they did not learn English proficiently by having them taught at a young age in a bilingual setting, which just inhibited them from learning English as we now find they are doing in southern California.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, the point the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) brings up about bilingual education is an extremely important point. I hope people understood and heard what he said, about not only the willingness of people of the State of California to eliminate it, but a large, a significant number of a part of that population that voted to eliminate it were Hispanics themselves.

Because most of the people that come here from Mexico or anywhere else, they come here as poor people looking for a better life. They understand one thing very clearly; that is, in order to get that good life for themselves and for their children, they need to speak English. They do not want their children in these bilingual classes.

It is this educational elite that wants to force these children in. Well, there are a lot of interesting reasons. Some are political, some are cultural. But we passed in the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in the education bill that we passed out of this House just a short time ago, we included a provision for bilingual education that, for the first time, will require parental approval, not just notification, but a parent has to give their approval, an affirmative statement that they want their children in a bilingual classroom.

One cannot imagine how that was looked upon by the other members of the committee, by members on the other side of the aisle especially. It was fought tooth and nail.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, is the gentleman from Colorado trying to say that the people on the other side of the aisle opposed giving Hispanic parents even the choice of having their kids in bilingual education?

Mr. TANCREDO. Absolutely, Mr. Speaker. This was an anathema to them that they would ask an Hispanic parent or any parent, it does not have to be Hispanic, someone who could not speak English, permission to put their kid in a nonEnglish speaking classroom.

Colorado, it used to be until a short time ago, that one could spend one's entire career in school K through 12 in the Denver public school system without ever being in an English speaking classroom. Now that has changed: It is down to 3 years.

But I will tell my colleagues this, that all of the attempts on the part of the education establishment are to keep these kids in longer and longer and longer even though they learn nothing. I tell my colleagues that thank God for those parents, smart enough to know, smart enough to know they may not have terribly marketable skills in some of the high-tech areas or whatever. But those parents are smart enough to know that their children have to learn English and should, just like their grandparents and mine came over here, mine would not speak Italian, they would only speak what, my grandmother used to say, speak American, speak American.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. TANCREDO. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, it should be noted that, in California, there were actual demonstrations by Mexican Americans at the Board of Education against bilingual education. The Board of Education, of course, would not listen to them. It was not until people were forced through a ballot initiative to eliminate bilingual education or at least give these parents a chance to have their kids taught in a nonbilingual setting, which then gave them the ability to compete and have better lives.

What a crime against these young people we have seen. I hope the Hispanic community notes this, notes the effect and who caused this, who caused the lowering of the potential of their child by forcing them through this antieducational environment that is called bilingual education.

I would like to note something while we are talking now about illegal immigration. A lot of times people will suggest that this massive flow of illegal immigrants really has not hurt anybody in this country. We have already pointed out that in California, at least I think this is true in other parts of the country, that the class size alone shows us that young people in our country have been damaged severely by having an extra, in California I will bet about a third of the class members in most classes in southern California are illegal immigrant children whose parents have come here recently, never having paid taxes, and now their children are immediately enrolled in a school system they have never contributed to. Is that hurting somebody? You bet it is. It is hurting the kids of the legal immigrants and the kids of the citizens.

But illegal immigration by being out of control as it has has had a tremendous impact on the standard of living of our people. We have just gone through 10 years of a major upsurge in our economy. This is one of the great times since Ronald Reagan turned the economy around in 1983, we have had one of the longest periods of economic growth in our history.

Yet, what is confounding the economists and the others who are analyzing all of the figures from the last Census is, how is it possible that wages have not gone up even though we have had this major increase in the economy and the GNP? All of the models would have had a big increases in wages. In other words, the standard of living of the American people should have gone up of average working people, but it did not.

Why did it not? They have figured it out that, instead, our liberal colleagues have been downplaying how many illegal immigrants are in our country. They have been telling us maybe there is 4 or 5 million illegal immigrants in our country. No, the Clinton administration lied to us. There are between 10 and 20 million illegal immigrants in our country.

Do my colleagues know what that has done for the average person? All of that money that should be going into the pockets of our own citizens because wages would have increased, that did not happen at all. That did not happen because there were more people there offering themselves at a lower price to undercut our own citizens, our own legal residents.

In other words, janitors in our country should be making more money. Guess what? Janitors in the United States of America, if it was not for illegal immigration, would be making a lot higher salary. What about people who work in hamburger stands? What about people who work in parking lots? What about people who work in all those many millions of jobs throughout our country that, yes, they are at the lower skill level, but they deserve to have some of the benefits of an expanding economy?

Our poor people deserve to have their standard of living go up when things are good in the United States of America. But what has happened is we permitted ten to 20 million illegal immigrants into our country, and thus the standard of living of the lowest part, the lowest rung of our society, people who are just struggling to get by, their capability of raising their standard of living was undercut by, of course, the liberals who care so much about the poor people.

I hope that people in this country realize that this has gone so far that even their labor unions now have turned a corner and are saying that we should permit illegal immigrants to come in and take labor union jobs.

When we are doing that, we are undercutting our own people. Our own people will not even get into those unions.

This is a terrible crime against the people of our country. I will have to say, the Republican leadership has not stood up to this. I am hoping that President Bush will. But President Clinton and his liberal gang just betrayed the interests of the American working people over and over again, and illegal immigration is one of the best examples.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, the point the gentleman from California makes, especially about the impact, the negative impact of immigration on immigrants themselves, is something that we must not overlook here. It is not simply for a selfish benefit that we propose to reduce the number of immigrants into this country, both legal and illegal, it is because it is also the best for immigrants themselves.

We can, in fact, accommodate a certain amount of immigration into this country, and we will all benefit by it, the Native American, if you will, or the indigenous American, if you will, and the immigrant. But we cannot do it at these numbers, not in a million a year legally and 2, 3, 4 million a year illegally.

Here is what happens. There was a report not too long ago that was kind of perplexing. It was confounding in a certain way because it talked about the growth of poverty among children in America. Once again, one says to oneself now this is anti-intellectual. It does not seem right. It does not seem logical. How can we have a growth in poverty in the United States of America when in the last 10 years, 12 years, 20 years, 15 years probably we have had this enormous economic boom.

Well, if one studies the numbers, what one finds out is that there is a growing number of children that are ''in poverty''. But who are these children? They are the children of immigrants themselves, because they cannot achieve the American dream for the same reason that my colleague explains. There is a depressing effect of the numbers on the wage rates. This has been documented over and over and over again.

Yes, maybe it is a little better than they could have made in their country of origin, but they still cannot accumulate the necessary trackings of the good life over here because they have to take the lowest wage jobs. Because in the numbers they come in here, it depresses that whole wage.

You bet I hear from others. It is not just ''liberals'' who oppose any sort of lessening, reducing immigration, reducing the numbers and trying to do something about shoring up the border, it is many, many of my more conservative business people who come to me and say, I have to have these people. I have to have them. I would say, what do you mean you have to have them? They say, well, I cannot get people to

work. I say, you cannot get Americans to work for that wage. Put that in there, and I cannot absolutely understand that. Yes, it is true.

So believe me, I am not just here condemning this sort of, what I call the noblesse oblige attitude of the left. It is also these very selfish interests of many people on the right who are impoverishing both the people coming in who are taking advantage of them, who are manipulating them, and at the same time they are actually reducing this quality and sound of life for the rest of America.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, we may have a disagreement on the decline on bringing down the legal number of immigrants. I think a million people coming in in a very rational approach and trying to bring in people who can take care of themselves are honest and healthy and is a positive thing.

I think we can absorb a million. But what is skewed to me, what has skewed this whole situation and, as the gentleman was saying, even those people who are being seriously affected now is the fact that we have let illegal immigration go totally out of control. While we let a million people in legally, there are 3 and 4 million illegal immigrants into our country coming in through other means.

The gentleman from Colorado is precisely correct when he says it impacts those legal immigrants as well as the poor people in our society. For example, and he also pointed out, that it is not just liberal elected officials who are involved with not caring about this issue that is hurting our people, but he pointed out that there are many businessmen who are taking advantage of it.

When I said the standard of living of our working people is not increased because of the legal immigration, we have to remember that many of the businessmen will not offer health care and other benefits to their workers because they do not have to. They do not have to.

Go down and check the health care departments throughout the United States of America, and one is going to find they are swarming with illegal immigrants who have come here, either people who are sick and wanted to come here and get free operations, or people who came here are healthy people, went to work, and worked at virtual slave labor prices for big businessmen.

Big businessmen, if they are going to expect that the market is going to protect them, that we believe in the market, thus we believe they can charge what they want for their goods and services and what they offer for people, the market has got to work when it comes to labor as well. If labor is going to cost more money, business is going to have to pay more money for labor. We expect that because we expect the standard of living of poorer Americans to rise right along with the rest of our society.

But if we have a situation where the poor people of this country have joined a liberal coalition that turns its back and permits millions of illegals to come into this country, our poor people will never be offered the jobs that have health care. They will never be offered a raise.

The poorer people of this country have been betrayed by the liberal coalition who have made themselves an ally with illegal immigration in our society. Whether it is health care or whether it is good jobs, it is all being undercut by the liberal coalition and big businessmen who are, yes, many of them are Republicans.

One last note on that point. The gentleman and I faced an issue here recently just last year. How many times did we hear about H–1B Visas? Right? H–1B Visas. Does the public know what an H–1B Visa is?

We were being asked to give hundreds of thousands of jobs to people, basically people from Pakistan and India, in order to come in and get these great high paying or mid level and high paying jobs in the computer industry. At that time, the high-tech industry said, oh, we cannot find Americans to do these jobs. I talked to these businessmen. Oh, you have got to give us these.

Yes, they could not find Americans to do it because they were paying $50,000, and now the market value for people that could work in those high-tech jobs was more like $75,000 or $80,000.

□ 1745

But how did American business want to deal with that? I will tell you how: by beating American citizens into the ground, by bringing in a hoard of people from overseas to undercut their ability to get a higher wage. Give them H–1B visas. Let us bring in 600,000 people from India and Pakistan to get those jobs.

I would say to the businessmen, have you tried to go down to the local high schools and pick out the young kids who do not have the means to go to college but have the skills, the academic skills, and offer them scholarships if they will come and work for you? Oh no, they did not do that.

Well, did you go to the disabled community where we have people in wheelchairs who can do work, but maybe they do not have the use of their legs or something? Did you go to try to recruit those people to set your shop up, so they could do the job and pay them a good and decent wage for a change? Oh no, we have not done that.

No, what we want to do is bring in these young Indians and Pakistanis who will work for one-third the wage of what our people will work for and let those other Americans go to hell, as far as they are concerned.

This is not what this government is supposed to be about. This is not what Republicans are about, at least not these Republicans, because we care about the citizens and, yes, we care about the legal immigrants in our country. And we should not be supporting policies that undermine the ability of our people to have their incomes increase or undermining the ability of our poorer people because of an economic boom to have a better life.

Mr. TANCREDO. The gentleman brings up so many good points and addresses them so articulately that I am always inspired listening to him. I enjoy it tremendously because I believe the gentleman is a patriotic American who understands the real challenges to this country.

We have said this before, but they do not want to look at this issue of immigration. They are afraid of it for a variety of reasons, but as my colleague says, one reason is they will be confronted by name calling and epithets. And I guaranty you when we get back to our respective offices our phones will have been lit up, and for a long time, with people saying a lot of relatively nasty things. I have gone through this before. I understand it. I am willing to go through it time and time and time again, because I believe this is one of the most serious pressing problems we face as a Nation.

I believe with all my heart that we will not exist as we are, a Nation with the kind of quality of life that we have, unless we address this head on and take our lumps. And people can call us all the names they want to call us and whatever, but somebody has to bring this to the attention of the American people.

And I will say one more thing about what my colleague mentioned before on the part of many businesses to ignore the alternative, the alternative being to force the school systems. If we are having a problem, if the problem is that our school system just simply cannot produce, does not produce the kind of quality skills and level of skills that business needs, there is a way to address that. They can demand more from the schools. Or they could avoid all that. They can avoid putting money into the school system, they can avoid challenging the schools with school choice and a variety of other things, and they can take the easy way out. Business can say, I do not have to get them here because I can go to someplace else, I can go to India and Pakistan to get them.

I suggest it is just like when we talked earlier about the fact that we are giving Mexico and other countries, for instance, the President of Bangladesh, when he was confronted with the growth in his population and what he was going to do about it, he said, ''I'm not going to do anything about it. I will let America take care of it. I will send them to America.'' This is the problem; that we give these nations an out. We become their safety net.

It is the same thing here by letting these employers off the hook and not forcing them to go to the school systems, not forcing them to improve the quality of education and then they can

get the kind of help they need. We give them a safety net. We say go get illegals.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. If the gentleman will yield once again, the irony of this is that so many of these countries that are sending their people here, many of the people coming here are their educated people and they need them in their own country. Many of the people who come here from other countries are indeed people who believe in our democratic system and are the cream of the crop. And, as such, what we have done is take away the ability of that other country to have progress in their country while at the same time undermining the United States, the people of the United States of America and their standard of living.

We are going to keep having shortages in energy, as the gentleman said, in transportation, health care, and especially education. We are going to continue to see the standard of living of ordinary Americans just stagnate unless we get control of this illegal immigration. And if we do not stand true to our principles of keeping English the official language, it will create total chaos and division in our population.

I congratulate the gentleman for his leadership he is providing and let us work together on this.

Mr. TANCREDO. I thank the gentleman very much for coming down here. I hope we will do this again and that I will be able to convince the gentleman that even a million a year illegally is too much.

U.S. SUGAR SUBSIDY POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OTTER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I must say that I noted with tremendous interest the discussion which just took place, and, of course, I think there is always the likelihood and the possibility that countries get larger and larger and opportunities become greater and that those opportunities should be shared by and used by as many people as we can possibly make them available to.

Mr. Speaker, earlier today I participated in a press conference called by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER). They called this press conference to announce their introduction of legislation to change our sugar policy and to phase out some of those huge subsidies that we are providing for the control of the sugar industry to small groups of people and small business concerns; that is small in numbers but certainly large in terms of influence and large in terms of their control of the industry.

Also at that press conference was the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT). The whole question of our sugar policy is rocking the country in many places because of the fact it is having a tremendously negative impact upon the ability of people to continue to grow and develop in their local communities. Every country and every government that is of a sugar-producing nation has intervened to protect their domestic industry from fluctuating world market prices. Such intervention has been necessary, it is argued, because both sugar cane and sugar beats must be processed soon after harvest using costly processing machinery. When farmers significantly reduce production because of low prices, a cane or beat processing plant typically shuts down, usually never to reopen. This close link between production and capital-intensive processing makes price stability important to industry survival.

The United States has a long history of protection and support for its sugar industry. The Sugar Acts of 1934, 1937, and 1948 required the United States Department of Agriculture to eliminate domestic consumption and to divide this market for sugar by assigning quotas to U.S. growers and foreign countries, authorized payments to growers when needed as an incentive to limit production, and levied excise taxes on sugar processed and refined in the United States.

This type of sugar program expired in 1974, following a 7-year period of markets relatively open to foreign sugar imports, mandatory price support only in 1977 and 1978, and discretionary support in 1979. Congress included mandatory price support for sugar in the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 and the Food Security Act of 1985. Subsequently, the 1990 Farm Program, the 1993 Budget Reconciliation, and the 1996 Farm Program laws extended sugar program authority through the 2002 crop year.

Even with price protection available to producers, the United States historically has not produced enough sugar to satisfy domestic demand and, thus, continues to be a net sugar importer. Historically, domestic sugar growers and foreign suppliers share the United States market in a roughly 55 to 45 split. This, though, has not been the case in recent years. In fiscal year 2000, domestic production filled 88 percent of U.S. sugar demand for food and beverage use. Imports covered 12 percent. A high fructose corn syrup displaced sugar in the United States during the early 1980s and as domestic sugar production increased in the late 1980s.

The USDA restricts the amount of foreign sugar allowed to enter the United States to ensure that market prices do not fall below the effective support levels. The intent in maintaining prices at or above these levels is to make sure that the USDA does not acquire sugar due to a loan forfeiture. A loan forfeiture, turning over sugar pledged as loan collateral, occurs if a processor concludes that market prices at the same time of a desired sale are lower than the effective sugar price support level implied by the loan rate.

Now, I mention all of this background to mention the fact that there has been reason for the development of our policy. But then as times change, so is there a need for policy change, and so, Mr. Speaker, I approach the subject of sugar subsidies from a little different angle, something slightly different than just looking at what it is that we do for the producers.

In my district today, tonight, more than 600 jobs are at risk, in part because of the sugar subsidy. So my view this evening is the view of the community, the point of view of the working man or woman. We live in a society of plenty and, still, 20 percent of our children live in poverty. In areas where we measure near poverty, such as California, the rate rises to 45 percent. Similar numbers characterize my district in the State of Illinois. Over the past 35 years, our national production of goods and services has more than doubled, yet the inflation-adjusted income of most poor Americans is lower today than it was in 1968.

A recent CBO report revealed that after-tax income of the poorest 20 percent of U.S. households fell between 1979 and 1997, while the income of the wealthiest 1 percent of U.S. households grew a staggering 157 percent.

□ 1800

More egregious, wage and equality, that is, the relative drop in pay for the lowest-paid workers is again on the rise. This is accompanied by an actual loss of jobs in our economy last month of 19,000; and an increase in the number of laid off workers as a share of the workforce. Manufacturing continues to bear the brunt with employment down 124,000 in May and job loss this year averaging 94,000 per month.

Most folks know that some of these recent setbacks are at least in part due to the current economic downturn we are experiencing. But especially in manufacturing, we have been experiencing a long-term so-called structured downturn for two generations. Jobs With Justice counted three-quarters of a million jobs lost as a result of NAFTA sucking jobs out of the United States; 37,000 of those jobs were lost in Illinois. Total job loss in Illinois was much worse. Between 1970 and 1984, the city of Chicago lost a total of 233,873 jobs in the manufacturing sector and another 39,660 in wholesaling as a result of plant closings and layoffs. These job losses hit especially hard at women, African Americans, Latinos, members of other minority groups.

In addition to jobs lost, occupations which dislocated workers had high concentrations of women. This pattern of job loss and dislocation can be traced all the way back to the end of the Second World War; and of course although I mention Chicago, it is not limited to Chicago and Illinois. Between 1947 and 1963, Detroit, for example, lost 14,000 manufacturing jobs. No wonder the

Midwest came to be called the Rust Belt. In fact, though the rust has impacted all of America, globalization has accelerated the process of deindustrialization, but that does not mean that we must resign ourselves to those consequences. On the contrary, what it means is that we need a policy, a trade policy, an economic policy, a foreign policy, which serves the interest of every American, every working man, every working woman. Every man and every woman.

Anyone who claims that globalization is just about free trade, about letting the market work, is not telling the whole story. If NAFTA were only about free trade, the treaty would have been a page or two long, and simply declare all taxes and barriers to free trade are hereby repealed.

Instead, the treaty is a thousand pages of dense legal type and has hundreds of additional pages of highly technical appendices. All that legalese is there to protect specific interests and specific institutions. What is not protected is the jobs of ordinary Americans. What is not protected is the environment. What is not protected is the health and safety of the American consumer.

Mr. Speaker, there is a role for the public sector, and there is a role for the private sector. Of course I am here today to advocate for the removal of an obstacle to economic growth, a relic of agricultural needs and times that have come and gone. While there have been efforts to do this in the past, I trust that this year we will be more successful. But it must be part of a broader concern, a broader policy of protecting the jobs of ordinary Americans; and it must be part of a policy that demands corporate responsibility, performance standards, public disclosure, fairness and equity in return for the nourishing environment our corporations enjoy.

Mr. Speaker, the Bible teaches that we sometimes ought to consider what profits a man who loses his soul. I guess I would probably phrase that differently and maybe would ask the question, What profits a Nation which abandons its people?

I believe that is exactly what we have done. That is exactly what we continue to do as long as we have an archaic sugar policy that does not allow jobs and economic development to take place in neighborhoods and communities throughout the country that are in need of fairness and fair opportunity to expand, to grow, as opposed to retrenching and going out of business.

Mr. Speaker, our sugar policy is a very important issue that has the potential to cost our respective districts many jobs. So now the question becomes and the question is: Should the Federal policy seek to ship overseas the jobs of hardworking American citizens in order to bestow huge subsidies on a relatively small group of individuals and businesses, many of whom are already wealthy? I would think not, and I would venture that the vast majority of Americans would agree with me.

That is precisely what is occurring because of the sugar price support program, a program which has thrown onto the unemployment rolls thousands of my constituents, other residents of the city that I come from, and other people all over the country who rely upon the candy and food industries for livelihood.

The sugar price support program is in crisis. Approximately 65,000 Americans are employed in the candy industry nationwide. However, according to the Chicago Tribune, since the 1990s, 4,000 of those jobs have been lost and have left the city of Chicago alone. Just recently we got word that one of our plants, Brach's Candy Company, with 1,600 jobs was going to move out of the city, out of the county, out of the State, out of the Nation, into Argentina. They are going to move because they say that they pay twice as much for sugar as do their overseas competitors.

Communities like those around the Brach's plant are in many instances already devastated, have already experienced high levels of unemployment, have already had to dig their way out as we have seen change in trends. So I would point out, Mr. Speaker, that these job losses are in addition to those in the cane refining industry. Since the sugar price support program was enacted in 1981, 12 of 22 cane sugar refiners, including one in Chicago, have gone out of business, in all likelihood never to return. As many as 4,000 high-paying union jobs were lost when these refineries shut down.

Unlike most other agricultural programs, the sugar program has not since its inception in the 1980s been reformed to reflect change in market conditions. The program is still aimed at keeping sugar prices high by limiting imports and making loans to growers. Operating under the price protection of this program, domestic sugar producers taking advantage of both technological advances and good weather have increased their production dramatically, so much so that production reached such high levels last year that the Federal Government, our government, my government, your government, bought 132,000 tons of sugar off the domestic market at a cost of $54 million. There are some who would call this a sweetheart, I guess you cannot get much sweeter than sugar, deal. In fact, when you include the cost incurred by the government from sugar loan forfeitures, the cost to the United States taxpayer for the sugar program was $465 million last year, and the United States Government is now having to pay additional millions of dollars to store some 800,000 tons of sugar. So there you have it.

All of our constituents pay for the sugar program in either their taxes and in the prices of the products they purchase at the grocery store. And then, of course, some of us pay by losing their jobs. The jobs being lost in the candy industry are not moving to another city, county, or State, but to other countries such as Mexico or Argentina where sugar can be purchased at world prices.

All of the way back to my days when I served on the Chicago City Council, I have seen the gradual decline and loss of jobs in the candy industry, and specifically in urban Chicago.

Therefore, I am certain that we must find a solution to prevent the further loss of jobs throughout urban America, and I would encourage my colleagues to find me and find such a solution. I believe that such a solution has been proposed today. Therefore, I would urge support for the Miller-Miller legislation which was introduced earlier this day.

I am also pleased to note that my colleague from the city of Chicago, from the First Congressional District, the oldest, as a matter of fact, African American congressional district currently standing in the United States of America, for example, it was that area after the period of Reconstruction was over and all African Americans had been put out of the Congress, and we went through a period where there was no black representation in Congress for about 30 years, finally from the First Congressional District of Chicago came Oscar DePriest; and following in the footsteps of Oscar DePriest and the footsteps of the late Mayor Harold Washington, I am pleased that my colleague, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH), has come to join us and participate in this discussion.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman who has been my friend and my colleague, my compatriot, my comrade, in the many, many struggles that we both have been involved in throughout our adult lives.

□ 1815

My friend, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), who represents the great Seventh Congressional District in the city of Chicago in the State of Illinois is beyond comparison as a gallant and valiant fighter for the interests of not only the citizens of the Seventh Congressional District but for the interests of all American people, particularly those who are working and struggling day by day to make their lives better. It is upon this occasion that I commend him once again for his extraordinary leadership on this particular issue of the Federal subsidies of the sugar industry here that we are discussing this afternoon.

The gentleman from Illinois has laid out the problem. I would like to just share in his analysis, in his views. I would like to share his description of this Federal sugar subsidy program, which is unlike many, many other Federal crop subsidies. This Federal sugar subsidy program disproportionately impacts American citizens and American businesses. The sugar program

negatively impacts American consumers, particularly and especially the poor. When you strip it apart, when you cut it down to the essence of this program, we find that this Federal sugar subsidy program is really a tax on food items that contain sugar. That is all that it is. It is a tax, a tax on the food items that contain sugar.

The General Accounting Office estimates that the total cost to consumers and users of sugar is $1.8 billion annually. A tax for those who use sugar of $1.8 billion year after year. Even more detrimental, the sugar tax is regressive. That is, that it places the greatest burden on those who are least able to pay, those who are on fixed incomes, those who are struggling to provide food on their tables on a day-to-day basis, those who are least able to pay in this society are forced to pay $1.8 billion each and every year to sugar producers.

If U.S. consumers like those who are in my district, the first district of Illinois, and those who are in the district of the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), the Seventh District of Illinois and others throughout America, if consumers had been given access to world-price sugar, say, in 1999, a five-pound bag of sugar that cost $2.17 would have only cost $1.38. We paid almost twice the cost for a five-pound bag of sugar in 1999 as we should have paid.

I look around and I think about how many parents, mothers and fathers, those who are working class, those who are striving on a day-to-day basis to try to make ends meet, how many of us would have loved to pay almost half the cost of sugar and thereby saving our little money to go toward school supplies and school clothing and maybe even just a night out with the family at the movies but could not afford to do that simply because of these exorbitant prices that we have been forced to pay for the cost of a five-pound bag of sugar.

The sugar program unfairly disadvantages American businesses. We know that the United States has a long history of internationally known candy makers. We are the capital of candy makers throughout the world. Chicago, the district and the city that both the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and I represent is the capital for candy makers. All across this country, whether it is in Pennsylvania with Hershey's or Brach's; Kraft or M&M/Mars in Chicago; Nabisco in the great city of Holland, Michigan; or Nestle's in California, the United States candy industry brings millions of dollars in tax revenues to communities throughout this country. As many as 293,000 workers in 20 States depend on these same businesses for their livelihood. People work for these candy manufacturers. Families are fed, clothed and housed because of their salaries that are generated from working for these candy manufacturers. Children are sent to school, to college based on their parents' ability to provide dollars and assistance to them. Our livelihood depends on these candy manufacturers.

And what are we doing? The Federal subsidy program for sugar is placing U.S. candy manufacturers at a competitive disadvantage by raising the cost of sugar in this country. We are driving candy manufacturers out of our country. Many of them are being forced to consider moving, as the gentleman from Illinois said earlier, not from Illinois to Indiana, not from Pennsylvania to Ohio, but from this country to other countries, including Mexico.

They are forced out of our Nation because of our Federal subsidy program for sugar. Almost 300,000 people, 293,000 to be exact, are going to lose their jobs unless we find a remedy, unless we correct this injustice, this problem that we are confronted with as it relates to Federal subsidies for sugar producers. If we want to keep the candy industry in this country and keep it healthy and give it the protection that it needs so that it can keep our citizens working and our families healthy and stable and viable, then we can do nothing less than do away with the current Federal sugar subsidy program.

We can do no less than bring this Federal sugar subsidy program to a screeching halt. We can do no less than give these workers who are employed by candy manufacturers the kind of protection that they need, give them the kind of support that they need, give them the kind of policies at the Federal level that would help them to continue to work at jobs that help them take care of their families, in jobs that will help them provide food and clothing and shelter for their families. We can do no less than to give them the kind of support that we need to give them so that they will be able to maintain their families in a way so that their children will grow up to be healthy and productive American citizens.

I want to thank again my friend the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the sponsors of the bill, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER). I want to thank all of them for looking out for the little guy, for bringing this issue to the floor, to the well of the House, to inform the American people that what we are doing with this Federal sugar subsidy program, it is almost criminal. It is a tax, a regressive tax, on those who are least able to pay it. It does not make sense, it is backwards, it is exploitive, it is discriminatory, it is regressive, and we have got to stop it and we have got to stop it right now. I again thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for his extraordinary leadership on this particular issue.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH) and I certainly want to thank him for his very passionate and eloquent description of the problem. I had not really thought in terms of further taxation, but when he makes the point that this becomes additional taxation as we purchase beverages, as we purchase candy, and, more importantly, as we purchase ordinary food which contains sugar, that is another way of looking at the issue. I certainly agree with him that it has to stop.

We are also pleased that we have been joined by the dean of the Democratic delegation from the State of Illinois, one of the real experts on aviation in this country but one who understands not only aviation but urban issues and urban problems all over America, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI). We are so delighted that he has joined us, and we thank him so much for coming.

Mr. LIPINSKI. I appreciate very much the gentleman taking this special order tonight. It is another demonstration of his outstanding leadership here in the Congress of the United States. I am certainly happy to see that the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH) has also joined the gentleman here tonight, another excellent leader in the Congress from the State of Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for ending the sugar subsidy program. A program which some claim costs absolutely nothing is actually costing the government millions and consumers billions of dollars. This program triggers unemployment in the sugar refining industry and is not how a farm program should work.

In the 1996 farm bill, we committed ourselves to phasing out price supports for every commodity except sugar and peanuts. It is time to level the playing field and expose the sugar program for the sham that it is. The sugar support program is supposedly designed to operate at no direct cost to the Federal Government. The Department of Agriculture provides a loan to sugar growers. The growers use sugar as collateral.

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When the loan comes due, if the processor can make a profit, repay the loan and sell the sugar on the open market, that is what he does. However, if raw sugar prices fall below a predetermined price, the growers simply default on the loan and forfeit the sugar they put up for collateral, a practice which is becoming increasingly more common.

Clearly, this is a cost to the taxpayers and a waste of taxpayers' dollars.

In fact, according to the USDA, last year the government bought more than 1 million tons of sugar for $435 million and it now pays $1.4 million monthly to store the sugar. In addition, the government gave some of the sugar back to the same industry that forfeited it in the first place in exchange for the processors getting the farmers to destroy some of their growing crops. As a result of the sugar program, domestic prices for raw sugar are typically twice world market prices and sometimes more.

Currently, sugar costs 9 cents a pound on the world market but the government sets the domestic price for raw sugar at 18 cents a pound and 22.9 cents for refined sugar beets. According to the General Accounting Office, this price difference means that consumers are paying $1.9 billion more than they need to for sugar and sugar products. Yet, maybe most importantly, hundreds of jobs have been lost in the refining industry in just the past few years due to the unwise sugar subsidy. Since the mid-1980s, 12 of the nation's 22 cane sugar refineries have gone out of business, including one in Chicago. Just last year, a large Brach's candy factory on the West Side of my hometown Chicago was forced to shut down due to inflated sugar prices.

What is particularly infuriating about this situation is that these refinery jobs are good-paying jobs located in inner cities and areas where other employment opportunities are scarce.

For example, the confectioners who used to use domestic sugar are instead having to send those jobs to Canada or Mexico, where they can purchase affordable sugar, costing American working men and women their jobs. It is the families who work in these sugar refineries that are being closed down who are suffering the most.

The Committee on Agriculture is writing a new farm bill, and we cannot afford to have the sugar lobby write the sugar policy. Until the sugar subsidy program is phased out, consumers will pay more for products containing sugar. Taxpayers will continue to pay more to buy surplus sugar. Workers in the candy industry, in the cane refining industry, will continue to lose their jobs. The sugar program will continue to benefit a few without solving the problems of family farmers. We must insist on real reform in the sugar program and end the regulations that are costing Americans money and American jobs.

Once again, I want to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for holding this special order tonight. This is a very important area of concern for the Congress of the United States. I am sure that with his leadership we will be able to do something about it in this coming agriculture bill that we will be working on very shortly. I thank the gentleman once again for giving me the time tonight.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) very much for his comments. Again, I want to thank the gentleman for coming over. I think he has put his finger right on the issue when he talks about consumers have to pay unnecessarily. I understand that one has to pay for everything that they get but I do not understand when one has to pay more just so a small industry can continue to benefit to the detriment of others. So I thank the gentleman for raising the issue.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. I yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, what I was going to say is that I can understand somewhat subsidizing an industry that is creating jobs here in the United States of America. I think that that sometimes is good public policy. But to me here we have a law, a program, which is costing the American citizens more money not only out of their pocket directly but in taxes; as I said earlier, even more importantly, costing us jobs in this country. It has to be an absolute minute minority of American citizens that benefit out of this program at the expense of all the other American citizens, and really something should be done about this. As I say, as far as public policy, if an industry is going to be subsidized in this country in some way, shape or form, then they should be creating economic development; they should be creating jobs.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for pointing out that we are going to be rewriting the farm bill. I think this is an excellent opportunity to correct what we should have done a number of years ago, and so I thank the gentleman again for coming over and for being a part.

I am about to summarize this, Madam Speaker, but I have remarks about the Brief History of the Sugar Program that I would include in the RECORD at this point.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SUGAR PROGRAM

Governments of every sugar producing nation intervene to protect their domestic industry from fluctuating world market prices. Such intervention is necessary, it is argued, because both sugar cane and sugar beets must be processed soon after harvest using costly processing machinery. When farmers significantly reduce production because of low prices, a cane or beet processing plant typically shuts down, usually never to reopen. This close link between production and capital intensive processing makes price stability important to industry survival.

The United States has a long history of protection and support for its sugar industry. The Sugar Acts of 1934, 1937, and 1948 required the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to estimate domestic consumption and to divide this market for sugar by assigning quotas to U.S. growers and foreign countries, authorized payments to growers when needed as an incentive to limit production, and levied excise taxes on sugar processed and refined in the United States. This type of sugar program expired in 1974. Following a 7-year period of markets relatively open to foreign sugar imports, mandatory price support only in 1977 and 1978, and discretionary support in 1979, Congress included mandatory price support for sugar in the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 and the Food Security Act of 1985. Subsequently, 1990 farm program, 1993 budget reconciliation, and 1996 farm program laws extended sugar program authority through the 2002 crop year. Even with price protection available to producers, the United States historically has not produce enough sugar to satisfy domestic demand and thus continues to be a net sugar importer.

Historically, domestic sugar growers and foreign suppliers shared the U.S. sugar market in a roughly 55/45 percent split. This, though, has not been the case in recent years. In FY2000, domestic production filled 88 percent of U.S. sugar demand for food and beverage use; imports covered 12 percent. As high fructose corn syrup (HFCS) displaced sugar in the United States during the early 1980s, and as domestic sugar production increased in the late 1980s.

The loan rate for raw cane sugar is statutorily set. The loan rate for refined beet sugar historically was set in relation to raw sugar under a prescribed formula; however, this rate now is fixed for 7 years at the 1995 level. Loan support for beet sugar is set higher than for raw sugar, largely reflecting its availability as a product ready for immediate industrial food and beverage use or for human consumption (unlike raw cane sugar). By contrast, raw cane sugar must go through a second stage of processing at a cane refinery to be converted into white refined sugar that is equivalent to refined beet sugar in end use.

Loan Rates and Forfeiture Levels. The FY2001 loan rates are set at 18 cents/lb. for raw cane sugar, and 22.9 cents/lb. for refined beet sugar. These loan rates, though, do not serve as the price floor for sugar. In practice, USDA's aim is to support the raw cane sugar price (depending upon the region) at not less than 19.1 to 20.7 cents/lb. (i.e., the price support level in a region plus an amount that coves a processor's cost of shipping raw cane sugar to a cane refinery plus the interest paid on any price support loan taken out less a forfeiture penalty applicable under certain circumstances). Similarly, USDA seeks to support the refined beet sugar price at not less than 23.2 to 26.2 cents/lb. (i.e., the regional loan rate plus specified marketing costs plus the interest paid on a price support loan less the forfeiture penalty), depending on the region. These ''loan forfeiture,'' or higher ''effective'' price support, levels are met by limiting the amount of foreign raw sugar imports allowed into the United States for refining and sale for domestic food and beverage consumption.

Import Quota. USDA restricts the amount of foreign sugar allowed to enter the United States to ensure that market prices do not fall below the ''effective'' support levels. The intent in maintaining prices at or above these levels is to make sure that USDA does not acquire sugar due to a loan forfeiture. A loan forfeiture (turning over sugar pledged as loan collateral) occurs if a processor concludes that domestic market prices at the time of a desired sale are lower than the ''effective'' sugar price support level implied by the loan rate. Foreign suppliers absorbed the entire adjustment and saw their share of the U.S. market decline.

1996 FARM ACT: SUGAR PROGRAM

To support U.S. sugar market prices, the USDA extends short-term loans to processors and limits imports of foreign sugar. The 1996 farm bill provisions, though, change the nature of the ''loan'' available to processors. The form of price support is now determined largely by the domestic demand/supply situation and USDA's subsequent decision on what the fiscal year level of sugar imports will be. As a result, these parameters together with market developments have injected more-than-usual price uncertainty into the U.S. sugar market.

General Overview

The sugar program continues to differ from the grains, rice, and cotton programs in that USDA makes no income transfers or payments to beet and cane growers. In contrast, the program is structured to indirectly support the incomes of domestic growers and sugar processors by limiting the amount of

foreign sugar allowed to enter into the domestic market using an import quota—a policy mechanism that lies outside the scope of the program's statutory authority. Accordingly, USDA decisions on the size of the import quota affect market prices, and are made carefully to ensure that growers and processors do realize the benefits of price support they expect to receive as laid out in program authority.

Price Support. USDA historically has extended price support loans to processors of sugarcane and sugar beets rather than directly to the farmers who harvest these crops. Growers receive USDA-set minimum payment levels for deliveries made to processors who actually take out such loans during the marketing year—a legal requirement. Other growers negotiate contracts that detail delivery prices and other terms with those processors that do not take out loans.

In summarizing or closing out or closing up, let me just say this: I am not opposed to helping farmers. As a matter of fact, we have farm programs for wheat, corn, cotton and many other crops. These programs give direct assistance to farmers and allow market prices to be set by supply and demand. Farmers receive help but not at the expense of workers and consumers, but the sugar program is different. The sugar program helps producers by hurting other people. That is not right. There are other ways to help sugar farmers. The sugar program keeps our market prices higher than world prices. Domestic sugar prices are about 21 cents a pound compared to world prices of about 9 cents a pound. Now the price gap is costing jobs. Brach's Confectioners, Incorporated, will close its candy factory on Chicago's West Side, putting 1,100 people out of work in the next 3 years. Other facilities have closed, too, including a Nabisco plant last year. In fact, there were 13,000 workers in Chicago's candy industry 5 years ago but now only 10,000. One reason for the decline, increasing imports of hard candy made with world priced sugar. These nonchocolate candy imports have risen steadily from less than 12 percent of the U.S. market in 1997 to 17 percent in 1999. This candy is cheaper because it is made with sugar that costs 9 cents a pound instead of 21 cents a pound. Our quota system for sugar, along with the high price supports, is costing industrial jobs because imports are displacing United States products.

The quotas may be helping large sugar corporations in Southern Florida but they are hurting American workers in Chicago who do not have quotas to protect them. It is time to change this dysfunctional sugar program. We can help producers without hurting workers and other farmers.

The new farm bill must reform sugar subsidies. We must support the Miller-Miller legislation and we must make sure that as we reauthorize legislation to govern farm, farmers and farm products in our country, that we reform the sugar program and make it fair.

STUDIES SHOW THAT EARLY TREATMENT FOR HIV/AIDS CAN PROLONG HEALTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I wish to congratulate the over 50 influential public and private sector leaders from business, from media, from entertainment, from sports, education, as well as the faith-based community as they come together this weekend for the XAIDS Act NOW Partnership Council. In fact, on Monday, June 11, the council will convene in my Congressional district in South Florida to mobilize efforts in their fight against the HIV/AIDS virus. This is an epidemic that is plaguing our communities and they are going to combine their expertise, their resources and experiences to see how we can combat this terrible plague.

Studies show that early treatment can prolong health and persons who know that they have HIV are far more likely to avoid risky behavior, to get treatment and to protect their partners. As a result, the council's message is very simple: Get tested, get treated and be safe. This will be promoted by teams that will focus on testing and primary care, the Internet, leadership councils, influential speakers, youth, outreach support and multimedia support groups.

The partnerships have increased awareness on HIV and AIDS and they have encouraged people to get tested, to help prevent new infections among at-risk individuals. Their innovative approaches have helped to combat complacency in our community. We cannot afford to be complacent any longer. So I ask my congressional colleagues to commend the partners of XAIDS Act NOW for their leadership and their commitment to fighting the HIV AIDS epidemic.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. UNDERWOOD (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and June 7 on account of official business.

Ms. WATERS (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for June 5, 6, and 7 on account of business in the district.

Ms. SOLIS (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for June 5 and the balance of the week on account of business in the district.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for June 5 and 6 on account of unforseen circumstances.

Mr. FERGUSON (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness in the family.

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. BLUMENAUER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SHOWS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. DAVIS of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WATT of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SKELTON, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, June 13.

Mr. HAYES, for 5 minutes, June 13.

Mr. HORN, for 5 minutes, June 14.

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

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 157, I move that the House do now adjourn in memory of the late Hon. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.), pursuant to House Resolution 157, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, June 7, 2001, at 10 a.m. in memory of the late Hon. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY of Massachusetts.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

2312. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Change in Disease Status of France, Ireland, and The Netherlands Because of Foot-and-Mouth Disease [Docket No. 01–031–1] received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2313. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Clethodim; Pesticide Tolerance [OPP–301133; FRL–6783–5] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received June 1, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2314. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Prohexadione Calcium; Pesticide Tolerance [OPP–301128; FRL–6781–5] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received June 1, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2315. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Pyriproxyfen; Pesticide Tolerance [OPP–301131; FRL–6782–5] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received June 1, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2316. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Clethodim; Time-Limited Pesticide Tolerance [OPP–301134; FRL–6785–5] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received June 1, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2317. A letter from the Under Secretary, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting the Secretary's certification that the current Future Years Defense Program (FYDP) fully funds the support costs associated with the Bradley Fighting Vehicle A3 Upgrade multiyear program through the period covered by the FYDP, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2306b(i)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2318. A letter from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Assessment of Fees [Docket No. 01–11] (RIN: 1557–AB96) received June 1, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2319. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule—Consultation Agreements: Changes to Consultation Procedures [Docket No. CO–5] received June 1, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

2320. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the Department of the Navy's proposed lease of defense articles to the Government of Switzerland (Transmittal No. 04–01), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2796a(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

2321. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract to Australia [Transmittal No. DTC 047–01], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

2322. A letter from the Assistant Director for Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

2323. A letter from the Assistant Director for Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

2324. A letter from the Assistant Director for Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

2325. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

2326. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Justice, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

2327. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Management and Planning, Department of Justice, transmitting the semiannual report of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

2328. A letter from the Chairman, National Science Board, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

2329. A letter from the Acting Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

2330. A letter from the Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the 2001 Annual Report Regarding Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; to the Committee on Resources.

2331. A letter from the Chairperson, Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting a report entitled, ''Sharing the Dream: Is the ADA Accommodating All?''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2332. A letter from the Chairperson, Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting a report entitled, ''A Bridge to One America: The Civil Rights Performance of the Clinton Administration''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2333. A letter from the Director, Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, INS, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule—Adjustment of Status for Certain Nationals of Nicaragua, Cuba, and Haiti [INS No. 2113–01, AG Order No. 2429–2001] (RIN: 1115–AG05) received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2334. A letter from the Director, Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, INS, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishing Premium Processing Service for Employment-Based Petitions and Applications [INS No. 2108–01] (RIN: 1115–AG03) received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2335. A letter from the Director, Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, INS, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule—Adjustment of Status under Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act Legalization Provisions and LIFE Act Amendments Family Unity Provisions [INS No. 2115–01; AG Order No. 2430–2001] (RIN: 1115–AG06) received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2336. A letter from the Acting Chief Executive Officer, United States Olympic Committee, transmitting a report pursuant to The Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2337. A letter from the Associate Administrator for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Priorities and Allocations—received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science.

2338. A letter from the Associate Administrator for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Cost Accounting Standards Waivers—received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science.

2339. A letter from the Associate Administrator for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Extension of Class Deviations for SBIR Contracts—received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science.

2340. A letter from the Associate Administrator for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—NASA Inspector General Hotline Posters—received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science.

2341. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Last-in, First-out Inventories [Rev. Rul. 2001–28] received May 29, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2342. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Examination of returns and claims for refund; determination of correct tax liability [Rev. Proc. 2001–37] received May 25, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2343. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Returns Regarding Payments by Service-Recipients [Notice 2001–38] received May 25, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. HANSEN: Committee on Resources. H.R. 1000. A bill to adjust the boundary of the William Howard Taft National Historic Site in the State of Ohio, to authorize an exchange of land in connection with the historic site, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 107–88). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. HANSEN: Committee on Resources. H.R. 37. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to update the feasibility and suitability studies of 4 national historic trails and provide for possible additions to such trails; with an amendment (Rept. 107–89). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. HANSEN: Committee on Resources. H.R. 640. A bill to adjust the boundaries of Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 107–90). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. HANSEN: Committee on Resources. H.R. 1661. A bill to extend indefinitely the authority of the States of Washington, Oregon, and California to manage a Dungeness crab fishery until the effective date of a fishery management plan for the fishery under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Rept. 107–91). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER:

H.R. 2068. A bill to revise, codify, and enact without substantive change certain general

and permanent laws, related to public buildings, property, and works, as title 40, United States Code, ''Public Buildings, Property, and Works''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HYDE:

H.R. 2069. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to authorize assistance to prevent, treat, and monitor HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan African and other developing countries; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. TIBERI (for himself and Mr. ANDREWS):

H.R. 2070. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exempt certain specialized employees from the minimum wage recordkeeping and overtime compensation requirements; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ANDREWS (for himself, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. BARRETT, and Mr. GRAHAM):

H.R. 2071. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for eligibility for coverage of home health services under the Medicare Program on the basis of a need for occupational therapy; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BERKLEY:

H.R. 2072. A bill to redirect the Nuclear Waste Fund established under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 into research, development, and utilization of risk-decreasing technologies for the onsite storage and eventual reduction of radiation levels of nuclear waste, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Science, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARDIN:

H.R. 2073. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive the part B late enrollment penalty for military retirees who enroll by December 31, 2002, and to provide a special part B enrollment period for such retirees; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. SCOTT, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. WU, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. HONDA, Mr. STARK, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. FERGUSON, and Mr. WALSH):

H.R. 2074. A bill to prohibit racial profiling; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN (for himself and Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 2075. A bill to strengthen the National Defense Features program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. HAYWORTH:

H.R. 2076. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit for residential solar energy property; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon:

H.R. 2077. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the disclosure to State and local law enforcement agencies of the identity of individuals claiming tax benefits improperly using social security numbers of other individuals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JEFFERSON (for himself, Mr. TAUZIN, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. BAKER, Mr. JOHN, Mr. COOKSEY, Mr. VITTER, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. OWENS, Mr. CLAY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. WALSH, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. FROST, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. GORDON, Mr. FILNER, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. WOLF, Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. LEE, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. BACA, Mr. REYES, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. SKELTON, Ms. RIVERS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. BORSKI, Mr. COYNE, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. RUSH, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. BECERRA, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. BUYER, Mr. WYNN, Mr. BALDACCI, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. FORD, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CLYBURN, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. WATERS, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin):

H.R. 2078. A bill to authorize the President to award gold medals on behalf of the Congress to the family of Andrew Jackson Higgins and the wartime employees of Higgins Industries, in recognition of their contributions to the Nation and to the Allied victory in World War II; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MCDERMOTT:

H.R. 2079. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a windfall profits tax on electric generating facilities having excess profits; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCDERMOTT:

H.R. 2080. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny accelerated depreciation for electric generating facilities having excess profits in order to prevent taxpayers operating such facilities from having both excess profits and tax incentives; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FRANK, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. GOSS, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. KIRK, Mrs. NORTHUP, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BASS, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. PORTMAN, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. WAMP, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. HOLT, Mr. CLAY, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. ROUKEMA, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BARRETT, Mr. HORN, Mr. BORSKI, Mr. SHAW, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. GEKAS, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CRANE, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 2081. A bill to amend the Agricultural Market Transition Act to convert the price support program for sugarcane and sugar beets into a system of solely recourse loans, to gradually reduce the level of price support available for sugarcane and sugar beets, and to eliminate of the program after the 2004 crops of sugarcane and sugar beets; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. MOORE (for himself, Mr. BOYD, Mr. TURNER, Mr. BERRY, Mr. TANNER, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. SANDLIN, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. ROSS, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma, Mr. PHELPS, Ms. SANCHEZ, and Mr. MCINTYRE):

H.R. 2082. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives to encourage small business health plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PAUL:

H.R. 2083. A bill to amend titles 23 and 49, United States Code, relating to motor vehicle weight and width limitations; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. POMBO (for himself, Mr. BOYD, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. PUTNAM, and Mr. RADANOVICH):

H.R. 2084. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to implement certain additional reductions in the production or consumption of methyl bromide, unless the Secretary of Agriculture and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency have submitted a report on the effects of methyl bromide on the ozone layer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RAHALL (for himself, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA):

H.R. 2085. A bill to protect Native American sacred sites located within the Valley of Chiefs, Montana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. SANDERS:

H.R. 2086. A bill to provide that benefits under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, may be afforded for covered services provided by a licensed or certified acupuncturist, massage therapist, naturopathic physician, or midwife, without supervision or referral by another health practitioner; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. SANDERS:

H.R. 2087. A bill to provide that benefits under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, may be afforded for covered services provided by a licensed or certified chiropractor, without supervision or referral by another health practitioner; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. SHIMKUS (for himself, Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. LAHOOD, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. LEACH, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. HAYES, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. GANSKE, Mr.

EVANS, Mr. WELLER, Mr. TERRY, Mr. BUYER, Mr. PHELPS, and Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota):

H.R. 2088. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to require consideration under the congestion mitigation and air quality improvement program of the extent to which a proposed project or program reduces sulfur or atmospheric carbon emissions, to make renewable fuel projects eligible under that program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SMITH of Michigan:

H.R. 2089. A bill to amend the Agricultural Market Transition Act to continue for the 2001 crop year the eligibility of producers for loan deficiency payments when the producers, although not eligible to obtain a marketing assistance loan, produce a contract commodity; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 2090. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against gross income for organ donation; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. STARK (for himself, Mr. BOYD, Mr. FILNER, Mr. ISSA, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. OTTER, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. SANCHEZ):

H.R. 2091. A bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to ensure homeowners are provided adequate notice of flood map changes and a fair opportunity to appeal such changes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. WILSON:

H.R. 2092. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a national cemetery for veterans in the Albuquerque, New Mexico, metropolitan area; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MCGOVERN:

H. Res. 157. A resolution expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable John Joseph Moakley, a Representative from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; which was considered and agreed to.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

102. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Guam, relative to Resolution No. 66 memorializing the United States Congress to support and pass the Tax Relief Plan introduced by President George W. Bush, which includes an across-the-board reduction in marginal rates, eliminates the ''death tax'' and reduces the marriage penalty; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mrs. CAPPS introduced a bill (H.R. 2093) for the relief of Rodney E. Hoover; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 12: Mr. LEACH and Ms. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 13: Mr. UDALL of Colorado.

H.R. 65: Mr. ANDREWS.

H.R. 136: Mr. BALDACCI.

H.R. 144: Mr. RAMSTAD.

H.R. 175: Mr. GOODE and Mr. BARR of Georgia.

H.R. 218: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, and Mrs. WILSON.

H.R. 296: Ms. MCKINNEY and Mr. FILNER.

H.R. 320: Mr. ROTHMAN.

H.R. 326: Mr. HOLT and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

H.R. 380: Mr. ANDREWS.

H.R. 397: Mr. CHABOT, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, and Mr. DICKS.

H.R. 425: Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. LUTHER.

H.R. 460: Mr. LANTOS and Ms. SOLIS.

H.R. 461: Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri.

H.R. 464: Mr. BONIOR, Mr. KILDEE, and Ms. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 476: Mr. LATOURETTE.

H.R. 489: Ms. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 490: Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. ROSS, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. OBERSTAR, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Mr. HUTCHINSON.

H.R. 498: Mr. REYNOLDS, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. LEE, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. JOHN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. WAMP, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. LUTHER.

H.R. 500: Ms. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 504: Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. HOEFFEL, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. PALLONE, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 510: Mr. BUYER, Mr. MCNULTY, and Mr. CRAMER.

H.R. 534: Mr. STEARNS.

H.R. 571: Mr. ENGLISH.

H.R. 580: Ms. KILPATRICK and Mr. GUTIERREZ.

H.R. 589: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 590: Mr. WAXMAN.

H.R. 606: Mr. GRUCCI.

H.R. 612: Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. SAWYER, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. HOSTETTLER, and Mr. BALLENGER.

H.R. 637: Mr. HORN.

H.R. 686: Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRETT, and Mr. ENGEL.

H.R. 687: Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon.

H.R. 696: Mr. MEEKS of New York and Ms. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 697: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

H.R. 717: Mr. TIERNEY.

H.R. 746: Mr. PASTOR.

H.R. 747: Mr. ROHRABACHER.

H.R. 781: Mr. ORTIZ, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. ROTHMAN.

H.R. 786: Mrs. MINK of Hawaii.

H.R. 827: Ms. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 896: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.

H.R. 902: Mr. SHOWS and Mr. BOSWELL.

H.R. 913: Ms. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 945: Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island.

H.R. 955: Mr. MOORE.

H.R. 1032: Ms. KAPTUR and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 1051: Mr. KUCINICH and Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 1052: Mr. KUCINICH.

H.R. 1053: Mr. KUCINICH.

H.R. 1054: Mr. KUCINICH.

H.R. 1086: Mr. WU.

H.R. 1121: Mr. BERRY, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BRYANT, Mr. WELDON of Florida, and Mrs. CUBIN.

H.R. 1143: Mr. FILNER, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. LEE, and Mr. BALDACCI.

H.R. 1198: Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina

H.R. 1242: Ms. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 1254: Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 1263: Mr. NETHERCUTT.

H.R. 1299: Mr. LATOURETTE.

H.R. 1352: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland.

H.R. 1354: Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. LAMPSON, and Mr. DEUTSCH.

H.R. 1363: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.

H.R. 1405: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 1429: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois and Mr. BACA.

H.R. 1459: Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. SPENCE, and Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin.

H.R. 1472: Mr. MCDERMOTT and Mr. CARDIN.

H.R. 1481: Mrs. JONES of Ohio.

H.R. 1487: Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 1512: Mrs. MALONEY of New York and Ms. BROWN of Florida.

H.R. 1542: Mrs. MEEK of Florida and Mr. HAYES.

H.R. 1587: Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. SANDLIN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BALDACCI, and Mr. UDALL of Colorado.

H.R. 1601: Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

H.R. 1611: Mr. PITTS and Ms. HART.

H.R. 1623: Mr. BISHOP.

H.R. 1644: Mr. GOSS, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. ISAKSON.

H.R. 1651: Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 1660: Mr. DEUTSCH and Ms. BALDWIN.

H.R. 1673: Mr. STUMP.

H.R. 1674: Mr. SAWYER, Mr. DOYLE, and Mr. STRICKLAND.

H.R. 1677: Mr. SMITH of Washington and Mr. OSE.

H.R. 1713: Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. MEEHAN.

H.R. 1735: Mr. DEAL of Georgia.

H.R. 1744: Ms. BROWN of Florida.

H.R. 1745: Mr. COOKSEY.

H.R. 1760: Ms. LEE.

H.R. 1770: Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. HILLEARY, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. BARCIA, Mr. DUNCAN, and Mr. WAMP.

H.R. 1806: Mr. SABO, Mr. TIERNEY, and Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 1811: Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. BALDACCI, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, and Mr. UDALL of Colorado.

H.R. 1892: Mrs. BONO, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. HART, Mr. HORN, and Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma.

H.R. 1914: Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. BEREUTER, and Mr. MCHUGH.

H.R. 1934: Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. HOEFFEL, and Mr. KNOLLENBERG.

H.R. 1935: Mr. GILMAN, Mr. BARCIA, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. MASCARA, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. HOYER, and Mrs. THURMAN.

H.R. 1948: Mr. BONIOR.

H.R. 1950: Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. SOUDER, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 1957: Mr. BONIOR.

H.R. 175: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and Mr. UDALL of Colorado.

H.R. 1995: Mr. RYUN of Kansas.

H.R. 2001: Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin.

H.R. 2052: Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. COOKSEY, and Mrs. NORTHUP.

H.R. 2058: Ms. BALDWIN.

H.J. Res. 6: Mr. WELDON of Florida and Ms. CARSON of Indiana.

H.J. Res. 36: Mr. HASTERT, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. ISTOOK, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. VITTER, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. JOHN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. WELLER, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. OSE, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. WALSH, and Mr. HOLDEN.

H. Con. Res. 97: Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HORN, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. WAXMAN, and Ms. HARMAN.

H. Con. Res. 104: Mr. TANCREDO.

H. Con. Res. 116: Mr. RUSH and Mr. SPENCE.

H. Con. Res. 145: Mr. LOBIONDO.

H. Con. Res. 150: Mrs. KELLY, Mr. MARKEY, and Mrs. MORELLA.

H. Res. 120: Mr. BONIOR.

DELETION OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 1271: Mr. GUTIERREZ.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

26. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the Wasilla City Council, Alaska, relative to Resolution 01–11 petitioning the United States Congress to support the responsible and environmentally sound exploration, development, and support of oil and gas resources in the plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge; to the Committee on Resources.

27. Also, a petition of the City of Hoonah, Alaska, relative to a Resolution petitioning the United States Congress to support the Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1999; jointly to the Committees on Resources, Agriculture, and the Budget.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 1699

OFFERED BY: MRS. BIGGERT

AMENDMENT NO. 4: At the end of the bill add the following:

SEC. ___. ASSISTANCE FOR MARINE SAFETY STATION ON CHICAGO LAKEFRONT.

(a) ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Transportation may use amounts authorized under this section to provide financial assistance to the City of Chicago, Illinois, to pay the Federal share of the cost of a project to demolish the Old Coast Guard Station, located at the north end of the inner Chicago Harbor breakwater at the foot of Randolph Street, and to construct a new facility at that site for use as a marine safety station on the Chicago lakefront.

(b) COST SHARING.—

(1) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project carried out with assistance under this section may not exceed one third of the total cost of the project.

(2) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—There shall not be applied to the non-Federal share of a project carried out with assistance under this section—

(A) the value of land and existing facilities used for the project; and

(B) any costs incurred for site work performed before the date of the enactment of this Act, including costs for reconstruction of the east breakwater wall and associated utilities.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to the other amounts authorized by this Act, for providing financial assistance under this section there is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation $2,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, to remain available until expended.

H.R. 1699

OFFERED BY: MR. TRAFICANT

AMENDMENT NO. 5: At the end of the bill add the following:

SEC. ___. REQUIREMENT TO CONSTRUCT ONLY AMERICAN-MADE VESSELS.

Any new vessel constructed for the Coast Guard with amounts made available under this Act—

(1) shall be constructed in the United States;

(2) shall not be constructed using any steel other than steel made in the United States; and

(3) shall be constructed in compliance with the Buy American Act.