

war behind you once and for all, because you have real wars to wage.

A war against poverty and HIV-AIDS which demand that both governments shift the focus of your energies and your scarce resources to not only to rebuild your economies to help those hurt most by the war, your citizens. But to also face the challenges of transforming the public and private institutions and structures in the economy for the development of your societies in the 21st century.

These are the wars which must be waged if the vision of a strong and vibrant African Union is going to be realized. An African Union which needs the Horn of Africa to be stable. I will work in this Congress to support new forms of broad based US engagement with both nations, as long as both nations demonstrate their commitment to fighting for peace, development, health care, education and democracy.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The Chair announces that at 2 p.m. we will cut off 5-minute special orders, and so we will expeditiously move forward.

#### HIV-AIDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the brutality of the corporate scandal that has occurred here in this Nation is one that clearly we should all be concerned about. But the idea of ignoring the crisis of HIV-AIDS should be one that we abhor.

When I refer to the tragedy of the corporate scandal here in the United States, it is to the loss that so many have suffered and so many millions and billions of dollars that have been lost. It is my belief that those billions of dollars could be vitally used for the tragedy of what is going on in HIV-AIDS.

It is important to note that the World Conference on AIDS has said progress has been made. But in addition to progress being made, we also find that there is much work to be done, particularly as it relates to the infection of HIV-AIDS, to the issues dealing with immune systems and the kinds of infections that are now becoming immune to the various drugs that are being utilized, the lack of monies for developing nations, the lack of dollars for helping with the mother-to-child infection transmission. We have found that where you have the circumstance of mother-to-child transmission and you have intervention, you will find that it works to save lives.

The increase of HIV-infected persons is enormous. The increase in countries like India and Bangladesh and China is enormous. The number of HIV-infected people who do not know that they are infected is enormous. The key thing we must do is to be able to find a way to address this question.

The Millennium Project has been announced. There has been a request for \$1 billion. There has been an additional request for \$2 billion. Mr. Speaker, let me suggest that that is not enough. We are being tortured in this country by our own increase in HIV-AIDS, particularly among African American women, and I believe it is important for us to be able to focus our concern on many issues.

Corporate accountability is particularly important, as is corporate responsibility. Accountability is particularly important. So, too, are the concerns regarding HIV-AIDS infection, as has been indicated by the World Conference on AIDS.

I am delighted to have this opportunity to address the House on this very important issue because we cannot forget. As we parallel our track on the issues of corporate accountability and recognizing the billions of dollars that have been lost in insider trading and the need to provide security for our own employees with pension reform and protections as relates to bankruptcy issues, we cannot afford to lose sight of the devastation of HIV-AIDS.

I am looking forward to working on the increase in funds coming from this House and this body, and the President signing legislation to intervene internationally on the tremendous costs of HIV-AIDS. We lose people, we lose the ability for nations to thrive and grow, we undermine their economy, and they simply cannot thrive. They cannot feed the malnourished, they cannot provide affordable housing, and they cannot provide education because large percentages of their budget are taken up with issues such as HIV-AIDS.

We need to do proactive things, and one of them is to increase the relief or the forgiving of the debt that our Third World developing nations have so they can use those resources to provide health care for those in need. South Africa has been a leader, Zimbabwe; Zambia has been a leader, and now it is important that we find our way to emphasize HIV-AIDS intervention and protection thereof.

This is an important issue. It is important for this Nation, and I cannot leave, Mr. Speaker, without acknowledging that each is our brother's keeper. We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, and as we need to help those in this country, we must help those who are seeking our aid in fighting HIV-AIDS and the intervention of such.

#### FARM SUBSIDIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today the Committee on Appropriations marked up and passed out the agricultural appropriations bill. That will be on the House floor next week.

In that effort this morning, there was an attempt to put language into that appropriations bill that would have the effect of having limits on the payments that go out to some of the very, very, big, big farmers. That amendment was squelched. A tremendous amount of pressure.

In the House, where we attempted to instruct conferees when the farm bill went through, that vote was overwhelming in giving the will of this House, this body, that we should have some kind of payment limits for farmers on farm price supports.

Let me just briefly, Mr. Speaker, explain the problem. We sort of hoodwink a lot of the American people by saying there are limits on what a farmer can receive. Not so. Because there is a loophole in the law. It is called generic certificates. After a farmer reaches the \$75,000 limit that is allocated in the bill as a limit, from that point on there is a gimmick called generic certificates, that the government will sell the farmer the generic certificate to pay for the commodity. The farmer ends up getting the same kind of benefit as what is limited under the \$75,000 limitation.

I would call to my colleagues' attention that next week we are trying to get language in the agricultural appropriations bill that will have some kind of a limit. So some of the farmers that are huge, that are big, are not getting million dollar payments that put the smaller farmer at a very distinct disadvantage, and that is good policy.

We should not have programs that wipe the small farmer out, and that is what is happening. Because the farm program is capitalized on land values, land values have gone up because of this last farm bill, and that means that it is harder for a small farmer to survive.

Let me just ask my colleagues to seriously look at this issue in the next several days and consider the amendment that we intend to offer on the floor.

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. I yield to the gentleman from California.

#### VIDEO GAME BILL

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, while our Nation is defending ourselves from attacks from abroad, we are facing another battle here at home. We are in a battle for the hearts and the minds and souls of our children. We must address the cultural issues that are influencing the behavior of our children.

They are being drowned by the flood of sex and violence from the video game industry. When four out of five kids walk into the neighborhood stores and buy video games that show people having sex with prostitutes, killing police officers, using drugs, and attacking our senior citizens, it is time to take action. These games are brainwashing our children. They teach them the skills and the will to kill.

I am a parent, a grandparent, and I have had enough of violence that we