

rate. If you are an American company making money in Ireland, a country with a corporate tax rate of 17 percent, you are going to end up paying that U.S. tax rate of 35 percent, whereas it will be much less for France or England.

Mr. Speaker, we are losing jobs because we tax our companies and businesses more than anybody else does. We tax them overseas. What happens? Foreign companies are taking over U.S. companies, pushing income and jobs overseas.

We need to lower our tax rates, we need to fix our Tax Code and make it more efficient so we can keep jobs here at home.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BASS). The gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) is recognized for 3½ minutes.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the erudite lecture on the tax structure of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN). I know he sits on the Committee on Ways and Means, and he knows we have not had a single hearing on any kind of tax reform bill the whole time he has been on the committee.

It is good to come out here and send these letters to the Congress. I do not know who this Congress is. When we send the sense of the Congress, where do these go? Do these go to the leadership or somewhere, or up in the air, or over to the Senate?

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. McDERMOTT. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I would tell the gentleman, we have had hearings in the Committee on Ways and Means. We have had hearings in the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures on tax reform ideas.

Mr. McDERMOTT. I would ask the gentleman, Mr. Speaker, when are they going to bring something to the full committee? I do not sit on that subcommittee.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Well, in the subcommittee we had a lot of hearings.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I take back my time. I appreciate the gentleman's point.

The last tax we had last year, the one they have been running their elections on, the Urban Institute says that if your income is between \$30,000 and \$40,000, that is the average income in this country, the tax cut was \$339. Households with over \$1 million get an average tax cut of \$90,000. Sixty-eight percent of households in this country get a tax cut of less than \$500.

If you are a typical elderly family with an income between \$20,000 and \$30,000, you get 89 bucks. That is an unfair tax structure. They made it worse. If they have their way with this \$700 billion nonsense that they are trying to push in this session, they will make it even worse, because they will saddle

our kids with debt and give all the money to people on the top.

Now, I agree, this is a great thing. I wish we could get somebody, when we send this sense of the Congress, it would actually get to somebody who could actually do something, maybe the Speaker's office, maybe the majority leader's office. Mr. Arney used to talk about it, but he never brought a bill here. Maybe the new majority leader would bring us out something we could vote on. It would be real nice to have a debate on an actual piece of legislation, so we could understand what it was really going to do.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my Members to vote for this, because we all want a more fair tax structure.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to say to my friend, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT), whose mother is watching him tonight, that she knows her own son. However, the IRS would define "child" five different ways under the current code. I know she is with us and appreciates the gentleman's "yes" vote.

This bill supports this hearing, this bill supports that debate. It is my hope that we can get those of us who may or may not be on the right committee to introduce our bills.

I am hoping that the Democrat Party will introduce a bill. To my knowledge, and I have been up here 10 years, I have never seen the Democrat Party introduce tax simplification. We have gotten a lot of criticism. I would like to see some of their solutions. Maybe we can do some bipartisan things together.

The criticism about the length of this debate is valid, but we have spent a lot of time preserving Social Security and Medicare and reforming education. These things do, unfortunately, take decades to accomplish. Welfare reform, which we passed in 1996, actually was debated for 30 years before we actually got reform on it.

I do not want this to be 30 years, Mr. Speaker. I am hoping that Members of Congress can use this resolution as a vehicle to encourage debate within this body, within this town, within the other body, within the executive branch, to bring the tax simplification debate forward.

I ask Members to put their ideas on the table, whatever it is, Democrat Party, Republican Party, Independents, flat tax, sales tax, simplifying the current code. Let us do something, because what we have right now is not working.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 141.

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. KINGSTON. 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.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 151, PROSECUTORIAL REMEDIES AND TOOLS AGAINST THE EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN TODAY ACT OF 2003

Mrs. MYRICK (during consideration of H. Con. Res. 141), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-68) on the resolution (H. Res. 188) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the Senate bill (S. 151) to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to the sexual exploitation of children, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR RENewed EFFORT TO FIND PEACEFUL, JUST, AND LASTING SETTLEMENT TO CYPRUS PROBLEM

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 165) expressing support for a renewed effort to find a peaceful, just, and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 165

Whereas the United States believed there existed a historic opportunity to bring a peaceful, just, and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem, which would have benefited all Greek and Turkish Cypriots, as well as the wider region;

Whereas a resolution of the Cyprus problem remains consistent with American values of promoting stability, freedom, and democracy in the world;

Whereas a resolution of the Cyprus problem is in the strategic interests of the United States, given the important location of Cyprus at the crossroads of Europe, Africa, and Asia;

Whereas the United States strongly supports the efforts of the United Nations Secretary General, and his Special Advisor through his good offices mission, to achieve a comprehensive settlement with respect to Cyprus in full consideration with relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and international treaties;

Whereas a just and lasting resolution of the Cyprus problem, in full consideration of United Nations Security Council resolutions and international treaties, will safeguard the security and fundamental rights of all Greek and Turkish Cypriots;

Whereas the United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan, on November 11, 2002, submitted a proposal for the comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem, referred to as the "Basis for an Agreement on a Comprehensive Settlement of the Cyprus problem", which he revised on December 10, 2002, and again on February 26, 2003;