

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I listened with interest to the comments of the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COOPER) who served here in a previous majority that had its share of challenges in terms of a lack of modesty, and I think that is an ever-present danger for the majority.

At the same time, however, we cannot paralyze legitimate differences of public opinion, for that is the essence of the House of Representatives and debate within this body. Case in point: the upcoming motion to instruct. My friend, a Morehead Scholar at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, is a student of history and he understands that for the working poor we instituted in the 1970s an earned income tax credit so the families he wants to help are already being helped to the tune of several thousand dollars. If not, I would urge every Member of this body to inform his or her constituents of the earned income tax credit. I look forward to the upcoming debate.

ASSAULT ON TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENTS PROGRAM

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, Members depart the Chamber today to go back to their districts, meeting with people to get in touch with what is on their minds. I hope that our colleagues will take the opportunity to discuss with their constituents an assault on the transportation enhancements program.

Mr. Speaker, this has been a program since 1991 that has funneled billions of dollars into opportunities for people to convert abandoned rail corridors to trails, to have programs to revitalize historic highways, and for bike and pedestrian paths. All of these have been critical elements of being able to improve the livability of our communities. Inexplicably, the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation stripped these elements out, and condemned them as ineffective. Hopefully the full committee is starting to right this wrong, but people at home need to be careful. If we are not diligent, we are going to lose an important part of the broad base of support for a balanced transportation system.

DEMOCRATIC SUCCESSION PLAN FOR AZERBAIJAN

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

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, the United States and our allies need a democratic succession plan for the Government of Azerbaijan. Our country's energy policy depends in large part on foreign energy supply, and much of it comes from the Caspian region in Azerbaijan. The former President there, President

Aliiev, a former KGB leader, is coming in and out of a coma on death's door and trying to have his son succeed him.

I think for the long-term future of the United States' interests and those of our allies, we need to back a true democracy in Azerbaijan with a wide range of candidates, but right now some of the most powerful and important candidates are not allowed to register. For example, the former Speaker of the House in Azerbaijan has had no opportunity to stand before the people of Azerbaijan for election.

Mr. Speaker, this administration, and the administration of our allies, needs to support a true democratic process so we can have a stable Caspian region which is so important to the world's energy supply and so important to the economy of the United States.

TRIBUTE TO EDDIE MURRAY

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

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to this body's attention that this weekend in Cooperstown, Cooperstown, New York, one of the greatest baseball players of all time will be inducted into the Hall of Fame, and that is Eddie Murray who played for the Baltimore Orioles. He played for other teams, but he is known as a Baltimore Oriole.

Eddie Murray is one of only three players, the other two, Hank Aaron and Willie Mays, who hit over his lifetime 500 home runs in 3,000 hits. But what we all know about Eddie Murray, he is a model of consistency, a real team player, a person who really brought championship to Baltimore, and championship to the baseball diamond.

He also gave back to the community. Particularly, I want to bring to this body's attention the Carrie Murray Nature Center that he founded in Baltimore, in honor of his mother, in Lincoln Park. He is known not only as a great baseball player, but a great person. I congratulate him on being selected for the Hall of Fame.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

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

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to conclude a series of commentaries I have been making on illegal immigration and to find a solution to the Nation's current immigration woes. We in Arizona feel this in particular.

Over the past 8 months, I have been working with the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) to put together a comprehensive foreign worker program, a temporary worker program, which recognizes the way people organize and order their own lives, that recognizes that we need a rational policy

to deal with the situation that we have along our Nation's borders.

We need to understand that we not only need to deal with those who want to come to our country to work on a temporary basis, but for those who are here illegally as well, and find a solution that will both encourage those who are here illegally to come out from under the woodwork, and to come into a legal framework and to provide an opportunity for those who wish to come and fill our Nation's labor needs to do so.

I am pleased that this will be introduced today, and I encourage my colleagues to look at it and join us in the debate and ultimately support it.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 1308, TAX RELIEF, SIMPLIFICATION, AND EQUITY ACT OF 2003

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. SOLIS moves that the managers on the part of the House in the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 1308 be instructed as follows:

1. The House conferees shall be instructed to include in the conference report the provision of the Senate amendment (not included in the House amendment) that provides immediate payments to taxpayers receiving an additional credit by reason of the bill in the same manner as other taxpayers were entitled to immediate payments under the Jobs Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003.

2. The House conferees shall be instructed to include in the conference report the provision of the Senate amendment (not included in the House amendment) that provides families of military personnel serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other combat zones a child credit based on the earnings of the individuals serving in the combat zone.

3. The House conferees shall be instructed to include in the conference report all of the other provisions of the Senate amendment and shall not report back a conference report that includes additional tax benefits not offset by other provisions.

4. To the maximum extent possible within the scope of the conference, the House conferees shall be instructed to include in the conference report other tax benefits for military personnel and the families of the astronauts who died in the Columbia disaster.

5. The House conferees shall, as soon as practicable after the adoption of this motion, meet in open session with the Senate conferees and the House conferees shall file a conference report consistent with the preceding provisions of this instruction, not later than the second legislative day after adoption of this motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS) and a majority Member each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS).

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

Mr. Speaker, this motion would instruct our conferees to accept the Senate amendment to H.R. 1308. This