

and Bush administrations realized the powerful capacity for terror that Saddam Hussein openly wielded.

In 1998, President Clinton said, "If Saddam rejects peace and we have to use force, our purpose is clear. We want to seriously diminish the threat posed by Iraq's weapons of mass destruction program." In this statement, it is clear that the Clinton administration acknowledged weapons of mass destruction and was prepared to end Saddam Hussein's control of them. Even former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright admitted an Iraq capable of using "nuclear, chemical or biological weapons against us or our allies is the greatest security threat we face." The threat of Saddam Hussein has been clear for decades. Finally, that threat has been eliminated.

STOP ARAB BASHING

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

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, some of these later speakers have talked about religious bigotry, and I think one of the things that if we care about what is going on in Iraq, they will stop the Arab bashing. The President was smart enough when he used the word "crusade" to realize that was a serious mistake because it raises issues from thousands of years ago.

On the one hand I agree with condemning Prime Minister Mahathir of Malaysia for his anti-Semitic remarks, but one has to use the same standard on the general who starts talking about "our God." In Ireland, where my family came from, God was on both sides. I do not know if the Catholics had him or the Protestants had him. Who is right?

When Members inject that into this debate, they simply inflame those people in the Shiite community and the Sunni community who see us as occupiers and destroyers of their religion. That means more people attack our people. That creates al Qaeda volunteers. Those are the people shooting our troops. Stop it.

HONORING FORMER GOVERNOR PRESTON SMITH

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

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a great American and a great man in Texas politics. Former Governor Preston Smith passed away Saturday at the age of 91. His impact on the State of Texas, especially in the area of education, is immeasurable. One of his many focuses during his years in politics was improving education in Texas. He was responsible for opening more colleges and universities than any other Governor in our State. Known as the people's

Governor, it was not surprising to call his office and have him answer his own phone.

Just a few of his accomplishments during his tenure include the creation of four new State schools, a new University of Texas Medical School in Houston, the Texas Tech Medical School in Lubbock, Texas, the University of Texas dental branch and a nurses training school in San Antonio, a new undergraduate nursing school in El Paso, and an expansion of the University of Texas medical branch at Galveston.

Governor Smith was married 63 years to his loving wife, Ima, also a Texas Tech graduate, who died in 1998. A kind, caring soul, as her health declined, the Governor would walk into her bedroom each morning with a fresh-cut flower and a note.

Thousands of Tech students each day walk past a 9-foot bronze statue of Smith that stands in front of the administration building. He will continue to watch over Texas and Texas Tech for years to come. Texas, West Texas, and Lubbock are better places today because of the distinguished service of Governor Preston Smith.

MORATORIUM ON DEHYDRATION CASES IN FLORIDA

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

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Terry Schiavo had her feeding tubes removed last Wednesday, and she may needlessly die. Last night, I spoke with Governor Jeb Bush about Terry, and he assured me that he and the Florida legislature are moving expeditiously to give him the powers to intervene to save her life and fulfill the wishes of Terry's parents. Terry's parents are in a last-minute battle to save her.

Governor Bush and the Florida legislature are taking the necessary steps. Three years ago, the circuit court ordered Terry's feeding tubes to be withdrawn; and despite the objections of Terry's parents and request to take custody and care for her, all court cases have failed. Terry is not unconscious. Terry is not on life support. She is not dying of an underlying disease, and she is responsive to human interaction.

This is a grave injustice. Yesterday, Governor Bush called for a special session to pass a moratorium on all dehydration cases in Florida. The Florida House passed this bill with Governor Bush's support, and the Florida senate will take it up today. Support the legislature and support Governor Bush in this effort to save this young lady's life.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 73, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2004

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 407 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 407

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 73) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes. The joint resolution shall be considered as read for amendment. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate on the joint resolution equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BASS). The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

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

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 407 is a closed rule providing for the consideration of H.J. Res. 73, which is a continuing resolution that makes further appropriations for fiscal year 2004. The rule provides for 1 hour of debate in the House, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution, and provides for one motion to recommit.

Mr. Speaker, this joint resolution provides an additional week of funding for government agencies because the fiscal year 2004 appropriations bills have not yet been enacted into law. Specifically, this resolution extends until November 7, 2003, the provisions of the previous continuing appropriations resolution that were to expire on October 31, 2003. In addition, this resolution conjoins the six fiscal year 2004 appropriations bills that have passed the House, but have not yet been considered by the other body.

Mr. Speaker, we are approaching the completion of the first session of this 108th Congress, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this rule so we may proceed to the consideration of the underlying continuing resolution. While the House has passed each of the appropriations bills, it is clear that there are issues left to resolve in the other body that will require additional time to complete the