

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 5 one-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT ERWIN

(Mr. DELAY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, so many times in our lives, blessings appear to us without our knowing. At other times, Providence just slaps us in the face.

In the summer of 2002, a young man named Scott Erwin, a senior at the University of Richmond, came to work in my office as an intern and made an immediate impact on my staff. To the staff assistants who supervised him and the senior staff who gave him his assignments, Scott revealed himself in short order as a special young man, a man of intelligence, humor and gumption. He was the kind of man who was going to make a difference in the world and leave it better than he found it.

Toward that end, while Scott's classmates spent their senior year taking gut courses and working on their graduate school applications, Scott went to Iraq. He transported a class on American democracy, which he had developed and taught as a student at Richmond to the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq, where he taught the class to Iraqi university students. He showed them how the institutions and history of American democracy might be translated into Iraqi culture to help the liberated Iraqi people build a democratic society of their own.

On his way back from class one Wednesday this past June, Scott's car was ambushed by terrorists, either Saddam loyalists or foreign killers. They riddled the car with bullets, killing two of those inside. Scott himself was hit three times, once in each arm, once in the abdomen. His life was saved twice in those terrifying moments, once by the translator sitting next to him who pulled him under the seats and once by a very small battery he was carrying near his identification card over his heart which deflected the bullet that would have otherwise killed him. Iraqi police scared off the terrorists and Scott received immediate medical attention. He was soon flown to Germany and then home to the United States, where he is still recovering from his wounds and the surgeries conducted to save his life.

It makes you wonder how you spent your senior year in college.

As I said, Mr. Speaker, sometimes Providence is not a breeze but a hurricane. Sometimes it comes in the shape of a battery, and sometimes it comes in the shape of an intrepid 22-year-old serving his country and all countries in the cause of human freedom.

Scott Erwin came to work for me in 2002 and gave my office a jolt of enthu-

siasm and wit, to say nothing of extraordinary candlepower. Those are the traits he took with him to Iraq and the traits he brings with him every day to physical therapy as he continues to recover.

Today, Scott Erwin is back at the University of Richmond, still fighting, still working, finishing his degree in political science and the classics. He does not know I am even here speaking these words about him, and maybe that is how he would prefer it. But these words deserve the saying just the same.

So, Scott, wherever you are, on behalf of everyone in my office and everyone here on Capitol Hill, thank you for your service, thank you for your courage, and we all look forward to seeing what you do with both of them in the future.

Good luck, Scott, and God bless you.

URGING THE PRESIDENT TO
SPEAK CANDIDLY

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, yesterday in Denver the President said, "When the American President speaks, he must mean what he says."

That is interesting coming from an administration that told us the Medicare bill would actually cost \$395 billion, all the while knowing it would cost \$540 billion.

From an administration that said it would take less than 100,000 troops to secure the peace in Iraq and then fired General Shinseki, who told us the true number.

From an administration that promised to leave no child behind but purposely left them \$10 billion short.

From an administration that said Iraq had reconstituted their nuclear capability, even though its own intelligence report said the opposite.

From an administration that said a memo detailing al Qaeda's plans to attack the United States was historical and not a warning.

From an administration that says it will cut the deficit in half while proposing \$3 trillion in additional new spending.

From an administration that said their economic policies would create 5.5 million jobs. We are only 2.6 million short.

From an administration that promised a tax cut for everyone but failed to include a provision increasing the child tax credit for 6.5 million working families and military families.

Mr. Speaker, this is a funny way to promise to restore truth and honesty to the White House.

INTRODUCTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ALLOWING NATURALIZED CITIZENS TO SERVE AS PRESIDENT

(Mr. ROHRABACHER asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, this morning I have introduced a constitutional amendment that will provide the American people with a wider range of presidential candidates. My amendment will allow all those who have been citizens of the United States for more than 20 years to serve as President. This constitutional amendment is fully consistent with my long-held support for a generous policy of legal immigration but at the same time vigorously opposing all illegal immigration.

There are those here today who will interpret this constitutional proposal permitting a naturalized citizen to serve as President as a political ploy designed to permit a prominent California elected official who immigrated to the United States from Central Europe and who still speaks with a thick accent to be eligible to be elected President of the United States.

This is no ploy. I honestly believe that TOM LANTOS should be allowed to seek the highest office in the land just like any other elected official from California.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this constitutional amendment.

IVAN THREATENS NEW ORLEANS

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, barely have we recovered from Hurricane Hugo and we are seeing Hurricane Ivan pose the threat that has long been feared by those in Louisiana, that this actually might represent the loss of the City of New Orleans. Located 15 feet below sea level, there is the potential of a 30-foot wall of water putting at risk \$100 billion of infrastructure and industry and countless lives.

We all hope that it does veer to the west as projected, but I hope that this brings us to a realization that now is the time for the Federal Government to deal with policies that will make a difference protecting people. Careful planning, strong building codes and balanced transportation are not slogans and bureaucratic hoops. These are simple, commonsense provisions that can save lives, protect property and prevent countless billions of dollars in disaster aid from the Federal Government.

AGAINST MATRICULA CONSULAR CARDS

(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, last night the House voted to strip language in the Treasury bill that would have made a small step towards restoring some sense of sanity to our national immigration policy. Even