

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING
A REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a)
OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO
CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN
RESOLUTIONS REPORTED BY
THE RULES COMMITTEE

Mr. DREIER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-795) on the resolution (H. Res. 868) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

WELDON ANTI-WOMAN PROVISION
IN H.R. 4818

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks and include therein extraneous material.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my outrage about a dangerous antiwoman provision that is in this omnibus bill. I know that is not going to be changed, but I do want all women in America to know what is coming for them.

Let us say a woman is the unfortunate victim of a partial spontaneous abortion. Under the law that has been passed now in the United States, that woman may not go to the hospital and have that completed unless the hospital wants to do so. Presently, the law requires that a woman be taken care of; but even if a woman's life is at stake, even if she is going to die, the hospital does not have to do it.

Now, what happens if the hospital does it in defiance of what this law says? They then put into jeopardy every cent of money they bring in from the Labor-HHS bill, which would include all their State Children's Health Insurance money, all their Head Start money, all their child care development block grant money, all social services money, and perhaps all senior nutrition programs. This is really draconian when it comes to saving a woman's life.

States will not be allowed anymore to require an HMO that is participating in Medicaid to either cover abortions for a rape victim or tell them that they are eligible to get services and where to get it. What a step backwards for the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I am submitting for the RECORD an article from today's Washington Times announcing what is yet to come.

[From the Washington Times, Dec. 6, 2004]

PRO-LIFERS SET SIGHTS ON NEW CONGRESS

(By Amy Fagan)

The pro-life movement, which helped pass several initiatives in the 108th Congress, thinks Republican gains in the Senate will aid the chances for bills to enforce state parental notification laws and to alert pregnant women about fetal pain.

"There is enough of a shift that we think bills such as these two . . . have a real chance," said Douglas Johnson, legislative

director of the National Right to Life Committee.

The Senate has been the biggest blockade to pro-life bills. Republican pickups in this year's election mean the chamber will have about three additional pro-life votes come January, Mr. Johnson said.

He said he hopes the defeat of Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, South Dakota Democrat, might make some pro-choice senators "who marched in lock step with the abortion lobby . . . less inclined to get out on thin ice" in blocking abortion restrictions.

Both sides of the abortion debate are anticipating a Supreme Court vacancy, particularly after deteriorating health has forced Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist to miss several sessions.

Mr. Johnson said a battle over any Supreme Court nominee would take top priority for his group.

Vicki Saporta, president of the National Abortion Federation, also said a Supreme Court vacancy would be a "huge priority" for her side. She promised a "tremendous fight" over any nominee who would "turn back the clock" on abortion or other rights.

Until that fight erupts, however, the pro-life lobby will focus on other legislation.

One priority, introduced as a bill for the first time in May, would require doctors to tell women seeking abortions after 20 weeks about the capacity of the fetus to feel pain and offer the option of pain-reducing drugs.

The fetal-pain issue garnered interest during a federal court case in New York, in which the government was defending the federal ban on late-term partial-birth abortions. The judge in that case said the defense presented "credible evidence" that a fetus feels pain.

Mr. Johnson said there is growing support for the fetal pain bill in the House, and he hopes it can pass both chambers this term.

A bill returning to the scene next session would make it a federal crime to circumvent a state's parental-notification law by transporting a pregnant teen across the state line for an abortion without parental involvement.

The measure passed the House three times but stalled in the Senate.

Miss Saporta said the fetal-pain bill is "part of their campaign to separate the fetus from the woman."

Although the teen-transport bill likely will be introduced in both chambers, she said, passage would "put the most vulnerable teens at risk" by forcing those in dangerous family situations to involve their parents in abortion decisions and by making other family members criminals if they intervene.

Connie Mackey, vice president for government affairs for the Family Research Council, said her group also will push a ban on cloning human embryos for any purpose.

The legislation stalled last session, but House and Senate sponsors plan to bring back their bills next session. "We will be working hard" to pass them, Mrs. Mackey said.

She said her group will fight for more federal funding for adult stem-cell research, as a more promising alternative to embryonic stem-cell research. Pro-life lawmakers also are considering proposals to regulate abortion clinics and ban or limit RU-486, a home drug treatment that induces an abortion.

Miss Saporta said she also suspects conservative lawmakers will try to ban or limit RU-486 but predicted they will fail.

"It will be somewhat easier for anti-choice forces to pass further restrictions on abortion, but they won't be successful in all of their initiatives," she said.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

INDEPENDENT THINKING

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

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2001, our Nation suffered the most horrible attack ever on American soil at the hands of those with a deep-seated, enduring hatred for freedom.

Since that day, every one of us has been anxious to do whatever we can to protect our Nation's security. We have made great strides in this direction over the past 3 years, and much of the bill currently being considered seeks to capitalize on the success of the policies of the Bush administration.

When 9/11 Commission Vice Chair Lee Hamilton and Commission member Slade Gorton testified before the Committee on the Judiciary, I promised that I would carefully analyze any proposal that would come before this Congress to ensure that independence and ingenuity are preserved and that any intelligence-gathering entity or entities are not susceptible to groupthink.

The creation of the National Intelligence Director in this bill is precisely the formula for groupthink.

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I absolutely believe the sharing of information is essential, but a National Intelligence Director with budget control and hiring and firing authority will create the climate for top-down groupthink. This groupthink will eliminate the competition of ideas and hinder innovation and creativity. Next time, it will not matter how faulty the information sharing, but a matter of the information not being generated or discovered to begin with. Instead of seeking to create out-of-the-box, nonlinear thinking, creative, effective intelligence organizations, this legislation is carving square pegs to fit into round holes. It is impossible not to reach the conclusion that groupthink is the inevitable result of the 9/11 Commission NID proposal.

We need to establish open channels of information-sharing between agencies, but not cripple them with top-down control. The testimony both before and by the 9/11 Commission established that there was not a single model of an intelligence culture that got it right. We must find the models we can use to create the types of agencies that can think outside the box.

Just as importantly, our national security begins at our borders. H.R. 10 included many immigration reforms that would have greatly improved the security of the United States. The conference committee either completely

removed most of those provisions or mutilated them beyond recognition.

They removed a requirement that all people entering the U.S. must provide secure verification of their identities and citizenship; a requirement that people present secure identification to establish their identity to Federal employees. They took out provisions which would have expedited the removal of illegal aliens and prevented terrorists from obtaining asylum.

They stripped a provision that would have cut down on excessive judicial review of the deportations of criminal aliens. They cut a provision which would have mandated that dangerous aliens who cannot be deported be detained. They chopped a section that would have imposed criminal penalties for false claims of citizenship.

Finally, the issue that has received the most attention lately, they cut a provision that would have barred illegal aliens from obtaining driver's licenses.

After all of this, they told the people who lost their loved ones on September 11 that those who are truly seeking to improve their safety are the ones holding this bill up in conference.

This is not a time for partisan politics or turf wars. If the goal here is truly to improve the security of our Nation as best we can, we cannot stifle intelligence activities nor ignore the mammoth threat pouring through our borders and living among us.

I urge my colleagues to join me in refusing to settle for a bill that does not do all it can to improve the safety of those who sent us here to represent them.

DEMOCRATS' MORAL VALUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, last month Ohio Democrats took our moral values to the polls.

For many of us, our faith guided us, and our final vote for President was far too close to declare, my State, a State full of evangelical fundamentalists.

For many of us, moral values are grounded in our religious faith.

My Lutheran upbringing instructs me and my fellow Christians in the teachings of Jesus, to read and to follow as best we can the words of the Beatitudes, to try to live our lives and practice our politics as Jesus would have wanted us to.

For others of us, those moral values take the form of a faith in our country's greatness to solve our most pressing problems of racial inequality, inaccessible health care, poverty of millions of American children and the war in Iraq.

For several years, I have worn a lapel pin depicting a canary in a cage. A century ago, miners took a canary into the mines to warn them of toxic gases.

Miners were forced, in those days, to provide for their own protection. No mine safety laws. No trade unions able to help. No real support from their government.

A baby born a hundred years ago in those days had a life expectancy of about 47 years. Today, because of public health initiatives, worker safety laws, Medicare, Social Security, and other new laws, protections for children and minorities and the disabled, we live decades longer.

Every bit of progress in the struggle for economic and social justice, often rooted in our Judeo-Christian beliefs, prevailed over the opposition of society's most privileged and most powerful.

Today, those struggles continue. Our fight, in this chamber, for seniors who are forced to choose between medicine and food and our fight against the large pharmaceutical companies' greed is our understanding of the Holy Word.

Our opposition to tax cuts for America's most privileged adults and Head Start cuts afflicting our least privileged children follow from the teachings of Christ.

George Bush approved more than 150 executions, one every 2 weeks of his governorship in Texas. Our opposition to the death penalty is grounded in the Scriptures.

Our belief that government programs like Medicare and Social Security and Medicaid, not privatized imitations of them, our belief in those programs should serve all Americans bespeaks a faith in the greatness of our country and its ability and willingness to lift up all its children.

As we have seen over the last 4 years, Republicans campaign to their religious friends on their moral values, mostly opposition to abortion and gay rights, and then govern for and with their corporate allies and contributors.

On the floor of the House of Representatives, in the light of day, we hear much talk about moral values, but in the committee rooms and the cloakrooms, in the halls and in the hideaways, choices are made by Republican leaders that run counter to the teachings of Christ and Mohammed and the Jewish prophets and fly in the face of the values upon which our Nation was founded.

This Congress hurts families by underfunding Leave No Child Behind and college student loans, while giving tax cuts to the wealthiest among us.

This Congress hurts the elderly by defeating legislation to bring down the price of prescription drugs and then passing a Medicare bill that further enriches their drug and insurance company contributors.

This Congress hurts God's earth when it caves to the energy companies and the oil companies.

This Congress hurts our communities when it gives tax breaks to encourage the largest corporations to outsource their jobs.

And this Congress hurts our grandchildren when it loads huge burdens of debt on future generations.

Tens of thousands of Ohioans worked feverishly for months to help change our Nation's course because of their moral values, because of their faith in God, because of their belief in our Nation's history of taking care of the least among us.

In no way do I question the faith of my political opponents, but I am weary of the far right's claim that they are the only ones guided by the hand of God.

My understanding of the teachings of Christ, my religious upbringing, call me to walk a different path and to express and act upon my faith in the cause of social and economic justice.

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

(Mr. WHITFIELD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SMART SECURITY AND ROOT CAUSES OF IRAQI INSURGENCY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, not all Members of Congress supported the war in Iraq, but we all have to live with its consequences. The global havoc wreaked by this war will affect the world in ways that we can only imagine today.

Let us not forget that more than 1,200 American soldiers have been killed in Iraq. Over 9,000 have been wounded, and an estimated 16,000 Iraqi civilians have been killed as a result of this war. In fact, 16,000 is probably a very low estimate.

The growing Iraqi insurgency, like the global War on Terror, cannot be won by being stronger than the insurgents. We cannot win this war with guns and bombs, because for every insurgent we kill, three more sign up. We have to be smarter than the insurgents. We are going to win this battle of conflicting ideologies only if we use our good senses and our good hearts.

We know that the anger at the heart of the Iraqi insurgency stems from, at least in part, a deep resentment over the American presence in their country. After years of Saddam Hussein's totalitarian regime, the Iraqi people see the United States as just another occupying force.

We have to make a choice in Iraq. Do we want to address the root causes of the insurgency or do we want to continue down our current path, shooting