

People at the bottom of the income ladder suffer when they can't support themselves by their wages. In the end, our entire society pays when those being left behind must rely on government support for food, housing and health care.

Income inequality also threatens our democratic principles: Americans hold deeply the view that every person willing to work hard should be rewarded. But equal opportunity is undermined when most workers do not fairly share in the wealth created by their work.

To illustrate this point, one person earning a minimum wage would have to work 11,660 years to earn what the top-paid CEO made in 2004—which was \$120.1 million. This is outrageous, and our government should not be in the business of encouraging or subsidizing such disparity.

While developing the assembly line and Ford Motor Co., Henry Ford firmly believed that all of his employees should be able to afford to buy the cars they were making. His compensation philosophy didn't just serve his employees well. It provided Ford Motor Company with a workforce that had incredible morale, high productivity, loyalty and ongoing recruiting success.

Mr. Speaker, there is no bad job, just bad pay. Removing tax deductions for excessive compensation sends the message that American taxpayers expect companies to do better by their workers.

RECOGNIZING KOFI ANNAN FOR HIS ROLE IN THE CREATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEMOCRACY FUND

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan for his outstanding leadership in the creation of the United Nations Democracy Fund.

Under Mr. Annan's guidance, the UN has held leaders of the global community to a higher degree of accountability. In 2001, the Secretary-General issued a "Call to Action" to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic and proposed the establishment of a Global AIDS and Health Fund to stimulate the increased spending needed to help developing countries around the world confront the HIV/AIDS crisis.

His dedication to spreading democracy has also been at the forefront of his agenda. In 1998, he was instrumental in a mission to help promote the transition to civilian rule in Nigeria.

Earlier this year, Mr. Annan introduced his UN reform package, calling on world leaders to be responsible to the global community. His plan included strategies for achieving international development, maintaining security and ensuring human rights. Among these initiatives was the creation of the UN Democracy Fund. The fund promises to promote democracy throughout the world by providing technical assistance to countries seeking to establish or strengthen their democracy. Mr. Annan has urged Member States to show their support for democracy by financially contributing to the fund. These contributions will then be

distributed within the UN Fund for International Partnerships.

Mr. Annan's perseverance has allowed for international cooperation in spreading democracy. So far, twenty-six countries, including the U.S., have expressed their support to fund.

It takes leaders from all over the world to deal with global threats and issues. Mr. Annan has taken an important step in holding these leaders accountable for doing just that.

The following CNN article discusses Mr. Annan's reforms and the UN Democracy Fund.

ANNAN: ADOPT U.N. REFORM PACKAGE

UNITED NATIONS (CNN)—U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has urged world leaders to reconfigure the international body to reflect the world's population and better enable it to tackle environmental and human rights challenges.

In the speech he delivered to the general assembly, Annan urged countries to adopt his entire reform package at a summit of world leaders in September.

The report comes five years after the Millennium Declaration, in which the United Nations pledged to slash poverty rates around the world by 2015, and six months before a summit in New York to address achieving that goal.

Annan described his plan—which gives equal weight to development, security and human rights—as a comprehensive strategy. "Specifically, I ask developing countries to improve their governments, uphold the rule of law, combat corruption and adopt an inclusive approach to development," Annan said.

The report, years in the making, comes days before Paul Volcker is expected to issue a report on Annan's handling of the corrupt oil-for-food program in Iraq. But Annan denied that there was any link.

Volcker, a former Federal Reserve chairman, began leading an independent probe of the program for the United Nations almost a year ago.

Annan's proposal establishes a specific charitable goal for prospering nations. By 2015, he wants developed countries to spend .7 percent of their gross domestic income on official development assistance.

And he linked prosperity and the environment. "Our efforts will be in vain if they are resolved by continued degradation of the environment and depletion of natural resources."

Annan said he wants the Kyoto Protocol extended beyond its 2012 expiration.

SECURITY COUNCIL SHIFTS

Annan's proposals include a recommendation to expand the 15-member Security Council to 24 to make it more representative of today's "geopolitical realities."

He recommends three, non-permanent seats with two-year terms and six new permanent seats—two from Africa, three from Asia and one from Latin America. None would have veto rights.

"Five out of the six will come from regions and areas that are under-represented."

Those seats would be in addition to the permanent seats the United States, Britain, France, Russia and China hold.

Annan also proposed strengthening its human rights mechanisms by abolishing the Commission on Human Rights and replacing it with a smaller, standing Human Rights Council.

Among other changes Annan requested were:

Creating a "Democracy Fund" with contributions from member states to provide money and technical assistance to countries seeking to establish or strengthen their democracy.

Asking all member states to sign and implement a comprehensive convention on terrorism, "based on a clear and agreed definition" of the term.

Strengthening the rule of law, human rights and democracy and clarifying when the use of force is necessary.

Reforming the secretariat to make it more transparent, and buying out some employees and replacing them with staffers who have the skills necessary to implement his proposals.

Pursuing the establishment of a worldwide early warning system for natural disasters.

"What's needed now is not more declarations or promises, but action," Annan said. "I believe my report provides a clear program of action."

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF HINES, OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the City of Hines, Oregon, on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary. Although incorporated on December 8, 1930, Hines has a rich history going back to the 1870s.

In 1873, Mr. George A. Smyth was the earliest recorded settler near what is now Hines. He and his immediate family moved from the Willamette Valley to the "Warm Spring" area just south of Hines. Shortly thereafter, two brothers by the names of William and Montz Currey set up their ranch headquarters at a small spring, which is now located in the northwest section of Hines. They had a small general store and saloon that was used occasionally as a barricade by nearby settlers when rumors of attacks were circulated after the Paiute Indian uprising in 1878. The Warm Spring was also the site of year-round cattle grazing and many buckaroo camps for the fall and spring cattle round-ups.

In 1924, the Fred Herrick Lumber Company received a contract to start construction of the Malheur Railroad company's tracks to the City of Burns. The lumber company anticipated harvesting 890,000,000 board feet of Ponderosa pine from the nearby Bear Valley District of the Malheur National Forest. They chose the site of the Warm Spring for the construction of a lumber mill because it provided an ice-free log pond. In 1928, the Edward Hines Lumber Company of Chicago took over the Herrick interests of both the railroad and uncompleted lumber mill because of numerous delays in the project.

Due to the Hines Company's strong interest in the area, the Stafford-Derbes & Roy Company, a real estate development firm from New Orleans, purchased land from various ranchers and homestead owners to develop the beginnings of a new city. This project was advertised across the country as "The greater Burns development in the Great Harney Valley, it is Oregon's first made-to-order community, and one of the first scientifically planned cities undertaken in America." Edward Hines and his wife designed and planned the new city around a circular park that was to be, and still is, the heart of Hines. Mrs. Hines stipulated that every house be constructed with slight differences. She wanted this new city to