

### AMERICANS ARE DYING BECAUSE OF FLAWED IMMIGRATION POLICY

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, Officer Brian Jackson loved his job. He had been a member of the Dallas Police Department since 2001. He moved to Dallas from his hometown in Rhode Island because he wanted to "be a big city cop."

But in the early morning hours of last Sunday, the last 15 minutes of his shift, Officer Brian Jackson, 28, responded to one last call. His shift was basically over, but he agreed to answer one more emergency.

It was not only his last call of the night, but it was his last call ever. Officer Jackson was responding to a domestic disturbance call when he was murdered, allegedly by an illegal alien from Mexico named Juan Lizcano.

But this crime could have been avoided. This illegal alien had been arrested twice in the last year, but because of safe haven sanctuary laws in Dallas, he was never deported. Because of these preposterous laws, a dedicated police officer, husband, and friend lost his life.

Officer Jackson and his newlywed wife had just returned from a delayed honeymoon in Hawaii.

Americans are dying because the government does not protect our borders. This is yet another example of our Nation's flawed immigration policy. This ought not to be.

### REPUBLICANS CUT CRITICAL PROGRAMS

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Well, the Republicans are preparing for Thanksgiving, like many Americans. But early this morning they slaughtered the turkey. They chopped student loans, school lunch, foster care, long-term care, and Medicaid for struggling families. Now they are preparing to serve a huge portion, with gravy, to Americans with generous new tax breaks and extended tax cuts to those who earn more than \$300,000 a year and who clip coupons for a living, hard-working Americans them.

They are a little worried about kind of the mixed metaphor here, whether or not they will be called Scrooge, and some people will confuse Thanksgiving and Christmas. So they might put the bird back in the freezer and wait until closer to Christmas and hope that the struggling students and families forget what was taken from them to help those who earn over \$300,000 a year.

So that is the big decision on the Republican side of the aisle today. When does the turkey, composed of benefits that should have gone to struggling families, as a gift to the wealthy, get delivered, Thanksgiving or Christmas? Tough choice. Stay tuned.

### WE MUST FINISH OUR MISSION IN IRAQ

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last month, Ayman Zawahiri, al Qaeda's number two leader, said that the terrorist mission was to "expel the Americans from Iraq." Yesterday, this statement was echoed when Democratic Congressman JOHN MURTHA called for U.S. troops to be withdrawn from Iraq.

Instead of proposing winning solutions for the Global War on Terrorism, some Democrats are throwing up their hands and waving the white flag of surrender. As our brave men and women in uniform continue to protect our country, NANCY PELOSI, JOHN MURTHA, and other Democrats should have learned from last week's mass murders in Jordan that we face a global enemy, following the bus bombings in London and New Delhi.

As a 31-year veteran and the father of a son who served in Iraq, I know our troops and brave Iraqi patriots are making tremendous progress protecting American families. Americans recognize we will face the terrorists on the streets of Iraq or we will face them again in America.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

### DEMONSTRATING THE COURAGE OF OUR CONVICTIONS

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, the American people want this Congress to debate the war in Iraq. We should have had a debate before we entered into this war. Instead, we rushed into it.

Yesterday, Congressman JACK MURTHA, a man of conscience, a decorated Vietnam veteran, one of the leading advocates for the military here in the United States Congress, stood up and told it like it is, that the situation in Iraq is getting worse, not getting better, and we, our huge U.S. presence, is a major part of the problem. We have become the focus. We have become the people who are being attacked.

Congressman MURTHA deserves credit. Rather than engaging in a debate, what we hear from the other side and from the White House is more and more smear tactics, those who claim they are somehow being unpatriotic. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Dissent in the face of policies that you disagree with is patriotism. To remain silent as you see this country going down the wrong path is not patriotism, it is moral cowardice.

I praise Congressman JACK MURTHA for having the courage of his convictions and standing up and leading the way to get us out of this war in Iraq.

### WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2528, MILITARY QUALITY OF LIFE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 564 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 564

*Resolved*, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2528) making appropriations for military quality of life functions of the Department of Defense, military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

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

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), 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.

House Resolution 564 waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration, and it provides that the conference report shall be considered as read.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 564 and the underlying conference report for H.R. 2528, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2006.

Today, this House has the opportunity to pass a conference report that will provide \$45.4 billion to fund the very important needs of our servicemen and women, our veterans, and our military infrastructure.

This conference report provides an all-inclusive look at the programs that are related to the quality of life of those who currently serve America in the armed forces, their families, and those men and women who have sacrificed so much for our freedom in the past.

Mr. Speaker, by providing \$45.4 billion, this conference report actually marks an increase of \$3.1 billion from fiscal year 2005, and it is an increase of \$300,000 from the President's request.

The bill funds the Department of Veterans Affairs at \$22.5 billion, \$1.7 billion above the fiscal year 2005 enacted level, and \$575 million above the 2006 budget request by the President. Particularly important is the funding for veterans' medical services that includes for the very first time \$2.2 billion strictly allocated for specialty mental health care on top of a doubling for funding of mental health research.