

The words of hypocrites are seldom heard, especially the words from preachers.

And that's just the way it is.

□ 1115

#### MINIMUM WAGE

(Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, this week the Labor-H appropriations bill was supposed to be on the floor, but at the last minute, the House Republican leadership stripped the bill from the schedule. It appears that the GOP is delaying a vote on this bill solely because it includes an increase in the minimum wage.

The minimum wage is now at its lowest point in half a century. Last week the Appropriations Committee voted to gradually increase the minimum wage. This increase will provide a much-needed boost to 7 million Americans, hard-working people who get up every morning and go to work.

It is unfortunate that for almost a decade the Republican leadership has been forcing working families to make impossible choices, choices between paying the rent and buying groceries or between paying the heating bill and buying much-needed prescription medication.

An increase in the minimum wage is about fairness, and that is why the American people overwhelmingly support an increase. Now that the House Appropriations Committee has acted, it is time for the Republican leadership to bring this bill up for a vote.

Mr. Speaker, the American people have had enough of not having enough to get by.

#### IRAQ

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am here to congratulate the men and women of our Armed Forces who have cornered and captured the leader of al Qaeda in Iraq, al Zarqawi. His death dealt a harmful blow to his followers who practice and preach hate, death, and fear.

Better yet, the raid on the warlord's hideout produced a slew of information: policy, propaganda, and paraphernalia. Even Zarqawi says they are losing.

Just as important is what transpired after they uncovered that intelligence: 452 raids since the killing of al Zarqawi, 104 insurgents killed, and 759 anti-Iraqi elements captured. This morning's news release claims the death of Zarqawi's replacement.

One man said, "We are beating the snot out of them. Why quit now short of complete victory?"

This is big news for democracy and freedom. Our men and women in uniform deserve the utmost respect and thanks, and I would like to honor them for a job well done

#### THE BREAST CANCER AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH ACT

(Mr. BISHOP of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the over 3 million women living with breast cancer, the leading cause of death among women between 40 and 55, including my sister-in-law, Abby Irwin, who died at only age 41 after an 11-year struggle.

One bill that would achieve a great deal to expand prevention and perhaps one day lead to a cure is H.R. 2231, the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act. This important legislation would establish multidisciplinary and multi-institutional breast cancer research centers to study the potential links between breast cancer and the environment.

Although this bill enjoys the support of 246 bipartisan cosponsors, and its companion has 64 Senate cosponsors, not a single hearing has been called since it was introduced over 1 year ago.

If we are going to make a serious commitment to preventing and curing breast cancer, we must pass this legislation. Our mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends who are at risk deserve no less than our greatest effort to eradicate this tragic and all too prevalent disease.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to cosponsor the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act. I would further urge our leadership to expedite consideration of this bill.

#### METROATLANTA AMBULANCE: 2006 SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise and ask the House to recognize and congratulate an outstanding Atlanta area small business that has proven to be a model for community leadership and responsibility.

The MetroAtlanta Ambulance Service was recently named the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce 2006 Small Business of the Year. The company provides 9/11 emergency ambulance services and prehospital care for the sick and injured throughout the Atlanta area.

As a medical doctor, I know the importance of reliable and rapid emergency response care, and MetroAtlanta Ambulance provides a service critical to the health and well-being of our community. The company has demonstrated time and again that they are more than just a business. Rather, they have shown an honest, sincere, and re-

peated desire to lend a hand to others. They took a lead role last year in coordinating ambulance services and logistics for the evacuation of victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Their hard work led to the relocation of 1,300 people from the flood-damaged region.

Mr. Speaker, MetroAtlanta Ambulance Service is a great example of what can be accomplished when sound, honest business practices are coupled with a sincere desire to help neighbors in need.

Congratulations to MetroAtlanta Ambulance.

#### THE ESTATE TAX

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, the median income in America has dropped. What is the Republican Congress trying to do? Increase the minimum wage? Nope. Making sure that everyone in this country has access to affordable health care? Nope. Controlling energy costs? Nope.

It is making sure that the 18 wealthiest families in the Nation do not pay their fair share.

Median income over the last 4 years in America has dropped by 2.8 percent. College costs are up by 38 percent. Health care costs are up by 75 percent. Energy costs are up by over 72 percent. And yet the middle class in America are facing a wageless recovery and an endless occupation.

The heirs to the Wal-Mart, Campbell's Soup, and Gallo Wine fortunes rest easy knowing that this Congress is hard at work on their behalf.

So rather than raise the minimum wage, the GOP Congress is going to cut taxes for the likes of Lee Raymond and his family.

Mr. Speaker, "shame" is defined as a sense of guilt or embarrassment, and it is a condition that seems to be lost here on the Republican Congress.

It is time for a change. It is time for a new direction.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF JUDY WOLPE

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

Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to recognize the life of Judy Wolpe. Judy was the wife of former Congressman Howard Wolpe of Michigan, who served in this Chamber from 1978 until 1992. Tragically, Judy was the victim of a drowning accident while on vacation with her husband in Guatemala.

Judy was a distinguished public servant in her own right, serving as board chairwoman of Lansing Community College, and in administrative posts for former Michigan Governor Jim Blanchard and former Indiana Governor and current U.S. Senator EVAN BAYH.

Judy and I shared a hometown, Battle Creek, Michigan. We graduated