

everyone a favor, as if giving someone something. It is not giving anyone anything. It is merely taking less from what is already yours.

So every time we hear a Democrat call a Republican tax relief package risky, just remember why they are doing so.

**COULD IT BE THE REAL REASON
REPUBLICANS ARE DROPPING
THE TAX BILL IS THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY VETOED
IT?**

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, surely one of the most bizarre announcements of this do-little Congress was the declaration yesterday by the Republican leadership that there will be no tax bill this year, because there simply will not be enough time to consider the matter after the President vetoes the Republican tax giveaway. This is the same Republican leadership, of course, that has delayed now over a month in sending the tax bill to the President so that it can be vetoed, as they knew he would do all along.

Could it be that the real reason that they are dropping the tax bill is that the American people have already vetoed it?

They have vetoed the idea of borrowing from a still rising national debt to give more to those who have a PAC and a lobbyist here in Washington for the hundreds of billions of dollars of special interest tax provisions in this measure. They have vetoed the idea of taking from Social Security and Medicare to give a tax break to those at the top when most Americans will get pennies out of this tax proposal.

I believe the American people have vetoed this bad idea, and perhaps that is the real reason that even the Republican leadership, that has done so little this year, is giving up on the tax cut.

PARDON FOR TERRORISTS

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

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I could not believe my eyes when I read the newspaper this morning that President Clinton had given clemency to 12 imprisoned members of the Puerto Rican terrorist organization, the FALN.

U.S. policy to terrorists has always been very consistent; it has always been very clear. We must make no concessions to terrorists. That has been the policy, not to pardon terrorists.

We should be sending a strong message that terrorism would not be tolerated. As my friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT), has pointed out, the FALN was responsible for 130

bombings in the United States that killed six people, at least; injured scores of other Americans; three police officers were maimed for life; two were blinded; one lost a leg while trying to diffuse one of the bombs that the FALN planted in 1982.

What does the President have to say to these victims and their families? What does Vice President GORE have to say about releasing these law breakers? All 12 terrorists given clemency were convicted on charges of seditious conspiracy and possession of weapons and possession of explosives. They belong in prison.

**THE KIDNAPPINGS, KILLINGS AND
FORCED EVACUATIONS IN EAST
TIMOR ABSOLUTELY SHOULD
NOT BE HAPPENING**

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I too am deeply disturbed by the horrifying human rights violations currently taking place in Indonesia in East Timor. The kidnappings, the killings, the forced evacuations absolutely should not be happening. The horrific beheadings, with severed human heads being paraded around on sticks, is barbaric.

The government of Indonesia imposed martial law on the country to control the violence that erupted after the East Timorese voted for independence. Unfortunately, reliable reports suggest that Indonesian military officials are actually involved in orchestrating the unrest and violence that is occurring right now.

Madam Speaker, I call on President Habibie and the other Indonesian officials to accept the results of the referendum, get control of their military and bring an immediate end to the horrifying bloodshed and violence that is terrorizing the people.

RESPONSIBLE TAX CUTS

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, only in this Congress, with a small Republican majority, would we experience the following: cuts in housing funds, cuts in science and space funds, cuts in education funds, no planning to safeguard Medicare for the future growth, almost \$6 billion in national debt that is owed from the last 50 years, and the major issue we are talking about for the next few weeks is whether we want a tax cut.

Let us be clear about the debate. I would like to have a tax cut, too, just like most Americans, but the biggest concern we have is making sure Social Security is there, Medicare is there,

and that we also pay down the national debt.

We cannot ignore those issues and only talk about a tax cut. The Republican plan for tax cuts is financially irresponsible. It only passed the House by a few votes and now they are going to use it for the next month to talk about how bad the President is. Let us put that aside and get on about our business of legislating.

During the August recess, I talked to hundreds of constituents in my district in Houston, like people did all over the country, and they talked about the need to safeguard Social Security, Medicare, and pay down that debt.

**ORGAN DONATION IS AS SIMPLE
AS FILLING OUT A DONOR CARD**

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, we know that life is short, and the 60,000 patients who are currently on a waiting list to get organs know just how precious time is.

Sadly enough, only 20,000 people this year will receive organ transplants, and today nine people will lose their lives because a match was not found.

As the waiting list for organs continues to grow, so does the need for organ procurement. Organ donation is as simple as filling out a donor card and by just one person's donation as many as 50 people may benefit through transplantation.

It is important that we as Members of Congress raise awareness on the importance of organ and tissue donations to increase donors across our districts and throughout our land. There is no greater gift than the gift of life. We must encourage this giving and work to leave a lasting legacy to prevent the needless and tragic deaths of thousands of Americans each year.

**VOTE NO ON THE D.C.
CONFERENCE REPORT**

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, in one of the great ironies of this session, I am forced to ask for a no vote on the D.C. conference report that will come before us later today. My appropriation is actually a local budget with the old federal payment now abolished. Though the budget comes balanced, replete with tax cuts and a surplus, it has proved needlessly contentious here, dragging Members into local matters that most want to avoid as somebody else's business about which Members necessarily know little.

The new Mayor, revitalized City Council and I cannot live with back-