

CRIME OUGHT NOT TO PAY

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

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I believe that crime ought not to pay and the public agrees with me that crime should not pay and that is why a recent national survey has concluded that a vast majority of the American people oppose the privatization of America's jails and prisons.

In fact, 51 percent oppose and 34 percent strongly oppose the privatization of these institutions. Voters believe that government-run prisons are more accountable to the public, do a better job of preventing escape and do a better job of protecting public safety.

Further, voters also think that prisons run by private companies are more likely to be understaffed, to have poorly trained staff, and to be less accountable by cutting corners.

That is why I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring the public safety act, which is an act which would prevent the further privatization of our Federal institutions and would discourage our States from privatizing their jails and prisons.

CARDIOPULMONARY
RESUSCITATION TRAINING

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, we often hear the acronym for cardiopulmonary resuscitation, CPR, and know what it means. But do we know what to do if, say, someone walking next to us goes into sudden cardiac arrest? Sadly, most people would answer no.

Cardiac arrest is one of the leading causes of death in the U.S., with a survival rate of only 5 percent. CPR can link an arrest victim with professional emergency care. But its success is dependent on the knowledge of our general population. And only 2 to 3 percent of Americans are trained to perform CPR.

I have introduced a resolution supporting National CPR Weekend, an effort by the American Heart Association and Red Cross to train 15,000 people in CPR. Free training sessions will be held this weekend in Medina, Ohio, and Cleveland, Ohio, and nine other cities across the country. Medina General Hospital will train over 300 volunteers in five training sessions throughout the day.

We do not have to be a doctor. We do not have to be in top physical condition. We just have to be willing to join in an important cause, saving lives.

Please call the local Heart Association for CPR trainings in the area.

TAXPAYERS HAVE TO WAIT FOR A
REPUBLICAN IN THE WHITE
HOUSE FOR TAX RELIEF TO BE-
COME A REALITY

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the President vetoed the tax relief legislation passed by Congress.

In the face of a \$3 trillion budget surplus over the next 10 years, the President concluded that there was no room for any of it to go to the taxpayers. Liberals everywhere cheered. The taxpayers, on the other hand, did no celebrating. Wall Street crashed, the Main Street was told that small business would not be getting any help anytime soon.

Those who are so ardently opposed to tax cuts do not do so because they want the money to go towards debt reduction, despite the rhetoric.

If they were sincere, then they would not be proposing billions and billions of dollars in new spending, creating new entitlements, and expanding Government programs.

They oppose tax relief because they want to grow Government. They want to spend the money. And they do not want us to spend the money.

Washington knows best. That is their bedrock principle.

Taxpayers will just have to wait for a Republican in the White House for tax relief to become a reality.

PRESIDENT'S VETO—A
RESPONSIBLE COURSE OF ACTION

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

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I understand that the President's vetoing yesterday the tax bill was disappointing to the majority of our colleagues in the House. But I would suggest that, given the alternatives, there was no other course of action that could responsibly be taken.

The fact is we are less than a week away from the beginning of a fiscal year and, by and large, the House and Senate have not even come to agreement on most of the major spending bills. We have only presented three or four bills to the President really of a noncontroversial nature, and most of the controversial issues and big issues still have not been resolved even for the next fiscal year.

So in attempting to try and portray or to put in place tax policies that are based on projected revenues and we cannot even deal with fiscal year 2000, which begins October 1, I think speaks out loud as to the fact that we are not getting our work done and we are not prepared.

I mean, we should put the decisions in terms of our spending policies, the

decisions in terms of our revenue policies on the table first before we begin to undercut the ability to deal with those issues.

So I commend the President.

□ 0915

GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION—NOW

(Mrs. LOWEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, once again we are calling on the House leadership to move gun safety legislation now.

Wherever I go in any district, whether it is in the supermarket; at the post office; on the streets, local streets; my constituents cannot understand it. People are afraid. In the United States of America, 1999, to be afraid to go to school, to be afraid to go to church, to be afraid to go to a synagogue: This is madness. It does not make any sense.

Mr. Speaker, we have to have the courage to stand up for what is right and not cave to the special interests.

I will continue to read the roll of those children who have lost their lives since Columbine:

Kristi Beckel, age 14, killed by gunfire on September 15, 1999, Fort Worth, Texas; Justin M. Ray, age 17, killed by gunfire on September 15, 1999, Fort Worth, Texas.

RENDEZVOUS WITH OBSCURITY

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, when this House recesses early today at 2:00 in the afternoon, it will be another recess from reality. To continue the normal operation of our Federal Government, Mr. Speaker, 13 appropriation bills should be passed by next Thursday, the last day of the Federal fiscal year. One has thus far been signed into law. With so much yet to be done and so many other issues, from gun safety to public education that this Congress should be addressing, the Republican leadership response is to declare a long weekend recess and to meet next week for 3½ days before the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker, if this plan represents "making the trains run on time," as the Republican leadership has so often professed, maybe we would be better off taking a plane or even a bus.

Little wonder that one distinguished congressional historian recently observed that "this Congress has a rendezvous with obscurity."