in the early grades by helping districts to hire and train 100,000 teachers. And the Title VII Bilingual Education proposal would ensure that all teachers are well trained to teach students with limited English proficiency, who are found in more and more classrooms with each passing year.

Third, my bill would increase support for safe, healthy, disciplined, and drug-free learning environments where all children feel connected, motivated, and challenged to learn and where parents are welcomed and involved. The recent tragedy at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, reminds us that we must be ever vigilant against the risks of violence and other dangerous behaviors in our schools. Our reauthorization bill includes several measures to help mitigate these risks.

We would strengthen the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act by concentrating funds on districts with the greatest need for drug- and violence-prevention programs, and by emphasizing the use of research-based programs of proven effectiveness. Moreover, with respect to students who bring weapons to school, this proposal would require schools to refer such students to a mental health professional for assessment and require counseling for those who pose an imminent threat to themselves or others; allow funding for those who pose an imminent threat for assessment and require counseling; and require teachers to hire and train 100,000 teachers. And teachers would be required to report students to a mental health professional who bring weapons to school, this proposal would help ensure that all teachers are well trained to teach students with limited English proficiency, and that all teachers are well trained to teach students with limited English proficiency, who are found in more and more classrooms with each passing year.

The Speaker pro tempore. The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 6 p.m. Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 6 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The Speaker pro tempore. The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETRI) at 6 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

May 24, 1999

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BASED ON HIGH STANDARDS FOR ALL STUDENTS, HIGH-QUALITY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS, SAFE AND DISCIPLINED LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS, AND ACCOUNTABILITY TO PARENTS AND TAXPAYERS, THE EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR ALL CHILDREN OF 1999 PROVIDES A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR RAISING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND NARROWING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP BETWEEN DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS AND THEIR MORE ADVANCED PEERS. MORE IMPORTANT, IT WILL HELP PREPARE ALL OF OUR CHILDREN, AND THEREFORE, FOR THE CHALLENGES OF THE 21ST CENTURY. I URGE THE CONGRESS TO TAKE PROMPT AND FAVORABLE ACTION ON THIS PROPOSAL.


Recess

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETRI) at 6 p.m.

Hooley

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AIRFRIGHT

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