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They account for 99.7 percent of the employers in our Nation; they employ 53 percent of the private work force and are responsible for 50 percent of the private gross domestic product in America.

Despite these enormous contributions, small businesses have to struggle under the weight of excessive taxation and unnecessary regulation handed down by the Federal Government. Clearly, I believe the time has come for Congress and the President to provide some relief to small business owners by cutting taxes and reining in overzealous regulators.

Mr. Speaker, I stand to work with both sides, all my colleagues, to promote an agenda that strengthens small business and creates new economic opportunities for the American people.

SCORE

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that my colleague who just spoke is emphasizing Small Business Week. This is Small Business Week. It is a time to celebrate the entrepreneurs that make the Nation's engine run. I want to take this opportunity to recognize a group of people that serve as that engine's mechanics, the Service Corps of Retired Executives, known as SCORE, which is celebrating their 35th anniversary this year.

SCORE is made up of a group of retired business executives. They volunteer their time and business expertise to counsel and advise our Nation's small business and entrepreneurs-to-be. With well over 50 percent of all new businesses failing within the first 6 years, counseling early on can make a difference between success and failure of a new business. SCORE's free counseling service does that job and it does it well.

In particular, I want to recognize the 166 SCORE volunteers in Colorado. Colorado SCORE counselors worked nearly 15,000 hours last year in support of the Colorado business community. Their support for Colorado's businesses are appreciated, and I encourage them to keep up the good work.

MILK PRICES IN MINNESOTA SHOULD BE SET BY MARKET

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, shortly after the hammer and sickle came down for the last time over the Kremlin, a business publication ran a

column entitled, "Markets Are More Powerful Than Armies" and the 75-year experiment with government-fixed prices came to an end.

But, Mr. Speaker, for 60 years we have had a convoluted milk marketing order system whereby a farmer's milk is priced based on how far they are from Eau Claire, Wisconsin. The closer they are, the less they get. It makes no economic sense. Prices are fixed based on what the milk goes into and where it comes from.

Mr. Speaker, if the Russians are willing to let the market set the price of milk in Moscow, maybe we should try it in Minnesota.

WILL CHINESE ESPIONAGE SCANDAL BE DISMISSED?

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

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, on March 19th of this year, the President stated, in response to a question, "To the best of my knowledge, no one has said anything to me about any espionage which occurred by the Chinese against the labs, during my presidency."

Sorry, to have to ask this, but is that true? Chinese espionage was discovered in 1995.

Was the President not briefed on this in 1995?

Did no one tell him in 1996?

Was the President not told about this in 1997?

During all of 1998, did no one brief the President about these extremely grave matters?

Did the President not read the November 1998 report on Chinese espionage at the Energy Department labs?

Did the President not see the Cox report delivered to him in January of this year?

Did he forget that, in fact, he had been briefed about the most serious espionage case since the Rosenbergs many, many times?

Why the denial?

Will the other side simply dismiss this scandal too, saying, "Hey, everybody lies about national security"?

INTRODUCTION OF SCHOOL SAFETY HOTLINE ACT OF 1999

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

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today not to talk about the horrible tragedies of the Columbine shootings, though they linger in all of our minds. Rather I would like to speak of the good that has come from the ashes of this horrid event.

All around my home community of Littleton, Colorado, we have seen a

spirit of coming together. In Littleton our churches have been crowded to the walls with those turning to their faith for answers. Across my district, people of all colors, classes and backgrounds have embraced in the comfort of a mutual loss.

Unfortunately, many children still do not feel safe to go to school. As the school year ends, attendance rates across the district are still horribly low. Students and parents feel helpless in controlling the safety of their learning environment.

In Denver, on Friday, we announced another coming together. We brought together leaders from business, State and local governments into a partnership to create the School Safety Hotline, an anonymous hotline for students, parents and teachers to report violent or threatening behavior to authorities.

It is my sincere hope that this initiative will give our students a sense they can control the safety of their environment by calling in to report threatening behavior. For that reason, I would like to offer the School Safety Hotline Act of 1999.

This bill will allow state and local agencies all across the country to apply for federal grants to help create and maintain public-private partnership hotlines similar to ours in Colorado. Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage all of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to support this modest, but important, legislation. I ask my colleagues to use this legislation as the first step to reach out to your own community and business leaders, so that we may give back to our young students the feeling that they can do something to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment.

WHY IS ADMINISTRATION DENYING KNOWLEDGE OF NUCLEAR ESPIONAGE

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I am very disturbed today. If we go back to, I guess, the 1976 presidential debates between President Ford and President Carter, one of the questions asked of Jimmy Carter was what he thought was the biggest issue, at which point he quoted his daughter, Amy, and said, "nuclear war."

Well, I am here to say Amy Carter was right, nuclear war is, because we are giving nuclear warheads and secrets to China, which has not exactly been our staunchest ally over the years.

The W-88, which is one of the most powerful nuclear warheads in history, is now in the hands of the Chinese Communists despite the fact that the Deputy Intelligence Security Officer at the Department of Energy, as long as 3 years ago, warned the administration this was going on.

Sandy Berger, National Security Adviser, was told in April 1996. The President was informed July 1997. The President was informed again in November 1998, and then in January this year. And yet, as late as March, he was denying it and saying nothing happened on his watch.

There are two big issues here: Number one, what happened? Which should scare the death out of any American. And number two is, why did the administration deny this? This is not a partisan debate. This is a scary debate. And I was glad when Democrat liberal Senator TORRICELLI called for the resignation of Janet Reno.

It is time for bipartisan support, and I hope the Democrats will join us on this one because America and America's children depend on it.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken later today.

MISSING, EXPLOITED, AND RUN- AWAY CHILDREN PROTECTION ACT

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 249) to provide funding for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, to reauthorize the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 249

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children Protection Act".

SEC. 2. NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN.

(a) FINDINGS.—Section 402 of the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (7), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (8), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(9) for 14 years, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has—

"(A) served as the national resource center and clearinghouse congressionally mandated under the provisions of the Missing Children's Assistance Act of 1984; and

"(B) worked in partnership with the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of State, and many

other agencies in the effort to find missing children and prevent child victimization;

"(10) Congress has given the Center, which is a private non-profit corporation, access to the National Crime Information Center of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System;

"(11) since 1987, the Center has operated the National Child Pornography Tipline, in conjunction with the United States Customs Service and the United States Postal Inspection Service and, beginning this year, the Center established a new CyberTipline on child exploitation, thus becoming 'the 911 for the Internet';

"(12) in light of statistics that time is of the essence in cases of child abduction, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in February of 1997 created a new NCIC child abduction ('CA') flag to provide the Center immediate notification in the most serious cases, resulting in 642 'CA' notifications to the Center and helping the Center to have its highest recovery rate in history;

"(13) the Center has established a national and increasingly worldwide network, linking the Center online with each of the missing children clearinghouses operated by the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, as well as with Scotland Yard in the United Kingdom, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, INTERPOL headquarters in Lyon, France, and others, which has enabled the Center to transmit images and information regarding missing children to law enforcement across the United States and around the world instantly;

"(14) from its inception in 1984 through March 31, 1998, the Center has—

"(A) handled 1,203,974 calls through its 24-hour toll-free hotline (1-800-THE-LOST) and currently averages 700 calls per day;

"(B) trained 146,284 law enforcement, criminal and juvenile justice, and healthcare professionals in child sexual exploitation and missing child case detection, identification, investigation, and prevention;

"(C) disseminated 15,491,344 free publications to citizens and professionals; and

"(D) worked with law enforcement on the cases of 59,481 missing children, resulting in the recovery of 40,180 children;

"(15) the demand for the services of the Center is growing dramatically, as evidenced by the fact that in 1997, the Center handled 129,100 calls, an all-time record, and by the fact that its new Internet website (www.missingkids.com) receives 1,500,000 'hits' every day, and is linked with hundreds of other websites to provide real-time images of breaking cases of missing children;

"(16) in 1997, the Center provided policy training to 256 police chiefs and sheriffs from 50 States and Guam at its new Jimmy Ryce Law Enforcement Training Center;

"(17) the programs of the Center have had a remarkable impact, such as in the fight against infant abductions in partnership with the healthcare industry, during which the Center has performed 668 onsite hospital walk-throughs and inspections, and trained 45,065 hospital administrators, nurses, and security personnel, and thereby helped to reduce infant abductions in the United States by 82 percent;

"(18) the Center is now playing a significant role in international child abduction cases, serving as a representative of the Department of State at cases under The Hague Convention, and successfully resolving the cases of 343 international child abductions, and providing greater support to parents in the United States;

"(19) the Center is a model of public/private partnership, raising private sector funds to match congressional appropriations and receiving extensive private in-kind support, including advanced technology provided by the computer industry such as imaging technology used to age the photographs of long-term missing children and to reconstruct facial images of unidentified deceased children;

"(20) the Center was 1 of only 10 of 300 major national charities given an A+ grade in 1997 by the American Institute of Philanthropy; and

"(21) the Center has been redesignated as the Nation's missing children clearinghouse and resource center once every 3 years through a competitive selection process conducted by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention of the Department of Justice, and has received grants from that Office to conduct the crucial purposes of the Center."

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 403 of the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5772) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) the term 'Center' means the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children."

(c) DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.—Section 404 of the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5773) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

"(b) ANNUAL GRANT TO NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall annually make a grant to the Center, which shall be used to—

"(A)(i) operate a national 24-hour toll-free telephone line by which individuals may report information regarding the location of any missing child, or other child 13 years of age or younger whose whereabouts are unknown to such child's legal custodian, and request information pertaining to procedures necessary to reunite such child with such child's legal custodian; and

"(ii) coordinate the operation of such telephone line with the operation of the national communications system referred to in part C of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5714-11);

"(B) operate the official national resource center and information clearinghouse for missing and exploited children;

"(C) provide to State and local governments, public and private nonprofit agencies, and individuals, information regarding—

"(i) free or low-cost legal, restaurant, lodging, and transportation services that are available for the benefit of missing and exploited children and their families; and

"(ii) the existence and nature of programs being carried out by Federal agencies to assist missing and exploited children and their families;

"(D) coordinate public and private programs that locate, recover, or reunite missing children with their families;

"(E) disseminate, on a national basis, information relating to innovative and model programs, services, and legislation that benefit missing and exploited children;

"(F) provide technical assistance and training to law enforcement agencies, State and local governments, elements of the