

Zachary, is only able to see objects that are held close to his face. He's been that way since he was an infant, when his father, Brenda's first husband, accidentally dropped the child during a bath. Zachary's head hit the side of the tub, which damaged his brain and ruptured his retinas.

The accident almost killed the child, and doctors warned Brenda that if Zachary lived he'd never be able to see or walk or talk. He survived, despite seizures in the hospital, and when the Warners got married, Kurt adopted the boy, and his sister, Jesse, 8.

"To go home and see how he struggles with everything he does helps me keep things in perspective," Warner said. "I have realized how special a child he must be to go through life with the excitement and joy he has even though he has to struggle doing everything he does."

So that is the Kurt Warner story. It's difficult not to pull for a guy like him.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, I begin by congratulating my very good friend, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) for his very thoughtful special order. Representing Los Angeles, the former home of the Rams, I would like to extend hearty congratulations to Kurt Warner and Dick Vermeil and all associated with the Rams organization for their very impressive and exciting victory towards the end yesterday.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1838, TAIWAN SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. DREIER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-490) on the resolution (H. Res. 408) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1838) to assist in the enhancement of the security of Taiwan, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO PROMOTE PIPELINE SAFETY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. METCALF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, on June 10, 1999, a liquid gasoline pipeline owned by the Olympic Pipeline Company ruptured and spilled over 200,000 gallons of gasoline at Whatcom Falls Park, a 241-acre park in my district in the city of Bellingham. Gasoline was carried into Whatcom Creek, where it reportedly filled the creek at depths of up to 10 feet.

The spilled fuel was inadvertently ignited by two 10-year-old boys, Wade King and Stephen Tsiorvas, who were playing with bottle rockets at the creek. The resulting fireball raced down the length of the creek for a mile and a half, killing King, Tsiorvas, and an 18-year-old fly fisherman named Liam Wood. Swaths as wide as 200 feet along the creek were burned within minutes.

The explosion of June 10 caused millions of dollars in property damage and did immeasurable harm to the families and friends of Wade King, Stephen Tsiorvas, and Liam Wood.

I have long held reservations about our system of pipeline safety regulations. In 1996, I voted against the pipeline deregulation bill because I felt it removed too many essential safeguards. Since the tragedy, I have redoubled my efforts to improve the regulatory climate.

I have been in close contact with industry, public interest groups, local officials, Federal regulators, and constituents.

□ 1900

The bill that I have introduced today addresses several concerns. Under my legislation, number one, pipelines will be required to be inspected both internally and with hydrostatic tests. Pipelines with a history of leaks will be specifically targeted for more strenuous testing. All pipeline operators will be tested for qualifications and certified by the Department of Transportation.

The results of pipeline tests and inspections will be made available to the public and a nationwide map of all pipeline locations will be placed on the Internet where ordinary citizens can easily access it. All pipeline ruptures and spills of more than 40 gallons will be reported to the Federal Office of Pipeline Safety. And States will be able to set up their own pipeline safety programs for interstate pipelines.

In addition, the bill requires studies on various technologies that may improve safety such as external leak detection systems and double-walled pipelines.

The bill has already bipartisan support. My distinguished colleagues, the gentleman from Washington (Ms. DUNN), the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE), and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH) have agreed to cosponsor; and I thank them very much for that.

Mr. Speaker, we hope to move this legislation through Congress and I hope the rest of my colleagues can join with me in support of this bipartisan proposal.

CBO COST ESTIMATE ON H.R. 1838, TAIWAN SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, set forth below is the cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office on H.R. 1838, the "Taiwan Security Enhancement Act." This estimate was not available on October 28, 1999, when the Committee on International Relations filed its report on H.R. 1838.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE—H.R. 1838, TAIWAN SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT

H.R. 1838 would emphasize the security relationship between the United States and Taiwan. Specifically, the bill would authorize an increase in the technical staff at the American Institute in Taiwan, and would require the Administration to report on Taiwan's defense needs, its security situation, and the United States' ability to respond to contingencies in the Asia-Pacific region. Also, the bill would require the Administration to enhance the opportunities for training and exchanges of Taiwanese officers at U.S. military schools and academies. CBO estimates that enacting the bill would have no significant budgetary effect.

According to the Department of Defense (DoD), implementing H.R. 1838 would not require any additional staff because DoD has already increased the number of technical staff at the American Institute in Taiwan during the last year. CBO estimates that preparing the required reports would not increase costs significantly, and any additional officer training and exchanges would be paid in full by Taiwan. The funds for training and exchanges would flow through the foreign military sales trust fund—a direct spending account. Because the bill could affect direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply; however, CBO estimates that the net effect of any increase in collections and outlays would not be significant.

H.R. 1838 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The estimate was prepared by Joseph C. Whitehill. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES SHOULD RAISE CAMPAIGNS TO HIGHER LEVEL OF TRUTHFULNESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SCARBOROUGH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I know many Americans and also an awful lot of people in Washington, D.C., are focusing intently on what is going on in New Hampshire, not only tonight but over the past several weeks. We are obviously in the midst of a presidential primary season. It is very exciting to watch the democratic process playing itself out seeing who is going to be elected the next President of this great republic.

It has not been too surprising to see the differences between the Republican and the Democratic Party. The Republicans obviously have five or six conservative candidates whose fight mainly centers around who wants to cut taxes more, who wants to cut the size and scope of this mammoth bureaucracy, who wants to spend less and promote greater freedoms for individuals across the country.

Likewise, it is not a surprise that the Democratic primary has been consumed by battles, a left-wing battle for