

pile that currently sits only 750 feet away from the Colorado River near Moab, Utah.

A few days ago, Secretary Richardson unveiled an innovative agreement that would result in moving the tailings pile that is slowly leaching radioactive waste into the Colorado River. And just last night, our other hero, Bill Hedden, was honored by the Project on Government Oversight, or POGO, for his tireless efforts to move this poisonous pile. Both men see how important it is to move the tailings pile, which is as big as 118 football fields, rather than capping it in its place. This capping would only ensure that the poisonous waste would continue to leach into the Colorado River for up to 3 centuries.

Because of these visionary "Bills," 25 million people who live down the Colorado River and who depend on it for their drinking water not be doomed to poor "bills" of health from the pollution.

Our "Bills" are working to ensure that one-seventh of the United States, including Las Vegas, Arizona, and the Southern California urban areas of Los Angeles and the city I represent, San Diego, will have water free from this pollution.

Our hero "Bills" are trying to save us from the bill that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, or the NRC, was trying to stick us with. The NRC said that capping the poisonous pile was good enough. The NRC did not care that they were sentencing our children, our grandchildren, and great grandchildren to 270 years of having this radioactive waste leach into our water supply.

These white-hatted "Bills" know that our Nation must protect our water, our animals, and our beautiful National Parks that we have set aside because they are our treasures.

As one of our "Bills," Secretary Richardson, said a few weeks ago, "The time to act is now. Radioactive waste sits at the gateway of two National Parks, Arches and Canyonlands. This area is a geological wonderland, nestled in a valley with scenic red cliffs and rugged, beautiful desert terrain. The Department of Energy has the expertise and experience to relocate the material in a secure, permanent location that is safely away from the Colorado River and our National Parks."

Mr. Speaker, I tip my hat to these two courageous "Bills," Secretary Richardson and Grand Canyon Trust's Bill Hedden, for saving us the bill of misery, ill health, and heartache that would go with permanently enshrining this huge pile of waste in the backyard of our National Parks where it would surely and forever pollute the Southwest's drinking water.

I commit, Mr. Speaker, and I hope my colleagues will join me in this pledge, to push through legislation

that will make the work of these visionary "Bills" a reality. We must pass our bill necessary to put the jurisdiction for this poisonous pile where it belongs, in the hands of the Department of Energy.

MILITARY FAMILY FOOD STAMP TAX CREDIT ACT

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

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to come to the floor and talk about a bill that I introduced last year, H.R. 1055, the Military Family Food Stamp Tax Credit Act. I have approximately 61 of my colleagues on both sides, Republican and Democrat, who have signed this bill.

Mr. Speaker, there are probably as many as 12,000 men and women in uniform who are willing to die for this country today that are having to live on food stamps. I think that is unacceptable and deplorable that any person that is willing to die for this country would have to be on food stamps.

So we looked at how we could help those in the military that are on food stamps, and we came up with the suggestion from several different sources that probably the best thing we could do was to provide a \$500 tax credit for men and women in uniform.

Mr. Speaker, I bring this photograph of a Marine in my district. This Marine is getting ready to deploy for Bosnia for 6 months. We can see standing on his feet a beautiful little girl, and in his arms a new baby girl. And I looked at this photograph, it was in the Raleigh paper in my State of North Carolina, and it has so much meaning and depth to it that I thought I would have it blown up so that I could bring it to the floor of the House or take it to a committee to remind my colleagues who make the decision on how we pay our military and make the decisions on what we can do to help those men and women in uniform on food stamps.

We have approximately 60 percent of the men and women that serve this Nation that, again, are willing to die for this Nation, that are married. I think this family from Camp Lejeune getting ready to deploy shows just how fortunate we are to have men and women who have families that are willing to serve this Nation.

When I looked at the fact that we in Congress last year passed \$15 billion in foreign aid for countries overseas, and I realize that we have to have foreign aid and we should have northern aid, but I think we could reduce it, frankly. I think I voted against that bill because we need to take care of the American people first. And we certainly need to take care of those in the military that are serving this Nation.

Then I looked at the fact that the President recommended that we elimi-

nate the debt of \$5 billion to 36 countries that owe the American taxpayer \$5 billion. So, therefore, we have excused that debt. I look at what we have spent in Bosnia already, somewhere around \$5 billion. I look at what we spent in Yugoslavia last year, \$11 billion.

Mr. Speaker, to help 12,000 men and women in uniform on food stamps would only cost \$59 million over 10 years.

I want to also make the point that this Congress last year passed an Omnibus Budget bill that had in excess of \$13 billion in pork barrel spending. Mr. Speaker, I say again, those of us who have the privilege to serve in the House and Senate, we must work together to help get these men and women off food stamps that are willing to die for this country.

Mr. Speaker, I plan to come to the floor on a regular basis until the leadership, both Republican and Democrat, work together to help get these men and women off food stamps, because they are so important to the defense of this Nation. We owe them everything that we can give them and especially to help get them off food stamps. I thank the Members of this House, Republican and Democrat, who have cosponsored this bill, H.R. 1055, the Military Family Food Stamp Tax Credit Act; and I hope this year we, as a Congress, will do what is necessary to get these men and women off food stamps.

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MARKING 4TH ANNIVERSARY OF CROWN CENTRAL PETROLEUM LOCKOUT

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I share the concern of my colleague from North Carolina on our military pay. Hopefully we made a down payment last year and will continue it this year.

My concern, Mr. Speaker and Members, and what I want to talk about today is, we are marking the 4th anniversary for one of the longest lockouts in U.S. history that is in my district. On February 5, 1996, the management of Crown Central Petroleum ordered the union workers to leave its refinery in Pasadena, Texas, and lock the gates behind them. By the next day, the company had replaced all 252 union members with lower cost and inexperienced temporary workers.

What caused the lockout? The only possible reason is Crown Petroleum wanted to break the union. During the contract negotiations, the union stated they had no intentions of striking. In fact, Crown Petroleum's reaction was to order an immediate lockout. Before