

KERANTHA POOLE-CHRISTIAN

The Clerk called the Senate bill (S. 302) for the relief of Karantha Poole-Christian.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the Senate bill as follows:

S. 302

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

SECTION 1. CLASSIFICATION AS A CHILD UNDER THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the administration of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Kerantha Poole-Christian shall be classified as a child within the meaning of section 101(b)(1)(E) of such Act, upon approval of a petition filed on her behalf by Clifton or Linette Christian, citizens of the United States, pursuant to section 204 of such Act.

(b) LIMITATION.—No natural parent, brother, or sister, if any, of Kerantha Poole-Christian shall, by virtue of such relationship, be accorded any right, privilege, or status under the Immigration and Nationality Act.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This concludes the call of the Private Calendar.

THE 23 FUND KEEPING ALIVE THE MEMORY OF RAMIRO "TOTI" MENDEZ

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, baseball continues to be Americans' favorite pastime. Young boys who favor this sport dream of playing for their college teams.

This dream came true for Ramiro Mendez, warmly known as Toti to his teammates, his family and friends. He was number 23 for Florida International University's baseball team until the day he succumbed to a rare heart disease.

Little is known about this heart problem, which is oftentimes not found until it is too late. Toti's family is working to pass legislation in Florida that would make heart tests mandatory for student physical exams.

In an effort to keep his memory alive, Toti's family and friends have established the 23 Fund for tuition assistance for other student athletes at Florida International University.

On October 19, FIU and the AXA Foundation will raise scholarship funds to memorialize Toti and the hundreds of other athletes who have been affected by this heart ailment.

Toti will continue to live in the spirit of his family, his teammates and all of us who were privileged to know him.

TRIBUTE TO KRISTY KOWAL

(Mr. HOLDEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask all of my colleagues in the House to join me in paying tribute to my constituent, Kristy Kowal. Kristy recently won the silver medal in the Woman's 200 Meter Breaststroke at the Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

Kristy, the daughter of two very proud parents, Edward and Donna Kowal, is a resident of Colony Park, Berks County, Pennsylvania, and is a graduate of Wilson High School.

She is a 21-year-old all-American from the University of Georgia and holds three American records in swimming.

As impressive as that may sound, Kristy says she is most proud of the fact that she is also an academic all-American. Her major is education, because her mother is a teacher, and like her mother, Kristy wants to be able to influence people and make a difference in their lives.

As Kristy traveled to Australia to compete in this year's Olympics, the many flags and banners displayed around the Colony Park community are a testament to the pride and support that Kristy has in the community.

To be specific, there were 365 flags and 30 banners displayed on homes, area businesses, and schools. We are also proud of her accomplishments at Sydney. Kristy, congratulations on a job well done.

BOLSTERING OUR MILITARY FORCES

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the first responsibility of government is to protect and defend the American citizens from threats. To meet this responsibility, the United States must maintain a modern, highly skilled and well-trained military force.

As a veteran of both the Vietnam and Persian Gulf Wars, I am very proud of this Republican-led Congress that remains committed to rebuilding and strengthening our military and to treating our troops with the respect that they deserve.

In addition to bolstering America's military readiness, this Republican-led Congress is working to provide a better quality of life for our servicemen and women.

We are working to ensure sure that no U.S. serviceman or woman will ever have to rely on food stamps just to feed their family. Again, this Republican-led Congress is committed to providing our military members, both current and past, with quality health care service.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the accomplishments of this Republican-led

Congress, and I am proud of all the men and women who have served and sacrificed for their country in our military service.

ISSUES ON CHINA

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. It is a proven fact, China has missiles pointed at America. China bought submarines and attack aircraft from Russia. China has spied on America. China has illegally purchased American secrets, and China is now taking \$100 billion a year in cash out of our economy in sweetheart trade deals. If that is not enough to smell the gun powder, a Chinese spokesman announced, and I quote, Cuba is our Communist ally and China will now embrace Castro.

Beam me up. Let me caution Members, China has more soldiers than America has citizens. I yield back both the treason of Janet Reno and the blindness of the Congress of the United States of America.

MEDIA TILTS LEFT

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the evidence is mounting that the media tilts left. In its recent poll, "Editor and Publisher" magazine found that two-thirds of newspaper readers feel that AL GORE receives preferential treatment. Most revealing, two-thirds of the newspaper readers who consider themselves independents also said there is bias favoring AL GORE.

It is no surprise that over half of George Bush's supporters says there is press bias, compared to less than a third of AL GORE's supporters.

Media bias is dangerous to our democracy. It prevents the American people from getting the facts, and if we do not have the facts, we cannot make good decisions. We should help the media remember that their job is to give us fair, objective, and impartial news reports.

No one should play games with the people's right to know the facts. The media should give us the news straight.

U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE CYBERSMUGGLING CENTER

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Yesterday I participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new location of the U.S. Customs Service Cybersmuggling Center. Child pornography was a worldwide industry that was all but eradicated in

the 1980s. And unfortunately, it has resurfaced with vengeance thanks to computer technology.

Although, I learned of the work of the U.S. Customs Service through the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's leader, Ernie Allen, I was so impressed with the work of the Cybersmuggling Center and its agents that I introduced legislation that would authorize much needed funds specifically for the U.S. Customs Service, Child Pornography Enforcement Program.

The U.S. Customs Service has long been recognized by law enforcement and the international community for its knowledge and skill in investigating cases of child pornography and child exploitation. Proper funding of the Cybersmuggling Center will allow the Customs Service to continue its worldwide leadership in the prevention of the sexual exploitation and abuse of children in the United States and abroad. Congress got the message and now we can commend the work done by the men and women who spend their days and nights protecting our most vulnerable citizens, our children.

LET US LOOK AT THE FACTS

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, let us look at the facts. Republicans have locked away 100 percent of the Social Security and Medicare surplus. Republicans have eliminated over \$350 billion of our Nation's debt and will totally eliminate it by 2012.

We asked the Vice President to join us in dedicating another 90 percent or \$240 billion of next year's surplus toward eliminating the debt. Unfortunately, the Vice President does not agree. You see he wants to spend over \$1 trillion on increasing the size of our government.

Most Americans would agree the Vice President's plan to spend 1 trillion more dollars is shortsighted. We do not need a bigger government. Americans do not want, do not need and do not deserve a big government spending spree. They deserve a secure retirement and a debt-free America.

BEYOND CANCER: JOURNEYS OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT

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

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, Wes Scott, Josie Wisialowski, Linda Smith, Lyle Beres, Raksha Chand, Erik Oliverson, Pat Kaldor, Charlotte Lass, Val Banks, Tim Cleary, Marcia Boler, Barbara Kluth, these people are men and women, black and white, students and executives, com-

munity leaders, young and old. Despite their differences, these people all share one terrible reality, they have all had cancer. They also share one wonderful reality, they have all survived cancer.

Our guests today are a few of the survivors featured in the photographic exhibit *Beyond Cancer: Journeys of the Human Spirit*, on display through October 14th in the Rotunda of the Cannon House Office Building. The exhibit features pictures just like this one here showing the very human face of cancer in America and telling the very personal stories of the people who have fought and overcome this terrible disease. *Beyond Cancer* was developed by Milwaukee's St. Joseph Hospital and brought to Washington with the support of Abbott Labs. I am honored to have sponsored its display here on Capitol Hill.

Beyond Cancer is an inspiring tribute to the enduring strength of everyday Americans who decide that they will not allow cancer to define them, they will fight to survive, and that their life is beyond cancer.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in giving heartfelt thanks to these individuals, they offer examples of strength, faith, and perseverance to which we all might aspire.

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CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, THE HORNET'S NEST

(Mrs. MYRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, while Charlotte is proud of its professional basketball teams, the Hornets and the Sting, I would like to share with Members how the area first became known as the Hornet's Nest.

On October 3 of 1780, hungry British soldiers, coming off victories in South Carolina, were driven away by our local farmers. In the commotion, the soldiers knocked over the beehives at McIntyre's farm, and the insects, along with the Charlotteans, swarmed all over the fleeing Redcoats.

Four days later, frontiersmen from Georgia, Virginia, and both Carolinas destroyed the left wing of General Cornwallis's army in less than 1 hour of battle.

News of the victory revived hopes, and soon patriots like Thomas Sumter, Elijah Clarke, and Francis "the Swamp Fox" Marion stepped up their harassment of the British troops.

As they say, the rest is history. Cornwallis referred to Charlotte as a "hornet's nest of rebellion," and his stay lasted there only 16 days.

I encourage Members to join me and my fellow Carolinians in celebrating the 220th anniversary of both the Battle of the Bees and the Battle of Kings Mountain.

A MISSED DEADLINE TO REAUTHORIZE THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, 3 days ago the deadline passed for reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act.

There was no good reason for the Congress not to pass this important bill. After all, it passed this House with an overwhelming majority, 415 to 3. Judges support this bill, police officers support this bill, prosecutors support the bill, victims, social workers, health care workers, men and women around the Nation support this bill. It protects women from violence, it protects children from witnessing violence, it stops the cycle of violence.

Unfortunately, some in Congress are talking about using this bill as a sweetener, adding it to other bills to help them pass. The Violence Against Women Act deserves to pass on its own, and adding it to another bill to sweeten it is an insult to the women of America. Let us get our work done. Let us pass the Violence Against Women Act.

REPUBLICAN-SPONSORED LEGISLATION TO HELP AMERICA'S SENIORS

(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, what is it like to be retired in the 1990s on a fixed income with rising health care costs, high prescription drugs, and expensive, long-term residential treatment?

It does not have to be this way, though. That is why this Congress, this Republican Congress, has worked to take social security money off-budget so that the social security trust fund will be secure and the money will not be taken out of that lockbox and used for roads and bridges or congressional salaries. We believe that is an important commitment to America's seniors.

That is why this Congress has passed the only prescription drug program, to make prescription drugs available and affordable to our seniors.

I might add that the other body across the hall has yet to act on this important piece of legislation. Neither has the White House. But we think it is important.

That is why this Congress has worked hard for cops on the streets and local law enforcement grants, to make sure that American seniors at home in their retirement will be safe and secure, so they can sit on their porch or walk down the street and not be worried about being a victim of crimes.

Mr. Speaker, it is our moms and dads we are talking about. They looked