

TRIBUTE TO HONORABLE
CHARLES CANADY

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, as the 106th Congress draws to an end, this body will be saying good-bye to several outstanding public servants. Among these distinguished legislators is Congressman CHARLES CANADY.

Since 1993, CHARLES has represented the 12th Congressional District, which neighbors my district to the south. This has provided me the opportunity to work with him on issues that are vital to central Florida as well as to the Nation.

As Members know, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CANADY) pledged to his constituents that, if elected, he would step down after four terms. During this 8-year tenure, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CANADY) has accumulated an impressive record of accomplishments. This is not just my opinion. The National Journal states, "In a short time, CANADY has become one of the most productive and effective Members of the House."

That is how he will be remembered. He will be missed by the Florida delegation and others throughout this Chamber. We wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

CONGRESSMAN VENTO'S OUT-
STANDING ENVIRONMENTAL
LEGACY

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives, and particularly the Nation's environmental community, joined the family and constituents of Bruce Vento in mourning the loss of this dedicated and talented legislator earlier this month.

In his 24 years in Congress, Bruce served with great distinction and achievement on the House Committee on Resources. No other Member of this House could match his achievement on behalf of our parks and public lands and no one spoke with greater eloquence or worked with greater accomplishment to preserve these resources for future generations of Americans.

Because of his great contributions and the painfulness of his untimely death, it is especially discouraging to me to read the scorecard of the League of Conservation Voters for the 106th Congress. Although numerous Members have joined me in complaining about the League of Conservation Voters' practice of counting legitimately missed votes as "no" votes, LCV continues this unfair method of scoring. As a result, LCV rated Bruce Vento at

just 53 percent for this Congress and just 7 percent for this year. Although LCV notes Bruce's death, they failed to note that his absences were due to his terminal illness and treatments.

LCV's obstinate refusal to modify its rating system is very disappointing to friends in the environmental community. The ratings system is absurdly rigid and self-centered when dedicated environmentalists are marked down for illnesses or personal tragedies. LCV says it is looking for another way for the scoring system, but it will come too late to honor the memory and the achievements of Bruce Vento.

COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION

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

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, Republicans have made a solid commitment to education. But the Clinton-Gore administration and the Democrats in Congress want the Federal Government to decide what local schools can and cannot do. This is really what separates the two parties on education policy. The focus of education should not be about quantity and process. It should focus on quality and results. This is what will help our children and grandchildren secure America's future.

Our children and grandchildren will benefit greatly from the work we have done and the decisions we have made. Paying off the debt means \$1,348 in savings for every man, woman and child. That is money that can be spent for education or even retirement savings. It also means \$5,200 in savings for every American family, which is enough money for annual tuition at a public university.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress has ended the old spend-now-and-pay-later attitude that created deficits as far as the eye could see. I believe it is morally wrong to pass on our debt to our children and grandchildren. They should not have to inherit prior profligate spending. By committing to dedicate at least 90 percent of future surplus to reducing the national debt, we will secure America's future for our children and our grandchildren.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT IN THE
MATTER OF REFUSALS TO COMPLY
WITH SUBPOENAS ISSUED
BY COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, from the Committee on Resources, submitted a privileged supplemental report (Rept. No. 106-801, Part II) in the matter of the Refusals to Comply with Subpoenas Issued by the Committee on Resources, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

CONCERNING VIOLENCE IN
MIDDLE EAST

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

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, on October 25, yesterday, the House of Representatives passed H.Con.Res. 426, a resolution concerning violence in the Middle East.

Like those who supported the resolution, I am profoundly saddened by the loss of life precipitated by the recent outbreak of violence in Gaza and the West Bank. My support for the State of Israel and Israeli people as my voting record has demonstrated during my brief tenure here in the Congress has been unwavering. However, I could not support the resolution in the form it was presented yesterday because in my view it unfairly and broadly assigned blame for the violence in the Middle East.

A lasting Middle East peace can only be achieved if all parties demonstrate courage in the negotiation process. Central to this is the immediate renunciation of all violence and an expression of willingness by both sides to return to the negotiating table. Chairman Arafat's words and actions demonstrate his unwillingness to participate. I strongly support President Clinton's efforts to bring both sides to the negotiating table to begin again the slow and often difficult work that is necessary to ensure a lasting and just peace.

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LAST 7
YEARS

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

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I have been in this House approximately 7 years now, and as we approach the end of this session, it is time for a retrospective.

When I arrived in this House, we had a deficit of \$300 billion. And, in addition to that, we spent every cent, every single penny of the money that came in for Social Security, and it was spent on behalf of general government projects rather than on behalf of the people who contributed it.

Today we have a surplus of over \$100 billion, plus we are not taking one cent of the Social Security money that is coming in. What a difference in 7 years! If you want to know what that difference means for the average taxpayer, it is more than \$2,200 for each and every taxpayer in this country.

What a change! What an accomplishment! I am very proud to have been part of the House during this transition, from a time of immense deficit spending, stealing Social Security

money, and now not touching the Social Security money and saving the money, having a surplus.

REAL HEALTH CARE REFORM NEEDED FOR AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, for the last several years, since the passage of the Balanced Budget Act, all health care providers who provide medical services under Medicare have been suffering, and we have been making efforts to try to address that problem.

Unfortunately, the bill that is being brought to the floor today will give 47 percent of the benefits of the bill to HMOs who provide only 15 to 16 percent of the health care coverage for Medicare recipients. In the process, it shortchanges the other health care providers, such as hospitals, home health agencies, nursing homes, hospices and, more importantly, beneficiaries under Medicare.

Additionally, this bill would break faith with the commitments that we made during the census that we would keep all information from the census private. We made a commitment. We went out and told people that their information would be private. Now the same people who said that the information would not be revealed are here offering a bill to reveal the information. What a reversal of roles here.

We should oppose this bill, sustain the President's veto, and get a real bill for the American people.

LOCAL CONTROL OF EDUCATION NEEDED

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, Republicans know that children are our top priority. We are working to get dollars directly to the classroom. We want to encourage greater accountability for schools to raise test scores and graduation rates. We want to maximize our education funding by rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse.

Parents should have the right to save money for educational opportunities for their children, and they should be able to choose the school that best works for them. Even Democrats realize that there is growing frustration with the current state of education in America, and perhaps it is time for major reform.

Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government must continue to free States to use funds for proven State education programs.

President Clinton and Vice President GORE want more Washington control.

They think Washington knows best. We know that parents, teachers, and local school boards know better. There is no one-size-fits-all program for America's children. Some schools need more teachers, others need better teacher training, new computers or new buildings. Even the hardest working, best intentioned bureaucrat in Washington, D.C. cannot know what our needs are at home.

TIME TO UNMASK REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, the Republican campaign strategy has been to hide the Republican congressional leadership. Maybe that is one reason we are still here in D.C. But the need to end this session has forced the Republican leadership into the open, showing true Republican colors.

Take the health field as an example. It appears that, in the bills today, no patients' bill of rights, no prescription drugs, no help for legal immigrant kids and pregnant women, shortchanging hospitals in need to give a bundle to their HMO contributors.

President Clinton will veto these bills. I hope the President will take his fight against a do-harm Republican Congress to the countryside and use this Halloween period to unmask who the Republican opposition really is and is about.

PUT EDUCATION DOLLARS IN LOCAL HANDS

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, the Republican Congress differs with Democrats on the policy aspect of who should control our children's education, Washington, or parents and teachers. The education debate is not about money; it is about Federal versus local control of our schools and our children's future.

Two schools in South Dakota almost did not get their critical funds because of the bloated bureaucracy in Washington. Instead, \$2 million in funding was diverted from the Federal Department of Education to bank accounts in Maryland and used to purchase two luxury SUVs, a house and property in upper Maryland. I know the students, parents, teachers and administrators that make up the school districts of Wagner and Bennett County schools would not squander \$2 million.

Mr. Speaker, the writing is on the chalkboard. We need to put the dollars in local hands, not keep it here in greedy hands where it can be stolen,

wasted or abused, and not used how it was intended. We do not need more Federal control of education dollars, we need more local control.

UNITED STATES STEEL INDUSTRY BLEEDING TO DEATH

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

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, as we meet today, the United States steel industry continues to bleed to death. Let me give you but one example. LTV stock has plummeted 75 percent since January, and its year-end losses are likely to approach \$2 per share.

On October 5, they essentially gave away two tin mills, one in Gary, Indiana, the other in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania. Most importantly, today they are going to announce that one out of every ten people who yesterday were working in East Chicago, Indiana, are not going to continue to work there. There will be 30 people today, one out of every ten employees, who will not have a job at day's end.

That is why, under the leadership of the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOLLOHAN), 236 of us have asked the President to initiate a 201 trade action on those countries and those companies that are dumping steel and violating our law.

It is time that the administration initiate that 201 trade action, and it is also time that the administration should immediately take action against non-WTO member nations who import steel in order to stem the tide of illegally imported steel from some of the worst violators of our trade laws.

TRIBUTE TO SAM WALKER

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

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, this week, there is a man named Sam Walker who passed a way in Picayune, Mississippi, GENE TAYLOR'S district.

This man had moved from Nebraska down into the deep South and found his bride in New Orleans. He served in the United States Navy; and, as he didn't always remind his family, he had a destroyer shot out from under him during World War II. He settled down in Mississippi, and was called back into service as a reservist during the missile crisis in Cuba.

This man had served his community in many ways, but he was truly the salt of the Earth. He was a man who worked with his hands, a member of the Plumber's Union, and somebody who had served his country as a civilian and active duty military.

It is sad for me to ask that this body forgive that I will not be here tomorrow or Saturday, because I feel it is my