

to the Committee on Rules to be brought to the floor. The Senate does the same thing. It is an orderly process. That was not done this year. That was not done. And I think the legislation was not as strong as it should have been because we did not go in regular order.

So I very much hope that when we look at this issue again this coming year, 2001, that instead of just rushing something to the floor, that we have full debate and discussion; that people know what the provisions mean when the bill reaches the floor; that it does not become just a "Republican bill" or a "Democratic bill," but in our wisdom we debate the various provisions in a free way, debating amendments to improve the bill, voting them up or down, and doing things in a regular order.

Mr. Speaker, we did not get it done this year, at least I certainly do not think we are in these last few days of the 106th session, but I think we have a good chance to do something on this next year. So I urge my colleagues to look over my proposal, and we will be getting information to my colleagues.

TURKISH GOVERNMENT MUST RECOGNIZE BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS OF KURDISH PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HULSHOF). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today I want to speak about the need for the Turkish government to recognize the basic human rights of the Kurdish people, and I rise this afternoon to condemn recent, though ongoing, violations of these rights in Turkey.

I have always said the Kurds must be respected as a people, the world must finally listen to and respect their aspirations, and that they should enjoy the same right of choosing their representatives as other people do all over the world. The Turkish government has not accepted the validity of the Kurdish struggle or even of the Kurdish people. They have jailed leaders, but the message of these leaders continues to ring loud and clear.

Mr. Speaker, in the past few weeks, the Turkish government has extended a 13-year-old state of emergency in four mainly Kurdish provinces for an additional 4 months, and who knows what will happen at the end of those 4 months in terms of another extension. Further, the extension of emergency rule occurred despite the European commission's formal expression that the lifting of emergency rule is an objective for Turkey to achieve.

On December 4, The Washington Post reported that the director of a Kurdish linguistics institute in Istanbul is facing a trial on charges that the institute is an illegal business. The charges

come despite the fact that Turkish security courts have hired interpreters from this very institute for the past 8 years. This incident illustrates the type of human rights violations infringements that continue to occur but that must be halted immediately against the Kurdish people.

I call upon my colleagues to join me, Mr. Speaker, in urging the Turkish government to immediately grant basic rights to Kurdish citizens in Turkey and more formally and fully recognize the Kurdish people. This should include lifting the extension of emergency rule, lifting all bans on Kurdish-language television, cinema, and all forms of fine arts and culture.

Bans on language and culture are particularly disturbing because the lands of Kurdistan are considered by many to be the birthplace of the history of human culture. It saddens me that there is still a need to be on the floor protesting violations of these most basic yet essential human rights.

Mr. Speaker, back in 1997, I addressed the American Kurdish Information Network on the cultural oppression of Kurds by the Turkish government and on the Turks' squelching of Kurdish language and culture. At that time, 153 Members of Congress expressed their disapproval of the antidemocratic treatment of elected Kurdish representatives in the Turkish parliament.

In April of this year, a number of my colleagues joined me in introducing a House Resolution calling for the immediate and unconditional release from prison of certain Kurdish Members of the Turkish parliament and for prompt recognition of full Kurdish cultural and language rights within Turkey.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am continuing the fight on behalf of the Kurdish people, because their voices are still repressed, although the conflict between the government and separatist Kurdish guerrillas in the southeast has subsided significantly since the arrest last year of the Kurdish Workers Party leader, Abdullah Ocalan. Fears by hard-line Turkish nationalists that any recognition of Kurdish identity will fragment Turkey and strengthen separatism seem unwarranted based on the decline in tensions.

Mr. Speaker, Turkey must negotiate with the Turkish leaders. Turkey must lift its blockade of Armenia also. Turkey must end its military occupation of northern Cyprus. Such a change in behavior would benefit everyone in the region, including the Turkish people.

I hope my colleagues will join me in delivering these important messages to the Turkish government at every possible opportunity.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SUB- COMMITTEE ON CRIME DURING THE PAST 6 YEARS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MCCOLLUM) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to take the full 60 minutes, but I do want to take a portion of this time to take this opportunity to comment on something that I think is very important. I have had the privilege of serving as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime of the Committee on the Judiciary in the House of Representatives for the last 6 years. I will not have that privilege further. My tenure normally would come to an end, rotating under the rules of the House at the end of this Congress in any event, but as many of my colleagues know, I will be leaving this body, and it has been a great privilege to have served in that capacity.

I want to comment a few minutes about the work of the Subcommittee on Crime these past 6 years and to pay tribute to those committee staffers on that subcommittee who have worked so hard to make it possible for many of the legislative products and the oversight hearings to be accomplished, and to also pay tribute to some of the committee staff who worked for me while I have served in various capacities in years gone by on the House Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

Over the last three Congresses, the Subcommittee on Crime has compiled a tremendous record of accomplishment. In that time, 884 bills were referred to the subcommittee. The subcommittee had formal hearings on 75 of those bills and, after markup, reported 71 of them to the full Committee on Judiciary. Of those, 41 bills eventually were passed by both Houses and signed into law by the President. Some of those bills that did not get signed into law in their own right, were incorporated into appropriations bills and then signed into law.

So in more than 41 different ways, over the past 6 years, legislation crafted by the members of the Subcommittee on Crime have contributed to our country, making it a better place to live; one that is safer and more just for all our citizens.

Over the last 3 years, the Subcommittee on Crime has also held 111 days of hearings on a wide variety of subjects. I take pride in the fact that the subcommittee has held a hearing on almost every bill that it has marked up in order to ensure that the Members of the subcommittee were fully informed about that bill.

The subcommittee has also a distinguished record of achievement in the area of oversight. And the vast majority of these 111 days of hearings have been oversight hearings into specific

problems in criminal justice or hearings into activities and operations of the executive branch law enforcement agencies over which the Committee on the Judiciary has jurisdiction. These oversight hearings included hearings on the work of the FBI, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, the DEA, the Secret Service, and the U.S. Marshals Service.

Perhaps foremost and most remembered of the hearings that the subcommittee held in the last number of years were the 10 days of hearings it held into the activities of law enforcement agencies towards the Branch Davidians at Waco. These were joint hearings we held in conjunction with another subcommittee of the House. I think those hearings are remembered for a good reason. The hearings made the public aware of the many errors in judgment and tactics of the Federal Government during the investigation of the Branch Davidians, as well as dispelling the rumors as to the true cause of the fire that took the lives of the Davidians.

Just recently, there has been a special commission the President set up to study this measure, review it once more, and the conclusions of that effort that was undertaken have resulted in precisely a confirmation of the findings of this joint committee hearing that my subcommittee took part in.

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I was very pleased with the extensive report and findings and recommendations prepared by the committee. I note that the subsequent investigations have not altered those basic findings, which I think proves the thoroughness of those hearings. I would also note that the hearings were the occasion for observing, even in the midst of tragedy, the valor of Federal law enforcement agents.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take a few minutes to note some of the legislation that was passed by the subcommittee. Many aspects of the Contract with America in 1995 involved the Subcommittee on Crime. Provisions of legislation that were crafted and revised by the subcommittee that are in effect today from that Contract with America are the local Law Enforcement and Block Grant Program, which gives localities millions of dollars each year in flexible grants that they can direct resources to the places of greatest need for law enforcement purposes, where the decision making is done at the local level not at the Federal level but how those monies are spent; the Truth in Sentencing Prison Construction Grant Program, which encourages States to ensure that violent prisoners serve most of their sentence imposed by a court and provides them with monies and resources to build a prison space and to support those prison beds in return for agreeing to require at least 85 percent of a sentence be served;

the Federal Mandatory Minimum Retitution Law that requires victims in Federal criminal cases to make restitution to their victims; and the historic changes in the habeas corpus process which has helped ensure certainty and finality in our criminal justice system and provides a sense of closure to victims of crime.

Over the last 6 years, the subcommittee has worked on a great number of bills which have become law and have helped to protect our citizens. It has worked extensively to reinvigorate the war on drugs with a goal of increasing prospects of all of our children leading drug-free, productive lives.

The subcommittee has helped to enact legislation that increases the penalties for trafficking of methamphetamine, one of the most dangerous drugs facing our society today; criminalizes the use of the so-called date-rape drugs, and provides greater resources for the law enforcement agencies whose mission it is to combat the flow of illegal drugs into the country.

The subcommittee also has enacted several laws to protect our children and other vulnerable members of our society, such as "Megan's Law," which requires States to put in place a system to track the whereabouts of convicted sex offenders; the Sexual Crimes Against Children Act; and the Child Protection and Sexual Predator Punishment Act of 1998, which focuses on the problems of sex crimes against children and the use of computers and the Internet to commit those crimes by punishing severely those who commit them; and the Internet Stalking Punishment and Prevention Act of 1996 to punish those who would use the Internet to stalk their victims.

We also worked on several laws to protect our citizens from fraud, including the Cellular Telephone Protection Act of 1997, which prohibited the sale of devices used to clone wireless telephones; the Telemarketing Fraud Prevention Act of 1997, which helped protect persons, especially our seniors, from telemarketing fraud; the Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act of 1997, which makes it a crime to traffic in personal identifying information; and the Economic Espionage Act of 1996, which protects our commercial sector from those who would steal the business innovations that have helped fuel our economy.

We have also worked in the subcommittee to protect law enforcement officers who risk their lives daily to protect our society as well as their families who also bear this risk. The subcommittee worked to enact the Care for Police Survivors Act of 1998 and the Police Fire and Emergency Officers Educational Assistance Act of 1998 to provide educational benefits to the families of public safety officers killed or disabled in the line of duty;

the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Act of 1997, which was renewed this year to ensure that States have sufficient funding to buy protective vests for law enforcement officers; and the Correctional Officers Health Safety Act of 1998 to mandate that correctional officers who come in contact with the bodily fluids of inmates may learn the HIV status of those inmates.

The Subcommittee on Crime has also enacted prison litigation reform legislation to ensure that prisoners do not tie up our court systems with frivolous litigation.

I am also pleased this Congress that the subcommittee worked extensively to close the gaping hole in our Federal criminal jurisdiction in some areas that some cases have allowed very serious crimes committed outside the United States by American employees of the Defense Department or the American dependents of our service personnel to go unpunished. This hole was closed by the passage of the Military Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act of 2000, and that is long overdue.

Also this Congress we passed bipartisan legislation to eliminate the crime backlog of crime scene samples awaiting DNA analysis. The passage of the DNA Backlog Elimination Act will help make our system even more just by providing greater certainty in the outcome of thousands of criminal cases.

I also would like to note a couple of bills that did not become law but that we worked extensively on and one that did that was a part of another bill. We had a bill dealing with the Drug Elimination Act of a couple of years ago that was an extensive piece of legislation incorporated into a larger omnibus spending bill at the close of the last Congress that, if fully implemented, was designed and would I think reduce the flow of drugs into this country by a significant margin, maybe as much as 85 percent, over the next several years. Unfortunately, not all the funding to go with that legislation has been produced.

We also produced a Juvenile Crime bill that twice has gone to the other body and has yet to become law, does not appear likely to in this Congress, but which is something in bad need of addressing in the next Congress again. This is a bill that is in part incorporated, though, in appropriations process in some of the legislative endeavors there. And that is a bill to correct a problem with those who are juveniles who commit misdemeanor crimes and others at the early stage of their crime life and do not get any punishment.

That is very common today for young people to commit a crime such as one of maybe even robbing a car or throwing a rock through a window or doing something else that vandalizes and never getting taken to court; or if

they are, when they are first there, they receive no punishment, maybe probation or none at all.

We learned in a lot of studies that there is a big problem with that. Because our juvenile justice system is overworked and they do not give this punishment, then there is no deterrent and young people find that they come to conclude they are not going to get punished and so they go on to commit these crimes and greater crimes and perhaps violent crimes down the road.

And so we attempted to put some accountability into the law by providing a block grant program through the local law enforcement communities and the States to enhance their juvenile justice systems with more prosecutors, more judges, more diversion programs in return for the simple commitment on the part of the States to assure that the very first misdemeanor crime by a juvenile gets some punishment, be it community service or otherwise, and an ever-increasing greater amount of punishment thereafter.

That legislation, as I said, has not become law; but it has at least partially been implemented through the appropriations process and I certainly hope will get a solution.

Another major bill that has not gotten all the way through the system is one dealing with what we do with our prison system in terms of prison industries. We have a problem with that that I do not have the time to go into today. But it deals with the fact that we do not have very many prisoners working in our prisons compared to the number who are there, less than 20 percent at the Federal level, less than 7 percent at the State level; and yet we see those prisoners who do engage in prison industries are far less likely to return to prison when they are released than those who do not. And so the legislation that we produced in our committee that has yet to become law would provide for an opportunity greater than today to bring private industry into prisons to employ these prisoners on a wider basis, to remove a barrier to the understate sale of prison-made goods, and to provide for other opportunities in that regard.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the remaining time to thank the staff that have worked so hard in the Subcommittee on Crime and elsewhere for me and to mention them in particular. They have done an enormous task of working for me over the years. Several of them have been very, very involved. They deserve the tribute for all that they have done. Many of those staff members have been with me for a long time.

Glenn Schmitt and Dan Bryant share the duties of chief counsel. Dan Bryant joined the subcommittee in early 1995 and has worked tirelessly over the years in many years, including the drug issue and juvenile crime and gun

control and law enforcement. Glenn Schmitt was with me even before on the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims in 1994 and has worked extensively in the area of corrections and computer and other high-tech crimes.

Rick Filkins on our staff joined the full committee in 1997 and became a part of the subcommittee in 1999. Carl Thorsen has done a tremendous job with us, has joined the subcommittee very recently, was on my personal staff. Veronica Eligan works for our subcommittee and Jim Rybicki. Without them we could not have done the job.

Paul McNulty for a number of years served as chief counsel for the Subcommittee on Crime from 1995 to 1999. He previously worked when I was ranking member of the minority on this subcommittee from 1987 to 1990, a very talented individual. And we have missed him. He is now working for the majority leader.

Nicole Nason was counsel with us, did a great job. Aerin Dunkle Bryant also a tremendous staffer in the past. Audray Clement put in over 30 years of service and 20 years as staff assistant on the Committee on the Judiciary and worked on the subcommittee before she retired. Kara Norris Smith succeeded her. Carmel Fisk worked for me when I was the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims and did a great job and somebody we could not have worked without.

On the Committee on Banking, where I was ranking member of a couple of subcommittees when we were in the minority, domestic monetary policy, Doyle Bartlett, Gerry Lynam, Anita Bedelis, Mark Brender all worked tirelessly on their efforts while I served there. John Heasley and Doyle Bartlett worked as my counsels when I was the ranking minority member on the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions. And Doyle later served as my chief of staff on my personal staff.

I just similarly cannot pass the opportunity of saying that in the tenure that I served here, without those committee staffers and without my personal staff to whom I paid tribute earlier in this Congress, it would not have been possible to do the things that we have done. And I really believe that staff go unrecognized often and they matter a great deal.

It has been a great privilege to have served in this body over these 20 years. It has been a great privilege to have served with these staff members and to have done the work load that we have. I will miss this body. There will be other opportunities in the future, I know, to meet public service; but I want to thank my colleagues for this privilege and great honor of serving here in this institution and thank them particularly for allowing me the opportunity to have been the chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime and to

have worked with these wonderful people to craft the legislation I have described.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a joint resolution of the House of the following title:

H.J. Res. 127. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2415) entitled "An Act to enhance security of United States missions and personnel overseas, to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes."

CONVICTION OF ED POPE IN RUSSIA

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

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to unfortunately relate to my colleagues my concern about the conviction of an American citizen in Russia by the name of Ed Pope.

Ed Pope is an academic affiliated with Penn State University who had a distinguished career in our military and who was simply doing research and marketing work with Russian institutions when he was arrested without reason earlier this year, put in a prison in Moscow without proper medical care, without proper attention.

In spite of cancer, in spite of an illness that his father has that is terminal, in spite of the pleadings of many of us on both sides of the aisle, in particular the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON), who represents Ed Pope and his family, Ed Pope was convicted this week and given a sentence of 20 years in Russia's prisons.

Mr. Speaker, Ed Pope is not a criminal. Ed Pope is innocent. I have copies of the contracts that Ed Pope had signed with Russian agents in charge of Russian institutes who had empowered him to work to market Russia's underwater propulsion technology. During Ed Pope's trial, the chief witness against him recanted his testimony. In fact, the defense attorney for Ed Pope provided information on what Ed Pope was marketing was available in open sources in this country. In fact, everyone involved with this case understands that Ed Pope is an innocent man.