

The membership of the commission is important to consider. The bill calls for 5 appointed members—1 each from both sides of the aisle in the House and Senate, and one appointed by the Chief Justice of the United States, who shall chair the Commission. This will be a new, and much needed, dimension to the debate. Under the bill, the commission would be charged with obtaining official data directly from any department or agency of the United States necessary for it to carry out this section—unless doing so would threaten the national security, the health or safety of any individual, or the integrity of an ongoing investigation.

Finally, the bill would subject certain legislation to a point of order—if it has not met the conditions set out in the legislation. This would provide additional time for Congress to debate the merits of legislation being considered.

In effect, this bill is about considered and appropriate debate for federalizing crime. It will help educate Congress to make more informed decisions that impact the daily lives of all of our constituents. It will help take some of the politics out of the important issues that we face with regard to protecting people from crime.

Mr. Speaker, we need to act. The Judiciary has made subtle and not so subtle pleas for Congress to refrain from and restrain its penchant to federalize the criminal code. Most recently, in a decision concerning the Violence Against Women Act, the Chief Justice writes,

[t]he Constitution requires a distinction between what is truly national and what is truly local, and there is no better example of the police power, which the Founders undeniably left reposed in the States and denied the central government, than the suppression of violent crime and vindication of its victims. Congress therefore may not regulate non-economic, violent criminal conduct based solely on the conducts' aggregate effect on interstate commerce. [*U.S. v. Morrison et al. decided May 15, 2000 (Syllabus)*]

Clearly, there is a message in those words about the federalization of crime. It is time that Congress heeds it.

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#### MEMORIAL DAY 2000

### HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2000*

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, every year on Memorial Day, small replicas of our Star-Spangled Banner appear in cemeteries across our Nation. They mark the final resting places of those who gave their lives to defend the helpless, to let democracy flower around the world, and to defend the freedoms and liberties we enjoy as Americans.

These honored dead have not died in vain, as Abraham Lincoln solemnly pledged during the most divisive, soul-rending war this nation had yet faced. We have a long, proud history of service and sacrifice given by those men and women who quit the safety of everyday life and friends "to hazard all in freedom's fight." Today, we have such men and women deployed around the world, and we hold them and their families in our hearts and prayers.

That oath to defend the Constitution has been sworn by every soldier, sailor, flyer, and Marine, living and dead. On Memorial Day, we recall with bittersweet fondness, those who gave everything to preserve the security and liberty of those they loved and those they never knew. What wonderful people we have lost! What gifts might they have given the world, had war not shortened their lives! And yet they gave the dearest gifts they had, and now they lie beneath small flags of red, white and blue in grassy fields all around us.

We have honored their graves and their lives on Memorial Day since the end of our own Civil War. In 1866, spontaneous rites of remembrance were held in Carbondale, IL, in Columbus, MS, and Waterloo, NY. The families of the men killed in that war came together to place flowers by their gravestones. The veterans joined this practice, honoring their fallen comrades with their own recollections of courage and devotion on stricken fields. Ever since then, veterans and their families have led the observance of Memorial Day.

There have been times, during and right after wars, when most Americans have known some of these honored dead. Those who defend this country, after all, are men and women from every town and every walk of life. They are as ordinary as the earth they lie beneath, and more precious than diamonds.

But in prolonged times of peace, children are born and grow up never knowing anybody who fell in war. While peace is an immeasurable blessing, not to have known any of these honored dead is a loss. Some feel it in never knowing a father or other relative lost in combat. Others have no connection beyond gratitude.

Memorial Day brings that connection to our consciousness. On this day we are all aware of the service so many have given this Nation, and of what risk those who defend this nation share. This is a day, I would hope only one of many, on which the living remember and salute those who served our Nation in uniform and now lie at eternal rest.

On this Memorial Day, I would like to remember two fallen heroes from the Second Congressional District of Florida, which I have the distinct honor of representing in the House of Representatives. Air Force Master Sgt. Sherry Lynn Olds, of Panama City and Marine Sgt. Jesse N. Aliganga, of Tallahassee, made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their country. These soldiers were two of 12 Americans that gave their lives in the August 7th, 1998, terrorist bombing of the United States Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya. On this day, we honor them and the many others that have gone before them, and the contributions all of them have made for us.

Service of this country in uniform has been, since the beginning, one of the greatest sources of unity and equality, in our national life. More than half a century ago, President Franklin Roosevelt reminded the American people that, "Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy forget in time that men have died to win them." I hope on this Memorial Day 2000, we as a nation, and each of us as individuals, will take to heart President Roosevelt's reminder that it is the sacred duty and great privilege of the living to honor

and remember those who have died to protect the American ideals of freedom, democracy, and liberty. The men and women who have died in service to America and to all of us deserve no less.

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#### MARTHA MATILDA HARPER'S BUSINESS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2000*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I speak in honor of Small Business Week. As we salute the entrepreneurial engine of our country, it is my distinct privilege to inform you that I represent the district where modern franchising was first conceived in Rochester, NY.

In 1888, Martha Matilda Harper, an impoverished Canadian immigrant who came to the United States to change her destiny, developed a new business model to share the economic opportunity of business ownership with former servant women, her working-class sisters. She demonstrated how to use business for social change. Ultimately, Harper had over 500 healthy hair and skin care salons throughout the world, delighting world leaders, including our presidents, first ladies, suffragists, and socialites. President Woodrow Wilson went for nightly scalp massages in the Harper Paris salon to relax his tired nerves, while he was negotiating the Treaty of Versailles.

As we go forth in the new millennium, I hope we remember to credit the early innovators in our country, especially when they were poor women such as Martha Matilda Harper who changed the face of our business models. It is particularly fitting that May 26th in Rochester, NY, is being declared Martha Matilda Harper Day as a new museum exhibit and book reveal the extraordinary feats and principles of this remarkable woman. May her wisdom and leadership guide us as we compete in our global economy.

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#### AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT (NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT) TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

### HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 24, 2000*

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I am strongly opposed to recognizing, as normal, China's persistent violations of fundamental human rights, labor rights, reproductive rights, religious freedom, political rights, social and economic rights, as well as their export of sophisticated and destabilizing weapons, and their overt threats to Taiwan, by granting them Permanent Normal Trade Relations.

To be sure, some people will benefit from granting PNTR to China. If you can shut down your production lines in the United States, turn out your employees, and move your production to China where you can pay workers 25