

GIVE OUR SENIORS SIMPLICITY AND CHEAPER PRICES FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

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

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, 4 years ago Paul and Judy from Warwick, Rhode Island, retired hoping that they would have a great retirement with a great pension. They are now spending about \$8,350 a year for prescription drugs. They want a plan that will cover them under Medicare that will be simple, effective, and reduce the cost for them, but all seniors.

Over the next few days, we are going to address a plan that the Republican leadership will offer that will simply put more money back into the insurance companies, provide a prescription drug plan that will be nothing more than another boondoggle.

We ask for simplicity. We ask for universal coverage. We ask for our seniors to be given cheaper prices for prescription drugs.

ADMINISTRATION BLAMING GAS COMPANIES FOR FUEL CRISIS

(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, rising gas prices are a serious concern to Americans everywhere.

The hike in fuel prices has hurt the truckers who deliver our food and clothing. It has hurt our farmers who need gas to run their farm equipment. It has hurt the average American who just wants to get to and from work.

The Clinton-Gore administration has often claimed it feels the pain of the American people. But instead of working with OPEC to increase oil production or moving to temporarily suspend expensive regulations, the administration is choosing to play the blame game.

The administration's new claim is that gas companies are engaging in price gouging. Gas companies are not to blame for our fuel prices, the Clinton-Gore administration is. While they are focusing their efforts on shifting the blame, the American people are the ones paying the price.

This is not price gouging, it is "price-Gore-ging."

CONCERN FOR LACK OF ENERGY POLICY

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

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my colleagues in expressing my concern for a lack of an energy policy in the country over the last 7 years.

Really, there are three areas that we should have been watching and three areas where we failed to take the necessary steps. We have not done what we should have done to maintain our relationships with the countries we buy oil from.

At the same time, we have allowed our country to become more and more dependent on those countries. Somewhere between 56 and 58 percent of all our oil is now imported. We have done everything we could during that same period of time to discourage domestic supply, and we have not done anything to encourage alternative use.

Now suddenly, at the end of 7 years of no policy, the Secretary of Energy says we were caught napping. Well, it seems to me the Secretary of Energy has been napping a lot. Whether it was involving our nuclear codes at Los Alamos or our dependence on foreign oil, we cannot afford to have an Energy Department napping. We need to look and see what happened at the same time we need to do everything we can to provide relief to the families that are being caught in this crisis right now.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10:25 a.m.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 15 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10:25 a.m.

□ 1025

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) at 10 o'clock and 25 minutes a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

PLACEMENT OF STATUE OF CHIEF WASHAKIE IN NATIONAL STATUARY HALL

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 333) providing for the acceptance of a statue of Chief Washakie, presented by the people of Wyoming, for placement in

National Statuary Hall, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 333

Whereas Chief Washakie was a recognized leader of the Eastern Shoshone Tribe;

Whereas Chief Washakie contributed to the settlement of the west by allowing the Oregon and Mormon Trails to pass through Shoshone lands;

Whereas Chief Washakie, with his foresight and wisdom, chose the path of peace for his people;

Whereas Chief Washakie was a great leader who chose his alliances with other tribes and the United States Government thoughtfully; and

Whereas in recognition of this alliance and long service to the United States Government, Chief Washakie was the only chief to be awarded a full military funeral: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. ACCEPTANCE OF STATUE OF CHIEF WASHAKIE FROM THE PEOPLE OF WYOMING FOR PLACEMENT IN NATIONAL STATUARY HALL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The statue of Chief Washakie, furnished by the people of Wyoming for placement in National Statuary Hall in accordance with section 1814 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (40 U.S.C. 187), is accepted in the name of the United States, and the thanks of the Congress are tendered to the people of Wyoming for providing this commemoration of one of Wyoming's most eminent personages.

(b) PRESENTATION CEREMONY.—The State of Wyoming is authorized to use the rotunda of the Capitol on September 7, 2000, at 11 o'clock ante meridian, for a presentation ceremony for the statue. The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board shall take such action as may be necessary with respect to physical preparations and security for the ceremony.

(c) DISPLAY IN ROTUNDA.—The statue shall be displayed in the rotunda of the Capitol for a period of not more than 6 months, after which period the statue shall be moved to its permanent location in National Statuary Hall.

SEC. 2. TRANSMITTAL TO GOVERNOR OF WYOMING.

The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall transmit a copy of this concurrent resolution to the Governor of Wyoming.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS).

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As visitors move around the Capitol, one of the most striking examples of State representation is, in fact, the ability of each State to send two statues to the Capitol. It is fascinating to look at the regional and especially the historical differences of who States recognize as appropriate figures to memorialize by statue in the Capitol.

We have before us today a resolution which completes the State of Wyoming's decision to send two statues. I think it is emblematic, the particular statue that Wyoming has chosen.