

ALLOWING HANNAH TO LIVE

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, right now the White House is trying to decide whether or not to allow scientists to kill living human embryos to harvest their stem cells. The debate, of course, is over whether or not living human embryos are people or property. If they are property, you can do anything you want with them. If they are people, they deserve protection.

Take a look at this chart of the life of Hannah, a 2½-year-old girl who was adopted as a frozen embryo. Here shortly after she was conceived; here when she was adopted and then implanted into her mother's, adoptive mother's womb; here on New Year's Eve, 1998, when she was born; and over here on the right you can see when she was a toddler, a baby.

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Where on this chart did Hannah become a person? Where on this chart does she deserve protection?

Many of us believe that she deserves the right to protection, that she deserves to continue to live from the start. We hope the White House will make sure that all unborn girls and boys have the same chance to live and grow.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

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

H.R. 2131. An act to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 16. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the George Washington letter to Touro Synagogue in Newport, Rhode Island, which is on display at the B'nai B'rith Klutznick National Jewish Museum in Washington, D.C., is one of the most significant early statements buttressing the nascent American constitutional guarantee of religious freedom.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2761 of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, appoints the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) as Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the British-American Interparliamentary Group during the One Hundred Seventh Congress.

The message also announced that in accordance with sections 1928a-1928d of

title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) as Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Parliamentary Assembly during the One Hundred Seventh Congress.

FBI GETTING AWAY WITH PERJURY

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the FBI did not steal guns nor computers? Beam me up. The FBI destroyed incriminating evidence that would have whacked the FBI right out of the box. Even Chief Inspector Clouseau can smell out this diversion. From Waco to Ruby Ridge to Boston, the FBI has not only suborned perjury, they have lied to the courts, they have lied to Congress, they have lied to the American people, and they are getting away with it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the fact that the FBI destroyed evidence deliberately. They had no intention and no need to take any guns or any computers.

WALK FOR HOPE AGAINST BREAST CANCER

(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, on Sunday, October 7, hundreds of south Florida residents will participate in the third annual Walk for Hope Against Breast Cancer at Aventura Mall. Walk For Hope Against Breast Cancer will help raise funds for life-saving research at the City of Hope Medical Center and at Beckman Research Institute, a National Cancer Institute Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Despite education on preventative measures and on early detection, the rate of cancer among women has continued to increase at an alarming rate. Current statistics indicate that 2.6 million women have breast cancer. Today, one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and this year we will lose more than 40,000 women to this devastating disease.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the event cochair of the walk, Michael Yavner and Mason Mishcon who, through their efforts, will enable City of Hope Medical Center to continue to provide care, regardless of a patient's ability to pay. Funds from this walk at Aventura Mall will also benefit clinical trials and hereditary and genetic-associated research.

I congratulate City of Hope and all involved in Walk for Hope for their dedication to fighting breast cancer.

KOREAN WAR MIA'S SUPPORT INTERNET-BASED INITIATIVE CALLED FINDING THE FAMILIES

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

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, we recently celebrated the 51st anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War, and among those that we honored were the 6,000 soldiers in that war who were designated as Missing In Action.

The cooling of tensions on the Korean Peninsula have allowed an unprecedented opportunity for the repatriation of the remains of those lost servicemen. At the same time, recent advances in DNA technology have made it possible to identify those remains once a DNA sample is obtained from a living descendant.

An organization called the Korean War Project has set up an Internet-based initiative called Finding the Families to locate the 6,000 families of servicemen missing in action from the Korean War. I have placed a link on my government Web site to their homepage so that the citizens of my district can search the directory of missing soldiers from their area in an attempt to find a living descendant who can provide a DNA sampling. I urge my colleagues to provide matching support in tracking down those missing families by providing similar links on their own Web sites, in addition to generating more public awareness of this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, our missing heroes deserve more than just our passive pledge not to forget, they deserve our active support. Supporting the Finding Families program is a way to do just that.

KEEPING PROMISES TO AMERICA'S PATIENTS

(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, Napoleon Bonaparte once said that "if you wanted to be a success in the world, promise everything, deliver nothing." But we all know how successful Napoleon fared.

Yet, the supporters of the Ganske-Dingell Patients' Bill of Rights and its Senate equivalent seem to have forgotten the lessons of Napoleon Bonaparte. They are promising American families new patient protections and rights to health care. But, like Napoleon, they are promising everything and delivering nothing.

The unlimited liability in their "lawyer's right to sue" bill will result in over 6 million Americans losing their health care insurance. What type of patient protection is that? Rather than doctors taking care of their health needs, Americans will be finding trial lawyers taking them to the cleaners.

Americans deserve to get the health care they need and when they need it, a real promise we can keep and must deliver.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support a real Patients' Bill of Rights, the bipartisan Fletcher-Peterson Patients' Bill of Rights.

DEMAND THE RELEASE OF GAO ZHAN FROM CHINA

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, after a 1-day trial, China convicts a U.S.-based scholar of spying. Let me tell my colleagues who that is. Gao Zhan lives in this area. She is a mother, she is a wife, she is a researcher at the American University. She went to China to simply visit her relatives. She has a 5-year-old son that is a citizen. She has a husband that is a citizen of the United States. They would not allow the United States to sit in her trial and observe.

Gao Zhan needs to be released now. China needs to come into the world arena of friendship and understanding of human rights.

Secretary Colin Powell must demand her release, and we must pass a private bill in this Congress to make sure that Gao Zhan is a citizen of the United States. I have filed such a bill. There is a bill filed in the United States Senate. This bill must be brought forward, and we must demand that China understands that academics is not synonymous to spying. It is unfair. It is a tragedy. Unite this mother with her child; unite this wife with her husband. Unite this legal resident of the United States with her community. Demand Gao Zhan's release now.

SUPPORT A REAL PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

(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, a CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll released last week shows that most Americans would oppose the McCain-Kennedy trial lawyers' bill because they know it would increase health costs. When asked point-blank if they are more concerned about suing HMOs or lawsuits driving up their health insurance costs, the majority of Americans said they feared the prospect of skyrocketing costs caused by lawsuits.

This is yet more proof that Americans want a Patients' Bill of Rights that ensures they get the care they need from a doctor they know. Americans want, need and deserve health care reform, not a trial lawyers' bill that would drive people into the ranks of the uninsured.

In short, I am with the American people who favor the responsible health care reform principles of the Fletcher-Peterson Patients' Bill of Rights. Under this bill, more Americans will be insured.

TRIBUTE TO FALLEN OFFICERS J.J. CHESTNUT AND JOHN GIBSON

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

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise first to thank the Speaker of the House and the majority whip and all of the Members of the House who today, with one voice, rise on this floor to pay tribute to the brave, courageous heroes who gave their lives so that others could live: Officers Gibson and Chestnut. I rise today in sorrow at the loss that occurred here in the people's House 3 years ago today.

In the aftermath of this event, as we gathered around the families of both officers Gibson and Chestnut, we voted never to forget their acts of bravery and to memorialize what they did for us and their country on that day.

Officers Gibson and Chestnut literally saved the lives of countless Members of Congress, our staffs, and countless visitors who pass through our halls every day to visit this shrine to our American democracy. We owe them a gratitude for which words alone do no justice.

These two men, strong and decent, rank in the legion of honor of those who died so that freedom may live in the everyday lives of all Americans. They remind us that all of the officers who work in this building are real heroes of our democracy; they are guardians of our way of life. They are the men and women who face danger every day, and who are pledged to protect this citadel of freedom so that the people's business can be conducted, and so that people can visit this site of our government and take part in our democracy.

Mr. Speaker, let me say that I have the honor of being served by two similar plain-clothes officers, and I want to again, as I did 3 years ago, take this opportunity to thank them and all of their colleagues who protect this building and all of us on a daily basis. We will never forget the sacrifice of these two officers. We will always cherish them and their families, and we will never forget that they died so that others could live and be free.

ANWR TECHNOLOGY III

(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, opponents of ANWR often hold up a picture

of big, grimy, old oil rigs; and they ask this question: Do we want one of these on our precious wildlife refuges? Of course not, but that is the wrong question. The question should be: Can modern technology allow us to drill in the Arctic with absolutely no impact on the wildlife or plant life there? The answer is a resounding yes.

Cutting-edge technology, like horizontal drilling, allows us to reach oil 4 miles away from a surface location. Thirty years ago, it took a 65-acre drill site to slant drill only 3 square miles. Today, a 16-acre drill site can now drill 50 square miles of subsurface. That means that today we can drill 15 times further on a drill site one-fifth the size of what we used when we started developing oil in the Arctic.

We no longer build gravel roads in for oil development there. Instead, companies build ice roads that melt away with spring, leaving no hint that they were ever there. Let us use this amazing technology to help stabilize gasoline prices and make this country more self-reliant.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, instead of strengthening Social Security, the President has used the surplus for tax cuts that overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest Americans. The President's Commission on Social Security has issued a report that tries to scare the public into thinking that sacrificing their guaranteed income is the only solution.

Social Security has allowed generations of retirees to live with independence and dignity, and in more than 60 years Social Security has never once missed a paycheck. Unfortunately, the President wants to privatize Social Security, a proposal that removes a promise that Social Security will be there. Under privatization, funds in the Social Security Trust Fund would be diverted into the stock market, subject to an unpredictable outcome.

Contrary to the report's claims, women and minorities do not do better under privatization. Because women and minorities tend to earn less during their lifetimes, they have less money to invest and accrue for retirement. Social Security guarantees that they will have a secure pension that grows with inflation. Privatization erases that guarantee and replaces it with a fixed, limited income.

Social Security's financial challenges are manageable. They do not warrant the President's radical restructuring. We need measures to preserve and strengthen Social Security, not rescind its guarantee.