

But let us say we like giving the oil companies \$37 billion. Should we not at least pay for it? The Committee on Rules has prohibited any amendments to make this bill pay for itself. As a result, all the bonanza for the oil companies comes right out of the Medicare trust fund. Wake up. We have a new economic situation, a new President and there is no surplus except the Medicare surplus.

Finally, the Committee on Rules has decided not even to allow California and the Western states a chance on this floor to ask to change our clocks and use daylight saving time in more creative ways. There is nothing in the bill for conservation and everything for the oil companies.

#### AMERICA'S NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PLAN

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, to this date, America has not had a comprehensive energy policy. The results were expressed last year when President Clinton's Energy Secretary Bill Richardson admitted, "It is obvious that the Federal Government was not prepared. We were caught napping. We got complacent."

Mr. Speaker, we all agree that these problems do not happen overnight and they cannot be solved overnight, but with Americans now facing rising utility bills, high gasoline prices and rolling blackouts and brownouts, I believe Congress must act to pass President Bush's far-reaching plan which is balanced and responsive in addressing America's energy needs.

The President's plans offers 105 specific recommendations to address America's current energy shortage and provides reliable and affordable supply for the future. It starts with conversation and includes friendly changes to increase our domestic supply, improve delivery, reform outdated regulations and encourage energy diversity.

It is unnecessary that nearly 60 percent of America's oil is imported. It is unbelievable that large portions of our oil and gas are in hands of Mommar Quadaffi and Saddam Hussein. It is outrageous that Members of this House choose to put politics before the people.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to adopt the President's energy plan.

#### ENERGY SECURITY ACT INCREASES ENERGY PRODUCTION

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

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, the Energy Security Act helps America ad-

dress its energy problems by increasing our energy production on existing Federal sites. It helps us get more oil from our existing oil wells, more natural gas from our existing natural gas wells, more hydropower from our existing Federal dams.

It looks for ways to produce more energy from wind, sun and geothermal heat, all from Federal lands. It also allows careful, gentle oil development of 2,000 acres in the Arctic by using the latest technology and adherence to the strictest environmental laws.

The Energy Security Act does what we need to increase our production of energy, and together with bills from other committees, will form a comprehensive package that emphasizes vigorous conservation, more research, more reliance on clean and renewable energies, and the wise increase of energy production. As for California, its problems will not be solved until it changes its attitude with regard to energy production and changes its political leaders.

#### SUPPORTING A BALANCED AND COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY BILL

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

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, today is an important day in the House. We are going to bring forward an energy bill, the first comprehensive energy bill we have had in this country for almost 20 years.

It is a long-term, balanced approach to energy policy that includes increases in both production and conservation. But I have to give credit to both sides of the aisle here because this House decided to start with conservation.

The bill includes a measure that will save 5 billion gallons of gasoline from SUV and light truck production over the next 6 years. That is the equivalent of parking the 1999 production of SUVs for 2 years and not even driving them.

It includes standards for televisions and appliances and energy efficiency, accelerating the clean coal program and tax credits for solar homes. Those tax credits in that bill do not go to big oil. They go to people like me and others like me who live in solar heated homes in the Southwest.

This is a balanced, comprehensive approach that includes input from many rank-and-file Members of this House, and I commend the leadership and the bipartisan majority that will pass it today.

#### EPA ASSAULT ON HUDSON RIVER COMMUNITIES

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

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on one of the infamous days for the citizens of New York's 22nd congressional district, a district that I represent.

That is because yesterday, regrettably, the EPA Administrator leaked to the press her decision to dredge over 40 miles, 2.6 million cubic yards, 100,000 dump-truck loads of sludge from the bottom of the Hudson River.

□ 1030

This is after much debate and much study but, more importantly, after weeks of negotiation where we sought to bring the parties together so that we could find an amicable and immediate solution.

This decision will wreak havoc on the citizens of the 22nd Congressional District. I would ask my colleagues to imagine, imagine finding out that your life has been turned upside down through a press leak; imagine knowing that this could lead to the seizure of your home, of your property, a change of your quality of life; imagine for 20 years, fighting on an issue in which almost every public-appointed and elected official has abandoned you, and then having this occur to you.

Mr. Speaker, shame on the EPA, shame on the administrator. I vow to continue this fight on behalf of the citizens of the 22nd Congressional District.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4, SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE ENERGY ACT OF 2001

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 216 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 216

*Resolved*, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 90 minutes, with 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of each of the following Committees: Science, Ways and Means, and Resources. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read. The amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted in the House and in