

“Establishing a computerized system to track entries and exits from the United States should not even be a subject of debate. There are no technological obstacles, merely a lack of will and funding. What is more, the practice of requiring permanent residents who are not yet citizens to annually register their whereabouts with government, which was discontinued in the 1970s, should be revived.

“The State Department’s visa officers overseas need to be recognized as ‘America’s other Border Patrol.’ Visa officers often have only 2 or 3 minutes to consider an application, and are pressured to approve a high proportion of applicants to avoid offending the host country. The granting of visas should become a freestanding, well-funded function that people sign up for from the start, rather than today’s dreaded right of passage for rookie Foreign Service officers.

“The very morning of the September 11 attack, the House was about to resurrect a provision called 245(i), which allows illegal aliens to receive green cards in the United States rather than in their home countries.

“Because personnel abroad are best equipped to screen applicants, 245(i) negates any efforts to keep out those judged to be ineligible.

“Finally, whatever one thinks about the level of immigration, a temporary reduction in legal immigration and the admission of temporary workers and students is essential to allow the overhaul of our immigration infrastructure.”

Did we hear that, Mr. Speaker? “A temporary reduction in legal immigration,” and I will say a pause in all immigration; I want a pause. I will soon be introducing a bill to that effect. A pause, at least a 6-month pause, in all immigration into the United States, except for special circumstances, maybe national defense-related issues. But other than that, let us stop it. Because we have an overhaul to do with our entire system. Let us let the Department, let us let our new Secretary for the Department of Homeland Defense determine how best to go back into the field and try to defend our borders. But let us call a pause or a halt to immigration for at least 6 months.

“Only by lightening the INS’ load can the agency both process its huge backlog and strengthen border controls.

“Improved border and visa controls may not catch all malefactors, but it will help alert us to conspiracies such as last Tuesday’s attacks. If only a dozen of the conspirators had been identified by consular officers during visa processing or border inspectors, it is very possible the entire conspiracy would have been unraveled. We have, of course, seen some home-grown terrorists as well, but there is no reason to neglect border control.

“We should not overreact by eviscerating constitutional rights, includ-

ing those of Muslim Americans, but an overhaul of our lax border controls is precisely the kind of reasonable reform that would make future attacks less likely and does not represent any threat to the civil liberties of American citizens. Americans are going to have to wait in longer lines at airports, and it is not too much to ask people entering into the country to do the same.

“Moreover, more foreign citizens may be denied visas.”

“The measure of a successful immigration system is not how many people are allowed to enter and how fast, but rather whether the broad national interests of the United States are being served, including the safety of Americans.”

Mr. Krikorian is the executive director, as I say, for the Center for Immigration Studies here in Washington, D.C.; and I certainly commend his reading and his efforts, by the way, which I am sure one can go online and get. In fact, it is on here; <http://www.cis.org>. One can go on the Net and look into the Center for Immigration Studies and Work. They do great stuff.

And the other thing, of course, everyone must do, Mr. Speaker, is to let their representatives in this body and in the other body know how they feel. Believe it or not, Mr. Speaker, believe it or not, there are still people in this body who are opposed to immigration reform, even after September 11; and there is only one way they are ever going to change their mind. There is only one way they are ever going to see the light and that, of course, is when they feel the heat.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. WATSON of California (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of illness.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

The following Members (at the request of Mrs. MALONEY of New York) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EDWARDS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LANGEVIN, for 5 minutes, today.

The following Members (at the request of Mr. NETHERCUTT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. NETHERCUTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HORN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. KELLY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

#### ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly an enrolled bill and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 2603. An act to implement the agreement establishing a United States-Jordan free trade area.

H.J. Res. 65. Joint resolution making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes.

#### BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House reports that on September 25, 2001 he presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 2603. To implement the agreement establishing a United States-Jordan free trade area.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 26, 2001, at 10 a.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3839. A letter from the Deputy Congressional Liaison, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's final rule—Credit by Brokers and Dealers; List of Foreign Margin Stocks [Regulation T] received August 21, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3840. A letter from the Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Government National Mortgage Association Mortgage-Backed Securities Program—Payments to Securityholders; Book-Entry Procedures [Docket No. FR-4629-F-02] (RIN: 2503-AA16) received August 23, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3841. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Amendments for Testing and Monitoring Provision Removal of a Provision for Opacity Monitoring [FRL-7039-2] received August 21, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3842. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Idaho: Final Authorization of