

we can all benefit by using language to come together as a Nation and as a people.

Please join me and Rabbi Irwin Katsof from the Jerusalem Fund in co-sponsoring House Resolution 235, the "Words Can Heal" campaign, which will be on the floor this coming week.

□ 1015

VETERANS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

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

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, it is a real privilege to follow the gentlewoman from Florida in her message. This weekend, all of us will head home and we will go out and we will speak to and about our veterans. It is a time to follow the leadership that the gentlewoman from Florida is advocating and it is a time to do something even more.

As we go and speak to our veterans, we have an opportunity to act on something that most of us supported in the 106th Congress, and that is the Veterans Oral History Project. It is a part of the American Folk Life Series of the Library of Congress and it is an opportunity for us to take part in the gathering of American history, in telling the stories of American veterans as all of us seek to honor those who have made sacrifices on behalf of this Nation.

It is a chance not for us to speak to them, rather, for them to speak to all Americans and tell the stories that are a part of our history. I would urge all of us to go home this weekend, and in addition to the speeches that we make, to take the opportunity, with a tape recorder, to listen to the words of those who have given so much to our Nation.

SUPPORT NATIONAL JUNIOR COLLEGE FOR DEAF AND BLIND

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

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, the President has stated his goal: Leave no child behind. He did not say leave no child behind that can hear or see, he said leave no child behind, and that includes the thousands of students striving to earn a college degree who are deaf or blind or sensory impaired.

When we talk about improving education, we have got to improve it across the board. We have to give it to every student. We have to give them an opportunity to learn regardless of their disabilities. Students without these challenges have the option of attending a junior college to ease them into the college environment. No such option exists for these deaf and blind students.

Today, I am introducing legislation that supports these students with the establishment of the first National Junior College for the Deaf and Blind in conjunction with the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind.

Mr. Speaker, let us level the playing field. Give these students trained professionals, a residential facility, and a means for modern-day distance learning. We can help to provide that all-important 2-year college stepping stone to the 4-year collegiate level and ensure valuable preparation for successful employment.

I ask all of my colleagues to support the first National Junior College for the Deaf and Blind.

THE DISAPPEARING \$20 BILLION

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

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is human nature: When tragedy strikes, most people want to help you right away. But you can tell your true friends by who still wants to help as time goes by. Will the real friends of New York please stand up.

The World Trade Center is still smoldering and the Federal Government is already wavering. On September 18, the administration authorized \$40 billion, \$20 billion to fight terrorism and \$20 billion for disaster relief, primarily for New York. But the budget office has allocated only \$9.8 billion for New York. They offer vague assurances that we will get the money eventually. Well, we cannot wait for eventually.

They say we cannot spend it anyway. Well, just ask New York's devastated businesses and unemployed workers. As September 11 recedes into the past, so is the administration's resolve to help New York, and that is unacceptable.

TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

(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, workers and farmers in Pennsylvania sold products ranging from chemicals to foodstuffs to pharmaceuticals to over 200 countries last year. Those sales added up to over \$24 billion and supported well over a quarter-million jobs. I shudder to think that the absence of trade promotion authority, or TPA, could jeopardize these jobs and the families they support. Without TPA, American negotiators will not have the authority they need to make sure our foreign markets will not be undercut or blocked by our competitors.

H.R. 3005 is a bipartisan compromise TPA bill. We need to pass this legislation to make sure that the U.S. negotiators are on equal footing with their

foreign competitors. If we fail to renew trade promotion authority, we will be failing to fight for the American workers who depend on exports, and we will be failing to fight for the countless new opportunities that the global marketplace will provide for our workers in the future.

America's workers are the world's most productive. The only thing that can beat us is unfair foreign trade barriers designed to eliminate our competitive edge. So let us support the trade promotion authority bill.

FREEDOM AND OUR NATION'S VETERANS

(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, I speak today of our freedom. Our freedom has been girded and guarded by those who have served in the United States military. The ability for us to speak for or against has been protected by those in the United States military.

As we look toward honoring the veterans of our Nation, those who have served throughout the years, I rise to salute them and thank them for what they have done for us, giving us the privilege to travel about this country and to live in a wonderfully free and democratic nation. They have served us in times of war and in times of peace.

As a Representative of the veterans hospital in my own congressional district, when our city experienced the devastation of Tropical Storm Allison, we were very gratified that veterans gave up their beds in the hospitals to help those who were in need. We thank the veterans of America.

I support legislation that will allow us to listen to their oral history. This is a time that we honor them and applaud them and thank them for our freedom, which is tied directly to their existence. Thank you, veterans, and I thank those who serve in the United States military.

NATIONAL PARKS WEEKEND FOR UNITY, HOPE AND HEALING

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the upcoming Veterans holiday weekend, I wanted to remind all Americans of the wonderful and rare opportunity before them.

As my colleagues may recall, Mr. Speaker, following the tragic events of September 11, Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton and National Park Service Director Fran Manella announced that all entrance fees to all of the 385 units

of the National Park System would be waived over Veterans Day weekend.

The events of September 11 will never be erased from our memories. Each of us will remember where we were and what we were doing on that tragic day. They have taken their toll upon many of us in so many ways. Since these events, many have found solace in America's national parks for healing. All of our national parks serve as a tool to recapture the American spirit and provide much of the healing Americans are looking for.

I applaud the Secretary's announcement and encourage all Americans to take advantage of this weekend for unity, hope, and healing by visiting the diverse treasures of America's national park system.

VETERANS DAY

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

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, in anticipation of Veterans Day, I rise to thank the millions of men and women who have served in the United States military for their contributions to our Nation.

Many of our veterans first came to this country as immigrants in search of freedom and the opportunity to live in a country with liberty and justice. And they have demonstrated their belief in the principles of our great country with their willingness to put their lives on the line to defend the Nation which has given them so many new opportunities.

For example, after becoming American citizens in 1917, over 18,000 Puerto Rican citizens served America proudly in World War I. And during World War II, more than 300,000 Mexican-Americans served in the United States Armed Forces. Guy "Gabby" Gabaldon holds the distinction of capturing more enemy soldiers than anyone else in the history of United States military conflicts.

Over 81,400 Asian-Pacific Islanders served during the Vietnam War. These are but a few examples.

On Veterans Day, we all need to remember the sacrifices that veterans have made to protect our great Nation.

SALUTE TO RICHMOND AND WILL ROGERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-CHILDREN

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

Mr. WATKINS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the students of Richmond Elementary and Will Rogers Elementary School in my hometown of Stillwater, Oklahoma, for their efforts and contributions to help the children of Afghanistan.

This past Monday, I met with my friend, Dr. Ann Dugger, and the school's principal, Dr. Gay Washington, of Richmond and also Mrs. Jerry Walstad of Will Rogers Elementary, and spoke to several hundred school students who gathered for an assembly. At this assembly it was announced that the children had raised more than \$500, and I was asked to deliver the check to the appropriate person from the White House for America's Fund for Afghan Children.

Yesterday I met with Governor Tom Ridge, Director of Homeland Security, and Bob Marsh, the White House liaison, about the contributions from the Stillwater schoolchildren. We can all be proud of the unselfish acts of kindness and generosity exhibited by these young Americans.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask the House to join me in thanking these schoolchildren from Stillwater, and encourage other schoolchildren around our Nation, for being shining examples of America's compassion. These children, like our children and grandchildren, have the right to live without fear. That is why we are fighting the war against terrorism.

BIOTERRORISM PROTECTION ACT OF 2001

(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, this weekend we will commemorate veterans, honoring those who have served in America's armed services in times of peace and times of war. Tragically, this same weekend will mark the 2-month anniversary of September 11, 2 months since international terrorists declared war on the United States and the civilized world.

The veterans of America's war on terrorism are fighting today in Afghanistan. The veterans of America's war on terrorism are also our courageous first responders: our firefighters, our police, our emergency hospital personnel, our school administrators, even our school nurses. Our first responders are in the trenches, and it is our job in Congress to ensure they have all the resources they need to defend themselves and defend our people.

That is why I am urging my colleagues to join me in sponsoring the Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2001, providing both long-term and short-term strategies for fighting our new war, from laboratories to police stations, to firehouses and nursing tables.

We may not completely destroy the war on terrorism in 2 months or even 2 years. We may have to be on guard for 2 decades. But we shall prevail and American children will be secure because of our efforts.

IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE-PASSED ECONOMIC SECURITY PACKAGE

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

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the House-passed economic security package that will help American families and revive economic growth in our country.

I have always believed that the private sector is the true engine of opportunity in our country. Increased Federal spending will not improve the fundamentals of our economy. In these difficult economic times, the role of Congress should be to create an environment of opportunity for America's families.

It is the hard work and sheer determination of individuals, families, and small business entrepreneurs that make this country what it is today. It will be these same qualities that will revitalize the American economy after the September 11 attacks.

The House legislation offers tax cuts for middle class families and provides incentives for businesses to invest in capital and human resources, thereby creating jobs and opportunity.

Congress must act now. The House has acted by passing this strong package to ensure economic security. The President has called on Congress to send him a bill that he can sign into law this month, and I urge Congress to heed his call.

TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

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

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, we are told that silence is golden. However, what happens when the body being silenced is the House of Representatives?

Most certainly my colleagues would object to the suppression of our voice and our role in the debate in consideration of legislative matters. Yet, without trade promotion authority, our voices are silenced regarding trade.

Trade promotion authority allows trade agreements to be considered as congressional executive agreements. These agreements represent procedural compromises. The President forgoes his ability to single-handedly negotiate treaties and, instead, agrees to consult closely with the Congress to ensure that congressional priorities are heard. Congress, in turn, commits to an up or down vote, but waives the right to offer amendments.

□ 1030

Some of my colleagues seem to think that our inability to offer amendments is too great a sacrifice. What then is the alternative? Without TPA, the President would unilaterally negotiate