

the border, for not just the protection of the border, but then for internal investigations; what to do about the people who got here, who are here illegally. To ignore them completely is something that is akin to a death wish for the country.

Now, I know that most of the people who come into the United States illegally do not do so to do us harm. They do so mostly for personal benefit. Naturally. That is probably why most of our ancestors came.

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But we cannot be that unconcerned. We do not know. It is not in our ability to be able to stand at the border and say, I know you are coming across the border illegally, but you appear to have no ill intent. You appear to be just coming across to get a job, send some money back home, improve your own life, maybe go back, maybe not. And we cannot determine that from the person who is coming across with the purpose of killing as many Americans as he or she can possibly kill. We cannot really decide that at the borders. So we have to do the next best thing. We have to secure the border from all illegal immigration. We have to call up the National Guard in each of the States that border Mexico or Canada and ask them to please use their resources, the National Guard, in defense of our borders. If that is not good enough, then we should put our own active duty troops on the border. We should use all the technology available to us, the sensing devices. We should use air flight.

Mr. Speaker, we should do everything we possibly can to make sure that no one comes across that border that we do not know about. Hard? Absolutely. Foolproof? Absolutely not. No matter how hard we try, someone probably will get through. No matter how hard we try, someone with the intent to kill or commit acts of atrocity in the United States may get through. But that does not excuse us from trying.

We have laws on the books, Mr. Speaker, against any one of thousands of various kinds of human behaviors, and those laws are violated pretty regularly and yet, no one suggests that we should simply ignore them because they are violated. We should do everything we can to protect our borders, everything we can. We should do everything we can to find the people who are here in the United States illegally and deport them. If we need workers, if we need workers in particular industries, fine. Establish a guest worker program that allows people to come in, allows their rights to be protected, and allows them to return home at the end of a contractual period of time, and an enforcement mechanism that makes sure that they do so, like a bond established for part of their wages or that the employer has to put up, part of the wages,

that they can only be claimed once they return home. If we can convince this Congress, Mr. Speaker, that we need 10 million of these people every year, okay, that is fine, but bring them in here legally. Their lives are improved, their rights, they are not exploited by unscrupulous employers. That is fine with me. Then we determine how many people should be coming through just legally. Is it 1 million as it is today? I do not think so. It should be far fewer.

But regardless of what we determine to be the legal process whereby anybody gets into this country, we should do everything in our power to make sure that the illegal process that is used is slammed shut, at least to the best extent possible, to the greatest extent possible. Because as I have said oftentimes here on the floor of the House, and as I will repeat tonight, if, God forbid, another event of the nature of those that occurred on September 11, another event like that occurs, or like those occur and it is perpetrated by someone who comes across this border and is either here illegally at the time or enters illegally to do it, and we have not done everything in our power in this Congress to prevent that; I am not saying that it is foolproof, I emphasize that, it may still happen, but if we had not done everything in our power, then we are not just irresponsible, we are culpable. We have to live with that.

Mr. Speaker, I choose not to. I choose to know that I will do everything I could possibly do to bring to the attention of my colleagues and to the American people the seriousness of this debate on immigration reform. It is a matter now of life and death.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of personal reasons.

Mr. MASCARA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of personal reasons.

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 Mr. LARSON of Connecticut) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. BROWN of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATSON of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MCKINNEY, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker.

H.R. 2620. An act making appropriation for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, November 14, 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:

4567. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Wisconsin [WI107-01-7337a; FRL-7064-4] received November 6, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4568. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Indiana; Oxides of Nitrogen Regulations [IN 131b; FRL-7077-7] received November 6, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4569. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled the, "Managerial Flexibility Act of 2001"; jointly to the Committees on Government Reform, Armed Services, International Relations, Intelligence (Permanent Select), Energy and Commerce, the Budget, Resources, Transportation and Infrastructure, Science, the Judiciary, and House Administration.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. THOMAS: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 2269. A bill to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to promote the provision of retirement investment advice to workers managing their retirement income assets; with an amendment (Rept. 106-262 Pt. 2). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.