

from countries like Pakistan and Afghanistan have been seen among the terrorists. There is not only a strong ideological link, but also an important financial link between al Qaeda and Laskar Jihad.

Mr. Speaker, it is vital that we work proactively with the Indonesian Government as their officials seek to appropriately respond to terrorism and as they continue to establish democracy and stability in their Nation.

This is another front in the international war on terrorism that should be addressed.

#### BIN LADEN CANNOT HIDE MUCH LONGER

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Osama bin Laden is holed up in Tora Bora. Reports say that bin Laden is near the precipice of his great demise. The cornerstone of his condominium is crumbling, and they predict he will fall.

Think about it. Bin Laden was always one who was flexing his muscles, strutting his stuff, scaring people to death.

Beam me up. I now officially deem bin Laden as "bin hidden." This gutless coward from Tora Bora has no balsam, period.

I yield back with a famous quote of Mohammed Ali. Bin Laden can run, but bin Laden cannot hide much longer.

#### STAFF DESERVE RESPECT AND APPRECIATION

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the Bible tells us that the testing of our faith develops perseverance, and perseverance must finish its work that we might be mature, complete, not lacking in anything.

At this hour, Mr. Speaker, as every day since the emergency adjournment of the Congress on October 17, my Washington staff labors on card tables and folding chairs in the relative obscurity of a Rayburn office building banquet hall. These dedicated young people have been exiled from our Washington office ever since we learned that trace elements of anthrax were discovered there; and they have been laboring, Mr. Speaker, with astonishing integrity and astonishing commitment and dedication to the thousands of people we serve across east central Indiana. Bill Smith, Ron Arnold, Jennifer Marsh, Patrick Wilson, Stephen Piegrass, Ryan Fisher, Andrew Kincaid, Chris Kiefer, and Mary Breeding all deserve recognition for their pa-

tient endurance in the trial of serving and especially for their patience in putting up with me.

When I asked each one of them whether or not they might talk with their parents about a better place to work after 9-11 and even after the anthrax scare, I told them there was only one family that had to be in Washington, D.C. to serve the people in this district and that was mine; and to their undying credit, every one of them stayed. They labor at this very hour on behalf of the people of the second district, and they deserve our respect and appreciation.

#### THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the Republican leadership to bring the bill of the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), H.R. 1343, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, to the House floor before we leave next week.

Communities across the Nation, including Marin and Sonoma Counties, where I work and that I am privileged to represent, are horrified by the brutal crimes committed against innocent Sikhs, Arabs, Indians, and people of Muslim faith. Our children are watching in horror as their moms, their dads, brothers, sisters and close friends are being harassed, spit on, beaten, and, even worse, killed.

These hate crimes are happening in their neighborhoods, their schools, and their places of worship. Does this Congress want to stand by and let our children be subjected to this kind of hate, or will the 107th Congress recognize the problem at hand and take the action necessary to reverse this trend by bringing H.R. 1343 forward?

Mr. Speaker, we must pass this bipartisan bill now.

#### LACK OF ACTION IS DISAPPOINTING

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

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks, we saw our Nation unite as never before. For a time this unity exhibited itself in Washington in a refreshing spirit of bipartisanship.

Unfortunately, today while the American people remain united behind the war, some in the other body are united behind the majority leader in their desire to obstruct certain important pieces of legislation. Here in the House we passed an economic stimulus package, a ban on human cloning, a

faith-based bill, an energy bill, just to name a few. What action has the other body taken on these items in response? Absolutely none.

To borrow a word from the majority leader in the other body, this lack of action is disappointing.

All of us in Congress are sent here to get a job done. The leader of the other body should not be allowed to single-handedly derail the people's business.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the people on the other side of the Capitol to put business over politics and allow votes on these important bills.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Once again, the Chair will admonish Members not to characterize the action or inaction of the other body.

#### PROTECTING OUR NEIGHBORS

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, one of the real bright spots following September 11 in this country has been the number of times that Americans have stood up for tolerance and against hate. Last weekend I was at the Northgate Mosque north of Seattle to visit a mosque where people had actually tried to burn down the mosque. When I got there, there were four people standing out in front of the mosque waiving at people driving by, and I asked folks in the mosque what those folks were doing. They said that they were a neighborhood watch guard that had been established by the neighbors of the mosque, none of whom were Muslim, of the Muslim faith, to guard the mosque.

I think there has been a lot of good sides that we have shown the world of protecting our neighbors in this regard.

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Now the U.S. Congress ought to do its part and pass the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act so that we can help local law enforcement help the folks in these neighborhoods protect those who are the subject of hate.

That is the American message, and I think it would be a good holiday statement by the U.S. House of Representatives.

#### LIFE LION 15TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, Hershey, Pennsylvania, of course, is known throughout the world as the chocolate