

country's existing system of predominantly employer-provided health insurance.

In addition, the legislation before us still provides an inadequate level of funding to States to help them deal with the crisis. The National Governors' Association estimates that the combined budget shortfall for all 50 States could exceed \$50 billion in 2002. Some provisions in the bill before us would actually exacerbate the fiscal challenge facing many states—the proposal to allow larger tax write-offs for purchases of new equipment, for example, which has been estimated to reduce state revenues by more than \$5 billion next year alone.

Finally, this latest bill still allocates much of its "economic stimulus" to tax cuts for corporations and upper-income households. While this Republican stimulus bill would not repeal the corporate alternative minimum tax, it would effectively eviscerate it. This latest stimulus bill would also speed up the phase-down of marginal tax rates for taxpayers in the upper tax brackets—just like the first stimulus bill. Moreover, while the argument for these tax cuts is that we need to spur additional investment in businesses and factories, this argument rings hollow given that businesses are currently struggling to eliminate the excess capacity that exists in many industries. I believe that the most effective stimulus the federal government can provide at this time is to expand demand for goods and services—and that the most effective way to expand that demand is to make up some of the lost income in households that have been hit by recent lay-offs.

In short, I believe that, like the first economic stimulus bill rammed through the House by the Republican leadership in October, this legislation is both unfair and unwise. It does too little to help the people who have been laid off and too much to help the people who are well off. Moreover, it does too little to stimulate the economy in the coming year and loses too much revenue in subsequent years. I urge my colleagues to vote against this poorly crafted legislation.

HUMANITY'S GREATNESS IN A
TIME OF PERIL

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention to my colleagues, a thoughtful article by Frank Kelly that appeared in the Santa Barbara News-Press, entitled "Humanity's Greatness in a Time of Peril" on November 25, 2000.

Mr. Frank K. Kelly has been a journalist, a speechwriter for President Truman, Assistant to the Senate Majority Leader, Vice President of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, and Vice President of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article:

[From the Santa Barbara News-Press, Nov. 25, 2001]

VOICES—HUMANITY'S GREATNESS IN A TIME OF PERIL

(By Frank K. Kelly)

In a time of trouble and sorrow, with fears of terrorism shadowing the future, 500 human beings gathered in Santa Barbara on Nov. 9 to honor two young leaders who have shown courage and compassion in lives of high achievement. The gathering was described as "An Evening for Peace," but it was far more than that. It was a celebration, a tremendous manifestation, of the creative powers of humanity.

Two Peace Leadership Awards were presented that evening by the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. One went to Hafsat Abiola, founder of the Kudirat Initiative for Democracy, a dauntless advocate for human rights throughout the African continent. A beautiful young woman with a delicate face, she spoke of the struggles she had endured and the triumphs that had been achieved. When she finished, the people in the banquet room rose to their feet in a spontaneous ovation.

The second Peace Leadership Award was given to Craig Kielburger, founder of the Free the Children organization, who initiated a movement that led to the release of thousands of children from conditions of labor enslavement. He created it when he was 12 years old, stirred by the tragic fate of a boy from Pakistan who was sold into bonded labor and killed when he protested against the treatment of children in his country. When Kielburger, now 18, completed his speech, he also received an ovation.

Bursts of affection and admiration flashed around that enormous room in wave after wave. When the two young leaders expressed their confidence in humanity's future, it was evident that their experiences had increased their awareness of the goodness and generosity existing in so many members of the human species. They had a glow of love and respect around them.

There were hundreds of students in that huge room, students from high school and colleges, students with a wide range of gifts and ambitions, students from many ethnic backgrounds. Their faces were shining with excitement. They were clearly inspired by the two young leaders who were being acclaimed.

I was among the hundreds of older persons who participated in that gathering of glorious beings. I lived through four wars and I had witnessed terrible sufferings. Yet I also witnessed noble acts in many places. In spite of wars and other calamities, in spite of terrorism and all the threats that existed, I was sure that human beings would go from height to height, achieving more in each generation.

The celebration on Nov. 9 convinced me again that Thomas Merton was right when he asserted in one of his books that it is "a glorious destiny to be a human being." I saw the light of that glory in the faces of the young and the old when they leaped to their feet to respond to a Nigerian woman and a Canadian man.

I was grateful for the privilege of being in that room on that marvelous night. I was grateful for the work of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation in bringing so many wonderful persons together. I was grateful for the fact that I had participated in founding it and supporting it for 20 years.

I felt an exultance, which reminded me of the surge of joy I had felt when I took part in the liberation of Paris in August of 1944. I

had never expected to ride into that city as a member of a victorious army. I had never expected to be embraced by so many people, to be hailed as a liberator. It was an ecstasy I had not earned. It was one of many gifts showered upon me in a fortunate life.

On the night of Nov. 9, I felt the exaltation that comes when many people are celebrating the mystery and the wonder of being human. We rejoiced together, we felt the endless possibilities for greatness that can occur when people acknowledge their unity in the spirit of love. We became fully aware that hatred and cruelty can be overcome, and there can be peace and justice in this world for all.

I strongly believe that every one who was in that room that night will carry the starburst of that celebration in their lives through all the pains and problems of the coming years. I thrill to the hope that a tremendous Age of Fulfillment is dawning for the whole human family.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY HONORS
WORLD TRADE CENTER VICTIM
MR. FOX WITH A POEM WRITTEN
BY HIS DAUGHTER JESSICA

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize Plainsboro, New Jersey resident and World Trade Center victim, Jeffrey L. Fox with a poem written by his thirteen year old daughter, Jessica. Jessica asked that I share her poem with the world and I am honored to do so:

A PLACE OF MEMORIES

The gleaming towers stood in the sky,
Majestic looking and up so high.
The sun shines down on towers so great,
No one knowing about their awful fate.

Without a warning a plane hit hard.
New York would be forever scarred.
Minutes later, another plane crashed,
Leaving the second tower extremely
smashed.

The towers crumbled down to Earth
Because two planes crashed in their berth.
People beneath the towers ran.
Now the towers no longer stand.

The rescue workers worked non-stop,
Searching the rubble bottom to top.
People pulled out became less and less
And using their strength became a test.

The gleaming towers stood in the sky,
Majestic looking and up so high.
Where the twin towers used to be
Is now a place of memory.

At this time in our Nation's history, when we struggle to find solace and draw lessons from acts of terror against us, we gain strength and perspective from those families these atrocious acts left behind. We find strength in the memory of Jeffrey Fox and in the words of his brave and courageous daughter.

Mr. Speaker, again, I rise to honor the Fox family and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing their legacy to our community and New Jersey.