

Nonetheless, I believe we need an ergonomics regulation that provides reasonable protections for our workforce. The Secretary of Labor has indicated her willingness to promulgate a new regulation and I urge her to initiate the process immediately.

We need the business and labor communities to work together to craft worker safety regulations that do not place unfair burdens on businesses to comply. If an ergonomics regulation is implemented in the future, I will introduce legislation providing tax credits to help businesses offset the cost of compliance. This would be a fair approach, one that provides reasonable worker protections without forcing businesses to choose between implementing ergonomics regulations or shutting down and relocating across our border.

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 45 I would have voted "yea" in favor of H.R. 3, President Bush's measure to reduce income tax rates, because currently we pay more in taxes than at any time since World War II. Taxes consume a staggering 38 percent of the gross income of the average family. Most families pay more in taxes than for food, housing, and clothing combined. This is wrong. Ending estate and marriage penalty taxes will be voted on soon and I will vote to end them both just like I did last year.

But honestly, Mr. Speaker, the income tax cut in H.R. 3 was a good tax cut but it was not perfect. Middle America, working Americans and Mississippians should receive more of a refund than this tax cut provides. The nation's wealthiest should not get a full loaf while the rest of us get only crumbs. But, cutting taxes in Washington is next to impossible. Once a revenue stream is flowing into the federal government, it's hard to reduce the flow. Cutting taxes for hard working Mississippians has been one of my priorities since taking office. We cannot afford to miss this chance to provide tax cuts for our families. More money in our pockets, not that of the federal government, is best for America.

I have other priorities that are essential for our nation's future, too. Paying off the National Debt, restoring the promise of health care for our military retirees, standing with our family farmers, building a stronger military, providing prescription drug help for our seniors, protecting Social Security and Medicare, and making stronger schools for our children, deserve our attention and support. The debate in Washington has been about our ability to provide a huge tax cut and accomplish all these other goals. Can we have our cake and eat it too? The president says we can. I hope he's right.

Cutting taxes is the right thing to do. Our priorities must be about building strong families and communities. This income tax cut bill now heads to the U.S. Senate. I am confident the Senate will consider all of our priorities, address the need to provide solid relief for middle America, and implement mechanisms to protect us—the taxpayers—from a return to deficit spending. The bill will then return to the House. We will once again have the opportunity to do the right thing. I am determined that we will.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARLINGTON

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2001

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Arlington's founding. This historical celebration commemorates what President George Washington, patriot George Mason, and other Virginians began when they donated land to the Federal Government to establish the new Nation's Capital. Arlington County has had a colorful and illustrious past and holds the promise of an even greater future. Few other counties are as intricately linked to as many historic events of national significance as Arlington. From the first recorded encounter between Captain John Smith and the Nacostin Indians at present day Roosevelt Island; to prominent local residents who were integral in the fight for independence and our early history as a new republic; to Arlington's role as a staging ground for Union forces during the Civil War; to becoming home for the bureaucracy created during the New Deal; to the country's role today as a national model for smart growth and commitment to community and civic pride, Arlington stands as a model for the rest of the Nation.

As colorful and glorious as the past has been, we can look forward to an even brighter future. Today's celebration not only acknowledges the enormous contributions Arlington has made to our democracy but also provides us with an opportunity to highlight the long overdue and comprehensive story of that same legacy.

Arlington House is known for being situated on land that once belonged to the commander of the Continental Army, but it was also home of the Confederacy's most famous general. It was perhaps the Capital's, and therefore the Nation's, most visible reminder of the South's most "peculiar institution." A plantation fueled by slave labor, Arlington House stood within view of those who debated the Missouri Compromise and constructed the Dred Scott decision. It was also the site where the Federal Government established one of the first Freedman's Village providing social services, education, and vocational training to former slaves whose later influence and success still touch us today.

I want to compliment the collective wisdom of the Arlington County Board and the Bicentennial Task Force for their decision to use this celebration as an occasion for launching efforts to help restore Arlington House and reopen the slave quarters. The two surviving quarters, which have been closed and boarded up for years, will now be reopened and include interpretative displays of the Freedman's Village and its important impact on Arlington.

From this point forward, the Nation will know that the ground where Robert E. Lee stood was also the land upon which Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth tread. It is a gift I am pleased to support and hope to expand upon with my colleagues in Congress, as we attempt to procure additional Federal resources.

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Arlington should be proud of its great past, but because of its commitment to recognize and celebrate the contributions of all its residents, we will surely experience an even greater future.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this ill-conceived tax plan. Why, Mr. Speaker, do I so strongly object to this plan?

Let me count the ways:

1. Process.—The Ways and Means Committee has rushed this tax cut through without allowing the Budget Committee to do its work.

We have no idea how this cut meshes with our national priorities.

As its name suggests, the Budget Committee is charged with coming up with our national budget, yet they and the Congress have not been given time to do so.

Section 303 of the Congressional Budget Act states that the Congress may not pass tax cuts, or tax increases for that matter, without first passing a budget. Republican leadership is ignoring the law in order to rush this turkey through.

Ignorance here is bliss. We haven't the least idea what the Congress is doing or how it affects the budget or the country.

2. The Surplus.—This entire tax plan is based on projected surpluses. I hate to milk a dead cow, but these are merely projections—we have not collected the surplus yet!

Any honest count shows that the President's numbers don't add up. If we take the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds out of the projected \$5.6 trillion surplus, we are left with \$2.5 trillion. Now, if we subtract \$1 trillion for the proposed "rainy day fund" we are left with \$1.5 trillion. Take \$1.6 out for the tax cut and we are \$100 billion in the red. There is no money for helping hands, education, Medicare Reform, Social Security reform, debt reduction, increased defense spending, health insurance for the uninsured.

We have been down this road before. In the 1980s we passed a reckless tax cut and a budget that did not add up. The result was that America was buried under a mountain of debt.

3. Fairness.—This is clearly an unfair and unfairly crafted tax cut. As usual, my Republican colleagues are looking out for their fat cat buddies. The top 1 percent, those making more than \$900,000/year, gets more than 43 percent of the tax cut. That is \$868 billion to the wealthiest Americans. The remaining 99 percent of the taxpayers get the crumbs left on the table, with over 85% of the taxpayers getting a tax cut far less than the \$1,600 the President promised.

4. History.—Recall, if you will, the years 1981 and 1982. The Congress, at the urging of President Reagan, passed a massive tax cut. Within one year, when the debt began to

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pile up, we realized what a drastic mistake we had made. The next year, President Reagan signed a tax increase.

George Santayana, whose writings and wisdom I have found to serve those in politics, counsels us: Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it. We must learn from the mistakes that fostered soaring inflation, and led us right into recession.

In closing, I would remind my colleagues that we have been down this road before. This is not the correct path. Fiscal restraint should guide us, not the irresponsibility we saw in the 1980s. I would ask my colleagues to reject this rascality and vote no on this bill.

ELIMINATE PENALTY FOR
CITIZENSHIP

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, on January 3, 2001, I introduced H.R. 133 to correct an unintended consequence where a petitioner seeking a visa for her children to come to the United States loses her place in line if she changes her status from legal resident to U.S. citizen.

This problem primarily affects Filipinos because of the huge backlog in the quota for unmarried sons or daughters of American citizens from the Philippines. It is longer than that of unmarried sons and daughters of lawful permanent residents.

Such a consequence penalizes people for becoming a citizen.

Imagine how devastating it is for a petitioner to become an American citizen, only to find that this significantly delays your child's entry date to enter the United States. It is heart-breaking to have to inform constituents of this sad consequence of their becoming a U.S. citizen.

I am forced to advise petitioners not to apply for citizenship to avoid this penalty.

As a legal resident, remember they could lose many benefits such as Medicaid. To be reunified with their children, the law, unless changed, forces them to risk much.

Please join me in changing this inequitable outcome by the enactment of H.R. 133.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, 2001 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 14

9:30 a.m.

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings on election reform issues.

SR-301

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on whether Congress should allow states to require all remote sellers to collect and remit sales taxes on deliveries into that state, provided that states and localities dramatically simplify their sales and use tax systems.

SR-253

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider committee's budgetary views and estimates on the President's fiscal year 2002 budget request for Indian programs; to be followed by hearings on S. 211, to amend the Education Amendments of 1978 and the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 to improve education for Indians, Native Hawaiians, and Alaskan Natives.

SR-485

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider their fiscal year 2002 budgetary views and estimates on programs which fall within the jurisdiction of the committee and agree on recommendations it will make thereon to the Committee on the Budget.

SD-628

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative recommendations of the Disabled American Veterans.

345 Cannon Building

Budget

To resume hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2002.

SD-608

Finance

To hold hearings on issues relating to encouraging charitable giving.

SD-215

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Appropriations' Subcommittee on the Interior on issues dealing with the wildfire program.

R-2359

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold closed hearings to review intelligence programs.

S-407 Capitol

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine drug treatment, education, and prevention programs.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 244, to provide for United States policy toward

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Libya; S. 494, to provide for a transition to democracy and to promote economic recovery in Zimbabwe; S. Res. 22, urging the appropriate representative of the United States to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights to introduce at the annual meeting of the Commission a resolution calling upon the Peoples Republic of China to end its human rights violations in China and Tibet; S. Res. 27, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the 1944 deportation of the Chechen people to central Asia; S. Con. Res. 7, expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should establish an international education policy to enhance national security and significantly further United States foreign policy and global competitiveness; proposed legislation to amend United States drug certification procedures; and proposed legislation urging the immediate release of Kosovar Albanians wrongfully imprisoned in Serbia.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on intelligence matters.

SH-219

MARCH 15

Time to be announced

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

Room to be announced

9 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on S. 26, to amend the Department of Energy Authorization Act to authorize the Secretary of Energy to impose interim limitations on the cost of electric energy to protect consumers from unjust and unreasonable prices in the electric energy market; S. 80, to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to order refunds of unjust, unreasonable, unduly discriminatory or preferential rates or charges for electricity, to establish cost-based rates for electricity sold at wholesale in the Western Systems Coordinating Council; and S. 287, to direct the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to impose cost-of-service based rates on sales by public utilities of electric energy at wholesale in the western energy market, and amendment No. 12 to S. 287.

SH-216

9:30 a.m.

Rules and Administration

To continue hearings on election reform issues.

SR-301

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine high performance computer export controls.

SD-342

Environment and Public Works

Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Army Corps of Engineers management reforms.

SD-406

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-253