

Massive immigration is not the best thing for immigrants, it is not the best thing for America. Do we act now, while we have the strength to help the rest of the world, or do we wait until years from now when we are in such a situation of disintegration and turmoil that we can only look inward? Do we cut the numbers now, while most Americans still have favorable feelings about the foreign-born Americans living with us? Those are the options we face as Americans. It is why it is urgent and important that every American make sure that their own Member of Congress is working towards something like this rather than what the majority is now doing, giving us something like that on the chart.

There are really two immigrant debates taking place in America today: the numbers debate and the characteristics debate. There are those who argue that we should either increase or decrease the total level of immigration and others who argue we should increase immigration based on the characteristics of the immigrants themselves. I believe that the second debate cannot take place independently of the first. After all, every immigrant that we admit to the United States has specific skills or good characteristics, and that contributes to a huge overall number of immigrants that I spoke of earlier.

I want my colleagues to understand I am not anti-immigrant. I am anti-mass immigration. I firmly believe that we must take overall numbers into account in any immigration debate and look at the impact of those numbers and how they affect our communities.

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Mr. Speaker, I hope that we have begun the process even tonight of establishing a dialogue and a debate on this issue. It has for too long been held in secret even around the halls of Congress. For too long there has been a fear to address the issue of immigration for fear that people will attack those of us who are attempting to deal with it and use all kinds of spurious arguments against it.

I encourage us all to think about the need to once again gain control of our own borders, reduce the number to a level that is the more traditional level of 175,000 to 200,000 a year legally coming into this country and then try our best to deal with the illegals who are coming at a rate of 1 or 2 million into the country, a net gain to the country. We have to address it. The States cannot do it.

Mr. Speaker, it is our responsibility and ours alone. It is time to take that responsibility. Stand up, take the heat. There will be plenty of it. Mr. Speaker, I can guarantee that tomorrow, and probably tonight, the phones are ringing off the hook. The racial epithets; we have been through this before.

I am willing to take the heat and be called the names because I believe that this problem is a significant, perhaps the most significant, serious domestic problem we face as a Nation. Whether it is resource allocation, schools, buildings, hospitals, or just the quality of life, it is the numbers, Mr. Speaker. It is the numbers.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of family medical reasons.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) after 12:00 p.m. today on account of personal business in the district.

Mr. GILLMOR (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) 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. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ENGEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. UNDERWOOD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHOWS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HONDA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SKELTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. REYNOLDS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. BIGGERT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PAUL, 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 were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 801. Veterans' Survivor Benefits Improvements Act of 2001.

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, May 25, 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:

2102. A letter from the Acting Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Changes in Reporting Levels for Large Trader Reports (RIN: 3038-ZA10) received May 17, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2103. A letter from the Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Rural Business Enterprise Grants and Television Demonstration Grants (RIN: 0570-AA32) received May 11, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2104. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Mandatory Inspection of Ratites and Squabs [Docket No. 01-045IF] (RIN: 0583-AC84) received May 18, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2105. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Thiamethoxam; Pesticide Tolerance [OPP-301132; FRL-6784-7] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received May 17, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2106. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Extension of Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions (Multiple Chemicals) [OPP-301124; FRL-6782-1] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received May 17, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2107. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Aspergillus flavus AF36; Extension of Temporary Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-301124; FRL-6781-7] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received May 17, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2108. A letter from the Chairman and CEO, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Eligibility and Scope of Financing (RIN: 3052-AB90) received May 21, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2109. A letter from the Under Secretary, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Air Force, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(a)(2); to the Committee on Appropriations.

2110. A letter from the Under Secretary, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act which occurred in the Department of the Navy, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1341(a); to the Committee on Appropriations.

2111. A letter from the Under Secretary, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act which occurred in the Department of the Army, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1341(a); to the Committee on Appropriations.

2112. A letter from the Chief, Programs and Legislation Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of Defense, transmitting notification that the Commander of Elmendorf Air Force Base (AFB), Alaska, has conducted a cost comparison to reduce the cost of the Base Supply function, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2461; to the Committee on Armed Services.