

advisors on the government payroll. Not only do Californians have to pay outrageous prices to cool their homes, but they now have to pay for consultants to tell Governor Davis how to minimize the political damage caused by his mishandling of California's energy needs. Even California's Democrat State comptroller has said that she will not pay for Davis's political expenses with the taxpayers' dime.

Throughout this crisis, Gray Davis has been seeking political remedies instead of looking for positive solutions to solve the real-life problems of his citizens. All the while, California families are suffering. It is time for the Governor to take a stand and do what is right for California, instead of what is right for his career.

CORRUPTION AT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

(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, FBI Agent Hanssen pleaded guilty to spying for Russia. Now, think about it: First he said, the devil made me do it; now he says he just wants to make amends. Spare me.

The truth is Janet Reno sold the farm to China, FBI agents are spying for Russia, nuclear military secrets are disappearing faster than Viagra at Niagara, and nobody is doing anything about it. Nothing.

Beam me up.

Wake up, Congress, and smell the espionage.

I yield back the massive corruption at the Justice Department that goes without meaningful oversight.

AMERICANS DESERVE ENERGY SOLUTIONS, NOT BLACKOUTS

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the United States of America has the strongest economy in this world, and to maintain America's prosperity, America must have energy.

Over the past few months, California, an undisputed driving force in our Nation's economy, has had to endure rolling blackouts during the past several months. And now, the fastest growing city in the United States, Las Vegas, Nevada, has also witnessed rolling blackouts due to energy shortages.

Blackouts cannot and should not be tolerated.

It is time to implement real solutions to reverse the energy shortage. Through conservation methods and through expansion and development of our natural energy resource base, we can provide abundant and less costly

energy. But to do this we need to implement a national energy policy that includes greater production of diverse energy supplies and an equal reliance on bold conservation measures.

This balanced energy policy will ensure that when Americans flick on that light switch, that their lights always go on, and blackouts will be a thing of the past.

SIGN DISCHARGE PETITION NO. 2

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

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, here we are, a year after the electricity crisis hit California and the West. The crisis and suffering continues. And where is the President? Not one item in his energy plan addresses the crisis in the West. And where is FERC, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission? They seem more intent on protecting the industry than the consumers who pay their bills. And where is this Congress? A year after the crisis, we have not yet had a debate on this House floor on resolving the issues in California and the West.

The bill that is coming up through the Committee on Commerce does nothing to address this crisis in California. The only way to get a fair discussion on the House floor is to sign Discharge Petition No. 2. That allows and puts in order any bill that really addresses the issues in the West and electricity.

It is time to put cost-based rates on the price of electricity and refund the criminal overcharges since last year.

Mr. Speaker, let us have a debate on this House floor. Sign Discharge Petition No. 2.

PRESIDENT SHOWS STRONG COMMITMENT TO NASA

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

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as a former member of the House Committee on Science, I am a strong supporter of NASA and our international space station. So is President Bush, but you would not know so if you listened to some of the rumors going around Houston and our Johnson Space Center.

But here are the facts. Only last year NASA told us on the Committee on Science that they would need \$14.4 billion for the coming year. Even after they raised the request recently, the President's budget meets that request at \$14.5 billion; meets NASA's request. The President also increases funding for the space station, for the launch initiative, and keeps a sustained level of six space shuttle flights.

Understandably, at budget time you are going to have some partisan spin, but, seriously, how can you criticize the President when he gives NASA what it asked for, at a level nearly \$1 billion higher than where it has languished for 4 of the last 5 years?

The fact is, for space supporters in Congress, we have never started a budget year so strongly, and our congressional appropriators are trying to do more. Unfortunately, only in Washington are budget increases spun as budget cuts.

SUPPORT BIPARTISAN PATIENT PROTECTION ACT OF 2001

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

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, now that we are back from the Independence Day recess and the celebrations, the passage of the Patients' Bill of Rights, the one introduced by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL), the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD), must be at the top of our agenda.

This bill, the Bipartisan Patient Protection Act of 2001, is the only one which comprehensively reforms the current managed care system to better meet the needs of those who elected us.

During the break misinformation and scare tactics continued. It is important that the American public know the truth. Many of the ads say that the bill would raise the cost of insurance. Not true. What they fail to say is that in the past 3 years or so, the cost of managed care has already increased at an average of 7.1 percent, and the increase is projected to be in double digits for this year. The ads also fail to tell us that while the costs have gone up, less services are covered.

Where the same provisions have been enacted in States, there have not been any extraordinary increases in premiums or significant increases in lawsuits. What has happened is that the people in those States have been able to access medically necessary health care, and we need to extend that to the rest of the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, let us pass the bill and let us move on to reduce disparities and provide universal coverage.

DENY OLYMPICS TO CHINA

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

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, what fellowship does light have with darkness? What fellowship does the symbol of the human spirit, the Olympic Games, have with Chinese tyranny?

Sixty-four years ago the Nazi propaganda machine proudly flaunted the