

- (14) COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE.—Mr. Gordon.
 (15) COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS.—Ms. Velázquez.
 (16) COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE.—Mr. Oberstar.
 (17) COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS.—Mr. Evans.
 (18) COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.—Mr. Rangel.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain five one-minutes per side.

LEGITIMATE ELECTION

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, today, Congress will certify the votes of the Electoral College. In doing so, we will reaffirm the historic victory won by President Bush. On November 2, 2005, he won more votes than any candidate in history, becoming the first President since Franklin Roosevelt to win reelection while leading his party to two consecutive gains in the Senate.

Based on conspiracy theories and speculation, some in the minority party will seek to derail the constitutional duty we will seek to carry out today. They are wrong for doing so.

President Bush won Ohio by 118,457 votes. Again, some will not accept the results of a democratic election. They intend to prolong legal challenges to achieve in court what they could not achieve on Election Day.

Look at the basis for the legal challenge, Mr. Speaker. Mysterious hackers manipulating voting machines, phantom agents committing unspecified acts, Senator KERRY receiving fewer votes than another statewide candidate, and the final results not reflecting exit poll numbers.

Mr. Speaker, this is absurd. None of these charges are legitimate. But votes are. The quicker we accept the fact, get on with addressing the issues that caused the American people to support George Bush in record numbers, the better we will be.

ROBBING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, this morning we learned the White House wants to not only privatize Social Security but also wants to cut retirees' benefits. Privatization takes money from retirees on Main Street and gives

it to the Enrons of Wall Street. Will Wall Street care about what happens to precious Social Security funds when more than half of the private pension funds in the U.S. are already insolvent and cut Social Security benefits?

No one is cutting the cost of food, rent, electricity, gas, oil or property taxes.

There is a solution. Keep the Wall Street/White House hands off. Do not privatize Social Security. Do not cut Social Security benefits. Social Security is rock solid through the year 2042. The crisis is the attempted theft of retirees' benefits.

Mr. Speaker, call the cops. The American people are being robbed.

AMERICAN BOXER REBELLION

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. And so, Mr. Speaker, it begins, the canard of hyperbole, the delusional statements, indeed, word coming to this body that later today, in a joint session, one from the other body will lead an American-born Boxer Rebellion.

The conspiracy theorists use celluloid and mockumentaries and fevered imaginings to try to mischaracterize debate and, as we understand, even this afternoon, try to dissuade numbers and facts.

Mr. Speaker, the sour grapes, the sensationalism, the conspiracy theories, and the fear and smear should be laid to rest. It will be later this afternoon, and for the American people it will be through vigorous factual debate.

BOXER REBELLION OF TODAY

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

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, if you believe in today's Boxer Rebellion, you must believe that the 627 million votes for President Bush do not count. You must believe that the 50 Secretaries of State who certified their elections were all wrong. You must believe that Ohio's Secretary of State lied in his solemn certification of Ohio's electorate. You must believe that Senator KERRY was all wrong when he said the election should be decided by voters, not lawyers.

Today, you will hear from Members of Congress who want to choose a President here in Congress because they do not like the choice that was made at the voting booth. But, here in America, elections should be decided at home at the ballot box and not here by extremist Members of Congress who show themselves on national television to be sore losers.

HONORING SERGEANT JEREMY WRIGHT

(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, in December I had the privilege of leading a delegation of my colleagues to visit American forces serving in Operation Enduring Freedom in Kabul, Jalalabad and Bagram Air Force Base in Afghanistan.

As we learned during our journey, Mr. Speaker, Afghanistan is a place where American generosity and American power are succeeding. But upon my return I had a grim and heart-breaking reminder of who deserves the credit. The American soldier. Literally, the day that I arrived back to work here on Capitol Hill this week, I was notified by the military and by his family of the combat death of Sergeant Jeremy Wright of Shelbyville, Indiana, an incident that claimed his life just 6 short weeks after arriving for duty in Afghanistan.

It is written that no greater love has a man than this that he should lay down his life for his friends.

So I conclude that Sergeant Jeremy Wright's name, like every other American soldier lost in the war on terror in Afghanistan and Iraq, Sergeant Jeremy Wright's name will be enshrined in the hearts of two grateful nations, the United States of America and the free Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, forever.

RIGHTFUL ELECTION

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, we are delighted to be here today to swear the electoral votes from all the States in the Union. Having witnessed in 2000, very upfront and personal, there were a lot of charges made at that time that votes were stolen, elections were rigged. Time and time again evidence proved that those charges were false and malicious; and the President of the United States, who was elected and sworn into that office, was in fact the rightful recipient of that title.

Now, I understand today that there may be more mischief relative to another State in the Union who is having the laser beam of focus on it and that is Ohio.

Now, Florida was declared victorious for President Bush in 2000. In 2004, for a larger plurality of Floridians, the Democratic party worked tirelessly to provide workers in Florida, having witnessed new faces from around almost every county, participating in the democratic way of trying to help their candidate. No excuses can be made. The President of the United States, George W. Bush, won reelection; and