

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Madame Speaker, today, I rise before this House as a sad Floridian.

Along with millions of Americans, I am hoping and praying for the best for Terri Schiavo and her family.

Fifteen years ago, Terri and her family had so many things in life to look forward to. Never in their wildest dreams would they be able to foresee the tragic events that would raise a conflict so heated that the Federal Government would reach into their lives and alter their future.

As Terri's family works through their differences in court, one of the few things that could make this terrible situation worse is for Congress to turn this family's case into a political football.

But today, that is exactly what Congress is doing and it is exactly what the Florida Legislature is doing as well.

There are already laws in place dealing with both the guardianship rights granted to spouses under marriage and the terrible end-of-life choices that so many families must make. Since the beginning of our Nation, our Federal and State constitutions have provided the judicial branch the authority to determine if these laws are being fairly applied.

If the laws governing end-of-life cases needs to be improved, the Florida Legislature and Governor should have an open, honest debate about the issue and how any problems can be fixed for all families who struggle with these tough choices.

The U.S. House Republican leadership only made the situation worse by refusing to hold hearings and bringing this bill to the floor before my colleagues have even learned who Terri Schiavo, her husband and her family are, let alone the impact of the bill on other families.

In what only can be described as a stunning abuse of power, with little debate and zero respect for families, Congress is about to set a precedent that could strip every spouse of the right to make end-of-life decisions for his or her spouse.

So today, I have to ask my colleagues, "Do you think Congress is better suited to make an end-of-life decision for your spouse?"

I've spoken to a lot of my fellow Floridians about this tragic situation, but I don't think any of them have a living will in place that states "I want the politicians in Washington or Tallahassee to make decisions for me."

With every fiber of my being, I oppose this legislation. Congress' job is to fix problems with the law for all Americans. If Congress intervenes in this family matter, where will they stop?

Sadly, regardless of what we do today, no one wins. A husband may lose his wife and parents may lose their daughter. My heart and prayers go out to Terri and her family.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1332, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof)

the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 2230

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to use the time of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF PAUL WOLFOWITZ AS PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD BANK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, having watched that last bill, I continually am surprised in this House that I think I have seen everything, and then I see another one like this one tonight. But on the television today we saw an even more amazing thing. We saw the architect of the Iraq war and all the problems that still remain, the killings, the massacring of civilians, the instability of the government, the inability for them to pick their leadership, their inability to give security to the people of Iraq, we see that every day on the television. It is all the creation of a man named Paul Wolfowitz and his friend, Mr. Rumsfeld, the Secretary of War. The two of them together have put together this disaster that we now face.

Now, one would think that, given the failure of the planning and all of what went on in the Iraq war, you would be about to see the end of Mr. Wolfowitz one way or another. But history has some really interesting things in it.

Some of you may remember the Vietnam war. There was an architect for

the Vietnam war. His name was Robert McNamara. Robert McNamara led us into the swamp; 58,000 people died. Tons and tons of folks died on the Vietnamese side. We wasted money. We put ourselves deeply in debt. And when it was over, Lyndon Johnson made him the head of the World Bank. Who would think that today the President of the United States would reward a man who has created the mess in Iraq with the job of being the head of the World Bank?

Now, what does the World Bank do? At the end of the Second World War we set up four institutions. We set up the World Bank, the United Nations. We set up the International Monetary Fund. They were all to stabilize what was going on economically and tie us together in trade.

And we take a man who is an avowed American imperialist, who believes in establishing hegemony across the whole world on the base of military power. That is really what the neocons believe. And the President says, you know, this is just the kind of guy we need at the head of the World Bank.

What does the World Bank do? Well, if a country wants to build a dam or they want to do some road improvement projects or they want to do some AIDS prevention or some AIDS treatment, they come to the World Bank and ask for loans. Imagine the world coming to the feet of Paul Wolfowitz and trying to get him to understand about rebuilding. This is a man who has flattened Afghanistan and flattened Iraq, has come in here and asked for \$80 billion again and again and again, even today, 80 more billion dollars, and they still do not have the water running and the sewage moving, and they do not have electricity, and they do not have the basic requirements of a civil society in Iraq. And he comes in here, now to be the head of the World Bank. We are going to give him billions of dollars to hand out to the world to rebuild the very mess that he created. What in the world is the President thinking?

I suppose he thinks, well, maybe, you know, Paul created all those problems over there, bombed everything and led our neocon ideas, that if we could just get enough power, we just bomb enough, you could have a city like Fallujah in Iraq. It is a city of about 400,000 people. It is flat. Just like we did in the Second World War to Dresden, and we did with the atomic bomb in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He flattened that city.

Well, that was to save it, you know, because they were so resistant in that city to American democracy that the only solution Paul Wolfowitz and his confreres in the department of war could think of was to bomb it flat. And now he is the World Bank president, and he will be letting the loans to put Fallujah back on its feet. Man, I have seen everything.