

SUPPORT TERM LIMITS

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

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, over 200 years ago the Founders of this Nation established a system of government which contained considerable checks and balances, and they established this form of government because they wanted to limit the power of an individual or a group to take over.

We have found it necessary to modify the Constitution by limiting the term of a President to 8 years, further limiting the power of an individual to take over the country or to do more than he or she should do.

The House of Representatives this year took action to limit the Speaker to 8 years under the same philosophy, and we also limited committee chairmen to 6 years to prevent abuse of power.

This week it is time for us to carry out the next logical step, and that is to limit the power of the present length of term of individual Members of Congress.

I believe it is a logical next step, it is an important next step, and I urge this Congress to vote to put in place term limits on individual Members of Congress. It is a historic vote and the first opportunity this Congress has ever had to cast this vote. I urge that it be a "yes" vote.

OPPOSE SALE OF POWER MARKETING AGENCIES

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

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, today my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Oregon [Mr. COOLEY], and I delivered a bipartisan letter to the Speaker of the House urging him to help us defeat the administration's proposal to increase electric rates by selling off the power marketing agencies or PMA's.

If the goal of this Congress is to make Government run smarter, this plan would not stand a chance. The PMA's run at no cost to taxpayers, but make a big difference in the electric rates paid by over 100,000 in North Dakota and millions nationwide.

There is one thing that has become clear since this idea was first suggested. This idea will not save the Federal Treasury a dime, but it will cost electric ratepayers millions.

If sold, these agencies could well go to the highest bidder, driving up electric rates higher than those paid today.

Mr. Speaker, 52 House Members who have signed this letter will not accept that. We are going on record today. We are opposed to the PMA sale and we are opposed to higher electric rates for our constituents.

MAXED OUT CREDIT

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

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, most of us sit around the kitchen table once a month to pay the bills. The mortgage payment, the car payment, and insurance take out the majority of the paycheck. Then we notice the car insurance went up and we had unexpected medical bills. Sometimes we glance at the credit card bills and find they too are maxed out. We call this monthly kitchen table financial reality.

Kitchen table financial reality has hit our Nation. Our Nation's bills keep growing, and the country's credit cards are maxed out. Just as families decide to cut the monthly expenses and quit using the credit cards, so too has the Republican majority faced up to controlling the Federal bureaucracy from its uncontrolled spending habits and we are putting a hold on the credit cards.

Cutting the deficit to save the next generation of children from being born into bankruptcy won't be easy. It will require sacrifice from all Americans, just as mothers and fathers sacrifice for our children everyday.

WE NEED TERM LIMITS TODAY

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

Mr. TATE. Mr. Speaker, what a difference an election makes. Just last year the Speaker of the House was suing the citizens of my fair State, Washington State, because he was against term limits.

Well, this year what a difference. On January 4 the Speaker of the House limited his terms to 8 years. We limited the terms of our committee chairs and ranking minority, and we will bring out here on the House floor for the first time in American history term limits.

We are going to deliver 80 percent of our Members. We need you to deliver at least 50 percent of yours.

But what is the Democrat response on term limits? Retroactivity. It has been on the ballot once in the history of this country, in Washington State, and it was defeated.

The people purporting this plan have been in office longer than I have been alive. It is a crock. It is a sham. If you really want term limits, vote for the Hilleary amendment which is truly allowing State rights to go forth. Vote for term limits. We need it today.

STUDENT LOANS

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

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, in their increasing effort to pay for a capital gains tax cut for the wealthiest of society and to assure that the supporters of the Republican contract for America now have a new target for spending cuts—students.

Under the Republican contract rescissions package, \$63 million is eliminated for the State Incentive Grant Program, which effectively cuts the entire program; \$104 million is eliminated for the Pell Grant Program and; Federal direct student loans are cut by \$47 million. Over 50 percent of all students currently attending college receive some type of financial aid which will be directly affected by these cuts.

In Kentucky alone last year, there were over 70,000 student loans granted totaling over \$180 million.

Of these 70,000 loans, students of the University of Louisville received over 7,000 loans totaling over \$23 million. Mr. Speaker, these figures represent only one State and only one school, the true effects of these cuts are more far-reaching and will prohibit millions from obtaining an education.

Mr. Speaker, If we truly value education in our society, we will be committed to providing the necessary assistance to enable all Americans to obtain a college degree. I hope that we can make this commitment together.

TERM LIMITS AMENDMENT

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, our Founding Fathers while drafting the Constitution provided a simple but decisive and important process for the American people to properly amend the Constitution. Through the years, our country has adopted important amendments to improve the public's role; such as the right to vote. Now, it is time to continue the process with term limits.

Over 75 percent of the American public believe they deserve the right to personally vote on term limits.

Anyone who sits in this Congress who disagrees with giving the citizens of this country a chance to vote on this very popular and important issue, in my opinion, shows no confidence in the people which elected them.

I strongly believe that if any elected official cannot put aside their own self-interests for the good of the American people, then maybe they have been inside the beltway too long.

STUDENT LOANS

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

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong protest to yet another Republican plan to penalize the middle class in the name of tax cuts for the rich. The majority party is endangering the future of our country, the future of our young people, by targeting