

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, it was 1 year ago that President Clinton announced his plans to reinvent OSHA.

The new OSHA, according to the President's speech, would rely less on enforcement, more on partnerships. It would use common sense in regulations, so that the most benefits could be achieved with the least burden. And the new OSHA would focus on results, not redtape by focusing on hazards not paperwork and evaluating personnel on improvements in safety rather than penalties.

Mr. President, that was a good speech. But not much has happened since then. Why not? The head of OSHA answered that question a few days ago: "There are a lot of people who doubt this direction, including people inside the organization [OSHA]."

Mr. President, you have an opportunity to say to your opponents on OSHA reinvention that you actually meant what you said. I've introduced H.R. 3234. All it does is take your ideas on reinventing OSHA, even your words, and put them in law.

So what will it be, Mr. President? Did you mean what you said 1 year ago?

CHINA AND MFN STATUS

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, China steals American software and videos. China sponsors slave labor. China imprisons political opponents. China sells nuclear technology to terrorists. China literally threatened to nuke Taiwan. And if this is not enough to disrupt the constipation of the National Security Council, Chinese dictator told the White House to shut their mouth and back off. Unbelievable, Mr. Speaker.

After all this, the White House is so mad the White House has decided to punish China by renewing most-favored-nation trade status. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. When will this White House wise up? When one of these Chinese dictators slaps the President in the face with one of those Barney dolls, which just happens to be made in China. Think about that.

PRESIDENT CLINTON AND WELFARE REFORM

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, the American public has heard a lot from Bill Clinton over the past 4 years on welfare.

First, candidate Bill Clinton promised to enact real welfare reform if elected President. Next, after no action from the Democrat leadership in the 103d Congress, President Clinton failed to deliver on his promise the first 2 years of office. Next, after Republicans deliver a welfare package to his desk

last December, he vetoed it. And now, Clinton has come full circle and is again playing campaign politics saying he supports strong welfare reform.

Mr. Speaker, the only words I can use to describe Bill Clinton's actions on this issue—he's the great pretender—he says he's for reforming welfare, then he vetoes welfare reform, and now he is trying to be seen as the welfare reform leader in this campaign year.

Bill Clinton—the greater pretender.

GAS TAX REPEAL

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

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, candidate DOLE criticized the Clinton administration for allowing the United Nations to permit Iraqi oil sales, claiming that offering Saddam Hussein a lifeline to prolong his dictatorship is bad policy and bad strategy. It is interesting to see candidate DOLE suddenly expressing concern over the prospect of Iraqi oil hitting the world market. Where was candidate DOLE over the last 6 months when the big oil companies, like a reckless driver on a bet, drove into the year with their inventory needles on empty, passing right by any number of global filling stations in an attempt to buy cheap oil from Saddam Hussein, who wants to sell the oil to get money to buy guns?

Candidate DOLE, did he chide the oil companies for bad policy and bad strategy? Did he criticize the oil companies for gouging consumers at the pump when the shortages resulted from their corporate irresponsibility and sent gas prices skyrocketing? No.

REFORMING WELFARE

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

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, when Republicans kept their promise and delivered to the President a strong welfare reform bill, he vetoed it. Now Bill Clinton, realizing it is an election year, is trying to take some sort of credit for being pro-welfare reform. Let's take a look at his latest charade.

The Republican Governor of Wisconsin, Tommy Thompson, implemented a strong, get tough welfare system in his State. In his weekly radio address, President Clinton praised the Wisconsin plan as "one of the boldest yet attempted in America." Yet, the Wisconsin plan is very similar to the one that President Clinton vetoed!

Mr. Speaker, in President Clinton's case his actions speak louder than his words. President Clinton has done nothing in the past 3½ years to reform welfare. On welfare, he is truly the great pretender.

REPEAL OF GAS TAX

(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, later today the House will take up the repeal of the 4.3-cent gasoline tax. The American people should know not only what is in this bill but what is not in this bill. This bill mandates repeal of a 4.3-cent gasoline tax, but it does not mandate that we as consumers or the American people as consumers will get the benefit of that 4.3 cents. I have the bill right here. It says that it is the sense of Congress that consumers ought to get that benefit, a sense of the Congress. It does not mandate anything.

Mr. Speaker, we have some experience with this. When the airline surtax was allowed to expire recently, that 10 percent was not passed on to the consumers. In fact the airlines took at least half of that for their own.

That is what will happen if we do not take stronger action today. The oil companies will get the benefit of this tax repeal and not the consumer. This bill later today should mandate that all consumers get the full benefit of the 4.3-cent tax repeal.

A CALL FOR THE DISMISSAL OF DICK MORRIS, ADVISER TO THE PRESIDENT

(Ms. DUNN of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DUNN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, last week 10 Republican Members of the Congress wrote to President Clinton to express our outrage over the fact that his top political adviser, Dick Morris, has been assisting in the defense team of Alex Kelly, an accused rapist who fled the country for 8 years rather than face charges of brutally raping two teenage girls. Kelly, who is a convicted thief on probation for nine burglaries, allegedly threatened to kill the girls if they reported the rapes.

In our letter to the President, we said there has been a lot of tough talk, Mr. President, from your administration on the issue of crime. But actions speak louder than words. Given Mr. Morris' insensitivity to women's concerns about rape and violent crime and his lack of ethical judgment, we call on you to dismiss him immediately.

The White House, which has failed yet to take any action on this matter, now admits that the President himself knew about Morris' testimony, testimony on behalf of the rapist, but tolerated it.

Mr. President, we call on you to dismiss Dick Morris. Do something good for the women of this Nation.

THE MINIMUM WAGE

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, this week a vote has been scheduled on raising the minimum wage. Finally.