

mentioned is just approximately a week ago, last week, so it is of this Congress, and within the last week, not any prior history in the whole United States.

No. 2, it appears from what you said, even though you feel that you have the authority under that ruling to make any Member sit down for not following regular rules of order, that the ultimate decision upon a proper motion made is that the House itself has to decide, which has always been the precedent of this body. The House decides whether a Member does or not, not the Speaker; is that correct?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On the first question, the Chair is not commenting on the historical precedent.

On the second point, the gentleman is essentially correct.

Mr. VOLKMER. Well, Mr. Speaker, I just want to say, I have been unable to find the precedent that you have listed from last week.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LEWIS] may proceed in order for the balance of his time.

There was no objection.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, let me say to my colleague from Georgia, Mr. LINDER, I will not be harassed, bullied, or silenced. I know the rules of this House as well as the gentleman. But the gentleman knows, I have learned in my life that there are times when the rules must be challenged to confront an injustice. I will not sit down or keep silent until the report is released to the American people.

Last week NEWT GINGRICH brought an ice bucket to this floor to demonstrate a small savings achieved in the House. It is strange indeed that those savings are approximately the same amount as the cost of the report by the outside counsel. Now the Speaker and the Republicans in this House want to put the outside counsel's report on ice and it is wrong, just plain wrong.

HEALTH CARE ASSURANCE FOR RETIRED EMPLOYEES ACT

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

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of 750 retirees in my district who were betrayed by their employer, and on behalf of retirees across the country who are increasingly victimized by corporate irresponsibility.

Last month in Milwaukee, the Pabst Brewing Co. abruptly informed its retirees that it would no longer provide health and death benefits. Just like that. Years of hard work and dedication. Labor agreements. Promises. Out the window.

This is a disturbing trend. Last week I introduced the Health Care Assurance for Retired Employees Act, or the CARE Act. It would provide that companies give their retirees 6 months no-

tice of any changes to their benefits. Further, the Labor Department would have to certify that the changes were in accordance with the applicable collective bargaining agreements.

Under the CARE Act, retirees aged 55 to 65 would have expanded access to health insurance under COBRA until they were eligible for Medicare. Medicare's late enrollment penalties would be waived, and a 6-month Medigap open enrollment period would be established.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in cosponsoring this bipartisan bill which will provide fair and workable safeguards for your retired constituents.

WAR ON DRUGS REQUIRES COMMITMENT AT THE TOP

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

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, whether we like it or not, some among us are expected to be role models. By sheer virtue of a media-intensive position, actors, athletes, and politicians are often thrust into the role model limelight.

That's why it comes as no surprise that after a substantial decline during the late 80's and early 90's, overall drug use nearly doubled in the last 4 years.

It also should come as no surprise that those who idolize are often young and impressionable, and that overall drug use among 12- to 17-year-olds between 1992 and 1995 went up 78 percent.

Mr. Speaker, starting from the top, those of us in Congress and those at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue should renew this Nation's commitment to fighting perhaps our most important war to date—the war on drugs.

CLOUD OF SHAME HANGS OVER CIA

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, a cloud of shame is hanging over America's intelligence community. In August, the San Jose Mercury News reported that the Central Intelligence Agency shipped cocaine into south central Los Angeles, then used that money to buy guns to overthrow the Government of Nicaragua.

And while Aldrich Ames was busy selling us down the river, our "Central Intoxication Agency" was selling crack cocaine in south central Los Angeles.

It is no wonder we could not predict the fall of the Soviet Union; the CIA was too busy shipping crack into the United States.

Mr. Speaker, as the "Hemp-Dope" ticket traverses America proselytizing about the increase in drug use, the administration they hope to emulate, the Reagan-Bush administration, was running crack in the 1980's.

I urge my colleagues to just say "no" to the "Central Intoxication Agency" and the "Hemp-Dope" ticket.

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THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION AND THE WAR ON DRUGS

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

Ms. GREENE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, in 1993, Bill Clinton's National Security Council dropped the priority of the drug war from 3 to No. 29, that's 29th out of 29 priorities. At the same time, he slashed the Office of National Drug Policy by 83 percent.

In his budget for fiscal year 1995, Clinton proposed doing away with 621 total drug enforcement positions throughout the Government. And from 1992 to 1995, the Drug Enforcement Administration lost 227 agents.

In 1994, the Clinton administration told the Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to devote only 50 percent to drug enforcement, instead of the normal 80 percent. This unit provides intelligence on money laundering by drug dealers.

And during his whole term as President, Bill Clinton has rarely talked about the drug issue or the explosion of drug use by our children.

Mr. Speaker, America cannot survive with this kind of leadership. The children of America need a President who is willing to wage a real war on drugs.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN

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

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, oftentimes over the last 2 years in this Congress we have not been bipartisan and we certainly have not looked out for the best interests of our children. Tomorrow, with the partial-birth abortion ban vote, we have an opportunity to be both bipartisan and to look out for our Nation's children.

This partial-birth abortion procedure is horrific. It is gruesome. It is totally unacceptable. I would hope Democrats and Republicans, men and women, prochoice and prolife Members would come together and join together tomorrow to have an important debate and an important vote in outlawing a procedure that hopefully most prolife and prochoice Members agree should be permanently banned in the United States of America.

IN APPRECIATION

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

Mr. QUILLEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all of those who participated in the special order in my behalf yesterday evening on the floor of the House. Their remarks brought tears to my eyes, and I appreciate it so much.

Leaving is a sad day for me, but 34 years is long enough. My career in the