

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

House has convinced me that term limits are appropriate, and I think 17 terms should be the limit.

I want to thank my good friend JIMMY DUNCAN for spearheading the special order. His remarks were great, as were all the remarks of those who participated: JERRY SOLOMON, chairman of the Committee on Rules, spoke out in crystal clear language, and I am proud of that; BART GORDON, HAL ROGERS, and KIKI DE LA GARZA of Texas, who supplies me with onions. I am assured that Mr. DE LA GARZA is going to mail some to me even after I am out of the Congress. Thank you, thank you, and thank you. ED BRYANT, ZACH WAMP, VAN HILLEARY, DUNCAN HUNTER, and JOHN MYERS, and those who extended their remarks, you make me stand so tall and proud. I appreciate it from the bottom of my heart. God bless you all.

DOLE PROMISES EVERYTHING

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, let me say those are good ten fifteen onions developed in South Texas in Mr. DE LA GARZA's district by Texas A&M.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the House concerning Senator Dole going from issue to issue now in the Presidential campaign. Nothing seems to take hold. He is not talking about the tax cut as of yesterday, because the American people saw through the rhetoric and realized he could not balance the budget and cut \$548 billion in taxes at the same time.

Now he is trying to convince the public that the President's crime bill had nothing to do with the recent drop in the national crime rate. Instead he says it belongs to the Governors, who I am sure are also participants in it.

Senator Dole voted against the addition of 600 new police officers in my home town of Houston, TX, and he also voted against increased prison construction, increased border patrol, and the expansion of the death penalty in the crime bill of 1994. It is obvious that Senator Dole wants to have it both ways.

When something good happens, it is the Republican Governors; but when something bad happens, like drug use, it is the President; when Bob Dole also voted to cut the funding for safe and drug free schools.

I am confident the American people will see through this, just like they did through his tax plan.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTIONS IN NEW JERSEY

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday, New Jer-

sey's Bergen Record published a lengthy investigative report about the partial-birth abortions. I was appalled to read that a single facility in New Jersey—Metropolitan Medical in Englewood—performs at least 1,500 partial-birth abortions every year. This is three times the number of brain suction abortions that the National Abortion Federation, NARAL, and other pro-abortion groups have estimated are preformed annually throughout the country.

This revelation belies the statement of Bill Clinton that the process of sucking a baby's brains out moments before his or her full delivery is limited to 500 children per year nationally. Even if the lower number were true, however, I am stunned that he or anyone else could belittle the horror of partial-birth abortion by saying it only kills 500 children each year. This death toll exceeds the Oklahoma City bombings—an act of terrorism we have all condemned as barbaric.

What is equally as frightening is the fact that the same Record article reveals the most partial-birth abortions in New Jersey were done to teenagers, and they were done as elective procedures, not for medical reasons. Let me quote from the article.

"We have an occasional amnio abnormality, but it's a minuscule amount," said one of the doctors at Metropolitan Medical, an assessment confirmed by another doctor there. "Most are Medicaid patients, black and white, and most are for elective, not medical, reasons: people who didn't realize, or didn't care, how far along they were. Most are teenagers."

This contradicts everything the abortion President has said to justify his veto of the partial-birth abortion ban bill passed by both the House and the Senate. President Clinton should stop hiding from the truth.

An overwhelming majority of Americans believe that partial-birth abortions are infanticide and should be banned. Bill Clinton is now not only ignoring the American people, but facts and figures coming from the States and the press.

DISCREDITED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, as a person who has been here for 20 years and been very proud to be a Member of the United States House of Representatives, I love this body. But today I see that this body is highly discredited. Actually, I am ashamed. We have a huge cloud that hovers over the House of Representatives, and it can be removed, but the Republican majority, under Speaker GINGRICH, refuses to remove that.

I say let the report from James Cole, the special counsel to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, filed

over a month ago, be given to every Member, to the media, to the public. Let it be released.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). The gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LINDER] will state his point of order.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman in the well is referring to matters before the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, which is prohibited by the rules of the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair sustains the point of order and asks the gentleman from Missouri to keep his remarks in order.

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, it is very apparent to me that Speaker GINGRICH and the Ethics Committee chairman are going to do a coverup and we are never going to see that report. We are going to adjourn here in a few weeks without anyone ever knowing what is in that report. I do not know what is in that report.

Mr. LINDER. Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. VOLKMER] has expired.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 3259, INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3259) to authorize the appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the U.S. Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas? The Chair hears none and, without objection, appoints the following conferees:

From the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. COMBEST, DORNAN, YOUNG of Florida, HANSEN, LEWIS of California, GOSS, SHUSTER, MCCOLLUM, CASTLE, DICKS, RICHARDSON, DIXON, TORRICELLI, COLEMAN, and SKAGGS, and Ms. PELOSI.

From the Committee on National Security, for consideration of defense tactical intelligence and related agencies: Messrs. STUMP, SPENCE, and DELLUMS.

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON S. 640, WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1996

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the