

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. In fact, we found zero on the importation from Canada, we found zero problems with the reimportation, and yet they say it is the safety they are concerned about. It does not make any sense.

I thank the gentleman for all of his hard work.

HOUSE LEADERSHIP NEEDS TO GET THE MESSAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, 3 weeks ago, when the Republicans in the House and the Senate were getting together to decide the final version of the tax bill, under the direction of Vice President CHENEY, they made a very bad decision. They made a decision that families with children who earn between \$10,000 and \$26,000, a year who currently get a portion of the child tax credit, would not get the increase that this bill provides for families with children, a \$400 increase for many, many Americans per child that they will get checks this July. For whatever reasons, and we think we know why, because they used that money to provide additional tax cuts to the wealthiest people in this country; had they given this tax cut to these families between \$10,000 and \$26,000 a year, to those 12 million children, people like Mr. CHENEY, instead of getting \$93,000, would have gotten \$88,000. But they chose instead to take \$93,000 and these children did not get the tax credit.

This tax credit is terribly important to these families. What the Republicans fail to understand is that many of these families are people who the Republicans accused of being on welfare, they have accused them of not participating, but these families get up and go to work every day, and they work in difficult jobs, and they work in jobs that not a lot of people want to have. And at the end of the year, they end up basically poor. So one of the things this government did a number years ago was create the child tax credit. And a number of things we did in the last administration was to make it refundable so that we can make sure that those people would continue to have an incentive to stay in the work force.

Now, if the Republicans do not like the child tax credit, one of the things they could do is they could increase the minimum wage. They could make it easier for these families to earn more money. They would get less tax credit. But the Republicans do not want to increase the minimum wage. They do not want to provide those children health care. They do not want to provide them a tax credit, and yet, somehow, these people, they are not deserving of this effort.

It was a horrible decision they made. But now we see as that decision has

come to light, as the bright light of public awareness is focused on that, last week we saw the Senate, when they realized how upset the country was, how unfair people felt this was, the sense of economic injustice that reigned in the country, that these people would not be taken care of in a tax bill that is going to spend \$350 billion, they could not take care of these people for \$3 billion. The Senate, on a bipartisan basis, voted overwhelmingly to correct this injustice. They passed a bill in the last days of last week to send over to the House to correct this and to give these individuals the tax credit that they should have for their children, for these families who are working very hard, and even to extend it to some individuals in higher incomes.

But yet, what do we see the reaction of the Republican leadership in the House of Representatives, is that they are not going to do this bill. They want to hold these children, they want to hold these families hostage for some other tax cut that they can give to people who may be far less deserving than these children and these families. But they want to hold it hostage so that they can unite it with something they were talking about last week in terms of a \$100 billion bill or more.

These children and these families are entitled to get those checks in July just like every other family in America. It is important to our economy, it is important to the recovery of our economy, and it is important to the wherewithal of these families as they struggle to hold themselves together at low wages.

So the Republicans in the House and their leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), the majority leader who has said he does not want to do this, that he was not going to take the bill, they must relent. They must relent for the benefit of these families and for the benefit of our economy.

Today, the President of the United States said he likes the Senate bill. He wants to work to see it passed. The President of the United States got the message. The Senate got the message. The Senate Republicans got the message, the Senate Democrats pushed for it, and were successful. And now what do we see? That it is the House Republicans that somehow cannot get the message that this is a matter of fairness, it is a matter of equity; that these people have played by the rules and they ought to be treated like every other American family with children. The time has come for the majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), to step aside and let this bill be passed this week so these families can get their checks in July to help them with this economy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BLACKBURN). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. MILLER of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HOUSE REPUBLICANS SHOULD FOLLOW SENATE LEAD AND PASS CHILD TAX CREDIT LEGISLATION FOR WORKING FAMILIES

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I am coming to the House floor this evening to urge the Republican leadership to follow the Senate's lead and immediately approve the legislation that will provide a child tax credit to 12 million children, the children Republicans left out of their tax bill last month.

Included amongst these 12 million children are the children of U.S. military families. A report out last week showed nearly 1 in 5 children of active duty U.S. military families will not benefit from the increased tax credit because their parents earn too little to qualify.

Now, last week, Madam Speaker, Senate Republicans worked with Democrats to expand the child tax credit to the 12 million children they initially left out. And talk about a tale of two Chambers. While Senate Republicans were negotiating with Democrats to craft the bipartisan compromise, Republican leaders here in the House showed nothing but ambivalence towards the terribly unfair treatment of these working families. Madam Speaker, this House should follow the Senate's lead and immediately approve legislation extending the child tax credit to working families.

I hope that my Republican colleagues will follow the lead of their colleagues in the Senate and not their own leadership here in the House. Just last week, the House majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), and many of us have mentioned it, said he would not bring up a legislative remedy to this injustice, and he justified this inaction by saying, "There are a lot of other things that are more important than that." Well, I do not agree with him, and I have to say I hope that Republicans in the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY's) own party recognize the injustice.

Last week, conservative syndicated columnist Arianna Huffington said in the Los Angeles Times: "A magnetic compass always points north; a moral compass should always point out that heaping billions on the rich while ensuring that 1 out of 6 American children do not get a penny is dead wrong."

Conservative Arianna Huffington continued: "But that's exactly what congressional Republicans did in pushing through tax cut legislation last month, and that's what President Bush signed off on."

When hearing about the provision being pulled from the bill and the impact it would have on 1 in every 5 active duty military families, Republican Senator JOHN MCCAIN said, "My God, what kind of message are we sending when we leave out low-income families, exactly those who are in that category of the enlisted men and women who are fighting for us today in Iraq? It is beyond belief."

It truly is.

White House Press Secretary Ari Fleischer probably explained it best when he said: "Does tax relief go to people who pay income taxes, or does it go above and beyond the forgiving of all income taxes, and you actually get a check from the government for more than you ever owed in income taxes?" That is what the House majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) is saying. He basically is backing up Fleischer's claims and he says, "To me, it is a little difficult to give tax relief to people who do not pay income tax."

Well, it is simply not true. These people do pay taxes. What the President's secretary and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) forget is that these workers pay Federal taxes. Madam Speaker, 7.65 percent of their earnings go to pay for Social Security and Medicare. These hardworking parents also pay State and local taxes as well.

But beyond the issue of whether they pay or not, and they do, it is just the issue of simple fairness. How can the Republicans say it is fair to give a millionaire a tax break of more than \$90,000 while giving nothing to millions of working families? I do not understand how they even could conceive of such a thing.

Now, after realizing that the Republicans had left this provision out of their final tax bill, several of my Democratic colleagues introduced a bill early this week that would repair the damage from this irresponsible tax package. The gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) has introduced legislation with many Democratic sponsors that would provide greater tax relief to the families of 19 million children, and the legislation is fully paid for, so it would not add to the record deficits created by the President and the Republicans in Congress.

Last week we Democrats in the House said we would not allow business to continue as usual around here until Republicans agreed to address the Rangel legislation. We did some procedural motions and we will continue to do that this week until the Republican House leadership stands up and says that they are going to pass this legislation.

I just do not understand where they are coming from. I do not understand

how they can be so crass and so really unfeeling about these low-income working families. Obviously everybody else here agrees: The President now today, the Democrats, and the Republicans in the other House. The only thing that is holding us up here on this is the House Republican leadership. They have to stop this attack on low- and middle-class families. They have to stop this attack, bring it to an end, pass this legislation. Let us bring it up and pass it immediately.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VILLAGE OF LYNDON STATION, WISCONSIN

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

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, this July the village of Lyndon Station, Wisconsin, in the heart of my congressional district, will be marking its centennial celebration. This beautiful, tranquil village lies in eastern Wisconsin and is surrounded by some of America's richest farmland. The village of Lyndon Station is a jewel in the crown of Juneau County. This community has been a primary contributor to the region's settlement, development of the timber industry, expansion of agriculture, and a hub of community trade and commercial growth for over 100 years.

The first settlers were native Americans who used the banks of what is now called Lyndon Creek to camp and hunt the abundant wildlife in the mixed prairie-woodland of this region. The first European settlement of the present village site was in 1849. Three brothers and two sisters of the Havey family arrived in this area to start a new life, having immigrated from Kildare, Ireland during the worst years of the potato famine. They settled near the present village location and were the beginning of a wave to discover the fertile soils of central Wisconsin.

Other settlers soon followed and established land claims in and near the growing village which became known as Kildare. In 1857, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad spurred new life into the area when it built a railroad station as it pushed its lines of commerce further west.

□ 1945

By 1870, the name Kildare Village was changed to Lyndon Station Village since the name Kildare was already being used for the township. There has been much speculation as to the origin of the name Lyndon, and it still remains a mystery; but such a mystery only adds to the community's charm. In 1903, Lyndon Station was officially incorporated as a village in the State of Wisconsin, even though the name had been on maps for nearly half a century.

The Lyndon Station Village Centennial celebrates the best of rural Amer-

ica. There are thousands of small rural communities across this Nation that form the backbone of rural life. These communities are the incubators of local politics, of commerce and education, recreation, entertainment, and faith for our rural neighborhoods.

Collectively, the hardworking citizens of small-town America are the builders of our great Nation. I am proud to congratulate the citizens of Lyndon Station Village on their 100th anniversary. I believe that it is important to recognize their unique contribution to the development of central Wisconsin and wish them happiness and prosperity during the next 100 years.

QUIBBLING ABOUT PAYMENTS TO IRAQIS IN NO-SHOW JOBS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BLACKBURN). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, today the headline in The New York Times reads: "Iraqis are out of jobs, but payday still comes."

With the administration's and the President's blessings, 200,000 Iraqis, employees of the government ministries and government-owned companies, are being paid \$20 a day for no-show jobs. They do not work. They are getting paid \$20,000 a day by the American taxpayers. They do not work.

Let me read from the article. The story describes how "mechanics linger listlessly around machines that don't run; clerical employees wait for assignments that never come. Most don't even bother to show up at all, except on payday," to collect their \$20. There are 200,000 Iraqi people being paid \$20 a day for no-show jobs. Now, I come from Chicago, and I know a couple party bosses in Chicago that would be really envious about 200,000 getting paid \$20 a day for no-show jobs. They do not have to do anything, and they do not have to show up except for payday.

What is interesting is if we do the math, these families in Iraq are getting about \$1,000, equal to what we are asking for the children and their working parents here in America; for hardworking people who pay taxes to get as a child tax credit the same that this Iraqi citizen who has never worked, is not working, is getting, with the American taxpayers footing the bill for \$1,000 for their no-show job.

I go on to read from the article. According to one American official, an American official working for the government, working for the taxpayers of this country, for the U.S.-led administration in Iraq, he says, "This is going to continue for a good while. Nobody is going to quibble about paying a few more dinars into this economy to get things moving."

Well, this person is going to quibble. I do not know where we come off paying \$20 a day to somebody who does not