

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, the ethics process in this House is broken. I believe the first duty of all House Members is to set and follow the highest ethical standards, not just toe the party line for either party.

The complete breakdown of the long-established bipartisan ethics process is a direct result of steps taken by this current majority. This includes actions taken by House Republicans to cripple the ethics enforcement process and to even purge fellow Republicans from the committee and staff for merely following what used to be fair and time-honored rules in this last Congress.

Madam Speaker, there is an ethics crisis in the House that will only get worse unless immediate action is taken. It is time for Republicans and Democrats to move quickly to fix the untenable and unprecedented situation that now exists. As a first step, this House must take up H.R. 131, a measure that will repeal the misguided House rules adopted at the beginning of this Congress that have led to a complete shutdown of the bipartisan ethics process in the House.

This House of the American people demands nothing less than strong bipartisan ethics rules.

THE CHILD INTERSTATE ABORTION NOTIFICATION ACT

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, 34 States currently have parental consent laws when it comes to minors and abortion. Unfortunately, they are too often and too easily ignored simply by going to another State. Today, the House is going to vote to make it a Federal crime to transport a minor across State lines for an abortion.

This legislation would not affect State laws, but would prevent minors from being transported to evade a parental consent law in the girl's home State. The average American parent would be outraged if some adult took their child across States lines for an abortion.

The Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act protects parents and minors from adults who might conspire with or even pressure them to cross into another State for an abortion. This bill is for our kids and for a better America. I urge a "yes" vote.

THE 95-10 INITIATIVE

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

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, last week the Pro-Life Democratic Members of Congress introduced an abortion reduction proposal called

the 95-10 Initiative. This comprehensive proposal of 15 different policy programs should reduce the number of abortions in America by 95 percent over the next 10 years by providing women with support, information, and viable alternatives to abortion.

The initiative is a clear indication that pro-life Democrats in Congress, in conjunction with the Democrats for Life of America, are firmly committed to reducing abortions in America. By looking into the different reasons that women choose abortion rather than just politicizing the issue, we have been able to come up with a comprehensive and commonsense initiative that would empower women and encourage them to choose life.

The 95-10 Initiative seeks to eliminate the pressures that lead to abortions through various measures, including adoption tax credits, abortion referral information, adoption referral information, and fully funding the special nutrition WIC program.

Additionally, the initiative calls for expanding insurance coverage to pregnant women and to newborns, and removes pregnancy as a preexisting health condition. I strongly urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join the pro-life Democrats in supporting a comprehensive 95-10 abortion reduction bill.

AARP AND SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM

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

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, the AARP has publicly denounced any plans to reform Social Security that might include personal savings retirement accounts. They have taken out full-page ads claiming that investing for retirement is like playing the slot machines in Las Vegas. But the AARP Web site tells its senior members to invest their money in a 401(k) or an IRA, and also says that seniors do not invest enough in retirement plans. Why are these retirement plans safe and advisable but personal retirement accounts through Social Security are too risky? In addition, the AARP has its own investment plan through Scudder Investments that invests in mutual funds and stock index funds.

If the AARP exists to look out for the interests of retired persons and they advise their membership to invest their money in mutual funds and stock index funds, my colleagues, it seems suspect that they would not support a program that would allow some, some flexibility through the Social Security program.

ILLEGAL IRAQ WAR

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, 771 days ago, the United States illegally went to war against Iraq. Since then we have lost 1,574 of our finest, and the Iraqi people have lost tens of thousands of innocent civilians to the war. Some of us opposed the war from the start, but today we all know that America went to war based on false information given to this Congress and to the American people. Iraq had no weapons of mass destruction and was not an imminent threat, yet the war grinds on.

America is building permanent bases in Iraq. The interim government has no credibility. Under the watchful eyes of our occupying army, the Iraqi people know full well policy is made in Washington, not Baghdad. And here in Congress, we move on to other issues, while some are calling for more troops to move in.

The administration built a theater of war with no exits. It is time for Congress to build an exit from the Iraqi theater. In the next few days, I, along with other Members, will submit such a plan.

527 FAIRNESS ACT

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, the summer of 527s will long be remembered in American politics. Groups organized on the left and the right under section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code spent more than \$300 million to support candidates, while the two major political parties and the Nation's most respected labor units, associations, businesses, and constitutional groups watched in silence from the sidelines.

In response to the summer of 527s, some here in Washington, DC want to exert more regulation and control. But my colleague, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN), a Democrat, and I have taken a different approach by introducing the bipartisan 527 Fairness Act. The Pence-Wynn bill restores basic fairness to the political parties and outside organizations instead of attempting further regulation.

Madam Speaker, when it comes to political speech, greater government control is never the answer. More freedom is.

Now, The Washington Post calls the Pence-Wynn bill "a dangerous notion" that is "misguided." And freedom is chaotic, but as Thomas Jefferson said, "I would rather be exposed to the inconveniences attending too much liberty than those attending too small a degree of it."

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to consider Pence-Wynn and support us as we answer the summer of 527s with more freedom, not less.

WEAKENED ETHICS RULES

(Ms. WATSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, earlier this year, the House Republican leadership purged the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of three of the Republican Members. Serving on this committee, where one is charged with investigating and possibly reprimanding one's own colleagues is not an easy assignment, but it is a very important one.

The gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY), the chairman, and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. HULSHOF) wanted to continue to serve on the committee, a committee unlike most in this Chamber, that worked in a bipartisan fashion. Could that have been their downfall?

After losing his chairmanship, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) told *The Washington Post*, and I am quoting, "There's a bad perception out there that there was a purge in the committee and that people were put in that would protect our side of the aisle better than I did."

□ 1030

He continues, "No one should be there to protect anybody; they should be there to protect the integrity of the institution."

Madam Speaker, I could not have said it better myself. The integrity of the House is much more important than any one Member. It is time the Republican leadership learns that lesson.

CUBAN POLICIES

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

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support and commend the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and others for raising H. Con. Res. 81 to mark the 2-year anniversary on the latest crackdown on human rights in Cuba. This is simply the latest crackdown. These have been occurring for more than 45 years now.

I also commend those who have come to this city to encourage more travel to Cuba and allow more travel to Cuba. Recently, Fidel Castro's government issued an edict to all state employees, which is by definition everyone on the island, saying they should have minimal travel with tourists and travelers because it is, for one thing, promoting individualism. I would submit that is a very good thing, and we ought to want more of it. I would encourage this body to again, as we have done year after year after year, allow Americans the freedom to travel wherever they please.

RESTORE ETHICS RULES IN HOUSE

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, according to the morning papers, the Republican majority may now be ready to drop its new ethics rules and restore stronger rules that were written by Democrats and Republicans. It is about time.

We need to restore the old rules immediately so the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct can begin investigating possible unethical behavior, questionable actions that have been in the national papers over the last couple of months.

As the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), the majority leader, said back in November 1995: "The time has come that the American people know exactly what their representatives are doing here in Washington. Are they feeding at the public trough, taking lobbyist-paid vacations, getting wine and dined by special interest groups, or are they working hard to represent their constituents. The American people have a right to know."

That was the majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), 10 years ago. The majority leader was right. The American people deserve answers; and, unfortunately, they will not get those answers under the weakened ethics rules. Hopefully, the Republican majority has come to its senses and will restore the old rules later this week. If the majority leader really believes his comments from 10 years ago, I would think he would join us in our fight.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 371, nays 47, answered "present" 1, not voting 15, as follows:

(Roll No. 135)
YEAS—371

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Barrow

Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bass
Bean
Beauprez
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)

Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren

Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd
Bradley (NH)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Cardin
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carson
Carter
Case
Castle
Chabot
Chandler
Chocola
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Cox
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Feeney
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick (PA)
Flake
Foley
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foss
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor

Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green (WI)
Green, Al
Hall
Harman
Harris
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth
Higgins
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Honda
Hostettler
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hyde
Inglis (SC)
Insee
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
Jindal
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Langevin
Lantos
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Lynch
Mack
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCrery
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McMorris
McNulty

Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne
Otter
Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Pascarelli
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Leach
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanders
Saxton
Schiff
Schwartz (PA)
Schwarz (MI)
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shuster