

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