

area alone added \$5.5 billion to the local economy, creating more than 31,000 jobs.

So I would simply and respectfully say to Ray from Michigan that immigrants make enormous contributions to our economy and to our communities, and we should work together to create a system that allows them to come out of the shadows and work here legally, safely, and humanely.

Now, let's go to Judy in Belvedere, Illinois. Judy wrote the following to Mr. Dobbs: "I feel like this country is finally waking up to the fact that the illegal population is draining our country of millions of taxpayers' money."

Let me respond with a few points, the first being that all immigrants pay taxes, income taxes, property taxes, sales taxes, gasoline taxes, cigarette taxes, every tax when they make a purchase. As far as income tax payments go, sources vary in their accounts, but a range of studies find that immigrants pay between \$90 billion and \$140 billion in Federal, State, and local taxes.

And let us not forget the Social Security system. Recent studies show that undocumented workers sustain the Social Security system with a subsidy as much as \$7 billion a year. Let me repeat that: \$7 billion a year.

Mr. Speaker, I know I have provided a lot of facts and figures this evening, so let me close with a newspaper quote describing immigrants: "These people are by their nature unruly and not fit for civil society and government. We have little hope of containing them, other than by force of law."

Somebody writing to Lou Dobbs? No. The source of the quote, an editorial in the esteemed New York Times. In their defense, it was in 1895.

And what unruly, ungovernable misfits was the New York Times writing about? Italian immigrants.

Now, my point in reading this quote is not to be critical of the New York Times or, let me be clear, to say anything disparaging about Italian immigrants.

My point, I hope, is obvious.

Uncertainty and fear and ignorance about immigrants, about people who are different, has a history as old as our Nation. Boston and Philadelphia papers in the early 19th century editorialized against the Irish who they said were ruining our Nation, for the only real Americans, those, of course, being of English ancestry. It is not new or unusual for the real Americans, meaning those immigrants who came to America a little bit longer ago, to fear the outsiders, the pretenders, the newcomers. But I think we have an obligation to set the record straight.

Because the truth is, today's immigrants, as they have for generation after generation, work the longest hours at the hardest jobs for the lowest pay, jobs that are just about impossible to fill. They pick our fruit, they care for our children and elderly, they change bedpans, they clear our tables and wash our dishes. And they do those

jobs not because they want to take away anything from America, but because they want to give their skills, their sweat, their labor, for a better life and to help build a better America, just as those who came before them.

I hope we in this body can work in a bipartisan manner to ensure that our immigration system can better reflect their contributions.

ETHICS DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON, DC

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

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, we are hearing a lot about ethics these days, ethical problems, ethical controversies. Why is ethics coming up as a topic of discussion here in Washington, DC? It is because the Democrat leadership has led their party on a campaign against our Republican majority through what I believe is a conspiracy of character assassination and misleading attacks.

Let me quote this week's U.S. News and World Report. Democrat strategists, confident that voters are increasingly fed up with the Republican establishment, are planning an all-out attack on what they call the "abuse of power" by Republicans. Democrat strategists, Mr. Speaker. Those folks who live and crawl around the basement of the Democrat National Committee and the DCCC, they see ethics as a way that might be able to gain them a few congressional seats.

I can tell my colleagues why they are doing this. It is because in the last 2 election cycles, Democrats, their agenda, their leaders, their ideas, or lack thereof, are going nowhere. They lost six U.S. Senate seats. They have posted double digit losses in the U.S. House of Representatives races. They are sitting back and trying to obstruct as Republicans pass tax relief. In fact, in just this Congress, we eliminated the death tax, the double taxation of inheritance. They watched as the Republicans passed an energy policy to keep and lower gas prices. They tried to obstruct class action lawsuit reform which Republicans passed to protect small businesses and individuals from the frivolous lawsuits of ambulance-chasing trial lawyers. They sat back as we passed comprehensive bankruptcy reform. And they are losing their own Members on these votes.

Mr. Speaker, over 70 Democrats have abandoned their leadership, their Democrat leadership to support a Republican bill on bankruptcy reform. Forty-two Democrats bolted their leadership, their left-wing leadership to support the permanent repeal of the death tax. Forty-one Democrats abandoned their leadership on energy policy, because they see that our ideas are better than their party's. A whopping 50 members of the Democratic Caucus abandoned their leader, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), on class action

lawsuit reform. The Democrat Party is hemorrhaging. They are hemorrhaging.

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So how does the leadership fight back, when they cannot even win their own rank-and-file members? How do they fight back? It is by baseless, senseless attacks and character assassinations, that is how. Let me quote an article that ran in a January issue of the New Republic, a liberal left wing magazine. The article is called "How the Democrats Can Overthrow the House." And I quote: "Democrats should consider fighting back by extraparliamentary means, going beyond the standard perimeters of legislative debate and attacking Republicans not on issues but on ethics. Character. In other words, it may be time for Democrats to burn down the House in order to save it."

Not my words, Mr. Speaker. This is the liberal strategy for taking control of this House of Representatives. Burn down the House. Burn down this institution. That is the Democrats' plan. They are willing to tear down this very institution so they can gain raw political power. We have seen this before, and that is why you are hearing all of this about House rules and ethics.

But here is the deal. Democrats want to apply the rules, Mr. Speaker. They do. They just do not want to apply the rules to themselves. Consider the Democratic leader, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI). She called for an investigation of the House majority leader, our Republican majority leader, for alleged irregularities for his travel records.

But ABC News reported last night that members of her very own Democrat leadership staff have not properly disclosed their own travel forms. Not just once. Not just twice. But a dozen times. The gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. JONES) who is a member of the ethics committee, Mr. Speaker, the gentlewoman is a member of the ethics committee, she went on a trip to Puerto Rico. I do not blame her for wanting to go on a nice trip. The gentlewoman from Ohio went on this with the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) herself, as well as a number of other Democrats.

According to ABC News last night, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. JONES) said the incident was paid for by a registered lobbyist, while the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) said it was paid for by a different organization.

Then, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. JONES) went back and amended her forms to say that the lobbyist did not pay for it. But you know what? Two other Democrats that went on that trip did not even disclose their travel. Did not even disclose it. When asked, one Member told the Washington Times, this happened 4 years ago; I am not sure why this is even relevant. Wow.

Do you hear hypocrisy? This is the pot calling the kettle black.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CARTER). The time of the gentleman has expired.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I make a point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his point of order.

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, is the gentleman allowed to make allegations, false allegations about another Member on the floor of the House during this time?

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, if I may address this, these are not false allegations.

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I would appreciate a ruling.

Mr. MCHENRY. I am reporting what ABC News reported.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend.

Mr. MCHENRY. This is reported in the press.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all Members to refrain from arraigning official reference to the conduct of other Members. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, it is in reference to a reported incident that is covered by ABC News.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's time has expired.

SMART SECURITY AND THE TSUNAMI OF PEACE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, those watching C-SPAN right now probably are wondering what they are watching. They probably think it is a circus. But they are pretty familiar with the 5-minute speeches that Members of Congress deliver each day after the House of Representatives wraps up its legislative session.

Some critics and political opponents may claim that these nightly speeches serve little purpose, and sometimes they do serve little purpose. It is hard to accomplish much in 5-minute increments, they say.

But because half of the American people are not being represented by the Bush administration's shameful and threatening foreign policy, and half the American people are not receiving the representation they deserve from the Republicans in Congress, those who cower to the President's every demand when it comes to funding the illegal, ill advised and dangerous war in Iraq, I come here nightly so that I can discuss that very issue, the issue of the war in Iraq. That issue says to me that we need to change the way we think about foreign policy if we hope our country will survive the threat of global terrorism from fanatical groups like al Qaeda.

That is why next week I will reintroduce the SMART Security Resolution

for the 21st Century, legislation that provides a positive alternative to the Bush doctrine of unilateralism and pre-emptive war. SMART Security addresses the threat of terrorism and nuclear security by augmenting and encouraging diplomatic efforts with other nations.

We need to address the threats we face through international cooperation, not war, because the military option does not solve our problems.

Only by promoting an effective national security strategy that is based on conflict prevention, diplomacy, multilateralism, and nonproliferation can we truly secure America for the future, while at the same time holding on to the liberties and values that make this country so very great.

Many of my House colleagues have stood with me in urging a new and smarter American foreign policy. Fifty Members of Congress cosponsored the SMART Security resolution during the 108th Congress, and my staff and I will work to ensure that this number increases in the 109th Congress.

But Members of Congress are not alone in this effort. Many of my constituents get it too. I am incredibly privileged to serve as the voice in Congress for the people of Marin and Sonoma counties, just north of the Golden Gate Bridge, which comprises California's 6th Congressional District.

My constituents get democracy as well as anyone else in the country. In last November's election, for example, a record 89½ percent of registered voters turned out to vote in California's 6th district; 91.1 percent turned out in my hometown of Petaluma, California.

That is why I quote them, and I want to quote Marge Piaggio, who lives in Fairfax, California. She called my office earlier this month to say that what the world needs is, and I am quoting her pretty liberally here, but she said what the world needs is a "peace tsunami." The tsunami analogy might sound like an odd idea at first, but I think Marge is on to something. It is about time, she said, and I agree with her, that we washed over the war machine and cleaned up our political system.

Of course Congress will need the help and the support of citizens of the United States in this effort. And another one of my constituents, Jean Walz of Santa Rosa, wrote because she realizes that there is an important role that she and others like herself can play in helping to end the war in Iraq.

In reference to my nightly 5-minute speeches, Jean wrote the following in an e-mail, and I quote her: "If you can do this each night, so can I. I will send an evening missive each and every night to my local elected representatives to please stop this war in Iraq."

Everyone in this country, Mr. Speaker, who opposes the Bush administration's dangerous current path can emulate Jean Walz's heroic efforts to influence her local representatives. Then we will have peace in the United States between ourselves and other countries.

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

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

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the time of the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Hampshire?

There was no objection.

COMMEMORATING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

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

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Armenian genocide and to commend the Armenian Caucus co-chairs, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE), for again encouraging their colleagues to remember this solemn occasion.

April 24 marked the beginning of this systematic and deliberate campaign of genocide perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire in 1915. Over the next 8 years, 1.5 million Armenians were tortured and murdered, and more than half a million were forced from their homeland into exile.

The U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire during the genocide vividly documented the massacre of the Armenians by stating: "I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this. The great massacres and persecutions of the past seem almost insignificant when compared to the sufferings of the Armenian race in 1915."

As this crime against humanity was being committed, the United States led the world in attempting to end the slaughter and to save those who survived. American intervention prevented the full realization of the Ottoman Empire's genocidal plan, and U.S. humanitarian assistance was extended to those who survived.

While the U.S. record on the Armenian genocide is the most expansive in the detail of its coverage of the events of 1915 to 1918, the official records of many other countries, Austria, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, and Russia corroborate the evidence gathered by U.S. diplomats.

Therefore, it is important for our government to reaffirm its own record on the Armenian genocide and to assure that the relevant historical