

We need to utilize our diplomatic relationships to encourage these two countries to give up their dangerous nuclear materials, and the best way to do so is through the Cooperative Threat Reduction program.

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CTR is but one of the broad array of national security programs in SMART security and an effective one at that. But any attempt to rid the world of nuclear weapons must include non-proliferation efforts at home, in the United States. We must set an example for the rest of the world by fulfilling our international pledge to end our nuclear program and dismantle our existing weapons.

Mr. Speaker, continued efforts to study the feasibility of the bunker buster bomb are the very antithesis of these international commitments. When the United States engages in the proliferation of nuclear weapons, we lower the threshold and actually encourage other countries to proliferate with the possibility of actually using nuclear weapons. Instead, let us get smart.

Let us be smart about this issue and work both here at home and abroad to end the proliferation of any and all nuclear bombs. We owe this to our children and we owe this to their children.

CAFTA

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, last year President Bush signed the Central American Free Trade Agreement, a one-sided plan to benefit multinational corporations at the expense of United States and Central American farmers, small businesses and workers. Every trade agreement negotiated by this administration has been ratified by Congress within 65 days, within about 2 months of the President's signing it. But CAFTA, the Central American Free Trade Agreement, has languished in Congress for 1 year without a vote because this wrong-headed trade agreement offends both Republicans and Democrats.

Just look at what has happened with our trade policy in the last dozen years. In 1992, the year I was first elected to Congress, we had in this country a trade deficit of \$38 billion. That means that we imported \$38 billion of goods more than we exported. \$38 billion in 1992. Then NAFTA passed, the North American Free Trade Agreement, then permanent normal trade relations with China, then a whole 'nother series of trade agreements.

Last year, our trade deficit was \$618 billion, from \$38 billion to \$618 billion in 12 short years.

Our trade policy clearly is bankrupt, clearly is not working for American workers, clearly is not working for our

families, for our school systems, for our communities, and clearly is not working in the developing world for workers in those countries. It is the same old story.

Now the President is asking us to pass the Central American Free Trade Agreement. With each trade agreement that the President asks us to pass, the President and his allies promise stronger manufacturing in the United States, more jobs for Americans, more prosperity for the U.S. economy and for communities in this country and better wages for workers in developing countries. Yet with every single trade agreement, their promises fall by the wayside in favor of big business interests that send U.S. jobs overseas, that lock in low wages in the developing world and that exploit that cheap labor abroad.

Madness, Mr. Speaker, is repeating the same action over and over and over and expecting a different result. Again, look at this trade deficit. Look what has happened after 12 years of failed trade policies. From a \$38 billion trade deficit to \$618 billion. President Bush, Sr., said that for every \$1 billion of trade deficits, that translates into 12,000 jobs. If you have a surplus of \$1 billion, you have 12,000 extra jobs. If you have a deficit of \$1 billion, you lose 12,000 jobs. We have a deficit of \$618 billion. Do the math.

Mr. Speaker, what has happened with this trade deficit shows in this map. These red States are States which have lost, in just a 5-year period, 6-year period, more than 20 percent of their manufacturing. Michigan, 210,000 jobs. Illinois, 224,000 jobs lost. My State, the State of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN), 216,000 jobs. The State of the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON), 50,000 jobs. The State of the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), 353,000 jobs. The State of the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), 224,000. Hundreds of thousands of jobs lost with this trade policy, with this kind of export trade policy, import trade policy, where trade deficits continue to grow and grow and grow.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, in the face of this growing bipartisan opposition, the administration, the Republican leadership has tried every trick in the book to pass CAFTA. They cannot argue our trade policy is working when you see this kind of manufacturing job loss.

So what they do, they first try to link CAFTA with helping democracy in the developing world and they say, CAFTA will help us fight the war on terror. Ten years of NAFTA, 10 years of CAFTA's dysfunctional cousin NAFTA, have done nothing to improve border security with Mexico, so that argument does not sell.

Then, 2 weeks ago, the United States Chamber of Commerce flew on a junket the six presidents from the CAFTA countries around our country, hoping they would sell CAFTA to the Amer-

ican people and to the Congress and to the American media. They flew them to Albuquerque and Los Angeles. They flew them to Cincinnati, Ohio, in my State and New York and Miami. Again, they failed.

At the end of this trip, one of the presidents, the Costa Rican president said, Hey, my country is not ratifying CAFTA unless an independent commission would show that it would not hurt working families and the poor in my country of Costa Rica. So that is not working.

Calling out that we have got to do something about the war on terror and that is why we are doing this agreement, that did not work. Bringing the Central American presidents to the United States, that did not work.

So what is next? The Republican leadership is opening the bank. They are making deals. To my friends on that side of the aisle, they are promising bridges, they are promising highways, they are promising some of the sleaziest deals this Congress has ever seen. They are basically buying votes in this Congress in order to pass the Central American Free Trade Agreement. We saw it in 2002 with fast track authority when the President opened the bank and bought votes then. We are not going to stand for it this time.

Mr. Speaker, what really makes sense instead is a trade policy that lifts workers up in rich and poor countries alike while it is respecting human rights. The United States with its unrivaled purchasing power and its enormous economic clout is in a unique position to help empower poor workers in developing countries while promoting prosperity at home.

Vote "no" on CAFTA. Renegotiate a better agreement.

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.)

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

(Mr. POE 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 Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the time of

the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL).

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

There was no objection.

PREPARE TOMORROW'S PARENTS

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

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the fourth national Prepare Tomorrow's Parents Month, the month between Mother's Day and Father's Day. This month is a time for teachers, parents and youth group leaders nationwide to promote parenting education and relationship skills classes for all young people.

Prepare Tomorrow's Parents Month is being sponsored by a national non-profit organization formed in 1995 called Prepare Tomorrow's Parents. Suzy Garfinkle Chevrier, founder and president of Prepare Tomorrow's Parents, says, "Parenting is not a hobby. It is the most important work most of us will ever do. Let's not leave our grandchildren's future to chance."

Is it not strange, Mr. Speaker, that one of the most important and difficult skills, raising children, goes untaught? Learning parenting skills is vital because the early experiences of children's lives impact their potential for learning and for mental health. We need to create better parents because neglected or abused children are especially prone to perpetuate this cycle when they become adults without resources for healthy parenting.

An alarming number of children are at risk of being abused, neglected or otherwise poorly nurtured by inadequately prepared or nonsupportive parents. Inadequate parenting can contribute to teen pregnancy, depression, addictions, academic failure, delinquency and, later, criminal behavior.

I imagine that the vast majority of adults in the United States believe that parenting and relationship skills should be taught. Yet few students now receive this instruction. School-based parenting education programs can help to prevent future child abuse and work to build healthy children by developing an understanding of child development in future parents and by providing parenting skills such as empathy, listening, problem solving and critical thinking. Regardless of how much detail the young people remember from their classes by the time they become parents, the instruction gives them a deep sense of the reality of parenting, of the sacrifices and demands as well as the joys. Prepare Tomorrow's Parents is a group working towards a society in which every child is well-nurtured and parenting is valued and undertaken by prepared adults.

Parenting education for students is being taught successfully in many schools around the Nation, primarily

through family and consumer science classes, but not enough young people, especially boys, participate in these elective courses. Expanding and requiring these classes will save many more current and future families much heartache. It will help us to help our young people succeed at being parents that will make them, their children and their parents happy, productive and proud.

Finally, establishing parent education classes honors the work of mothers and fathers by teaching our young people what a complex effort it takes to raise a child. As well as learning new skills, they will begin to appreciate more and more the care they have received from their parents.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Prepare Tomorrow's Parents for sponsoring Prepare Tomorrow's Parents Month.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

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

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise truly disappointed at the decision of my colleagues in the other body to negotiate this lose-lose situation for minority and civil rights.

While I appreciate and understand my Senate colleagues and their desire to preserve the Senate tradition and to avoid the nuclear option which their leadership unfortunately threatened to use, I join with Senator FEINGOLD, Chairman WATT and members of the Congressional Black Caucus in saying tonight that the deal that was brokered was a bad one for the American people. In the words of the Congressional Black Caucus today, we said that, one, we strongly oppose the deal that trades judges who oppose our civil rights for a temporary filibuster ceasefire.

This deal is more of a capitulation than a compromise. In fact, one of our Republican friends in the other body stated that she thinks that this deal really does help advance the goal of their majority leader.

This deal allows the right to filibuster only in extraordinary circumstances. There is no question in my mind that the judicial extremism of

Janice Rogers Brown, Priscilla Owen and William Pryor constitute extraordinary circumstances. Nonetheless, the right to filibuster their nominations has been given away. I know that when it comes time to vote on their confirmation, Americans are going to be looking to Senators in both parties to reject them based on their extremist views.

The question I have about this deal is, who will really define what constitutes "extraordinary circumstances"? I believe this deal weakens the filibuster and the principles of dissent and minority rights that it was designed to safeguard. As a minority, as a woman, as a Californian and as an American, the nomination of Janice Rogers Brown to the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit is nothing short of an extraordinary circumstance.

The American public needs to understand that we are not bickering here about peanuts. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit is widely regarded as the second most important court in America, second only to the United States Supreme Court. The court is a stepping stone to the United States Supreme Court. The D.C. Circuit has produced more justices to the Supreme Court than any other circuit court. For the rest of their lives, these judges have the potential to implement policies that affect all of us, not 52 percent or 48 percent, but 100 percent of the American public.

Let us look for a minute at Judge Brown's record. First, she authored an opinion that effectively ended meaningful affirmative action in California. Her opinion was severely criticized both on and off the court for its harsh rhetoric and its suggestion that affirmative action resembled racist and segregationist laws that predated landmark civil rights laws.

She has praised turn-of-the-century U.S. Supreme Court cases declaring maximum hour laws to be unconstitutional and called the decision reversing course and protecting workers the "triumph of our own socialist revolution." I could go on and on about her judicial record, and I hope people take a good look at her record. If this does not constitute extraordinary circumstances, I do not know what will.

Let us look at Justice Pryor's record for just a minute whose nomination was given away in terms of the right to filibuster. Alabama Attorney General William Pryor, nominated for the 11th Circuit, has sought repeal of a critical section of the Voting Rights Act that has proved highly successful in overcoming the historical denial of the right to vote for African Americans.

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He also believes that some rights now protected by the Constitution should be regarded as "social disputes" that would reduce rights that protect minority views to majority votes in the States. As an African American, again,