

manner. And I would hope that, in the rest of the debate, instead of calling them “illegal aliens,” Members would call them what they are, and that is “undocumented workers.”

FIGHTING CHILDHOOD OBESITY

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a young lady from my district who is inspiring her peers to live a healthy lifestyle.

Eleven-year-old Madison Newberry of Lewisville, North Carolina was just like any other kid at Lewisville Elementary School, except that she was never able to fit into a pair of jeans. Madison is one of approximately 15 percent of American children who are overweight.

Yet Madison grew tired of wearing stretch pants. And when her doctor told her she had high cholesterol, she knew it was time to make a lifestyle change.

Madison lost 15 pounds by switching to a healthy diet and exercising. In April of 2004, Subway chose Madison to appear in two nationally televised commercials as part of its childhood obesity prevention campaign. Then in July, 2004, she marched in Washington with Subway spokesperson Jared Fogle to help kick off the restaurant's national childhood obesity program.

Obesity among young Americans is a serious problem that can have serious ramifications in the long run. The number of kids affected by obesity has tripled since 1980, and this can be traced in large part to lack of exercise and a healthy diet. I am proud of Madison Newberry for serving as a positive role model to other kids and look forward to seeing more of her peers follow in her footsteps.

THE WAR ON TERROR AND OFFERING SYMPATHY TO THE PEOPLE OF EGYPT

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as we did just 2 weeks ago and then just 4 days ago on behalf of the people of London to offer them our sympathy for the tragedy of another terrorist attack, I rise today to offer my sympathy to the people of Egypt, who have experienced an enormous tragedy over the last couple of days.

Militant terrorists have terrorized a tourist area where Americans and many others from around the world come in harmony to enjoy summer vacation. This should tell us that we are united and should be united in the war on terror. The war on terror does not have a face, and it does not discriminate. It does not distinguish. It is attacking people of goodwill around the world.

My sympathies to President Mubarak, who stood fast and said that, as the terrorists acted in Egypt, they were going to find them and bring them to justice.

This is the kind of war on terror that we need to join hands with people from around the world. We are not losing the battle, but we need all of the help that we possibly can get; and our focus should be united around those terrorists who do not have country, do not have mind, do not have care, and are attacking people from everywhere all over the world.

We need to stand united against the war on terror.

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SUPPORT ASSOCIATION HEALTH PLANS

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, the number one problem facing small businesses today is the skyrocketing cost of health insurance. Association health plans are a big part of the solution.

I met with many small-business people from my hometown of Orlando, Florida, and they told me that they need association health plans. I believe them, and I will tell you why.

Of the 45 million Americans now without health insurance, 60 percent are small-business employees and their families. They do not have health insurance because their employers cannot afford it. If we allowed these small businesses to join together, they could have the same bargaining power as a large corporation, which could lower their health insurance premiums by up to 30 percent.

Mr. Speaker, association health plans will increase access to health care for millions of Americans now without health insurance.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes on association health plans.

CRITICIZING DRUG LIABILITY PROVISION IN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LEGISLATION

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, this body is scheduled to vote on medical malpractice legislation. This bill contains an egregious provision to protect drug companies from any form of liability.

Why would this Congress protect companies like Merck, who deceived the American public by hiding the side effects of Vioxx? An estimated 139,000 people have had heart attacks as a result of taking Vioxx, and, according to the FDA, 55,000 people have died. I am not aware of any other industry that would receive this type of liability protection just for going through the government approval process.

The fact is that drug companies have made a smart investment. There is no other place in the world that would give them this type of return on their investment but this Congress.

On one side of the screen, Americans are fighting for fairness in the court. On the other side of the screen, Congress is mounting a rear-guard action to protect the pharmaceutical companies.

Mr. Speaker, when Congress takes up this medical malpractice legislation, I will introduce the Vioxx amendment to strike this blatantly beneficial provision just for the drug companies. When the Speaker's gavel comes down, it is intended to open the people's House, not the auction house.

COMMENDING FELLOW CONGRESSMAN CHRIS COX OF CALIFORNIA

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend one of our colleagues, the gentleman from California (Mr. Cox). Tomorrow he will go before the Senate Committee on Financial Services, Housing, and Urban Affairs to have his nomination considered for the Securities and Exchange Commission, and I would like to extend congratulations to him and his family. I have every confidence that in his new capacity, CHRIS will do an excellent job.

CHRIS has made such a positive and lasting impression during his tenure here in the House, and he will be sorely missed.

Since 1988, CHRIS has made countless contributions, especially as the first chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security. In this capacity, he oversaw a momentous and much-needed reorganization of the Nation's security authority.

I feel privileged to have worked with such a distinguished Member of Congress, and I wish him continued success in all of his future endeavors.

THE TIME IS NOW FOR PENSION REFORM

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the time to pass pension reform is now.

Today, with Senator JOHNNY ISAKSON and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WESTMORELAND), I spoke with Delta employees and retirees at the Delta Pension Reform Support Day in Atlanta. The sense of urgency for a solution to our Nation's pension crisis could not have been more evident.

In the face of high fuel costs and a post-9/11 world, financial losses continue to hinder legacy airline carriers' ability to fully fund their pension plans. Having airlines keep their commitments to their employees and not burden taxpayers is what this is all about.