

Who received the half trillion, and we're talking about \$500 billion, that the Federal Reserve handed over to foreign central banks? Whom did they disseminate that money to?

And he said, I don't know.

Half a trillion dollars and he doesn't know.

It's long overdue. We need to audit the Federal Reserve, and I am happy to say that we're going to have a hearing on that very soon.

LET'S GET BACK TO THE BUSINESS OF CONGRESS

(Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, over the past several years we repeatedly hear politicians during debate using increasingly harsh words. Verbal attacks are rewarded with sound bites on the evening news and a bump in polling numbers, public profile, and fund-raising. Then like Pavlov's dog, we salivate at the next opportunity for a verbal attack. But to what end?

If there is anywhere that decorum in debate has a place, it is in the Chamber of the House of Representatives, with respectful discourse. When we focus only on the anger, we lose legitimacy as thoughtful legislators. We are tasked with maintaining a standard of cooperation and civility rather than insult and hostility. Both sides, both parties, all of us, must focus on changing for the better and set the example for our country, for the public, and for our people.

During this session of Congress alone, over a dozen resolutions have been brought up to attack, embarrass, and deride Members of Congress. In the meantime our Nation is faced with unemployment in record numbers, an ailing stock market, a health care crisis, growing debt, and two wars. That is the work of Congress. That is what the American people want us to address. Anything less is unacceptable. Period.

Let's all stop the name-calling and shouting. We've got work to do.

RECOGNIZING CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF MINNESOTA

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, as part of Children's Cancer Awareness Month, I rise to call attention to the innovative work of Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota.

Each year in the United States, there are approximately 12,400 children who will develop cancer before their 20th birthday. Children's Hospital is helping to combat cancer by embracing a simple motto: "better journey, better outcomes." They believe that the more you can help a child by simply being a kid during treatment, the more likely the cancer will be defeated.

Children's Integrative Medicine Program treats children dealing with all types of illnesses and injuries, bringing together the best therapies to help kids and their families. Most importantly, Children's gets results. Their treatment results are consistently among the best in the Nation.

Finding out a child has cancer is a terrifying moment for any family. I am proud to recognize that an institution that is working so hard to bring new approaches and a unique philosophy to families facing this terrible disease is successful in helping children get back to living their lives cancer-free.

TIME TO GET DOWN TO THE BUSINESS OF CONGRESS

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

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I just heard my friend from Pennsylvania (Mr. TIM MURPHY) talk about the business that really does involve the House, involve the Nation, and really the world, and it's time to get down to business, stop the name-calling, and proceed with the difficult chores we have at hand.

I couldn't agree with him more, and I thank him for his 1-minute.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

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

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

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

COUNTRIES REFUSE TO TAKE BACK LAWFULLY DEPORTED FOREIGN NATIONALS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, America needs to do a better job of protecting our borders. It is the job of the Federal Government to do so. And the Federal Government must do a better job of keeping criminals out in the first place.

The Federal Government needs to make sure we deport foreign nationals

after they have served their time and after they've been convicted in American prisons.

But there is a problem and let me explain. Right now foreign nationals who commit serious crimes in our country and are convicted and go to our prisons, while they are in prison, they are lawfully deported by our immigration judges. That's a good thing. And after they have served their time, of course, it's time for them to go back to where they came from.

But right now there are several countries that won't take back lawfully convicted foreign nationals. Those countries are Vietnam, Jamaica, China, India, Ethiopia, Laos, and Iran. These countries won't take back their convicted criminals. These individuals are really people without a country. So what happens to them? Because they have served their time in our Federal and State prisons for felonies, they are actually released back into our communities. They are people without a country.

Right now there are over 160,000 of these criminal aliens roaming our Nation and our streets. These people have been lawfully deported after they've served their prison time, but their home nation refuses to take them back.

So I am introducing legislation that will plug up this loophole. My bill will make it a lot more likely they will go back where they came from. This bill says that any country who won't take back lawfully convicted foreign nationals who have been deported will lose foreign aid. But China, for example, doesn't receive foreign aid; so what will happen to China is they will not receive legal visas for their citizens to come into the United States.

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No more student visas for China if they won't take back their convicted criminals that have been deported. None whatsoever.

The current law says the State Department may deny visas under these circumstances, but the State Department seems to refuse to send individuals back to their lawfully deported countries because, I guess, China, for example, is a trading partner and they don't want to hurt the feelings of China.

My bill won't allow the State Department to ignore that portion of the law. Therefore, it will be mandatory. If they refuse to take back convicted foreign nationals, that nation will lose the right to come here legally. We need to make sure that these individuals don't come here in the first place, especially the criminal element. All sorts of dangerous things are coming across our wide-open borders. The possibilities are endless for what could be just walking across our southern border.

We know about the human and sex trafficking, the drugs, the guns, the dirty money and the like. But what about chemical and biological or nuclear materials? Do we know? Well, we

really don't know. We live in a dangerous world, and the criminal cartels that run loose on the southern border to me are just as dangerous to this Nation as the Taliban, and they are just as ruthless. Right now, they are in our own backyard.

In Texas, we are doing what we can on our own. Last week, the Governor of the State sent the Texas Rangers down to the southern border. They are being deployed in high traffic, high crime areas. The Governor has asked the National Guard to support the Texas Rangers. The Highway Patrol, the Department of Public Safety, aviation resources, and the Texas sheriffs are all part of this team to prevent the criminal element from coming into the United States. But our local law enforcement is overwhelmed, so the Federal Government needs to get its priorities straight.

Recently, at one of my town halls in August, talking about health care, an individual showed up and people in that town hall recognized who he was. His name was Ignacio Ramos. He and his wife, Monica, came just to appear at that town hall. When individuals in that town hall saw who he was, they stood, Mr. Speaker, for over 5 minutes and applauded the work of Ignacio Ramos and his partner and the work that they had done on the southern border of Texas. He and his partner, Jose Compean, were U.S. Border Patrol officers jailed for shooting a Mexican drug dealer. Their sentences were commuted, and properly so, by the prior administration. But it shows, Mr. Speaker, that our Federal Government doesn't have its priorities in order. They have them backwards.

One of the few things that our Constitution actually requires the Federal Government to do is to protect the national security of this Nation. Border security is a national security issue, and foreign criminals that have committed crimes in this Nation and been lawfully deported should be sent back home. We should do the obvious things first when it comes to national security. If a foreign national commits a felony in the United States and is deported but the home nation refuses to take back its outlaw, that country should lose foreign aid and the legal right to have its citizens come into the United States under our visa program.

And that's just the way it is.

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

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

THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF ACORN WARRANTED

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. Mr. Speaker, I am only going to speak for about a minute because I am going to be a little bit redundant.

The last couple of nights we have been talking about the ACORN organization. The ACORN organization over the past couple of decades got, you know, 30, 40, 50 million dollars for their services, quote/unquote. Now in the last authorization and appropriation bills, they have gotten \$8.5 billion, and this is an organization in just the last couple of weeks we found has been corrupt. They have been extolling the virtues of setting up a prostitution ring with young women coming into the country or being brought into the country illegally. And it is caught on television. It is caught on tapes.

It is really tragic that an organization like that should have any amount of legitimacy, let alone get taxpayers' dollars.

Tonight, I come here for a minute to say we need a thorough investigation of ACORN and why they have been authorized to get up to \$8.5 billion in taxpayers' money for the services that they perform. There is something funny going on here, and a lot of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have been reluctant to move towards an investigation. And the White House hasn't said much about this. I think probably because the President was the beneficiary of a lot of support from the ACORN organization when he was running for President.

Nevertheless, this should be investigated very thoroughly. We should not have a corrupt organization, known to be corrupt, proven to be corrupt. You see it every night on television. We should make sure that they don't get one dime of taxpayer dollars, and since they have been getting this money and we have authorized \$8.5 billion more for them to be able to utilize, there needs to be an investigation.

Now, the leader, the Republican leader of the House, has authored a letter which has been signed by many Members of the minority. I would urge Members on the majority side of the aisle to join with us in signing that letter requesting an investigation. This is something that should be done. It should not be postponed. We should get to the bottom of why ACORN got this money and why they have been doing what they have been doing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

PRAYER IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday of this week in the United States District Court of Northern Virginia, in Florida, Pensacola Division, a principal who served his school district for 30 years and an athletic director who served them for 40 years in a little school district in Santa Rosa County will be carried to a hearing in Federal court.

So why did over 60 Members of Congress today sign the letter standing with that principal and that athletic director and against this Federal judge? Why is it different than so many other cases? Why is it special? Because, Mr. Speaker, it is one of the first times we have literally had the potential for the criminalization of prayer in the United States of America.

What was the big crime that this principal and athletic director did? What was the great offense? This school principal, with 30 years of service, asked the athletic director of the school, who had 40 years of service, to offer a blessing before a meal that was being held for private donors to the school's athletic program.

The Federal judge for this court has set a date for this Thursday, suggesting that they could be punished with a \$5,000 fine, 6 months in prison, and the revocation of their retirement benefits. Why? Because one of them prayed. Why? Because one of them asked for the prayer. In fact, under the order issued by this judge in this court, this principal would not have been able to ask the President of the United States to speak at the school if the President concluded his speech, as he often does, with the phrase "God bless America."

If this action is allowed to stand, make no mistake, there will come a day when the Speaker of this House will be hauled into Federal court and threatened with jail because she dares to stand at that podium where you stand tonight and ask our chaplain to start our day with the prayer.

If this case stands, there will come a day when that chaplain is carried to court and threatened with jail because he offers that prayer he is asked to offer.

How far we've come from the day when 56 of the greatest Americans ever birthed pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to defend a set of rights that ultimately gave us the right to stand on this floor tonight, a set of rights that have guided this Nation through darkness and through the light. But most of all, a set of rights given to us by the very Creator, the mention of whom by this principal or this athletic director could now lead them to a jail term.

Mr. Speaker, tonight we need to ask how far we have come. And if we do, the answer is clear: Too far. It is time for Americans to simply say enough is enough.