changes to the Social Security earnings test which will stop punishing older Americans who are contributing to society.

I urge the other 314 Members of Congress to join us in supporting the Senior Citizens Equity Act.

GIVING THE GOVERNMENT BACK TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was a triumph for the American people and the House of Representatives. We accomplished something that has been rarely accomplished in the past. We kept our promises that we made to the American people. Working with a bipartisan coalition we passed on the floor rules to cut committees and staff, ban proxy voting, term limits for chairmen of committees, and limitations on tax increases.

We started a revolution to give the government back to the American people, a smaller, more effective government that is accountable to them, the American taxpayer. I look forward to continuing our bipartisan work to pass the rest of the Contract With America. It is what we promised the American people we would do. It is a promise we are going to keep.

FREQUENT FLYER MILES REFORM

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

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Good morning, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, we had a good start to our legislative session yesterday when we passed the Congressional Accountability Act, but we missed an important opportunity because we did not pass the important ban on personal use of frequent flyer miles. Now why did we not pass this important ban?

Well, several weeks ago the new incoming Speaker, NEWT GINGRICH, said this is a Mickey Mouse issue. Well, the new Speaker is correct drawing on Walt Disney for some of his analogies, but he is choosing the wrong character. The character he should be choosing is Goofy because it is just downright goofy for anyone to suggest that elected Members of Congress can use frequent flyer miles that are paid for by taxpayers to take vacations around this country or even overseas. The American people want reform, but they do not want the Members of this House to use frequent flyer miles for their own vacations.

Mr. Speaker, if new Members are interested in reform in this House, this is a reform that should take place, and it should take place immediately. I yield back the balance of my time.

CLEANING UP OUR ACT

(Mr. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday truly was a historic day in America's history. After 40 years of Democratic control, we finally began to make the process of this institution truly the people's House. Joining this congressional revolution, which began with nine major reforms, I stand here honored, humbled, and grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of Nebraska and the American people.

The American people spoke last November, and we are listening. They said, ''Cut government spending, cut taxes, quit being overly intrusive in our lives, and clean up your act.''

Well, before we cut spending, cut taxes and get government off of America's back, we began the process of cleaning up our own act. Specifically we passed two measures making Congress both more accountable and more open. We limited the terms of committee chairs. We opened up congressional hearings to C–SPAN cameras, the media and the public.

It was a historic first day. There is much to be done, Mr. Speaker, but I look forward to the continued success of this House and making it the people's House once again.

IT WAS A GOOD START

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

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we truly did get off to a good start. We began fulfilling many of the promises to reform this Congress and to do what the American people have asked us to do, and we did it in a bipartisan fashion.

Yes, there are a few detractors who are trying to point to what could have been done in addition yesterday, but there are very few that we will hear who will criticize the reforms that were put into place yesterday, and it was a good start.

And what those few detractors do not point out is that the gift ban has been committed to as an issue that will come forward and will be addressed in this Congress. Yet the way the vote was structured yesterday, had we voted to support the motions that were made, they would have stalled the critical reforms that we did put into place. They would have stalled the term limits that were put into place on our committee chairmen, and our Speaker and other leadership. They would have stalled the effort to require rollcall votes on spending and taxing measures every time. They would have stalled the effort to reduce the ability of this Congress to continue to raise taxes on the American people. They would have stalled the effort to eliminate the budget gimmicks.

We had a good start yesterday. Let us continue in the bipartisan fashion we made.

DISMANTLING THE IDIOCRACY OF UNFUNDED MANDATES

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago today I announced my candidacy to represent the Sixth District of Arizona.

During these past 365 days, I have listened and learned a lot traveling the width and breadth of the district that in square mileage is the size of the State of Tennessee.

One recurring and overwhelming sentiment shared by my constituents is an absolute repudiation of unfunded Federal mandates.

In fact, one mayor in my district has coined an interesting term for the entire process of oppressive overregulation—he now calls the Federal bureaucracy the idiocracy.

It is estimated that this idiocracy will cost State and local governments nearly $16 billion in 1995 alone. That comes at the expense of my children's future, the prosperity of the hard-working men and women of my district, and commonsense governance.

During these next 99 days, we have a historic opportunity to restore—the Jeffersonian ideal of a limited and frugal federal Government as we enact our Contract With America. Let us work together to dismantle the idiocracy.

ABORTION CLINIC KILLINGS

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

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness, but with great outrage. Two more people have lost their lives because they work at abortion clinics. They were simply doing their job, and it was legal; yet lawlessness again prevailed, and another tragedy has occurred.

I want to make it clear abortion is legal in this country, but murder is illegal and immoral. This violence is a coordinated effort. It is led by anti-abortion extremists throughout the country, and unfortunately experts in my home State of Oregon say that it, Oregon, is a communication hub for fanning the flames of violence.

In the last Congress I fought to pass the freedom of access to clinic entrances bill, which is now the law, and I call upon the law enforcement communities of this country to make sure that those who are exercising their legal right to work in abortion clinics and to have access to abortion, those rights must be protected. We must in this House set aside our partisan differences and protect our citizens.