

OFFERING PARTNERSHIP IN REFORM

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

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, we surely all learned during our campaigns that the American people, whether they are Republican, Democrat, or Independent, have the willingness to become involved in the energetic give and take of public debate. We saw that same energy on this floor for 13 hours yesterday come forth from both sides of the aisle. But when we looked at the final tally on that scoreboard up there, we had the support of our Democrat colleagues for our contract with the people of this country.

Let me say, you can pick apart what we could not do yesterday. We can pick apart what you did not do when you had ample time over a period of years. However, that is not the direction that the people of this country want. There is time left to do other good things for the citizens of our country.

We extend to this side of the aisle not a right hand, but both hands, for you to involve yourself with us for a partnership down the road to make other necessary changes for a better way of life for the people of this great country.

IT IS PAST TIME FOR AN AUDIT OF THE HOUSE

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

Mr. BROWBACK. Mr. Speaker, what a great day it was for America yesterday, and for this farmboy from Parker, KS. We put in place a number of reform initiatives that needed to take place. I was delighted to carry the bill to do a complete audit of the House of Representatives. It passed, 430 to 1. I say that is unanimous bipartisan support. I am going to look for the one guy that did not agree to vote for this particular bill.

One other thing that I was amazed and very saddened and mad about was the fact that this institution has never been audited before. Can Members imagine any business, any not-for-profit entity, any agency that has never been audited?

In the history of this institution it has not been done, not in the past 40 years, not in the past 50 years, not in the past 5 years.

What is going to happen? We are going to make this place accountable to the American people, and we are going to tell the American people how the assets have been used and where the dollars have been spent. So keep watching as we reveal and we open the doors to the people's House.

REFORM PROCESS SHOULD INCLUDE BAN OF LOBBYIST GIFTS

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

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, last night this House proclaimed its intentions to pursue a course of reform. Member after Member asserted they were acting on the will of the people and taking the lead to change the way we do business.

Fair enough, but let us not stop, let us not recess, but move on and tackle the issues which the people of the 25th District desire to be addressed—a lobbyist gift ban and campaign finance reform. My constituents want to change business as usual—end free trips, curb the influence of special interests, reform campaign finance, and stop the money chase. You cannot have one without the other.

I just defeated a man who spent \$3 million of his own money. As long as we engage in a bidding war for campaign dollars, we shall never be free from the influence of outside interests. To quote Willie Nelson, "We came to play, not just for the ride." Let us stay and do the job to reform campaign finance and ban lobbyist gifts.

HISTORIC CONGRESSIONAL REFORMS: THE FIRST STEP IN RESTORING AMERICA'S TRUST AND FAITH IN CONGRESS

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

Mr. LONGLEY. Yesterday was a great day for this country. We instituted nine historic reforms in our congressional revolution, and we have begun a journey of restoring trust and confidence in the American Government.

I am especially pleased with our passage requiring super majorities to raise taxes. For too long it has been too easy to raise taxes and spend the people's money, and in fact the budget process has been rigged in favor of tax increases rather than spending cuts.

Yesterday on the floor of this House I sat with my 6-year-old daughter and my 10-year-old son. We are not only taxing our families to death today, but we are spending our children's money today, that they will be forced to repay tomorrow. That must be stopped. I look forward to continuing our work to earn the trust of all Americans.

CALLING FOR FULL DISCLOSURE ON GOPAC FOR TRUE CONGRESSIONAL OPENNESS

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the new 104th Congress launched a new

beginning, a new spirit of openness. In the name of that spirit of openness I am calling on Speaker GINGRICH to make a full disclosure of not only all of the contributors to his multi million-dollar GOPAC, but also a full disclosure of the contributors to the Progress and Freedom Foundation.

This foundation enjoys preferential Federal tax treatment. The foundation raised \$1.6 million in 1993 and 1994 from 95 donors. Over \$400,000 from this foundation went to pay for the Speaker's college courses.

This morning the Roll Call newspaper, published in Washington, DC, has a front page story about contributions made to the Progress and Freedom Foundation by a biomedical company which then asked for help from the Speaker's office in terms of approval for a new home AIDS test with the FDA.

I think it is time for the Speaker to really fully disclose what is behind the Progress and Freedom Foundation and GOPAC. In this new spirit of openness the Speaker should open the books on both of these organizations. That I think would launch a real new beginning, real new openness, and full disclosure.

THE MOST PRODUCTIVE FIRST DAY IN CONGRESSIONAL HISTORY

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

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, in our Contract With America, my Republican colleagues and I promised that on the first day of the 104th Congress we would make dramatic changes in the way Congress does business.

Yesterday, during my first day as a new Representative from North Carolina's Fifth Congressional District, we kept our word. We voted to make Congress live under the laws it imposed on the rest of the country, to cut congressional committee staffs by one-third, and to limit the term of committee chairmen, and yes, the Speaker of the House.

Our first day in office was the most productive first day in congressional history, and I was encouraged that many of the reforms were supported by Republicans and Democrats alike.

During the next 99 days and throughout the next 2 years we now face the challenge of passing the reforms demanded by my constituents and by all the American people. The American people want and deserve the reforms. Today I urge my colleagues to join me in fulfilling the wish of the American people.

WHO WAS HELPED AND WHO WAS HURT AFTER FIRST DAY'S ACTIONS?

(Mrs. CLAYTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, we worked from yesterday until early this morning. We now have nothing to do on the floor for the next couple of weeks. At the end of each day, I believe it is important to be honest and to ask the question: Who was helped and who was hurt by what we did?

Do not get me wrong, Mr. Speaker, we passed important reforms, many of which Democrats had pushed last Congress.

But, who did we help, and who did we hurt? The jobless remain unemployed. Those without health care still don't have it. Our young have no new direction. The chill of winter is certain to claim the lives of some homeless people. And, no hope was given to small farmers.

We have been asked to meet the challenge of change, but what did we change on day one and day two of this Congress? I ask my colleagues in the majority, what did we do to reinforce families? What did we do to restore the American dream? What did we do last night to take back our streets? Who did we help?

I would suggest that when it is summed up, all we did was make a move for news; those suffering citizens got nothing.

A GOOD BEGINNING TO CONGRESSIONAL REFORM

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

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was a beginning. We ended Congress' special exemption from the laws that they have passed for others. We reduced committees and subcommittees and committee staff. We determined that budgets should be done with zero baselines, with honest numbers. We opened up the House books.

Most of these bills passed with bipartisan support. It was the beginning of keeping promises that were made. I look forward to working with my Democratic colleagues to balance the budget and to reform the welfare state. This way we can keep our promises and our Contract With America.

A CALL TO ADDRESS THE REAL NEEDS

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

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I think it was Emerson who said, "If we make our Deal with life for a penny and we get no more, then there's no one to blame except ourselves." There was a lot of motion yesterday, but very little action on the issues that affect the heartland of our Nation.

I would like to compliment the majority on a day in which they accomplished what they set out to do and ask

them to raise their vision slightly now to focus on the real problems of our land. Let us spend 13 hours on how to create jobs in this country, how to provide training and opportunity so Americans can come to work and earn a decent wage.

We all started a new job yesterday. There are some Americans, millions of them, who do not have a job to go to. Before we pat ourselves on the back too much, let us look now at the real needs of this Nation, and as those who have been given the tremendous responsibility to help shape the future of this land, let us now dedicate our work and our actions to those issues.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DAY MAKES

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

Mr. CHRYSLER. What a difference a day makes, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday was a great and historic day for the American people and the House. Yesterday was all about promises made and promises kept.

We were sent a strong message in November. The people want less government, lower taxes, they want to let people keep more of what they earn and save and they want to let people make their own decisions about how they spend their money, not government. They want a government that works for them and not against them.

We fulfilled the first part of our Contract With America with an overwhelming bipartisan coalition and we will continue to work in a bipartisan fashion to pass the rest of the Contract With America in the next 99 days.

I was proud to be part of the beginning of this historic revolution and to keep my promises to create a new agenda for Congress and a new direction for America.

A POSITIVE FIRST STEP

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

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, all too often politicians make promises, but don't keep them. That is in large part the cause of cynicism among the American people about their government institutions.

Last night and early this morning, the American people witnessed monumental change in the House of Representatives as we kept our promises. With votes from both sides of the aisle we began to deliver on the Contract With America.

It was a first step to restore the bonds of trust between the American people and all of us, their elected representatives. By changing the very way this institution operates—cutting committees, cutting staff, banning ghost voting, auditing the House books, and using honest budgeting we have set a

positive tone for fulfilling the rest of our promises during the next 99 days.

DELIVERING ON PROMISED REFORM

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

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was truly a historic day. For me it was a personal privilege to represent the people of the Fourth Congressional District of Arizona and to be here with my 9-year-old son and my 13-year-old daughter. Yesterday was historic for many reasons. We set the tone for a very different U.S. Congress. We proved that the American people asked to trust us and that we could be trusted, that we promised reforms and that we delivered on those reforms.

The people in my district thought it an outrage that the laws we impose on the rest of America do not apply to the Congress. Yesterday we applied those laws to the U.S. Congress. The people of America thought it an outrage that our committee and our committee staffs had grown bloated and oversized and we cut those committees and we cut those committee staffs. We began the premise and the process of fulfilling the promises we had made to the American people. In the next 99 days, we will carry forward real reforms, reforms which will truly change the lives of Americans.

I invite the people of the Nation to look in and to join us in this great and historic process.

THE POWER OF GOOD IDEAS

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

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the House made an excellent start in holding this body accountable to the people, cutting its costs. What particularly impressed me about what happened yesterday was the strong bipartisan majorities that supported most, if not all, of the measures that were brought before the House.

The following measures and many others as well passed by unanimous or near unanimous votes: Substantial cuts in committee staff, an independent auditor to examine the books of the House, banning of proxy voting, congressional compliance, that this body would finally be brought under the same laws that it has passed for everyone else.

Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, what we heard was the sound of gridlock breaking. It was broken not by partisanship or by arm-twisting but by the power of good ideas. I look forward to the power of good ideas dominating in this House for the next 100 days, substantial support from both sides of the aisle toward an agenda that brings this body back to the people of the United States.