

This crime package is anticrime and fat free. Not propork.

Mr. Speaker, after the crime package is complete, we will move on to welfare reform and regulatory reform and one of the passions of mine, legal reform, that we will also be pursuing. We will not stop until our Contract With America is complete.

The 104th Congress is all about change and returning this place back to the people and to the States where it rightfully belongs.

PARTY POLITICS

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

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, the debate on the crime bill is a choice between the President's 100,000 cops program and the Republican's pork "do whatever you want with the money" program for the States. Republicans are putting politics over public safety. They want to dismantle the community police program that our cities and small towns and our police officers need to fight crime.

They want to deny the President the credit he deserves for a program that has great support among America's police officers, has already provided 17,000 new police officers in 4 months, has benefited small towns. Just last week the Justice Department announced that 6,500 small towns have gotten 7,100 new police officers, no matter how small the town.

Mr. Speaker, it takes one page to fill out an application for a police officer and a decision can be made in less than 4 weeks.

Mr. Speaker, let us put cops over pork.

BLOCK GRANTS

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

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, today we will continue to consider the most critical element in the contract's anticrime bill regarding block grants. The choice before us is a simple one. Who are the most effective crime fighters? The Washington politicians or our local police officers?

Some House Democrats believe they are the best crime fighters. That is why in last year's alleged crime bill, they mandated that billions of dollars go to social welfare programs under the guise of prevention. House Republicans have a different view. We believe that local police officials know their own communities better than we do and they know how to fight crime better in these communities and in the most effective manner. That is why we have designed a block grant proposal that gives these police officers the best chance to fight crime.

Our friends on the other side of the aisle will claim that our proposal will mean fewer cops on the beat. Nothing could be further from the truth. I believe that our program will probably mean more funds go for more police officers on the front lines fighting crime.

I urge my colleagues to vote in support of our local police forces by voting for the crime bill on the floor today.

COMMUNITY POLICING

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am sure everybody is confused. They have to be. Who is the best crime fighter in America today? None of us know. But there are a couple things that I know from experience that I had in chairing a public safety committee in the county legislature.

One of the things that happened when the pressure really got on the local budgets, they cut back on the police force and decided to patrol neighborhoods in police cars with windows up driving down the streets. We know that that has not worked. And one of the things that the crime bill that we passed here last year is trying to do is to readdress that.

There is one way to fight crime. It requires the people who live in the neighborhood to be involved. It requires that there be police in the neighborhood, on the street, in their shops, a policeman that they know, a person they go to, someone who pays attention, looks after heir children, the kind of community policing we used to do in this country.

If we revert all the money and put it into prisons, it is not going to make us one wit safer on the street. We have been in an absolute orgy of jail and prison building which has not helped. Someone has got to be on the street to police it, to prevent the crime and to catch the perpetrators. I hope that we will maintain the 100,000 policemen on the street.

TRIBUTE AND THANK YOU TO VETERANS

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

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, last week the Paralyzed Veterans of America were in town, and I attended the reception they hosted. I hope many of my colleagues did as well. The reception room was filled with paralyzed veterans confined to wheelchairs. But as I spoke with North Carolinian Cater Cornwell and the other paralyzed vets, I heard not one veteran who was griping, not one who was complaining. All were smiling and pleasantly welcoming us to their reception.

As I was leaving the reception, a veteran said to me from his wheelchair, "You Congressmen deserve praise for what you do."

I looked around the reception room and the paralyzed veterans therein and with a tear in my eye, I replied, "No, sir, it is you and your fellow members of the PVA who are most deserving of praise."

Let us not casually dismiss the sacrifices made for us by the Paralyzed Veterans of America.

MORE PRISONS

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

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise and ask the American people to take a look at what has been done today in Congress. We want to make sure that we will continue to put cops on the street where they belong, where they can be of use.

Our dear friends on the Republican side have decided to change the bill that we passed last year. For some reason they do not like the idea of 100,000 cops on the street, patrolling, being where they are supposed to be.

They intend to warehouse people for the next 100 years. So what they are going to do? They are going to build prisons. They are going to build prisons and build prisons. In fact, they are going to create a new industry just to build prisons. Building prisons, building prisons.

And what is going to happen? We are going to have to have guards. In Alabama, we built three prisons in 5 years. It took us 7 years to get enough money to open the last two, because we did not have the money for the guards and for the food.

I submit to my colleagues that the Republican bill is off track. It will cost more money than the bill we passed last year, and it is bad.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BE-REUTER). The Chair announces that under the order of the day, only two more Members will be recognized on each side of the aisle.

HONORING THE U.S.S. "SANTA FE"

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

Mr. FLANAGAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the captain of the ship, Comdr. James Fordice, and the officers and crew of the U.S.S. *Santa Fe* a *Los Angeles*-class, fast attack submarine. Ten days ago I had the opportunity to develop an understanding and respect for this Nation's "silent service" by spending time aboard

the U.S.S. *Santa Fe* as it cruised off the coast of our eastern shore.

Mr. Speaker, the role of submarines has become an essential asset to the national security of the United States. In today's world of regional conflicts and crises, the presence of forward deployed U.S. submarines has given us the leading edge in deterrence and quick response.

The crew of the U.S.S. *Santa Fe* knows how important their role is in service to our free country. I was truly impressed by their patriotism, skill and professionalism. The display of unparalleled excellence which I observed aboard the U.S.S. *Santa Fe* is a model for others to aspire to.

I wish to specifically recognize for their leadership the ship's executive officer, Lt. Comdr. Douglas Smith and Command Master Chief Robert Brown, the chief of the boat. Furthermore, I would like to recognize those officers and crew who briefed me on their areas of the ship concerning their duties and responsibilities.

To all of the officers and crew of the U.S.S. *Santa Fe*, I say "thank you"—not only for your hospitality, but for your service as ever-watchful guardians of the United States of America.

HUMANITARIAN AND CORRIDOR ACT

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

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, today, I join my colleagues, Representatives JOSEPH KENNEDY and CHRISTOPHER SMITH in introducing the Humanitarian Aid Corridor Act.

This bill would withhold U.S. assistance to any country which blocks the delivery of congressional approved U.S. humanitarian assistance to another country.

The need for this legislation, Mr. Speaker, is clear. It is a serious threat to the integrity of American foreign policy when any nation—especially one that is also a recipient of U.S. aid—forces our Government to waste taxpayers' money on transportation costs instead of putting that money toward the humanitarian goods specified for delivery.

Let me site a specific case: Since April 1993, our ally, Turkey, has closed its border to all cargo, including United States humanitarian assistance, going to the land-locked Republic of Armenia.

Because of this blockade, America is forced to ship its aid around Turkey, through the Black Sea, to ports in war-torn Georgia.

The closing of the Turkish border to United States assistance meant for Armenia has slowed delivery of this aid, skyrocketed transportation costs, and in some cases caused the loss of aid to thieves and saboteurs.

Allowing our allies to deny U.S. humanitarian assistance to people in need discredits our Nation's foreign aid program, results in in-

efficient use of U.S. taxpayers' money, and ultimately sets a precedent for abuse by other nations.

I ask my colleagues to support the Humanitarian Aid Corridor Act, and to ensure that U.S. humanitarian assistance will not be exploited for political purposes.

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

(Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today is the 75th anniversary of League of Women Voters. Created in 1920, in anticipation of passage of the 19th amendment, the league was created as a nonpartisan organization to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens, both men and women, in government.

I am proud to have been a member and president of my local League of Women Voters in Johnson County, KS, before I served on the Overland Park City Council, the Kansas Legislature or the U.S. Congress. It was an education.

The league gave me a grounding in a wide variety of issues, encouraging me and women like me to become more than silent bystanders. The league has a proud legacy which I am honored to acknowledge from the floor of this people's House.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. SMITH].

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me.

The Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek, MI, the director is leaving, Russ Mauby. I would like to acknowledge him. There are Kellogg farmers in the gallery today, and I would just like to say we appreciate them being there.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BEREUTER). Members should not refer to people in the gallery. That is inappropriate.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, on this day 75 years ago, the League of Women Voters was formally established. The League of Women Voters of Rhode Island grew out of the Rhode Island Equal Suffrage Association and was organized on October 8, 1920. The first year was spent uniting all suffrage groups in Rhode Island and recruiting new members.

In the league's second year, units were set up in most Rhode Island communities in order for women to con-

duct study meetings and take local action. Some of the issues the league got involved in at the time were the child labor Law, equal pay for equal work, and equalization of educational and economic opportunities.

In 1945, a move was begun to make units into independent local leagues and with that leagues were born all over the State of Rhode Island, including in Providence, Newport, South Kingston, Narragansett, Barrington, East Providence, and Bristol.

Mr. Speaker, in Rhode Island the league has worked along with other groups, and it is important that today we recognize their efforts.

□ 1130

LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANTS ACT OF 1995

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BEREUTER). Pursuant to House Resolution 79 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 728.

□ 1131

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 728) to control crime by providing law enforcement block grants, with Mr. GUNDERSON in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Monday, February 13, 1995, the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] had been disposed of, and the bill was open for amendment at any point.

Five hours and twenty minutes remain for consideration of amendments under the 5-minute rule.

Are there any further amendments to the bill?

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MCCOLLUM

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Is the amendment printed in the RECORD?

Mr. MCCOLLUM. The amendment is not printed in the RECORD, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. MCCOLLUM: On page 10, line 20, strike "45" and insert "20".

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, this is a simple and pretty much technical amendment. Under the bill as written, the chief executive officer of every State has not less than 45 days to review and comment on an application for a grant submitted to the director. We would like to change that. This amendment changes that to 20 days.

We have no basis for wanting the States to have any more time than necessary to delay the possible getting