

our promise; unfunded mandates legislation—we kept our promise; line-item veto—we kept our promise; a new crime package to stop violent criminals—we kept our promise; national security restoration to protect our freedoms—we kept our promise.

And here is what remains to be done in the next 50 days, Government regulatory reform; welfare reform to encourage work, not dependence; family reinforcement to crack down on dead-beat dads and protect our children; tax cuts for middle income families; Senior Citizens Equity Act to allow our seniors to work without Government penalty; commonsense legal reform to end frivolous lawsuits, and congressional terms limits to make Congress a citizen legislature.

This is our Contract With America.

#### WELFARE REFORM

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, the Contract With America was just read to us. And it is rather incredible that in the provision dealing with welfare reform, the Republicans have no requirement in their bill either that the States provide the ability of people on welfare to go from welfare to work, but providing job opportunities, job training, or employment or that a person who is on welfare not have to do something in the way of work to receive that check. That was pointed out by the minority leader, the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT] the other day in a press conference that what the Democrats want to do is move somebody from welfare to work, but the Republicans and the Governors have no requirement that people go to work.

I am delighted to read today in the press that the subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. SHAW] is now considering whether or not the Republicans will try to define a work condition in their bill realizing that what the American taxpayers want is people to go to work for the assistance they receive and what welfare recipients want is a job, not a check.

So I wish the Republicans well. If they cannot come up with one, maybe they can adopt the Democratic substitute that will move people from welfare to work.

#### THE NATIONAL LANGUAGE ACT

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

Mr. KING. Madam Speaker, for the first 180 years of our Nation, immigrants who came to this country were encouraged to maintain their identity, their culture, their religious beliefs, their traditions. Just as importantly, they were encouraged to learn to speak the English language. This was the

glue that bound us together as a nation. This was the common theme that all of us shared as Americans.

However, for the past 25 years, our social engineers in Washington have actually been encouraging people not to learn English. We have billions of dollars being spent on bilingual education. We have citizenship ceremonies being conducted in languages other than English. We have signs in government buildings in languages other than English.

That is why today, Madam Speaker, I am introducing the National Language Act which will declare English to be the official language of this country. This will require all government publications to be in English. It would end bilingual education. It would end bilingual voting ballots, and it would require all government business to be transacted in English.

In doing this, I intend to work with such distinguished Members of this body as the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. ROTH], the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. EMERSON], the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE], who have similar type legislation so that we can work together to restore the American dream of all immigrants and allow them to become part of American society.

#### CONTRACT SILENT ON MIDDLE-CLASS ISSUES

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

Mr. BONIOR. Madam Speaker, tomorrow when people are passing out the grades for the first 50 days of this Congress, ask yourselves this question: How can it be that we have met for 50 days and cast nearly 150 votes and yet we have not passed a single amendment that addresses jobs, incomes, health care, education, or job training?

Madam Speaker, these issues are central to the lives of working middle-class families. Yet the Contract on America has been silent on each and every one of these issues. Instead, the Republicans in this House have voted to pull 100,000 police officers off the street, protect free gifts from lobbyists, slash Social Security and Medicare, and they have even tried to add another \$50 billion to star wars.

In their rush to extremism, the Gingrich Revolution seems to have forgotten the values of working middle-class families. And their contract has not made a dime's worth of difference on these issues that really matter to people.

#### PRAISE FOR THE 104TH CONGRESS

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

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, each weekend, when I am back in my district, I am always pleasantly amazed at the positive comments people share

with me concerning Congress. The voters are pleased that we are finally acting on our promises and passing commonsense laws. This past weekend, I spoke with many people who praised the numerous accomplishments of the 104th Congress.

People's opinions of Congress are changing. We are making history each and every day by returning integrity and honesty to the people's Chamber. It is really no surprise that Congress approval rating has improved from 18 to 43 percent.

Madam Speaker, we are at the halfway point of the contract and we will continue to work hard and make the necessary changes to get this Government back on track.

This week, we will curtail and streamline the excessive regulations this Government imposes on everyday Americans. We will return the Government back to its rightful owners, the American citizens.

#### TRADE POLICY AND JOBS LOST

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Speaker, did you ever wonder why America's trade and tax policies seem to kill American jobs and force companies to move overseas and all these foreign governments do so great under America's laws. Check this out.

Former chief counsel of the Committee on Ways and Means, responsible for a lot of these laws, Joe Dawley and John Salmon, they now represent Turkey and Great Britain. How about the Trade Representative, former Trade Representative Bill Brock? He represents Taiwan. How about his assistants, used to be Julia Bliss and Cliff Gibbons? They represent Japan. This is not hard to figure out.

We have a \$153 billion trade deficit because our Government workers, who were paid by Uncle Sam, went on the payroll of these foreign governments. I would say they were quite cozy before they left.

All you have to do is look at the trade deficit and look at the laws. It kills American jobs and forces American companies to move overseas.

Wake up, America. Wake up, Congress.

#### EXTEND THE 25-PERCENT HEALTH CARE TAX DEDUCTION FOR THE SELF-EMPLOYED

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

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, today, the House will debate H.R. 831, a bill to permanently reinstate the 25-percent health care tax deduction for the self-employed. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.