

the University of San Francisco. She said:

Our children's education has been a family project. We all contribute as much as possible.

Our second son, who was also accepted here at the University, is instead attending a community college until his brother finishes here to help defer costs. We feel there are no extras in our life we can eliminate. However, because we believe so strongly in higher education, the sacrifices go almost unnoticed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues to reject any of the ill-conceived proposals made by the Republican majority to eliminate this opportunity for higher education for our young people and thus weaken our country.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1271, FAMILY PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT OF 1995

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-97) on the resolution (H. Res. 125) providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1271) to provide protection for family privacy, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 660, HOUSING FOR OLDER PERSONS ACT OF 1995

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-98) on the resolution (H. Res. 126) providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 660) to amend the Fair Housing Act to modify the exemption from certain familial status discrimination prohibitions granted to housing for older persons, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

□ 1830

ANOTHER JEWEL FOR MR. MURDOCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KINGSTON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I must say I rise tonight, and I am very saddened by what we now know happened last week. We know that we are going to be taking up the tax bill this week, but last week we took up a bill that we thought we knew what was in. We thought it was closing loopholes. We thought that it was going to shut off tax breaks to owners who were selling their broadcast stations or whatever to minorities, the infamous Viacom issue.

And today we now learn that tucked away in there was a nice \$63 million jewel for none other than Rupert Murdoch and, of course, Mr. Murdoch also happens to be the publisher of the Speaker's infamous book. Could there

be a connect-the-dots here? I do not know. Everybody is saying "Couldn't possibly be."

But I must say, as a Member of the House, I really feel we were all hood-winked, because this did not come up in the House at all. It came up in the Senate, and apparently the Senate yielded, or the House yielded to the Senate in conference on this. None of us were told about this, and this was slipped in.

I was fascinated to read in the press reports this weekend that people were blaming Senator CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN for this, and I love her quote in the press. She said, "If I had one bit, one iota of the leverage the Speaker said I do, then I would have kept the tax incentives for everybody," because Senator BRAUN has made it very clear she approves of these kind of tax incentives.

So is it not interesting that the tax incentives went down for every other person, every other person, group, or entity except Mr. Murdoch? Now, I suppose this could be just how the stars align, but we all know his long, long-standing tradition of having a book done by Margaret Thatcher when he needed things in the British Parliament, and, of course, he also published Ding Mao Mao's book in China when he was trying to get his broadcast license in there that we have been reading about even more this week, and I just think it is really time we blow the whistle on this kind of special-interest legislation.

Somebody who has got a crown like he has got does not need any more crown jewels, not at a time we are killing school lunches, threatening student loans, zeroing out summer jobs, taking on Big Bird and everything else. Why does he get this huge, wonderful jewel?

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Mrs. SCHROEDER. I am happy to yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. MILLER of California. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I want to associate myself with her remarks.

This is simply an outrageous misuse of the public trust to have this item slipped into a conference committee with no notification of the House Members that this matter was in the conference bill, in fact, the appearance of deliberately keeping it from the House Members so this could be voice-voted on the floor last week when Members were concerned with the deductibility of the health care insurance for the self-employed, and then to find out that what we have in here is the most special of special deals for one person when the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means and others strenuously objected to this kind of matter being brought forward, turned down amendments to try to make some rules that would apply to everybody across the board, now find out the 17 or 18 other similar deals were turned down, but the one for Rupert Murdoch, the

one involving the Speaker, was now somehow felt into this legislation.

We started out the 100 days with a book contract with Rupert Murdoch. Now we are ending it with all of the speculation about what that meant, and now, of course, the speculation is no longer speculation. Now we have the concrete treatment of Mr. Murdoch differently than anyone else in the United States at the behest of the leadership—

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Absolutely.

Mr. MILLER of California. In the House and the Senate.

I want to thank the gentlewoman for raising this issue.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. I thank the gentleman from California for bringing it up, because I really feel the Members were also led astray. Members on the conference committee on our side did not know this was happening, and I find it also amazing Mr. Murdoch stands there and with a straight face says, at least through his spokesman, he did not know about this; he did not seek it; and he did not particularly want it.

So I would say he ought to give it back. He ought to give it back.

Mr. MILLER of California. Since Mr. Murdoch is as successful as he is, when you consider all of the things that he has denied knowledge of that affect his business interests, over the last 100 days, but yet somehow he has tremendous success, and apparently it just falls on him.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. One of the other things I find really amazing is that he could be so successful, that this little \$63 million jewel could roll off the table, and he just did not even really have to pay much attention to it. It must be nice. Think of the school lunches it would buy and the student loans it would provide.

This is outrageous.

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, I just happened to be walking through, and we should be accurate in what we say here on the floor of the House.

No. 1, the provision that was put into the health care deductibility for self-employed was engineered and pushed and implemented by CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN from Chicago, a Democrat Senator, and made its way into the conference report as a result of her compelling arguments that this in effect was a preexisting contractual obligation, a binding contract that was made before the effective date.

So we should fully understand that the gentlewoman from Colorado and the gentleman from California are just ill-informed about this particular provision.