

Today's Tax Code is artificially and unnecessarily suppressing living standards. The first problem in today's code is the fact we have double taxed business earnings, which places a strong bias against savings and investment. This makes saving and investing much less attractive relative to consumption.

Capital, as we know, is the lifeblood of the economy. Without capital, workers cannot enhance their productivity and their wages stagnate. Today's double, even triple taxation of income discourages saving, reduces the pool of capital available to entrepreneurs and workers, slows productivity and wage growth.

A second problem with today's tax code is its high marginal rates.

The third problem with today's tax code is its complexity and its hundreds of sections, thousands of pages of regulations. The rates are high, loopholes abound, and noncompliance is rife because taxpayers feel that the code is written for well-organized special interests and not for them.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps most disturbing, the complexity and unfairness of the code lead our citizens to take an excessively jaded and cynical view of their government.

Fourth, I believe the overall level of taxes, Mr. Speaker, is too high, especially for families with children. The average family now pays more in taxes than it spends on food, clothing and shelter combined.

There are two major flat tax proposals, Mr. Speaker, one in the House and one in the Senate. The one in the House is Congressman DICK ARMEY's. Under his plan, all income would be taxed once at 17 percent. There would be no credits or deductions. Under his flat tax, there would be no taxes paid by single individuals earning \$13,100 or less and couples earning \$26,200 or less. A corporation would simply subtract expenses from revenues and pay 17 percent on the remainder.

Senator ARLEN SPECTER has also offered a flat tax proposal. His is a 20-percent tax rate but has a couple of deductions. It would have a home mortgage deduction retained for homes up to \$100,000, and \$2,500 in charitable deductions, and maintains payroll withholding.

America's current tax is a patchwork quilt. It should be replaced. The need for tax simplification is self-evident. Americans now spend approximately 5.4 billion hours each year just filling out the tax forms, Mr. Speaker. In 1994, businesses spent approximately \$127 billion in compliance with the Federal tax laws, and individuals another \$65 billion.

Both proposals meet the test, I believe, of fairness, simplicity, and economic neutrality. Americans would fill out merely a small postcard and answer a few easy questions, instead of toiling over reams of papers and instructions. These changes will get the IRS and the government off the backs

of individual and corporate taxpayers, and will allow all of us to redirect our energies to more productive pursuits.

I hope that our fellow colleagues in the House, Mr. Speaker, will look over these proposals in the coming months, and hope they will find favor with them.

#### ADDRESSING JAPANESE TRADE DEFICIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I come to the well this evening to discuss a very important trade dispute that is going on between the United States and Japan, a negotiation that has now dragged on through three different Presidents relating to the major portion of the trade deficit between the United States and Japan, the automotive industry and the automotive parts industry.

I rise this evening to let the American people know that these negotiations have hit an impasse and today we met with the ambassador of the United States, our Trade Ambassador, Mr. Kantor, and were informed that the administration intends to, for the first time, the first administration in over a decade, intends to impose trade sanctions on the Nation of Japan in order to help pry open Japan's market not just to goods from the United States but hopefully as a result of our success there if it can occur to the goods of other nations as well.

I think that the Clinton administration should be commended for bringing us to this point. We rise this evening also to say to them, hang tough. As they do this and try to pry open that market which if it were open and we actually had trade equity with Japan in automotive, we literally could construct in this country an additional 100 plants each employing over 5,000 people. That is how bad the differential has become between our two nations.

The other point I would like to raise before calling on my very capable colleague from the State of Ohio, Mr. BROWN, is to say that we hope that as these sanctions are imposed that the major auto manufacturers of this country and the major automotive parts manufacturers of this Nation will not raise prices but will use the power that the people of the United States are giving them through these negotiations to continue to gain market share in this country and to begin to gain additional market share in Japan.

We wish the Clinton administration well as the President returns from Russia. We want him to be successful not just in the sanctions but hopefully in the case that will be placed before the World Trade Organization in Geneva.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BROWN].

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. I appreciate the work the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms.

KAPTUR] has done in fighting for fair trade. All of us appreciate the courage and the commitment that President Clinton and Trade Representative Kantor have shown in standing tough with Japanese. When we have a \$25 billion trade deficit with the Japanese on auto-related, automobiles and auto parts, \$25 billion, that costs us somewhere in the vicinity of, it is literally hundreds of thousands of good-paying industrial jobs in this country that have gone to Japan because their trade doors are closed to American goods. This standing tough that the President and Trade Representatives Kantor are doing right now will mean as they pry open, as it pries open the Japanese market, it will mean more jobs for Ohio, it will mean more jobs all over this country, good-paying industrial jobs that create middle-class families, that give people the opportunity to send their children to school, to send their children to college, to provide for their retirement, to have good-paying jobs and nice homes in nice neighborhoods and all that the auto industry can do if in fact the President and Trade Representative Kantor hang tough like you said. I think they will. All of us here in a bipartisan way would encourage them to do that.

I also want to echo what the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] said, it is important that as this happens, as we stands up to the Japanese this time finally, and a President is actually doing that as President Clinton is, that auto companies do not raise prices, that auto companies expand their market share. That is what will create jobs in Lorain, OH; in Avon Lake, OH; in Twinsburg, OH, and all over the United States, good-paying industrial jobs to create a stronger better-paid middle class.

Ms. KAPTUR. I thank the gentleman from Ohio for his leadership in this effort and with the dollar situation around the world, the value of the dollar versus the yen, there is certainly no reason for our companies to raise prices here or in other places but rather to go after market share, especially when the people of the United States are standing together through their elected representatives here in Washington and fighting for this key lodestar American industry, the automotive industry.

When you think about it, a third of the market in this country, both automotive and automotive parts, is comprised of foreign product that we import into the United States not just from Japan but from everywhere. It is interesting to look at Japan. Only 4 percent of their market, the second largest industrial power in the world, comes from anyplace else, 4 percent of their market versus one-third of ours.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. If the gentlewoman would yield, one of the things that Ambassador Kantor told us today at a meeting with a group of about a dozen Members is that the Japanese have found a way with fixing cars with

auto repairs of shutting out American auto parts so that if you are an auto consumer in Japan, you go to get your car fixed and you have got to use Japanese auto parts.

Ms. KAPTUR. We ask the President, hang tough with Japan.

#### LEGISLATION HONORING HARRY KIZIRIAN

The Speaker pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Rhode Island [Mr. REED] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to introduce legislation today, along with my colleague from Rhode Island, Mr. KENNEDY, to designate the main U.S. Post Office in Providence, RI, as the "Harry Kizirian Post Office."

Harry Kizirian is a truly remarkable individual. The most decorated living veteran in Rhode Island, Harry displayed qualities of leadership and courage at a very young age. At the age of 15, Harry had to go to work to support his widowed mother, but he continued to maintain his excellent academic record at Mt. Pleasant High School in Providence. Upon graduation, Harry enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and was sent to Okinawa.

On Okinawa, Harry fought with tenacity and courage, while engaged continuously in fierce combat. Harry was severely wounded while leading an infantry assault. For his extraordinary heroism, Harry was awarded the Navy Cross, the Bronze Star with V Device for Valor, the Purple Heart with a Gold Star, and the Rhode Island Cross.

Upon Harry's return, he immediately went to work at the main post office in Providence where he had worked during high school. At work, Harry displayed the same commitment and teamwork he showed on the frontlines at Okinawa, and was eventually appointed as the Postmaster. He was confirmed by the United States Senate in 1961, and held the position of Postmaster for 25 years.

Throughout his career with the Postal Service, Harry also devoted much of his time to the community, serving on numerous boards and committees. Harry served on the board of directors for Butler Hospital, Big Brothers of RI, RI Blue Cross, the RI Heart and Lung Associations, and numerous others.

One of Harry's greatest accomplishments was raising a wonderful family. He and his wife, Hazel, raised five children and have three grandchildren.

Harry has served his country in every capacity: in the military, as a civil servant, as a devoted husband and father, and as a loyal American. Harry Kizirian is a source of inspiration for the young and old, and he is a particularly cherished member of Rhode Island's proud and vibrant Armenian community.

This bill would commemorate his generosity and valor for future generations, and it would pay tribute to a remarkable gentleman who has given so

much to his nation, his community, and his family. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Harry Kizirian by supporting this bill.

#### CALLING FOR AN APOLOGY

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

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, yesterday in a special order, I expressed my total disbelief that, at an event convened at taxpayer's expense, a Member of this House would publicly charge that a Member of the U.S. Senate should be tarred and feathered and run out of the country.

Was this a joke, Mr. Speaker? From press accounts, what we do know is that it was a reaction to a constituent's call for the murder of a Member of the other body, and that the murderer be given a medal.

The Member from Washington State in question with whom I have spoken, did not object to the murder of a U.S. Senator. The member did not attempt to argue at all, instead Mr. Speaker, he fueled the flames of violence against members of the people's house, against the representatives elected by the American people.

Let me read from a definition of "tar and feathers":

Pouring molten tar over the body and covering it with feathers was an official punishment in England as early as the 12th century. It was never legal in the United States, but was always a mob-demonstration. The practice finally vanished in the late 19th Century.

But now, Mr. Speaker, a Member of the House wants to resurrect the practice—to drag the American people, not toward the next millennium, but back to the last.

Is this the course the new majorities in the Congress have set? Is this a new contract of tar and feathering, of drawing and quartering, of star chambers and chambers of torture for the American people?

Are there no limits on inciting violence? Has America not seen enough hate in the last few weeks? Will this hate make America stronger?

Mr. Speaker, When the people's representatives remain silent in the face of hate speech, they endorse it. When the people's representatives suggest violent acts against their colleagues, they tear at the very fabric that binds us as a nation. Should we not, as representatives of the people, seek a higher civility in this body? Should we not as leaders of this country, seek to uplift this nation, rather than tear it down?

I ask for this Member's public apology Mr. Speaker. I ask that he apologize to the Member of the other body—that he apologize to the American people—and that he apologize to this institution of which he is a Member.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NORWOOD). Under a previous order of

the House, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. MENENDEZ] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. MENENDEZ addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.]

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

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to discuss what occurred in my congressional district 30 years ago this week. During that time in Selma, AL, a young black man named Jimmy Lee Jackson was murdered because he dared to stand up against the multitudes of racial injustices, from white-only water fountains to the States-rights stand which would not allow blacks to vote.

Fortunately, Jimmy Lee Jackson's murder in 1965 was not in vain. It prompted the historic 54 mile Selma to Montgomery voting rights march, which was the catalyst for the 1965 Voting Rights Act. This act secured the rights of all Americans to participate, without harassment, in the political system.

Today, we again have challenges before us which threaten the basic rights of many Americans. The so-called Republican Contract With America threatens to take away many rights which we, as Americans, hold dear.

I am speaking of the right to have proper medical care, the right to proper nutrition, the right to a good education, and the right to be treated equally and fairly under the law.

Mr. Speaker, I hope and pray that it does not take a murder like Jimmy Lee Jackson's, which occurred over 30 years ago in Selma, to wake up America to action.

#### DEFENDING DEMOCRACY AGAINST TERRORISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from New York [Mr. NADLER] is recognized for 45 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in an effort to shed light on a problem on nearly everyone's mind these days—the problem of terrorism—the problem of a relatively small number of violent lawbreakers who have set out to undermine our democratic way of life and seek either to blackmail the government through violence or the threat of violence to comply with their demands, or to overthrow the government entirely.

What these misguided zealots are attempting to do is to create a climate of fear so great that Americans can't even drop off their children at day care in the morning without having to worry if it will be the last time they will ever see them. This climate of violence and fear is sometimes fostered by people who organize or join so-called militias