

Mr. Speaker, these are all honorable people caught in a difficult position because they all have close personal ties to the Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Ethics Committee has had this since last December. It will never get resolved any other way.

It is not just DAVE BONIOR and others here who are calling for it. Public Citizen, the New York Times, Richard Phelan, Roll Call, Robert Scheer in the L.A. Times, Al Hunter in the Wall Street Journal, Common Cause, the Hartford Courant, the San Francisco Chronicle, the list goes on and on. The Atlanta Constitution, his home newspaper. All have called for an independent outside counsel. It is time that we had one.

#### A STREAMLINED BUT UNCOMPROMISED FOREIGN AID BILL

(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, since the start of the 104th Congress, Republicans have made no attempt to hide our conviction that the Federal Government has grown out of proportion to its responsibilities. The conviction is not limited to domestic programs.

Just as spending at home has come under intense scrutiny, our spending habits abroad should not escape notice.

Although foreign aid is only a small part of the budget, it still consumes billions of dollars. Republicans will streamline this part of the budget, and insure every penny going overseas is wisely and responsibly. We propose to eliminate repetitive bureaucracy by closing three agencies and ending dozens of useless, silly named programs like the Permanent International Association of Road Congresses.

Mr. Speaker, while our plan streamlines, it does not compromise America's position of world leadership. We can only be the world's leader if we do what is right by our future and by our children, and that is the essence of our plan.

#### TERM LIMITS

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

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, after the Supreme Court ruled yesterday on the issue of term limits, you heard a lot of complaining.

One who protested the loudest was the distinguished majority leader.

In fact, Mr. ARMEY promised that a vote on term limits would be the first vote in the next Congress.

In January 1997—if he is reelected—Mr. ARMEY will get sworn in for his seventh term, then turn around and vote for a bill that says that serving more than six terms is hazardous to the political health of our Nation.

If you think term limits is such a good idea, here is the solution: Here is a map of Washington.

Here is the Capitol. Here is the airport.

It is a short drive, and parking is a breeze because Members of Congress still have that perk.

From there, you can go back to the Sixth District of Georgia, the Eighth District of Florida, or anywhere else where someone got elected by talking about term limits.

Remember, my friends on the other side of the aisle—the Supreme Court decision will not bar you from acting honorably, from following through on your campaign promises and Republican rhetoric.

That decision is still in your hands.

#### TERM LIMITS IS NOT DEAD

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

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, this morning in the Washington Post we read that the former Speaker of this House, Tom Foley, believes that term limits is dead. Actually that should be term limits are dead.

Either way, so speaks the man who did not understand the term limits movement when he was the Speaker, and he still does not get it. The citizens of Washington State and 21 other States passed term limits, and they are not ready to concede defeat on the issue.

Yes, yesterday's decision by the Supreme Court shows an unfortunate disconnect between the judicial branch and the majority of Americans who favor term limits. That type of thing has happened before and Congress has fixed it. Now it is up to Congress to act.

The ruling gives us a clear course: the term limit constitutional amendment. We have seen the arrogance of power here resulting from a system where longevity, not merit, determines clout. Let's return to the idea of citizen legislators who go to Washington to serve and then go back home to live among the people that they have worked for. That is what the people want, and they are the people we work for.

#### REPUBLICAN MEDICARE CUTS HURT RURAL AMERICA

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

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, the Republican Medicare plan places a major burden on rural America which will literally squeeze the lifeblood out of America's rural hospital system.

Almost 10 million American citizens who live in rural America depend on the Medicare benefits they receive to stay healthy. Under the Republican Medicare plan, significant cuts in Med-

icare revenue will cause a great number of rural hospitals to either close or increase their cost.

It is wrong to make rural America pay such a high price. My Republican colleagues say all they are doing is shifting the cost to the private sector. What they really mean is that they are shifting the cost back to the taxpayers who have already paid that cost through monthly deductions.

Rural America deserves good health care and good hospitals. That is why the Republican plan must be defeated.

#### REPUBLICAN BUDGET CLOSES DOOR OF OPPORTUNITY

(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, most American families cannot leave their children a fortune. What we try to leave them is a set of values and an opportunity.

Last week, the Republican budget resolution closed the door of opportunity for millions of American kids. The Republican budget resolution cut college student loans by \$18 billion. That is right. At a time when America needs a well-educated generation to lead us into the next century, at a time when our kids need the opportunity for education for a good-paying job, the Gingrich Republicans make the biggest cut in student loans in our Nation's history.

And why have the Republicans done this? Why are the Republicans increasing a student's cost of financing a college education by an average of \$5,000? Because the Republican student loan cuts fill the Republican piggy bank to pay for tax breaks for the privileged few.

Cutting college student loans may be the GINGRICH view of America. How does your family feel?

#### THE FOREIGN AID BILL

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

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, today and through tomorrow and the next day, the House takes up a historic foreign affairs bill that for the first time in many, many years actually authorizes the spending that we take on behalf of the interests of the U.S. policies in respect to foreign lands.

There will be much debate as to whether we are doing it the way other people wish us to do it or we are cutting too deeply, but the fact of the matter is that less than 1 percent of our entire budget is invested in foreign affairs. That is the issue we need to begin to take to the American people.

It surprises me when you ask Americans what they think is the largest item in the Federal budget and they consistently say foreign affairs, and indeed it is perhaps the smallest. When