

and regulations have become stumbling blocks, and because of that, we do not have common sense anymore in our process.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. If the gentleman will continue to yield, Mr. Speaker, I believe the 104th Congress, especially with many of the freshman Republicans, and you have joined as an honorary Member of the freshman Republicans, although you are a more senior Member, we have tried to have what we could call the new approach to Government, in which we call for Government to downsize, privatize, consolidate, and where possible, eliminate.

We do not believe, as you do not, that we need to have the Federal Government do things that are best left to the private sector. We believe that the private sector has the best chance to create jobs. If we can have an environment with less regulation and less taxation, we can have businesses provide for our local people the kinds of jobs that are lasting, meaningful, and important jobs that mean a lot to folks back home.

I think we are on the right track to reduce needless regulations that do not really improve the quality of life, and to make sure we do what we can to sunset Federal agencies that are not doing their job, like we did in Pennsylvania, and eliminate the wasteful bureaucratic system that exists here in Washington as a culture.

GOVERNMENT RUN AMOK

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

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] to further this colloquy we were discussing about regulations.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, let me give another example of government just not using quite common sense. I have in my hand a letter from Lee Heyer. Lee Heyer is a student at Georgia Southern University. He is actually the student body president. He sent to me a letter he got from the U.S. Post Office declaring June 12 to June 17 National Dog Bite Prevention Week. It tells people how to prevent their dog from biting a letter carrier. Again, it is well-intended, but, he said, he called the office.

First of all, this mail that was delivered at taxpayer expense went to his apartment complex where they do not allow dogs, so everybody in the apartment complex got notified how to tie their dog up, which they are not allowed to have.

The second part, he called the actual office in his area and found out there were zero dog bites in that particular area in the previous year. Again, Mr. Speaker, the private sector would not do that. They would think it through twice.

I see the gentleman from Florida [Mr. WELDON] has joined us. I do not control the time.

Mr. FOX. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's efforts here today to do something, to speak out about doing something for the terrible problem of excessive regulation, and the impact that has a job creation. This is a very important issue in my district, Mr. Speaker, where the defense cutbacks have put a lot of people out of work, but there are a lot of people trying to set up new businesses and trying to be independent, and the Government regulations that are required in setting up a new business, and just hiring a new person, is actually stifling business creation all across our country, including in my district.

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We as Republicans, I believe, need to continue the effort to try to not only downsize Government but make the Government as the gentleman said, more user-friendly and more open to job creation.

One thing I do want to add to this discussion, which I think is very important, is the need to deal with our terrible problem of excessive litigation.

I know a business in my district approached me, and this particular business, they had been in the printing press business for a time way back in the early part of the century, but they are now out of that business. There was a printing press that had been in use, safely in use, for 70 years, that an employee at a company had recently been injured on, and that company was, now that they have been out of the printing press business for something like 25, 30 years, they are now being sued for a product that has been in safe use for something like 70 years.

I just think that is wrong, it is unreasonable. We need our tort reform legislation to get through the Senate and we probably need more provisions to be passed in the future.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I think the support that the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. WELDON] has given as well as the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] for our products liability reform legislation will go a long way in helping businesses. As the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] just talked about, we certainly need to have less regulation.

Another area I would like to have us consider, not only the regulatory reform and legal reform but what about making sure we provide those investment tax credits, the research and development tax credits, which will encourage businesses to expand, produce and hire and not have those jobs go overseas but keep those jobs here in America for companies and employees who really want to make sure that we grow. That I think along with reform dealing with the ability to obtain cred-

it, I think we can keep our businesses viable here in the country and move along.

Mr. KINGSTON. I was meeting this last weekend with the Georgia Hospitality and Travel Association. One of the battles they just fought with regulatory reform is that on the back of your hotel door, they have escape plans. I was in the insurance business and I am one of these nerds, I guess, who always reads those things. But 99 percent of the people who stay in hotels, particularly at Days Inn on a ground level, don't read how to escape from the room. They can kind of figure it out on their own. But new regulation, you have to print that bilingual.

In south Georgia, where you don't get that many people speaking Spanish, they wanted to put it in Spanish language, as well as English language. You cannot even tell if the door is wooden or painted already because you have all these different instructions on what to do in a hotel room.

The Hospitality Association was able to kind of break that, postpone the regulation, I would say, just break the thinking pattern there. In Los Angeles County, they have to put the voting ballot in 7 different languages.

The gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. ROTH] has a bill entitled "English First" which addresses this. I believe he is on the floor.

MAKING ENGLISH OFFICIAL AMERICAN LANGUAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHAW). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. ROTH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, I was interested in the dialog that just took place here.

We Americans are very fortunate because we represent the most diverse country in the world. We are a people from every corner of the globe, every religious, every ethnic, every linguistic background right here in America. Yet we are one Nation and one people. Why? Because for over 200 years, the history of our country, when people came here, they adopted English as the official language. While we were from every corner of the globe, and every background, we are all Americans because we have this common glue, this commonality.

Today in America we are splitting our country up. We are no longer the melting pot, but we are becoming, as the anti-English establishment would have us, as a salad bowl. I don't believe America is a salad bowl. I don't believe in hyphenated Americans. I believe we are all Americans. That is why this issue of the English language is so important.

Teddy White, who has written "The Making of a President" any number of times from 1960 on, before he passed away, he wrote this book, "America in Search of Itself." He talks about as we come to the new century, to the new