

Referring to the repeated injuries and usurpations inflicted upon them by the King of England, Jefferson wrote:

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people and eat out their substance.

Sadly and outrageously, Mr. Speaker, this describes the way many Americans feel about the enormous size, intrusiveness and cost of Government today.

That is why I am introducing a sense-of-the-Congress resolution today to highlight cost of Government day, which this year is coincidentally 1 day before Independence Day. That is right, Mr. Speaker, according to Americans for Tax Reform, from January 1 through July 3 this year, Americans are working to pay for Government spending at all levels plus the cost of regulations.

One hundred eighty-four days to pay for Government and regulations and 181 days to pay for the things they and their families really need. This situation, my colleagues, has gotten ridiculous. Maybe it is time for a new Declaration of Independence, Mr. Speaker.

GENERAL MOTORS CLOSING MORE U.S. AUTO PLANTS AND MOVING JOBS OVERSEAS

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, General Motors has closed another auto plant in America, this time Tarrytown, NY. 2,100 American workers, gonesville.

In addition, General Motors announced it will close another seven factories in America in the next several years.

Now, if that is not enough to grease your slip clutch, General Motors announced it is building a billion-dollar factory in Thailand and a massive new plant in Mexico, and because the Mexican workers are so poor, they will help build the Mexican workers new homes. Unbelievable. Think about it. American workers losing their homes, General Motors building homes for Mexican workers, averaging 70 cents an hour.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. For years I thought the Three Stooges ran our economic policy. Today I suspect Dr. Jack Kevorkian. This is no program.

Before the day is over, we will approve most-favored-nation trade status for a country that pays 17 cents an hour wages.

I yield back any jobs left.

TRIBUTE TO HON. BILL EMERSON OF MISSOURI

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say that I regret very much

that I was not able to be on the floor when a number of Members rose to pay tribute to Bill Emerson, and I urge all Members today, as we have a very spirited debate, to keep in our thoughts and prayers Bill Emerson and the work that he did on behalf of his constituents. As we meet here at this hour, there is a service being conducted for him in Cape Girardeau, MO, and I urge all Members to remember Bill and in the days and months ahead to remember Jo Ann Emerson and Bill Emerson's family.

MUZZLING DEBATE ON UNITED STATES-CHINA TRADE RELATIONS

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, what a travesty. Last Tuesday in the dead of night, with Members of this House given no voice and no notice, the House Rules Committee, at the behest of Speaker GINGRICH, ramrodded a rule to restrict debate on the critical issue of United States-China trade relations. Then last night, after 1 a.m., the restrictive rule was voice-voted by a deal struck by the proponents to muzzle debate today. Members were not recorded on that key rule vote. Now today the brief debate on whether Congress will actually grant Most Favored Nation trade status to China for the first time in a straight up or down vote in this Chamber will occur and the debate itself while most Members are at Bill Emerson's funeral today. What an outrage.

Commerce with a fascist state will not yield liberty. Our 250-million-person market cannot sustain these gaping trade deficits growing every year with a nation of 1 billion 250 million people. Just the \$40 billion trade deficit this year means another 800,000 lost jobs in America.

EXHIBIT HONORING MARK TWAIN

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

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, for 75 days this summer the people of Cobb County, GA, and neighboring communities will have a unique opportunity to view an exhibit featuring original materials from America's great writer and humorist: Mark Twain.

The exhibit, known as, "Mark Twain: An American Voice to the World," will be on display in Kennesaw State University's Horace Sturgis Library, and will feature original manuscripts, artifacts, first editions, and other items from this great American author.

The exhibition has been praised as "The most richly varied and representative display of original materials relating to the life and works of Mark Twain ever assembled for public exhibi-

tion," by Robert Pack Browning, director of the Mark Twain papers at the University of California, Berkeley.

I would like to congratulate Kennesaw State University president Betty L. Siegel, library director Robert B. Williams, and his staff. I would also like to thank the numerous institutions and collectors who participated in the exhibition. My thanks goes also to my colleagues, Speaker GINGRICH, and Fifth District Congressman JOHN LEWIS, and to Fred Bentley, Sr., for making this project a reality for the people of Georgia.

THE MANAGED CARE BILL OF RIGHTS OF 1996

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material.)

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise before the Members to introduce a crucial piece of legislation that is long overdue, the managed care bill of rights of 1996.

Today I introduce this legislation in response to a repulsive and dangerous trend that is taking place. Across this country, Americans are joining managed care plans in order to cut costs. However, while ultra-wealthy HMO's are making multibillion-dollar profits, working-class families are paying for these profits with their health and, in some cases, their lives.

Health care companies should make people healthier, not sicker, yet HMO patients are routinely denied access to specialists and refused compensation for emergency room visits. My legislation will put an end to these cruel policies. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation and work toward safeguarding every American's access to quality health care.

SUPPORT THE WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, once again, the Clinton administration has stolen yet another Republican idea and called it their own. After originally opposing legislation that would let hard-working Americans spend more time with their families, the President has chosen to co-opt this popular idea. This is a desperate action by a desperate man in a political year.

When a Republican bill containing comp time, the Working Families Flexibility Act, was first mentioned as the minimum-wage legislative vehicle, the President's Chief of Staff, Leon Panetta, called it a poison pill and President Clinton waved his veto pen at it. But now after the Republicans have built support for this legislation, the President ran down to Nashville this past weekend to announce his own version of a comp time bill.

The President does not show leadership by showboating, or stealing ideas from Republicans. If the President were truly committed to this issue, he would have pledged his support for the Working Families Flexibility Act, and he would work with Congress, instead of trying to upstage it.

I ask the President to stop playing election-year politics and support H.R. 2391, the Working Families Flexibility Act, and I ask my colleagues to do the same.

HOW MUCH MORE WILL CHINA DO TO ITS PEOPLE AND THE WORLD?

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, most-favored-nation status for China giving trade advantages to that Communist dictatorship will cost millions of American jobs. Our trade deficit with China, almost nonexistent only a few years ago, has climbed to \$32 billion and is rising, and within a couple of years, it will surpass that of Japan. How much more can China do to its people and how much more can China do to the rest of the world before we finally say "no" to MFN? Massacring students in Beijing, selling nuclear technology to rogue nations, slave labor camps, illegally smuggling 2,000 AK-47's into the United States, forcible seizure of Tibetan children from their homes, 12-year-old children in China making toys for 12-year-old children in America and 12-year-old children in China in labor camps making toys for 12-year-old children in America. Mr. Speaker, when will it stop? When will we in this body stop it? Defeat MFN.

RIGHT CONGRESS ACT: TO RESTORE INTEGRITY, GOODWILL, HONESTY, AND TRUST IN CONGRESS

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

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the RIGHT Congress Act. RIGHT stands for "Restore Integrity, Goodwill, Honesty and Trust in Congress." The bill is a modest, commonsense reform that will help bring back some accountability and responsibility to the Halls of Congress and it follows on the action that we took beginning with the first day of the 104th Congress.

What will this bill do? It will reduce congressional pensions to put them in line with all other Federal employees. It repeals automatic pay raises for Members of Congress and eliminates COLA's on Members' pensions. It will require recorded votes on all bills or amendments increasing Members' pay; prohibit former Members and senior staffs from lobbying for 28 years after leaving Congress or one full term; deny House floor access for Members of Congress who are registered lobbyists; re-

quire lobbyists to wear ID's when they are working in the Capitol; limit the use of expensive military flights for congressional travel; ban overseas taxpayer funded travel for retiring Members of Congress.

This bill has received support from across the board, and I urge my colleagues' support for this piece of legislation.

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THE RIGHT OF FREE SPEECH

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

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I voted against the Communications Decency Act, which was included in the telecommunications bill, because it was an outrageous disregard by this body of our duty to protect constitutional rights, specifically the first amendment.

Now we have had a ringing thoughtful denunciation of that unconstitutional act by a 3-judge court in Pennsylvania. I commend particularly to Members the opinion by Judge Dalzell, where he points out how unwise it is to try to censor the Internet.

We have a problem. We began years ago, with regard to broadcasting, the notion that if speech was electronically communicated it got less first amendment protection than other speech. That was based on some technological factors involving the limitations of the spectrum.

Today, as increasingly people communicate with each other through electronic means, we have carried over this notion that electronically communicated speech gets less first amendment protection than other speech.

If we do not reverse that trend, if we do not recognize the wisdom of that 3-judge court, we will find ourselves in future years less protected by that precious right of free speech.

THE GROUNDBREAKING OF THE BRASS MILL CENTER MALL

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

Mr. FRANKS of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was a historic day for my hometown of Waterbury, CT. It marked the groundbreaking of the Brass Mill Center Mall, the soon to be home of the second largest mall in New England.

Having worked at this location along with my father and other relatives when it was the Scovill Manufacturing Co. more than 20 years ago, I have a sentimental attachment to the site. But more important, thanks to the millions of dollars from the Federal Government, approved in the 103d Congress for the environmental cleanup of the site, it is now becoming a reality.

The mall will have a significant impact on revitalizing the downtown area, while producing more than a thousand new much needed jobs. This has been a classic example, Mr. Speaker, of how the local, State and Federal governments can work hand-in-hand with private industry.

I look forward to the fall 1997 grand opening.

AMERICA'S CHOICE: GOP EDUCATION CUTS OR FAMILIES FIRST AGENDA

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

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I am often amused as I listen to my Republican colleagues talk about their budget. They come down and wave their arms and talk about their children's future and their children's children's future with great passion. Let us face it. What is important about our children's future is education.

And let us talk about the education record. The fact is, Mr. Speaker, that under the Republican proposals they actually cut student aid. They eliminate the direct student loan program, which means students are going to pay higher fees and higher costs for student loans. That is not helping their future. They cut money for safe and drug-free schools so that children can have a safe education. That is not helping their education or their futures.

On the other hand, the Democrats' Families First agenda addresses education in significant ways: First, 2 years of community college free in the form of a \$1,500 tax credit for community college education if the student maintains a B average. I think that is a fair deal for our children's future.

We also provide a \$10,000 deduction for college education; \$10,000 deduction for college expenses. That is protecting our children's future.

SAUDI ARABIA TERRORISM

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

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, America has once again felt the sting of a deadly cowardly terrorist attack directed at our troops who have been preserving and protecting America's interest in the Persian Gulf. A similar attack on Americans in Saudi Arabia last November for the first time signaled that radical Islamic elements in Saudi Arabia would use Americans as targets in their war against the ruling regime.

As we seek to determine just who is responsible, there is one thing that is clear from this deadly and senseless attack, and that is that the United States' vital national interests in the gulf remains constant and the threat from the two main rogue regimes in the region, Iran and Iraq, must not be allowed to destabilize our gulf allies.