

proceeds will support the historical organizations dedicated to Thomas Edison's legacy. I hope all of my colleagues will support this bill.

COMPREHENSIVE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, when the Republicans were in the minority, they would often challenge the Democratic leadership of the House to implement comprehensive campaign finance reform. We are now in the 3d year of the Republican majority, and the Speaker in fact has only brought one campaign finance reform bill to the floor, a bill, and I should mention that the Republican leadership knew would fail, and did in fact fail by over 250 votes. I guess the Republicans' fervent quest for reform has been tempered by the power of being in the majority.

Campaign finance reform again is not a new issue to this Congress by any means. In fact, the House had passed a comprehensive campaign finance reform bill when Democrats were in the majority, but, as I mentioned previously, this was vetoed by President Bush.

Last week President Clinton came to this Chamber and challenged this House to pass meaningful campaign finance reform. He made it a priority of his administration. He set July 4 as the deadline. I believe the House can certainly pass reform legislation by then. I think it would be a true test of our democracy, and it certainly is a challenge we must face this session.

CAPITAL GAINS TAXES

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

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, on my first day as a Member of Congress, I kept a pledge to the people of my district to introduce legislation that would improve the quality of their lives. My legislation reduces the capital gains tax by 50 percent and seeks to eventually eliminate it.

All over central New Jersey, I have been told that overtaxation is a huge problem. I have had people tell me that they are not going to sell their homes or businesses until Congress acts.

People and businesses create jobs, not the government. Lower capital gains taxes leave more capital in the hands of businesses, entrepreneurs and individuals who create and expand businesses and jobs.

A New Jersey painting contractor was quoted in an article in the Washington Post as saying:

You're looking at a poor man who thinks the capital gains tax is the best thing that could happen to this country, because that's when the work will come back. People say capital gains are for the rich, but I've never been hired by a poor man.

The growth of our Nation's economy can be vibrant and grow if we are only willing to allow it to happen. Pass capital gains tax reform.

THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION

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

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, 1 week ago tonight the President underscored the importance of education. Education must be paramount and we must do whatever we can to help our children which is the wisest investment that we can make for tomorrow.

This investment has three callings for us: concern, commitment, and character. First, we should show our concern by contacting our local schools now and finding out how we can best help our teachers. Second, we should be committed. For the last 16 years I have gone into the classroom to volunteer and to work with our kids. Are we as business leaders willing to take the time to go and be role models for our children?

And third, we should be building character. Next week in our district we will have an electronic classroom that will go throughout the whole district to address children and to help bring them together with technology to talk about respect and responsibility, important ingredients for the citizens of tomorrow.

These are the three callings that we must answer. We must be ready with concern, commitment, and character and do what we can do now to help education on the local level.

RESPONDING TO PRESIDENT'S CALL FOR CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, first let me salute all the many veterans that I have had the opportunity to see today who are expressing their views and pay tribute to them certainly for their service to their country. It is for that reason that I rise to talk about giving this House back to the people of this Nation.

Even though we have heard so much talk about campaign finance reform, the real question will be whether we will be serious as a bipartisan body to address this issue. Although I will say to you that most Americans will say just do a good job, recognizing that each individual Congressperson that represents their district does the very best they can and is assessed by the people who vote them in, but they do want us to come to the understanding that people control this House and not money.

At the same time I think it is important that those who want to express

their interest by supporting candidates should have the opportunity. I am glad to support the Farr bill which is a bipartisan approach to real campaign reform. It sets limits. It allows us to access the telecommunication highways, if you will, to communicate to the public. And, yes, it allows PAC's that represent people to participate. Let us come together by July 4 and give real independence and vote for real campaign finance reform.

Mr. Speaker, I come before the House this morning to urge my colleagues to respond to the President's call to enact comprehensive campaign finance reform by July 4 of this year. This House in which we are all privileged to serve, is the people's House. It belongs to all of the citizens of this Nation and these citizens are calling out to their congressional Representatives to restore their confidence in Congress' ability to act for the good of the Nation. During the congressional cycle of 1996 we saw unprecedented amounts of money spent on these elections, which only heightened public cynicism regarding how our democracy works.

If comprehensive campaign finance reform is enacted by the July 4 deadline set by the President, American citizens will truly be able to celebrate Independence Day. It will be independence from excessive fundraising by candidates running for political office. Independence from outside organizations having such a large and overwhelming impact on the electoral process simply because they have spent huge sums of money. Mr. Speaker, the people of the 18th District of Texas in which I am honored to represent want this House returned to the people. Let's have a real Independence Day this year. Let's not let partisan politics get in the way. Let's enact real comprehensive campaign finance reform and have a real Independence Day.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. AMBASSADOR CARL B. STOKES

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory and the accomplishments of U.S. Ambassador Carl B. Stokes who passed away in 1996 after a long and distinguished career as a political leader. The world will always remember him as the first African American mayor of a major American city. I will always remember him as a friend, a confidante, and a mentor who helped me navigate the rough waters of Cleveland politics.

Carl B. Stokes was born in 1927, the son of a laundry worker who died when he was 2 years old. His mother worked as a domestic. He and his brother, the Honorable LOUIS STOKES, who serves as Congressman, worked in neighborhood stores and delivered newspapers to help the family.

Over the years Carl Stokes excelled in many aspects of life: as a soldier during World War II; as a middleweight boxing champion in 1948; as an attorney and investigator for the Ohio Department of Liquor Control. In 1962, he

became the first black Democrat elected to the Ohio House. In 1967, he became mayor of Cleveland, serving during a critical time in the history of my home town. After 4 years as mayor, he moved on to a television journalism career in New York City, to election as a municipal judge and finally as U.S. Ambassador to the Seychelles.

The Reverend Jesse Jackson said about Carl Stokes, all that exists now in the political spectrum for African-Americans are seeds from trees that Carl Stokes planted. He has left a proud legacy to his family, to the Cleveland community and to America.

OBITUARY OF U.S. AMBASSADOR CARL B. STOKES

Carl Burton Stokes died on April 3, 1996, at the age of 68, following a battle with cancer. With his passing, America mourned the loss of one of its most famous sons. Ambassador Stokes may be one of America's most vivid examples of how this nation has responded to the drive for success by the members of what was only one hundred and thirty-three years ago an enslaved group of people. Ambassador Stokes' life has been one of a series of "firsts" for African Americans. America's first Black mayor of a major American city became the first African American ever to be elected to all three branches of government—the legislative, the executive and the judicial.

In November, 1962, Stokes became the first Black Democrat in the history of the State of Ohio to be elected to the Ohio General Assembly. He was re-elected in 1964 and 1966. At that time, members of the Assembly were elected county-wide. Cuyahoga County's population was only 14% Black. Stokes remains the only Black Democrat ever elected county-wide to the Ohio State Legislature.

On November 13, 1967, Stokes attracted international attention when he was sworn in as Mayor of the City of Cleveland—the first Black mayor of a major American city, population 810,000. Since Cleveland was only 37% Black at that time, it also marked the first time an African American has been elected mayor of a predominately white major city of this nation.

In that election, Clevelanders selected Stokes, the grandson of a slave over Seth Taft, the grandson of a United States President. Subsequently, Mayor Stokes was asked by the White House to represent the United States on goodwill trips to Europe. As such, he was received by many heads of state, including nations where relations were strained, such as Romania and Yugoslavia. He was also sent to the Caribbean on missions to Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, Barbados, and Trinidad. His visit to Israel resulted in a friendship with Mayor Teddy Kolleck of Jerusalem that endures to this day.

In 1970, the 15,000 member National League of Cities, composed of mayors and city and county officials from throughout the nation, unanimously voted Stokes as president-elect to head their organization—the first Black official ever to hold that office.

Having completed two terms as mayor, Stokes decided to end his political career and begin a new one in broadcast journalism. In April, 1972, Carl Stokes became the first Black anchorman to appear daily on a television news program in New York City. At NBC's flagship station, WNBC-TV, Stokes also served as urban affairs editor and was often assigned to the United Nations where he interviewed many heads of state and other foreign dignitaries. Additionally, as a correspondent, he traveled throughout sev-

eral nations of Africa, including Gambia, Zambia, Uganda, Kenya, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe.

In September, 1980, after eight years as an award-winning broadcast journalist, Stokes returned to Cleveland and to the practice of law. He became the first Black lawyer to serve as General Counsel to a major American labor union—the United Auto Workers, Region 2 and 2A. Stokes also represented Cleveland's largest city labor union—Laborers' Local 1099, among others.

On November 8, 1983, Stokes was elected as Judge of Cleveland Municipal Court, Ohio's largest court. A few weeks later, on December 22nd, his 12 colleagues elected him Administrative Judge of the Court. And on January 9, 1984, his fellow-judges elected him as their Presiding Judge. Never before had a freshman judge been elected Administrative/Presiding Judge of the thirteen-judge Municipal Court. He served two terms as head of the Court.

Ambassador Stokes' election was a benchmark in American history since few Americans—and no other African American—has ever been elected to the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government in our nation.

Carl Stokes was born on June 21, 1927, in Cleveland, Ohio. He was only two years old when his father, Charles, a laundry worker, died. His widowed mother, Mrs. Louise Stokes, supported her two sons by working as a domestic and for a time the family was on public assistance. He and his older brother, Louis, who is now in his 14th term as Ohio's first Black U.S. Congressman, augmented the family income as newspaper carriers for the *Old Cleveland News*, and by working in neighborhood stores. Congressman Stokes is the senior member from the Ohio delegation to Congress and is the ranking minority member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs-Housing and Urban Development-Independent Agencies.

Once a high school drop-out, Ambassador Stokes has received honorary doctorate degrees from 14 colleges and universities around the country. He has been a visiting lecturer at academic universities and business institutions throughout the United States, Trinidad, Haiti, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, England, France, Germany and Italy.

On Tuesday, November 2, 1993, Stokes was re-elected to a third six-year term as Judge of Cleveland Municipal Court.

On Friday, August 26, 1994, President Bill Clinton appointed then-Judge Stokes as his Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States to the Republic of the Seychelles. In this post, Carl was given the opportunity not only to serve the United States in a diplomatic position, but he also derived the satisfaction of displaying his professional qualifications in an international forum. Carl served as Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles until the time of his death.

The passing of Carl Burton Stokes brings to close a life of love, commitment and inspiration. He was a leader, a visionary, a role model, and above all, a pioneer. His feat of becoming America's first Black mayor of a major American city changed the landscape of American politics. But above all, Carl was proudest of the fact that he was the first Black American to acquire the political power to break down barriers and open unprecedented opportunities for minorities. This will stand as a legacy and lasting tribute to a remarkable individual.

Left to mourn Carl's passing is his loving wife, Rajia Stokes; two sons, Carl B. Stokes, Jr., and Cordell E. Stokes; a stepson, Sasha Kostadinov; and two daughters, Cordi D. Awad and Cynthia Sophia Stokes. In addi-

tion, he leaves to mourn two granddaughters, Jevonne Larajja Stokes and Cybil Quinn McBee; a grandson, Cordell E. Stokes, Jr., and his brother and sister-in-law, Louis and Jay Stokes. Other relatives include a nephew, Chuck Stokes; three nieces, Shelley Stokes Hammond, Judge Angela R. Stokes and Lori Stokes Thompson. Additionally, Carl leaves to mourn Linton Freeman, whom Carl considered to be a special cousin and dean of the family. He also leaves Wynona Jones, Elizabeth Bowes, Blanche Richards, Katie Walker, and a host of other relatives and friends, all of whom were special to Carl in his lifetime.

SUNDRY MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sundry messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

□ 1415

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

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

[Mr. SMITH of Michigan addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

TRIBUTE TO HERB CAEN

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

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, they say that a picture is worth a thousand words, and in this visual era that we live in that has never been truer. But words have power, too, and a name, Herb Caen, to our community was worth 1,000 words every single day for nearly 60 years, mostly with the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Last week we suffered a great loss in our community with the passing of Herb Caen. It was a tremendous loss for the entire Bay area community. Indeed, Herb Caen gave us our sense of community with his sense of humor.

But 1996 was a great year for Herb. It was the year he turned 80, it was the year he got married, it was the year he was awarded the Pulitzer prize, and it was the year that our community recognized him at Herb Caen Day. This special day was put on by Willie Brown, the mayor of San Francisco, and our Chief of Protocol, Charlotte Maillard, and over 75,000 people turned out to pay tribute to Herb Caen and to name an over-3-mile stretch of street in San Francisco Herb Caen Way.

Seventy-five thousand people, joined Walter Cronkite and Joel Grey and