

Mr. Chairman, in Texas we have two Biosphere Reserves that total over three-quarters of a million acres in our State, a significant amount. Under this amendment, we as a Congress are prevented from going back to the communities that include those Biospheres and are adjacent to them. We are prevented from going back to those school districts, those county commissions, and the State legislature, and allowing them to ask the questions that they were not allowed to ask the first time: How does this affect our community and what does this allow us to do? What does it prevent us from doing? How will it affect our tourism? How will it affect our property tax values? How will it affect everything that we have been building in our community and our State?

This amendment prevents those very common sense and basic questions from being asked. And those Biosphere Reserves that have value in support will pass all those tests, and those that do not will at last have a local standard applied to them that we desperately need.

I know some believe the United Nations knows what is best for our communities, but I have a great deal of faith that local communities and counties and school boards and State legislatures, if given an opportunity to ask those questions and have them answered, will come up with the right decision. I have faith in them. This amendment prevents us, prevents them, from having a say. We all deserve to have a say in our property rights.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. All time has expired. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER].

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote, and pending that, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER] will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

Pursuant to the previous order of the House, it is now in order to consider the amendment regarding specific Biosphere Reserves.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Chairman, I will not offer the amendment.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania] having assumed the chair, Mr. SUNUNU, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole

House on the State of the Union, reported that the Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 901) to preserve the sovereignty of the United States over public lands and acquired lands owned by the United States, and to preserve State sovereignty and private property rights in non-Federal lands surrounding those public lands and acquired lands, had come to no resolution thereon.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill, H.R. 901.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, the pending business is the question of agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IS GORE'S CURE FOR ENVIRONMENT

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week the Washington Times reported that, and I quote, "Vice President Al Gore, warning that overpopulation fosters global warming, yesterday suggested expanding abortion programs in developing countries to help reduce the environmental threat."

Mr. Speaker, it is absolutely scandalous and inhumane that the Vice President of the United States is aggressively touting violence against babies to mitigate global warming. The Vice President is blaming the babies of the poor for the consumption excesses of the rich and powerful. How dare he blame the kids.

In a meeting with the weather forecasters, AL GORE gleefully pointed to the administration's repeal of the Mexico City policy, the Hyde amendment for the developing world, as a step towards population control.

Make no mistake about it, President Clinton's action has permitted hundreds of millions of dollars, U.S. tax dollars, to flow to the abortion industry overseas. The Vice President is blaming the problem of global warming on children and suggesting that somehow the world will be a much cleaner place if these innocent children are killed by abortion.

Mr. Speaker, I insert the following article into the RECORD.

[From the Washington Times, Oct. 3, 1997]

GORE'S CURE FOR GLOBAL WARMING JOLTS PRO-LIFE ACTIVISTS
(By Paul Bedard)

Pro-life activists yesterday expressed alarm that Vice President Al Gore's suggestion to curb global warming by slashing population growth could lead to more abortions in Third World countries.

"What he would do is push violence against babies to advance a theory to cure greenhouse gas problems," said Rep. Christopher H. Smith, New Jersey Republican. "You don't use violence to get a cleaner atmosphere."

"Al Gore should not try to impose the immortality of abortion on developing nations," said Carol Long, director of the National Right to Life Political Action Committee.

Mr. Smith charged that the White House was being "elitist" in its effort to curb birth rates by targeting mostly poor, nonwhite populations in Africa, Asia and South America.

"It's elitist because it blames the poor and vulnerable for the problems of the rich and powerful," said Mr. Smith, chairman of the House International Relations human rights subcommittee. "It's very arrogant to persecute anyone to push a theory."

Mr. Gore this week told a White House global warming conference that overpopulation was the top proponent of climate change and, thus, should be a major focus for Government policy. He heralded President Clinton's early 1993 decision to reverse GOP policies blocking U.S. funding of family-planning groups that perform abortions abroad.

Mr. Gore suggested that the industrialized nations have "stabilized" their populations through a three-point program of birth control, abortion and a reduction in child mortality rates, but world populations would grow if developing nations aren't targeted now.

He suggested that pushing his three initiatives could cut 2 billion to 5 billion people from the projected 2050 world population of 14 billion.

"We're actually beginning to experience some good news around the world with the beginnings of a stabilization in world population. But the momentum in the demographic system is such that we're inevitably going to go to 8 or 9 billion. The question is whether these changes will keep us from going to 10, 12, 14 billion," Mr. Gore said.

Mr. Gore has long promoted a "Global Marshall Plan" that promotes birth control and family planning, but his comments at a White House summit of some 100 TV weathermen this week rattled some pro-life advocates.

"This will be the wake-up call," Mr. Smith said.

The National Right to Life Committee also took notice of Mr. Gore's comments and began alerting members, as did the House Pro-Life Caucus.

And Gary Bauer, head of the Family Research Council, said, "The problem with global warming isn't that there are too many people or too many children. That's our greatest asset."

Under the Gore plan, developing nations need three programs to slow population: one to cut child mortality rates so that families don't need to produce numerous children with the expectation that some will die young, birth control and moves to boost women politically and socially.

"When those three conditions are established, those countries make that change,