

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRESSIONAL AGENDA: GOALS FOR A GENERATION

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to bring to my colleagues' attention the following article from the February 24, 1998, Tipp City Herald written by Congressman JOHN BOEHNER regarding the Republican Agenda.

[From the Tipp City Herald, Feb. 24, 1998]

CONGRESSIONAL AGENDA: GOALS FOR A GENERATION

(By John Boehner)

If you're like most Americans, you won't have time to scrutinize every detail of every bit of legislation tackled this year by Congress. Nonetheless, you'll probably identify with the principles behind our efforts: freedom, accountability, and personal responsibility.

My colleagues and I have begun the second half of the 105th Congress with a diverse 90-day agenda reflecting a wide range of issues from completing IRS reform and shrinking the size of government to expanding educational opportunities for our kids. While we tackle these measures in the weeks and months ahead, we'll also be working toward our long-term vision for America—something we call Goals for a Generation.

Our goals for a generation include a drug-free America; the best system of learning in the works; the best and safest retirement system in the world; and modernizing, privatizing, downsizing, and prioritizing government to reduce the total tax burden on families—state, federal, and local—to no more than 25 percent, with a simple, fair, and honest tax code. We'll address each of these goals legislatively this year—and in the years ahead—as we work for a better America in the next century.

In the coming weeks we'll explore the various components of the 90-day agenda and the Goals for a Generation and how they'll affect you and your family, but first it's important to discuss the three principles behind it all: freedom, accountability, and personal responsibility.

Freedom, accountability, and personal responsibility aren't just buzzwords; they're key principles that cut to the core of who we are as a people and what we value as a society. They're basic concepts that have defined America as a nation since its birth. And as diverse as our agenda in Congress this year is, they're at the heart of everything we'll do.

My colleagues and I are committed to enhancing freedom for Americans to live their lives, raise their families, and run their businesses without excessive government interference. We believe it's America's people—not America's government—that has made our nation great. And the bigger and more expensive Washington gets, the smaller and more overtaxed—and less free—people get.

We'll also continue our drive to restore accountability to Washington. Decades of runaway spending and an explosion of regulation and red tape have created an unaccountable monster inside the Beltway—the vast

federal bureaucracy. The result has been a government increasingly out of touch with the needs and goals of its citizens—one that while well-intentioned often hurts people more than it helps.

By balancing the budget for the first time in a generation, we've taken our first real steps toward smaller, less intrusive government, but we've got a long way to go.

Lastly, our goals reflect a fundamental belief that Americans will gladly accept personal responsibility to make the right choices in their lives, families and communities. While we're committed to expanding freedom for individuals, we also believe—as American's Founding Fathers did—that with freedom comes a certain responsibility.

Government can't raise a family, teach a child values, or create bonds between neighbors. Only people can do that—and they have a responsibility to do so.

It makes little sense to make laws and draft legislation without stopping to reflect on the core principles behind it. My colleagues and I took the opportunity to do that recently, and we're confident we're moving in the right direction.

We hope you and your family will agree.

COMPETITION IS A GOOD THING

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise to comment on the current situation regarding competition in the long distance telephone service field. Two years after Congress has passed sweeping telecommunications reform, we are still waiting for real long distance competition to begin.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) seems to be creating more and more hoops for the regional phone companies to have to jump through, whether it be court proceedings or "moving target" standards, in order for them to provide long distance service.

If we are ever going to see true competition in the long distance field, the regulators at the FCC need to be sensitive to the realities of enabling local carriers to offer long distance service. Consumers deserve the opportunity to choose from a variety of long distance service options.

TRIBUTE TO THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL MUSEUM

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Black History Month to pay tribute to the San Joaquin Valley African-American Historical and Cultural Museum. The

African-American museum has been instrumental in exposing the history and contributions of African-Americans to the development of the San Joaquin Valley.

In 1983, an exhibit was set up as part of Fresno's One Hundred Year Centennial Celebration to show contributions African-American settlers had made toward the growth, prosperity, and cultural richness of Fresno County. By 1988, the exhibit had gained a great deal of popularity and needed to grow. Shortly following the exhibit's popularity, a donation by the State Center Community College District provided the space needed to move the exhibit into its first permanent exhibit hall where it remained until 1989. The museum has moved twice since then and now proudly rests in downtown Fresno.

The African-American Historical Museum is used for a variety of artistic, cultural, and historical presentations. The building has served as a community center for numerous community groups and organizations. In addition, the African-American Museum has hosted community forums, meetings, workshops, and recreational activities. In an effort to combat crime, enhance security, and bring about much needed social and physical change within the area, the African-American Museum has worked diligently to enhance and improve the neighborhood through various projects and community outreach activities.

The African-American Museum in Fresno is the only African-American Historical-Pictorial museum in the entire San Joaquin Valley. It houses some of the Valley's proudest pictorial moments, events, and heroes. Additionally, the museum is working with the City of Fresno and the Outreach Unit from the School of Professional Psychology and several local businessmen to sponsor a total youth involvement conference. The conference is directed toward crime prevention and positive redirection of youth participation within the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to the African-American Historical and Cultural Museum in honor of Black History Month. The museum symbolizes the long and storied history of contributions made by African-Americans to the development of the San Joaquin Valley. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the African-American Historical and Cultural Museum many more years of success.

IN HONOR OF JOHN E. MOON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John E. Moon, Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW). Mr. Moon has exhibited himself to be a model American through his proud service to his country throughout his life.

Mr. Moon attended Northwest State College and earned degrees in Business Management

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