OFFICE OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER,
Washington, DC, April 8, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 801(b) (6) and (8) of Public law 100–696, I hereby appoint the following individual to the United States Capitol Preservation Commission: Mr. Serrano, NY.

Yours Very Truly,
RICHARD A. GEPHARDT.

COMMUNICATION FROM HON. RICHARD A GEPHARDT, DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The Speaker laid before the House the following communication from RICHARD A. GEPHARDT, Democratic Leader:

OFFICE OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER,
Washington, DC, April 7, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 704(b)(1) of Public Law 105–78, I hereby appoint the following individual to the National Health Museum Commission: Dr. H. Richard Nesson, M.D. of Brookline, MA.

Yours Very Truly,
RICHARD A. GEPHARDT.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON HOUSE OVERSIGHT

The Speaker laid before the House the following communication from the chairman of the Committee on House Oversight:

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE OVERSIGHT,
Washington, DC, April 1, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR NEWT: Pursuant to Public Law 101–696 section 801 (40 USC §188a) the Chairman of the Committee on House Oversight and the Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library are provided positions on the Capitol Preservation Commission.

Since I currently serve as Chairman for both Committees, I am appointing Mr. John Mica of Florida to serve on the Commission in the position reserved for the Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best regards,
BILL THOMAS,
Chairman.

POSTPONING CALL OF PRIVATE CALENDAR

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the call of the Private Calendar be postponed until 5 p.m. today.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

VICE PRESIDENT HAS NEW IDEA ON HOW TO WASTE TAXPAYER DOLLARS

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

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, according to press accounts, Vice President AL GORE has a new idea on how to raise taxpayer dollars.

Apparently, he awoke from a very deep sleep at 3 in the morning and came up with this new innovation for the Internet. He wants to send up a satellite whose only job is to beam back pictures of Earth. Now, these pictures would be placed on the Internet so that people all across the world would always have access to the Earth. Now, imagine that, live pictures of the Earth turning on its little axis.

This may sound like a great idea at 3 o'clock in the morning, Mr. Speaker, but it is a dumb idea during the rest of the day. The cost of this project would be about $50 million, and it already occupies the time of two NASA scientists. $50 million would buy 50,000 computers for our Nation's students.

I have a better idea, Mr. Speaker. Let us give the Vice President some sleeping pills so that his nighttime dreams will not cost the taxpayers millions of dollars.

EXPANDING NAFTA TO CENTRAL AMERICA

(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, somebody is inhaling. Since NAFTA, American TVs and typewriters are made in Mexico; American telephones are made in Singapore; computers are made in China and Japan. And after all this, the White House wants to expand this NAFTA madness to all of Central America.

Now, here is how I predict it will work. Central America will get jobs and investment. Uncle Sam will get a pink slip, training voucher, and two free lunches to Taco Bell. Beam me up. This is not free trade. This is a joke, a dirty joke on American workers.

I yield back another record trade deficit and 1.4 million American workers who filed individual bankruptcy in America last year, another record I might add. Think about it.

TAX LIMITATION AMENDMENT

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

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, Washington has imprisoned the hopes and dreams of Americans in a cell known as the United States Tax Code. Last Wednesday, April 15, Americans got a harsh reminder that parole could still be a long way off.

Instead of expanding freedom for its citizens, Washington has expanded power for the Government by raising taxes again, and again, and again. And four of the last five major Federal tax hikes passed with less than a two-thirds majority of Congress voting for them.

Tax reform starts with the things like we are doing in Congress right now, like reforming IRS, having nationwide debates about the flat tax and national retail sales tax. But, most of all, Mr. Speaker, tax reform starts with not raising taxes.

The tax limitation amendment is a weapon in our hands in the war for a fairer and flatter Federal Tax Code. This amendment will make it tougher to raise taxes, period. It is a bipartisan step toward the fairer, flatter, simpler Code Americans want and deserve. It deserves to pass.

REBUILDING AMERICAN SCHOOLS

(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, I think on this very bright and sunny spring day I am delighted to associate myself with a forward-thinking Democratic agenda that says that we must come back to this House and stand on the side of our young people, and that means that we must go full speed ahead on rebuilding America's schools.

The question is, why are we stalled with legislation that allows a certain amount of money to provide for the failing and falling infrastructure, the leaking roofs, the many scatter-site trailer homes that schoolchildren are having to learn in? Why should we not, the American government, stand on the side of educating our children? Why should we not provide for 100,000 teachers to go into the classrooms with their talent and enthusiasm and teach our children?

Then, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that I want to stand on the side of science, understanding how difficult it is for us to understand needle exchange. This is not part of the Democratic agenda. I think it makes common sense that we recognize that the science says that we will decrease HIV by the needle exchange. Let us get common sense and stop, and stop, and stop the tragedy of HIV.

TAX LIMITATION AMENDMENT

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Joint Resolution 111, the tax limitation amendment.

In 1994, as a citizen of Nevada, I led an effort to amend our State Constitution with this very same language. I am proud to say that Nevada voters on two consecutive elections voted overwhelmingly to pass the measure. The Gibbons Tax Restraint Initiative, as it is referred to, has now become law in the State of Nevada. By passing this law, the citizens of Nevada declared in a loud and clear voice that they want