

other sources but she certainly could not live on a reduced benefit as would happen if this tax cut were to become law.

So those are two reasons. There are many others but those are two of what the problems are with the tax cut that is being proposed.

---

**WE MUST TAKE ACTION TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF ALL AMERICANS**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, 3 weeks ago I first learned the story of a lieutenant colonel working for the Department of Energy whose job had been threatened. Colonel Ed McCallum was the director of the Office of Safeguards and Security for the Department of Energy. He and his staff were responsible for the policy that governs the protection of the Energy Department's national security assets. This includes nuclear weapons, nuclear materials, highly classified information, and personnel clearances.

In his position within the Department, Colonel McCallum was responsible for evaluating and working to prevent security challenges with regard to our Nation's most sensitive technology. In his 9 years as director, Colonel McCallum worked under Clinton appointee Secretary Hazel O'Leary and then under current Energy Secretary Bill Richardson. Under both, he worked to highlight security lapses within the Department. Unfortunately, he faced a steep uphill battle getting anyone in the department to listen to his concerns.

Instead, his reports and memos were ultimately carelessly set aside. Even after gaining the attention of the Secretary, little or no action was taken. Time after time, his efforts were stonewalled.

Now Colonel McCallum is speaking out about the Department's efforts to ignore the great breaches of national security at our weapons laboratories. Since coming forward with the truth, Colonel McCallum was placed on administrative leave and his career was threatened. Now with the help of Bill O'Reilly and Fox News, I have been working to draw attention to the subject of China and other nations' efforts to steal American military secrets, as well as the administration's treatment of the men and women who are coming forward with the truth.

Colonel McCallum and members of his staff are working to protect the security of each and every American citizen. Rather than being rewarded for their patriotism, they are being punished by this administration.

After appearing on the O'Reilly Factor last month, my office has received numerous calls and letters from con-

cerned citizens asking that we continue working to address this issue.

Mr. Speaker, the American people care that our national security has been compromised. The American people care about what other sensitive U.S. information China and rogue nations have been able to access. Our potential adversaries may have been able to steal information on our most advanced stealth technology. Our military space research or information on our most advanced communications equipment.

Each of these technologies by themselves pose real risks to the security of the American people. For that reason, I am concerned not only for the safety of our generation but also that of the future generations. My friend and colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON), and I have asked the Committee on Armed Services chairman, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPENCE), to hold a hearing allowing members of Colonel McCallum's staff to testify. The information they can provide will be critical in assessing Congress' effort to halt the leakage of sensitive military secrets.

Mr. Speaker, we must take action to protect those individuals who are willing to come forward with the information that will keep our sensitive national security information protected and secret. We must take actions to ensure the safety and security of all Americans.

---

**EILEEN COLLINS, A TESTAMENT OF THE POSSIBILITIES THAT DREAMS PRESENT TO US**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, as a testament of the possibilities that dreams present to us, I rise this morning to speak on a resolution that I introduced which passed the House yesterday honoring a true American hero.

After two frustrating but necessary delays, STS-93 finally launched early in the morning on July 23, and last Tuesday the Space Shuttle Columbia landed safely at the Kennedy Space Center after the successful completion of its mission. On its 26th voyage to Earth's orbit, Columbia launched the Chandra X-Ray Observatory. This marvel of technology promises to unlock many secrets of the origins of the universe and the formation of galaxies, stars and planets. As promising and as exciting as this latest enterprise of exploration is to scientists and students everywhere, there is still a greater significance to this mission.

The commander of this mission, U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Eileen Marie Collins, was born in 1956, just one year before the space race began with the Soviet launch of Sputnik 1.

She grew up in the tense climate of the Cold War, fully aware that as demonstrated by Sputnik the Soviet Union could launch a missile with enough force to threaten her home. No doubt, she shared the apprehension that would spark the space race and see the United States play catch-up to the apparent dominance of the world's other superpower.

She just turned 12 when Apollo 8 made its 10 historic orbits of the Moon on Christmas day 1968, and I have no doubt she was among the millions who watched Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Buzz Aldrin make their voyage in Apollo 11 in July of 1969.

She dreamed of being a test pilot and an astronaut but it did not come easy for her. Though women were early pioneers of flight, since the 1930s fewer opportunities were open to women. It was not until the mid-1970s that women became eligible for positions as military aviators, the traditional route to the astronaut program.

Collins was working her way through community college during this time and earned a scholarship to Syracuse. She studied mathematics and economics, going on to later earn a Master of Science degree in operations research from Stanford University and a Master of Arts in space systems management from Webster University.

In 1979, the same year Skylab fell out of Earth's orbit, she completed her pilot training for the Air Force. She became a flight instructor, and in 1983 when Sally Ride became the first American woman in space, she was a C-141 commander and instructor. As a test pilot, she eventually logged over 5,000 hours in 30 different aircraft.

She was selected as an astronaut in 1990, became the first woman pilot of the Space Shuttle aboard the Discovery on STS-63 in February of 1995. Going into this most recent mission, she had already logged over 419 hours of time in space.

With her latest mission, however, she embarked on an adventure that marks another moment in history. She became the first woman commander of a mission to space.

As chair of the Subcommittee on Technology, I introduced the legislation that created the Commission on the Advancement of Women and Minorities in Science, Engineering and Technology Development, working to reverse the underrepresentation of these groups in the sciences through better education and encouragement at all levels of learning. Through my work on the Committee on Science, I have had the pleasure of meeting Colonel Collins. I have been impressed by her down-to-earth personality and sense of self in such a historic context.

Commenting on the low number of women astronauts, she said, "If you do not have large numbers of women apply, it will be hard to select large numbers of women."

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 267 seeks to recognize the wider possibilities demonstrated by this flight. This latest