

they take a couple of bites out of it and then they turn the apple around so Americans cannot see what they have done to that apple.

Recently the Republican majority in this chamber has gone around stating they are the only ones able to protect and strengthen Social Security. How come they elected their leader, a person who pledged, and I quote, "to bite the bullet and phase Social Security out over a period of time." The fact is, Republicans have a history of voting against Social Security. In 1935, only one Republican, Frank Crowther of my own State of New York, had the courage to buck his party and vote against a Republican motion to recommit Title II to strike out old age and unemployment insurance provisions. It would have effectively killed Social Security as we know it today. Only one out of 96 Republicans had the courage to vote in favor of Social Security.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to continue to support the Social Security system as we know it today.

INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION FOR OUR CHILDREN

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

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I was at home at the Verboort Sausage Festival this past weekend. It is a wonderful community event. I had the privilege of sitting next to Don and Lois Tayler. Lois Tayler's grandfather owned 100 acres on part of which Findley Elementary School now sits. As Oregon pioneers, the Findleys understood the value of education. And Don and Lois, who are schoolteachers now, know that that school has 900 kids in it, but it was built for 700.

This Congress has the ability to help with that situation, with school modernization and class size reduction, and we should not go home until we get those jobs done to keep faith with people like the Findleys, like the Taylers, and other Oregonians who made investments in their day for their children. We should be making similar investments in our day for our children.

□ 1030

IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION, ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL, AND QUALITY MATTERS

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, not everyone likes pickles on their hamburgers. For many years that preference meant a longer wait at McDonald's, because if you did not want what was already under the heat lamp, they had to do a specialty order. All those burgers under the heat lamp had pickles on them. But you did get a fresher burger.

People who like pickles on their hamburgers, on the other hand, usually did not have to wait. In fact the burgers were already waiting for them, so they were less fresh and lower quality.

All that has been changing. McDonald's restaurants now prepare your meals when you order them. This means you get exactly what you want. It is a fresher, higher quality product.

There are two simple truths inspiring the McDonald's reform: First, one size does not fit all. Second, quality matters.

Let us apply these simple truths to education reform. Instead of mandating new teachers, let us give the States and local communities the opportunity to ensure higher teacher quality and to spend that money on what they know will work in their schools, because one size does not fit all, and quality does matter.

PAYMENT OF U.N. ARREARS

(Mrs. LOWEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, the United States has earned the reputation as the United Nations' number one deadbeat. If my colleagues want to help restore our good name and regain our influence in the U.N., they need to join me today in supporting immediate and full repayment of our U.N. arrears.

This funding is critical to United States' foreign policy. It shows the international community that a commitment made by the United States means something. It gives the U.N. the resources it needs to carry on the important work it is doing around the globe.

The United States has a tremendous amount of influence within the U.N., but that level of influence decreases with every day that we do not pay our arrears. In fact, at the end of this year, we face the prospect of losing our vote in the General Assembly.

How can we expect the U.N. to continue to take our interests into account around the world? How can we expect them to fund the projects we support and to send peacekeeping troops to areas where we want to see more stability when we do not contribute? How do we expect to help to continue to reform the U.N. in a meaningful way if we do not pay our debt? Let us pay our dues now.

EDUCATION

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, this week as we get down to the wire on budget negotiations, I rise to speak on behalf of education, our children, and the classroom as the priority in this country.

More teachers is a great idea. I applaud it. However, more teachers may

not be the immediate or only need in some of our school districts. Some schools may need better teacher quality, they may need teacher training, teacher improvement. Some may need books and equipment, supplies. The list goes on.

The funding levels that we have been discussing are not at odds here. This is a question of who knows best, Washington bureaucrats, or local teachers and principals in the local public school classroom.

The President's goal may be noble enough, but his means of achieving it are flawed. Who can argue with the fact that local control is the best means by which we can truly support our schools? Let us empower our students, our teachers, with the tools that they need to take our kids to the next step of the learning process. Let us give our local schools more flexibility, more local control when we send this money back to the classroom.

MAKING IN ORDER AT ANY TIME CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1555, INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1555) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes; that all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration be waived, that the conference report be considered as read when called up, and that House Resolution 364 be laid upon the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

WAIVING CERTAIN ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 106TH CONGRESS

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 76) waiving certain enrollment requirements for the remainder of the first session of the 106th Congress with respect to any bill or joint resolution making general appropriations or continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2000, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

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

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I yield to my

good friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER) to explain to the House why we are considering this matter at this time.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from New York, for yielding.

I think all of my colleagues know that U.S. Code requires engrossed bills that passed both Houses to be printed on parchment in a manner determined by the Joint Committee on Printing. For large bills such as the appropriation measures that are still under debate and discussion, this requires many additional hours of time that may in fact be saved and allow us to complete our work sooner if this statute is set aside on a temporary basis.

As most of my colleagues know, this is typically done at the end of every session of Congress, and we can in fact finish our work in a more timely manner and deliver these bills more quickly to the White House for their signature.

Mr. MCNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the joint resolution, as follows:

H.J. RES. 76

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of sections 106 and 107 of title 1, United States Code, are waived for the remainder of the first session of the One Hundred Sixth Congress with respect to the printing (on parchment or otherwise) of the enrollment of any bill or joint resolution making general appropriations or continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000. The enrollment of any such bill or joint resolution shall be in such form as the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives certifies to be a true enrollment.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, House Resolution 365 is laid on the table.

There was no objection.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE HEROIC EFFORTS OF THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD'S 109TH AIRLIFT WING AND ITS RESCUE OF DR. JERRI NIELSEN FROM THE SOUTH POLE

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 205) recognizing and honoring the heroic efforts of the Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing and its rescue of Dr. Jerri Nielsen from the South Pole, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

Mr. MCNULTY. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I shall not object, I rise simply to commend my colleague the gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) for bringing my resolution to the floor, and to speak for a moment about its merits.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Jerri Nielsen was stationed at the South Pole during this past Antarctic winter, and by virtue of self-examination discovered a lump in her breast. She performed a biopsy. She concluded that she had breast cancer. She administered chemotherapy and tried as best she could to endure the Antarctic winter until a plane could come and rescue her and give her more comprehensive medical treatment.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this resolution is to point out the heroism of those who went to rescue Dr. Nielsen. They are the members of the Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing, which is located in my congressional district in Glenville, New York. This mission departed the Samuel S. Stratton Air National Guard Base on October 6th, arrived at the South Pole on October 15th, traveled 11,410 nautical miles, and was led by Major George McAllister, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, this trip was historic in that Major McAllister and his crew became the first persons ever to land at the South Pole so soon after an antarctic winter. I know a little bit about the dangers faced by the members of the 109th, Mr. Speaker, because I have traveled with them both to the North Pole and to the South Pole. Of course, when I went with them, it was in the middle of the Antarctic summer, which is our winter. So when I was there in January of 1994 it was a balmy 40 degrees below zero. But in the Antarctic winter, the record low temperature is 128 degrees below zero. A complex piece of machinery like a C-130 cannot operate in that kind of temperature.

But Major McAllister and his crew went in as soon as possible, rescued Dr. Nielsen, and Dr. Nielsen is now receiving the treatment that she needs.

So on this particular occasion, I want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) for allowing us to consider this resolution, and I would like, Mr. Speaker, just to mention the names of those who comprised that lifesaving crew.

They are Pilot Major George R. McAllister, Jr.; Senior Mission Commander Colonel Marion G. Pritchard; Co-pilot Major David Koltermann; Navigator Lieutenant Colonel Brian M. Fennessy; Engineer Chief Master Sergeant Michael T. Cristiano; Loadmasters, Senior Master Sergeant Kurt A. Garrison and Technical Sergeant David M. Vesper; Flight Nurse Major Kimberly Terpening; and Medical Technicians Chief Master Sergeant Michael Casatelli and Master Sergeant Kelly McDowell.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of my colleagues for this opportunity to salute these true American heroes, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this joint resolution.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MCNULTY. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCNULTY), for bringing this resolution.

As a former member of the New York Air National Guard, I have had an opportunity to look at our airlift units across the State. Time and time again they have been called for emergency or war, and have served gallantly, taking on the responsibilities that have been assigned them.

As the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCNULTY) has indicated, this has been a very difficult mission to rescue Dr. Nielsen, who is a native of New York, in the aspect of bringing her back from the South Pole. Those who followed this as the mission was planned and then executed, and the history of it after it was completed, clearly saw the risk and danger that the men and women found themselves in as they were deployed to the South Pole in such tough winter conditions.

As a matter of fact, the mission was postponed for months until the weather was at a point they could land on the South Pole.

So to the 109th Airlift Wing, our congratulations, and to our colleague for bringing it forward.

Mr. MCNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 205

Whereas the 109th Airlift Wing of the Air National Guard is based at Stratton Air National Guard Base in Glenville, New York;

Whereas the 109th was called upon by the United States Antarctic Program to undertake a medical evacuation mission to the South Pole to rescue Dr. Jerri Nielsen, a physician who diagnosed herself with breast cancer;

Whereas the 109th is the only unit in the world trained and equipped to attempt such a mission;

Whereas the 10 crew members were pilot Maj. George R. McAllister Jr., senior mission commander Col. Marion G. Pritchard, co-pilot Maj. David Koltermann, navigator Lt. Col. Bryan M. Fennessy, engineer Ch. M. Sgt. Michael T. Cristiano, loadmasters Sr. M. Sgt. Kurt A. Garrison and T. Sgt. David M. Vesper, flight nurse Maj. Kimberly Terpening, and medical technicians Ch. M. Sgt. Michael Casatelli and M. Sgt. Kelly McDowell;

Whereas the crew departed Stratton Air Base for McMurdo Station in Antarctica via Christchurch, New Zealand, on October 6, 1999;

Whereas on October 15, 1999, Aircraft No. 096 departed McMurdo for the South Pole, where the temperature was approximately -K53 degrees Celsius;