

needed in California alone this year. Our schools need to succeed, not to fail. We need to increase teachers' salaries from \$32,000 to approximately \$36,000, and provide incentives for our teachers.

Programs: The Republican plan will cut reading and math for up to 650,000 children. It cuts reading tutorial programs for our children. It will cut \$68 million from programs for education technology centers, yet the President just recently said that we are going to provide additional money in science and technology.

Especially, it affects a lot of our institutions across the United States. And we need to make sure that our children advance and are meeting the future in that area.

School safety: The Republican plan will result in unsafe schools. One-third of our schools need extensive repairs or replacement of buildings. Republicans rejected \$1.3 billion for urgent safety and health repairs at 5,000 schools.

Our children will be in classes with unsafe wiring, roofs could fall or leak. It is important that we provide an atmosphere and an environment that is conducive to learning. When our children feel that they are safe in schools, that do not have leaky roofs, that we provide that kind of environment, their attitude and self-esteem will change and it will be a lot better.

Republicans cut \$51 million from the President's request to fight drugs in schools. We need to keep programs like DARE programs, "Say No to Drugs," Red Ribbon Week, the Police Athletic League, the Friday Night Live, the Boys and Girls Club, Los Padrinos program, the City of Fontana Drug Court program, the drug treatment/recovery programs for adolescents established in legislation that I carried, AB 1784.

The Republicans have eliminated funding to make our schools safe.

The Republicans eliminated funding for a program to make our schools safe from violence in over 40 school districts. We need to avoid more tragedies. That is why I am carrying H.R. 4428 which would create school safety programs!

The elderly.—The Republican bill cuts funding to protect elderly Americans. It eliminates 95% of the funding to improve quality of care in nursing homes.

It will cut pension and health care plan protections!

It rejects a Medicare prescription drug benefit.

The disabled.—It will put the disabled on the streets, including our veterans, who have fought for our country. The bill cuts employment assistance to 3,100 homeless veterans!

The Republican plan helps the wealthy.—At the same time the Republicans are slashing programs, they are giving tax breaks to the very wealthy!

Democrats believe in responsibility.

But the Republican plan spends down the bank account. It does not save for a rainy day. It is a poor investment in our future.

The war on poverty, illiteracy, and disease.—There are hundreds of thousands of American citizens living without basic services that most Americans take for granted!

We need to take immediate action to give them the opportunity to succeed. We should have the courage and commitment to provide adequate living conditions.

No matter where they live, children must be given an equal opportunity to live healthy and safe lives. Seniors should have food, shelter, and medicine!

We should remember the words of Cesar Chavez, "Si se puede!" There is hope to take care of our children and seniors!

Conclusion.—We must look to the future. For our seniors and our young people. We must do the right thing.

We must oppose H.R. 4577. It is bad for my district! It is bad for America!

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GARY MILLER of California). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. METCALF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. METCALF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EDUCATION FUNDING REQUIRES ACCOUNTABILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I realize that Americans are flocking to the beaches and taking with them a variety of reading materials. And so I guess in that sense, Mr. Speaker, it comes as no surprise that we are treated to the latest fiction and rhetorical terror from the leftists in this community who always trust Washington bureaucrats instead of the people.

As I listened to the litany of fiction just a few moments ago preceding me in the well, I noticed with interest that nowhere in any of the statements of the gentleman from California was there one scintilla of a request for accountability. Not in the litany of alleged shortages was there a simple request to have an accounting.

Now, I guess it should come as no surprise because under the Clinton-Gore administration, Mr. Speaker, do we realize that the Department of Education cannot account for \$18 billion of our money? The books of the Department of Education are unauditible. Mr. Speaker, Secretary Riley, President Clinton, Vice President GORE would be well-advised to take a mathematics refresher course.

No one doubts that children are our future. No one doubts that education is vitally important. But, Mr. Speaker, how do we serve the people when \$18 billion is not accounted for? That is real money.

Worst still is the notion that somehow by supplying more and more dollars, even when they cannot be accounted for, to Washington bureaucrats that somehow that magically by osmosis fixes our public schools. Nothing could be further from the truth.

We understand in this common sense Congress with an emerging bipartisan

majority that the best way to help teachers teach and help children learn is to call for accountability, first and foremost with parents and teachers and local leaders. That is the key and that is the major defense. That is why our majority in this House of Representatives time and again has asked for dollars to get to the classroom. That for every dollar of Federal taxpayer money devoted to education, 90 cents go to the classroom; only 10 cents be left for the care and feeding of Washington bureaucrats.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I was pleased that every Member of this House last summer joined me in voting for the New Education Land-Grant Act that helps local school districts in 44 of our 50 states receive at low cost, \$10 an acre, up to 100 acres of federally controlled land that is not environmentally sensitive so that precious resources within those communities can go to what is really important, helping teachers teach and helping children learn. But again it becomes a question of accountability.

So when we hear the litany of fictions brought to this well, and when we hear the recitations of the gloom and doom, understand this: How can we entrust the Washington bureaucrats when these folks cannot even account for \$18 billion of our money? We do not put out a fire by throwing gasoline on it, nor do we solve problems always by throwing money. Spending money wisely, empowering parents, teachers, local leaders, Mr. Speaker, that is the way we improve education, and by getting dollars to the classroom instead of the bureaucratic cesspools where they remain unaccounted for.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FOLEY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

TRIBUTE TO JAMES BELANOFF

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. James Belanoff, a long-time union leader for the United Steelworkers in Indiana who was part of a politically and social activist family, many of whom lived in Chicago and were actively involved in the labor and political activity of Chicago and of Illinois.

Mr. Belanoff was born in Canada and moved to Chicago where he lived until

he returned home from the military and moved to Gary, Indiana, and then to Hammond. Mr. Belanoff went to work for Inland Steel, joined the union, became involved, and ultimately became president of his local.

From 1977 to 1981, he served as full-time director of District 31 of the United Steelworkers of America. He developed his labor and community activist interests from his father who owned a grocery store, but who always was involved in civic and community life. Mr. Belanoff graduated from Roosevelt University with a bachelor's degree and was elected to two terms to the Hammond Indiana City Council.

Standing up for the common person was a trademark of Mr. Belanoff and that tradition has been embraced by other members of his family as they too have become involved in public service.

His sister, Mariam, served as a Cook County judge and as a member of the Illinois General Assembly. His nephew, Clem, is a former State representative and 10th Ward Democratic committeeman. Mr. Belanoff's son, THOMAS, is President of Local 73 of the Service Employees International Union and on the State Council of the Service Employees Union in Illinois.

In addition to his son Tom, Mr. Belanoff leaves to mourn his wife, Betty, two sons, James Junior and Joseph, a daughter, Katherine Robinson, four brothers, John, Clem, Theodore, and William, and seven grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Belanoff and the Belanoff family represent the very best of what America can be: Common folks doing uncommon things, always representing themselves and their neighbors and their friends. So I am pleased to have had this moment to pay tribute to not only a giant of a man, but a tremendously civic-, community-, and politically active family. I wish for them the best as they mourn their father, their uncle, their grandfather, and a friend to all of humanity.

INDIANA PACERS HEAD TO THE NBA FINALS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, for the first time in history of the NBA, the Indiana Pacers are going to be playing in the finals starting tonight. They are the Eastern Division champions and we are just so pleased in Indiana that that happened. The Indiana Pacers. Remember, they played the New York Knicks. They said it was the hicks versus the Knicks.

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, is that the team where the best player is still the guy on the bench doing the coaching?

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Larry Bird was a great player, but he is also a great coach.

Mr. Speaker, let me get back to the focus of my short message tonight. That is that the Indiana Pacers for the first time in history are going to be playing in the finals of the NBA. They are going to be playing the overwhelming favorite, the Los Angeles Lakers and Shaquille O'Neil, that titan of a man who is so tough to defend.

But I want to tell a little story. I had an opportunity to talk to Jack Nicholson, the outstanding movie star, about another issue on the phone. He has won several Academy Awards. Mr. Nicholson, the first time I called him was at a Lakers game and I mentioned it to him. He said, "Yes, I go to all the Lakers games." And I said, "You know, Mr. Nicholson, it is a shame that the Los Angeles Lakers are going to be playing the Indiana Pacers, because we are going to beat their tail." And here is what he said: "Not in your life, Dan."

I do not know if that imitation was very good. "Not in your life, son."

So all I want to say tonight to Mr. Nicholson, if he happens to be watching in California, Mr. Speaker, is, "You do not know anything about Hoosier pride, because we are going to win. We are going to win. We are going to kick the tail of the Los Angeles Lakers." Go Pacers.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair must remind Members not to address the television viewing audience.

COMMON SENSE GUN LEGISLATION AND THE DEATH OF LORI GONZALEZ, GRANDDAUGHTER OF LOS ANGELES POLICE CHIEF BERNARD PARKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to give a tissue to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) after the last game of the Pacers and Lakers, when that happens.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight because I think we were all excited last week as we went to our districts for our District Work Period for a week. And I was excited because first, I received the President and CEO of Amtrak coming in to Los Angeles to show the high-speed rail that we are trying to get to move people and goods throughout the State of California and all across the Nation.

□ 2030

All of California was quite excited about that.

I also had the privilege of opening up a one-stop capital shop for small businesses to grow, to expand, and to have job creation through the Small Business Administration. The small busi-

ness administrator, Ms. Aida Alvarez, came to open up this shop. I had the mayor of Los Angeles, Richard Riordan.

I even received an award, Mr. Speaker, on my legislation from pediatric asthma from the Asthma Foundation. I went to Sacramento to talk to the Governor and its people about funding for higher education.

So I thought it was a good week until the moment came where I got the call that one of our young women again had fallen to gun violence. This young woman, Lori Gonzalez, was the granddaughter of our chief of police Bernard Parks.

I guess I stand tonight once again to remind this Congress how important it is to pass meaningful gun safety reform. Because of the recent death of Lori Gonzalez, 20 years old, had not reached her adult life, and of the many who have fallen to gun violence, I urge this Congress to swiftly move to protect our Nation's children and its communities by approving common sense gun safety provisions.

Just a few weeks ago, I joined with other mothers in my community in Los Angeles and the thousands and thousands of mothers across this Nation who marched in Washington and 71 other cities to call on this Congress to finally enact common sense gun legislation.

On Mother's Day, we paused to remember the thousands of children who have been killed by gunfire and to pray that our message would finally move Congress to address this very critical issue before another day passes and another one of our Nation's children would be lost to gunfire.

In the weeks since Mother's Day, Congress has continued to sit idle, refusing to answer the prayers of, not just the Nation's mothers, but of the majority of Americans who favor the passage of common sense gun legislation. Today and every day gun violence continues to plague our communities and has taken the lives of innocent victims like Lori Gonzalez.

With the ineptitude and stagnation that has infiltrated the halls of Congress, I would unfortunately be fooling myself if I thought the death of one individual, Lori Gonzalez, could once again get this Congress to take up meaningful gun legislation.

This is the Congress that has done nothing in the wake of the horrible shootings in Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. This is the same Congress that has ignored every shooting in the past years simply accepting shootings as a part of daily life in America.

Lori Gonzalez, as I said, the daughter of Los Angeles Chief Bernard Parks was gunned down over the Memorial weekend outside of the fast food restaurant in Los Angeles. This could be any child because our kids do like to go to fast food restaurants, Mr. Speaker, even my grandchildren and even my adult children.