

In 1948, we replaced the old draft with the Universal Military Training and Service Act. A few years after that, we replaced it again with the Reserve Forces Act of 1955. At that time you were required 6 years' service between your active and reserve time.

Then came Vietnam. In 1967, we passed the Military Selective Service Act. That war had such controversy and had such venom throughout our Nation that we ended up with the discontinuation of the draft in 1973. Inductions were stopped, they were not renewed by Congress, and we favored an all-voluntary military force. However, registration was still required.

By 1975, we even suspended registration, so men who were only a few years younger than myself found themselves in an era of not even having to register. However, 5 short years later, Congress reinstated draft registration requirements for men between the ages of 18 and 26.

Our modern Selective Service System that we have today must be authorized by Congress to induct people and the President must order a return to the draft. The system today is for registration. We merely maintain the rolls. It is a lottery. It still would be used by drawing your name out of a hat based on your date of birth, and young men would be drafted with certain age groups.

Finally, local draft boards that are representative of the demographics and ethnic makeup of your community are those who can draft you. Many people, myself included, have served as a member of these local draft boards. We have done so in a standby cadre status because we do not draft anyone today.

Since Vietnam, we have been very fortunate concerning combat casualties, especially given the deadly nature of weapons employed on today's battlefields. However, should America find itself at war with a capable and determined foe, casualty rates will likely increase significantly and a mechanism that provides replacements in a timely manner will be necessary. The Selective Service System is that mechanism.

I urge all that have the opportunity to counsel America's young men, to register with Selective Service. It is an important responsibility of men between the age of 18 and 26.

The proponents of this amendment would have us believe that maintaining a Selective Service System is a waste of taxpayer resources. The cost of rebuilding the Selective Service System from scratch, in both dollars and time, far outweighs the costs associated with funding the current system.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to defeat this amendment. Rarely do we have unanimous support from the administration, Joint Chiefs, service secretaries, and veteran service organizations across the country for a program. They all agree that we need the Selective Service System should America ever require its capabilities. Vote no on this amendment.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 402 recognizes the 60th anniversary of the Selective Service System and the critical role it has played in protecting democracy. I urge its passage.

□ 1930

SOVEREIGN ENTITIES

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

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, the President warns of the potential of a new age of civil wars. He is one of the progressive new center-left academics turned leader and a proponent of the view that he and his family of progressive thinkers can find the cause of wars and intervene with a cure.

It has been demonstrated time after time that the United States can be drawn into war after war, national conflicts within borders and across borders. American troops die and suffer for the policy formulations we are never informed of and without the specific congressional declaration and war powers that the Congress alone retains.

Since the United Nations was founded in 1945, America has not won a war but lost each and every conflict but one, depending on your view of the Persian Gulf War.

The Millennium Report recently issued by U.N. Secretary General Annan calls for "a strengthened Corps of Commanders in New York ready to organize and intervene with peace-keeping operations within a week or two."

There is little that I fear so much as U.S. troops being committed to such an international force that can intervene without requiring specific congressional approval.

Should this concept ever conclude where it is intended, a standing army with a stronger corps of commanders, we will see the development of a threat greater than ever in our recent past. Already we have seen the power of a few enormous multinational corporations grow to a size that exceeds all but the largest nations. Fifty-one corporations are presently larger than the bottom 100 nations.

We have seen the jurisdictional prerogatives of NATO enlarged and both our own CIA and NATO find in their mandates to now include protecting these same corporations' trade routes and corporate markets. How did they find that new information there? Globalization has created new sovereigns out of these paper entities. The United Nations would create a new standing army to protect these new sovereigns' interests.

There is much too much hope placed on globalization and the interdependence upon nations. The rhetoric only hides the reality of who really benefits and what the real consequences are

here at home. Wages in America are stagnant, and in the last 3 years there have been periods of decline.

Maybe wages are going up slightly in some countries, but this too can be explained by other than globalization's trade benefits: the present world economy is driven by speculation, not productivity; mergers and acquisitions, not growth and new entrepreneurship; workers shifting from one well-paying job to three less well-paid service jobs; wealth increased for the few investors, owners and profiteers while the standard of living drops again and again as every new dollar buys less goods for every family.

We are today proud of an economic boom that nobody would dare suggest can be sustained. When the inevitable downturn arrives, wages will be scuttled. Wages worldwide will return to the pre-speculative period. But the largest corporations will not feel the pain, as each merger, each acquisition grants to the parent firm unlimited opportunities to downsize further and eliminate more jobs.

Is there any question about what entities are really sovereign today?

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

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

KEY PRINCIPLES AND KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN EDUCATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I chair the positive education caucus in the Congress of the United States. This positive education caucus believes that it is easy to be critical but much more difficult to find solutions. That positive caucus is called the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the United States House of Representatives.

So I am pleased to join several of my colleagues in reviewing two things with the American people and with all who are watching; first, the seven key Republican principles on education; and second, the key education accomplishments we have made over the last 5 years.

Since we became a majority party in November of 1994, I have fought to include seven key principles in all education legislation that is passed through the Committee on Education and Workforce and the House.

Now, why did we do that? Why did we come up with these seven principles? Well, I sat here for 20 years in the minority where I was told over and over again, and I watched it happen, that all