



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 107th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 147

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, MAY 25, 2001

No. 74

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 25, 2001.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JUDY BIGGERT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Captain Leroy Gilbert, CHC, USN, The Chaplain of the Coast Guard, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, before transacting the business of this country, we the people of the United States of America reverently pause to invoke Your blessings and presence upon the Representatives and the proceedings of this House today.

Lord, we are most grateful for our system of government inspired into existence by Your divine principles of humanity, service, freedom, equality and justice for all.

May Members of this governing body propose, debate, chisel and bring forth bills and ideas that are pleasing in Your sight and serve as a beacon of light to other nations of what can be accomplished by a country whose motto is "In God We Trust."

Lord, we live in a rapidly changing world and we are faced with challenges that compel our country to make changes. Nevertheless, grant us the wisdom that our first response to a changing world will not be, "How should it be changed?" but "What do we stand for that should never change," and then figure out how to change everything else.

As the decisionmakers in Congress contemplate the best course of action for the future of America, may the words of 2 Chronicles 7:14 be planted in their minds and hearts.

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

May God bless America. In Thy name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 581. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to use funds appropriated for wildland fire management in the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001, to reimburse the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to facilitate the interagency cooperation required under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 in connection with wildland fire management.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 143. An act to amend the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, to reduce securities fees in excess of those required to fund the operations of the Securities and Exchange Commission, to adjust compensation provisions for employees of the Commission, and for other purposes.

S. 378. An act to redesignate the Federal building located at 3348 South Kedzie Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, as the "Paul Simon Chicago Job Corps Center".

S. 468. An act to designate the Federal building located at 6230 Van Nuys Boulevard in Van Nuys, California, as the "James C. Corman Federal Building".

S. 757. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 504 West Hamilton Street in Allentown, Pennsylvania, as the "Edward N. Cahn Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

S. 774. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 121 West Spring Street in New Albany, Indiana, as the "Lee H. Hamilton Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H2715

IT IS TIME FOR THE IRS TO GO

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Speaker, an investigation revealed that 16,000 IRS employees illegally used their computers. The report states IRS agents spent 50 percent of their time at work on personal business. If that is not enough to service your revenue, IRS agents illegally used their computers for shopping, stock trading, gambling and pornography. Unbelievable.

Think about it. While 60 percent of taxpayer calls to the IRS go unanswered, the IRS agents were watching Marilyn Chambers do the Rotary International. Beam me up here. It is time to pass a flat 15 percent sales tax and abolish this gambling, porno-watching IRS completely.

I yield back the internal rectal service of the United States of America.

 THE REAL ISSUE AT HAND IS ENERGY

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, today is a very important day. The one-party government in the United States is done. We had a vote of confidence in the other body today or yesterday and we are now back to two party government, and maybe, just maybe, we can get back to the issues the people really care about.

We are hanging around here today because we cannot seem to get the President's tax bill through. They cannot figure out how to give it all to the rich.

At the same time, we are failing to deal with energy. Now, the energy prices in my district, in Seattle, are facing a potential 250 percent increase from the Bonneville Power Administration. The estimates are that 102,000 jobs are at risk and that a whole quarter of a million jobs in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana are at risk because of the runaway gouging costs of energy in the northwest.

Seattle City Light has already raised it 30 percent and it is coming up another 30 percent. When will we get down to the issues that matters?

 SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS ON MEMORIAL DAY

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

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, as we approach Memorial Day, I again want to salute our veterans. I was in Berlin in the spring of 1990 when the people were out there with their hammers and chisels taking down the Ber-

lin Wall piece by piece, and then I listened to the East Berliners thank our American soldiers for their vigilance through the period of the Cold War.

The following year in September of 1991, I was in Armenia when people went out in overwhelming numbers to vote for their independence from the former Soviet Union. Then I was with them the next day in the streets of Yerevan and they danced and shouted and sang, "Ketse azat ankakh Hayastan," long live free and independent Armenia; and then pointing to the United States of America as their example of what they wanted to be as a democracy.

So it is important for all of us to know that we owe our freedom here in the United States to our American soldiers but also hundreds of millions of people all around the world today are enjoying the blessings of freedom because of the sacrifices of American soldiers. We salute them all.

 CONSUMERS NEED HELP WITH ENERGY COSTS AND THEY NEED IT NOW

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

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, each and every day all across America families are paying higher energy prices. In my State of Connecticut, a gallon of gas now goes for \$1.82. In Illinois, the price has gone as high as \$2.39.

California citizens are being held hostage by out-of-state generators who have held down the production of energy in order to increase their own profits. In fact, if the price of milk had increased at the same rate as California's energy prices a gallon would cost \$190. No family would accept such price gouging. Consumers need help with energy costs and they need it now.

What does the President and the Republican leadership do today in the midst of this crisis? They are locked behind closed doors deciding how much of a tax cut to give to the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans, while working- and middle-class families spend more of their hard-earned dollars on unfair gas and electricity prices.

Republicans remain focused on passing a tax cut that does little for these families but lines the pocket of people making more than \$300,000 a year.

The Vice President says the energy crisis is only an issue of supply and demand. His friends in the energy issue have the supply, and they are demanding an arm, a leg and family savings for it.

 ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will recognize Members for special order speeches without prejudice to the possible resumption of legislative business.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Indiana (Ms. CARSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. CARSON of Indiana addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

 IT IS ALL ABOUT ENERGY, ENERGY, ENERGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, it is Memorial Day weekend, and while gasoline prices in my district are among the Nation's highest, at well over \$2.00 a gallon, in fact it was about \$2.22 for regular, it still does not appear that President Bush and Vice President CHENEY have any plans to bring relief to my constituents at the gas pump.

While big oil is getting bigger, consumers in my district and across the country are getting gouged, and the President's energy plan does nothing to address that. Instead, the administration has proposed relief for its oil industry friends.

Big oil hit the jackpot last year, thanks to consumers in Chicago and across the country that paved the way for big oil's record profits. The top oil company profits last year went up over 100 percent on the average from the previous year, combining for almost \$50 billion in profits. Now Exxon Mobile is number one on the Fortune 500 list.

None of us should be surprised at the give-aways big oil is reaping from this administration and the Republicans. President Bush received \$2 million in contributions for his campaign, and the Republican Party received over \$25 million from big oil, with Enron and Exxon Mobile giving the most. It looks like those companies made the right bet.

Mr. President, I am again calling on you to persuade, in fact to jawbone, your friends in the industry to bring these prices down now. I hope you will think about that while you are relaxing at Camp David and my constituents are cancelling their family's summer vacations.

Mr. OLVER. Madam Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. OLVER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Illinois for yielding.

It turns out that we are talking about a very similar sort of thing.

I wanted to point out to people today that the President's energy plan utterly ignores a key fact; that if we are

to put limits on global warming and the inevitable resulting climate change, we must cut back on burning fossil fuels that release carbon dioxide, the most important greenhouse gas, into our atmosphere.

One of the simplest and most effective ways to reduce oil consumption is to increase the fuel efficiency of our cars and trucks. Currently, cars and trucks guzzle 40 percent of all the oil used in the United States and they produce 20 percent of the Nation's carbon dioxide pollution. Improved fuel efficiency would protect consumers from higher prices at the gas pump, reduce our dependence on foreign oil and decrease carbon dioxide emissions.

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCREST), from the Republican Party, and I have together introduced, with bipartisan sponsors, a bill that would require light trucks and SUVs to meet the same fuel efficiency standards as passenger cars, gradually, by the year 2007. Once fully implemented, that would save the U.S. 1 million barrels of oil every day, reduce oil imports by 10 percent, and prevent over 200 million tons of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere every year.

Before we consider drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge or other ecologically sensitive areas, which could include the coastline of Florida on the West Coast of Florida in the Gulf of Mexico, we should first use common sense solutions like improving fuel efficiency, by simply improving the gas mileage that our cars and trucks achieve.

MISPLACED PRIORITIES

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

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I had not planned on speaking today but it reminds me of a group of comedians coming forward today, and blaming President Bush for the energy crisis.

He has been in office a few months, yet the previous administration, President Clinton, did nothing about our energy problems. We became more reliant on foreign oil. We became more reliant on other products to provide services for our people, rather than providing for ourselves.

This Nation has changed dramatically. When I was a child, a person went to turn the light switch on and the lights came on. When they went to fill their gas tank, it was reasonable to fill their gas tank. In those days, we swatted flies and we poisoned rats. Today we set aside habitat for flies and rats. And who pays for it? Private property owners have to pay the price of setting their property aside for some stupid endangered species that some wacko Democratic politician wants to preserve.

In the words of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT), beam me up, too. Both of us need to be out of here.

This is crazy. And we talk about big oil. If we had enough oil, we would not have enough energy to provide an argument for these people to complain about. So if we have less oil, they can complain more about Republicans not providing oil.

Wake up, America. There is something seriously wrong and it is the Democratic Party, excluding the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) who has finally learned what real world life is like. Buy America; provide energy; close our borders. It is realistic.

Two years ago and three years ago, this body realized there is something wrong with the IRS. In 1913, when we started the Tax Code, it was 11,400 words. The Tax Code today is over 7 million words.

In 1914, people voluntarily paid taxes. The government did not force them to pay taxes. They came forward and said our government needs help. We need to pay taxes.

350,000 good Americans paid taxes the first year and the IRS audited every doggone one of those people who paid voluntary taxes. Beam me up again.

Now we realize the IRS is out of control. There is a problem with this country, and it is the way people vote. If we want energy, let us provide more oil. If we want gas, let us provide more gas. We have not built a refinery in the United States for 22 years.

We have 15 different formularies or 19 formularies required in different States. In California in the L.A. basin, where I come from, we cannot bring gas from Northern California to our area. We cannot bring it from Washington, from Oregon, from Arizona, from Colorado, from Nevada, because it does not meet our standards. So when we have a problem with refineries, guess what? We have no gas; and yet we are more concerned about preserving flies and rats than we are providing energy for the American people that we are supposed to represent.

Let me say, people are part of the environment, too, and they are at the top of it as far as I am concerned. If we happen to save a rat in the process of saving a human life, so be it. But if we have to poison that rat to save a human life, as far as I am concerned that rat is in trouble.

Last year in California, Fish and Wildlife in October said we need to set habitat aside for the Stevens kangaroo rat, for the gnat catcher and for Longhorn sheep, and they set 2.9 million acres of land aside in California and it looked like a checker board. Now this is not where they live. This is habitat that would sustain those critters. If one does not own habitat, guess what? You own associated habitat. And then we complain that we cannot provide affordable housing for people.

What do we want to do? We want to give them a section 8 voucher from the government.

When one buys a new house in this country, on average 35 percent of the costs of that house are government

fees. Now, you tell a young person they are going to go out and buy a \$100,000 home, if they can find one, and \$35,000 of the price of that home is fees to the government? Beam me up again, I would say to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT). Something is seriously wrong with this Nation.

Then we say our children cannot afford to live in our communities. We need to change the direction of this country and we need to be more responsible and accountable to the people that we represent.

How do working people get helped in this Nation? By everything that can be done to engender the best economic environment for businesses, because when businesses do well, guess what happens? They give their employees raises because they need them. They give them better benefits. They give them more vacation pay.

When we create recession because of wacko bureaucratic laws that we pass around here and businesses suffer, guess what they do? They lay people off. People are lucky to work 40 hours a week. They are not surprised if they lose their benefits and have their vacation pay cut.

We need to change the direction of this Nation and start representing the good for the American people.

ENERGY IN THE WESTERN UNITED STATES

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, that was an extraordinary speech by the gentleman from California (Mr. GARY MILLER) who preceded me in the well, and I will offer a little different perspective on what is going on in energy in the Western U.S.

It is Memorial Day weekend and all across the country Americans and their families are pulling up to the pump and surprise, prices are up, way up. But there is no market manipulation.

The deafening silence of the Bush administration and the runup on gas prices might have something to do with who supported their last campaign but I would not allude that on the floor.

There is no market manipulation. Exxon Mobil, profits \$15.9 billion last year, profits up 102 percent in one year, there is no market manipulation. There is no role for the Federal Government here, except to enable them to drill for more oil and to cut their taxes. That is what the Bush energy plan proposes.

Now, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARY MILLER), I am very surprised that he did not want to talk about some of these things.

Yesterday I talked about Reliant Energy. Reliant Energy, based in Houston, Texas, profits up 1,800 percent in one year; bought a few generating

plants in California. It was revealed in the San Francisco Chronicle on Sunday, with interviews with some of their plant operators, that the plant operators were linked by telephone to their commodity trader speculators and the commodity trader speculators watched the charts and when the price of energy went up, they said crank up the plants. When the price of energy went down, they said crank down those plants. They did this on as frequently as 10-minute increments.

That destroys the plants, obviously does not provide reliability or keep the lights on for the people in California and the Western United States, but it is incredibly profitable; 1,800 percent runup in profits in one year. But there is no manipulation.

The hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil folks at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission appointed by President George Bush, Mr. Hebert, the chairman; the Secretary of Energy; the vice president of the United States, they do not think there is any market manipulation or profiteering or price gouging going on here. It is normal for a company to increase its profits by manipulating the market and driving up its profits 1,800 percent one year.

Now today in the Los Angeles Times, closer to the gentleman who preceded me, we have, "Executive tells FERC Hearing of Collusion on Natural Gas." Natural gas produced in Texas, El Paso Natural Gas, bought the pipeline capacity to ship gas between Texas and California. It is used for electricity generation and to heat homes and run businesses. Guess what? They bought the capacity but they did not use it, and they would not let anybody else use it so they could drive up the price of energy.

There is extraordinary, unbelievable market manipulation, price gouging, going on in the Western United States, which is imperiling the entire economy of the Western U.S., not just California. The Pacific Northwest is at risk, too. We are having a drought and we are paying more in the wholesale energy market than are Californians because of these manipulated prices, because of this unbelievable profiteering.

What is the response from the Bush administration? Drill ANWR. Well, we do not use oil to generate electricity. I have said that to the vice president. That does not matter. They want to drill ANWR. Their bosses, Enron, Exxon, Chevron, Reliant, El Paso Natural Gas and others, they want something here. Let us manipulate this. Let us pretend the crisis is caused by, as the gentleman before me said, the environmental rules, and let us pretend that they are not obscenely manipulating the market and profiteering. Blame someone other than those really responsible.

That is the agenda of this administration. That is the agenda of their energy policy, and I do not believe that it is going to sell with the American peo-

ple, and I certainly hope it does not sell here in Congress.

LACK OF PLANNING AND NO DOMESTIC ENERGY POLICY HAS LED TO THE ENERGY CRISIS

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

Mr. COLLINS. Madam Speaker, I could not help but get a little bristle on the back of my neck sitting in my office listening to all of the rhetoric that is being said here on the floor this morning.

The complaints about the marketplace, the complaints about charges, the cost of goods based on supply and demand in the marketplace and, yes, the prices are too high. It is costing too much for families to pull up to the gas pump for the purpose of either commuting to work, visiting family or taking a vacation.

Why is it like this? It is because of the lack of planning and having a domestic energy policy for this Nation.

The previous administration avoided the issue, stayed away from the issue, did not want to address it, and over the last few years we have become more and more dependent on foreign oil, and that is wrong. But it is not only just the oil. We cannot even handle the refinery of oil for gasoline and fuel and other products.

What we do not hear them talk about is the price that Congress charges for gasoline and fuel, and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) is well aware of this. Yes, we charge, we the Congress of the United States, charge for every gallon of gasoline and diesel fuel that is used in this Nation. Eighteen cents a gallon for gasoline; 24 cents a gallon for diesel fuel, fuel that is used to transport products all over this Nation that we each buy as a consumer.

People do not think that adds to the price of those products?

□ 1030

We charge 4.3 cents a gallon for aviation fuel. You do not think that does not add to the price of an airline ticket? 4.3 cents to the railroads. You do not think that does not add to the product they carry? 4.3 cents for barge service. You do not think that does not add to the price of the product that they carry? It does. But you do not hear anything about that from this well. But those are charges that are administered by the Congress of the United States.

But, you know, there are a couple of good things about that though. We all pay that same rate, and those rates and those prices and those funds that come into the Congress are used for transportation products, for infrastructure, highways, bridges, things that we need, must have.

Of course, we have a few environmental laws that prevent us oftentimes from putting in the projects that are

needed so we can commute without sitting in long lines. We all experience that. But we pay the same price for those things, and the funds are put to good use.

You do not hear them talking about the overcharge that we are levying on every working person that is in this country to operate this government, and we have different charges to operate this government. You and I can pull up to the gas pump, we will pay the same price. You and I can go into the same store, buy a like item, we will pay the same price for it. Anyplace in the marketplace that we go together, stand side-by-side and buy the same product, we will pay practically the same price for it, no matter who you are, what income level you are at.

But when it comes to paying for the operation of government, it is different, much different. We do not have the same price. In fact, we charge five different prices to individuals to operate this government; five prices. Yes, five prices we charge working people across this country to operate their government. Those five prices are the five marginal tax rates based on income.

They talk about the rich. Yes, the rich make a lot of money. But they pay a lot of tax too. A low income person, \$30,000, \$45,000 a year, they pay 15 percent. They are in that 15 percent bracket. That is a lot of money too. But it goes from 15 to 28, to 31, to 36, to 39.6 percent, based on the levels of income. Is anything fair about charging five different prices for the operation of government?

You never hear anything about that. I do not think it is fair. That is what we are trying to address with the tax bill in the conference that is going on today, is to reduce the charge that we charge for operation of government and try to make it a little more fair. Five prices to operate the government, charged by the Congress of the United States.

HISTORIC TAX RELIEF

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, today we stand on the brink of an awesome opportunity, the opportunity to lift the burden of taxes off families, small businesses and family farms, the opportunity to pass the largest tax cut package in over 20 years. We have a moral obligation to act on this opportunity and remove Uncle Sam's hand out of the pockets of hard-working men and women.

Under the current tax system, Madam Speaker, the average dual-earner family will pay more than \$26,000 in taxes to the government. This equals out to be the first five months of their annual salary. This is more than the family will spend on food, clothing and shelter combined.

Madam Speaker, we often talk about the progress we have made. Yet, according to the Washington-based tax foundation, taxes at all levels now consume 39 percent of the average dual-earners' family income. This is more than the amount that serfs were obligated to pay to their mid-evil lords. This, simply put, is wrong.

As we enter into the final stages of the bill's passage that is being debated in conference committee today, I implore the Congress to stand firm in our commitment to working families. The House bill was a great start, but it is the bare minimum of what we can and should accomplish.

The decision to scale back tax relief over the next 10 years means that less than 25 percent of the surplus will be returned to taxpayers. Therefore, it is not only important, but imperative that we lower marginal rates on income if we are to improve the economy's lagging performance.

It does not matter how you look at it, Madam Speaker; the tax burden is excessive and tax rates are too high. Now is the time for across-the-board reductions in the rate of taxation.

While some argue that a 3.5 percent reduction in the top tax rate is adequate for what ails our economy, history tells another story. Woodrow Wilson once said, "The Congress might well consider whether the higher rates of income and profit taxes can in peace times be effectively productive of revenue, and whether they may not, on the contrary, be destructive of the business activity and productive of waste and inefficiency. There is a point at which, in peace times high rates of income and profit taxes discourage energy, remove the incentive to new enterprise, encourage extravagant expenditures and produce industrial stagnation with consequent unemployment and other attendant evils."

Woodrow Wilson was right. During the 1920s, Wilson's leadership led to massive tax rate reductions. Amazingly, revenues actually increased. This is a fact that continues to resurface throughout the taxation history of this country.

The tax cuts which President John F. Kennedy passed in the 1960s ignited a huge economic expansion. The economy grew by more than 40 percent and tax revenues climbed by more than 62 percent.

The effects of the Reagan tax cuts, Madam Speaker, were just as impressive. The economy was pulled out of a severe downturn and a 7 year economic boom of record growth took its place.

During the 1980s, the goal of tax reformers on the left and the right was to reduce marginal rates as much as possible. At the beginning of the 1980s, the top marginal income tax rate was 70 percent; by the end it had fallen to just 28 percent. Support for low marginal tax rates was so widespread that virtually every major nation followed the United States and cut marginal tax rates in the 1980s.

The reasoning behind this phenomenon is simple: If history has taught us anything, it is that a high top rate reduction seldom produces much revenue. The principal effect is to make higher taxes on the poor and the middle class more palpable. In fact, because of inflation and real growth in the economy, in just a few years tax rates originally imposed on the rich often apply to those with middle incomes. The rich, meanwhile, often evade higher rates by making increased use of deductions and other legal tax shelters. In short, Madam Speaker, higher rates tend to encourage the government to add new deductions to the already too-complex Tax Code.

Tax relief, Madam Speaker, could not be a more bipartisan issue. President Franklin Roosevelt warned of an increase in rates when he said, "Taxes are paid in the sweat of every man who labors because they are a burden on production and are paid through production. If those taxes are excessive," President Roosevelt said, "they are reflected in idle factories, in tax-sold farms, in hordes of hungry people trampling the streets and seeking jobs in vain."

Madam Speaker, we must pass this tax relief for all Americans.

TRIBUTE TO FALLEN HOUSTON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

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

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise this morning with a heavy burden for the Houston community and Harris County. I want to offer my deepest respect and sympathy to the families and friends and community of two very brave law enforcement officers, who lost their lives in Houston, Texas, Harris County, this week.

First, Harris County Sheriff's Deputy Joseph Dennis, 35 years old, was shot to death just a couple of days ago. Then, following his tragic death, Albert Vasquez, along with officer Enrique Duharte-Tur, were shot. Officer Duharte-Tur was injured and is now in critical condition, but, sadly, we lost our brother, Albert Vasquez.

It is important to realize that as we are a Nation of laws, we commit ourselves to being law-abiding, and respect the fact that our officers are there every day, men and women, to protect us. And we recognize that though we may have discussions on the best way to uphold the civil liberties of all Americans, we certainly do not in any way take away from the ultimate sacrifice that these brave men and women are willing to commit.

So let me offer to the families, there are no words that can replace a loved one, particularly one who has gone off to do his or her duty, in the line of danger, and does not return home to wife and children, and mother and father, aunts and uncles and cousins. These

were tragic incidents, ones that I am appalled at.

It certainly speaks to the issue of where we go in this country; the proliferation of guns, the tragedy of young people who have lost their way and would be, if you will, directed to, inclined to, do such violent and terrible acts.

We hope the perpetrators are quickly brought to justice in this community. But as we move into Memorial Day, I would offer to say that these very fine gentleman should be acknowledged, appreciated, and their families prayed for.

Might I also add that this is Memorial Day weekend, and I would like to say to America, but particularly my community, because I am so much reminded of the men and women out of the Houston area, the 18th Congressional District and the State of Texas who gave up their lives in the line of duty in the militaries of the United States of America.

So as we leave this place, I would say to all, there may be those who are about to join their families for a good time, but I am very much aware that we should also be joining our families and appreciate the freedom that we have in this country. We have it because of the men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice, whom we should be honoring on Memorial Day and every day, as those men and women gave their lives for us.

Freedom is not free, and we hold these truths to be self-evident, that we all are created equal, the men and women who have offered themselves in service and ultimately did not return to us, that we appreciate this Memorial Day weekend.

It is my privilege to serve in the United States Congress, but that honor and the right to engage in democratic principles and debate is all because military men and women serve around this Nation, even today, but, more importantly, that they fought in wars, like World War I and World War II, the Korean War, conflicts, and Vietnam.

So it is my special privilege to be able to say to them, thank you, thank you, thank you, for ultimately we all are better off because you lived.

Might I finish, Madam Speaker, because this is a serious time in our country, many have watched the happenings of the last era, or the last 24 hours, and they watched it with surprise. But might I say to the American people and to my colleagues in particular, bless us for having a democracy that allows change to occur peacefully.

I am disappointed that we would take this wonderful time in these few closings moments of this Congress before the Memorial Day holiday to deal with issues like tax cuts, that really do not address the people I have just spoken to, the people who need. I would have hoped we would be addressing the questions of protecting and providing better energy services for our country.

But I hope we will be able to do that as we return.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

AMERICANS AFRAID OF THEIR OWN GOVERNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the minority leader and his young floor man, Dan, who does a fine job and a fair job, for giving me this opportunity to speak. Many of the American people know that I go without a committee, but I am a Democrat.

I want to talk about several issues here today that I think are very important. I very seldom take a special order, but while the Congress is involved in negotiations on an important bill affecting the lives of many people, I decided to take this time.

I heard my very good friend the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS), a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, talking about the energy problem, and I could not agree with him more. His wisdom and wisdom like that is needed in this Congress. But I also have a different view that goes a little further.

I have a bill in that says that if there is price gouging in America, there should be a \$100 million fine for any company that gouges American consumers of petroleum products. Mobil merged with Exxon; BP with Amoco. Competition is down. I think they are gouging us, and I think a \$100 million fine for anybody artificially raising prices, 9 cents more on the weekend, come on. They get hit once in the pocketbook, and it is all over.

Another thing before I move off that energy issue, I think it is time to tell these monarchs and dictators who control oil overseas that next time they are attacked by Saddam Hussein, call the Welcome Wagon, because Uncle Sam is not going to show up, and we will see those prices go down.

But I am here today to talk about a serious problem in America, a dangerous problem, one that I have seen. Many Americans see it and feel it and may not realize it or come to speak about it, or maybe just whisper it. Many Americans are afraid of their government. They look at the government as a separate entity, the people and the government. It was not designed to be that way. I personally believe the psychology of this change occurred in 1963 with the assassination of President Kennedy. If you believe what the government has told us about that, you believe in the tooth fairy.

But I want to get down now to some specifics that bother me. Before a subcommittee of the Committee on Government Reform of the United States House of Representatives, the people's House, testimony just brought out that four men 30-some years ago were convicted for murder. They were sentenced to life imprisonment. Two of those four convicted murderers, supposedly, died in prison. The other two, Salvadi and Limone, were recently released, because the FBI finally admitted they had exculpatory evidence that Salvadi and Limone were not the killers, and they protected their valuable informants who did the killing.

When the FBI agent was asked if he had any remorse, his answer was, "What do you expect, tears?" Thirty years, ladies and gentlemen, for a murderer they did not commit.

Now, let us look at FBI agent Hanssen; 15 years selling our secrets to the Russians. Do you honestly believe he could do that in the structure of the Federal Bureau of Investigation with no one else knowing it? Come on now.

Now, how about the case in Boston, Massachusetts, where the FBI agent-in-charge has now been indicted? He has been indicted for overlooking murder on behalf of his informants. And guess what the FBI agent-in-charge said? "I was told by my superiors to lie."

Now let us take a look at Waco, David Koresh. They could have arrested him any morning out jogging, but they wanted a sensational bust. Eighty-some Americans killed. Tanks. Thirty children. They could have arrested him any morning. They wanted a sensational case; they now have sensational headaches.

But how about Randy Weaver and his family? I did not agree with his politics. He was a white separatist. But his 14-year-old boy was shot and killed by Federal agents. His wife, holding her infant child, standing in the doorway, horrified over the scene she was witnessing, was shot by one of the FBI's best sharpshooters. Put your finger right between your eyes above your nose. And the court ruled accidental shooting. Why, then, did American taxpayers give \$5 million to Randy Weaver? Was it for justice, or to shut him up?

But now I take you to northeast Ohio. I am the Member that is under indictment, the only American in history to have beaten the Justice Department in a RICO case, pro se, without being an attorney, through a full jury trial. Experts say my chances are 1 in 5 million. Well, there are 275 million Americans. That means I am one of about 55 Americans that have a shot. I am going to take that shot.

Now, here is why: In the early eighties, a man named Charles Carabbia, an underworld figure, was killed in Youngstown, Ohio. Subsequent to that, the FBI said the second most important Mafia informant since Valachi, a man named Angelo Lonardo,

gave the government, the FBI, information in 1984, and then gave this same testimony to a Senate subcommittee of the United States Senate.

Angela Lonardo, the underboss of Cleveland, was credited with helping to take down the Mafia in Kansas City and in New Orleans. But listen to what he told the U.S. Senate in 1987, and that he had told the FBI in 1984.

He said two underworld figures by the name of Joseph Naples and James Prato came to him in the early eighties and asked permission to kill Charles Carabbia. He and his boss met with them personally and they said no, work it out. He later testified they come back and said they met with the Pittsburgh Mafia and the Pittsburgh Mafia wants Mr. Carabbia killed. They said no, work it out.

Then Mr. Lonardo, not through Mr. Jones getting information, Mr. Lonardo testified that he heard that Mr. Carabbia was missing and feared murdered. He said several weeks later he got a call from Mr. Prato and Mr. Naples, and Mr. Prato and Mr. Naples met with Mr. Lonardo and his boss, Mr. Licavoli, in a restaurant outside of Cleveland, and said, "We killed Charles Carabbia, and we apologize for leaving his car in the Cleveland area."

Ladies and gentlemen on the House floor, there was no grand jury investigation into the murder of Charles Carabbia. Joseph Naples was murdered in the early nineties by a mob rival and James Prato died of old age, and now affidavits and documents reveal the Youngstown office of the FBI was on the payroll of the mob, Naples and Prato. Documents also show that Assistant U.S. Attorneys were on the payroll of the mob in Cleveland, Ohio.

What has happened to our country here? How did the FBI, the IRS, the EPA, get so strong that we fear them? Who elected them? It is up to Congress to take our country back, so help me God. But there are several things that I have done since my first trial.

So the bottom line is, maybe the government can notify you, and by that I mean the real government, the middle management bureaucrats that are not elected, and if they do not like a Member of Congress, they will go after them. Think about that.

But, you see, since those incidents I have tried to crack down on some of the power. Since being in Congress, I passed four specific laws to deal with the IRS.

The first one said they have to treat us courteously across cultural lines. They have a training program with their agents about taxpayers' rights. They oppose that. They oppose that. We finally passed it. After I threatened a bill and killed a Treasury appropriations bill, they came to me and said, "We will build you a courthouse if you do not do that anymore." I said, "Go right ahead, but put my language in the next bill," and they did. Now they have to have a training program.

The next year I came back and said, what good is a training program if they

abuse us? So I was able to pass a little law that said if the IRS abuses you, you can sue them for \$1 million. Shirley Barrons of Derry, New Hampshire, was the first to be successful. The IRS settled out of court for half a million dollars. Did you ever hear of that?

One of the main reasons I voted for Mr. HASTERT, which caused the problems on my side of the aisle, was the Democrat Party would not even have a hearing on a Traficant bill that dealt with important IRS matters.

Before 1997 you were guilty and had to prove yourself innocent in a civil tax case. Most tax cases are civil. If it is crime or fraud, the IRS has the burden, but that is in very few cases. They are usually civil and the burden of proof was on the taxpayer.

The Traficant bill said, look, the IRS comes out to audit you, and you cooperate and they are not satisfied. They decide to litigate. The burden of proof transfers to the Secretary of the Treasury and the IRS. They should have the burden.

The second provision said they can no longer from a back room decide to take your home, they had to have judicial consent. I want to give credit on the floor to Mr. Bill Archer, no longer here, former Republican Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, who called me.

My language was not in the original IRS reform bill in 1998 because it was going to be vetoed. It was too strong. Mr. Archer, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT), the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN), the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY), and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE), they helped get the Traficant language in.

I want to give you the statistics. The bill was passed in 1998. Comparing 1997 to 1999 figures, wage attachments, 1997, 3.1 million; 1999, 540,000. Property liens, 1997, 680,000; 1999, 161,000. But, listen to this: "Life, liberty and the pursuit of property." That was the language, the original founding fathers' language. The last change to one of our great documents was "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness." That is how important property was. Property seizures, 1997, 10,037; 1999, 151.

When they needed judicial consent and had to prove it, they could not take our homes. They were stealing our homes. What is wrong with us, America?

So it is time now for some additional reforms. There are two of them. The major reform bill that I have before the Congress now is known as the Fair Justice Act. It requires the President nominate for a 10-year term a Director of the Fair Justice Agency, who must be confirmed by the Senate, with one exclusive role, to investigate and prosecute wrongdoing and crime in the Justice Department.

Madam Speaker, they investigate themselves. The fox in the hen house

investigates the fox that raided the hen house. Do you really believe that jury in Waco got the true facts?

We spent \$40 million on Monica. Now, look, the President may have been a threat to chastity, but he was not a threat to liberty. And we did not spend one dime on China. China, who has taken \$100 billion of trade surplus out of America, buying nuclear attack submarines, intercontinental ballistic missiles, and have announced they have aimed them at us. We are financing World War III, and there was no investigation whether a Red Chinese general gave money to the Democratic National Committee. Shame, shame.

Lastly, dealing with the IRS, listen carefully. The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) touched on it. We need a flat tax in America. But why should it be an income tax? A recent study from Harvard said 24 percent of the cost of an American-made automobile is the Tax Code, and when it is shipped overseas it gets hit with a value added tax. Is it any wonder we do not export any cars? Thirty-three percent of the cost of a loaf of bread is the Tax Code.

□ 1100

I think, hey, you do not have to be a rocket scientist here. The Tauzin-Traficant 15 percent national retail sales tax will be introduced as soon as this tax bill is completed now before the Congress.

I am going to vote for those tax cuts. Here is how the Tauzin-Traficant bill works: No more income tax, no more withholding, no more capital gains tax, no more inheritance tax, no more tax on savings, no more tax on education, no more tax on investment, and the IRS is abolished. Nothing personal here.

Forty-five States already collect a State sales tax. They get one penny per dollar to collect the tax. The companies who do the selling get half a penny for their paperwork. We get 98.5 cents. You will be surprised to find out that 90 percent of all retail sales are conducted by less than 9 percent of American retailers.

Madam Speaker, what do we need the IRS for? How can there be freedom in America if you have to look through the Tax Code to see if you should buy a car this year or sell your apartment this year? Why should we have to look into a Tax Code to see if we can give our property to our kids? What is wrong? What happened to America? What has happened here? Something is very wrong.

MEMORIAL DAY, A SPECIAL THANKS TO WORLD WAR II VETERANS

Mr. TRAFICANT. Now we come to Memorial Day, and I want to thank all of the veterans. I recently spoke on the construction of the World War II Monument on the Mall; certainly hallowed ground indeed. Washington, Jefferson, think about it. Founders. Lincoln preserved America. All our veterans are special, but the generation of World War II, those who died and those who

still live, they not only saved America, they saved the entire world. It is right and fitting that that monument be built on the mall.

Thank a veteran. I thank all veterans for preserving our freedom. I say this to all veterans, you have won the wars but, by God, the politicians have lost the peace.

It is time to bring our country back to the people. I have confidence in this Congress. I have confidence in Speaker HASTERT. IRS reform is important, welfare reform. Now it is time to reform the powerful Justice Department and now it is time to put the people in our government back together.

People should not be afraid of the government. We are the government.

I want to thank the Democrat leadership for allowing me this time, and I appreciate some of the things that they have done recently to promote involvement in school construction and other actions in education.

ETHANOL PRODUCTION IS PART OF THE ENERGY SOLUTION

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

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, over the last several days a great deal has been said about our national energy crisis. Unfortunately, most of the commentary has centered on finding blame. At various times, the Bush administration, the Clinton administration, the California legislature, energy companies, environmentalists and others have been blamed.

As I see it, the main value of looking at the past is to make sure we do not repeat the same mistakes that caused the current problem. However, dwelling on the past and attempting to fix blame serves no useful purpose and actually impedes progress. What is needed now is to identify solutions and start moving toward those solutions.

In my previous profession, which was coaching, there are all kinds of people that could say what went wrong and why it went wrong, but this really did not accomplish anything. What we were looking for was people with proactive ideas, because they were able to help relieve the situation.

Part of the solution to the current energy crisis that would appear to benefit all factions involved would be that of ethanol production. The use of ethanol in gasoline has been proven to reduce harmful emissions by 30 to 50 percent and is a renewable source of energy. Therefore, it benefits the environment and should certainly please the environmental community. It has a potential to reduce our dependence on foreign oil by a small but significant amount, which serves our national interests and benefits consumers.

It utilizes grain surpluses, improves commodity prices and benefits the agricultural community. If you look at

what is going on in agriculture today, ethanol may be about the only real bright spot out there for those who grow row crops. We are poised to increase our ethanol production by 200 to 300 percent, as dozens of new ethanol plants are in various stages of development.

The one deterrent to this development is uncertainty as to whether the 2 percent oxygenation requirement for fuel is going to be waived. Currently, about eight-tenths of 1 percent of our national fuel consumption is provided by ethanol. It could very easily go to as high as 5 or 6 percent. If the oxygenation requirement is waived, the demand for ethanol could go down close to zero.

So this is a huge factor for those who are involved in the ethanol industry. It is extremely important for all concerned that the matter of whether or not the waiver for oxygenation standards will be granted or not be granted. Further delay will only serve to exacerbate the problem.

ETHNICITY, WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY IN THIS COUNTRY BUT WE STILL HAVE A WAY TO GO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, an odd thing happened to me 2 days ago on my way down to the Department of Energy. I was going down to give a talk to employees there, and I was stopped by the guards when I was trying to enter the building and I was asked repeatedly, my staffer and I were asked repeatedly, whether we are American citizens. This occurred both before and after I presented my congressional identification card.

Now I have walked around the White House, the Supreme Court, this United States Capitol, and I know that there is sensitive information at the White House, at the Supreme Court and sometimes here, but maybe, maybe the Department of Energy is a special case, perhaps.

What they said was that they asked everyone, everyone, whether they are a U.S. citizen or not, but that proved not to be true. My friend and colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. CAPUANO), went yesterday and he was not asked the way that I was at all.

The ultimate irony is that I went to the Department of Energy 2 days ago to give a talk, at their request, about the progress of Asian Americans in America as part of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebration activities by the employees there.

There has been progress over the last 200, 215 years for Asian Americans in America but apparently we have a little ways to go yet.

Now I am reluctant to make much of this incident and I was just going to let

it go, but upon reflection, Mr. Speaker, I cannot just let this go because it would be wrong and it would break a promise that I have made to students in Oregon and that I have made to students across this country.

When I visit with students at home and in other places around the country, sometimes they ask, are you treated fairly? Is there any difference because of ethnicity in the U.S. Congress? And I always answer, no, I am treated very well and very fairly and there is no question about ethnicity in the House, and that is absolutely true.

Then sometimes there is a follow-up question, have there ever been incidents in your life that caused you to reflect upon or make you think that you are discriminated against?

At that point, I generally try to refocus the direction of the discussion. I say, look, look, you are here in school to study, to work hard. You need to focus on those things that you can change, that you can effect, and if you focus on those things then this country will give you a chance to succeed and, please, please do not obsess about things that you cannot change because some of the attitudes you cannot change right away. If you obsess about those things, they will take away from your efforts at focusing on your goals and your future success, because this country will give you that chance.

I say to them, leave those other things, leave those things that cannot be changed in the short-term, leave those things to adults like me. Leave those things to people who are in a position to work on them, like me.

If I had just let this incident go, this incident of 2 days ago at DOE, I would have broken my promise to those students at home and across this country, because I believe that it is our obligation, despite whatever our reluctance might be, despite whatever our discomfort might be, to point out those things which are not right or to investigate them, to see if they need to be improved. I am going to encourage the Department of Energy to redouble its efforts, engage in a true process of soul searching. Do you really ask everyone their citizenship at the door? And if so, is that an effective way of enhancing national security?

I do not know how many spies you have caught with that question, but you have at least one Congressman. And I suspect that ultimately there is a connection to national security but in a way that you might not expect, and that is there is a tremendous number of Asian American scientists and engineers working at the Department of Energy and they have made valuable contributions to our national security by doing good research.

If the Department creates a work environment that is hostile or perceived to be, we have already begun to lose some of those scientists, and my understanding is that some of the brightest graduate students in the country, who happen to be Asian American, are now

refusing to go work for the Department of Energy. That is as damaging to our national interest, our national security, as anything that I can think of.

I want to underscore once again that this is not about the specific incidents of 2 days ago and this is not about me, but it is about a pledge to students to work on issues that they are not in a position to work on themselves, and it is about doing this job, my job, in the best manner that I know how.

Being a Member of Congress is the greatest honor that I can imagine. We have no mission other than to get up each and every day and to try to make the world a little bit better, or to ameliorate some of the problems that people face. Today I want to give that effort to make the world a little bit better just one small further nudge.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 15 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1730

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) at 5 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVING BENCHMARKS IN BOSNIA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-78)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Armed Services, and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by the Levin Amendment to the 1998 Supplemental Appropriations and Rescissions Act (section 7(b) of Public Law 105-174) and section 1203(a) of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 105-261), I transmit herewith a report on progress made toward achieving benchmarks for a sustainable peace process in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In July 2000, the fourth semiannual report was sent to the Congress detailing progress towards achieving the ten benchmarks that were adopted by the Peace Implementation Council and the North Atlantic Council in order to evaluate implementation of the Dayton Accords. This fifth report, which also includes supplemental reporting as required by section 1203(a) of Public Law

May 25, 2001

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

H2723

105-261, provides an updated assessment of progress on the benchmarks covering the period July 1, 2000, to February 28, 2001.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 25, 2001.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN
OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; which was read and, with-

out objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE,
Washington, DC, May 23, 2001.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Enclosed please find copies of resolutions approved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on May 16, 2001, in accordance with 40 U.S.C. § 606 and 40 U.S.C. § 610.

Sincerely,

DON YOUNG,
Chairman.

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

NOTICE

Incomplete record of House proceedings. Today's House proceedings will be continued in the next issue of the Record.