

began saving lives—even as the buildings were collapsing. Yes, it was the job of firefighters to go into the buildings, but they could have reasoned that the buildings were going to collapse anyway, so why try. When the victims rushed out, they rushed in, and became heroes in the process. Three hundred-forty three firefighters sacrificed their lives to save more than 25,000.

Our nation has had a resurgence of faith and spirituality. The tragedy caused people to reevaluate their core values and cling to their traditions. In one day, everything that we thought was meaningful and important slid to the wayside and we rediscovered fundamental beliefs about faith, family and freedom. If the terrorists had hoped to break the American spirit, they failed spectacularly.

We are now engaged in a war on terrorism and it is a war we will win. This is a struggle that concerns the whole of the democratic and civilized and free world. We will bring to account those responsible, and we will dismantle the apparatus of terror and eradicate the evil of mass terrorism in our world.

The cause that we are fighting is just and it is decent. No citizen, in any country, should live in fear of senseless terrorist attacks. On September 11, 2002, thousands of American civilians gave their lives for a cause they did not know. An attack against civilian targets of women and children, mothers and fathers, peaceful and without prejudice, is beyond comprehension in our modern, civilized world.

America responded to this crisis and emerged from the tragedy stronger and more determined. The course and duration of the conflict is unknown, but its outcome is not. America will prevail and remain the greatest nation in the world.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS,
FISCAL YEAR 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in disappointment. The Continuing Resolution, House Joint Resolution 111, on the floor today is a slap in the face of the American people. Our constituents all over the country are counting on us to help them put food on the table, provide their children with the best education possible and to make them and their families safer. Despite the best efforts of Democrats, the Republican leadership of the House continues to let them down. It is inexcusable that this body has only passed five appropriations bills. What is even more disappointing is that the Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill has not even been brought to the House floor for a vote. The other body has passed its version of the bill, yet we continue to twiddle our thumbs at the expense of our children. The Senate's proposal would increase education funding in the President's budget by a little over \$3 billion and would provide funding increases for Teacher Quality, Title 1, Head Start, and financial aid programs, and would restore funding for rural school programs. Instead of following in the Senate's lead, the House Republicans refuse to act on this issue.

The failure of the Republicans and the Administration to follow through on their commitment to education is disappointing. The "No Child Left Behind Act" was supposed to provide our children with the resources needed to obtain the best education possible, but, unfortunately, this has not happened. The law was touted as a way to prevent children from being "trapped" in failing schools but left behind may be thousands of unhappy parents and students. The President's budget of \$50.3 billion in discretionary funding for FY2003 has stopped six years of steady progress in federal support to local schools dead in its tracks. Under his proposal, the overall education budget would only increase by 2.8 percent, barely enough to cover inflation. Our so-called "Education President" is doing the exact opposite of what he promised. He is leaving our children behind.

Unfortunately, the only version of the House Republicans' Labor HHS Education appropriations bill follows the President's budget request. The bill would freeze or reduce funding for most education programs, including the teacher quality, after-school, math/science partnerships, Safe and Drug-Free schools, bilingual education, Pell Grants, Gear-Up and TRIO programs. Funding for several important programs, including rural education and technology training for teachers would be completely eliminated. It also includes no resources to address the \$127 billion crisis in school repairs. The bill cuts funding for the "No Child Left Behind Act" by \$90 million from last year, resulting in 16,000 fewer teachers getting trained, 50,000 fewer children in after-school programs, and yet another year without the needed resources to turn around failing schools. The President and the Republicans continue to break their promises to the children of our country.

In my home state of Illinois, they are attempting to take away nearly \$200 million needed to support the Title I grants program, which provides supplemental assistance to improve the educational attainment of low-achieving students, especially those in high poverty areas. Also, they are cutting nearly \$600 million from IDEA funding, which is desperately needed to improve special education in Illinois. Finally, student debt is skyrocketing as college tuitions rise, making loan affordability critical. Despite this fact, the Administration's budget cuts the maximum Pell Grant, which provides up to \$4,000 to low-income students to help with college tuition costs, to \$3,600, \$800 short of what is needed to keep pace with projected tuition hikes.

Mr. Speaker, this is not what I consider education reform. If we refuse to fund our educational system, then we are only cutting short the potential of our country's children and jeopardizing our nation's future. I urge my colleagues to listen to the millions of Americans out there and support a bill that follows the Senate's bill and not the President's budget. It is time to give our children the opportunities they deserve.

HOME SAFETY COUNCIL STUDY ON
HOME INJURIES AND DEATHS

HON. RICHARD BURR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. BURR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, unintentional home injuries have reached an unacceptable level, according to a new study by the Home Safety Council, and Americans need to be aware of the risks they face in their own homes. It may be surprising to some that these injuries are the leading cause of death for those between the ages of 1 and 44, and—other than illness—unintentional injuries are the number one cause of death in the United States.

The study, recently completed by the University of North Carolina, also shows us how unintentional home injuries hurt America's working families and our economy. Lost workdays for injured parents cost both employees and employers, not to mention driving up health care costs and raising dilemmas in providing childcare. These injuries cost Americans nearly \$380 billion each year, and account for an estimated 10 percent of all visits to hospital emergency rooms.

We are forming a Congressional Home Safety Working Group in the next Congress that can directly address home safety issues on Capitol Hill and in Federal agencies. The working group will examine how the Federal Government can support home safety education and prevention activities. A year from now, we need to see a reduction in the number of unintentional home injuries. For some great suggestions on what Americans can do right now to protect themselves, visit www.homesafetycouncil.org.

I want to congratulate David Oliver, Executive Director of the Home Safety Council, for commissioning this monumental study; Dr. Carol Runyan, Director of the Injury Prevention Research Center at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for conducting the study; and Dr. Sue Binder, Director of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, for supporting this study and bringing Federal attention to this critical issue. I would also like to encourage my fellow colleagues to raise the level of attention to home safety issues on Capitol Hill and in Federal agencies.

MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK
BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT
OF 2002

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing the Mt. Rainier National Park Boundary Adjustment Act. This legislation will enable the National Park Service to rebuild a road and popular campground located in the Northwestern corner of the park that has been devastated by years of reoccurring floods.

As a life-long Washingtonian, I appreciate the importance of maintaining our most treasured natural resources. Mt. Rainier National Park is one of the crown jewels of the national