

Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and others earlier. We cannot ignore those workers in our country who have through no fault of their own been laid off or lost their jobs. We should have done the bill before we left today. This is a Republican bill, for heaven's sake. It was signed off by DON NICKLES in the United States Senate. It was passed unanimously over there. We are talking about a million people running out of unemployment compensation benefits during a very important time of year for most people. This is a stimulus package in itself, a small one albeit, but needed for those devastated economies in certain pockets of our country. We could have done this. There is no reason we could not have done this. But we did not. We did not do it. And so I hope the first order of business, Mr. Speaker, will be this bill when the new Congress resumes.

Finally, let me just say to you, Mr. Speaker, and to Speaker HASTERT and my dear friend DICK GEPHARDT, whom I have had the honor of working with, I thank you for your kindnesses over the years and your leadership. Both of your staffs have been exceptionally wonderful to me and to my staff. I thank you for all the kindnesses that you have shown me. I look forward to returning those kindnesses in the years and months ahead.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I did not leave the floor because I knew that the gentleman was going to give to this Congress an oration or a message that we should not miss. I just want to conclude to the gentleman's remarks by again thanking him for his service to America. And though you did not announce it yourself, many of us alluded to it, it is important to restate that you are a veteran of wars. You did go to Vietnam. You did serve your country in the United States military.

And so as you speak in concluding, thanking your staff and those of us of your colleagues, you speak from what you know. What I would like to offer to you is again an enormous thank you for educating us about the admonition of delivering us from fear and hatred and war. We would do well in the next Congress to include you, encourage you, and listen to you for the travels that you have made, the insights that you have gathered. Might I make a commitment, and might I say that I have been very much instructed by your words, is that we will not give up on a vote and that is that a vote that has seemingly given authority to go to war against Iraq. I always say to my constituents, there was a vote, but likewise there were votes, plural, that expressed a different perspective.

I think it is important for those of us who view this war as both untimely and as well ill-directed, to follow in your line of reasoning and, that is, to

keep raising the issues and seeking to educate the American population.

Lastly, I would say the tone that you offered your message and your words today should be applauded by all. You were encouraging, embracing and nurturing. We thank you. What I would say to those who have debated this question of war, I would hope, and sometimes we are looked upon as being frivolous, that we might debate the question of peace, that there might be legislative initiatives that would talk about generating peace and understanding. I do not know if we have ever done that. I know there is a peace institute.

I would encourage and simply ask the minority whip, the former minority whip and the very helpful leader of this Congress and this Nation, to continue to stay in the fight with your words and wisdom on these issues, and maybe we will get there someday, understanding that peace has a greater price maybe, but a greater return than any war that we could engage in. I yield back to the gentleman with an enormous thanks.

Mr. BONIOR. I thank my colleague for her lovely words. I wish her success and happy Thanksgiving to you and your family and to the staff as well. Bless you.

RECALL DESIGNEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KERNS). Without objection, and pursuant to section 2 of Senate Concurrent Resolution 160, the Chair announces the Speaker's designation of Representative RICHARD K. ARMEY of Texas to act jointly with the majority leader of the Senate or his designee, in the event of the death or inability of the Speaker, to notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, of any reassembly under that concurrent resolution, and further, in the event of the death or inability of that designee, the alternate Members of the House listed in the letter bearing this date that the Speaker has placed with the Clerk are designated, in turn, for the same purpose.

There was no objection.

STATUS AND LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES OF GUAM

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

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to congratulate the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) on an excellent career and express my profound admiration for him and for his work that he has done during the course of his career.

Perhaps one of the most unknown dimensions of his role as a leader in the House of Representatives is his willingness to take the time to take newer Members on and guide them through

the process, especially those people that are not full Members of the House like myself, as a delegate from the territory of Guam, take the time to shepherd us through the process and provide guidance and support whenever necessary.

There were a number of points along the way in which the assistance of the gentleman from Michigan was very critical. I want to just recount two stories along those lines. One obviously was in the beginning of the 103rd Congress when the delegates of this House were granted a vote on the floor of the House under the Committee of the Whole which was introduced as a rule in the 103rd Congress. He stood by us and he was very strong on that. There was a lot of internal debate within the Democratic Party caucus and, of course, it became a full blown national issue almost immediately, resulted in a lawsuit and everything else, and probably even contributed to the demise of the majority by the Democrats in the 104th Congress.

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But, true to his word, the gentleman from Michigan stood by the delegates; and he stood by the fact that he felt, as many of us U.S. citizens feel, that full representation in the House is not dependent upon payment of taxes but is dependent upon citizenship. He stood in a very steadfast manner for all of us, and we very much appreciated it.

Then another part which is much less well-known, but I am willing to kind of talk about it a little bit now, was, in organizing the Democratic Caucus rules for the 104th Congress, some of the Members felt that the delegates had become albatrosses around the neck of the Democratic Caucus, so that one way they could perhaps, since the Democrat delegates did not contribute to the winning of the speakership and since they were part of the committee ratios, some Democratic Members felt that perhaps it would be a good idea to limit the delegates to one committee membership as opposed to two. The reasoning for that was that since the party ratios had shifted and the Democrats were now kind of in a tough situation trying to fight for seats on choice committees, that if the delegates who were not helpful in controlling the House in any ways, if they were limited to one committee assignment, perhaps it would be of greater assistance to the Democratic party. And again, of course, I was part of a group that spoke out vigorously against that idea and spoke to the meaning and the heart of what it meant to be a member of the Democratic party caucus; and again the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) stood by those people who were basically without a voice in this House. So I congratulate him on a career well spent.

I am taking the time this afternoon in the last day of the 107th Congress for the House of Representatives to simply express my gratitude to the people of