

tribute to the life of Corporal Armando Ariel Gonzalez, who gave his life bringing freedom to the oppressed people of Iraq.

Armando understood the significance of Operation Iraqi Freedom better than most Americans because, as a teenager, he and his father used a raft to escape from an oppressive regime in Cuba to find liberty in America.

Corporal Gonzalez was a dedicated Marine assigned to the Marine Wing Support Squadron 273 stationed at the Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort in South Carolina. He served bravely in a hostile environment, and supported one of the most successful military campaigns in history, one that will be immortalized along with the battles of Belleau Woods, Okinawa, Inchon, and Khe Sanh.

Armando fought for a country he could not call his own, but has received his citizenship posthumously, thanks to the hard work of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART).

He leaves behind a loving wife, Liudmila, who is expecting their first child. His baby will be born an American, and can be proud of a father who died as a true patriot. In conclusion, God bless our troops.

REPUBLICANS PROPOSE RECKLESS TAX CUT WHILE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS GO WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, just a few steps away from the floor of the House, there are many of us gathered near the Senate, standing up to speak on behalf of the 75 million uninsured Americans: physicians, representatives of hospitals, the American Medical Association, the National Medical Association, nurses' organizations, students; individuals who recognize, Madam Speaker, that it is not gripping when we say that we cannot afford a \$726 billion tax cut that will result in a \$1.7 trillion deficit in this economy, it is the people of the United States. It is the veterans who are disenrolled who cannot go to veterans' hospitals even as I speak, even in my congressional district, because we have no money in the budget. It is the young men and women who are willing to offer themselves as the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq, the United States troops who will be returning, individual troops who make a \$1,000 a month who cannot afford, when they leave the service, good health care.

That is why we believe the tax cut cannot and should not be passed, because of the millions of individuals who are uninsured.

I believe we should stand for what America believes in. That is the promise of America, that all of us should have equal access to health care. I be-

lieve that is what we should invest in, the people of this country rebuilding around the world our friendship, and not passing a reckless tax cut.

ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE BILL

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, on March 23 the Federal Department of Transportation decided to yank funding from the Lancaster Airport in my district, denying the airport of its ability to provide commercial air services.

The Department operates a program called the Essential Air Services Program which provides subsidies to airlines that serve smaller markets that would otherwise go without commercial service. But the Department of Transportation is wrong in this case.

The 68-mile route it chose between Route 30 to Philadelphia International Airport takes 3 hours to drive or more. The route most commonly used is 80 miles and takes about half that time to drive.

This week I am introducing a bill to remedy this wrong. The Essential Air Services Eligibility Fairness Act will make sure the highway mileage between a place and the nearest hub airport will be determined by the most commonly used route between the two airports. It will protect, in my case, 876,000 air trips that originate every year in Lancaster; and it will protect the other small market airports around the country that provide convenient air service for millions.

HOMELAND SECURITY AND TAX CUTS

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

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, as we prepare for the debate on taxes and spending, I want to call attention to an article in Sunday's Denver Post on the threat of shouldered-fired missiles to our airliners.

The article quotes security experts as saying this threat is "nearly impossible to defend against," and points out that equipping the U.S. commercial airline fleet with jammers or decoys could cost up to \$10 billion.

There are other threats, as well. We need to do much more to prevent ship containers that would be used to smuggle in weapons of mass destruction.

Of course, we cannot prevent every conceivable threat to our homeland security. We have to set priorities and we have to fund those priorities.

One thing is for sure: when the President proposed and this Congress passed a budget resolution that includes more than \$1 trillion in tax cuts, we cannot, in good conscience, tell the American people we are funding these priorities.

Madam Speaker, our States need help in beefing up security. When our home-

land security alert system goes to orange, our State budgets go into the red. I fear this President and this Republican Congress are sacrificing homeland security and other needs in favor of deep tax cuts that will have little positive effect on our economy.

We need to do better.

ALERTING NATION TO ASSIST IN SEARCH FOR ASHLEIGH MOORE OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA, AND OTHER MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN

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

Mr. BURNS. Madam Speaker, today the Subcommittee on Select Education is holding a hearing on missing and exploited and runaway youth under which revisions to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children will be considered.

This topic is particularly relevant to the people of Savannah, as there is a young girl from that area in my district who has been missing for more than 2 weeks.

Ashleigh Moore is only 12 years old. She is an African American young lady who is a little over 5 feet tall and weighs 120 pounds. She was last seen wearing a white shirt and brown pants. Her family is very worried about her, and the entire community from Savannah is making every effort to find her. I am hopeful that she will return safely home very soon.

I would urge anyone who has any information about Ashleigh to contact the Savannah police at 912-232-4141.

Madam Speaker, children are a precious resource. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children acts to reunite missing children with their families, and work with crime prevention officers to reach out to the community with child safety information and services.

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My thoughts and prayers are with Ashleigh's family today.

DEMOCRATIC PLAN CREATES JOBS

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, the distinguished majority leader got up here and said the first priority of the President was the economy. That is interesting for a President who over his 2 years in office has lost 2½ million jobs, 2½ million American workers who do not have jobs and hundreds of thousands of others that have run out of unemployment and the President has resisted extending their unemployment benefits. And we will see what happens this May as hundreds of thousands more lose their unemployment and they have no income support for their families, to pay

for their homes, to try to help keep their children in school and to pay the doctors' bills.

It is also interesting that he says that there are two purposes: one is to give tax relief to stimulate the economy, and the other is to keep the government from spending the money because they want to spend all the money. The last time I looked, the Republicans controlled the House of Representatives, the Republicans controlled the Senate, and the Republicans controlled the White House; but apparently we have got to destroy the American economy with these tax cuts before they kill again. They cannot control themselves from spending trillions of dollars. They cannot control themselves from running up the deficit. They inherited a \$2 trillion surplus, and they have turned it into a \$4 trillion debt. What happened with these people? They have no fiscal discipline. So now they want to spend a trillion dollars to create half as many jobs as the Democratic plan will create for \$150 billion.

REMOVE CUBA FROM UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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

Mr. FOLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to pass a very important resolution I will be introducing today. My bill expresses the sense of the House that the United Nations must call for the U.N. to remove Cuba from the United Nations Human Rights Commission.

The U.N. Human Rights Commission is the primary world body responsible for protecting the inalienable rights of all people to live free from harm and oppression. However, with some of the world's most egregious human rights violators on the panel, like Libya and Cuba, it is unlikely that it can effectively carry out its mission.

Whether it is Saddam Hussein or Fidel Castro, the U.N. has repeatedly protected tyrants, torturers, and murderers. Allowing Cuba to stay on the Human Rights Commission is like honoring Saddam Hussein with the Nobel Peace Prize.

Today I was shocked to learn that Cuba once again was put on the panel. For over 40 years Fidel Castro has time and time again shown his reprehensible disregard for the safety and welfare of his own people. His tyrannical regime has forced countless innocent people to risk their lives to seek the shores of the United States. But what is worse is that these people will go to the furthest of extremes to hurt their own people.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) laid before the House the fol-

lowing communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 14, 2003.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 12, 2003 at 2:25 p.m.

That the Senate agreed to conference report H.R. 1559.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH,
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule I, Speaker pro tempore THORNBERRY signed the following enrolled bills on Tuesday, April 15, 2003:

H.R. 145, to designate the Federal building located at 290 Broadway in New York, New York, as the "Ted Weiss Federal Building;"

H.R. 258, to ensure continuity for the design of the 5-cent coin, establish the citizens coinage advisory committee, and for other purposes;

H.R. 1559, making emergency wartime supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes;

H.R. 1770, to provide benefits and other compensation for certain individuals with injuries resulting from administration of smallpox countermeasures, and for other purposes.

COMMUNICATION FROM VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the vice-chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
April 10, 2003.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to Public Law 101-696 Section 801 (40 USC para. 188a(b)) the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee of the Library are provided positions on the Capitol Preservation Commission.

I am appointing Mr. John Mica of Florida to be my designee as provided for in Public Law 101-696 Section 801 (40 USC para 188a(c)).

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

VERNON J. EHLERS,
Vice-Chairman,
Joint Committee on the Library.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following commu-

nication from the Honorable GEORGE RADANOVICH, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 14, 2003.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena issued by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District for testimony and documents.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the precedents and the privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

GEORGE RADANOVICH,
Member of Congress.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable GEORGE RADANOVICH, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 24, 2003.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena issued by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California for testimony and documents.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

GEORGE RADANOVICH,
Member of Congress.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a record vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF OPERATION RESPECT, THE "DON'T LAUGH AT ME" PROGRAMS AND PETER YARROW

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 161) recognizing the achievements of Operation Respect, the "Don't Laugh At Me" programs, and Peter Yarrow, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 161

Whereas Operation Respect is a nonprofit organization engaged in a national effort to transform participating schools, after-school programs, and children's summer camps into more compassionate and respectful environments through its "Don't Laugh At Me" program materials that address the issues of