

on to other generations. This area was there; it would not take 200 years to replace it. Those 300-year-old trees were there, but we were not allowed to go in and treat them. What happened, we lost it all. We lost all of the untreated area.

So, in conclusion, let me add one other thing about my bill. This is an urban area. Take a look at this poster. This does not just apply to those who live out in the country, out in the sticks, some might say. It does not apply to just us, this applies to those in communities. This is bugs that killed these trees. Go down I-70 in Colorado by Vail, there is beetle kill all along the highway. Once a beetle lands on a tree, it is like malignant cancer. It is gone. It is over.

Do you think the Sierra Club or Greenpeace or Earth First would cooperate one iota for us to go out there and get ahold of this and manage these forests? It does not happen. My bill talks about urban interface and watersheds and bug infestation. My bill talks about wildlife habitat.

My bill protects public input, and says, let us manage our forests. They are a diamond, a wonderful asset of the people of this country. Those public lands should be protected, but we do not protect them by ignoring them, any more than you protect your child by not managing your child. Some people might say, give your child whatever they want, spoil them, do not discipline them, do not manage them, do not reach any kind of balance, what time they have to come in at night. What product do you get? Usually a pretty rotten person as a result of that kind of management.

We are saying we can reach a balance. Let the Forest Service, let the parks, let the BLM do what they are best at doing. Congress does not need to manage day to day these public lands. Of course, we have oversight on public policy, but we should not be having the courts run those forests, and we should not let the United States Congress run the forests. We should let the forest rangers, the BLM agents, the range riders, let them manage those assets for us.

We are so narrow-minded on some of these things, and we have been persuaded through emotion, not through science, but through emotion to change these management techniques, and have we ever paid the price. This was a very expensive lesson last year with all of those fires, and those many fire fighters' lives we lost.

It is a very expensive lesson not to cut down a tree with beetles in it and stop the infestation. We talk about it, and in the first paragraph of a Greenpeace press release or an Earth First or Sierra Club, they always talk about clear-cutting and timber companies. They figure out every negative word they can to stop us from managing it.

This is not about timber, this is about preserving wildlife and water-

sheds, protecting urban interface. This is about letting the Forest Service manage forest property. All of us, all of us win. Do you know how big winners all of us would have been if we would have allowed the Park Service to go ahead and treat this area?

Tell me one loser by not protecting this area. Had we protected this area, I do not care if you are a member of Greenpeace or the other radical organizations, Earth First and so on, you would have benefited had we been able to preserve these 300-500-year-old pinion trees for many generations. They will not be replaced for 300 years, and it is because of the fact that we took management away from the people who know what to do with it; and we have consolidated it in the radical environmental organizations and, frankly, in the halls of the United States Congress.

I hope that the Senate sees what we saw in that bill, that is, the Senate, as we did, on a bipartisan basis passes the Healthy Forest Initiative. That is my bill. I know about it. I had lots of Democratic support. I had Democratic cosponsors. This is not a Republican bill being shoved down somebody's throat or a Democratic bill being shoved down somebody's throat. This is a team effort to manage those forests, and I hope the Senate sees as we did and passes that legislation before the fire season and the bug season gets too much further down the road.

IMMIGRATION POLICY AND IMMIGRATION REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURGESS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I want to address the House tonight on an issue that I try often to bring to the attention of my colleagues and the Nation, and that is immigration and immigration reform, and I want tonight to induct another member into the famous "hall of homeland heroes." This is an exercise that I have gone through several times, and we have identified quite a number of people who have experienced things that should come to the attention of this body and the Nation, because these folks and what has happened to them really and truly are extraordinary events and they are extraordinary activities with which they have been involved in trying essentially to keep their own land, raise their family, and do what every American has a right to do, but they do so under very severe circumstances.

They do so in an area of the country that is very harsh, very challenging, and very unforgiving. The geography of the land, the climate of the land is in every way, shape and form severe. It is the southern deserts of the United States. It is the area in and around Cochise County, Arizona, and it is the area adjacent to our border with Mex-

ico. All of these things make living in the area very, very difficult.

Of course the land has always been unforgiving. The environment has always been harsh, but only in the recent 5 or 10 years has the proximity to Mexico become also very problematic in terms of trying to run a business, trying to actually just live your life.

Because they have had so many problems in this regard, and because so few people have paid attention to these problems, I have decided that one way to bring their plight to the attention of the Nation is to create this thing we call the "homeland heroes" and every once in awhile to come up here with another person that we are trying to induct into that "hall of heroes."

Tonight it is Ruth Evelyn Cowan. Ruth Cowan is a fourth generation rancher who has been forced to move off of her land because of the dangers posed by hundreds of thousands of illegal aliens who cross her land every month and every year. Ruth Cowan and her husband own 16,000 acres of ranchland located 45 miles from the Arizona-Mexico border north of Douglas, Arizona. They have about 400 head of cattle.

Like many ranchers in the area, Ruth Cowan and her husband must work two jobs to make ends meet because the cost of operating a ranch often exceeds the income. Her husband works 130 miles away in Phoenix during the week. It is not safe for Ruth to live on her own ranch in her own home. She is very isolated. She has to live in Tombstone and drive to the ranch daily to supervise the operations.

Each day she drives to the ranch, she must carry not only her cell phone, a two-way radio, a camera, marking tape and a flashlight, she always carries a pistol for self-protection.

To some liberal church groups in the Tucson area, this makes her a vigilante. It also would make her a vigilante to some of the more liberal publications that emanate out of the East Coast, publications that employ writers to talk about this issue, writers who have never set foot in the desert, do not have the slightest idea what it is like to live in this area and yet take great pleasure in characterizing people like Ms. Cowan and others who do have to face the trauma of life in this area, and characterize them as vigilantes.

She carries a gun for self-protection on her own land. This does not make her a vigilante, it makes her a victim of failed immigration policy and open borders. Three years ago she had to take a leave of absence from her job as a flight attendant because the ranch requires her round-the-clock attention. This additional demand on her time is due almost entirely to the costs and other problems imposed by the flow of illegal aliens across the land.

□ 2200

Among the additional costs thereby imposed on her family has been the purchase of COBRA insurance at over

\$400 a month. Her ranch business has been hurt financially by the flow of illegal aliens across the land, a flow of people and illegal drugs that have increased dramatically since she and her husband first purchased the family business in 1996. Her ranch has three different south-to-north routes used by illegal aliens. Her trucks have been stolen and vandalized leading to both direct losses and increased insurance costs. She has lost many animals to the illegal aliens, including a \$2,400 registered bull that died from eating a plastic bag. Another bull was hit by a hit-and-run driver and had his leg broken and had to be destroyed.

You say, eating a plastic bag? The fact is that the area around there has been so inundated by illegal aliens carrying their supplies and then depositing their trash throughout the land that in many areas it looks similar to a huge trash dump. It looks like a municipal trash dump. This is the middle of, as I say, a very pristine area; but you will come across these areas, 50, 100 acres at a time. They are called pickup sites where these folks will meet, they walk into the country illegally, they meet at these sites, pre-arranged where they are going to be picked up by trucks that bring them into the interior of the United States, trucks similar to those that were identified recently in Victorville, Texas, in which several illegal aliens died tragically. But from these pickup sites, then, trash is distributed throughout the area. The wind, of course, takes it; and we have a definite problem with the kind of pollution that that causes, and then not only that, of course, cattle eat the plastic, the trash bags and whatever, and they eventually die because it will not digest and it will kill them. This happens time and time again. This was certainly not unique.

But again, explain this kind of thing to someone living in Washington, D.C., writing for *The Washington Post* or some of these other e-mail magazines, online magazines. They have not the foggiest idea of what we are talking about and what these people have to deal with all of the time.

Because of the broken fences, cows wander onto highways and cause accidents. A nurse hit a cow recently and threatened to sue the Cowan family for negligence. Unfortunately, the illegal trespassers who cut the fence were not available to answer the court summons or to pay damages. Cut and downed fences make it very difficult to maintain a special breeding program for the cattle. Herds mix and become mongrelized and are more susceptible to diseases from neighboring herds. This means that the market value of their cattle diminishes. Thus the Cowan family suffers real economic loss as a result of these cut fences. Repair costs for gates and fences and broken waterlines have skyrocketed. The real estate market for ranches south of Interstate 10 has plummeted because no one wants to purchase a place im-

periled by all of these problems. Ruth Cowan has been forced off the local roads many times by overloaded trucks running at high speeds. Unfortunately, when these speeders cause real accidents and hurt innocent people, they do not have insurance and flee into Mexico before they can be prosecuted. We are going to talk a lot more about that kind of a phenomenon later on this evening.

It is often alleged that critics of the open border policy are simply bigots, that they do not want Mexican workers in the country or as new citizens. This is hogwash, and the experience of the Cowan family shows why it is hogwash. Ruth Cowan has two employees who are Mexican nationals and work on the ranch with legal work papers. They live in Agua Prieta, Sonora and drive to her ranch about 50 miles every single day. Ruth Cowan has been trying for 5 years to get immigration approval for the wife of one of the employees to come and join her husband. The employee could then live on the ranch and not have to commute 50 miles in each direction daily. These legal Mexican workers are equally indignant about the problems affecting the Cowan ranch because they see the problems firsthand and know that it affects their own lives as well. One of the employees had his own truck stolen by illegal trespassers.

This is something else that really deserves the attention of the body and, again, the attention of the people back here who either write or opine about the problems that we face in the United States and in the western United States with illegal immigration. What they do not understand is that it is not Anglo-Americans that are imperiled by this. It is not a race issue whatsoever. Every time I do this, that I come to the floor and I talk about this issue, I will go back and there will be a lot of e-mails, a lot of calls on our line. Most of them are quite supportive, and many of them, a high percentage of them are from people who suffer these kinds of problems, people of Hispanic descent who say to me, what you are doing is right, what you are saying is right, we have come here legally, we are trying to work through the process, we are trying to live a life in the United States, build a life here. We live by the rules and by the laws. And they resent it that other people get to sort of jump in front of the line, in front of them, that other people take advantage of our lax immigration law, lax immigration enforcement, in fact nonimmigration law enforcement. They resent it. And they have every right to resent it. And they are Hispanic Americans and they are black Americans and they are white Americans and they are brown Americans and pink and blue and every color Americans, but they are just as angry about this as anyone else; and they have every right to be angry about it.

Another thing we will talk about this evening later on is the impact of mas-

sive immigration on low-wage, low-skilled workers, how many of them are negatively impacted by the flow of illegal aliens into this country. But we will save that for a later time this evening.

Ruth Evelyn Cowan is a law-abiding citizen and a fourth-generation rancher who only wants to live on her own land, manage a business for the benefit of American consumers, and enjoy life with her husband in a safe community. She would like to be able to spend a weekend with her husband and not have to stand watch over the trails used by illegal trespassers. She would like to have the first activity of each new day not be the repair of broken or trampled fences and other damage caused by uninvited intruders.

She would like to sleep through the night without someone calling on the phone to tell her to come and get her cattle off of the highway. She would like to be able to invite friends to her ranch without worrying about the piles of trash visible all across the rangeland. She would like to be able to ride her horse on her own land without a bodyguard. She would like to be able to host groups of students who want to learn about the ranching business without having to apologize for the dangers and the rash of diseases and crimes afflicting the region. In short, Ruth Evelyn Cowan wants to be able to live the kind of life that she would be able to live if we had a secure border and adequate enforcement of our immigration laws.

I speak of Ruth Cowan's problems and fears not only out of sympathy for her and her family and not only as an example of what is happening to thousands of ranchers across the Southwest. I speak of these problems because they are problems that are growing all across our Nation and problems we cope with very inadequately and unsuccessfully with the impact of massive illegal immigration. If we do not address these issues now, these problems will continue to grow and multiply not only in the States on our southern border. The problems will multiply in Omaha; Portland; Fort Collins, Colorado; Chicago; and Spartanburg.

I commend to you this life, this individual, Ruth Cowan and her family; and I suggest that we owe them a great deal. We owe them at least the protection that every citizen in this Nation has the right to expect from their government. The Constitution of this United States gives the Federal Government relatively few true responsibilities. We usurp many. We take many responsibilities here that have absolutely nothing to do with the Federal role in our constitutional government. We can have debates over whether or not we should have a U.S. Department of Education even though the word "education" does not even appear in the Constitution anywhere. We can argue about whether the role of the Department of Health and Human Services is relevant and important and a Federal issue.

We can argue all of these things, and I think there is logic to the argument that we have usurped many of these responsibilities from the States. But one thing about which there is no argument is the fact that the Federal Government owes the people of this country the right to think, anyway, and believe that it will try its best to protect and defend their lives and their property. That is a Federal role. That is something the States cannot handle. They cannot raise armies and they cannot develop immigration policies. At least they should not. That is another issue again for perhaps a little bit later time.

There are, of course, States and localities throughout the United States that are succumbing to the siren song being played to them by the Mexican consul in their area. The Mexican consul and consulates throughout the United States, all 47 of them, have been charged with the responsibility by the government of Mexico to go out and lobby State and local governments to get them to accept anyone who is here, to accept the matricula consular. This is a Mexican ID card given to Mexican nationals living in the United States and, of course, given to Mexican nationals living here illegally. In fact, the only purpose these cards serve is to provide some sort of identification to someone who is living here illegally or to a felon who is trying to change his identification.

So for in the last several months, 1.5 million of these cards have been distributed in the United States and the Mexican consulates are handing them out every day. They send out vans, as a matter of fact, to pass out these cards. Then they go to the cities and States and get them to accept the cards that are given out to these illegal aliens. And many States, many localities are doing it. California is in the midst of a discussion in the State legislature that would actually have the State accept the matricula consular from illegal aliens for the provision of services.

That is running a different immigration system. How many immigration systems are we supposed to have in the United States? The one the Federal Government runs and the one that the State of California or the city of Denver and the city of Tucson run along with the Mexican consul? These are all different immigration policies. But it is a uniquely Federal role. To a certain extent, the Federal Government has abdicated that role, so States and localities, in a way, they are saying, okay, if you don't want to handle it, I guess we will. But they are not protecting the Cowans. They are protecting illegal aliens. All these cities and States that are anticipating this acceptance of the matricula consular, this Mexican ID card and ID cards that are now being handed out by at least five other governments, foreign governments to their illegal nationals living in the United States, people who

are doing that, these cities and States and police departments that are doing that are aiding and abetting criminal activity in the United States.

Yes, I said aiding and abetting criminal activity. That is what even police departments are doing when they accept these cards. If a police officer is shown a card, a matricula consular, they should immediately arrest that individual, because that is prima facie evidence that that person is here illegally. Because you do not need the card if you are here legally. If you come into this country legally, you have something called a green card, or a visa, or a stamp on your passport, or something the United States Government has given you. You do not rely on another country's identification card, especially in a time like this, especially when we recognize that porous borders mean a danger to the actual existence of the United States. But here we are allowing cities to do this, allowing States to do this, and even having the Federal Government actually anticipate doing this, with the Department of Treasury issuing regulations not too long ago saying that banks could do this, could accept a card from people so they could open bank accounts.

I understand the motivation of the bank. I know what they are wanting to do this for. It is called money. It is called the dollar sign. It is called the bottom line, right? They are a business and you can excuse it, you can rationalize their behavior. They are simply being greedy and doing exactly what they should be doing, I guess, as greedy huge corporations trying to improve their bottom line. They see this group of what they call the unbanked, 13 million people living here illegally and not being able to get fees from them, that makes these bankers, the Wells Fargo board of directors salivate thinking, my goodness, think of all those people from whom we could collect fees and how we could get all that money they make, what little it is does not matter. Multiplied by 13 million, that could be a lot of money. The unbanked, that is what they call them.

There is another word, it is illegal aliens; and you are aiding and abetting a criminal activity. It is against the law to aid and abet someone who is here illegally. That is against the law. It is against Federal law. Yet all of the things I am describing are things that government agencies are doing. That is how bizarre this whole immigration policy has become.

□ 2215

So the Cowans and others look to the Federal Government for help. They get none. They look to their State for help. They get none.

Recently, because of the pressure that has been applied as a result of these weekly stories that we bring to the attention of the body, it is suggested that because of the pressure that has developed as a result of this

noise that we are making about this, little things seem to be changing.

I want to say how happy I am about the fact that some different people are in place in the Border Patrol in that area, in the administration of the Border Patrol. I understand that some new folks are on hand down there and may be looking at this whole issue differently and be willing perhaps to help the Cowans and all the other ranchers in Cochise County begin to control this problem. I hope that is true.

I understand that the sheriff in Cochise County has become a little more amenable to the concerns of the people down there. I am very happy to hear that. I am encouraged by the fact that little things may be happening for the people in Cochise County because we have made a lot of noise about it.

But it is not enough. It is not enough, because the plight of the people in Cochise County, Arizona, is the plight of literally millions of Americans, and will be the plight of the entire Nation if this phenomenon of massive immigration into the country, unchecked, unrecognized immigration, illegal immigration into this country, goes without our attention.

During the break, during the last week when we were off, the Memorial Day break, I got a call from someone who was telling me about a situation that had occurred in a little town in Colorado, so I can bring this a lot closer to home. I am, of course, a Representative from the Sixth Congressional District of Colorado, which is the southern suburbs of Denver really.

There is a town in northeastern Colorado called Yuma. I got a call from someone who was saying, Do you know what is happening in this little tiny town of Yuma, Colorado, a town I know well and have been through many times. They said in the last, really just year-and-a-half, 2 years, the whole town is suffering through a really significant and traumatic time.

They went on to explain that because of something that occurred, again, just not more than a couple or 2 or 3 years ago, when a couple of families of illegal immigrants moved into the area, moved into the town from a particular village in Chihuahua, Mexico, and found employment there. They then called their family and relatives in this small town where the unemployment rate was like 80 percent and said, Look, we found a job in Yuma, Colorado, and we can get you on here. There is a big dairy farm, there are several various cattle feeding operations there, several pig farms, and there was work. They could get paid under the table. Everybody was pretty accommodating. They could get paid. It was probably less than would be the going rate otherwise, but after all, they were here illegally, so they were willing to accept a lower wage and more difficult conditions.

So, other people came from this village in Chihuahua, Mexico, to Yuma, Colorado. Over time, more came, 20, 30,

40, 50, 100, and now this group of illegal aliens makes up a significant chunk of the town. About one-third of the school district, the population of the school district, are children of illegal aliens living in Yuma, Colorado.

Well, what does that mean? For them it may be a better life. It may be better than that small village in Chihuahua. Nobody can argue that. But what does it mean for the people in Yuma?

Well, let us see. It means higher costs for infrastructure activities, highways and police activities and schools. There is a bond issue that is being considered for Yuma, Colorado, and they are concerned about whether this bond issue will pass, because they recognize that a lot of people in Yuma think that the reason why the bond issue is being put forward is because they are going to have to pay for the additional costs incurred by the school district because of all of these children of illegal aliens in the schools, over 280 children.

I went up there. I drove up to Yuma to see this myself and to talk with the school superintendent, who agreed to meet with me, a very interesting and pleasant fellow who had been around the business for a long time. He was telling me, among other things, that the highest single budget item that they have is English as a second language now, \$280,000, which is higher, he said, than what they spend for English language education, history, science, any other program in the school district. This is, again, this little tiny school district.

He said, sure there are problems. You go into the cafeteria at any given time, you are going to see the Hispanic kids sitting over here and the Anglo kids sitting over here. Because of the language problems, he said, we have had a significant decline in our test scores. They have plummeted. Naturally, they are going to suffer in that way.

The rest of the community and the town are calling up and saying, What is happening here? Our town, our kids and this school district have always done so well, our scores have been so good. How come our district is not doing as well anymore? And a lot of kids are moving to a little school district called Lone Star, Colorado.

Fights, they are having all these problems in the school and having problems in the town. And yet, as I talked to him, I said, you know, does anybody not talk about this? Does anybody not bring this to light?

He said, No one wants to talk about this problem. He said, Everyone in this town knows it is a problem, but nobody wants to talk about it. He said, You might go over to the coffee shop and sit down, and you can really get to know somebody, and they might begin to discuss it. But generally speaking, they do not want to talk about it. They are fearful of talking about it. But everybody knows it is happening, and it is a huge problem for this little tiny town.

Now, here is the other part of the story. It is not unique. This situation

in Yuma, Colorado, is not unique. In fact, Yuma is a microcosm of this phenomenon. It is happening in small towns all over the United States of America. But do you know what? Nobody wants to talk about it. You did not hear this.

I have certainly not seen any reference to this in the local media. Our two major dailies did big stories, or one at least did a big series of stories supposedly about the problems of illegal immigration or immigration into Colorado. I do not remember any discussion of Yuma, Colorado, or the problems that exist in that small town, or any of the other small towns in Colorado where this is happening.

The picture that is portrayed by most of the media of illegal immigration, certainly the media out here and the media in my area, that picture is one of this idealistic sort of situation where you have got a family come in, they are hard-working, the kids are in school, kids are going to school in the United States. They are saying what they want, they simply want to go to college for in-State tuition, and how bad we are, how selfish we are, that maybe a State does not want to provide subsidized education, the taxpayers of a State, higher education for people who are here illegally. How incredible. That is the portrait that is painted by the media of the typical family.

Well, that is a true picture of many people who are here illegally, but it is not the only picture. And what about the lives that are affected negatively by that family? What about the costs to the society, financial, and in terms of tearing communities apart; what about those costs? When are they calculated? How are they calculated?

I have seldom seen anybody want to publish a study. The many studies that have been done, Professor Huddle, there have been many, many studies that have been done that identify the negative aspects of massive immigration of low-skilled, low-wage people.

A professor by the name of Virginia Abernathy comes to mind at Vanderbilt University. Her portrayal of this can be characterized in a way that is illustrative of the problem. She says massive immigration of low-skilled, low-wage people into the United States does create profits for some, it is true, profits for the employers of those people, but it creates costs for the many. It creates costs for schools, for highways, for housing, for social services and for health care; costs that are far higher than any of the tax revenues that are gleaned from the people who are working here.

First of all, they are working for very low wages. Many of them are working, like many of the folks out in the Yuma area, they are working and being paid under the table, in cash, no taxes being collected. Even when taxes are collected, when illegal aliens obtain Social Security numbers, file income tax statements, because their

wages are so low they usually are able to claim the Earned Income Tax Credit.

I will never forget, we came through one of these pick-up sites I was telling you about earlier in the desert in Arizona, and there on the ground there was a tax form. Among all this trash strewn all over the desert floor, there was a tax form, a claim for the Earned Income Tax Credit for a gentleman who had been in this area, dropped it or had thrown away this form, and claimed he had made about \$8,000 or \$9,000. He had paid, I think it was less than \$100 in taxes, because he had several children, and claimed \$3,700 in Earned Income Tax Credit.

So even when people "pay taxes," people who are here illegally, the fact is they can and do oftentimes get money back. In 1994, right before we passed the 1996 act, in 1994 a Democratic Treasury Secretary, Lloyd Bentsen, was talking about this, and he said he believed there were hundreds of thousands of illegal aliens taking advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit.

I do not know what the numbers are today, but I believe they are still very, very high. These are costs to our society.

There is another cost that no one wants to talk about. It is the cost to other low-skilled, low-wage workers in the United States who are here legally, who are citizens of the country, or who are here as legal aliens, have legal alien status. Their wages are significantly depressed by the numbers of people coming in here, into the United States, and taking these other jobs, these low-skilled, low-wage jobs.

To employers, this is great. There are employers at Tysons Food, some of the executives at Tysons Food, a huge corporation, of course, a huge food corporation in Arkansas, some of these guys may be going to jail soon. Charges have been brought against them by the Federal Government, RICO charges have been brought against them, because not only did they hire illegal aliens in their food factories, but they imported them. According to the charges that have been brought, they are actually helping the importation of people into the plant, importation of people to come in here illegally. Again, not just aiding and abetting, but in this case actually participating in the act of bringing in illegal immigrants into the United States.

□ 2230

So there are many people in this country who are harmed by the presence of so many illegal immigrants in this country. Their plight is hardly ever discussed by the media. We hardly ever see that. We would never have heard of Ms. Cowan had I not brought her to your attention tonight.

There are millions of people in this country who have been harmed because of our lax border policies. I am going to host, I and a number of other organizations will be hosting the week of September 11, that week we will be hosting

an event here in Washington. It is called the Day of Remembrance for Victims of Open Borders and Illegal Immigration.

We are encouraging, Mr. Speaker, everyone who has had a problem, everyone who has been in fact victimized because of our open border policies and by illegal immigrants to come here and tell their story, identify themselves to their congressional representatives, to their House Members and to the Senate Members that represent their State.

Tell them what has happened to them; tell them about their loved ones who have been killed, killed by people who came into this country illegally and were later able to escape back into Mexico and therefore, because they refuse to extradite people to the United States who may face the death penalty, they are still in Mexico living life down there.

There are literally thousands, actually hundreds of thousands of people who fall into this category. It is not just people who have been harmed physically or have had members of their family harmed physically, of which there are many; and we can go through some of them a little bit later. But it is also, you know, when one has been displaced, when one has been displaced by a foreign worker who comes into this country, takes the job that you had because someone is going to pay them a little less money for it, pay the illegal worker less money, and you are displaced. That is a distinct disadvantage at which you are placed. It is a harm to you and to your family that has been done because of our policies.

There can be a legal process in which people can come into this country and work if we truly need workers. I hear this all the time, that the reason why we have people come into this country and do this work illegally is because there are all these jobs American workers will not do.

If there are these jobs, and there may very well be, and there are certain industries where I recognize there is a need, then a legal process has to be developed in order to bring people in to get work and so that their rights can be protected, so they can be protected against the abuses of unscrupulous employers, so people coming in here do not have to sell their souls to the coyotes, do not have to be locked into the back of tractor-trailers.

They can actually come into the United States in a legal process, but they must return home. That is a guest worker, a person who works here a while, returns to the country of origin, cannot bring family into this country, cannot establish residence, permanent residence, and cannot eventually become a citizen through that process, because that is called immigration; and that is over here.

We still have the most liberal immigration policies in the world. If we cut it in half or if we cut it to one-third of what we are presently doing in immi-

gration, legal immigration, we would still have the most liberal immigration policy of almost any country in the world.

So they can come into this country one of two ways legally, if we have a guest worker program or through immigration; but they cannot be the same thing. People cannot come in here and expect to become a citizen through this guest worker program.

Also, we cannot possibly have a guest worker program, which is being proposed by other Members of this body, we cannot have a guest worker program unless we have secure borders. Because no matter what we say or no matter how we define a guest worker, someone will choose not to come that way and come through the porous borders, so we have accomplished absolutely nothing. So the borders have to be secure before any guest worker program can be initiated, secure borders.

Yes, we can have it. Yes, it can happen. It is the only way to have a guest worker program. We can have one if all of these jobs that, as I say, Americans will not take are really out there.

That is the other thing, you have to prove that you have tried to give that job to an American citizen and that you cannot find anybody, and you cannot pay somebody less because they are coming in here through a guest worker program. So their rights can be protected and American citizens' rights can be protected, but only if the border is secure. That is the only way a program like that will work.

When we suggest this to many of my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, who are in fact pushing these ideas, they do not want to talk about secure borders, or they want to use it as a platitude. They say, yes, we have it. We will increase the number of Border Patrol. Of course, that is not securing the border. We have to militarize the border on both the northern and southern borders, as my friend and colleague who has joined me here tonight has told this body on more than one occasion. We need to be able to use the military to augment the Border Patrol, the Customs Service, Forest Service personnel, until we can actually gain control of our own borders.

For that discussion or whatever point he would like to make, I will yield to my friend, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODE), and ask him to join us and give us his comments.

Mr. GOODE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) for his persistence on the illegal immigration issue. He has brought his message to this body and to outside this body. Without his leadership, I do not think as many in this country would be aware of the huge cost that illegal immigration places on the taxpayers of the United States.

I have heard people in this body and in this Chamber and in the halls of the committee rooms talk about the deficit. Well, one way we can deal with the deficit is clamp down on illegal im-

migration. If we put a halt to that, there would be less hospital charges to Medicaid that our States and that the Federal Government would have to match; there would be fewer demands on our social service system; fewer demands on our food stamp system; fewer demands on an array of other services.

Also, we would not have to deal with the situations that occurred a few weeks ago with the tragedy of 18 or 19 persons dying in an overheated, piled-up trailer. We could save money in this country and have less of a deficit if we could halt illegal immigration.

But my reason for being here tonight, and I want to thank the gentleman from Colorado for yielding to me, I wanted to relate an example of how our policies with the United States Treasury Department, coupled with the views of the Mexican Government, cost us the United States taxpayers' funds.

There was a gentleman from Mexico named Mr. Gamez. He came to my office four times trying to find out where the Mexican identification cards were for his sister, for his mother, and for his father. He had a green card and he was legally in the country, a very nice person.

I had the opportunity to talk with him about why he so critically needed these Mexican identification cards right away. This was in April, at the time that taxes were due. He was filling out his income tax returns. He needed these cards so that he could send them to the United States Treasury in an application process for an individual taxpayer identification number. They have a little form you fill out, a blank for the type of identification. This says country/State of the issuing ID, the ID number, the expiration date.

He wanted the Mexican ID cards to get him a U.S. taxpayer identification number. He lived in the United States; but his father lived in Mexico, his mother lived in Mexico, and his sister lived in Mexico.

He said, I do not have any children, but I am helping my mother, I am helping my father, and I am helping my sister. He wanted to get the taxpayer, the U.S. taxpayer identification number using the Mexican ID number so he could claim them as dependents.

I said, well the way I look at that is what you are doing, you are taking money out of the United States at the expense of the taxpayers, because I have heard a number of workers in my area complain that those with green cards have a much bigger check than those who are natives of the United States of America and have dependents that live in their homes, if they have them, and we can readily ascertain how many dependents they have.

I noticed on the forms with the sister's name on it, with the mother's name on it, with the father's name on it, they were listed as a Rocky Mount, Virginia, address. I said, are they living here in Rocky Mount with you? Oh,

no, they are living in Mexico. But I can apply for these numbers and then I can count them as a dependent, and then there will not be any taxes withheld out of my check, and I will not have to pay any income taxes.

I said, How did you learn about all of this? He said, well, the Mexican officials were schooling me on it. He did not use the word "schooling." "Schooling" is a parochial term used in Franklin County. It is how one gets an education on how to get yourself more money.

That is what he was doing. He wanted to get those Mexican IDs to get his U.S. taxpayer identification number so he could put their names on his 1040 form and get back a refund. I do not know how much he was making, certainly it would depend on those factors, but he would be able to claim three additional dependents in addition to himself.

He said the Mexican officials were helping him. They told him to come and see me. Maybe they just said that blanket, not me personally, but go see your Member of Congress if you need to get your ID cards. So he came to the office four times before I had the opportunity to personally meet with him.

But I questioned whether this was valid under the United States Tax Code, so I had a meeting in my office with the persons from the IRS. As I understood what they said, what he was doing is valid under the U.S. Tax Code and valid under our IRS rules and regulations. This is an example of how our money is being shifted to another country. I really wonder whether we should be encouraging situations like this. I think not.

I have heard tonight before the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) and the other gentleman from Colorado had their chance to speak how bad the tax cut bill was that passed.

I got to thinking, you know, what if there were not an adult sister, an adult mother, and an adult father, but it was three children. If the bill like the complaints were made had passed, even though this gentleman would have owed no U.S. income tax, did not owe any, did not pay any, we would be sending him a check in the mail if their position prevailed; a further drain on the United States Treasury, a further drain on the United States economy.

I think we need to take a close look before we buy into this argument of let us make the child tax credit refundable, because George Bush and those of us who voted for the previous tax cuts did such a good job with the current child tax credit that many of those earning between \$10,000 and \$26,000 are not paying any Federal income taxes. They do not owe any; they do not pay any. Therefore, they do not get a check back. It is for those who have paid Federal income taxes. If someone is making \$10,000 a year and paid some Federal income tax, they can get it back under the plan we passed.

But I am just wondering how much schooling the Mexican officials are giv-

ing that talked with Mr. Gamez, and are going around the country educating, and I use that word in quotes, those with green cards to suck more money out of the United States.

□ 2245

I think we need to be wary of that. And that causes me much concern when the advocates say how the tax bill was not fair to those that are not getting a refund, which means a check in the mail. You did not pay any income tax, you did not owe any income tax, but we are going to send you a check anyway.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for allowing me to tell you about this specific situation in the town of Rocky Mount, Virginia.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I very much appreciate the gentleman coming down and discussing that tonight.

He brings up an interesting point that is the kind of activity that is going on throughout the country, some of it being sponsored by the Federal Government and other by Federal agencies in order to encourage people to come here illegally, in order to get benefits of every kind, variety and shape.

In Colorado I just got a flier from an organization. It is actually a group of people that are sponsoring this group of organizations; and they have gone to a couple of counties in Colorado. One is Jefferson County, which I live in; one is Adams County just north of me. And the flier talks about this and they have the county treasurers to join them in this effort, and what is the effort? It says, building communities one taxpayer at a time. You think, what are they talking about here? And the big title of their conference that they are going to have on July 12 in Colorado is to teach people how to get taxpayer identification numbers.

It says, who needs one of these? Anyone who cannot get a Social Security number needs a taxpayer identification number.

Now, you have to ask yourself a question, How many people in this country have to have a taxpayer identification number as opposed to a Social Security number? Because when you call the IRS, they tell you it is one in the same. If you have a Social Security number, that is the same as your tax ID number. If you do not have a Social Security number, you fill out this form and you get one. Who would do that? People who are here legally like the gentleman referenced so he could pay his taxes. How about people who are here illegally? We do not know. We are not going to try to stop them.

If somebody comes in and applies, they are going to get it. What do they need it for? What does somebody who is here illegally need a taxpayer identification number for? I will tell you one thing they need it for: I will tell you every time we start talking about amnesty for everybody who is living here illegally, one of the things that comes up

is someone is going to prove that they have been here and working for some time and they will turn to this taxpayer identification number so they can prove that and they get amnesty. It comes through this particular body.

It is to do just exactly what the gentleman has suggested. It is to obtain benefits from the Federal Government in terms of tax credits for your children, tax exemptions, tax deductions and all of it, so if you are working here, even if you are working here illegally, people do get fake Social Security numbers, it happens, strange as that may seem, I know it is hard to believe, but it occurs. And this identity fraud is becoming even another huge problem. But here we are teaching people the classes, my friend from Virginia uses the word "schooling" for them, and that is exactly what they are doing. They advertise. This is not clandestine. It is not like, oh, my goodness, do not tell anybody. Come over here on the 12th of July; we will explain how to actually scam the system.

They make a big picture, a big brochure about it and send it out. They send it to the county treasurers. They say, look, this is one of things they said to the county treasurer, if we get all these people in to claim these deductions and claim these tax credits, do you know how much that means to come to the county? Dollars coming to the county, people who are living here illegally but they will be able to get these tax deductions for their kids so that means money to the county. That is how they get the county commissioner and county treasurer sucked into it. It is as if this money is coming from Venus. It is a scam.

It is another example of the attempts that are so much a part of everything I see around here, and that is to eventually come to the position where there is absolutely nothing that distinguishes you as being here illegally from someone who is here legally. Everything that that person who is here legally can do, all of the benefits they can achieve as a result of citizenship in this country, legal status in this country, every single benefit would be accorded and afforded to you, someone who is here illegally. Therefore, the distinction is gone. And the whole concept of citizenship is gone.

It is an attack on citizenship. It is an attack on the concept of citizenship. It is an attack on the sovereignty of the country. It will be the place where a lot of people reside. There are cities not too far from where we stand tonight that allow people to vote just based on their residence. All you have to do is bring in a copy of your utility bill. You can vote. They do not ask you whether or not you are here legally. They call themselves refugee cities. They are in Maryland. They are all over the place along the east coast here. The Mayor of this city, Washington, D.C., proposed that not too long ago to the city of Washington, I mean the District of Columbia, that it,

in fact, should allow people to vote simply because they are residents, nothing else. Residents of the country. Not citizens. The concept is under attack.

Whether these cities and counties that are accepting the matricula understand this or not, I do not know. Whether all of these city officials and county officials who are aiding and abetting illegal immigrants in this country, aiding and abetting people in the violation of our laws, whether they recognize it, and people do not think it is more than a little transgression, that it is like jay walking, no, this has major implications. It is meaningful stuff. It is a transition our country is going through here that I do not know if everybody understands that we are simply moving and we are directly moving to a system that will not have, as I say, a way of distinguishing a citizen from a noncitizen. It is just a place where they are residents.

Borders will be erased de facto. Borders will be erased. Maybe that is okay. Maybe that is exactly where everybody in this place wants us to go. I would like to put it to a vote. I would like to see somebody actually have to vote on whether or not we have to erase the borders because that is where we are heading. We are doing it a little bit at a time. It is the old frog in the hot water syndrome where the heat is turned up one notch at a time and you look back and say, what happened here? What happened?

Is there a time when citizenship meant something? We are going to debate, and I think the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODE) is on the committee that is debating the bill to give citizenship status to the families of people who have fought in the service, were in the armed services for a year; and we will now give status to them if they were here legally. I think it is coming to the floor soon, tomorrow or the next day. And the bill is lengthy, about exactly what you have to do in order to get this thing called citizenship and what you have to go through.

We pretend like we prize it. If you get a dishonorable discharge, you cannot have it. We pretend like it is this wonderful thing. Well, it is a wonderful thing. I think it is a wonderful thing. I think citizenship in this country is a marvelous thing. But it is a strange phenomenon that on one hand here we are coming with a bill that pretends that citizenship is meaningful and that everything else we are doing here aids in the destruction of the concept of citizenship and the fact that the Federal Government, through its Department of the Treasury, promulgates regulations that allows banks to accept the foreign government ID card from a person who wants to open an account. This is an example.

It is one step in this process and it is a pretty good step. Actually, it is not a little thing, the unbanked, the millions and millions of people who are here illegally, that the banks want to get a

hold of their money. That is a big step in this direction that I am pointing to, a step to a place where there is no such thing as citizenship and whether or not we can have the debate whether or not someone is here legally or not, it does not matter if you are here legally or not.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODE) for joining me this evening and for letting me bring this to the attention of the body.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today after 2:30 p.m. and the balance of the week on account of a family emergency.

Mr. REYES (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today before 2:00 p.m. on account of official business.

Mr. ORTIZ (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today before 3:00 p.m. on account of official business.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of personal reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. RANGEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SOLIS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CROWLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. DEGETTE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ALLEN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HENSARLING) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BEAUPREZ, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, June 10.

Mr. CULBERSON, for 5 minutes, June 4.

Mr. DUNCAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LEWIS of California, for 5 minutes, June 5.

Mr. HENSARLING, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HOYER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. INSLEE, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOODE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, June 4, 2003, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2489. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Morocco pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2490. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Taiwan pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3)(i); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2491. A letter from the Associate Commissioner for Education Statistics, Department of Education, transmitting the annual statistical report of the National Center for Education Statistics entitled, "The Condition of Education 2003," pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 9005; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

2492. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Commerce, transmitting a draft bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide the Federal Communications Commission with permanent authority to auction spectrum licenses and with new authority to charge fees for unauctioned spectrum licenses and construction permits; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2493. A letter from the Senior Legal Advisor to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communication Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.202(b), FM Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Douglas and Tombstone, Arizona, and Santa Clara, New Mexico) [MB Docket No. 02-374, RM-10598] received May 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2494. A letter from the Senior Legal Advisor, International Bureau, Federal Communication Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of the Commission's Space Station Licensing Rules and Policies [IB Docket No. 02-34]; Mitigation of Orbital Debris [IB Docket No. 02-54] received May 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2495. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communication Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Tecommunication