

article called "An Argument for Tax Reform Based on a Judeo-Christian Ethics," which makes an evangelical case for making the tax system fairer. She plans to train speakers this summer to take the theological argument to the grass roots. Kimble Forrister, the state coordinator of Alabama Arise, a coalition that advocates for poor people, expects the 100 church groups that are part of his organization to hold church-basement workshops this summer to get the word out to their congregations.

The Christian Coalition of Alabama has not yet taken a position on the September vote, but it has been speaking out against the plan's tax increases. In an interview yesterday, John Giles, the group's president, had trouble pointing to a biblical passage that directly supported his opposition to new taxes, but he referred to Jesus' statement about rendering unto Caesar what is Caesar's. The key question, he argued, is, "How much is Caesar's?"

As the Bush administration and the religious right fight to put theology more squarely into public policy discussions, they are going to have to be ready for arguments like the ones coming out of Alabama. Many theologians argue that it is far easier to find support in the Bible for policies that help the poor than for, say, a cut in the dividend tax. If Governor Riley's crusade succeeds this summer, Alabama may offer the nation a model for a new kind of tax system: one where the Devil is not in the details.

Why have I started my closing remarks with that article? Because I think if ever there was a formula for success in relieving suffering and hardships in the States and cities, it is an adoption of a simple Christian ethic that those who have the least deserve the least amount of taxes and the most amount of help from their government.

I have two pieces of legislation that I have introduced: One is called the Domestic Budget Protection Act, H.R. 1804. I have discussed that previously on the floor. That calls for a situation which would relieve the pressure on the domestic budget by forcing the consideration of all future military actions, like the war in Iraq, to be paid for by corporations. We once had a surcharge. During the war in Vietnam, during World War I, World War II, the Korean War, we had a surcharge on corporate profits to help pay for the war. We should go back to that so that the payment for the war is taken out of the budget as a competing factor for domestic programs like education, health care, a prescription drug benefit, et cetera.

I have a second bill, H.R. 2335, which is called the Emergency Revenue Sharing Act. The money we save should be spent in relieving the burdens that the cities and the States are now forced to deal with during this recession period. If we took the \$79 billion, or an equivalent amount of the amount that we appropriated for the war in Iraq and related matters, and sent it to the States and the cities, we would end the layoffs of school teachers and personnel in the schools, we would end the pressure on our civil servants, and we would end the kind of oppression of our taxpayers that has taken place through property tax increases and ticket blitzes.

All politics are inextricably interwoven. What happens at the local level

is inseparable from what happens down here. What we do here is inseparable from the hardships that are created at the local level.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today after 4:30 p.m. on account of official business.

Mr. NADLER (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for June 18 after 1:00 p.m. on account of personal reasons.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official business.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of official business.

Mr. TIAHRT (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today after 3:30 p.m. on account of attending his son's graduation.

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. DAVIS of Illinois) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

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

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

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

Mr. BELL, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. DELAURO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BORDALLO, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, June 26.

Mr. OSBORNE, for 5 minutes, June 24.

Mr. PENCE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MANZULLO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 389. An act to authorize the use of certain grant funds to establish an information clearinghouse that provides information to increase public access to defibrillation in schools.

H.R. 519. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the San Gabriel River Watershed, and for other purposes.

H.R. 788. An act to revise the boundary of the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area in the States of Utah and Arizona.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 703. An act to designate the regional headquarters building for the National Park Service under construction in Omaha, Nebraska, as the "Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters Building".

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, June 23, 2003, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

2748. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Department's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Rhode Island Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference [RI-38-6985b; FRL-7493-4] received June 5, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2749. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Vermont Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference [VT-19-122b; FRL-7493-5] received June 5, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2750. A letter from the Ambassador, Republic of Poland, transmitting a letter requesting a change in U.S.-Poland immigration policies; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2751. A letter from the Under Secretary for Health and Assistant Secretary of Defense, Health Affairs, Departments of Veterans Affairs and Defense, transmitting a letter concerning a joint review of the adequacy of processes and existing authorities for the coordination and sharing of health care resources, pursuant to Public Law 107—314, section 723; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs.

2752. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report regarding the progress made in launching the Physician Group Practice demonstration, pursuant to Public Law 106—554, section 412 (114 Stat. 2763A—515); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

2753. A letter from the Chairman, Council on Environmental Quality, transmitting an account of the actions taken by the Administration to implement the President's climate change strategy; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Science, International Relations, and Agriculture.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk