

office . . . unless I want to work at McDonald's in a job."

Raiche, a former firefighter before heading to Iraq, said he couldn't even get that job back, nor a job in law enforcement, until his name is cleared.

"I have guys in the military right now who were personal friends of mine," Ginter said. "I have no resentment toward the military. I want this off my record."

URGING LOBBYING REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, today in the Washington Post, we found out that a key adviser to President Bush on the Intelligence Advisory Committee has been instrumental in helping China and the Chinese oil company put together their bid to purchase Unocal.

The other day, the Center For Public Integrity disclosed that big drug companies spent \$800 million in the last 7 years to influence the Congress, the Senate, and the legislation and the policies we have here; and then just last year we passed a pharmaceutical prescription drug bill that ended up producing or will produce \$132 billion in additional profit for the pharmaceutical industry.

The tobacco industry donated over the last few years \$40 million to the Republican Party, and then they get a sweetheart deal by the Department of Justice for just pennies on the dollar when it came to settling a lawsuit. They settled for 8 percent of what they had originally gone in for, \$10 million versus \$130 million. USA Today points out that corporate donors have given more than \$120 million to Republicans during the last election, and now they are receiving their reward. For some businesses, invest a little now and get a larger return later. That has been the motto.

Just take energy prices. Big oil and big energy companies has been a major contributor to the majority party, the Republican Party. Oil is at \$60 a barrel, approximately, and yet we talk about giving a \$8 billion taxpayer give-away so big oil can do what? Drill for oil. I thought that was their business plan. So what we are asking the American taxpayer to do is pay once at the pump and again on April 15. Why? Because big oil is a more influential player here in Washington.

Special interests have attached themselves to Congress, and this parasitic relationship is having a corrosive effect on our Nation of and for the people. When the Speaker's gavel comes down, it is intended to open the People's House, not the auction house. And lately when we look at the tobacco industry, the energy industry, the pharmaceutical industry, those who lobby on behalf of major interests like Chinese oil companies, we can see something that is happening as it relates to the People's House.

The relationship between lobbyists and lawmakers has become far too cozy and close. Professional lobbyists and the lobbyist profession have become a back office for Congress, serving as travel agents, employment agencies, and authors of legislation. In fact, in the past 6 years

Jake Pickle's faith was shown time and time again as he lived the commandment to love thy neighbor. Jake Pickle lived every day with another biblical verse, "This is the day the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it." Jake lived every day joyfully. He lit up a room when he walked into it because of his joyful, positive approach to life. His positive approach has enlightened the lives of all of us blessed to have known him.

Jake Pickle exemplified courage when he voted as a freshman Congressman from Texas to pass the Civil Rights Act which brought to reality the promise of equal opportunity to millions of African-Americans. He did it because it was the right thing to do, even though it could have ended his political career.

I want to tell one story about my friend Jake Pickle. In June of 1994, he and I were part of a U.S. congressional delegation at the 50th anniversary of D-Day. After the ceremony on June 4 of 1994, our bus was about to leave to go back to a hotel an hour to 2 hours away. I noticed Jake getting off the bus by himself. I stopped, walked up to him and said, Jake, what are you doing? And he said, Why don't you come with me, Chet?

So I followed Jake Pickle off that bus. We walked several hundred yards. We went to Point du Hoc, that monument to American GI courage on D-Day when Colonel Earl Rudder led Rudder's Army Rangers up that stiff cliff against murderous fire by the Germans above them. It turned out that Jake Pickle and Earl Rudder, then the land commissioner of Texas, roomed together after the death of Jake's first wife when then General Rudder was serving as land commissioner in Austin, Texas.

So that June day in 1994, Jake Pickle got off the bus, not knowing how he would get back to his hotel in France, to go pay his respects to his personal friend and fellow Texan and American, Earl Rudder, the hero along with America's Rangers at Point du Hoc. That was the character of Jake Pickle. Our Nation will miss Jake Pickle, but the world is a better place today because of his life of dedicated public service.

Mr. Speaker, Winston Churchill once said that we make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give. By that high standard, Jake Pickle led a rich life, a life that enriched every one of us blessed to have known him.

Goodbye, my friend, until we meet another day. Thank you for the memories. Thank you for your friendship. Thank you for making America and the world a better place.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the sub-

ject of my special order today of J.J. "Jake" Pickle's death.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?