

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRESSIONAL AGENDA: GOALS FOR A GENERATION

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to bring to my colleagues' attention the following article from the February 24, 1998, Tapp City Herald written by Congressman JOHN BOEHNER regarding the Republican Agenda.

[From the Tapp City Herald, Feb. 24, 1998]

CONGRESSIONAL AGENDA: GOALS FOR A GENERATION

(By John Boehner)

If you're like most Americans, you won't have time to scrutinize every detail of every bit of legislation tackled this year by Congress. Nonetheless, you'll probably identify with the principles behind our efforts: freedom, accountability, and personal responsibility.

My colleagues and I have begun the second half of the 105th Congress with a diverse 90-day agenda reflecting a wide range of issues from completing IRS reform and shrinking the size of government to expanding educational opportunities for our kids. While we tackle these measures in the weeks and months ahead, we'll also be working toward our long-term vision for America—something we call Goals for a Generation.

Our goals for a generation include a drug-free America; the best system of learning in the works; the best and safest retirement system in the world; and modernizing, privatizing, downsizing, and prioritizing government to reduce the total tax burden on families—state, federal, and local—to no more than 25 percent, with a simple, fair, and honest tax code. We'll address each of these goals legislatively this year—and in the years ahead—as we work for a better America in the next century.

In the coming weeks we'll explore the various components of the 90-day agenda and the Goals for a Generation and how they'll affect you and your family, but first it's important to discuss the three principles behind it all: freedom, accountability, and personal responsibility.

Freedom, accountability, and personal responsibility aren't just buzzwords; they're key principles that cut to the core of who we are as a people and what we value as a society. They're basic concepts that have defined America as a nation since its birth. And as diverse as our agenda in Congress this year is, they're at the heart of everything we'll do.

My colleagues and I are committed to enhancing freedom for Americans to live their lives, raise their families, and run their businesses without excessive government interference. We believe it's America's people—not America's government—that has made our nation great. And the bigger and more expensive Washington gets, the smaller and more overtaxed—and less free—people get.

We'll also continue our drive to restore accountability to Washington. Decades of runaway spending and an explosion of regulation and red tape have created an unaccountable monster inside the Beltway—the vast

federal bureaucracy. The result has been a government increasingly out of touch with the needs and goals of its citizens—one that while well-intentioned often hurts people more than it helps.

By balancing the budget for the first time in a generation, we've taken our first real steps toward smaller, less intrusive government, but we've got a long way to go.

Lastly, our goals reflect a fundamental belief that Americans will gladly accept personal responsibility to make the right choices in their lives, families and communities. While we're committed to expanding freedom for individuals, we also believe—as American's Founding Fathers did—that with freedom comes a certain responsibility.

Government can't raise a family, teach a child values, or create bonds between neighbors. Only people can do that—and they have a responsibility to do so.

It makes little sense to make laws and draft legislation without stopping to reflect on the core principles behind it. My colleagues and I took the opportunity to do that recently, and we're confident we're moving in the right direction.

We hope you and your family will agree.

COMPETITION IS A GOOD THING

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise to comment on the current situation regarding competition in the long distance telephone service field. Two years after Congress has passed sweeping telecommunications reform, we are still waiting for real long distance competition to begin.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) seems to be creating more and more hoops for the regional phone companies to have to jump through, whether it be court proceedings or "moving target" standards, in order for them to provide long distance service.

If we are ever going to see true competition in the long distance field, the regulators at the FCC need to be sensitive to the realities of enabling local carriers to offer long distance service. Consumers deserve the opportunity to choose from a variety of long distance service options.

TRIBUTE TO THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL MUSEUM

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Black History Month to pay tribute to the San Joaquin Valley African-American Historical and Cultural Museum. The

African-American museum has been instrumental in exposing the history and contributions of African-Americans to the development of the San Joaquin Valley.

In 1983, an exhibit was set up as part of Fresno's One Hundred Year Centennial Celebration to show contributions African-American settlers had made toward the growth, prosperity, and cultural richness of Fresno County. By 1988, the exhibit had gained a great deal of popularity and needed to grow. Shortly following the exhibit's popularity, a donation by the State Center Community College District provided the space needed to move the exhibit into its first permanent exhibit hall where it remained until 1989. The museum has moved twice since then and now proudly rests in downtown Fresno.

The African-American Historical Museum is used for a variety of artistic, cultural, and historical presentations. The building has served as a community center for numerous community groups and organizations. In addition, the African-American Museum has hosted community forums, meetings, workshops, and recreational activities. In an effort to combat crime, enhance security, and bring about much needed social and physical change within the area, the African-American Museum has worked diligently to enhance and improve the neighborhood through various projects and community outreach activities.

The African-American Museum in Fresno is the only African-American Historical-Pictorial museum in the entire San Joaquin Valley. It houses some of the Valley's proudest pictorial moments, events, and heroes. Additionally, the museum is working with the City of Fresno and the Outreach Unit from the School of Professional Psychology and several local businessmen to sponsor a total youth involvement conference. The conference is directed toward crime prevention and positive redirection of youth participation within the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to the African-American Historical and Cultural Museum in honor of Black History Month. The museum symbolizes the long and storied history of contributions made by African-Americans to the development of the San Joaquin Valley. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the African-American Historical and Cultural Museum many more years of success.

IN HONOR OF JOHN E. MOON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John E. Moon, Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW). Mr. Moon has exhibited himself to be a model American through his proud service to his country throughout his life.

Mr. Moon attended Northwest State College and earned degrees in Business Management

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and Human Resources. Mr. Moon entered the United States Marine Corps in July 1968 and went on to a successful career of defending the interests of his nation. His outstanding service in the Vietnam conflict earned him numerous honors including three bronze stars, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, and the National Defense Service Medal.

After departing Vietnam, Mr. Moon went on to serve as Post Commander of his local VFW post, 2873, and served the people of Grover Hill, Ohio as their mayor for sixteen years. In his terms as local Post Commander, he was awarded the distinction of All State Post Commander. Mr. Moon also served on numerous national committees before achieving the top post in the VFW such as the Americanism committee which helps to inspire the American patriotic spirit within the populace of our nation, especially our youth. Mr. Moon was elected VFW Commander-in-Chief on August 21, 1997 at the VFW National Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah.

My fellow colleagues, join me in saluting a true American patriot, one who believes the American spirit should continue to thrive in the hearts of all Americans, VFW Commander-in-Chief, John E. Moon.

COMMENDATION OF SARA ATKINSON AND ERIN ENO PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD WINNERS

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor two young Hawaii students from my district who achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in their communities. Sara Atkinson of Kealahou and Erin Eno of Wailuku have been named two of my states top honorees in the 1998 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred upon the most impressive student volunteers across America.

Sara Atkinson is being recognized for her initiative in developing a mentoring program for children who were at-risk for violence and substance abuse. Today, through Sara's commitment, over forty children now have mentors. These mentors not only counsel, but also participate in other community services like fund raising and food drives that benefit Hawaii's needy. I commend Sara for her dedication to assist and improve the community in which she lives.

Erin Eno is being recognized for her commitment to help the elderly. Erin sewed lap blankets and wheel chair bags for residents at a local nursing home. When Erin was told she was too young to volunteer, she decided to do something on her own initiative. She solicited fabrics from a local factory and generously gave her time and talent to sew blankets and wheelchair bags that benefited local nursing home residents. Erin is strongly committed to contributing to the community. Through her creativity and ingenuity she found a way to assist senior citizens in her community.

I applaud the selfless contributions made by Sara Atkinson and Erin Eno. I believe they are

shining examples of how young citizens can make a positive impact on the lives of others. I commend them for their desire to help others. What they have done will encourage other young people to follow in their footsteps.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JANICE BRALY, ELEANOR LEMA, CAROL BLASINGAME, SALLY MAGNESON, AND SHIRLEY KIRKPATRICK

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Janice Braly, Eleanor Lema, Carol Blasingame, Sally Magnuson and Shirley Kirkpatrick for being recognized as the recipients of the Common Threads Award. The award recognizes women whose roots are in agriculture, and who have dedicated themselves to their community through volunteer service and philanthropic giving.

Janice Braly of O'Neals is a former State President of California Woman for Agriculture and a California 4-H foundation member. Among her other accomplishments are a University of California Davis Dean's Policy Council Member and Castaic School Board Association President. She is currently a member of both the California Cattle Women and the Madera County Cattle Women.

Eleanor Lema of Merced is a three-term Chapter President of California Women for Agriculture. She has been active in the Merced Chamber of Commerce for 10 years. Her accomplishments include being a Merced County Farmland Trust Board member for six years, a Merced Farm Bureau member for 20 years and a member of the Soroptimist Club, where she served as a board member for 15 years.

Carol Blasingame of Fresno served as a Director for the Big Fresno Fair Director for three years. In 1996, she was President of the La Feliz Guild. Carol is a member of the Board of Directors of the Fresno City & County Historical Society, Chairman of the Fresno Fair Education Program, serves on the Ag Fresno Advisory Board, and is a member of California Women for Agriculture.

Sally Magnuson of Ballico served as President of the P.T.A. at three different schools, as a Brownie Leader, and as a Cadet Scouts Leader. She is a past President and the founding member of the League of Women Voters of Merced County. Sally was formerly active on the California State Reclamation Board, as the President of the Sierra Club of Merced, and as a member of the Merced County Library Commission.

Shelly Kirkpatrick of Exeter is a 4-H Diamond Star, an Officer of the Central California Chapter of California Press Women's Association, and a member of the Tulare County Cattlemen Association. She is the founding member of the Tulare County Chapter of California Women for Agriculture and was elected to the Recreation Commission for the City of Exeter. Shirley currently serves on the Tulare County Planning Commission and is a member of the California Farm Bureau Land Use Commission.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Janice Braly, Eleanor Lema,

Carol Blasingame, Sally Magnuson, and Shirley Kirkpatrick for being recognized with the Common Threads Award. I applaud the contributions, ideas, and leadership they have exhibited in our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing these individuals many more years of success.

HONORING THE REV. BETSY SYMLIE

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues a very special person in my district, the Reverend Betsy Smylie.

Reverend Smylie graduated from Harvard Radcliffe in 1975, and earned her Master of Divinity from Harvard in 1981. Upon graduation, Reverend Smylie began her career of service in Western New York.

Throughout her many years of service to our community, Reverend Smylie served as Vicar of Ephphatha and Diocesan Missioner to the Deaf. She has also demonstrated a true commitment to such important institutions for the Deaf as the St. Mary's School, Deaf Adult Services, and other agencies whose goal is empowerment for Western New York's hearing impaired.

In addition to her tremendous service to the Deaf, strong command of sign language, devotion to God and community, and leadership, she has obtained an extraordinary level of respect from our community, both as a scholar and preacher, and as an unyielding advocate.

Tragically, Reverend Smylie was admitted to the hospital on January 5th, 1998 with malignant brain cancer.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to join with the Town of Hamburg, and indeed, our entire Western New York community, to express our sincere best wishes to Reverend Betsy Smylie for a complete and speedy recovery through God's Healing Hand as she battles cancer.

Reverend Smylie has always had a love for our American government. It is only fitting that I now ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in prayer for the Reverend Smylie, and for her husband, Reverend John Smylie, and their children, Shemalajah and Nathan.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND WATKINS

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I write to congratulate you on your calling to serve as the Senior Pastor of the 125 year old Nazarene Congregational United Church of Christ in Brooklyn.

As a native son of the State of Texas you exemplify the belief that everything and everyone in Texas is just a little larger than life. Your illustrious background has encompassed ministering to students at numerous colleges, universities and churches.

You have also served your country with excellence as Coordinator of Health, Education