

point than a single's income. Married couples receive a lower standard deduction than two singles. Even tax provisions regarding Social Security, capital gains, and the Earned Income Tax Credit are subject to this disparity.

This unfair treatment, inconsistent with the principles on which this Nation was founded and on which we base our congressional service, must stop. I ask my colleagues to join in marriage penalty relief.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, when it seemed they had no promises left unbroken, the Gingrich Republicans have apparently decided to break yet another promise on cleaning up this Congress.

As over 200 Members of this House stood strong outside this door signing a petition, demanding that campaign finance reform be debated here on the floor of the Congress in a fair and bipartisan manner, Speaker GINGRICH grew desperate, and he came forward and said, if you will not have that kind of reform, we will vote on campaign finance reform no later than May 15.

On my calendar, that is next week. Yet, word is circulating that the Gingrich Republican leadership, which has done practically nothing in this entire Congress on anything, has decided to do absolutely nothing on campaign reform in the entire month of May.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to the matter of cleaning up corruption, they know that each day of delay will assure the death of real reform.

HUBBELL TAPES SHOW EVIDENCE OF CRIMES

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, while the other side is becoming increasingly hysterical every time evidence is unearthed, I would ask my Democratic friends a few questions. What do you suppose Webster Hubbell meant when he said on tape, so I need to roll over one more time?

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Again, for the benefit of those on the other side who may be too busy attacking and smearing everyone whose job it is to uncover the truth, I ask them, what do they think convicted felon Webster Hubbell meant when he said, "So I need to roll over one more time." Or, "I will not raise those allegations that might open it up to Hillary." What about Mrs. Hubbell's statements about overbilling that, "That would be one area Hillary would be vulnerable." Is this not evidence of crime? Is this not relevant to the investigation now ongoing?

Can we not agree that our citizens deserve the truth and that no citizen is above the law?

BURTON COMMITTEE HAS BECOME PAPARAZZI OF AMERICAN POLITICS

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

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, Harry Truman would not be impressed. "The buck stops here" has now been amended by Republicans in Congress to say, "The buck stops with staff; don't blame me."

The gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) has released private conversations between husband and wife. He released edited tapes that misrepresented those conversations. He has said he is "out to get President Clinton."

When the gentleman is supposed to be leading an impartial investigation, when public outrage forced action, what did Republicans do? They fired a staff person. Harry Truman would not buy that and neither will the American people.

Republicans have changed the principle of innocent until proven guilty to guilty before the facts are heard. Republicans have changed the principle of limited government to the injustice of government, forcing mothers to testify against their daughters and the injustice of intruding into marital conversations.

The Burton committee has become the paparazzi of American politics, and that is a sad day for our country.

SOME WANT TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM SCANDAL IN WHITE HOUSE

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, let me see if I have got this straight. The same White House that hired private investigators to look into the private lives of Judge Starr and his deputies now is offended that the privacy rights of his victim friend, Web Hubbell, has been violated.

The same White House that releases documents, subpoenaed documents, no less, one drip at a time, now is complaining that the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight is not being forthcoming in release of documents.

The same White House which collected 900 FBI files, just all happened to be Republicans, is a defender now of privacy rights.

The same Democrats who took the criminal intercept of a private conversation on a cellular phone last year and then released it to the press is now upset that the perfectly legal and routinely taped conversation of a convicted prisoner has been exposed for all the world to see.

Maybe all these people simply wish to divert attention from the greatest scandal of them all: the one in the White House.

BURTON INVESTIGATION IS AN EMBARRASSMENT

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, the Burton investigation is an embarrassment. I know; I am a member of the committee.

Yesterday, the Republican leadership apologized to the Republican Members of this House. They should apologize to the American people. Millions of taxpayer dollars are being wasted on a partisan, unprofessional, indeed, inept investigation.

White House personnel like Marsha Scott and Maggie Williams have been deposed for days and forced to incur thousands of dollars in legal fees to answer questions asked by other investigators. Apologize to them.

The Federal budget, a patient's bill of rights, improved education, more support for child care, all are being neglected while Republican staffers listen to taped conversations between Webster Hubbell and his wife and pour over Democratic documents. For all that, apologize to the American people.

Let us get on with the business of American families. Replace the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. DAN BURTON) not just his staff.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES D. STRAUSS

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

Mr. REDMOND. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to one of America's living treasures, Dr. James D. Strauss of Lincoln Christian Seminary.

Dr. Strauss has committed his life to the training of Christian ministers who today circle the globe in their service to people of many ethnic and racial groups.

Dr. Strauss is no ordinary professor. For 40 years his sharp mind has ignited sleeping minds. His commitment has influenced great accomplishments in others. His servant's heart has moved others to service. His profound grasp of reality has inspired others in such a way that they understand their place in the universe.

Today, the honor of professor emeritus will be conferred upon Dr. James D. Strauss, an honor that in his humility, he would deny that he has earned. Yet his vigor and quest for his service to God will no doubt give new meaning to the word "emeritus."

Dr. Strauss, your servants have seen and bear witness that you have presented your life as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable before our Creator.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be able to pay tribute to one of America's greatest living treasures, Dr. James D. Strauss.

HELP STAMP OUT HUNGER

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

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that this Saturday the largest 1-day food drive in our Nation will be conducted by mail carriers in more than 10,000 cities throughout America.

The members of the National Association of Letter Carriers will add another burden to their already heavy loads, the burden of trying to help the 21 million Americans who regularly go hungry. They will do this heroic work by picking up donations of nonperishable food from almost every home in America. The contributions will stay in local communities, helping food banks that are straining to meet a blooming demand for their help.

Last year this extraordinary effort yielded 73 million pounds of food. They collected in 1 day as much as the combined efforts of hundreds of food banks yield in an entire month.

The U.S. Postal Service is lending a hand, as are local United Way agencies and Campbell's Soup. All that remains is a strong response from the public.

I urge my colleagues to do all they can to join the letter carriers and help stamp out hunger.

SUPPORT THE AMERICAN ECONOMY PROTECTION ACT

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

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by my colleagues, the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. JO ANN EMERSON) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. RON KLINK), to introduce a bill to protect our strong and growing economy. The bill, entitled The American Economy Protection Act, would prevent the Clinton administration from spending taxpayer dollars to implement the Kyoto treaty until it has been ratified by the Senate.

This overreaching treaty poses a direct threat to the American economy. If implemented, American jobs would flow overseas and the American people would be saddled with regulations that will diminish the quality of life in this country.

Lacking the votes to win ratification in the Senate, the administration wants to circumvent the will of Congress and implement the Kyoto treaty by regulatory fiat. As Members of Congress, we have an obligation to ensure that this does not happen.

And again, I want to repeat, our bill would prohibit, prohibit, the funds for any implementation of the Kyoto pro-

ocol unless it is ratified by the Senate.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join in supporting this important bill. It will protect the jobs of our constituents and defend the integrity of the Constitution.

CHAIRMAN BURTON'S OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE HAS NO CREDIBILITY

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

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, this morning we learned that the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) apologized to the Republicans yesterday for his behavior on the committee. We also saw in this morning's paper where Speaker Gingrich criticized the gentleman from Indiana and his staff for embarrassing Republicans, and that he apologized to Republicans on the gentleman's behalf.

Mr. Speaker, this misses the entire point. It is not the Republicans that deserve an apology, it is the American people; because the American people are the ones that have paid the million-dollar bill for this circus.

The American people want one thing from this committee: They want fairness. And time and time again, the chairman of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight and his staff have shown that the last thing they are interested in in this committee is fairness.

The apology was given to the Republicans because it has messed up the entire attack plan. How can they attack the President if they have no credibility? But the fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, this committee has no credibility, because from day one there has never been an attempt to find the truth; it has been nothing more than an attempt to smear the President.

DO NOT LET ADMINISTRATION REGULATE OUR ECONOMY DOWN THE TUBE

(Mrs. EMERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join my colleagues, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KLINK), in cosponsoring the American Economy Protection Act, which will block the use of any Federal funds to implement the so-called Kyoto Treaty on Global Climate Change unless the Senate ratifies the agreement.

I say "so-called" because there is absolutely no scientific consensus that global warming has occurred, and yet the administration continues to push its implementation of this treaty through the back door. As policymakers, we have an obligation to know first that a problem exists before we try to fix it.

I have to ask why we would agree to a treaty when our international competitors, like Brazil, Mexico, Indonesia, India, and Communist China would be free to continue doing business as usual? Are they any less responsible for the Earth's climate than the United States? I do not think so.

Let us not let the administration regulate our economy down the tubes. I ask my colleagues to join the three of us in cosponsoring this legislation and giving the American people a voice in whether or not this flawed treaty should go forward.

WHAT EDITORIAL BOARDS ARE SAYING ABOUT BURTON INVESTIGATION

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

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, nothing alarms the American people more than an abuse of power and an invasion of people's privacy. The gentleman from Indiana (Mr. DAN BURTON) has grossly abused the most unprecedented power that any Congressman has ever had in the history of this institution in violating the privacy of an American citizen.

These complaints are not just the complaints of Democrats. I want to read from the Hartford Courant:

Who could have anticipated that a renegade congressional committee chairman would subpoena the tapes and release them to the public, disregarding Federal prison policy and provisions of the Privacy Act? People have much to fear from an elected official who takes such liberties and abuses his power.

And the USA Today said:

Republican leaders will only compound the impression of partisanship if they fail to turn the fund-raising over to a committee with a less biased leader.

Mr. Speaker, we must ask the Republican leadership to fix this problem, not just to apologize to their own Members.

WHO IS THE VICTIM?

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

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, who is the victim here? Webster Hubbell, who was President Clinton's third highest ranking official in the Clinton Justice Department, embezzled nearly half a million dollars from his law partners.

This is the kind of person that the President appointed to be the third ranking official within the Department of Justice:

Webster Hubbell, whom Clinton donors gave more than \$700,000 after he was forced to resign from office. Webster Hubbell, who paid less than \$30,000 in taxes after receiving more than \$1 million in income in 1994. And we note