

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

that there is evidence that he did not actually even earn this income. Webster Hubbell, who plea bargained with Judge Starr and then refused to cooperate with Judge Starr and who then took the fifth amendment before the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

Now the Democrats are trying to portray him as the victim.

Mr. Speaker, the Democratic Party has long been the victimization party, but this is the mother of all misplaced victimhood.

Why does the other side not address instead their hero's jailhouse comments: needing to roll over one more time?

BURTON APOLOGIZES TO GOP

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with this House a headline from the front page of this morning's Washington Post: "Burton apologizes to GOP." It seems that the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. DAN BURTON) has told his Republican colleagues that he is sorry for bungling the investigation meant to score political points against the President.

How about an apology to all of the Members of this body for subverting the investigative process and tarnishing the integrity of this House? How about an apology to the American people for violating their trust, for an abuse of power and distortion of the truth? The gentleman from Indiana has put himself above the law. No one is above the law.

I would like to quote the Hartford Courant, who editorialized this week, and I quote:

People have much to fear from an elected official who takes such liberties and abuses his power. The gentleman is a poor excuse for a public servant.

It is time for the chairman of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight to step down.

□ 1030

RETURNING TO THE SENATE S. 414, OCEAN SHIPPING REFORM ACT OF 1998

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the request of the Senate to return the Senate bill (S. 414) to amend the Shipping Act of 1984 to encourage competition in international shipping and growth of United States exports, and for other purposes, be agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). The Clerk will report the Senate message.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. RES. 215

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate is directed to request the House of Representatives to return to the Senate the offi-

cial papers on S. 414, entitled "An Act to amend the Shipping Act of 1984 to encourage competition in international shipping and growth of United States exports, and for other purposes".

SEC. 2. Upon the return of the official papers from the House of Representatives, the Secretary of the Senate is directed to make the following change in the text of the bill, viz:

In the amendment of section 8(f) of the Shipping Act of 1984 by section 106(e) of the bill, insert a comma and "including limitations of liability for cargo loss or damage," after "practices".

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

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING USE OF EAST FRONT OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR PERFORMANCES SPONSORED BY JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 265) authorizing the use of the East Front of the Capitol Grounds for performances sponsored by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, reserving my right to object, I would ask the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM) to give an explanation of the resolution at this point.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. TRAFICANT. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

House Concurrent Resolution 265 authorizes the use of the East Front of the Capitol for performances of the Millennium Stage of John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. The performances are to take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays when Congress is in session, beginning on May 12 and running through September 30, 1998.

The performances will be open to the public free of charge, and the sponsors of the event, the Kennedy Center and the National Park Service, will assume responsibility for all liabilities associated with the event. The Architect of the Capitol will be responsible for some of the expenses associated with the event. The resolution expressly prohibits sales, displays, and solicitation in connection with the event.

This is a unique event for use of Capitol grounds, as it will take place over a period of time with the Architect's assistance. However, these arrangements are warranted due to the unique mission of the Kennedy Center to provide leadership in the national per-

forming arts education policy and programs and to conduct education and community outreach. By permitting these performances on the East Front, the Congress is assisting the Kennedy Center, a Federal entity, in fulfilling this mission.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, further reserving my right to object, these concerts will be free of charge, open to the public. And the Kennedy Center is well known throughout the world now, especially in our country, for the great contributions they make.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of the resolution, and I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 265

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZING USE OF EAST FRONT FOR PERFORMANCES SPONSORED BY KENNEDY CENTER.

In carrying out its duties under section 4 of the John F. Kennedy Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76j), the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in cooperation with the National Park Service (in this resolution jointly referred to as the "sponsor") may sponsor public performances on the East Front of the Capitol Grounds at such dates and times as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may approve jointly.

SEC. 2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Any performance authorized under section 1 shall be free of admission charge to the public and arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress, under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board.

(b) ASSUMPTION OF LIABILITIES.—The sponsor shall assume full responsibility for all liabilities incident to all activities associated with the performance.

SEC. 3. PREPARATIONS.

(a) STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT.—In consultation with the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, the Architect of the Capitol shall provide upon the Capitol grounds such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as may be required for a performance authorized under section 1.

(b) ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.—The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board may make such additional arrangements as may be required to carry out the performance.

SEC. 4. APPLICABILITY OF PROHIBITIONS.

Nothing in this resolution may be construed to waive the applicability of the prohibitions established by section 4 of the Act of July 31, 1946 (40 U.S.C. 193d; 60 Stat. 718), concerning sales, displays and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds.

SEC. 5. EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.

A performance may not be conducted under this resolution after September 30, 1998.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.