

But there has been a rumbling on the floor during this last week that somehow Members are being told that they are voting against their veterans in order to get bridges and highways. And that is not the intentions of Members on either side of the House.

To make that clear, I have drafted the full Veterans Benefit Act of 1998. I would like Members to think about cosponsoring this bill. It is not the intentions of Republicans or Democrats to give short shrift to those World War II veterans who fought their way across Europe, who fought their way across the Pacific, or those veterans from Korea who feel they are forgotten or those from Vietnam, Grenada, Panama or Desert Storm.

We stand up for our veterans, and we want to fully fund their benefits. So I ask the Members today to cosponsor the full Veterans Benefit Act of 1998 as we pass this BESTEA bill and send the veterans a message. The U.S. Congress is with them. We think they have earned these benefits. We think they deserve them.

NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK ACT

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

Mr. SNOWBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my wholehearted support for H.R. 59, the National Right to Work Act, and to implore my colleagues to give their support as well.

H.R. 59 simply eliminates those provisions of the National Labor Relations Act and the Railway Labor Act that empower unions bosses to steal the hard-earned money of American workers.

Over 60 years ago, Congress gave union officials the so-called right to force workers to pay union dues whether they want to or not. Union officials have wielded this power far too long. It is time to reintroduce freedom into the American workplace, the freedom to choose whether or not to pay union dues, freedom from compulsory unionism.

H.R. 59 corrects a terrible injustice. The coercion of America's workers to pay union dues is immoral and against the basic values of our country and even of the founders of the labor unions themselves.

Support restoration of freedom for the American worker. Support the repeal of the power to force people to pay dues to a union against their will. Support H.R. 59.

PROPOSITION 226 BALLOT INITIATIVE

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

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer another view on the message from the gentleman who just appeared in the well.

Several weeks ago, Congress overwhelmingly rejected a bid by right-wing foundations and corporate interests that would have tilted the political balance in America. By an overwhelming bipartisan vote, the House defeated a bill that included language similar to the Proposition 226 ballot initiative in California.

Funded by extreme out-of-state interest groups and large corporate donors, this California initiative is part of a national campaign by ultra-conservative groups. Their goal: to weaken the role of working men and women who oppose their right-wing views on issues such as the Patient Protection Act, or HMO reform, increasing the minimum wage, and reforming social security.

This attempt to dilute the political power of union members, sometimes called "paycheck protection" but more aptly named "paycheck deception", failed in Congress; and it should fail in California as well.

Despite the rhetoric we heard on the floor last night, big business already outpends labor by an 11-1 margin. Prop 226 would likely give big business even greater political advantage. Fellow Californians, vote no on Prop 226 on June 2.

U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY HARMED

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, according to press accounts, the Pentagon issued a classified report in May of 1997 about the Loral-led review commission's unauthorized release to China of its report on Communist China's latest rocket crash.

The report concluded that the United States national security has been harmed. Let me repeat that. The report concluded that the United States national security has been harmed. The White House claims otherwise but offers no explanation, nothing at all.

In February of this year, despite intense opposition from his own Justice Department, President Clinton gave permission to Loral to transfer highly sensitive missile information, particularly with respect to encryption, to the Communist Chinese government. Reportedly, the Chinese could use this information to perfect their missile and rocket programs. This was allowed despite an ongoing criminal investigation of Loral for earlier transfers of missile technology to Communist China.

This leaves many unanswered questions such as, how deeply was U.S. national security harmed? Did the campaign contributions to Loral and the Chinese government affect the decision? And why does the President insist that this decision was in the best interest of the American people?

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH BILL

(Mr. STENHOLM asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I come and take this 1 minute today to alert my colleagues in the House of Representatives of a rule that we are about to take under consideration concerning the agricultural research bill that is unprecedented.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGRICH), and his leadership, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) are about to do some tremendous damage to production agriculture all over this Nation. Because of the same manner in which they wrote the farm bill in his office, they are now writing a rule that is going, as I said, to do lasting damage to production agriculture.

For the first time in my legislative life, we have the nutrition community and the production agriculture committee agree on additional funding for crop insurance and other agricultural needs and restoring of some food needs and doing it in a budget-responsible way. The rule that we are about to consider undoes it all.

I want to alert my colleagues in the House, immediately after the 1-minute, I will urge a motion to adjourn until we can discuss this. And, hopefully, the leadership will go back upstairs and rewrite the rule in a fair way to let the conference report be considered by the full House.

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM COMMUNIST CHINA TO DNC

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

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a few questions that we will never ever hear asked by most of the folks on the other side of the aisle. I would like the American people to think about these questions and then ask themselves why, why are these questions not even being asked by the liberals in Congress?

Why did Communist China apparently contribute nearly \$3 million to the Democratic National Committee during the 1996 election campaign?

Were there any changes in U.S. foreign policy?

What were the results of all this foreign money into the Democrat Party?

Now, consider the last question very carefully. The problem, of course, is that one cannot know whether a change in U.S. foreign policy was made because of these campaign contributions or because a change was made for legitimate policy reasons based on our national interest. These are the concerns that we all should have.

One last question we will never ever hear from the other side. Who in the White House knew about these contributions to the DNC? Maybe the other side does not want to know who knew.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH BILL

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

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to make sure all my colleagues fully understand that we are soon to be considering a rule on the agricultural research bill, and I think everyone should understand exactly what is about to happen.

Through the Committee on Agriculture, we were able to fashion an agriculture research, a crop insurance bill, as well as a food stamp reform bill that had broad bipartisan support. It was a bill that went to conference. It was signed by all the Republican and Democrat conferees. It was a bill that passed the Senate by a vote of 92-8.

Last night, the Committee on Rules has reported a bill that is basically going to unravel this carefully crafted conference report. Anyone who chooses to vote for this rule has to understand what they are doing. They are taking a slap at every farmer in this country, farmers who are struggling to maintain their viability, because this rule will gut the crop insurance fix which is so vital.

They will also be having a slap in the face to our universities who are performing the agricultural research, which is so important to our international competitiveness of the agriculture sector. And they are also slapping in the face all the legal immigrants who have the opportunity to get vital food stamps.

Vote no on this rule.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH BILL

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

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, S.1150 will come up, the rule will come up in just a few moments. I would like to echo the remarks of my friends and colleagues, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) and the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLEY).

We had a very delicately balanced package that addressed the needs of our farmers in America and addressed the needs of those in America who are hungry. It was a very difficult compromise to make because there is such a need out there in these various communities. Yet, we were able to strike that accord, bipartisan accord, rural and urban American accord.

On the Senate side, 92 votes came out in support of this bill. In conference, it was a unanimously supported conference report. All of a sudden, now we have a rule on this bill here in the House that would destroy that delicate compromise, the balance that was achieved.

Unfortunately, what it does is it guts the funding for the crop insurance aspect of this, for the agricultural research aspect of this, and for the dol-

lars necessary to try to help those who are in need of food. We cannot let this happen.

I would urge a no vote on the rule.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CALVERT). The question is on the motion to adjourn offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Stenholm).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 59, nays 304, not voting 70, as follows:

[Roll No. 187]

YEAS—59

Abercrombie	Dooley	Obey
Allen	Edwards	Oliver
Becerra	Farr	Ortiz
Berman	Fattah	Pallone
Berry	Fazio	Payne
Bishop	Ford	Pickett
Bonior	Gejdenson	Pomeroy
Boucher	Gephardt	Roybal-Allard
Boyd	Hall (OH)	Sabo
Brown (CA)	Hastings (FL)	Sawyer
Brown (OH)	Kennelly	Scott
Castle	Kingston	Sisisky
Clay	Lewis (GA)	Slaughter
Clayton	Manton	Stenholm
Condit	Martinez	Tanner
Coyne	McGovern	Tauscher
Cramer	McIntyre	Thurman
DeGette	Millender-	Waters
DeLauro	McDonald	Watt (NC)
	Mink	Whitfield

NAYS—304

Aderholt	Canady	Engel
Andrews	Cannon	English
Archer	Capps	Ensign
Armey	Cardin	Eshoo
Bachus	Carson	Etheridge
Baesler	Chabot	Evans
Baker	Chambliss	Everett
Baldacci	Chenoweth	Ewing
Ballenger	Christensen	Forbes
Barcia	Clyburn	Fossella
Barr	Coble	Fowler
Barrett (NE)	Coburn	Fox
Barrett (WI)	Collins	Frank (MA)
Bartlett	Combest	Franks (NJ)
Barton	Cook	Frelinghuysen
Bass	Cooksey	Frost
Bentsen	Costello	Gallegly
Bereuter	Cox	Ganske
Bilbray	Crane	Gekas
Blagojevich	Crapo	Gibbons
Bliley	Cummings	Gilchrest
Blumenauer	Cunningham	Gillmor
Blunt	Danner	Gilman
Boehlert	Davis (FL)	Goode
Boehner	Davis (VA)	Goodlatte
Bonilla	Deal	Goodling
Borski	Diaz-Balart	Gordon
Boswell	Dicks	Goss
Brady (TX)	Dingell	Granger
Brown (FL)	Doggett	Greenwood
Bryant	Doolittle	Gutierrez
Bunning	Doyle	Hall (TX)
Burr	Dreier	Hamilton
Burton	Duncan	Hansen
Buyer	Dunn	Hastert
Calvert	Ehlers	Hastings (WA)
Camp	Ehrlich	Hayworth
Campbell	Emerson	Hefley

Hill	Mascara	Salmon
Hilleary	Matsui	Sanchez
Hilliard	McCarthy (NY)	Sandlin
Hinojosa	McCollum	Sanford
Hobson	McHale	Saxton
Hoekstra	McHugh	Scarborough
Holden	McInnis	Schaefer, Dan
Hooley	McIntosh	Schaffer, Bob
Horn	McKeon	Schumer
Hostettler	McKinney	Sensenbrenner
Houghton	McNulty	Shadegg
Hoyer	Meehan	Shaw
Hulshof	Meek (FL)	Shays
Hutchinson	Menendez	Sherman
Hyde	Metcalfe	Shimkus
Istook	Mica	Shuster
Jackson (IL)	Miller (FL)	Skeen
Jackson-Lee	Minge	Skelton
(TX)	Moakley	Smith (MI)
Jenkins	Moran (KS)	Smith (NJ)
John	Moran (VA)	Smith (OR)
Johnson (CT)	Murtha	Smith (TX)
Johnson (WI)	Myrick	Smith, Adam
Johnson, E.B.	Neal	Smith, Linda
Jones	Nethercutt	Snowbarger
Kanjorski	Neumann	Snyder
Kasich	Ney	Solomon
Kelly	Northup	Spatt
Kennedy (MA)	Norwood	Stabenow
Kennedy (RI)	Nussle	Stearns
Kildee	Oberstar	Stokes
Kilpatrick	Packard	Stump
Kim	Pappas	Stupak
Kind (WI)	Pastor	Sununu
King (NY)	Paul	Talent
Klecza	Paxon	Tauzin
Klink	Pease	Taylor (MS)
Klug	Peterson (MN)	Thomas
Knollenberg	Peterson (PA)	Thompson
Kolbe	Petri	Thornberry
Kucinich	Pickering	Thune
LaFalce	Pitts	Tiahrt
LaHood	Pombo	Tierney
Lampson	Portman	Trafficant
Lantos	Poshard	Turner
Largent	Price (NC)	Upton
Latham	Pryce (OH)	Velazquez
LaTourette	Radanovich	Vento
Lazio	Rahall	Visclosky
Leach	Ramstad	Walsh
Lee	Redmond	Wamp
Levin	Regula	Watkins
Lewis (CA)	Riley	Watts (OK)
Lewis (KY)	Rivers	Weldon (FL)
Linder	Rodriguez	Weldon (PA)
Lipinski	Roemer	Wexler
Livingston	Rogers	White
LoBiondo	Rohrabacher	Wise
Lofgren	Ros-Lehtinen	Wolf
Lowey	Rothman	Woolsey
Lucas	Roukema	Wynn
Luther	Royce	Yates
Maloney (CT)	Rush	Young (FL)
Maloney (NY)	Ryun	

NOT VOTING—70

Ackerman	Hefner	Porter
Bateman	Herger	Quinn
Billirakis	Hinchey	Rangel
Bono	Hunter	Reyes
Brady (PA)	Inglis	Riggs
Callahan	Jefferson	Rogan
Clement	Johnson, Sam	Sanders
Conyers	Kaptur	Serrano
Cubin	Manzullo	Sessions
Davis (IL)	Markey	Skaggs
DeFazio	McCarthy (MO)	Souder
DeLay	McCrery	Spence
Deutscher	McDade	Stark
Dickey	McDermott	Strickland
Dixon	Meeks (NY)	Taylor (NC)
Fawell	Miller (CA)	Torres
Filner	Mollohan	Towns
Foley	Morella	Waxman
Furse	Nadler	Weller
Gonzalez	Owens	Weygand
Graham	Oxley	Wicker
Green	Parker	Young (AK)
Gutknecht	Pascarell	
Harman	Pelosi	

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Messrs. RILEY, CUNNINGHAM, THOMPSON, KLECZKA and RODRIGUEZ, Ms. KILPATRICK, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas and Ms. WOOLSEY changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."