

The commitment originally that was made was that we would deal with it in February or March, and we did not do that. We did not keep faith with our commitment.

The commitment then, after a number of us got off a petition, was to deal with this issue in May. Since May, we have had a vote on a rule allowing for debate on campaign finance reform. We have had a general debate on campaign finance reform. We have had a specific debate on a constitutional amendment brought forward by an individual who did not even support the constitutional amendment the individual was bringing forward, and that is it.

Since the commitment that was made to us in April, we have not had debate of any consequence during the time in May. We are already in the middle of June. I was told last week that the second rule on campaign finance reform would be debated on Friday, in which I concurred and thought that was some progress. That was not debated. I am told we will bring it up tomorrow. I am told we will have debate on Wednesday and Thursday and Friday. Now I have been told we will have no debate next week on campaign finance reform.

In my own mind, I do not understand why this reform Republican Party would oppose dealing with campaign finance reform. I do not know why my reform-minded leadership would object to dealing with this issue now, since we are going to have an open debate with endless amendments.

But there is a point where, if the leadership refuses to allow for an open debate to take place, then it forces us to consider going back on petitions. It forces us to take other action to express our concern with the process and to force some kind of change.

I realize that I am only one Member of 435, so I cannot force anything, but 218 Members can. Ultimately, there have to be 218 Members in this House who believe that the word of our leadership should be honored and that we should take up debate on the 11 substitutes and the endless amendments.

Tomorrow we will be taking up a second rule that will make germane amendments that are not even germane. We have hundreds and hundreds of amendments. I also have some leadership that have publicly stated that it is the intention to just drag out this debate ad infinitum.

I cannot understand why Republican leadership would choose to put this debate off any longer. Is it going to be better to debate this issue later this month? Is it going to be better to take up this issue in July and debate it? Do we win more points by putting it off even further and taking it up in September? How is that living up to the commitment of my leadership to take up this issue in May?

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON RULES TO FILE REPORT ON HOUSE RESOLUTION 463, ESTABLISHING SELECT COMMITTEE ON U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY AND MILITARY/COMMERCIAL CONCERNS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules have until midnight tonight, June 16, 1998, to file a report to accompany House Resolution 463.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Is there objection to the request from the gentleman from Connecticut?

There was no objection.

PROTECT THE E-RATE FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from New York (Mr. OWENS) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, there is an emergency in America right now, and it affects the students in school. It affects the students who go to use our libraries.

I would like to announce that it is only 7:10 Eastern Standard Time, and I hope that there are kids in America listening, because this is their fight and they ought to rally to defend their own interests, the E-Rate. The E-Rate belongs to the kids of America.

What is the E-Rate? The E-Rate is a discount that is given through a universal service fund to schools and libraries in order to enable those schools and libraries to wire their computers to the Internet, to hook up to the Internet.

Then the E-Rate also continues to provide a discount on the ongoing telecommunication services utilized by the schools. The E-Rate is the greatest thing that has happened to schools in a long, long time.

The E-Rate is the result of the 1996 Telecommunications Act. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 gave the big corporations in broadcasting and telecommunications almost everything they asked for. The one concession they made is that they would provide discounted rates for schools and libraries.

By the way, this is all schools, parochial schools, private schools, all schools are eligible for the utilization of this E-Rate, the discount from the universal fund. Libraries, all libraries, all public libraries are eligible for it.

So we have started that. There was \$2.25 billion made available or projected as the first year's expenditure. And 30,000 schools and libraries have applied already. They have met the qualifications. They have gone through the application process, and they are waiting for their funding from the E-Rate.

We have a great reduction in the E-Rate. So kids of America, they have

some monsters out here. They have some monsters out here who have stolen or who are attempting to steal the E-Rate away from the children of America.

MCI wants the E-Rate to die. AT&T. And there are a lot of misguided Members of Congress who want the E-Rate to die. These big corporations and big powerful people elect are like the Grinch that stole Christmas. Only this time the Grinch is going to steal E-Rate.

They are like the Giant that chased little Jack. They are powerful, overwhelming, abusive. They have all the power. But Jack outwitted the Giant. That means that the children of America can fight back. This is a democracy and their parents vote. I hope they are listening and they tell their parents to listen, that the E-Rate deserves to live.

We are dealing with something like the Big Bad Wolf that was in Little Red Riding Hood's grandmother's bed. Little Red Riding Hood outwitted the Wolf. The Wolf in the end was destroyed, not Little Red Riding Hood.

We are dealing with something like Yertle the Turtle. There are people that are very powerful. There are corporations that are very greedy.

AT&T has been around a long time. They have made billions of dollars. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 would enable AT&T to make more money. MCI can make more money. Tremendous amounts of additional profit will accrue to these corporations as a result of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. But they want more. They want more. They are like Yertle the Turtle.

I think I remember Yertle the Turtle correctly. I read it to my kids a long time. I have a grandson, and I have got to get ready with all of these stories and get familiar with them. Green Eggs and Ham is my favorite, but Yertle the Turtle also was a favorite Dr. Seuss story.

If you recall, Yertle is not the hero. Yertle the Turtle is not the hero. Yertle is the villain. Yertle is the turtle who wanted to be the tallest turtle in the world. He wanted to be higher than everybody else. He kept forcing other turtles to get under him so he could get higher and higher and higher. Yertle was not the hero.

There was a little turtle on the bottom of him named Mac.

□ 1915

And Mack said, I'm tired of bearing all the weight of all these turtles on top of me. So Mack decided to squeeze out of the line, and the whole pile of turtles came tumbling down.

Kids of America do not have to take this bullying by AT&T or MCI or the chairmen of the powerful congressional committees. Kids of America can rebel. They can fight back. Kids of America should stay awake, listen, they should talk to their parents. They need to know more about the E-Rate. They need to know more about the attempt of the Grinch to steal the E-Rate from the kids of America.

Let me give everyone the background on what the E-Rate is all about. Last week I talked about leadership, and our leadership can determine the fate of a country and the fate of a nation, whether it is a small nation or a superpower. Last week I talked about Israel and how great the leadership of Israel has been to date; how Israel's leadership has brought it to the point in 50 years where it has achieved more than many countries have achieved in 200 or 300 years. Leadership.

I also gave an example of leadership in the Soviet Union; how leadership in the Soviet Union was able to produce a space station, rockets, intercontinental ballistic missiles, and it was a superpower. But the leadership was so ingrained and so enclosed that they did not listen to the outside world with respect to democracy. They did not listen to new thought coming in, so they focused in on themselves and destroyed the economy of the country. They destroyed the spirit of the country. So a superpower went out of existence in our time. A giant superpower collapsed and failed.

It is possible the giant superpower called the United States of America also is vulnerable if we do not have the right policies. If we bully little children, if we bully students in school. And that is what we have. We have the giant corporations teaming up with some powerful people in Congress and they are bullying the FCC and forcing the FCC to take away a benefit that is very much needed, an opportunity that is very much needed by most of the children in America. Certainly the low-income children of America have no chance, ever, of being in schools with computers hooked up to the internet that can pay the price of ongoing telecommunication services if we do not have this universal service fund, called the E-Rate for short.

Let me give everyone the background. There is an article that appeared in the Congressional Quarterly June 13th, and it summarizes it very well. And, Mr. Speaker, I will place the entire article, entitled "The FCC Votes to Shrink Internet Subsidies Program; Two Bills Would Shift Cost" in the June 13th issue of the Congressional Quarterly, in its entirety, in the RECORD. So it will be, in its entirety, in the RECORD. Everyone can pull it off the internet, by the way, but I am going to read it in part to let everyone clearly understand what this is all about. This is a terrible injustice to the children of America, and I think once everyone hears the story, they will agree with me. The article is as follows:

[From Congressional Quarterly, June 13, 1998]

FCC VOTES TO SHRINK INTERNET SUBSIDIES PROGRAM; TWO BILLS WOULD SHIFT COSTS
(By Juliana Gruenwald)

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted June 12 to scale back a controversial program that provides discounts for Internet hookups to schools, libraries and rural health care centers.

The FCC, in a 3-2 vote, agreed to provide \$700 million for the second half of the year, bringing the total for the year to \$1.375 billion, a cut of nearly 50 percent from the FCC's original plan.

The action comes in the wake of pressure from Capitol Hill over how the FCC is running the program. Critics are angry that consumers are being forced to shoulder the cost of the Internet service.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., chairman of the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, said the FCC's changes were "an exercise in futility" and said legislation must be enacted to stabilize the program.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., said June 8 he would try to move legislation to block the FCC program in the next few weeks.

Rep. W.J. "Billy" Tauzin, R-La., and Sen. Conrad Burns, R-Mont., have said that, to pay for the Internet subsidies, they plan to introduce bills to shift revenue from the current 3 percent excise tax on telephone service.

The program was created by Congress in the 1996 telecommunications law (PL 104-104) when it expanded universal service, a system in place for years to provide subsidies for phone service to low income residents and high-cost areas. (1996 Almanac, p. 3-43)

Universal service is paid for by telecommunications companies, which pass the charges along to consumers. About \$675 million has been collected for the Internet program, which has yet to dispense any subsidies.

Some lawmakers say the FCC made the program so big it has led to an increase in long-distance rates.

The program appeared in jeopardy after the top leaders of the House and Senate Commerce committees called on the FCC on June 4 to stop collecting funding for the program and revamp the universal service rules. (CQ Weekly, p. 1539)

The move followed an announcement by some long-distance companies that they would impose a new surcharge on residential customers' bills to pay for their universal service costs.

The issue came to a head June 10 when all five commissioners appeared at the Senate hearing.

Several senators said they feared the Internet program could put support for traditional universal service at risk.

Some GOP members also complained that the program was only intended to provide discounts for Internet services, not to help pay for inside wiring. About \$1.3 billion of the \$2.02 billion requested in the 30,000 applications from schools in libraries was to pay for inside wiring.

But the program's defenders said the program had been unfairly maligned by those who are out to kill it and urged the commissioners to do what was necessary to keep it intact.

"Don't allow this covert operation to derail this initiative," said Sen. Olympia J. Snowe, R-Maine, one of the initiative's sponsors.

Carol Henderson, executive director for the American Library Association's Washington Office, said it has partially become a 'partisan political issue, and that's unfortunate . . . particularly if those who suffer for that are libraries and schools."

Some Republicans call the program the "Gore tax" because Vice President Al Gore supports the program expanding Internet access to children.

Regardless of the controversy, Linda Smith, director of technology for San Bernardino city schools in California, said she hopes policy-makers will keep their commitment to help needy school districts.

Most of the 46,000 students in her district—77 percent of whom get free or reduced school lunches—do not "have computers at home or access to the Net," she said.

Mr. Speaker, I am quoting from the article as it appeared on June 13 in the Congressional Quarterly.

The Federal Communications Commission, FCC, voted June 12th to scale back a controversial program that provides discounts for internet hookups to schools, libraries and rural health care centers. The FCC, in a 3-to-2 vote, agreed to provide \$700 million for the second half of the year, bringing the total for the year to \$1.375 billion, a cut of nearly 50 percent from the FCC's original plan.

They promised the children of America one figure and they are cutting the amount in half. Why? There is no good reason. They are saying it is too expensive. Why is it too expensive for the children of America to receive a tiny portion of the huge revenues that are pulled in by the communications companies? They say, no, and the FCC has made these cuts.

I want to make it clear at this point that I am not criticizing the FCC. The FCC has been bullied and pushed and forced into a position by overwhelming forces that have converged on the FCC. Since the E-Rate was established and the procedures were set up by the FCC, there has been a bullying by corporations. Some corporations have chosen to go to court and sue the FCC in an attempt to take away the E-Rate from the children of America.

Some corporations have been doing that, so that puts pressure on the FCC. And then we have the heads of some of the committees in Congress writing to the chairman of the FCC committee, in a very vicious and unusual way. Unprecedented. The chairmen of committees, who, by the way, do not have the authority to give orders directly to the various agencies of the Federal Government. They do not have that authority. But they were so brutal in their attack that they frightened the FCC commissioners. And they are attempting to try to compromise in order to save some part of the E-Rate for the children of America.

So the FCC is our hero at this point. The chairman of the FCC and the people who voted to at least keep half, they really are heroes for arriving at a point where, for the time being, they have offered a compromise.

I am here tonight to call upon the children of America, the kids of America, to not accept the compromise. We do not want half. We need the full \$2.25 billion that was budgeted in the first place.

Let me continued with the article.

The action comes in the wake of pressure from Capitol Hill over how the FCC is running the program. Critics are angry that consumers are being forced to shoulder the cost of the internet service. Senator John McCain, Republican of Arizona, chairman of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, said the FCC's changes were "an exercise in futility" and said legislation must be enacted to stabilize the program.

I do not know what he means by exercise in futility. What he is saying is,

if we cut it in half, we have taken away half of the funds from the children of America. That is not enough. That is an exercise in futility. We are going to destroy the whole program.

It strikes me as very strange that this program for children, through schools and libraries, is arousing such intense reaction from powerful people. Corporations first, AT&T, MCI, and now certain powerful people in Congress want to destroy the program.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, Republican from Georgia, said June 8th he would try to move legislation to block the FCC program in the next few weeks.

To block the FCC program. That is destruction. To smother it; to strangle it. Now, what have the kids of America done to deserve a program like this being strangled? Why is the big bad wolf and the Grinch and the giant and Yertle, all of them, gathering together to destroy a program that will provide opportunity for the children of America?

Representative W. J. Billy Tauzin, Republican of Louisiana, and Senator Conrad Burns, Republican of Montana, have said that to pay for the internet subsidies, they plan to introduce bills to shift revenue from the current 3 percent excise tax on telephone service.

Now, that sounds like, well, these guys are constructive and somebody is coming up with an alternative. When we start talking about taxes and shifting taxes, I assure everyone, children of America who are listening, after all, it is still early, I hope they are up, I assure everyone that any attempt to shift taxes or to play with taxes will not fair very well here on the floor. It will not get through.

They are just going to use this as a smoke screen to pretend that they care about the kids of America; they care about their opportunity and their future to be able to really learn the kind of basic knowledge of computers and use of the internet that is going to be required when they get to the point where they are graduating from high school or they are going out there to get one of these jobs, the big jobs of the future, the important jobs, the jobs that are going to be available, that we know for certain are jobs relating to information technology. Information technology jobs are the ones that will be available. If kids do not get prepared in school, they will be able to qualify for those jobs.

Low-income students in the big cities of America, students in rural areas are already way behind. Most of our suburban schools, a lot of schools in affluent communities, they are already wired to the internet. They already have computer labs and computer programs which are fully educating their children on the benefits of how to use computers and learning how to use computers in the applications for the future.

To go back to the article, I quote again,

The program was created by Congress in the 1996 telecommunications law, Public Law

104-104, when it expanded universal service, a system in place for years to provide subsidies for phone service to low-income residents and high cost areas.

Let me just quote that again. I am quoting from an article from the Congressional Quarterly. They said the program that we are talking about now, the E-Rate, the universal fund expansion to include discounts to libraries and schools was added to another fund in 1996, in the 1996 telecommunications law, when it expanded universal service. Universal service existed already. They are making it appear they never had anything like this, but there is a universal service that existed already, and that service provides service to low-income residents and high cost areas.

Universal service is paid for by telecommunications companies and they pass the charges along to consumers. Is it a large charge? We have been receiving an extra charge for years. For years we have never known it even existed. Most people did not know there was a universal service and that a slight amount of money was taxed on to the phone bill to pay for that service that already existed.

But now that it is there for children, it is there to provide wiring to the internet and ongoing telecommunications services on the internet, it has suddenly become a big issue and corporations want to go to war against the children of America.

About \$675 million has been collected for the internet program to date, which has yet to dispense any subsidies. They have not spent a penny yet. We have been getting ready since last fall. Applications originally were supposed to be submitted last fall. They moved it back to January. We started submitting applications in January. Remember, those who were part of those 30,000 schools that have submitted? It was done mostly over the internet. Most of the submissions were done over the internet. They could do it some other way, in print, but they encouraged everybody to do it over the internet. And those applications were complicated. The process was complicated.

And now that they have it all in, and not a penny has been spent yet, before the program can even start, the bullies, the giants, the grinchies, the big bad wolves, the Yertles, the turtles, they have come along and stolen half of it and they want the rest. Kids of America better rise up and fight this.

Some lawmakers say the FCC made the program so big it has led to an increase in long-distance rates. The program appeared in jeopardy after the top leaders of the House and Senate commerce committees called on the FCC on June 4 to stop collecting funding for the program and revamp the universal service rules. The move followed an announcement by some long-distance companies,

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that they would impose a new surcharge on residential customers' bills to pay for their universal service cost.

Here is where was set in motion the process which has now led to an attempt to steal the E-Rate from the kids of America.

The move followed an announcement by some long distance companies that they would impose a new surcharge on residential customers' bills to pay for their universal service cost. The issue came to a head June 10th, when all five commissioners appeared at the Senate hearing. Several Senators said they feared the internet program could put support for traditional universal service at risk. Some GOP members also complained that the program was only intended to provide discounts for internet services, not to help pay for inside wiring. About \$1.3 billion of the \$2.2 billion requested in the 30,000 applications from schools and libraries was to pay for inside wiring.

□ 1930

I am reading from Congressional Quarterly's summary of the attempt to steal the Internet from the kids of America. They are making an issue out of the fact that some of the money goes to help wire the school to provide basic wiring to hook computers up to the net. They do not use the money to buy computers. They do not use the money to pay for teachers or technical assistants. They do not use the means to pay personnel to wire the schools necessarily, but the wiring costs and some basic costs that enables the schools that are poorest to get into the game.

The biggest amount of the money and the money that will be spent on an ongoing basis will be for the actual telecommunications services on an ongoing basis month after month after month. Some schools will get a discount as high as 90 percent. In the poorest schools in my district, it means that for every dollar that the schools spend on a monthly basis for telecommunications services, they would only have to pay 10 cents. They can get as high as that. The poorest districts of America could get a 90 percent discount.

What are the poorest districts? They measure them by the districts that have the largest amount of children who are eligible for the free school lunch program. The school lunch program, in order to be a part of it, they have to submit from their parents and their home, they have to submit proof of their income status.

There are some schools in my district where 95 percent of the children are eligible for the school lunch program, which means that that school certainly is eligible for the biggest discount. So at one end they may have some suburban schools, affluent neighborhoods, they get a 15 percent discount.

Some people complain about they should not get anything. I think the program should be for every school district, for every school, for every library. I do not think it should be cut off for some and only available to the poorest. I think there should be some funds available for every school.

I do not think \$2.2 billion that has been requested by the 30,000 schools and libraries is too much when we consider the billions of dollars being

earned by the big telecommunications companies.

I am quoting again from the Congressional Quarterly article. "But the program's defenders said the program had been unfairly maligned by those who are out to kill it and urge the commissioners to do what was necessary to keep it intact. Don't allow this covert operation to derail this initiative," said Senator OLYMPIA J. SNOW, Republican of Maine, one of the initiative's sponsors.

Karen Henderson, the executive director for the American Libraries Association's Washington office, said, "It has partially become a partisan political issue." And that is unfortunate, particularly if those who suffer for that are libraries and schools.

Why are the Republicans making this a partisan issue? Do Republicans not care about education in America? Do they not want the children of America who are in school today to be prepared to meet the qualifications for the information technology jobs of tomorrow? Why are the Republicans against providing universal, across-the-board service which would allow all schools and libraries to become part of a process of utilizing information technology starting with computers?

They are making it a big partisan issue. Remember the Republicans, 2 years ago they tried to steal part of school lunches from children, they wanted to cut the school lunch program two years ago? At that time I called on the kids of America and their parents to wake up. Kids of America, there is a fiscal crunch. This great Nation now needs your lunch. I wrote a little appeal to the kids to understand what they are saying. The Republicans say there is a fiscal crunch. The Nation needs your lunch. I was absurd, ridiculous of course. \$2 billion will be saved by cutting back on school lunches.

The kids of America and their parents, everybody out there with common sense, rose up in horror. How can the Republicans take lunches from little kids? How can they take lunches from students at school? And the horror became evident in the public opinion polls and in the focus groups, so that the Republicans in 1996 retreated.

They gave up not only their great cuts in school lunch program, they gave up many other education cuts, understanding that common sense in America says that education ought to be one of the first priorities in the Federal Government. Education should be one of the first priorities.

They tried to politicize education. They called for the complete elimination of the Department of Education. They were going to cut Headstart. They were going to cut title I. The budget that they presented in 1995 in many ways resembles the budget that they presented in 1998. Again, they are calling for elimination of title I. They are going to convert title I to vouchers.

Again, they refuse to deal with the overwhelming problem of school con-

struction that we need help in constructing more classrooms. In order to bring down class size we need to do two things. We need to construct more classrooms as well as provide some money for more teachers.

But the Republican budget that has just been released, they do not have anything in there for school construction, for reduction of class sizes. They want to cut title I and turn it into a voucher program.

They want to politicize something as great as this universal service funds for schools and libraries. It now is going to become a political football. The next paragraph in that article describes part of that process.

A quote from the Congressional Quarterly article. "Some Republicans call the program the Gore tax because Vice President AL GORE supports the program expanding Internet access to children." "Some Republicans call the program the Gore tax because Vice President AL GORE supports the program expanding Internet access to children."

What a pity that this becomes a political football. Vice President AL GORE should be lauded and applauded for the way they have provided leadership. This is leadership and vision that has been provided and leading the way for schools to get involved in their educational programs with the kind of process educating children for information technology jobs that exist tomorrow. That process will not happen automatically. Schools have lots of problems.

Only the vision of Vice President GORE and of President Clinton has opened this whole process. We made a breakthrough. The President stood here 2 years ago and called for the wiring of all the schools of America through a volunteer process. The President himself, in California, helped initiate the first volunteer wiring of the schools. They go out on a Saturday and they get volunteers and they wire a school.

They even set up a national process where there is a kit to wire a school we could purchase between \$500 and \$600. Because they purchased the equipment and wires, everything was purchased in large quantities, so they are able to supply the kit at the very lowest cost. Then they can get volunteers to do the hookup.

We also need some people who are aware of how to do this. So they have to call upon people like the Bell Atlantic employees in my district who have been magnificent. Bell Atlantic employees and Bell Atlantic has supported the wiring of schools for Internet in my district.

In other districts, they had other telecommunications companies and they had unions. I think my colleague the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) is a leader in this Congress; and she gave us a whole handbook and a whole list of ways in which they can get their school wired.

So wiring of a school by volunteers has been initiated by the President and Vice President. Members of Congress and Democrats have picked up on it. And we have had a large number of schools that have been wired. They need the help on an ongoing basis to pay the cost of telecommunications services.

Then there are other situations where a large number of schools have not been wired. In the inner cities of America, most of the schools still remain unwired.

I have led in my district an effort to wire schools. Out of the 70 schools that exist in my Congressional district, 70 schools, elementary, junior high school and high school, we only wired 22. With the great Herculean volunteer effort, we only wired 22.

We are a pilot program. We have had the help of the Board of Education. We had the help of Bell Atlantic, one of the communications companies. We had the help of a group called New York Connects, which organizes other private-sector companies to give us help in wiring the schools. We had a lot of help from a group called the Husain Institute of technology. Mr. Husain is an engineer, a computer engineer, who volunteers his services, as well as he operates a free school for training students, adults, and children on the computer. So we have had all this with us, and still we have only wired 22.

What this does, the E-rate, the universal fund does is allow this process to be speeded up and accelerated. We do not have to wait for all of this to be done by volunteers.

The first barrier that most inner cities cannot cross is that measly \$500 to \$600. All they need for the kit to buy all the wire, all the tools, all the hookups, all the plastic stuff, all the copper, all that is supplied in a kit for \$500 to \$600.

Most schools cannot raise the \$500 to \$600. They cannot get the volunteers outside to do it. We have been fortunate that Bell Atlantic and New York Connects and some other private-sector people have done that for us in order to make certain that nobody is left behind, that all of the schools, private, parochial, and public in America do receive this connection with the Internet.

By the way, the wiring of the schools, when we use that term, we are talking about the library and five classrooms. Wiring of the schools is library and five classrooms. It is not the whole school. It is just a measly fundamental necessary beginning. And that is all we are asking. Let the universal fund go forward. Let us keep the E-rate so that that is possible.

Let me just conclude this article by reading the last two paragraphs. "Regardless of the controversy, Linda Smith, who is Director of Technology for San Bernardino City Schools in California, said she hopes policymakers will keep their commitments to help needy school districts."

I hope that policy makers will keep their commitments. I fear that the bullies here will not let us do that. We are the policy makers. The Congress of the United States wrote into the legislation that the FCC should provide a way to make certain that all schools and libraries get service, connection with the Internet. It is in the law. It is a very simple statement, very general.

It was left up to the FCC to determine how to do that. The former commissioner of the FCC, Reid Hunt, did a magnificent job of guiding us to a point where they established this program, with all of its complications.

The present commissioner, William Kanard, is attempting to carry out what was decided upon by commissioners previously. It is most unfortunate that the bullies have all ganged up on the FCC and have forced them to back down. We lost half of the Internet as a result of their actions.

The last paragraph of this article from the Congressional Quarterly on July 13th, "Most of the 46,000 students in LINDA SMITH's district, 77 percent of whom get free or reduced school lunches, do not have computers at home or access to the Net," she said.

That is the case in my district. That is the case of thousands of school districts across the country. They do not have access to the Internet, and they will not have it if we let them take the universal fund away.

Kids of America, AT&T, MCI, they are bullies. They are grinchers who want to steal the E-rate. They are giants who want to chase little Jack. They are the big bad wolves. They are Yertle the Turtle. In the comic books, there is the council of doom. In modern space comic books, where we deal with the whole universe and in certain planets, sets of planets, they have a council of doom, the evil monsters attempting to gain control of the universe; and they raid against the counsel of justice, the good guys who are attempting to go fight off evil and make certain that democracy prevails in the universe and that everybody has an opportunity to survive in the universe in peace and harmony.

Now we have got a council of doom going after the E-rate. The council of doom has won the first battle. The council of doom was able to force the FCC to back down and cut the E-rate in half. Kids of America, do not take it lying down.

"Kids of America, wake up. Arise, March all together. Before the E-rate dies.

Kids of America, arise. AT&T is telling your parents misleading lies.

Kids of America, it is time to fight. Take out your light. Let it shine for truth. Boycott the AT&T booth.

AT&T lies have clouded our blue skies. Don't make any calls. Then the monster falls.

Kids arise. Fight AT&T lies. Altogether students attack. Take opportunity and the Internet back.

Kids of America, arise."

You do not have to take this lying down. Tell your parents you will not

allow them to take it lying down. You have a telephone. Call AT&T now. Call your Congressman. We will not take this lying down. The grinch will not steal the E-rate from the kids of America.

This giant will not destroy little Jack. The big bad wolf got outwitted by Little Red Ridinghood. And we will outwit the big bad wolf again. Yertle the turtle got knocked off his pedestal my Mack. The council of doom has won the first battle. But we will not let the council of doom prevail. The council of justice will take over.

□ 1945

This is not the first time I have appealed to the kids of America to come forward and fight. We won last time. When they tried to take the school lunches away, or cut the school lunch program, I called on the kids of America to rally, and they did. They got to their parents, they got to the voters, the message got through to the Republicans that we will not stand for a cut in the school lunch program.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to read my colleagues a section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD from Tuesday, April 4, 1995. That was shortly after we started the battle with the Republican majority to get back the school lunch program. They had voted to cut the school lunch program. I want Members to just see how relevant this battle is to the present one. They could not cut the school lunch program, but now they are going after something that is fundamental to the minds, the future training opportunity for our young people.

On April 4, I entered the following statement into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Mr. Speaker, the final word has not yet been said about the Republican swindle of the children who receive free lunches in schools across our Nation. But the final, most authoritative figures have been established by the Congressional Budget Office. The very conservative but thorough Congressional Budget Office has estimated that the Republicans will capture slightly more than \$2 billion from their block-granted school lunch program. They were going to take \$2 billion out of the school lunch program for the kids of America. This will be \$2 billion more to go into the tax cut for the rich. This is a scenario filled with horror. It conjures up the image of the poster where Uncle Sam is pointing the finger and saying to potential military recruits, "I need you!" While the Republicans advocate a \$50 billion increase in the Defense budget and turn their backs on welfare for corporations and rich farmers, they are saying to the children of America, "This Nation needs your lunch."

Kids of America, there is a fiscal crunch. This great Nation now needs your lunch. To set the budget right, go hungry for one night.

Don't eat what we could save.

Be brave.

Patriots stand out above the bunch.

Proudly surrender lunch.

Kids of America, nutrition is not for you.

Sacrifice for the rich few.

When tummies hurt, go to bed.

Be a soldier and play dead.

The F-22 then might rescue you.

The Sea Wolf sub might bring hot grub.

Now hear this, there is a fiscal crunch.

This Nation needs your lunch.

Pledge allegiance to the flag.

Mobilize your own brown bag.

The enemy deficit must be defeated.

Nutrition suicide squads are desperately needed.

Kids of America, there is a fiscal crunch.

This great Nation now needs your lunch.

They demanded your lunch before and you said "no." Your parents said "no." The voters said "no." The Republican majority retreated. Now they are demanding your opportunity to learn what you need to know in order to go into the 21st century.

Kids of America arise.

Don't accept the AT&T lies.

MCI wants the E-rate to die.

A lot of other telecommunications corporations are suing the Federal Communications Commission. Some misguided chairmen are bullying the FCC. There are people coming to our defense. There are a lot of efforts to try to turn back this terrible action. I want to commend the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, Mr. Kennard. I want to commend the Secretary of Education, Mr. Riley. They are fighting back and we are going to fight back. Children will not be alone. There are many others who will join us in this fight to make certain that the E-rate is not stolen.

Jesse Jackson has attacked the telecommunications industry in an article which appeared in the Amsterdam News on June 11. I quote from the article:

A \$2.25 billion program designed to provide discount rates to wire poor urban school districts and libraries for the Internet was unveiled Monday at the Chicago headquarters of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition. At a press conference attended by several Members of Congress and the Chicago Public School System, the Reverend Jesse Jackson, the head of the coalition, called the project another example of the growing class gap in America. Companies that are perennially poised to feed at the public trough, Jackson charged, have once again turned their backs on the consumer by passing on the cost of wiring poor urban and rural school districts to their consumers. Although some 30,000 applications for the discount rate have been submitted from school districts and libraries across the country, Jackson noted that the telecommunications industry is lobbying Congress to call a halt to the plan. "This action will essentially resegregate our schools along class lines," Jackson declared. On the other hand, he said that there are schools that are wired for the Internet and its attendant technology. Jackson said that the poor urban and rural children will be shut out of the technology. He said further that the big telecommunications moguls should not be allowed to leave some children behind. "They would rather lock them up than train them in school facilities that are adequately wired for increasing technology," Jackson said.

As my colleagues know, it costs more than \$30,000 a year to keep a prisoner in a cell. Why can we not afford some discounts on telecommunications to make certain that our children get the very best possible education? Why is our leadership so blind? Why is there so little vision? At a time like this when

America is more prosperous than it has been in decades, why are we attempting to take away opportunity for children to learn what they need to know in order to qualify for the jobs, in order to be leaders in the 21st century?

Mr. Speaker, let me just conclude by reading a letter from William Kennard, and a letter from Richard Riley. I will not read the entire letter, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD two letters which appeared in the Washington Post, one from William Kennard, Federal Communications Commission Chairman, and one from the Secretary Richard W. Riley, Secretary of Education, as follows:

A COMPUTER IN EVERY CLASSROOM
(By William E. Kennard)

James Glassman's June 2 op-ed column criticized Congress's decision to make connecting libraries and classrooms to the communications network part of our national concept of universal service. Mr. Glassman said the initiative is not needed. But an enormous disparity in access to communications technology exists in this country, and the Federal Communications Commission is implementing its congressional mandate in a way that supports local control of education and does so without creating large, inefficient bureaucracies.

In the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Congress expanded universal service to include advanced telecommunications services to all public libraries and grades K through 12 in public and private schools. Schools in affluent communities now have double the Internet access of schools in low income or rural areas. Nationwide, only 27 percent of our classrooms, and only 13 percent of classrooms in our neediest areas, have access to an Internet connection. Few poor children will have access to the Internet outside of school, yet studies show that students in classes that use computers not only outperform their peers on standardized tests but show more enthusiasm for communicating and learning. This increase in technology will improve the lives of American schoolchildren.

None of the changes means that local school boards will not decide what technology to acquire and fund. On average, universal service covers only 15 percent of the projected cost of connecting, operating and using networks in classrooms. Each school and library applying for a universal-service discount must pay as much as 80 percent of the total cost of the discounted service.

Universal service discounts can be applied only to the cost of obtaining telecommunications services, establishing network connections and receiving Internet access. School districts also must certify that they have a plan for how to use the discounted services and that the plan has been approved by their state.

Nor is universal service for schools and libraries an entitlement administered by an oversized federal bureaucracy. The private, nonprofit, nonpolitical entity established to administer the program has a staff of 14 people.

Mr. Glassman charged that I and other supporters of universal service to rural America, low-income citizens and classrooms and libraries have opposed efforts by communications carriers to itemize contributions on customer bills. On the contrary, I favor full disclosure by all telephone companies. But companies that say they will pass on "new" charges also should commit to passing on reductions and to disclosing both. I support neither a "hidden tax" nor a "hidden rate increase."

Finally, let's be clear about the cost of universal service for classrooms and libraries. Connecting classrooms and libraries can be achieved for less than \$1 per line per month. The rest of the proposed universal service fees continue our 60-year national commitment to affordable and adequate telephone service for rural America and our poorest citizens.

The real issue is not a "hidden tax" but the hidden agenda of Mr. Glassman and others who oppose our national commitment to ensuring that all Americans have access to communications technology as we enter the 21st century.

—
(By Richard W. Riley)

James Glassman's misleading arguments against the education-rate, or "E-rate," do a disservice to our children and to education.

The E-rate is one of the most important advances in education in our time. It gives schools and libraries significant discounts on the costs of Internet access, distance learning and other on-line learning opportunities. All schools will qualify for some discounts, with schools in our poorest communities receiving the most assistance. The E-rate is designed to help ensure that all children—regardless of race, income or geography—will have the chance to learn and succeed through the use of modern technology.

Mr. Glassman says that 80 percent of schools already are connected to the Internet, but he doesn't say that connection too often goes to one or two rooms, not to every classroom. We must give all children access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996, which provided for the E-rate, led to reductions in access charges that long-distance companies such as AT&T and MCI pay to connect to local telephone companies. As a result, in the past 11 months, long-distance companies have enjoyed a savings of \$2.4 billion, more than offsetting the estimated \$2.02 billion cost of the E-rate discount for schools and libraries.

The E-rate has tremendous support among America's educators, parents and business people. About 30,000 schools and libraries have applied. It also has received strong bipartisan support from the National Governors' Association and Congress.

America's economy is in good shape, and our competitive edge in technology is one of the big reasons why. We would be foolish to allow that competitive edge to slip away. The E-rate will help America create the most technically savvy work force in the world and protect our nation's prosperity and democratic values.

Mr. Speaker, I will just quote some of the items from Mr. Kennard's letter:

In the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Congress expanded universal service to include advanced telecommunications services to all public libraries and grades K through 12 in public and private schools. Schools in affluent communities now have double the Internet access of schools in low-income or rural areas. Nationwide, only 27 percent of our classrooms, and only 13 percent of classrooms in our neediest areas, have access to an Internet connection. Few poor children will have access to the Internet outside of school, yet studies show that students in classes that use computers not only outperform their peers on standardized tests but show more enthusiasm for communicating and learning. This increase in technology will improve the lives of American schoolchildren.

None of the changes means that local school boards will not decide what technology to acquire and fund. On average, universal service covers only 15 percent of the

projected cost of connecting, operating and using networks in classrooms. Each school and library applying for a universal-service discount must pay as much as 80 percent of the total cost of the discounted service.

Universal service discounts can be applied only to the cost of obtaining telecommunications services, establishing network connections and receiving Internet access. School districts also must certify that they have a plan for how to use the discounted services and that the plan has been approved by their State.

Nor is universal service for schools and libraries an entitlement administered by an oversized Federal bureaucracy. The private, nonprofit, nonpolitical entity established to administer the program has a staff of 14 people.

Part of the reason that they have cited for attacking the program is that they say the FCC is creating a bureaucracy. That is only a smoke screen. They really want to get at the heart of the program which will be an ongoing amount of money that the huge telephone communications companies will have to pay to the fund. The greedy companies do not want to share the largess and the benefits that they have had conferred upon them from their Government. They do not want to share that with children.

Finally, let's be clear about the cost of universal service for classrooms and libraries. Connecting classrooms and libraries can be achieved for less than \$1 per line per month. The rest of the proposed universal service fees continue our 60-year national commitment to affordable and adequate telephone service for rural America and our poorest citizens.

The real issue is not a hidden tax but the hidden agenda of those who oppose our national commitment to ensuring that all Americans have access to communications technology as we enter the 21st century.

That is by William Kennard, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission.

Quoting from the letter by Richard Riley, the Secretary of Education:

The E-rate is one of the most important advances in education in our time. It gives schools and libraries significant discounts on the costs of Internet access, distance learning and other on-line learning opportunities. All schools will qualify for some discounts, with schools in our poorest communities receiving the most assistance. The E-rate is designed to help ensure that all children, regardless of race, income or geography, will have the chance to learn and succeed through the use of modern technology.

I might add that I often encounter when I am talking to parents in my district and school board members and other leaders, they want to know why is education technology so important, why are computers so important?

We have problems. Our schools are overcrowded. We do not have enough equipment. We do not have enough supplies. We have too many substitute teachers. Why do you want to bother us with another problem of wiring schools for the Internet?

My answer to that is a very simple one. If every city in America had waited until all the sidewalks and all the roads were fixed and repaired and in excellent condition before they decided to build an airport, we would still be

waiting for the first airport to be built. What would that mean for modern transportation in the United States? Education cannot stand still while the rest of the world goes forward.

Quoting from Secretary Riley again:

The E-rate has tremendous support among America's educators, parents and business people. About 30,000 schools and libraries have applied. It also has received strong bipartisan support from the National Governors' Association and Congress.

America's economy is in good shape, and our competitive edge in technology is one of the big reasons why. We would be foolish to allow that competitive edge to slip away. The E-rate will help America create the most technically savvy workforce in the world and protect our Nation's prosperity and democratic values.

Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley.

Mr. Speaker, in a situation which is so self-evident, why do we have bullies who are attempting to wipe out this universal fund for schools and libraries? Why? I talked last week about leadership. Powerful leadership can determine the course of a Nation, the way they behave or the way they are allowed to behave. But leadership is not just the chairmen of committees. The chairmen of committees in America are beholden to the committee members. The committee members are beholden to the rest of the Congress.

If we took a poll among all the Members of Congress, I want the kids of America to know that overwhelmingly the majority of the Members of Congress support the E-rate. Overwhelmingly they support the universal fund for libraries and schools, the Members of Congress. We have had an undemocratic set of positions taken. The committee chairmen have bullied the FCC. They have skirted the democratic process and used their power to force the FCC to steal half of the E-rate from the children of America.

Those committee chairmen need to be challenged. Any leadership that will not accept the will of the Congress should be challenged. We will challenge it on this floor. We want you to join us. Anybody who says that this is not good for America, that we cannot afford it, we have unprecedented prosperity and the telecommunications companies are enjoying that prosperity. Also they are in a great position as a result of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Why are they so mean? Why do they want to steal from the children of America?

We have coming to the floor, next week probably, something called the American Competitiveness Act. I have talked about that last week, too. The American Competitiveness Act, and this has already passed the other body, primarily this act calls for giving the jobs that our children and our retrained workers ought to be having to foreigners. This act wants to increase the quota for professionals who know computer programming and computer science to come into this country. They have a large number of vacancies. They want to fill the vacancies by

bringing in outsiders, instead of re-vamping the education system of America so that we will always have all of the information technology workers that we need.

This American Competitiveness Act has a counterpart in the Judiciary Committee of the House. They do not even go as far as this act goes. At least in this act some people were able to prevail on the committee to enlarge it into including a small portion for training. There is some money in here for scholarships and for retraining our unemployed workers. That was added at the insistence of the Democrats on the committee in the Senate.

□ 2000

But the House Judiciary bill does not have any training money in it. They are just going to increase the quota, increase the number of immigrants who come in who are professionals who have knowledge of computer science. Instead of giving the jobs to our people, they will be giving them to others.

Most of these people come from English-speaking countries because even though they have knowledge of computer science in central Europe and Russia, the former Soviet Union, those people cannot come in as efficiently because they have to learn the English language. So the English speaking countries like India and Great Britain and many others, they will be the ones who send the computer professionals, and 30,000 will be brought in this year, and after that 20,000 per year. And since they are not increasing the overall immigration quota, other immigrants who come in for other reasons are going to have their quota cut. They are going to cut the quota somewhere else in order to increase the professionals who come in.

Large numbers will come in from India because India had a set of leaders who had vision. They started training their young people, their students, in computer science long time ago, and they have established the largest body of computer expertise in the world. We will be importing large numbers from India to take the positions that are vacant now in information technology.

It is ironic that a lot of criticism has been made on this floor and by the President of India exploding a nuclear device, a nuclear bomb. The same company that has a great role in the India nuclear weapons program is a company that will be providing most of the workers from India to come into this country to take the jobs and information technology. They have provided them in the past, and they are going to provide them now in the future.

In other words, many of the people came in in the past got know-how expertise that they took back and applied in this nuclear weapons program for India, and we are acting in a very hypocritical and contradictory way.

The President cut off aid to India. We all made great statements about how India has violated the spirit of a nu-

clear weapons ban, as my colleagues know, but on the other hand we are aiding and abetting the nuclear arms industry in India by bringing in workers to take jobs that ought to go to workers here.

We ought to have a training program. As you have heard before, I offered an amendment to the Higher Education Assistance Act which would have provided a very reasonable training program where colleges and universities would link up with community-based organizations and poor neighborhoods, and they would provide access to computers for the youngsters in low-income families that do not have access to computers. It is a very practical kind of program. The people are ready. They are ready to join 21st century.

Last week, last Saturday, I had what I call a synergy, a town meeting and synergy conference, which brought together people from all parts of my district, and the primary focus of this conference was information technology. I wanted to have kind of a shock awareness of a shock awareness to bring my constituents into an understanding of what is needed if they want to share prosperity, the prosperity of now and the prosperity that is going to expand in the 21st century. The jobs of tomorrow will be jobs related to information technology.

I wanted my constituents to understand that it was a terrible day, raining, you know thunderstorms, and when I saw the weather, I almost gave up and said, you know, we have gone through all this getting ready. We had experts from Bell Atlantic, Cable Vision. We had the Secretary of Commerce bringing us a greeting over video to show them how you can do that from video. We had the New York Technical Institute providing an example of how interactive a video can work. We had a magnificent program plan, and the rain came pouring down, and I was despairing and suddenly behold the auditorium which held 500 people filled up because the desire to know about what is going on in this modern telecommunications-dominated world is so great, and so people came out in the rain. Five hundred people came out to participate in the program which was designed to introduce a shock awareness of what is going on in the information technology world.

You know, we had the assistance of large numbers of people who want to get involved and who are involved, and I have a group called ET-3 made up of people who call on the national groups involved in information technology. We have booklets there from the Information Technology Association of America which showed, you know, in graphic detail what jobs are available. We had a group called American School Directory which shows schools how to get themselves a web site for nothing. American School Directory provides a web site for nothing, and the schools have a tool kit which enables the teachers and the students to put together their own web site.

A lot of marvelous things happen, and the New York State Department of Education announced that day that \$23 million is going to be provided to the School Board of Education of New York. It is not State or city money, it is money that we voted on here in Congress. The Telecommunications Literacy Act provided money to States, and New York State is just releasing the money to the local school districts and New York City Board of Education will get \$23 million. Most of that will be devoted to training teachers and school personnel in how to utilize the information technology.

A lot of good things took place, but the point I am making is that we have a hunger for people out there in the low-income community. Most of them came from the low-income area of my district to join the 21st century and be knowledgeable and be able to survive there and prosper there. We have a group called the Hussein Institute of Technology, as I mentioned before, and they helped me to wire these 23 schools, most of them with assistance of Hussein Institute of Technology and the Bell Atlantic group that provides telephone service to the Brooklyn area. We have wired using volunteers these 22 out of 70 schools in my district.

Our goal is to get everyone in 70 schools wired by December 31 of this year. We are going to do it with volunteers, if we have to, but we like to have the process speeded up by having some funds from the universal fund rate, by having the knowledge out there among the schools that once you get hooked up to the Internet, you do not have a cost that is going to be burdensome. Many schools are reluctant to get wired because, if they are wired to the Internet, they have to pay an ongoing cost. What the E-rate does is pays a big percentage of that cost for schools in my district. None of them would get less than an 80 percent discount because they have so many poor youngsters attending.

You are talking about 80 percent discount to practically all the schools in my district for ongoing telecommunication services. That is what is at stake here. They will lose it, and if that is lost, the budgets of the school districts will not be able to bear this. They will back up and say, look, equipment needs are greatest, we need chalk, we need paper, we need so many other things. We are not going to make a commitment of \$1, of ten cents. We would be willing to make a commitment of ten cents out of every dollar to telecommunication, but we are not going to pay the whole cost, we cannot afford it. And you have a complete choking of the process of bringing opportunity to the school districts.

I said we need leadership. At a time like this we have a window of opportunity. We are not at war in America, we need leadership. The kids of America are to understand that our leadership is not preoccupied with defending the country militarily. We have un-

precedented prosperity in the country. Why can we not open our eyes and understand that investments in education at a time like this is most important?

The Roman empire, which was just a village compared with the American colossus, the American colossus is something beyond an empire, and Rome, as great as it was and as dominant as it was in this time was a small thing. But the Roman empire, they invented a lot of technological devices that we still have. The Romans invented concrete, and the Romans were great masters of technology. They built huge cities. They built the coliseum which still stands, the ruins still stand on solid foundation after thousands of years. The Romans had achieved prosperity in that time comparable to the kind of prosperity we have now.

But the Roman leadership failed, and Rome declined because the leadership was not up to it consistently. At a time when the Roman leadership was at its height technologically and they built the great coliseum, what did they use the coliseum for? Their sport, their favorite sports, were blood sports. They like to see gladiators killing each other. You know, they were unevenly developed. They had great technological development. They were masters of warfare. Nobody could match them militarily. Nobody could match them technologically. But there was something wrong with their compassion and their vision, and they enjoyed watching people kill each other as a sport: Gladiators.

When they were not watching gladiators, they enjoyed watching wild animals tear human beings apart. It is not a fable that the Romans threw the Christians to the lions. They did that. They did that to more than just the Christians. They enjoy watching people being devoured by beasts. The coliseum with all of its intricate engineering has places underneath they engineered for beasts to be put in cages and beasts to be guided out where the people, the technologically-advanced Romans, could enjoy watching the animals rip people apart.

Let us not in America fall into that deep trench of having our technological development outpace our compassion. Let us not steal Internet from the children. Let us stop AT&T. Let us stop all of those who want to steal Internet from the kids in America.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. LEWIS of California (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today until 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 17, on account of attending a funeral.

Mr. McNULTY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today through Tuesday, June 23, on account of family reasons.

Mr. UNDERWOOD (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week, on account of official business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. CONYERS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MCHUGH) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SCARBOROUGH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. LINDA SMITH of Washington, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HORN, for 5 minutes, on June 23.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) and to include extraneous material:)

Mr. MURTHA.

Mr. BONIOR.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York.

Mr. VISCLOSKEY.

Mr. SHERMAN.

Mr. KIND.

Mr. SERRANO.

Ms. SANCHEZ.

Mr. HAMILTON.

Mr. SCHUMER.

Mr. TURNER.

Mr. SABO.

Mr. FAZIO of California.

Mr. KILDEE.

Mr. KLECZKA.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. OWENS) and to include extraneous material:)

Mr. PACKARD.

Mr. ACKERMAN.

Mr. PAYNE.

Mr. FORD.

Mrs. MORELLA.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MCHUGH) and to include extraneous material:)

Mr. SMITH of Oregon.

Mr. RADANOVICH.

Mr. LEWIS of California.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.

Mr. GILMAN, in two instances.

Mr. DELAY.

Mr. LEACH.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, June 17, 1998, at 10 a.m.