

country of recognizing workers, their right to organize. We have a long way to go. I want to thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) for his effort tonight and look forward to continue working with him to make sure that not only do we fight for justice all over the world for workers but we also recognize we have to fight for it in our own country.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for all his support and help and for coming and staying late this evening to express his views on this.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, let me congratulate the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) for the outstanding work that he continues to do and my colleagues who have taken time tonight to talk about this very important issue. I applaud working Americans, because on Wednesday, June 24, we will support workers' rights to organize a union. We know that this voice will be heard nationwide. They will share with us their desire to improve the working conditions and how unions help them achieve their goals for a better workplace.

Unions are good for America. They emphasize the fact that organizing unions is the basic American way. I believe that it is also important that we come together to promote policies which will help working people.

It has been documented that 77 percent of employers distribute anti-union literature, and that 50 percent of employers in one study threatened to fire all workers if they joined a union. Such anti-union efforts harm working Americans. First, on average, nonunion workers earn 33 percent less than their union counterparts. Second, these activities hamper the ability of working Americans to express their views on their work experience to their employer.

Mr. Speaker, we have seen this Congress try to suppress the voices of workers. They have attempted to pass legislation which would eliminate the ability of working families to participate in political activity cloaked under the guise of campaign reform. They have attacked the National Labor Relations Board, the body responsible for enforcing the National Labor Relations Act. Because those efforts have been unsuccessful, they have sought to overturn the National Labor Relations Act itself.

ON WORKERS' RIGHTS TO ORGANIZE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUNT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, as I had indicated, there are a number of moves that have been done in this Congress.

I started to talk about the fact that there is a Section A(2)(a) in the National Labor Relations Act which gives the board equal footing. It is pro-labor, it is pro-corporate. But there is an attempt now to weaken the labor part of the National Labor Relations Act.

We have seen the TEAM Act, which is a bill that would allow the employer, the boss, to select a negotiating team. I think that we know that if you have the ability to pick the people who will negotiate with you, you will indeed select the weaker person.

There is an attempt in the District, in an appropriations bill, there was an attempt to eliminate Davis-Bacon on school construction in the District of Columbia. Davis-Bacon was a bill passed by two Republicans who wanted to keep the prevailing wage for working people when scalawags and carpet-baggers came in to drop the wages from the South into the North. Here we see an attempt to repeal the Davis-Bacon Act.

We have seen an attempt to end salting. Salting is simply a union worker who works in a nonunion shop, holds a card and on his time off, after work, on lunch hour, he may talk to other employees about perhaps becoming a member of a union. There is a bill working its way through the House to make it illegal for a person who is a salter to work.

We have seen the comp time. I worked on the clock. I drove a truck. I was a warehouseman, I was a lumber worker, I was a longshoreman, I was a waiter. Overtime was what was important as I worked my way through college and worked to keep my family's income high enough to support my family. The comp time bill will eliminate overtime. You will then get time off when the employer finds that there is time that things are slow. That is not fair. People need overtime. Low wage workers look forward to overtime. That is the only way they are able to make ends meet.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say that we must continue to push. June 24 is a time that we should all come together.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the minority whip to allow him to wrap up this outstanding job that he has done.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to applaud working Americans who on Wednesday, June 24th will make their support for the right to organize a union heard nationwide. They will share with us their desire to improve their working conditions and how unions have helped them achieve their goals for a better workplace. They will emphasize the fact that organizing unions is a basic legal right of all Americans. I believe that it is also a basic need for working Americans. Workers need to have the ability to join together and promote policies which advance their best interests. If workers are unable to express their views in an organized way, their voices will be silenced. Many companies and industry leaders support unions.

However, still others work to keep unions out of their shops and factories in an effort to

silence the voices of their employees. For example, it has been documented that 77 percent of employers distribute anti-union literature and 50 percent of employers in one study threatened to fire all workers if they joined a union. Such anti-union efforts harm the working American in many ways. First, on average non-union workers earn 33 percent less than their union counterparts.

Second, these activities hamper the ability of working Americans to express their views on their work experience to their employer. And most importantly, anti-union efforts block working Americans from being involved with industry decisions that affect their lives and the lives of their families.

The Republican-led Congress has done their part to suppress the voices raised in support of working Americans. They have attempted to pass legislation which would have eliminated the ability of working families to participate in political activity cloaked under the guise of campaign finance reform.

They have attacked the National Labor Relations Board, the body responsible for enforcing the National Labor Relations Act. And because those efforts have been unsuccessful, they have sought to overturn the National Labor Relations Act itself. We have seen the TEAM Act which allows the employer to select the negotiating team for the employees which would give the employer, the boss, unfair advantage in the negotiations. In an attempt to repeal *Davis-Bacon*, the prevailing wage law here in the District of Columbia for school construction there is a move to pass a law which will eliminate salting, a person who is a union member working at a non-union shop who on his or her own time tries to encourage people to consider becoming a member of a union. The Republican Party is opposing the proposed increase in the minimum wage. The Comp Time Bill which eliminates overtime because workers will be required to work overtime at straight time and will be given comp time at a later time.

The stakes are high. With all the anti-union sentiment among employers and the support that they have here among the Republican leadership in Congress, workers now more than ever before, must be empowered to advocate for and effect change in their working conditions.

There is no doubt that without unions, we will silence the average hard-working American. Such silence will only widen the income gap and increase the number of dissatisfied workers. That is why June 24th is important.

On that day we must celebrate those who have come together and worked for better representation and respect through union involvement. We also must make more Americans aware of their right to organize and help them not to be discouraged by their employers in their effort to organize.

In closing, I urge my colleagues here in Congress to support American workers everywhere by recognizing and celebrating the importance of union organization on Wednesday, June 24th.

Mr. BONIOR. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, let me just conclude with this final remark. The people that we are talking about tonight are the people who take care of our children in day care, the right for them to organize; the people who take care of our

parents and grandparents in elder care, the people who clean our offices, the people who make our roads and our bridges and build our buildings. These are the workers of the country. They have a right, a fundamental American, democratic right to come together and to organize and to bargain for their work, for decent wages, for good benefits. They are a part of the community. What we are saying this evening is that their rights to bargain collectively together, to organize, are being impeded in a way that none of us thought was possible nor would happen when the laws were developed, taking 2, 3, 4, 5, sometimes 6 and 7 years to get organized by the National Labor Relations Board because of all the loopholes in the law today. We need to come together as a community, religious leaders, civic leaders, political leaders, and stand up and say, "This is wrong. Folks have a right to come together and to organize."

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. CARSON (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of official business.

Mr. OWENS, (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of business in the district.

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 Mrs. MINK of Hawaii) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. CONYERS, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. MINGE, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. BERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. FROST, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. POMEROY, 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.

Mr. BONIOR, for 60 minutes, today.

Mr. OWENS, for 60 minutes, today.

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

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, for 5 minutes, on June 23.

Mr. MILLER of Florida, for 5 minutes, on June 23.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, on June 23.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PAYNE, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

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

(The following Members (at the request of Mrs. MINK of Hawaii) and to include extraneous material:)

Mr. KANJORSKI.
Mr. LIPINSKI.
Mr. PASCRELL.
Mr. ROTHMAN.
Mr. McDERMOTT.
Mr. BERMAN.
Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
Mr. KIND.
Mr. ACKERMAN.
Mr. MILLER of California.
Mr. PAYNE.
Mr. CONYERS.
Mr. RAHALL.

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

Mr. BOB SCHAEFFER of Colorado.
Mr. McCOLLUM.
Mr. GILMAN.
Mr. DELAY.
Mrs. EMERSON.
Mr. HORN.
Mr. GUTKNECHT.
Mr. COBLE.
Mr. BLILEY.

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

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
Mr. HALL of Texas.
Mr. ABERCROMBIE.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 28 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 23, 1998, at 9 a.m. for morning hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

9773. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting a notice of the Final Funding Priorities for Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1232(f); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

9774. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—Notice of Final Funding Priorities for Fiscal Years 1998-1999 for Certain Centers and Projects—received June 19, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

9775. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards [Docket No. NHTSA 98-3949] (RIN: 2127-AG58) received June 15, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

9776. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—License Applications for Certain Items Containing Byproduct Material (RIN: 3150-AF76) received June 17, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

9777. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting a copy of Transmittal No. 15-98 which is regarding Amendment 2 to the Agreement between the U.S. and Israel for the Arrow Deployability Program (ADP), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

9778. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report of Political contributions by nominees as chiefs of mission, ambassadors at large, or ministers, and their families, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3944(b)(2); to the Committee on International Relations.

9779. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

9780. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-369, "Police Officers, Fire Fighters, and Teachers Retirement Benefit Replacement Plan Act of 1998," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

9781. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-370, "International Fuel Tax Agreement Amendment Act of 1998," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

9782. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-368, "Public Employee Relations Board Amendment Act of 1998," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

9783. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-359, "Uniform Statutory Form Power of Attorney Act of 1998," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

9784. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-362, "Eastern Market Open Air Retailing Second Temporary Act of 1998," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

9785. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-361, "Moratorium on the Issuance of New Retailer's Licenses Class B and Closing of a Public Alley in Square 5259, S.O. 92-45, Applicant Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 1998," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

9786. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-360, "Designation of Excepted Service Positions Temporary Amendment Act of 1998," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

9787. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-358, "Library and Public Housing Drug Free Zone Amendment Act of 1998," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-