

WHAT AMERICAN FAMILIES NEED

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, last night the President laid out a blueprint that addresses the needs of America's family in his strong State of the Union address. He laid out a blueprint to start protecting Social Security and make sure that it is on financial safe footing in the 21st century.

He laid out a plan for managed care reform that for the first time will make sure that those individuals who are receiving medical care through managed care are, in fact, getting the medical care that they need and that they deserve, given their ailments and not that which is decided by bookkeepers and CEOs and shareholders who have nothing to do with the delivery of medical care, those very same people who are overriding the judgment of doctors who ask that their patients be taken care of in one manner and the managed care organizations decide that they will not do that. That is what America's families need.

He also addressed the need for expanded child care so that American families can continue to participate in the economic system of this country and support their families and know that their children are safe, know that their children are receiving child development and afterschool programs for these same children.

Mr. Speaker, this is what America's families need. It is what the President addressed.

SUPPORT FOR RENAMING NATIONAL AIRPORT SHOULD BE BIPARTISAN

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we saw a demonstration on the differences between the Republican and the Democrat parties.

We had, last night, the President of the United States as our guest in this Chamber. The President was received warmly by Republicans. They clapped, they were very polite, no snickering when he talked about responsibility and personal stuff like that. We were cordial, and we did not mention anything about "you know who."

Now, the same day, the Republicans pushed forward naming the National Airport after Ronald Reagan. He was our leader. We are very proud of him. He was not a perfect president. He did stand tough against the Soviet Union. He created jobs and brought down inflation and did a lot of good things. He won a clean reelection. We are proud of our president.

But, Mr. Speaker, every single one of the Democrats on the Committee on

Transportation and Infrastructure, on a simply partisan basis, voted against naming the National Airport after Ronald Reagan. And yet did we turn around last night and show what we felt? No, we were very gentlemanly and did the right thing.

I would ask our Democrat counterparts to consider their conduct, because if they want to play partisanship, it is a lot more interesting to talk about this administration than Ronald Reagan's.

STANDING WITH THE PRESIDENT FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, last night the message of the President of the United States was a very strong message. It was a visionary message full of vision and promise for America.

Last night, the American people heard from America's President. He offered for the first time in 30 years a balanced budget. He spoke about the sacred privileges of the patient-physician relationship and demanded that intrusive, hard-knuckled accountants and others who want to look at the numbers do not interfere with good health care in America.

He talked to mothers and fathers who needed child care to raise their children right. He talked about rebuilding our crumbling schools and making a commitment to work with local governments and jurisdictions. And, yes, he emphasized that there is something valuable to every American having affordable housing.

Mr. Speaker, I heard one of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle define the President's program last night in speaking to the public as "left leaning." If that is left leaning, I do not want to be right. I want to stand with the American President and the American people and make their lives better for the 21st century.

CONGRESS SHOULD HONOR RONALD REAGAN

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, it will be a fitting tribute when this Congress recognizes the achievements of former President Ronald Reagan by renaming Washington, D.C.'s National Airport in his honor.

Let us recall the challenges our Nation faced when President Reagan took office: an economic crisis, a demoralized and weak military at home. Our allies abroad mistrusted us. The Cold War raged as country after country was falling under the yoke of the Communist Soviet Union. Americans were losing our unique confidence and optimism about the future.

President Reagan conquered all of these challenges. In the process he restored the majesty, the dignity, the moral authority, and our respect for the office of the presidency.

President Ronald Reagan's principled leadership looms even larger today. Let our country honor him and the values he upheld.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH IN CALIFORNIA'S 46TH DISTRICT CONTESTED ELECTION

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call for an end to the contested election in the 46th District of California. Enough is enough.

It is unfortunate that our second session is starting out much the same as our first session did. Members of the Republican leadership are publicly making unsubstantiated assertions about illegal voting in the 46th District and about the involvement of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ).

The facts, however, tell a different story. The facts are that the grand jury investigating this matter for 13 months found no credible evidence on which to base a criminal prosecution, not one, although Hermandad was called a criminal organization in this House on this floor. No conspiracy to commit voter fraud was found. The Orange County District Attorney had a thorough and fair investigation. It yielded no indictments.

The facts are that the Committee on House Oversight asked Secretary Jones to investigate a list. He gave us that list back and he said that he could not vouch for any list because he did not know how it was put together. Let us end this sad event in our Congress' history.

AFTER FIVE YEARS, AMERICANS SHOULD REMEMBER THE PLIGHT OF PANAMANIAN KIDNAP VICTIMS

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

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday marks the 5-year anniversary of the kidnapping of three American missionaries in South America. On January 31, 1993, armed bandits descended upon the Panamanian village of Pucuro and kidnapped Dave Mankins, Mark Rich, and Rick Tenenoff in the presence of their wives and in the presence of their children.

The gunmen demanded \$1 million in return for the lives of these men, a demand that could not and should not be met.

Mr. Speaker, it has been 5 years since these women have seen their husbands, 5 years since these children have spent

Christmas with their fathers, yet this story has made little news and has sparked little protest.

Where is the sense of outrage in our country? Where is the sense of compassion?

Today on this anniversary, and throughout the year, let us remember these families and pray and work for their immediate release.

TIME TO CALL AN END TO SANCHEZ INVESTIGATION

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

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, simple equity would argue that we ought to end the Sanchez investigation and have Congress pay for the bills that we fostered upon the gentlewoman from California, hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees for a race she won by several hundred more votes than Speaker GINGRICH won his race by several years ago.

Mr. Speaker, if decency and honesty will not do it, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle should listen to their pollsters. The pollsters say they are driving Hispanic Americans out of the Republican party and away from Republican candidates in record numbers. Why? Because they see the oppression.

Mr. Speaker, we had charges on this floor during the debate of fraud and other criminal activities, all dismissed by local and State people in California. This woman has won this race. It is close to 14 months after the election. Decency would demand that we end this investigation, pay the legal bills, and stop the chicanery. Just because the gentlewoman is a woman Hispanic from California does not mean that my colleagues have the right to drag her through the mud for the entire two-year term. End this investigation.

THANKS TO COACH TOM OSBORNE OF THE NEBRASKA CORNHUSKERS ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, one of the great legends of college football retired this season. Dr. Tom Osborne has led the Nebraska Cornhuskers for the past 25 years, and everyone who has watched was saddened by his departure.

Tom Osborne is Cornhusker football. As a young man, I watched him on the sidelines. A man of honor and integrity, a true winner regardless of the outcome of the games.

I watched him coach through years of close games against Oklahoma, near misses for the National Championship, until finally in the past 5 years he has brought home three National Championship seasons, including this year.

More so than football, what Tom Osborne has provided our State of Nebraska and our Nation is a leader who has placed the character development of his young men ahead of their football skills. Tom Osborne never forgot the lessons he learned growing up in Hastings and St. Paul, Nebraska; lessons of faith, values, commitment, doing what you said you would do.

Mr. Speaker, we say to Coach Osborne: Coach, thanks for the memories. We are excited to see what is going to happen in the future. We know that even though you are retiring, you will continue to instill those lessons of faith, character, and development and doing what you said you would do into the young lives of Nebraskans and all America.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CONGRES- SIONAL INTERN PROGRAM

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor to welcome Members home to Washington as we begin the 1998 session and to once again invite those who live in the city to call me if they need help from local government.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Members who took high school volunteer interns in September when the schools were closed for repair work. Many Members heaped praise on the performance of those D.C. high school interns. They were thrilled by the opportunity to work in Members' offices. The distance between official Washington and hometown Washington disappeared.

We were so impressed by the benefits to all concerned that we have now established a permanent D.C. Congressional Intern program. Interns will compete and be screened and oriented before being assigned to Members. The best and the brightest will be recommended to do such tasks as answering phones, sorting mail, filing, and computer searches.

Almost 100 Members of the House and Senate have already signed up to take interns. I ask Members whether they would like to help a kid from D.C. and get extra help for their office as well.

The program will go from February 3 to May 25. Please call my office and get a free D.C. high school intern.

□ 1330

THE IRS

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

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, the American people now know that the Internal Revenue Service has been breaking the law for over 10 years. Recently the IRS admitted the use of quotas. Charles Rossotti, the present IRS Commissioner, said, this demonstrates that the Agency has failed to strike the

proper balance. It shows the IRS has put too much emphasis on revenue and not enough emphasis on quality customer service and respect for taxpayers' rights.

Frankly, ever since the taxpayers' Bill of Rights 10 years ago, this out-of-control Agency has never struck a balance on anything. The only thing they have struck is fear and intimidation into the hearts of every taxpaying American. This Congress must roll back and curtail the power of the Internal Revenue disservice. We must force this Agency to respect the constitutional rights of the American citizens.

CALL FOR AN END TO INVESTIGATION OF VOTER FRAUD

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, the grand jury in Orange County, with all of the available facts and documents and information at their disposal, did not find probable cause to issue even a single criminal indictment concerning voter fraud in LORETTA SANCHEZ's victory. The Republican California Secretary of state, who well over a year ago certified LORETTA SANCHEZ the winner after a painstaking recount, concluded in December that no new evidence warranted changing that result.

In fact, listen to what Secretary Jones had to say about the so-called evidence the Republicans sent to him, and I quote, "We don't know if they are illegal or not because we don't know the status of the individuals on the list or how the list was put together. I can't vouch for the list."

Let me repeat that, "I can't vouch for the list."

Mr. Speaker, that is what we Democrats have been saying all along. This so-called evidence is useless and worthless and nothing more than an attack on Hispanic voters in the Nation. It is time to end this investigation and the enormous amount of taxpayer dollars spent.

UNFAIRNESS IN THE TAX CODE: THE MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY

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

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, today I want to raise the issue of the marriage tax penalty. Let me just frame this issue by asking some very simple questions. Do Americans feel that it is fair that a married working couple with two incomes pays higher taxes than a similar couple living together outside a marriage? Do Americans feel that it is fair that the average married working couple, two incomes, pays \$1,400 more in higher taxes? Do Americans feel that it is fair that our Tax Code actually provides an incentive to get divorced? In fact, the only way a married