

In the next 81 days, we will vote on the following 10 items:

No. 1, a balanced-budget amendment and line-item veto;

No. 2, a new crime bill to stop violent criminals;

No. 3, welfare reform to encourage work, not dependency;

No. 4, family reinforcement to crack down on deadbeat dads and protect our children;

No. 5, tax cuts for families to lift Government's burden from middle-class people;

No. 6, national-security restoration to protect our freedoms;

No. 7, Senior Citizens Equity Act to allow our seniors to work without Government penalty; and

No. 8, Government regulations and unfunded mandates;

No. 9, commonsense legal reform to end frivolous lawsuits; and

No. 10, congressional term limits to make Congress a citizen legislature.

This is our Contract With America.

#### CIVILITY DUE TO, AND FROM, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, as one of the three Members of Congress representing Fort Worth, TX, home of former Speaker Jim Wright, I rise to urge that Speaker GINGRICH take down his own words.

Last Friday, speaking to a Republican audience here in Washington, Speaker GINGRICH referred to former Speaker Wright as a "crook." In my opinion, such a comment does harm to the office of Speaker—both past and present.

The truth of the matter is that former Speaker Wright served this body with dedication during his 34 years as a Member and 2½ years as Speaker.

Contrary to the remarks made last Friday, Speaker Wright was never convicted of a crime nor was he even ever charged with a crime in court. Additionally, though ethics charges were lodged against him with the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, that committee never ruled against him on the merits of those charges.

It is my opinion that the current Speaker, Mr. GINGRICH, would serve both his own party and this House by desisting from making such references as he did when in the minority.

The country expects a degree of civility from the presiding officer of this body.

I, for one, have always respected the leaders of the opposition party even when I disagreed with them on the merits of an issue. It would serve the Nation if our Speaker would do the same.

#### TIME TO DO AWAY WITH BURDENSOME REGULATIONS

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, history was made on the opening day here in Congress.

We passed sweeping reforms to not only change the rules of the House but also to make Congress adhere to laws governing the rest of the country.

But now the question is, Mr. Speaker: Do we really need so many regulations? Compliance under some of these strict rules and regulations which are mandated by OSHA, the Americans With Disabilities Act, and all of this massive legislation we passed in the last 150 years is forcing companies to either downsize their work force or go out of business entirely, as we speak.

Many small business are struggling under the yoke of overburdensome regulations and rules. They make it virtually impossible for them to operate.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the action taken thus far by Congress to bring this body into the mainstream, but I also think the time is now to do away with many of these needless rules and regulations that are already in existence.

#### WATCHING OUT FOR THE SPECIAL INTEREST OF MA AND PA CITIZEN

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

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, Will Rogers always had a down home way of making light of politics and particularly Members of Congress. Mr. Rogers held no punches for either party saying of the Democratic party, "you've got to be an optimist to be a Democrat, and you've got to be a humorist to stay one." He also had this to say of the Republican party, "Republicans take care of the big money, and big money takes care of them. It takes nerve to be a Democrat, but it takes money to be a Republican." This quote rings so clearly today.

Mr. Speaker, who was invited to the Republican gala for the Contract With America? Was it ma and pa citizen? No, it was Mr. and Mrs. special interest.

Mr. Speaker, who was invited to the gentleman from Georgia's closed door telecommunications dinner? Was it ma and pa citizen? No, it again was Mr. and Mrs. special interest.

So as we debate legislation here in the people's House, it is time to look who has the special interest of ma and pa citizen at heart and who just has special interests.

#### STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

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

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, with children dying in our Nation's streets, liberal Democratic leaders lament a book deal that even the Washington Post admits is proper, and while working men and women across the land struggle to survive until their next paycheck, liberal Democratic leaders ignore their plight and, instead, chatter incessantly over contrived, imaginary scandals.

And while conservatives on both sides of the aisle boldly forge ahead into a new frontier of federalism, liberal Democratic leaders continue to engage in a desperate, ham-fisted attempt to create a crisis, change the subject, and obstruct the latest great piece of congressional reform.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for all Members of Congress to step forward regardless of what aisle they stand on, stand up, be counted, and debate the issues that will actually affect the lives of those men and women that sent us to Congress to make a difference.

#### PASS THE UNFUNDED MANDATE REFORM BILL

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, a woman was arrested in Sweden for smuggling. She had 65 snakes in her brassiere. She said she was going to start a reptile farm.

Now, imagine if that happened in America: The IRS would declare her brassiere a small business and tax it, the OSHA would fine the bra-holder for an unsafe workplace, EPA would mandate a wastewater treatment plant in her brassiere, and the Interior Department would take the bra-holder to court for an illegal snake sanctuary, violating the Endangered Species Act.

But it is not all bad. The bra-holder may qualify for dairy subsidies under the ag bill.

The bottom line is, Mr. Speaker, let us pass the unfunded mandate bill and give business and Government the support and comfort they deserve before Wonder Bra takes all members of Congress to court.

#### WHAT IS THE GOAL OF THE ADMINISTRATION?

(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, last week a Member of the President's Cabinet declared that balancing the budget was not the goal of the Clinton administration.

So what is the administration's goal, if it is not a balanced budget? Is it to continue mortgaging our children's future? Is it to continue financing a Government that is too big and too intrusive into our lives?