

RELIEF FOR AMERICA'S  
STRUGGLING FARMERS

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

Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, yesterday afternoon I joined the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BOB SMITH) and the Speaker of the House in announcing a much needed relief package for America's struggling farmers. This \$3.9 billion package is a broad-based attempt to help all producers throughout this Nation who have suffered from both low prices and natural disasters.

The package includes \$2.25 billion that will be used to address crop disaster losses and \$1.65 billion that will go to farmers eligible for Freedom to Farm contracts.

I was thoroughly disappointed, though, in the lukewarm response our package received from our Nation's Secretary of Agriculture. His promotion of a more limited package that has failed in the Senate 4 times is alarming.

Mr. Secretary, please give our package a fair view. Take partisan gamesmanship out of the equation. Substance must take precedent over rhetoric. And by the way, I would urge you to use the Export Enhancement Program. In the last 3 years you have sat on over \$1 billion that should be used to open world markets to our producers. The time to act is now.

□ 1315

## ELECTION YEAR DEMAGOGUERY

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

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, what a difference an election year makes. Just last year, most Democrats worked with Republicans to balance the budget and cut taxes. But how soon they forget.

Last summer, they voted to cut taxes while we had a budget deficit. Apparently, according to Democrats, cutting taxes when you have a deficit does not threaten Social Security, but when you cut taxes in times of a budget surplus, suddenly they say that threatens Social Security.

This is a classic, classic example of election year demagoguery. We see the Democrats embrace demagoguery over Social Security every election year as sure as night follows day.

It is hard to know whether the Democrats are exploiting Social Security because they oppose tax cuts or because they just cannot resist scaring seniors yet again about Social Security.

Lies about cuts in Medicare are now followed by absurd charges that what will happen to Social Security if people are allowed to keep a little bit more of what already belongs to them. What a difference an election makes year makes, Mr. Speaker.

DO NOT CENSOR GRAND JURY  
TAPES

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, some people want us to censor the tapes of the President's Grand Jury testimony. We should not be in the business of censoring things for partisan political purposes.

The same people who want us to censor the President's tapes would scream to high heavens if we had refused to release the Nixon tapes.

As U.S.A. Today, the Washington Post, and many publications and columnists have pointed out, these difficulties were not brought on by enemies of the administration. We should not do anything to cover up perjury. We should not censor these tapes.

## RECHARGE IMF

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

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, agriculture needs to have the International Monetary Fund recharged so that our markets in Asia and elsewhere can once again become stable trading partners.

Yet, we have heard some say Congress should not recharge the reserves because the IMF has not been successful in helping ailing currencies.

The causes of Asia's currency problems are far too complex to lay blame, entire blame with the IMF. However, there is a simple truth: When Asia's economies suffer, so do American exports and jobs.

We must redefine our relationship with the IMF so that we get a better accounting of how our limited tax dollars are used. Yet, reforming this relationship and recharging the IMF's reserves do not need to cancel each other. The House should follow the Senate's lead in approving IMF's recharge, while at the same time placing conditions on the use of these funds.

The sooner Asia's currency is rebound, the sooner agriculture can export our surpluses.

## START HELPING OUR FARMERS

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

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, "if American agriculture does not grow, it dies." Those are the words of the current Secretary of Agriculture.

I represent a district with some of the richest farmland in America, the 5th district of Washington State. I know firsthand that the growth of world markets for Washington wheat and other commodities is essential to the survival of our farmers.

Secretary Glickman's words do not match the actions or, better said, the inactions of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Our government has failed miserably to aggressively address the increasingly aggressive trade policies of competing nations which are glad to help their farmers capture markets abroad. Yet our government does not use the tools Congress made available to this administration to allow our farmers to compete against other governments who help their farmers.

This administration cuts agriculture research funding, opposes free market farmer assistance, will not use the export enhancement program, resist tax relief for farmers, and slashes the Foreign Market Development Program.

Mr. Secretary, please start helping our farmers.

REDUCE THE BURDEN ON  
AMERICAN FAMILIES

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the cog wheel of liberal logic has just a few teeth missing. It seems that my Democratic colleagues on the other side of the aisle are complaining because Republicans want to use one thin dime of each dollar of the budget surplus to reduce the burden on hard working middle class taxpayers.

Of course the liberal Democrats whine and complain because this means they cannot spend money to grow a more expensive, more intrusive Federal bureaucracy. Well because this is not salable to the American public, their latest claim is that they want to use the entire surplus to save Social Security.

Mr. Speaker, it is these very same liberals who are the reason Social Security is going bankrupt. They are the ones that continually borrowed from the trust fund to promote their dying social agendas, only to replace the money with their favorite three letters, IOU.

Let us allow hard-working Americans to keep some of the money they have earned. Let us allow a couple to marry without being punished by the IRS. Let us allow the self-employed to finally afford health insurance by deducting 100 percent of the cost. Let us support our children, our families, our marriages. Let us support America's future.

Mr. Speaker, we can do all this and still save Social Security. No longer is it IOU, but it is our commitment to the future.

## AGRICULTURE RELIEF PACKAGE

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

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, American farmers are facing the hardest times they have had in years, and