

Nonetheless, family-planning opponents in this chamber vowed to strike the UNFPA provision within the overall bill before us today, claiming UNFPA support programs knowingly and intentionally participate in the management of forced abortion and sterilization in China.

While that portion of the bill greatly troubles me, I would like to convey my support for many of the other initiatives contained in this bill. The positive components of this bill include: increases in contributions to the poorest countries worldwide, new programs designed to improve the lives of Afghan women, a fund to allocate increased aid to international peacekeeping activities, and an increase of financial support for the Peace Corps and refugee assistance.

While we had a real chance today to make some significant changes to the way we provide assistance to women in other countries, I cannot deny the importance of so many other initiatives we've made available today. I rise in support of the bill and will work with like-minded colleagues and advocates to improve this bill before it comes back before us as a conference report.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2004 AND 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1950) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for the fiscal years 2004 and 2005, to authorize appropriations under the Arms Export Control Act and the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for security assistance for fiscal years 2004 and 2005, and for other purposes:

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my strong support for the amendment offered by my colleague from Colorado, which is designed to force the government of Indonesia to do what until now it has utterly failed to do—bring to justice the murderers who killed two American citizens and wounded eight others in Papua, Indonesia, in August of 2002.

Among the victims of that tragic attack were Ted Burgon of Sunriver, Oregon, and Rick Spier of Colorado, both of whom lost their lives. Ted's wife, Nancy Burgon, was wounded in the ambush, as were Ken Balk and Sandra Hopkins, also of Sunriver, and their young daughter, Taia. A number of other members of their party suffered injuries at the hands of the terrorists who perpetrated this cowardly attack.

Mr. Chairman, despite the time that has elapsed since the tragedy in Indonesia, the murderers of Burgon and Spier have not been brought to justice. Perhaps most disturbingly, there seems to have been little effort on the part of the Indonesian government, which receives substantial aid from the people of the United States, to ensure that these killers are made to pay for their crimes. Indeed, strong evidence suggests that government officials have actively thwarted the American investigation into the attack. This amendment is intended to correct this inequity.

Mr. Chairman, since the attack occurred, evidence has been brought to light suggesting that members of the Indonesian military, and not a rogue band of criminals, bears responsibility for the ambush. Following the attack, the Indonesian police conducted an inquiry and ultimately issued a report asserting that, "there is a strong possibility that the [attack] was perpetrated by members of the Indonesian National Army Force." Indeed, the attack occurred less than a half-mile away from an Indonesian military checkpoint. Moreover, various news services have reported that U.S. intelligence agencies have intercepted messages between Indonesian military officials implicating army personnel in the attack.

Mr. Chairman, from the beginning Indonesian authorities have been less than cooperative in assisting with the FBI investigation into the murders. Investigative agents were denied the opportunity to interview witnesses without Indonesian authorities present and were not permitted to bring forensic evidence back to the United States for analysis. It is my firm belief that if prosecuting the murderers of American citizens on Indonesian soil is not a priority for the government of Indonesia, they should not expect to receive assistance from the people of the United States.

My colleague's amendment would prevent Indonesia from receiving International Military Education and Training (IMET) funds until the President certifies to Congress that the Indonesian government and the Indonesian military are cooperating with American authorities in their investigation into the attack. Given the strong possibility that members of the Indonesian military were involved in the ambush, it would be an affront to the memory of Ted Burgon and Rick Spier, as well as the grieving families they left behind, to continue providing funding to the Indonesian armed forces. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TYLER BENTON BALES

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2003

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, two and a half years ago, a dear boy in Salem named Tyler Benton Bales lost his battle with a rare genetic disease called Hurler Syndrome.

Although I never had the pleasure of knowing him, Tyler was somewhat of a celebrity in Salem. In fact, he was the subject of a front page article in the Salem Statesmen Journal in December of 2001, when a silent auction was held to raise money to offset the cost of an expensive bone marrow transplant that was his only chance to beat Hurlers Syndrome.

Unfortunately, Tyler's heart was not strong enough to survive the rigors of his transplant and chemotherapy. This sweet boy was only sixteen months old when he passed away.

The heartache of Tyler's loss did not ease for his parents.

As if it were not hard enough to lose your sixteen month old child, the Bales later learned—courtesy of the Internal Revenue Service—that someone was claiming Tyler as a dependent on their 2000 income tax return.

As disturbing as that was, the story got worse.

Because of disclosure issues, the IRS would not give out the name of the identity thief to the Salem Police Department, even though identity theft is a felony offense in Oregon. To date, two and one half years later, the Bales still do not know the identity of this thief. Because of current laws, the Bales and Salem Police Department will never know who stole their son's personal information.

Mr. Speaker, we can't even begin to imagine the anguish this family went through.

Tyler Benton Bales was so much more than a name, a date of birth, and a Social Security number—he was a little boy who was surrounded by love during his brief time with us. His parents—and the countless number of other people who loved him—should not see his memory dishonored by a common thief whose identity could not legally be disclosed by the IRS.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I am reintroducing the "ID Theft Loophole Closure Bill." This legislation simply changes the law to allow the IRS to furnish the name, Social Security number and address of a suspected identity thief to state and local law enforcement agencies for the exclusive purpose of locating the individual.

Just last Thursday the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security conducted hearings on the use and misuse of social security numbers. It is my hope that this legislation will be forwarded to the subcommittee as they seek to address ways to curb fraud and the theft of social security numbers.

Identity theft is not a victimless crime, although thieves don't put a gun to your head. We must cut through red tape that is preventing thieves from being prosecuted for their crimes, and I believe this legislation is the right tool for the job. I urge my colleagues to support the "ID Theft Loophole Closure Act," and yield the balance of my time.

THE AUTHOR, CONSUMER, AND COMPUTER OWNER PROTECTION AND SECURITY ACT OF 2003

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2003

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I join Representative JOHN CONYERS, JR. in introducing "The Author, Consumer, and Computer Owner Protection and Security Act of 2003" (ACCOPS Act).

The ACCOPS Act addresses the growing scourge of illegal activity on the Internet. Illegal activities online run the gamut from identity theft, distribution of child pornography, and unlicensed drug sales to stalking, fraud, trademark counterfeiting, and financial crimes.

Online copyright piracy, in particular, has gotten out of control. At any given moment, more than 4 million people are logged onto the single biggest peer to peer (P2P) file-swapping network, where they illegally traffic in over 850 million mostly-infringing files. P2P infringement of copyrighted music has garnered the most attention, but many other works, such as the latest Harry Potter book, are also widely infringed on P2P networks. On a daily basis, new web sites, with names such as Puretunes or Listen4ever, pop up offering