

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT

(Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, today the House will vote on H.R. 3402, the Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act.

I rise today to thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENBRENNER) for their leadership on this bill and to urge my colleagues to support it.

H.R. 3402 contains language from my bill, H.R. 283, the Bullying and Gang Prevention For School Safety and Crime Reduction Act of 2005. By adding this important provision, schools will be able to use Federal dollars to establish gang and bullying prevention programs in their schools and to teach kids not to use e-mail, instant messaging, or cell phones to make threats and insults, a disturbing new behavior known as "cyberbullying."

Studies show that 31 percent of junior high and high school students in urban areas and 21 percent of all students reported that street gangs were present at their schools and more than 3.2 million children are the victims of repeated bullying every year. That is one in every six students.

Bullying and gangs can be eliminated from our schools and H.R. 3402 is a tremendous step in the right direction. I urge all of my colleagues to vote for the bill.

## COMMENDING THE BARRETT FAMILY

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very special family in my district. Billy Jack and Anne Barrett and their six children recently experienced a life-changing event. They were chosen to receive a brand new home from the television show "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition."

I was amazed at the amount of work that went into replacing the Barretts' small family 101-year-old farmhouse with a 4,000-square foot two-story home, complete with red school house that Anne Barrett will use to continue home schooling the children.

The Barretts were selected for opening not only their hearts but their home to troubled children. In addition to their own two biological daughters, they adopted four high-risk teens who had been deemed unadoptable. They had seen the potential in these children and decided they would not give up on them as so many had.

The Barretts may not have the financial means or space to undertake their new responsibility; but with Christian

values, love and horses, they have produced a wonderful family. I would like to thank Keller Homes, Extreme Makeover, and the more than 6,000 people who volunteered to make this daunting challenge a reality. I would like to commend the Barrett family for the example that they set for all of us.

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT  
REWRITE

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, much of the gulf coast lies in ruins. Iraq is on the verge of a civil war. Government spending has spiraled out of control, leaving structural deficits as far as the eye can see; and we are in the midst of an energy crisis. With these and other challenges mounting, how does the Republican Congress respond? Of course, by gutting the Endangered Species Act.

They are using this time of mounting crises as a way to smuggle their long-held ideological goods through customs, the policies they can never enact because of the public's opposition to them.

This Congress sees an opportunity to reward their special interests by eliminating the backbone of our environmental laws. The Endangered Species Act needs reform and needs to be updated, but we should not throw the baby out with the bath water.

To add insult to injury, while it guts the very successful environmental policies, the bill will actually cost more than the current Endangered Species Act. CBO estimates that the administration costs will more than double. So much for smaller government.

Mr. Speaker, the American people want leadership, they want solutions to challenges confronting this Nation, not wholesale auction of everything we hold dear to the special interests.

When the Speaker's gavel comes down, it is intended to open the people's House, not the auction house.

## SIMPLE SCIENCE

(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, the simple, easy answer to any problem or solution is almost always wrong.

Today the simplistic, politically correct explanation for hurricanes Katrina and Rita is global warming. Yet simple, easy science is almost always wrong.

CNN reported a couple of days ago that the biggest, worst decade for hurricanes was the 1940s, long before there was any thought or theory or even mention of global warming. In addition, Max Mayfield, director of the National Hurricane Center, said in news stories and television reports that hurricanes are cyclical in nature. He said

it was wrong to invoke our alleged global warming without valid science or any hard science to back it up. Mr. Mayfield also noted the terrible hurricanes of the 1940s and the hurricane cycles.

The overly simple political science of global warming is just not accurate here, and people should not use the tragedy of these hurricanes to advance or promote political theories.

## AMERICANS DESERVE REAL ANSWERS

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, Americans were shocked by our government's response to Hurricane Katrina. They watched as days passed before the people of New Orleans were rescued from rooftops and attics or before those at the Superdome actually received food and water.

Americans rightly asked, if this is the way our government responds to a natural disaster it knew about days in advance, how would it respond to a surprise terrorist attack? How would it respond to an earthquake?

Americans now deserve and demand answers from an independent commission, not a partisan committee with a political agenda.

Creating this commission is not about a blame game. The purpose of this commission is not really about the past; it is about the future. It is about learning from our mistakes so that we assure that these mistakes are never repeated in this country.

The American people respected the 9/11 Commission because of its independence, and that is exactly what we need now.

## A BRAVE VICTORY

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, sometimes you just have to celebrate. Our Nation has seen remarkable challenges placed before it over the last few weeks; but our spirit is strong, our enthusiasm undaunted, and our optimism unwavering, and America's team has done it again.

From their beginnings in Boston in 1876 to their brief tenure in Milwaukee from 1953 to 1965 and now in their rightful home in Atlanta, they are the personification of the American spirit, demonstrating the glory of diligence, persistence, loyalty and unity.

Last evening the Atlanta Braves extended a record unparalleled in all of sports, capturing their 14th straight division championship. Think of the greatest accomplishments of any sports team in history and none of them compare to the length of success by these heroes of America's pastime.

Congratulations to general manager John Schuerholz and to manager Bobby Cox for their remarkable leadership through thick and thin. Congratulations to the players, from seasoned veterans to rookie contributors. All of them have given Atlanta, Georgia, and America, the thrill and privilege of witnessing their wondrous exploits.

You have blessed us all with your skill and passion. Congratulations to the Atlanta Braves.

#### EXIT STRATEGY

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, whether or not Iraq soon votes for a constitution, whether or not the Sunnis and the Shiites soon achieve peace, we in this Congress must soon take action for our Nation, for our troops, for our national interests to plan an exit strategy from Iraq and to commence it by October of 2006.

That is the purpose of House Joint Resolution 55, a bipartisan resolution which requires the administration to create an exit strategy so we are not going to be in Iraq forever, so we do not put our sons' and daughters' lives on the line forever, so we have a defined strategy to get out.

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It is time for us to take whatever bipartisan energy there is in this Chamber and direct it towards a new direction in Iraq, to bring our troops home, to involve the world community, to put an end to this sorry chapter of U.S. occupation.

#### ACROSS-THE-BOARD SPENDING REDUCTIONS

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, last week I received a call from a constituent, and she said, As you are looking at Hurricane Katrina, I want you to remember something. My grandmother used to say, Mind your pennies and your dollars will take care of themselves.

How very true, and in that regard, I filed three bills yesterday, one I think every Member of the House can decide they can support, H.R. 3903, H.R. 3904 and H.R. 3906. Each calls for across-the-board spending reductions in non-defense, non-homeland security discretionary spending.

H.R. 3903 is a 1 percent reduction which would be a \$4 billion savings for the year. Two percent is the H.R. 3904 bill. That is an \$8 billion savings. \$21.5 billion could be saved with H.R. 3906, which is a 5 percent reduction.

One of the things we know, Mr. Speaker, is that across-the-board reductions work. The bureaucrats in

buildings are called upon to be responsive to the taxpayers to account for how they are spending every single penny that they are being appropriated.

So I encourage all the Members of the body to join me in cosponsoring H.R. 3903, H.R. 3904 and H.R. 3906 and reduce our Federal outlays.

#### VAWA REAUTHORIZATION

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, I rise today to highlight the issue as it affects minority communities.

Although domestic violence is blind to race and ethnicity, racial and ethnic minority women, immigrant women, face unique challenges to reporting and getting help for domestic violence.

Just this morning, I learned that the manager's amendment to today's VAWA reauthorization bill strikes the language "racial and ethnic minorities" from the definition of underserved communities.

After all the bipartisan work that we have been conducting for the past year on this particular reauthorization, I am outraged that at the last minute, Republican leadership is shortchanging women of color who are victims of domestic violence.

We must acknowledge the devastating effect that domestic violence has on all communities, community of colors. That means African Americans, Latinos and Asians and all other ethnic groups.

Our efforts to educate the public about domestic violence must directly address factors like cultural differences, linguistic differences and immigration status. By removing this language, we are exacerbating the problem of domestic violence in communities of color.

My hope is that the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act is comprehensive and meets all the needs of all women in our country.

#### BUSINESS ACTIVITY TAX SIMPLIFICATION ACT

(Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Bo Horne lives with his wife in Seneca, South Carolina, where they operate a small business from their home. It is their piece of the American dream.

In 1997, they sold a computer software license to a customer in New Jersey for \$695, and even though Mr. Horne has no employees or no real property in New Jersey, this one-time sale triggers a New Jersey State law requiring Mr. Horne to pay \$600 in taxes and fees every year on the software as long as it remains in use. This tax is stifling to

small business investments and entrepreneurs across the country.

Mr. Horne stated yesterday in his testimony before the House Committee on the Judiciary that he is speaking up because of thousands of small businesses that are totally unaware of the risks. Mr. Horne also highlighted a commonsense bill that I am a proud cosponsor of, H.R. 1956, the Business Activity Tax Simplification Act, as introduced by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE). It protects small businesses by requiring them to be physically present in the State before they are subject to taxes by the State.

I urge my colleagues to stand up for small businesses by supporting this important legislation, and I thank Mr. Horne for his hard work.

#### POLITICAL HACKS

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. The Bush-Rove administration has delivered cronyism, incompetence and corruption in spades. Mike "you're-doing-a-heck-of-a-job-Brownie" Brown is the poster child for the hundreds of unqualified, often incompetent, political hacks chosen to head, to demean, demoralize and dismantle critical Federal agencies like FEMA.

Then there is the corruption side. Mr. Brown, as he was resigning, at the same time one of his buddies, David Safarian, the head of Federal procurement for the entire government of the United States, \$300 billion a year, is being led out of the White House in handcuffs for perjury, influence peddling and bribery, but he did his job till the end as a Bush political appointee. Before they drug him out in handcuffs, he let billions of dollars in no-bid contracts, awarded to Halliburton and other favorites of this administration.

Good job, Mr. Safarian. I hope prison is a good reward for you.

#### U.S. TROOPS DELIVER VICTORY AGAINST AL QAEDA

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Iraqi security forces and coalition soldiers this week delivered a striking blow to al Qaeda terrorists in Iraq. By killing Abu Azzam, a top aide to Abu al-Zarqawi, our troops have achieved yet another critical victory in the war on terrorism.

Azzam led the largest group of al Qaeda in Iraq fighters in Fallujah during autumn 2004 and directed current terrorist activity and operations in Baghdad. As a leader of the Iraq terrorist network, he served as the brains behind numerous attacks on our troops and Iraqi citizens. Not anymore.

The recent victory demonstrates that American soldiers are skilled, focused