

Giving into fear and apprehension, in 1798 the Alien and Sedition Acts were enacted by the federalist-controlled Congress, allegedly in response to hostile actions of the French Government. In actuality, these laws were designed to destroy Thomas Jefferson's Republican Party, which had openly expressed its sympathies for the French revolutionaries.

Contrary to our notions of freedom, the Alien Act and the Alien Enemies Act gave the President the power to imprison or deport aliens suspected of activities posing a threat to the national government or the national security.

Undermining our belief in openness, the Sedition Act declared that any treasonable activity, including the publication of "any false, scandalous and malicious writing," was a high misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment.

Later, almost predictably, when the economy in this country took a downturn in the 1880s, the Asian community became the target of politicians looking for someone to blame. In 1882, Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act to keep out all people of Chinese origin.

During World War II, Japanese Americans were the well-known target of the government's submission to fear, apprehension, and greed.

Also, during this time, which is not very well-known, 10,000 Italian Americans were forced to relocate, and 3,278 were incarcerated while nearly 11,000 German Americans were incarcerated.

German and Italian Americans were restricted during World War II by government measures that branded them enemy aliens and required identification cards, travel restrictions, seizure of personal property as well.

In the post-9/11 world, we need to protect our Nation and our civil liberties more than ever.

I am concerned that rather than learn from our past we are progressively weakening our civil liberties for tokens of security as evidenced by the PATRIOT Act, the NSA wiretapping, and our treatment of so-called "enemy combatants" in Guantanamo. These are just a few of today's troubling trends.

Mr. Speaker, we live again in a time of fear and apprehension. Our civil liberties have not been as threatened since World War II. As political leaders, it is our duty to uphold constitutional principles.

Let us remember what Benjamin Franklin said during his time of fear and apprehension. He said, "Those who would give up a little bit of security, a little bit of liberties for a little bit of security deserve neither."

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WESTMORELAND). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. WELDON of Florida addressed the House. His remarks will appear

hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### STRAIGHT TALK ON EDUCATION

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order for 5 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KELLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, I had the honor and privilege of being selected as chairman of the 21st Century Competitiveness Subcommittee on the Education and Workforce Committee, which has jurisdiction over higher education.

I am here to give the American people some straight talk about higher education. Some have said we might have cut financial aid for college students. The truth is we have expanded access to college for our neediest students through the record growth of the Pell grant program.

Pell grants are the foundation of Federal student aid. As someone who attended college with the help of Pell grants and as chairman of the Pell Grant Caucus, I know how important they are for our Nation's low-income students.

Since I was elected to Congress in 2000, Pell grant funding has increased by 74 percent, from \$7.6 billion to \$13.2 billion today. The maximum grant has gone from \$3,300 in 2000 to \$4,050 today, the highest level in the program's history. The number of students receiving Pell grants has increased from 3.9 million in 2000 to 5.5 million today. We have paid down the Pell grant shortfall and secured this great program for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, the straight talk is that Pell grants are helping more students go to college than ever before. My colleagues on both sides of the aisle realize that a first-class education is a child's passport out of poverty.

As chairman of the 21st Century Competitiveness Subcommittee, I will fight to make sure that all children, rich or poor, have the opportunity to go to college and realize their American Dream.

I look forward very much to working with my Democratic and Republican colleagues in a bipartisan manner to make higher education better for all of our students in the future.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. INSLEE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### HONORING BUCK O'NEIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Missouri (Mr. CLEAVER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to first yield 1 minute to my colleague from Kansas (Mr. MOORE).

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed this week that Buck O'Neil of Kansas City was not inducted into the Hall of Fame of baseball.

Buck O'Neil was in the Negro Baseball League as a player and a manager for more than 17 years. Buck taught the people of the Kansas City metropolitan region about the importance of determination and resolve, sometimes in the face of hostility. Buck taught us about baseball; but more importantly, Buck taught us about life.

He is a wonderful role model, and I thank him for his contributions to baseball, to the Kansas City metropolitan region, and to the United States of America.

Buck O'Neil, you are a great American and a gentle man. You will always be a charter member of the Kansas City Hall of Fame.

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, this week Kansas City and our entire metropolitan area celebrated our hometown hero, Buck O'Neil, a Hall of Famer in our hearts. It is clear that the baseball Hall of Fame has made a terrible, shameful error in not inducting Buck on this ballot. As one of the Hall's own officials said, "The Hall of Fame is not complete without Buck O'Neil."

Buck is the reason 17 members of the Negro Leagues will be inducted this summer. Without his national visibility as an ambassador of the Negro Leagues, they would not have this honor. Without his efforts, very few would know the intimate details of segregated baseball in the United States during the 1930s, 1940s, and even into the 1950s.

Buck, the classy man that he is, will never complain about not being elected to the Hall. In fact, when told by reporters that he had not made it, he smiled and said, "That's the way the cookie crumbles." And so, on behalf of a community in tears, and a 94-year-old baseball legend, I will stand and complain.

The omission of Buck O'Neil was wrongheaded and an insult to Buck, the Negro Leagues, and baseball fans everywhere. Buck O'Neil is a man who has done more than anyone to popularize and keep alive the history of the Negro Leagues. The fact that he was not voted into baseball's Hall of Fame is a wrong that only Major League Baseball can make right, and I hope they will make it right next year.

This humble man, who is careful not to slight, has, in fact, been slighted, apparently by a single vote, by a group who looked shortsightedly at his batting average, but not at what he has done for the game of baseball. There is one thing for sure: Buck's exploits on the baseball diamond were not steroid-aided. At a time when the game of baseball is in search of credibility,