

we have got about 7 minutes, but I did want to point this out, at least this point of the oath of citizenship.

If this Nation is going to continue to be stronger, I would only submit to you the Hispanics that have settled in my district from Central America, from Mexico and assimilated, have made East Texas a better place in which to live.

I have some dear friends. As a judge I presided over the wedding of some dear Hispanic friends that had come in and assimilated. I am telling you, they have made Tyler, Texas, and East Texas a better place. They have assimilated. They are wonderful people. They bring family values, and they are strong in their faith and love and joy and mirth. It has just been wonderful. But they assimilated.

That would be the one thing I just wanted to add. Melting pot is the strength, and that is what we need to get back to.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Thank you, Mr. GOHMERT. I appreciate the gentleman coming to the floor at this hour of the evening to add to the dialogue here.

Mr. Speaker, I want to pick up with that. Certainly assimilation, we are the nation that has been successful in assimilation. The Israelis established their country in 1948, and in 1954 they established Hebrew as their official language. They did that because they needed a common language to tie them together.

I asked them, why did you do that? Where did you get that inspiration? They said, well, we saw the success the United States had with assimilation, so we wanted to adopt a similar policy.

They resurrected a language that wasn't used functionally other than in prayer for 2,000 years and put it in the workplace, and everyone that comes to Israel learns Hebrew, and that is how they tie themselves together as a nation.

But I would like to point out another statement that gets repeated that is not challenged often, and that is we can't replace all these workers, the ones that are here illegally. If we shut off the jobs magnet and they go home, we can't replace them.

Here are some numbers that one might work with to give us an idea on whether we can replace them or not. The Pew Foundation put out some numbers, this is a year ago, so they have raised them a little bit, but at that time they were working with 11 million illegals in America. 6.3 million of them were working. About the same proportion if you want to go to 12 million, but I don't have that factor figured in.

If you are going to replace the 6.3 million working illegals in the United States, the first place we would go would be the unemployment rolls. That is 17.5 million on unemployment. We are paying them not to work. One would think we could just simply pay them to work and replace the 6.3 million. Maybe they continue to have the

skills necessary and you can develop some skills in them, but there would be 7.5 million there in that category.

Then of those who have exhausted their unemployment benefits, that is another 5.2 million that are looking for work but they are not on the unemployment rolls. So we are at 12.7 million.

Another 9.3 million teenagers between the ages of 16 and 19 are not in the workforce, even on a part-time basis. We would go to them to help work in our fields, for example, and flip some burgers. Add to that 4.5 million who are the young seniors, ages 65 to 69. Some of those people would go to work if they didn't have a disincentive, Mr. Speaker.

Then of those between the ages of 20 and 64, the really prime work age, there is another 51 million in America that are simply not in the workforce. They could be retired, they could be working on the black market, they maybe are doing some kind of dishonest enterprise, but they are not in the workforce in any meaningful way. They would also become part of that force that we could hire from.

Added up altogether, 77.5 million non-working Americans between the ages of 16 and 69. We could surely tap one out of every 12.3 of those to fill the gap for the 6.3 million illegals that are working in this country. That is before we bring technology to bear. That is before we find other solutions for any kind of gaps we might have in our hiring practices. So there are solutions out here, Mr. Speaker.

And it is not true that there are jobs that Americans won't do. Americans are doing all of these jobs right now today. For example, in the construction business, 12 percent in the construction industry are illegal workers. Thirteen percent is the unemployment rate in the construction industry.

There are the other comparable rates. In those kind of sectors where there is a high concentration of illegals, there is also a high unemployment that corresponds with that. The reason is because those American workers have been displaced by cheaper labor and they can't afford to go do that work for that kind of money.

So, Mr. Speaker, there is piece after piece of this immigration issue that needs to be discussed. It is a very, very complicated issue. It is a very emotional issue. I stand on enforcement first. Let's establish that we can defend and protect our borders. Let's build a fence. Let's eliminate birthright for citizenship. Let's shut off the jobs magnet. Let's pass my New Idea bill, which removes the Federal deductibility for wages and benefits paid to illegals.

If we can do those things and establish that we can enforce the law in this country and respect for the law, then we can have a legitimate debate on what kind of workforce we need and where they need to come from.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MCGOVERN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. TANNER (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of a death in the family.

Ms. WATSON (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of a death in the family.

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of official business.

Mrs. EMERSON (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of inspecting tornado damage in her district.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MCCARTHY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RANGEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SOLIS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MCHENRY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DREIER, for 5 minutes, today and April 5 and 6.

Mr. MCHENRY, for 5 minutes, today and April 5, 6, and 7.

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, today and April 5, 6, and 7.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today, and April 5, 6, and 7.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, April 7.

Mr. KELLER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LATHAM, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DUNCAN, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REFERRED

A concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. Con. Res. 60. Concurrent resolution designating the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, Missouri, as America's

National Negro Leagues Baseball Museum; to the Committee on Resources.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 5, 2006, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6865. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Army, Case Number 05-02, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

6866. A letter from the Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report on the amount of purchases from foreign entities for Fiscal Year 2005, pursuant to Public Law 104-201, section 827 (110 Stat. 2611); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6867. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of General Charles F. Wald, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

6868. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of the enclosed list of officers to wear the insignia of the grade of major general accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

6869. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, transmitting the 2005 Annual Report regarding the Department's enforcement activities under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1691f; to the Committee on Financial Services.

6870. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

6871. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting pursuant to Section 62(a) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), notification concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed lease of defense articles to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany (Transmittal No. 05-05); to the Committee on International Relations.

6872. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting pursuant to Section 62(a) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), notification concerning the Defense Information Services Agency's proposed lease of defense articles to the Government of Argentina (Transmittal No. 02-06); to the Committee on International Relations.

6873. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, certification regarding the proposed license for the export of defense articles and services to the Govern-

ment of the United Kingdom (Transmittal No. DDTC 055-05); to the Committee on International Relations.

6874. A letter from the Director, Office of Management, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's Year 2005 Inventory of Commercial Activities, as required by the Federal Activities Reform Act of 1997, Pub. L. 105-270; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6875. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6876. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6877. A letter from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting a copy of the annual report for Calendar Year 2005, in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6878. A letter from the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Capitol Police, transmitting the semiannual report of receipts and expenditures of appropriations and other funds for the period October 1, 2005 through March 31, 2006 as compiled by the Chief Administrative Officer, pursuant to Public Law 109-55, section 1005; (H. Doc. No. 109-96); to the Committee on House Administration and ordered to be printed.

6879. A letter from the Chief Scout Executive and President, Boy Scouts of America, transmitting the Boy Scouts of America's 2005 Report to the Nation, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 28; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6880. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting as required by Section 417(b) of the USA Patriot Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-56), the fourth annual report on the status of the implementation of machine-readable passports (MRPs) in countries participating in the Visa Waiver Program (VWP); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6881. A letter from the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting a report on the intent to initiate negotiations for a free trade agreement between the United States and Malaysia, pursuant to Section 2104(a)(1) of the Trade Act of 2002; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6882. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's report to Congress on Critical Infrastructure Risk Assessment and Readiness, pursuant to Public Law 108-458, section 7306; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

6883. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's annual report on entitlement transfers of basic educational assistance to eligible dependents under the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB); jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs.

6884. A letter from the Acting Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting a legislative proposal and justification to amend the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to provide authorization for the National Transportation Safety Board; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Appropriations.

6885. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the Commission's FY 2007 Budget Request Justification, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437d(d)(1); jointly

to the Committees on House Administration, Appropriations, and Government Reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. OXLEY: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 4916. A bill to authorize United States participation in, and appropriations for, the United States contribution to the first replenishment of the resources of the Enterprise for the Americas Multilateral Investment Fund (Rept. 109-403). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. DREIER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 755. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 513) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify when organizations described in section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 must register as political committees, and for other purposes (Rept. 109-404). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. LATOURETTE, and Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida):

H.R. 5074. A bill to amend the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 to provide for continued payment of railroad retirement annuities by the Department of the Treasury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. STARK (for himself, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. BEAN, and Mr. INSLEE):

H.R. 5075. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the restriction on disclosures and use of information by tax return preparers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. MICA, and Mr. COSTELLO):

H.R. 5076. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2007, 2008, and 2009, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. LUCAS:

H.R. 5077. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide a clear line of demarcation with regard to private ownership of any coin, medal, or numismatic item made or issued by the United States Government before January 1, 1933, that is not in the possession of the United States Government, to establish certain guidelines and requirements with respect to the inventory, preservation, public display, and disposition of certain United States coins, medals, and numismatic items that were struck or made after December 31, 1932, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BOEHLERT (for himself and Mr. MICHAUD):

H.R. 5078. A bill to elevate the Environmental Protection Agency to Cabinet-level status and redesignate such agency as the Department of Environmental Protection; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. WALDEN of Oregon:

H.R. 5079. A bill to provide for the modification of an amendatory repayment contract between the Secretary of the Interior