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#### NAFTA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of February 11, 1994, and June 10, 1994, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. LIPINSKI] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, last year, when I cast my vote against the North American free-trade Agreement, I did so knowing full well the devastating impact such an agreement would have on U.S. jobs and workers. Now, 9 months after its implementation, simplistic reports touting NAFTA's so-called benefits have started to permeate the media. While the administration may have you believe all's right with NAFTA, there are some disturbing trends which NAFTA supporters have conveniently ignored.

Since NAFTA went into effect, imports from Mexico have been increasing at a rate faster than United States imports. This is an important fact because in order to create jobs, U.S. exports must be expanding faster than imports. This is not happening.

To date, over 8,000 American workers have lost their jobs because of NAFTA.

Moreover, NAFTA's Trade Adjustment Assistance Program—the program designed to help these individuals—has been riddled with problems. Outreach on the program has been inadequate and eligibility for benefits, strictly limited. This program has not made up for NAFTA's adverse effect on workers.

Another disturbing development concerns labor abuses in Mexico. The Teamsters and the United Electrical Workers have filed unfair labor practice complaints against Honeywell and General Electric companies in Mexico. United States human rights groups filed similar complaints against the Sony Corp. in Mexico.

At a September 12 National Administrative Office [NAO] hearing in Washington, workers testified of being threatened, intimidated, and ultimately fired because of their efforts to organize unions. One young woman testified that she was fired after refusing to give Honeywell officials names of other workers who supported the union organizing drive. She also spoke of poor worker protection against toxic chemicals at the plant.

Unfortunately, the NAO has no real authority to rectify these abuses—another indication that NAFTA's labor side agreement is woefully inadequate.

And, to add insult to injury, the NAO demonstrated a blatant disregard for Mexican workers by refusing to hold the hearing in Mexico—a concern expressed by unions and many Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, this is exactly the kind of scenario I feared. Behind all the perceived benefits of NAFTA, there lies some very real problems—problems

that do not necessarily make front page news.

Unfortunately, in passing NAFTA, a number of my colleagues failed to see NAFTA for what it really was—a continuation of policies that have undermined the hard-won benefits of our Nation's labor movement.

#### □ 1040

#### FOREIGN COUNTRIES TO ACCESS U.S. BUSINESS RECORDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETE GEREN of Texas). Under the Speaker's announced policy of February 11, 1994, and June 10, 1994, the gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. BENTLEY] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BENTLEY. Mr. Speaker, the end of the legislative session approaches, and, as usual, Congress has begun shoving through scores of bills and suspensions.

The Suspension Calendar supposedly is reserved for noncontroversial bills such as commemoratives, because no hearings have ever been held on them.

This was the practice when I first came to Congress 10 years ago—but times have changed, and bills with true substance now are on the Suspension Calendar. Yesterday, one such measure—H.R. 4781—was rolled through.

This bill authorizes the Attorney General to exchange information with foreign governments which are conducting antitrust investigations against both American and foreign companies in their respective countries.

I imagine this bill is traveling in tandem with the enabling legislation for GATT—presently scheduled to be voted on later this week.

On its surface, this bill makes find sense and would allow the United States the ability to secure information about foreign companies that violate our antitrust laws.

What concerns me is that foreigners—who allege violations of their laws—will have access to U.S. Government information on American companies.

While this appears to be reciprocal—I must caution my colleagues that for years the United States has not been aggressive in responding to unfair trade practices carried on by or allies.

Nothing in this bill assures me that U.S. weak-kneed negotiating will change.

Instead, this bill grants the Attorney General the authority to enter into memoranda of understanding with foreign governments.

These memoranda are nothing more than agency-to-agency treaties without the advice and consent of the Senate. Further, these memoranda are not reviewable by U.S. courts.

What is the United States doing to itself?

Again and again, recent trade bills divest the U.S. courts of jurisdiction.

In the GATT, the World Trade Organization [WTO] will be able to challenge the laws passed by this Congress.

Now, I realize many of my colleagues are upset about the excess regulations that impact negatively on U.S. business. But Congress should not hide behind the WTO and similar artifices. And free traders in Congress should not allow a foreign run organization do what Congress is afraid to do—strike down the politically correct laws that strangle U.S. business.

And Congress should not permit the Attorney General to negotiate agency treaties that will have the effect of turning over American business information to foreign enterprises.

If this is the price to strike down regulation—the price is too high.

The U.S. Constitution provides for three equal branches of Government. The United States does not have a king or an emperor. And Congress should not create one in the name of freer markets.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMUNITY INITIATIVES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of February 11, 1994, and June 10, 1994, the gentlewoman from Oregon [Ms. FURSE] is recognized during morning business for 2 minutes.

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, across the country women and children are facing violence in their homes, and we have not provided them adequate protection.

It is tragedy that in Oregon, 80 percent of women seeking shelter from abuse are turned away due to lack of space. This situation led me to introduce the Domestic Violence Community Initiatives Act. My bill assists communities in developing strategies for dealing with domestic violence by bringing together police, shelters, nonprofits and families to work together to solve the problem.

I am proud this legislation passed with passage of the crime bill.

We in Congress should be proud of the passage of the Violence Against Women Act as part of the crime bill. We should be proud because we took action on this issue long before Nicole Brown Simpson's murder made the headlines. However, let us not be complacent in thinking that we have addressed the problem and can move on to other issues. There is still much work to be done.

For the health and safety of our families, we must send the message that violence against women will not be tolerated. Let us carry that message and continue working to make progress in preventing violence in the home and supporting organizations that assist people seeking safety for themselves and their children. It is an investment worth making. Healthy, peaceful homes produce healthy, productive citizens.

many organizations providing assistance, more organizations and resources are needed.

Mr. Speaker, the Friendship Home and other shelters are to be commended for the fine work they do. The hard work and devotion of the shelter staff and volunteers make a difference in the life of each woman and child seeking assistance.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, this Member is pleased to take this time to recognize the important work being done by the Friendship Home and other organizations that provide assistance and shelter to victims of domestic violence.

□ 1230

#### THE CRIME BILL IS ONLY A START ON CURBING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise because October is Domestic Abuse Awareness Month. Before I got elected to this Congress, I was a prosecutor in Middlesex County and I had the experience of walking into a home during the middle of the night and seeing a woman who had been murdered with her child in that home. Another victim of domestic violence.

Domestic violence is permeating American society. We have taken the first step as part of the crime bill, including the Violence Against Women Act, the domestic violence part of that crime bill.

But we have to do more. In court-houses across America, women who are victims of violence are walking into courtrooms without a victims' advocate to help them through the process, with a prosecutor who has too many cases to given that woman the type of assistance that she needs. Domestic violence continues without people being held accountable in courts, without the educational programs we need in America to deal with this problem. Every level of government—the Federal level, the State level, and the local level—have to step up to the plate to do something to stem this tide, and we had better start now. That is why we are giving recognition in October to begin to put pressure on every level of government to fight this abuse; we must do more.

#### GATT: NOT FAST TRACK, BUT GREASE TRACK

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

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I voted for NAFTA, I voted for the fast track for GATT, and today I stand here and tell you I feel totally betrayed at the way this administration has han-

dled GATT. The fast track was supposed to give us 45 to 90 days to look at this important change in our trade laws. Instead it has been submitted to Congress with 10 days left before the end of the session.

We are being told pass it now or the world trading system will collapse. That is what we are being told. That is not fast track, that is grease track.

Why are they so frantic to have the GATT implementation treaty passed so quickly that we will not even have a chance to read it? Something that is so important to the economic well-being of our countrymen for years and decades to come.

The reason they want to get it done fast is because hidden in GATT are special favors to special interests, ripoffs of the American people to the tune of billions of dollars.

I say as a free trader, I say as someone who believes in democracy, the GATT implementation legislation should be turned down; take the ripoffs, like the patent ripoff, out of the GATT implementation legislation.

#### NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MONTH

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

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, October is National Domestic Violence Month. Unlike other months that commemorate and celebrate different cultures and causes, National Domestic Violence Month gives the American people no reason to celebrate. It's purpose is to open America's eyes to a problem that has plagued millions of women throughout the years, a problem that not only affects poor and minority women, but women and families in all walks of life.

With the passage of the Violence Against Women Act this summer, Congress sent a clear message to batterers. Your abuses would no longer be tolerated. Millions of women now know that there is an escape from the nightmare. That with this bill they can seek shelter and counseling, and most importantly that their abusers will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

This is only a small step in the fight against domestic violence. Many more still need to be taken. The patterns of violence that plague the women of our country must be broken, and together, we can all bring an end to the vicious cycle of abuse.

#### ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

(Ms. PRYCE of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, last Tuesday, the American people were presented with something they've never seen before—over 300 Members

and candidates gathered on the Capitol steps to sign a contract with the voters—Republicans signed a contract for real change and real reform in Congress.

Over 180 Republican candidates came to Washington with a message from the people of our country, who helped develop a platform of solid legislative issues that will bring hope to the people, hope for the future, and hope for bringing back the integrity of Congress.

The Republicans signed their names to this contract because a campaign promise is one thing—we have all heard enough of them—but a signed contract is another. A signed contract means change will happen. A signed contract means we will perform. A signed contract will restore the bonds of trust between the people and their elected representatives.

#### NEVADA'S JUDICIARY SYSTEM EN- LISTED IN CAMPAIGN AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, our judiciary system is a significant part of the complex set of dynamics that can stop violence in the home; it cannot solve every problem, and education is a necessary start. I am proud to say that Nevada was the first, but sadly, the only State in the country which, by order of the Nevada Supreme Court, mandated the attendance of all State judges at a State judiciary family violence conference. Our recognition began in large part in 1988 when the problem of domestic violence was raised by the Nevada Supreme Court Gender Bias Task Force. The group reported that battered women were being dealt with inadequately in the legal system. It became increasingly clear that the judicial system did not understand the underlying factors that contributed to the relationship between the batterer and his victim.

After investigating many aspects of family violence, the Clark County Domestic Violence Task Force prompted the Nevada Supreme Court to require all judges to attend a seminar focusing on family violence, its roots, and solutions. What came out of this was extremely important. This day signified an acknowledgment of a problem, a breaking of stereotypes, a desire for change, and hope for a better life for Nevada's families.

My wish is that the other States will follow in Nevada's footsteps toward a recognition of the realities of violence in the home, and take constructive steps to break this vicious cycle.

#### DEMOCRATS WANT VOTERS TO FORGET THEIR CONTRACT

(Mr. EWING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

is perpetuated as children grow up in homes where they are abused and become abusers themselves.

In addition to the physical and emotional devastation experienced by victims of domestic violence, another grave facet of this epidemic is its burden on the criminal justice system. The cost in terms of resources and manhours is immense. Police in my district tell me domestic violence calls are particularly unstable and dangerous because of the intensity of such situations. Many involve cases of alcohol or drug abuse and use of weapons such as guns, knives, and clubs. A large majority of the perpetrators are booked, but most return to their families and are repeat offenders.

We must take action. We need to create policies and provide resources that facilitate the working together of health care and social workers, law enforcement officers, the courts and governments to overcome domestic violence. The violence against women provisions included in the crime bill will begin to do this. But it is not enough—it is just a start. We need to offer alternative means of support for victims so that a life without their abusers is possible. We need tougher laws that effectively punish and reform abusers and protect victims of abuse when they seek help and justice.

#### WHAT DEMOCRATS ARE SAYING ABOUT A REPUBLICAN ATTACK ON SOCIAL SECURITY IS UTTER NONSENSE

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

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, Democrats in the White House and on the House floor have contended that the Republican contract with America jeopardizes Social Security. What complete utter and irresponsible nonsense.

Mr. Speaker, the contract with America contains the 10-percent debt buydown concept. Debt buydown is an implementation strategy for a balanced budget, and it works. According to the Congressional Budget Office, Mr. Speaker, under optimal circumstances, using taxpayer designation of their tax money to a special debt buydown fund, and then applying those savings to spending cuts, balances the budget in 6 years.

Here is the important point:

Debt buydown works without touching Social Security. In fact Social Security is specifically and totally exempt from debt buydown spending cuts.

So, Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Budget Office has certified a balanced budget implementation strategy that exempts Social Security and works. That makes everything that the Democrats are saying about a Republican attack on Social Security so much political nonsense.

#### THE NEW SOUTH AFRICA

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, during the 20th century there have been two major nonviolent revolutions; one occurred in our country, the other in South Africa. Ours was a civil rights revolution; South Africa's was the overthrow of apartheid. The sporadic violence that attended both cannot detract from the ultimate triumph of human rights over war and fratricide.

We are in good company today as President Nelson Mandela comes to Washington. South Africa now needs to solidify its revolution. This requires continuing U.S. aid and especially investment from U.S. companies. Ten years ago I did not expect to be an advocate of aid and trade with South Africa. In 1984, along with three others, Mr. Speaker, we entered the South African Embassy and helped light the spark that led to sanctions. Today the call for divestment has been turned on its head with a market economy and a nonracial economy. South Africa is marching forward.

Mr. Speaker, we must join the new South Africa as it now moves on to an economic revolution.

#### THOUGHTFUL DEBATE ON ENTITLEMENT REFORM FOUND WANTING

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

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, later this week, we will take up what is likely to be the final piece of the A-to-Z buyoff package. While Democrat deficit chicken hawks are left holding the bag on this incomplete package by their leadership, Americans will note that not one so-called budget reform measure from the A-to-Z buyoff has been enacted.

House Concurrent Resolution 301 is a suitable finale for such a dismal performance: It is a cynical measure that will allow Members to say "I voted to reform entitlements," while doing absolutely nothing to change the status quo. We already know that the problem exists—the bipartisan commission on entitlement reform voted 30-1 on findings that conclusively demonstrate the long-term growth of mandatory spending threatens Government solvency. We do not need another do-nothing resolution: We need thoughtful and thorough debate on reasonable solutions. Anything else is just a waste of time and last-minute look-good policies by Democrats.

#### THE GATT VOTE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this House should not be forced to vote on GATT in the closing hours of this session. As I am speaking, a bipartisan letter bearing signatures of over 100 Members of this House is being delivered to the Speaker. In fairness to both proponents and opponents of this agreement, Mr. Speaker, the bill should either be put over until the next Congress or at least not force this House to vote on the agreement without having the opportunity for the other body to be debating it simultaneously.

Let me just mention that on page A7 of the Washington Post today is another reason not to vote to bring this agreement up now. It talks about a special deal included in the bill for the Washington Post and its affiliate, the American Personnel Communications, a company that will get a deeply discounted license for any wireless services as a result of language buried in GATT, and very interestingly the ad is paid for by one of the companies that did not get benefited, Pacific Telesis Group.

□ 1250

There is a lot in this legislation that should not be there, and we have a right to know what it is to have enough time to study what is in GATT. Let us take the time to deliberate.

#### REPUBLICAN CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

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

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, the 10-point contract with America, I would like to appeal to my colleagues, because I think this is things that both sides can agree on in how to pay for national security.

First of all, BRAC 1993 is not funded, and the military is having to take it out of hide. BRAC 1995 is to look at the true environmental cleanup cost and the cost before we close the base. If there is no savings, then that will add to national security. Social spending in the crime bill is nothing compared to that in the defense bill. That will help.

Stop taking peacekeeping dollars out of a needed defense budget. Procure equipment on economy of scale: 28 aircraft that we bought this year has astronomical unit costs; stay out of the battles like Somalia, Bosnia, and Haiti, all billions of dollars. We gave Russia aid, five typhoon class submarines and three very deep submarines procured at \$12 billion each, MIG 35's, and we give Russia billions of dollars.

I could go on, Mr. Speaker. I think these are items that Republicans and Democrats can support and increase our national defense.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, this year, we do not need domestic violence awareness month to convince the Congress that domestic violence is a serious problem. This year, domestic violence victims across the country can find hope in the fact that after years of effort, the Federal Government has finally responded to the problem of domestic violence by enacting the Violence Against Women Act as part of the crime bill.

For too long, people have tolerated the belief that beating your wife is somehow more acceptable than beating up a total stranger.

But, finally, the Congress and the President have acted to stem the violence by passing the Violence Against Women Act. The act authorizes funding for a national, toll-free hotline to provide information and assistance to victims of domestic violence; it creates a Federal remedy for interstate stalking and abuse; it requires that each State honor the protective orders issued by other States; it encourages comprehensive reform in arrest, prosecution and judicial policies directed toward domestic violence; it provides substantial funding for battered women's shelters; and it permits immigrant spouses of United States citizens to escape from their abusive spouses without risking deportation.

But legislation can only do so much. The key is changing attitudes. All Americans need to understand that domestic violence is a serious crime, that battered women and crime victims, and that men who batter are criminals.

## WHAT KILLED HEALTH CARE REFORM?

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

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, this past week the Democrat leaders of the U.S. Congress blamed the failure of health care reform on Republicans and special interests.

I take offense at that comment and consider it an insult to me and also to the American people.

What killed health care reform?

Could it be proposals crafted behind closed doors?

Could it be a Clinton plan that created 59 new Federal agencies and expanded the authority of 20 others?

Could it be that the Clinton-Gephardt and Clinton-Mitchell plans were job killers and tax raisers?

Could it be that the more the American people knew about these plans the less they liked?

Could it be that senior citizens did not want their benefits cut and their costs increased?

Maybe as the Democrat leadership leaves Congress they should find time to do two things:

First, take a math course to learn that 178 Republicans does not equal half of 435, and

Second, spend more time with the American people who will tell him why three-fourths of them did not like Clinton-style health care reform proposals.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MONTGOMERY). The Chair would remind Members, not citing the Member in the well, not to refer to Members of the other body in a critical manner.

## ON GATT

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

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and others have seen a full page ad in the Washington papers today outlining what was said to be a "corrupt deal" involving pioneer preference. The hard facts of the matter are that the proposal in the GATT treaty legislation is legislation which in fact is going to cost the Washington Post and others more. And it is going to make it assured rather than doubtful that they will be paying a significant amount of money, perhaps amounting to billions of dollars, to the Federal Government in exchange for these pioneer preferences.

As the matter originally came forth from the Federal Communications Commission, these licenses were going to be given for nothing. Because of the efforts of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and because of the cooperation of the FCC, an attempt has been made to administratively raise this to 90 percent of the cost.

In point of fact, this raises some question because of the doubtful authority of the commission to do so. Now we are having to do this matter by legislation.

Do not listen to this kind of falsehood. I will advise further to my colleagues by a letter which I will be communicating to them and a letter to the editor on this matter.

## MORE ON THE REPUBLICAN CONTRACT

(Mr. BOEHNER asked and was given permission to address the house for 1 minute.)

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, last week Republicans gathered from around the country here on the Capitol steps to sign a contract with America. It was an effort put together by candidates and incumbents to let the American people know that if they put us in charge of this House, for the first time in 40 years, here is what we would

do on the opening day and what we would do in the first 100 days.

I guess I have to say, I have been somewhat surprised at my colleagues on the other side of the aisle who trashed our efforts. Their liberal allies down at the White House, the liberal media, they have begun to attack this in a very vicious way. It really is somewhat surprising that they would have even stooped to the depths of bringing to the American people scare tactics about what this program would do.

I can understand that they do not agree with our contract and do not agree that we ought to balance the budget, do not agree that we ought to have a line-item veto and other things. But Republicans in this House have stood up. We have told the American people what we are for and what we would do if we were in charge. Where is their plan?

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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

Mr. BARCA of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to one of our Nation's most serious problems, domestic violence. I would like to thank my distinguished colleague, the gentlewoman from California [Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD] for arranging today's important discussion.

In my congressional district alone, hundreds of women and their families seek protection from abusive spouses. In the last year, there has been far too many incidents of abuse and at least one domestic homicide in Wisconsin's First Congressional District.

We have made solid progress in addressing this problem with the passage of the Violent Crime and Law Enforcement Act. Provisions of this legislation include requiring interstate enforcement of protection orders and strengthening services for victims of domestic and gender-based violence. Fortunately for the people of Wisconsin, we have a solid cluster of centers that provide quality services for their victims. The people in my congressional district are taking steps to address this serious problem. On October 14, a speakout and candlelight vigil will be held to end domestic and sexual violence at the Kenosha County Courthouse in Kenosha, WI. Additionally, the YWCA alternatives to domestic violence in Janesville, WI, and Walworth County, has been working for many years to combat domestic violence in our society. The Women's Resource Center in Racine, WI, and Women's Horizons in Kenosha, WI, also provide assistance to victims of abuse. I applaud the people in Wisconsin's First Congressional District and across the nation for their commitment to end domestic violence in our society.

**MORE ON THE REPUBLICAN  
CONTRACT WITH AMERICA**

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

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, 1 week ago, over 300 Republicans stood on the steps of the Capitol and signed a contract with America. I thought this was a noble endeavor, an unusual action during the campaign year, to actually say what we were going to do after the election and sign a statement to that effect.

I am relatively new here. I have had some surprises, but the biggest surprise has been the reaction to the contract of the majority party and some of the members of the press.

One reaction is, "We cannot afford it." Or, "How are we going to pay for it?" As an outsider, I find those questions incomprehensible. How can we not afford to save money? I think it is great if we can save money. I think it is great if we can reduce the budget here. What a strange attitude for the majority to display.

Now I am beginning to understand what is meant by the "inside the beltway" mentality.

I come from the State of Michigan, which cut their budget by \$1.8 billion a few years ago. The net result is a budget surplus this year. The net result is that for the first time in 20 years the State of Michigan has an unemployment level that is lower than the Nation as a whole.

We can afford the contract and we can pay for it. I urge that we adopt it.

□ 1300

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MUST BE  
STOPPED—NOW**

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

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, domestic violence is the No. 1 cause of injury to women ages 15 to 45 in the United States. Every 15 seconds a woman is battered in a domestic dispute. But these are not just statistics—these are human beings who live every day in fear.

Women like Marta—who live in my district. After 17 years and more than 70 severe beatings, she fled her home when her husband nearly killed her. With the help of a battered woman's shelter, she is putting her life back together—for herself and her two young sons.

This is America's hidden crime. Many victims of domestic violence remain in the shadows. All too often our police and other law enforcement officials cannot help until the woman is seriously injured or killed because the victims are silenced by fear.

What can we do as a Congress to stop the violence? First of all, we can raise awareness and let women know that

help is available. Second, we can break the cycle of abuse, by teaching our children that the use of violence is not justifiable. Lastly, let us not forget—that the victim is the abused, not the abuser.

The point is that we should act—and act now. During the brief time that I have been speaking, four women have been battered. This is four too many.

**ESSENTIAL GATT DEBATE HELD  
UP BY SENATE DEMOCRAT**

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that an overwhelming majority of Republicans strongly support the idea of reducing tariff barriers and expanding export opportunities for U.S. goods and services. Seven years ago Ronald Reagan launched the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

I believe that a majority of Republicans want to be able to support the Uruguay round, but it is very unfortunate that one Member of the other body of the President's own party has chosen to block consideration of it at this time, and has delayed until the first of December a vote which will take place on that.

Mr. Speaker, while I am a strong supporter of the GATT, I cannot look any Member of this House in the eye and say that, "You should not have the same amount of time to consider your concerns over this legislation as that Member of the other body who has raised this delay." It seems to me that we have a responsibility to recognize that this issue is being held up by a member of the President's own party.

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT—  
JUST THE BEGINNING**

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

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, at this time last year, 43 people in the State of Colorado died in domestic violence related incidents since January 1993. Here in D.C., and around the country, children are reacting to the slightest provocation with violence. Often children are in danger in their schools. They see violence on television, and in the movies. But nothing is more real than the violence in their homes.

Almost one-fifth of all aggravated assaults reported to the police are aggravated assaults in the home. Violence will occur at least once in two-thirds of all marriages. We can only crack the culture of violence children grow up in if we address the violence in their homes. Domestic violence is a crime that has been ignored by police and prosecutors, and disregarded by judges. Between 22 and 35 percent of women who visit the emergency rooms are

there because of symptoms related to on-going abuse. Violent homes are a breeding ground for abused children and later, if they receive no help, violent adults.

The crime bill, which was signed into law last month, included the Violence Against Women Act, legislation designed to address domestic violence. A lot of us think of home as the safest of places, but for victims of domestic violence and their children, home is the most dangerous place of all. With the passage of the Violence Against Women Act, cities, judges, communities, and advocates now have the tools necessary to begin to change that.

**PRESIDENT'S POLLS**

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the President's poll numbers are terrible. According to the latest Newsweek poll, only 36 percent of Americans support the job the President is doing.

What is amazing is how little he is doing to improve his standing. Last night he went to Virginia, where he attacked Republican's contract with America.

The contract embodies what the American people support: less government, less spending, and fewer taxes for a Washington that delivers less and less.

Instead, the President continues to ask for more of what the contract will curb. His administration has increased Social Security taxes, gas taxes, business taxes, and income taxes, and has increased spending \$100 billion.

By opposing the Republicans' contract, the President opposes the desires of the American people. It is not surprising that they then oppose him.

**URGING CONTINUED EFFORTS TO  
PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST  
WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

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

Mrs. UNSOELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the women and children who have lost their lives to domestic violence, celebrate the survivors, and thank those in Congress and across the Nation who have struggled to bring about real change.

While the statistics vary, it is clear that domestic violence has reached horrific proportions. It results in many if not most of the serious injuries and murders of women in this Nation. And the tragedy doesn't end there. Children in abusive households all too often grow up to become abusers themselves, perpetuating this vicious cycle of violence.

Despite these grim realities, our Nation's battered women's shelters have long been dangerously underfunded.