

is passing more gun laws. Beam me up. There is something wrong in America when one is 80 times more likely to be killed by a doctor than Smith & Wesson. Think about it, 80 to 1. Maybe we need a gun in surgery.

I yield back the fact that the second amendment was not written to cover just duck hunters.

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#### GORE SENIOR TAX POLICY

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the Austrian philosopher Karl Krauss once wrote, "When the end comes, I want to be living in retirement."

Many Americans in this country feel that way. They put in countless hours anticipating the day when they will retire. Unfortunately, the Clinton-Gore administration sees these benefits as a prime opportunity to grab more money for the Federal Government.

In 1993, the Clinton-Gore administration decided to tax up to 85 percent of the Social Security benefits received by single seniors whose incomes were \$34,000, and married taxpayers, seniors, with incomes exceeding \$44,000.

Worse yet, Mr. Speaker, because these incomes were not indexed for inflation, the tax effects were more dramatic every year for our seniors.

This week the House will vote to end this burdensome tax and give seniors a well-deserved tax break. Seniors have paid their fair share of taxes. It is time we repeal the Clinton-Gore seniors' tax.

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#### VETERANS RIGHT TO KNOW ACT

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

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to commend this body for passing two pieces of legislation yesterday that enhance the benefits of our veterans, H.R. 4850 and H.R. 4864. It does not matter how many benefits we provide our veterans if they do not know what they are entitled to.

Throughout our Nation's history, millions of men and women have served in our Armed Forces during times of peace and times of war. They have defended the very freedoms our country was founded upon.

Too often our Nation's heroes are not adequately informed about what their benefits are and what they are entitled to. This is simply unacceptable.

We have introduced H.R. 3256, the Veterans Right to Know Act; and if anyone has a right to know, our veterans have a right to know. The Veterans Right to Know Act requires the Secretary of VA to prepare an annual outreach plan that will include efforts to identify veterans who are not otherwise enrolled or registered with the Department for benefits or services.

It enjoys the bipartisan support of 72 House members. Veterans have served

this country. We are accountable to our veterans, and we are going to deliver.

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#### MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY RELIEF DESERVES SUPPORT

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

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, have you heard Bill Clinton and AL GORE's latest definition of rich? Bill Clinton and AL GORE say that, if one is married and one is a homeowner or if one is married and one gives money to church and charity and one suffers the marriage tax penalty, one is rich.

Bill Clinton and AL GORE say now that they want to veto the Marriage Tax Elimination Act, legislation which wipes out the marriage tax penalty for 25 million married working couples who, on average, pay \$1,400 more in higher taxes. They say that there are people that are homeowners, there are people that give money to church and charity, and there are people that itemize their taxes, and because of that, they are rich, and they do not deserve marriage tax relief, and they should be discriminated against and should continue to receive and suffer from the marriage tax penalty.

I was so proud when this House passed just this past week legislation wiping out the marriage tax penalty for 25 million married working couples, on average, \$1,400. We made sure, if one suffers the marriage tax penalty, whether one is a homeowner or not, one receives relief. It deserves bipartisan support. I hope the President will change his mind.

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#### GOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, nothing we do in Congress can be accomplished alone. Today I want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who have worked to make the 106th Congress' record one of accomplishments and not of partisan gridlock.

This Congress has passed some of the most solid education reform ever brought before this body, measures that will give parents and teachers more flexibility to meet students' unique needs. But that is not all. We have also worked tirelessly to pay off our public debt portion of our national debt which is saddling children born this year with a \$13,300 debt burden. Our debt relief measures will save the average household an estimated \$4,000 in interest payments over the next 10 years. Think of what American families can do with \$4,000 in additional income.

The 106th Congress has an agenda for success, and I am proud to be a part of it.

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#### BIG BROTHER IS READING OUR E-MAIL

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

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, although it is 16 years after the titled date of 1984 in George Orwell's novel of the same name, Big Brother is really here and now he is reading our e-mail. Our constitutional rights to privacy are currently being trampled by government-sanctioned invasions currently over at the FBI. These privacy invasions use today's latest technology through the FBI's Carnivore system which monitors and captures our e-mail without our consent or our knowledge.

What business is it of the U.S. Government what I say in an e-mail to my family and to my friends? We must never knowingly allow any government agency to use our e-mail to do to us today what they did with other technologies to Malcolm X and Martin Luther King yesterday.

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#### SPACE STATION TEACHES COSTLY LESSON

(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, yesterday's lead front page story in the Christian Science Monitor newspaper was headlined, "Late, Costly Milestone for Space Base." It was about the Space Station and U.S. costs now approaching \$100 billion. When this project was first started in 1984, cost projections were only 6 to \$8 billion. This is the old Washington con game: Drastically low ball the cost estimates at the beginning, then spread the project around to as many congressional districts as possible and it will never end.

As the well-respected Monitor pointed out yesterday, "The \$96 billion station is 2½ years behind schedule and costs are burgeoning," meaning still going up. U.S. taxpayers have even had to pay out an extra 3 to \$5 billion to help the Russians participate.

This Space Station will go down in history as the biggest boondoggle this Nation has ever produced. Mr. Speaker, it just goes to show once again that the Federal Government cannot do anything in an economical, cost-effective manner.

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#### RECOGNIZING EL PASO VET CENTER

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

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an outstanding institution in

my district, the Department of Veterans Affairs El Paso Vet Center which has served the veterans of west Texas and southern New Mexico for the last 21 years. The center provides quality care to improve the lives of men and women who fought and defended our Nation's security and freedom. These services are provided with incredible compassion and understanding. Through counseling, guidance and rehabilitation programs, the center is an invaluable link between our veterans and the Department of Veterans Affairs. By reaching out to more than 100,000 veterans in the El Paso area, the center makes an incredible difference in our community.

It is veterans programs like this that deserve the full support and appreciation of this institution. Abraham Lincoln once said, "Let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the Nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan."

Wars indeed have left behind men and women who need our assistance. As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War, I am proud to recognize the El Paso Vet Center, an institution that has continuously provided assistance to our Nation's veterans in El Paso.

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#### THE FLEEING OF UTAH PROPERTY OWNERS

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

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Constitution says that if the Government takes private property, the owner of the property shall receive just compensation. In Washington County, Utah, the desert tortoise was put on the endangered species list. Therefore, the U.S. Government required hundreds of acres of tracts for that habitat. About 30 taxpayers were involved. They did not want to give up their ground. They wanted to keep it. But no, the Federal Government says, "We've got to take that ground for this habitat." And they said, "It's not taking your ground."

And then you ask, "What is it taking?"

"Well," they say, "you can keep your property but you can't put your foot on it. You can pay taxes on your property, but you can't use it. We're not taking your property."

So the Federal Government offered about one-fourth of the value of the ground. Now, is that fair? Is that just? Is that just compensation? I do not think it is.

Tom Brokaw of NBC does a program called The Fleecing of America. He used this land issue saying these poor taxpayers fleeced the American Government when they got it for that price. Well, he got it wrong, as the press normally does. I am just amazed that the media misses one so far. Who

really got fleeced on this, Mr. Speaker? The people who got fleeced were those people that gave up their ground for one-fourth of the value.

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#### REPUBLICAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Democrats are running scared. Their message of fear, class warfare and big government has failed again. Even their own focus groups and polls tell them Americans want the Republican agenda of less taxes, less government and local control.

And who can blame them? Just listen to what the Republicans have accomplished: we have created the longest economic expansion in America's history, balanced the budget, paid down the national debt, saved Medicare, locked away 100 percent of the Social Security surplus, eliminated the Social Security earnings penalty, and eliminated the marriage penalty and death tax. That is just to name a few.

The Democrats have attacked these accomplishments as risky. But I do not think it is risky to give something back to the very Americans who made this country great, the people.

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#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on each motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed on Tuesday, July 25, 2000, in the order in which that motion was entertained.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 4033, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 4710, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for the second electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

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#### BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT ACT OF 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 4033, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4033, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 413, nays 3, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 439]

YEAS—413

Ackerman  
Aderholt  
Allen

Andrews  
Archer  
Armey

Baca  
Bachus  
Baider

Baldacci  
Baldwin  
Ballenger  
Barcia  
Barr  
Barrett (NE)  
Barrett (WI)  
Bartlett  
Bass  
Bateman  
Becerra  
Bentsen  
Bereuter  
Berkley  
Berman  
Berry  
Biggart  
Billbray  
Bilirakis  
Bishop  
Blagojevich  
Bliley  
Blumenauer  
Boehler  
Boehner  
Bonilla  
Bonior  
Bono  
Borski  
Boswell  
Boucher  
Boyd  
Brady (PA)  
Brady (TX)  
Brown (FL)  
Brown (OH)  
Bryant  
Burr  
Burton  
Buyer  
Callahan  
Calvert  
Camp  
Campbell  
Canady  
Cannon  
Capps  
Capuano  
Cardin  
Carson  
Castle  
Chabot  
Chambliss  
Chenoweth-Hage  
Clay  
Clayton  
Clement  
Clyburn  
Coble  
Coburn  
Collins  
Combest  
Condit  
Conyers  
Cook  
Cooksey  
Costello  
Cox  
Coyne  
Cramer  
Crane  
Crowley  
Cummings  
Cunningham  
Danner  
Davis (FL)  
Davis (IL)  
Davis (VA)  
Deal  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
Delahunt  
DeLauro  
DeLay  
DeMint  
Deutsch  
Diaz-Balart  
Dickey  
Dicks  
Dingell  
Dixon  
Doggett  
Dooley  
Doolittle  
Doyle  
Dreier  
Duncan  
Dunn  
Edwards

Ehlers  
Ehrlich  
Emerson  
English  
Eshoo  
Etheridge  
Evans  
Everett  
Farr  
Fattah  
Filner  
Fletcher  
Foley  
Forbes  
Ford  
Fossella  
Fowler  
Frank (MA)  
Franks (NJ)  
Frelinghuysen  
Frost  
Gallegly  
Ganske  
Gejdenson  
Gekas  
Gephardt  
Gibbons  
Gilchrest  
Gillmor  
Gonzalez  
Goode  
Goodlatte  
Gooding  
Gordon  
Goss  
Graham  
Green (TX)  
Green (WI)  
Greenwood  
Gutierrez  
Gutknecht  
Hall (OH)  
Hall (TX)  
Hansen  
Hastings (FL)  
Hastings (WA)  
Hayes  
Hayworth  
Hefley  
Herger  
Hill (IN)  
Hill (MT)  
Hilleary  
Hilliard  
Hinche  
Hinojosa  
Hobson  
Hoeffel  
Hoekstra  
Holden  
Holt  
Hooley  
Horn  
Hostettler  
Houghton  
Hoyer  
Hulshof  
Hunter  
Hutchinson  
Hyde  
Inslee  
Isakson  
Istook  
Jackson (IL)  
Jackson-Lee  
(TX)  
Jefferson  
John  
Johnson (CT)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones (NC)  
Jones (OH)  
Kanjorski  
Kaptur  
Kasich  
Kelly  
Kennedy  
Kildee  
Kilpatrick  
Kind (WI)  
King (NY)  
Kingston  
Kleczka  
Klink  
Knollenberg  
Kolbe  
Kucinich  
Kuykendall

LaFalce  
LaHood  
Lampson  
Lantos  
Largent  
Larson  
Latham  
LaTourette  
Lazio  
Leach  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (CA)  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (KY)  
Linder  
Lipinski  
LoBiondo  
Lofgren  
Lowey  
Lucas (KY)  
Lucas (OK)  
Luther  
Maloney (CT)  
Maloney (NY)  
Manzullo  
Markey  
Martinez  
Mascara  
Matsui  
McCarthy (MO)  
McCarthy (NY)  
McCollum  
McCreery  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McHugh  
McInnis  
McIntyre  
McKeon  
McKinney  
McNulty  
Meehan  
Meeks (NY)  
Menendez  
Metcalf  
Mica  
Millender-  
McDonald  
Miller (FL)  
Miller, Gary  
Miller, George  
Minge  
Mink  
Moakley  
Mollohan  
Moore  
Moran (KS)  
Moran (VA)  
Morella  
Murtha  
Myrick  
Nadler  
Napolitano  
Neal  
Nethercutt  
Ney  
Northup  
Norwood  
Nussle  
Oberstar  
Obey  
Olver  
Ortiz  
Ose  
Owens  
Oxley  
Packard  
Pallone  
Pascrell  
Pastor  
Payne  
Pease  
Pelosi  
Peterson (MN)  
Peterson (PA)  
Petri  
Phelps  
Pickering  
Pickett  
Pitts  
Pombo  
Pomeroy  
Porter  
Portman  
Price (NC)  
Pryce (OH)  
Quinn  
Radanovich