

PROTECT SERVICEMEMBERS FROM SEXUAL ASSAULT

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last year the military received over 3,000 reports of sexual assault involving other members in the service. This week, 17 veterans are saying that the military ignored their cases of sexual assault while they were on active duty. These accusations have occurred in all branches of the military.

The most recent complaint came from a woman who says she was drugged and gang raped by two fellow members of the Navy. This ended her career. Another rape victim reported the crime to the Marines, and she was ordered not to tell anyone, and to respect the alleged rapist, who was of a higher rank.

The perpetrators of rape in the military must be held accountable for their misdeeds, and victims should be respected and validated by the military. The United States has the world's finest military personnel, and we must support all of them, including victims of crime.

And that's just the way it is.

PROTECT THE CLEAN AIR ACT

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor to warn my colleagues and the American public of a nasty little amendment in this CR. An amendment will be offered by the Republicans today to eliminate the ability of the Environmental Protection Agency to enforce the clear mandates of the Clean Air Act.

The Supreme Court has ruled that the EPA owes the American public an obligation to reduce certain of these dangerous toxic gases. And yet, incredibly, the Republican Party wants to eliminate the ability to enforce that bill. Now, I think of this amendment as the dirty air act. And it is the dirty air act because if they pass it, that is what we'll get, dirty air.

Now, Americans, and I want to warn my colleagues, a poll distributed by the American Lung Association shows Americans are adamantly opposed to this amendment. They know we want clean air. They know we don't want more children's asthma. And we have got to defeat this amendment, defeat the dirty air act, keep the Clean Air Act as the law of this country.

LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE

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

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, listen to the people. Kindergarten

teachers, not a group easily riled, are amongst 30,000 of their neighbors in Wisconsin at the State Capitol. The audacity of their demand? The ability to negotiate a living wage, safe working conditions, and a dignified retirement.

These public servants make our society safe and functioning at an average wage of \$30,000 a year. They did not cause the financial catastrophe in this country. That was the speculators and robber barons who received billions in TARP funds and then off-sourced it to avoid paying taxes. The folks in Wisconsin who are rallying teach our children to read.

At a time of Astroturf rallies, I urge all my colleagues, listen to that sound coming like a warm spring breeze off the prairie. That's the sound of America's proud middle class that built this country, and they have found their voice. We would all be wise to listen to the people.

THE CR AND THE DIRECTION OF AMERICA

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to talk about the CR in larger context. What's going on? The American people have been watching us debating this stuff for days now late into the night. What is it all about? What it's all about, Mr. Speaker, is which direction will America go in? Will we cut back and scale back vital programs that help Americans do better and move into the middle class? Will we cut back and scale back vitally needed regulations to help protect us, allow us to have clean air and clean water and important other rights?

Or, Mr. Speaker, will we have an America where we have labor rights, where we can organize, where we can have adequate regulations that give us the opportunity to a decent standard of life in America? It is a stark choice. A dim view where the vision is a small number of really wealthy people and a vast number of really desperate people, or a large, robust, strong middle class which powers America into the future? What we are fighting about is the soul of this country, the direction of this country. And the Democratic Caucus is standing firmly with the people as we have seen the people of Wisconsin stand up and snatch back their destiny from somebody who would take it from them.

So, Mr. Speaker, today focus your attention, the people are rising up around America, and the Democratic Caucus is standing strong right here.

CALIFORNIA SALMON INDUSTRY

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

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, our budget is a serious document and a state-

ment of our values as a Union. Americans are depending on us to reduce the deficit in a responsible manner while growing our economy and putting people back to work. But as their "so be it, let them eat cake" approach to jobs and the economy shows, our Republican colleagues have chosen to abandon the responsibility for recklessness.

Now the Republicans are proposing to wipe out the California salmon industry and the thousands of jobs that depend on it. California's fishermen just made it through 3 years of unprecedented slowdown in the salmon industry. An estimated 23,000 jobs and \$2.8 billion have been lost in just the last 3 years. These latest proposals threaten water supplies for millions, including both fishermen and farmers.

Mr. Speaker, salmon means jobs. I have met the people who make their living with salmon, and they are proud of their jobs. According to recent studies, restoring the California bay-delta could provide 94,000 new jobs and \$5.7 billion in economic activity.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PRICE of Georgia). Pursuant to House Resolution 92 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 1.

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IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes, with Mr. BISHOP of Utah (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on the legislative day of Thursday, February 17, 2011, a request for a recorded vote on amendment No. 466 printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) had been postponed, and the bill had been read through page 359, line 22.

AMENDMENT NO. 575 OFFERED BY MR. REHBERG

Mr. REHBERG. I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____ None of the funds made available by this Act may be paid to any employee, officer, contractor, or grantee of any department or agency funded by title VIII of division B of this Act to implement the provisions of Public Law 111-148 or title I or subtitle B of title II of Public Law 111-152.