

it all. "We the undersigned citizens are concerned about the future that awaits us," they say. They are worried about the growing size of government. They are angry about the cruel Federal welfare state. And, above all, they call on us to get to work and balance the Federal budget.

I take their concern to heart. Not just because I agree with them, but because the people that sent me this contract are very important to me. It was written by a group of students from Escondido High School in my district.

Students like these are standing up to the people that say they don't care. They know how important it is that we balance and change the way government does business. It is their future that is at stake, not ours.

If we fail, these students know that they will have to live with the debt. In their contract, they note that, "the interest alone on our national debt is more than our entire national budget was when America was a better place to call home."

These young adults are taking the initiative to make a difference, and to make us change our ways. I am proud of them for making their voice heard.

Mr. Speaker, this contract represents the voice coming from the future of our country. I ask unanimous consent that it be included in the record so that every Member of this body can read it. We must hear their voice. We must make the future better for these children.

CONTRACT FROM AMERICANS

We the undersigned citizens are concerned about the future that awaits us. We feel the role of Government is to ensure the safety of the citizens, and prolong the sovereignty of the nation. Unfortunately, the nation that awaits us is not safe and is not sovereign. The continual waste of tax dollars on entitlement programs such as unending welfare, food stamps, special aid for drug addicts, paying farmers to not plant, and ensuring farmers profits must stop. In a true democracy everyone would vote on such spending. But as we live in a representative republic, you were selected to represent our wishes. With this in mind, we ask that you ensure the stability of our futures by enacting the following legislation:

1. The spending on welfare, food stamps, AFDC, and others must decrease. These programs have increased to 54% of the total federal budget with no end in sight. If this spending continues on the same course, you will authorize spending of all our tax dollars on programs that are designed to help only a fraction of our nation's population. We believe some people deserve help, but only for limited periods of time. These programs were designed to make life better. In reality they have not made people's lives better, and in many instances people have been so harmed by the continual give away of money they have lost the will to "get off welfare." The welfare program is so full of waste, fraud and redundancy, that it can only be repaired with a major overhaul. We feel if the social programs continue, they should be managed by the states where the recipients reside.

2. The furnishing of money to drug addicts must stop. Under your current rules, if someone is a drug addict, you authorize additional welfare (SSI) income over and above their "normal" welfare entitlement. Drugs cost money. If you give someone, who is addicted to drugs more money, that means they will only buy more drugs. This program was created to get people off drugs, an idea with good intentions. Unfortunately it has not worked. There are no indications that

drug addiction is on the decrease. In fact, drug addiction is on the increase, with the addict's drug of choice being once again, heroin.

3. Farm subsidies in all forms must stop or be reduced. You are authorizing farmers to receive income by not planting crops, at the same time people are going hungry, and food prices are going up. It is difficult to understand the concept of paying people to ensure they do not do their job, especially when others that need jobs cannot get a job. Additionally, if farmers grow certain crops, such as sugar, and do not make enough profit, you authorize payments to them to ensure they make what has been predetermined as a reasonable profit.

4. Balance the Federal Budget. Every American and every American business can spend only what they earn. The Federal Government should be held to the same standard. We are deeply in debt, yet the overspending continues. The interest alone on our debt is more than our entire national budget when America was a better place to call home.

The discussion in vogue these days, according to U.S. News and World Report, and the New York Times is "how little Generation X wants to contribute to the world, how they only play video games, buy CD's and watch television." We are members of Generation X, and very much want to contribute to the world. That is why we are so concerned about its current condition. Most of us work while going to high school. Hopefully, we will all be working soon. We want to contribute our fair share.

People of all ages need role models. We expect you to be a role model. But continually giving away our tax dollars on frivolous programs that pay people not to contribute sends a clear message that it is acceptable not to contribute. That is not acceptable to us. You were elected to be a leader. We expect you to lead the way for all of us for a better tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Iceyda Baza; Ryan Bezenek; Maria Borbolla; Juan Broderick; Amy Brooks; Chris Cabrera; Fernando Carranza; Elizabeth Cervantes; Toeey Chov; Abe Copeland; Michelle Dalope; Lorena Delatorre; Matthew Dewall; April Dillard; Elva Duron; Mainardo Flores; Karin Giron; Christi Henderson; Saul Hidalgo; Jennylynd Johnson; Crystal Lara; Tessa Larsen; Jose Morales; Elizabeth Nunez; Josh Pippins; Art Reyes; Araceli Rodriguez; Alfonso Rosas; Ana Salas; Adriana Sanchez; Marty Sanchez; Kimmy Sitaket; Karen Stivers; J'nesse Thompson; Valerie Torres; and Damion Voss.

WORKING FOR PEACE IN KASHMIR

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the Congress should take a strong stand in support of an end to the violence in Kashmir.

The American Overseas Interests Act, H.R. 1561, recognizes the need for all parties in the conflict in Kashmir to resolve the conflict peacefully.

India and Pakistan have fought two wars over this region.

Kashmir is still plagued by violence.

More than 20,000 people have been killed.

Tensions are on the rise again.

A mosque sacred to the Moslems in Kashmir was recently burned to the ground.

And on Saturday, June 3, the Indian Parliament once again extended New Delhi's rule over Kashmir and postponed elections, which were set to take place next month.

The call for peace is more important than ever.

I will continue to push for an even stronger message—to press India to respect human rights, to urge an end to the violence, and to allow the Kashmiri people to determine their own future.

While I am glad that India repealed the TADA law which has kept many minorities behind bars for political reasons, India needs to do more.

India should take further steps to allow international human rights groups access to Kashmir, and India should prosecute security personnel involved in abuses of human rights.

We cannot ignore the conflict in Kashmir.

The recognition of this issue in the bill is an important step in working toward a peaceful resolution.

Mr. Speaker, while I am not voting for H.R. 1561 because I believe it takes us a giant step back in building democracy around the globe, I wanted to indicate that I support this action on Kashmir.

CONGRATULATIONS MT. ZION SWINGSATIONS

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Mt. Zion Swingsations, a special group of young people from my district who recently were awarded the National Show Choir Title at the Showstoppers 2-day national competition. These dedicated singers were named the best 14-piece combo in the Nation, and competed against 14 schools from across the country.

The Swingsations is directed by Connie Mulligan with Scott Hines as the instrumental director. The members of this sensational singing group are Jon Alford, Brian Babis, Jeff Badorek, Kim Bartholomew, Kristen Borders, Brian Bowman, Pete Bowman, Dannielle Brown, Josh Butts, Zach Carter, Heather Childs, Brian Clark, Eric Corman, James Drayton, Bill Egbert, Beth Ellington, Brian Fogarty, Jared Gleason, Jessica Goodwin, Neil Goodwin, Sara Goveia, Jennifer Greenwell, David Hendricksen, Bob Higar, Paul Higar, Brian Howell, Tim Jones, Christy Laesch, Tatum Landreth, Lindsay Lehw, Kate McCullough, Tracy McGhee, Ashley McKittrick, Aaron Monts, Byron Muniz, Jeanie Owens, Tray Patrick, Jamie Pflum, Angie Pickowitz, Jimmy Rade, Ginger Roberts, Danny Rutherford, Derek Schmaiz, Scott Sill, Amanda Skowronski, Jeremy Skowronski, Tina Sphar, Brian Spry, Brian Stimson, Carrie West, Richie Williams, Ted Williams, Scott Willis, Todd Wilson, Eric Wortman, Evan Wortman, Jim Yantis, and Keisha Young.

It should be also noted that soloist Kelly Courtawa won a national vocalist award and the Swingsations choreographer, Dwight Jordan, was awarded an artistic production award.

I applaud this fine group of award-winning performers who entertain thousands in the 19th Congressional District and across the country each year. The Swingsations exemplify the meaning of "champion," and I am proud to represent them in the U.S. Congress.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FUND FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF OVERSEAS WAR MEMORIALS

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to establish an account to accept and disburse funds for the maintenance and repair of selected overseas war memorials. My distinguished colleague, the ranking member of the Veterans Affairs Committee, SONNY MONTGOMERY, joins me in introducing this bill.

The American Battle Monuments Commission is tasked with maintaining our overseas cemeteries and war memorials in a manner befitting the sacrifices of those who served this Nation in time of war, especially those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom.

When requested to assume responsibility for a specific memorial, the Commission makes an assessment of the condition and historical value of the site. In this way, the Commission accepts responsibility for only the most important sites. Typically, the request to assume responsibility includes funds to maintain the memorial.

Today, the Commission is increasingly being asked to assume responsibility for overseas memorials whose private sponsors have dwindled in numbers. But the passage of time now makes it difficult for these patriots to provide the active oversight needed to ensure the appropriate condition of the memorial.

My bill will provide the Commission an account to accept private donations, direct the Secretary of the Treasury to invest excess funds in interest bearing obligations of the United States, and authorize use of those funds for memorial maintenance.

In this manner, we can continue to honor those who have fought and died and keep the memory of their sacrifices alive as a reminder for the generations who have inherited the legacy of their commitment. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

ABMC BACKGROUND NOTES

ABMC currently has statutory authority to take over private monuments it considers worthy of retention.

Past takeovers include the Ranger monument at Point du Hoc overlooking Utah Beach and the Cabanatuan Memorial in the Philippines honoring 75,000 U.S. and Filipino POW's held by Japan.

ABMC is currently considering taking over monuments for 3 Engineer units and a 29th Division monument on the Normandy beaches, as well as several USAF monuments.

ABMC estimates that about \$300,000 is available for these and a few other sites, if they can get the account established. Interest on investments in government securities will also be added to the account to maintain solvency for the next ten years or so.

TRIBUTE TO SMYRNA NISSAN EMPLOYEES

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, in the coming days and months Congress will be making big decisions about the way our economy works. These decisions will have a lasting impact on how America meets the 21st century and whether our workers and companies will have the tools to compete. I take my responsibility to make sure that America goes into the future strong and prepared very seriously.

America has the most skilled, productive, and dedicated workers in the world. Despite vocal nay-sayers' predictions about the American economy declining in the face of international competition, I have found the opposite to be true.

I did not have to go far to find proof. There are 6,000 hard-working people in Smyrna, TN who go to work every day at the Nissan Motor Manufacturing Corp. with the attitude that "every day we want to do better than we did yesterday." Those words came from Nissan CEO and President Jerry Benefield who has proven that rewarding hard work and making sure that employees know they have the power to create—or break—their company.

Those Smyrna Nissan employees have reason to be proud. They have built the most productive car and truck assembly plant in America for the second year in a row.

One of the secrets of their success is attitude. Another is their extensive training and know-how. Those are the two keys that set not only the Smyrna plant apart from other American plants, but also what sets American companies apart from the rest of the world. Smyrna employees assemble a car in just 2.2 worker days, setting the benchmark for national productivity.

I want to congratulate and thank the 6,000 of you who earned this recognition on behalf of Smyrna. It goes to show that Tennessee, and America, are poised to take the lead in innovation and productivity. All of you are obviously going above and beyond just doing your job—and doing it very successfully.

SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE IS HERE NOW

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, I had the pleasure of touring a school in my district which is setting the trend for the future of education. Mason Middle School, in Warren County in southwest Ohio, uses a state-of-the-art technology-driven curriculum so that students can easily enter the high-tech workplace and adapt to a changing world.

If our world is transitioning to an information-based society, these students will be way ahead of the curve. As our current methods of production become obsolete, more and more work will have to do with information processing. Because of Mason Middle School's emphasis on information and technology, its stu-

dents are being given the skills to compete in the work force of the future and the confidence to succeed there. Students also learn to appreciate the interconnectedness of the world, preparing them to interact in a global economy.

When we create schools such as this, we are doing more than providing for our children's success in an age of ever-expanding technology. We are laying the groundwork for a new political system. Our system is based on democracy, or the will of the people. To express the will of the people, we rely on representation. Computers will make our system of representation more responsive. What began with polling by mail and then phone has evolved into direct communication and decisionmaking. Instead of relying on our Senators or Congressmen and women to represent us, in the future, we can begin to represent ourselves. A democratic system can only be effective with an informed and engaged electorate. Technology will bring us even closer together—creating a more participatory democracy.

Using today's far more advanced computers, satellites, telephones, cable, polling techniques, and other tools, not to mention the Internet and other communication networks, an educated citizenry can, for the first time in history, begin making many of its own political decisions. I'd say that's pretty exciting stuff. And I would also say that I am very proud that a school in the Second Congressional District is leading the way.

BUILDING DEMOCRACY IN UKRAINE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the American Overseas Interests Act, H.R. 1561, does not encourage economic and democratic reforms in the New Independent States.

The bill cuts aid to Ukraine and other New Independent States by nearly \$100 million.

At a time when Ukraine is receiving a more significant share of United States assistance to the NIS, this bill negates the gains that have been made.

However, one positive step in the bill in the increase of our assistance to the victims of Chernobyl.

This bill provides a \$10 million commitment to help the victims of the Chernobyl disaster, especially the children.

Thyroid cancer is plaguing the children in the region.

There are hundreds of thousands of people with severe health problems.

And the worst is yet to come, because many of the effects of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster will not be known until later this decade.

There is a desperate need for this aid.

Ukraine faces a severe shortage of medical supplies and effective health care.

Our aid to Ukraine and other New Independent States is less than 10 percent of the foreign aid budget, which is less than 2 percent of our Federal budget.

Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased we were able to help the victims of Chernobyl.