

consideration the bill (H.R. 2127) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Chairman, it isn't often that a Member of this body would be tempted to rise in opposition to a bill, especially a funding bill, and to say unequivocally that there is so much in the measure to condemn it, that it is impossible to vote for good that is contained in it. Such is the case today, as I rise in strongest opposition to H.R. 2127 the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill for fiscal year 1996.

Mr. Chairman, using appropriations bills, such as this one and like many others we have debated recently on the floor of the House, to establish policy and make decisions best left to authorizing committees, is just reckless and irresponsible behavior. Such use of the appropriations process cannot be the decision of this or many other subcommittees, or even full committee chairmen. It is obviously being directed by those at higher levels in cooperation with outside interests.

The only thing of any real value in the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill are those provisions that protect the unborn. I strongly support every one of them. I commend the Members of this House who fought to get this antiabortion language in the bill, and I will do all that I can to keep it in the bill. But I cannot support the final product—even if all the pro-life language is preserved. I can't, in good conscience, do so. Let me tell you why.

Mr. Chairman, this bill decimates not only longstanding, vitally important, life-giving Federal programs for children, it also decimates longstanding workplace health and safety standards and the enforcement of such laws; it takes families earning at or below poverty wages and places them at greater risk of becoming homeless, by decimating labor laws and prevailing wages that keep them afloat. It takes those without jobs and tosses them aside like garbage—refusing to fund job search or job training programs so individuals can reenter the job market and care for themselves and their families and be contributing members of society. It attacks senior citizen programs to the point where I wonder: what is happening to us as a compassionate nation?

The bill cuts funding for programs that train and protect working Americans by 24 percent below last year's level. Training alone is cut by more than \$1 billion; worker protection programs embodied within OSHA, the Employment Standards Administration, and the National Labor Relations Board are cut by \$180 million. Legislative riders eliminate or restrict the ability to enforce collectively bargained agreements, a safe work environment, and child labor protections.

The bill nullifies the President's Executive order keeping Federal contractors from hiring permanent replacements for striking workers. Worse, the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill terminates black lung clinics that serve as the only caring, human, face-to-face contact for coal miners dying from black lung disease who are struggling to obtain appropriate life-giving health care, and who are struggling equally hard to qualify for benefits to enable them and their families to live in peace and dignity as they die of an incurable, progressive lung disease.

With respect to child labor laws, I could not believe it, until I read it, but this bill actually terminates a child labor law that protects 14-year-olds against being maimed or killed by balers—baling machines—that are almost too dangerous for adults to operate. Those who placed this language in the bill actually call it a job creating provision for youth even though it could be a job that kills.

These same members, in writing this same bill, Mr. Chairman, have terminated the summer youth job program for 14-year-olds and older youths—jobs that nourish rather than kill them.

The bill declares war on the Nation's senior citizens. Low Income Energy Assistance [LIHEAP] is terminated—so all the elderly folks who have had to choose between heating or eating every winter—are forced to choose to eat fewer meals in order to pay utility bills. Six million households receive LIHEAP assistance—two-thirds are seniors, and the rest are disabled.

To make matters worse for seniors, the minimum wage jobs that employ 14,000 seniors with incomes less than 125 percent of poverty are terminated—gone. Foster Grandparents and counseling programs to prevent MediGap ripoffs are cut.

Senior nutrition programs are cut by nearly \$23.5 million—meaning that 114,637 fewer seniors will be able to get a hot meal at their senior center, and 43,867 frail elderly persons will be cut off from Meals on Wheels.

Millions of workers will be more vulnerable to employers who avoid paying even minimum wage, and who also avoid a 40-hour week, fair labor practices, and standards for safe work places.

Education overall is cut 18 percent below last year's level. Employment and training by 35 percent; other cuts include \$2.5 billion in assistance to local schools, \$266 million from drug-free schools and communities, and \$66 million from the school-to-work program.

Student aid for college is cut by \$701 million including a \$219 million cut that terminates Federal contributions to Perkins loans and the SSIG scholarship program. Goals 2000 and the summer youth jobs program are eliminated.

Head Start is cut by \$535 million below the President's request; President Bush's Healthy Start Program to lower infant mortality is cut in half.

Perhaps more than any other appropriations bill, the Labor-HHS-Education bill is the people's bill. When you make drastic cuts in this bill's funding, you are stabbing at the heart of this Nation—its people. For example:

Labor.—Translates into jobs and job training, safe workplaces, decent wages, and dignity of life that comes with the dignity of a paycheck.

Education.—Translates into quality of life for an educated citizenry, better jobs for better futures, for stable families. Most importantly, education translates directly into our national economic security, if not our national defense.

Health and Human Services.—Translates into quality of life for those in need of life-giving care, from cradle to grave, regardless of station in life or income.

How we can propose to make these funding cuts, and programmatic changes, and to disregard the educational needs, the health, well-being, and safety of every one of our constituents who rely upon us—while at the same

time proposing to increase defense spending by \$58 billion over the next 7 years? How can Members of this House decimate labor, health, and education programs in order to fund higher defense spending than any President has asked for in over 14 years, and this in spite of the fact that the cold war is over, the Soviet Union as a competing superpower is no more, and with communism on its knees?

This bill is, in all truth, beyond my understanding.

Hubert Humphrey said: The moral test of government is how it treats those who are in the dawn of life—the children; how it treats those in the twilight of life—the elderly; and how it treats those who are in the shadows of life—the sick, the disabled, the needy, and the unemployed.

We have failed the moral test by bringing this bill to the floor of the House, and I am appalled.

Have we, finally, no shame?

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2127) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Chairman, H.R. 2127, the Labor-Health and Human Services-Education appropriations bill, is loaded with legislative riders that have no place in an appropriations bill, and it cuts too deeply into critical programs. I will be voting against the bill unless major changes are made today.

First, I want to acknowledge Chairman Porter for his efforts. He was given an allocation that was significantly lower than the fiscal year 1995 allocation, and he did his best to craft an acceptable bill. He also opposed the many riders attached in the full committee. I am strongly supportive of the 6 percent increase in funding for the National Institutes of Health, the increased funding for breast cancer research, and breast and cervical cancer screening, increased funding for the Ryan White CARE Act, the funding for the Violence Against Women Act programs in the bill, and the preservation of the DOD AIDS research program.

Unfortunately, I cannot support the bill for many reasons. I am strongly opposed to the changes made in the full committee. The most egregious amendment eliminates funding for the title X family planning program, transferring the funding to block grants. To eliminate this program when we are trying to end welfare dependency and reduce the number of abortions and unwanted pregnancies is an outrage.

Not only does the transfer to block grant programs fail to ensure that the \$193 million for title X will go to fund family planning programs, but the very nature of the block grants

selected ensures that this funding will be drastically reduced. The maternal and child health block grant includes many set asides, resulting in the diversion of \$84 million of the \$116 million transferred from title X. Thus, 70 percent of the money transferred to this block grant could not go to family planning services even if States wanted to earmark the funds for that purpose.

Later today, Representatives GREENWOOD and LOWEY will be offering an amendment to restore the funding for title X. Congressman SMITH will then offer an amendment that restates the bill's provision to eliminate the funding for title X. The Greenwood-LoweY amendment includes specific language clarifying what is already the case for title X—no funding can be used for abortion, nor can funding be used for political advocacy. Title X prevents abortion—these clinics are prohibited from providing abortions or directive counseling.

I will also be offering an amendment later today with Congresswoman LOWEY and Congressman KOLBE to strike the Istook language in the bill allowing States to decide whether to fund Medicaid abortions in the cases of rape and incest. This is not an issue about States' rights. States can choose to participate in the Medicaid Program; however, once that choice is made, they are required to comply with all Federal statutory and regulatory requirements, including funding abortions in the cases of rape and incest. Every Federal court that has considered this issue has held that State Medicaid plans must cover all abortions for which Federal funds are provided by the Hyde amendment.

Abortions as a result of rape and incest are rare—and they are tragic. The vast majority of Americans support Medicaid funding for abortions that are the result of those violent, brutal crimes against women. I urge my colleagues to support the Lowey-Morella amendment.

Another amendment added in committee makes an unprecedented intrusion into the development of curriculum requirements and the accreditation process for medical schools. An amendment will be offered by Congressman GANSKE and Congresswoman JOHNSON to strike this language in the bill, and I will be speaking in favor of their effort as well.

There is also troubling language in the bill that restricts the enforcement of title IX in college athletics. Congresswoman MINK will be offering an amendment to strike this language, and I urge support for this amendment.

Several additional amendments attempt to legislate on this bill, and I am opposed to these efforts as well. The entire appropriations process has been circumvented in the last several bills, and I am outraged at the efforts to bypass the appropriate, deliberative legislative process in this House. I am particularly troubled by the efforts of several colleagues to severely restrict the advocacy activities non-profit organizations. If my colleagues believe that current law regarding such activities is insufficiently restrictive, then they should seek to change it through the appropriate legislative channels, not through the appropriations process.

In regard to funding cuts in the bill, I am very concerned with the scope of the cuts in education programs. I am very dismayed by the elimination or severe reductions in the Goals 2000 Program, the Women's Educational Equity Act, the Safe and Drug Free Schools Act, the Office of Civil Rights in the

Department of Education, Head Start, the IDEA Program, title I, Vocational Educational, and the School to Work Program.

I am also concerned with the bill's disproportionate cuts in drug and alcohol treatment and prevention programs. The bill would cut 68 percent of the demonstration programs and 18 percent of the total HHS treatment and prevention funding. Some of the current programs that will be hardest hit are those serving women and children. I am particularly concerned with reductions for residential substance abuse treatment programs serving pregnant women and children; Congressman DURBIN and I have worked over the past several years to expand the availability of these critical services that save lives and tremendous health and social costs. The cost of not treating drug and alcohol problems far exceeds the savings in this bill.

I am further concerned with the elimination of the consolidated AIDS research budget appropriation, and, for the first time since 1983, the lack of a specific funding level for AIDS research at NIH. While report language added by Congresswoman NANCY PELOSI improves the bill, I remain concerned that the current centralized AIDS research effort through the OAR will be diminished. A strong OAR vested with budget authority is the most effective way to coordinate and guide the 24 AIDS efforts within the institutes at NIH. I will be working with the Senate to restore the current structure of the OAR consolidated budget of the NIH.

I will also be working to restore funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Older Americans Act, and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program [LIHEAP]. While it is impossible to provide level funding for every program in this bill with such a reduced allocation, I believe that many of these programs have suffered cuts that are too deep to sustain their important functions.

I urge my colleagues to vote for amendments to address many of the problems in the legislation, and if they fail, to oppose the bill.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. HARRIS W. FAWELL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2127) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mr. FAWELL. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Greenwood amendment to restore Federal funds for title X family planning.

Title X of the Public Health Service Act was enacted in 1970. In its 25 years of existence, the program has enjoyed bipartisan support. This program provides services to low-income and uninsured working women. In addition to family planning services, title X clinics provide screening for breast and cervical cancer, sex-

ually transmitted infections, and hypertension. As stated in Mr. Greenwood's amendment, funds are prohibited to be used for abortion, directive counseling, literature or propaganda that promotes abortion or a political candidate.

I believe this plants the Title X Family Planning Program firmly in the realm of prevention and wellness. Often, the battle that young women face is a battle of education. In many cases what these women need is self esteem, belief in themselves, and confidence in the strength that they possess. These qualities are enhanced by education and care. Title X clinics are a part of that process. The educational and emotional assistance offered by family planning clinics can increase awareness, decreasing the chance of an unplanned pregnancy.

Mr. Chairman, I do not often rise to speak on the issue of reproductive rights and family planning. My wife and I have been married 42 years, reared three fine children, and have been blessed with eight grandchildren. It is my hope that the women who receive title X services can be blessed with such a family if they so choose. Let us give them those choices. Let us continue to fund the education and services offered by title X family planning clinics. Support the Greenwood amendment.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2127) marking appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, I rise to express my dismay over the elimination of the Summer Youth Employment Program in the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, Appropriations bill of 1996. Over the course of this summer, this program will enrich the lives of more than 600,000 low-income students across the Nation, helping them develop the skills essential to achieving self-sufficiency, independence, and career success.

The Summer Youth Employment Program provides young men and women between the ages of 14 to 21 with summer positions in libraries, hospitals, parks, and recreation centers. In addition to work experience, the program provides basic and remedial education and job search assistance, preparing our Nation's youth for further successful participation in the work force.

The program has helped employ and train more than 7 million students over an 11 year period. A survey conducted by the National Society for Hebrew Day Schools found three-fifths of former SYEP participants successfully employed in professional, managerial, computer, technical, sales, health or public safety fields. The Summer Youth Employment Program does more than give students a positive