

the 104th Congress does not get it. They are determined to balance the Federal budget during the next 7 years on the backs of the most vulnerable Americans—our Nation's sick, elderly, and children.

Corporate welfare programs in the Federal budget add as much as \$125 billion to the Federal deficit every year.

But Speaker Gingrich and the Republican budget that will be probably be approved by the Republican majorities in the House and Senate cut virtually nothing from corporate welfare over the next 7 years. Instead, they prefer to slash Federal funding for programs for millions of Americans who are struggling to provide for themselves and their families and for some measure of economic security.

Like many Americans, the members of the Progressive Caucus ask this fundamental question: Why won't the Republican majority cut the immense corporate welfare benefits provided every year by the Federal Government to very profitable corporations and wealthy Americans as an essential component of any fair plan to balance the Federal budget during the next 7 years?

This is very unfair. There is a better way. That is why today several members of the 49-member Progressive Caucus and myself introduced legislation to cut \$800 billion in corporate welfare over the next 7 years. We call our legislation the Corporate Responsibility Act and it represents one of the foundations of the 11-part Progressive Caucus Alternative to the Contract With America and the rest of the GOP agenda in the 104th Congress.

We have identified dozens of tax breaks, subsidies, and other Federal benefits for corporations and upper-income taxpayers which should be considered for cutting or elimination. These cuts would save \$570.8 billion over a 5-year period according to estimates by respected economists such as the Congressional Budget Office and the Joint Tax Committee of the Congress.

Some of these programs are outright subsidies, such as for Export-Import Bank loans. Others are indirect subsidies through charging less than market rates or nothing at all for goods and services sold to corporations—e.g., uranium enrichment, irrigation water, use of public land for grazing. Still others are indirect subsidies through government Purchases for unnecessary programs, such as the strategic petroleum reserve or the space station.

Tax expenditures are special provisions of the Tax Code which reduce rates, increased deductions, provide advantageous depreciation, or otherwise reduce the taxes corporations and wealthy individuals pay.

A number of reports have been issued on the subject of corporate welfare in recent months, and we have used data from all of them. However, every selection of programs that can be cut involves choices, and the principles that guided our selection should be made clear. In general, we have chosen to favor: Family farms over agribusiness; small businesses over multinational corporations; domestic investment and job creation as opposed to offshore production; consumer health and safety over short-term profitability; and sustainable economic development over environmental exploitation.

We have emphasized supporting the needs of the average working people of America and cutting programs in which taxpayers' money is used to help companies and wealthy individuals who can, and should, be self-sufficient.

A summary of this 80-page bill is available through my office. In it, the corporate welfare programs re grouped by the industries which benefit from them and are listed with estimates of their cost over a 5-year budget period based on the sources cited at the end of the summary. Projections were then estimated for an additional 2-year period to have some rough frame of reference for different approaches to balancing the Federal budget over the next 7 years.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. CHARLES PATTERSON

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give special tribute to my constituent and dear friend, Dr. Charles Patterson, superintendent of the Killeen Independent School District, Killeen, TX. Dr. Patterson has been named Superintendent of the Year for the State of Texas by the Texas Association of School Boards.

Dr. Patterson has a distinguished list of accomplishments. A past-president of both the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented and the Texas Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, he currently serves as president of the American Society for Curriculum Development and as a board member of both the Military Impacted Schools Association and the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools. In these capacities, he is widely known and respected as a champion for impact aid and as someone who cares about studying and expanding curriculum development.

Dr. Patterson has also distinguished himself in civic service to his community. He is a deacon and Sunday school teacher at the First Baptist Church of Killeen, a past-president of the Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Killeen Exchange Club. He is a fine example of someone who is devoted to serving his community and Nation. I extend my sincere appreciation and congratulations for his dedication to excellence and his commitment to guide the future of our youth toward a brighter future.

Mr. Speaker, my admiration for Dr. Patterson and my appreciation for his leadership and commitment runs deep. That is why I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognizing and honoring a true gentleman for his contribution to the school children of central Texas and of our Nation.

THE WIPE OUT OF THE CRA IS A BAD INVESTMENT

HON. HENRY B. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I am compelled to comment on some of the provisions in this ill-conceived bill that embody recommendations of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

THE COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT

The bill before us contains a gratuitous and needless attack on the Community Reinvestment Act [CRA]. Without directly repealing the CRA, the bill nonetheless wipes out the CRA. It is clear that the less than \$30 million in savings achieved by these amendments to the CRA is not the reason, they were contained in the Banking Committee's recommendations—In fact, the committee exceeded its budget targets by billions of dollars. The amendments' inclusion in the reconciliation package was part of a failed scheme by the chairman to free another, wholly unrelated piece of legislation from these gutting amendments because they were sure to incur a veto.

The CRA is a law that simply requires regulated financial institutions to help meet the credit needs of the communities they are chartered to serve, including low- and moderate-income communities. It is reported that this law has resulted in the infusion of \$60 billion into credit-starved communities across our Nation.

As a result of complaints from the banking industry about the burden of demonstrating compliance with the CRA, President Clinton ordered the regulators to revise CRA regulations, with an emphasis on performance over paperwork. After a nearly 2 year effort by the Federal Reserve Board, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Office of Thrift Supervision the regulations have been issued and have just gone into effect. Each of these regulators have objected to the committee's action to destroy the CRA. Clearly, we should give these regulations a chance to work before we reevaluate the CRA.

Most importantly, at a time when this Congress is slashing the funding that has assisted low- and moderate-income Americans, it is critical that we save a tried-and-true program that relies on private dollars. To do otherwise would be tragic for communities across this country. Moreover, to dismantle the CRA under the ruse that it is a necessary measure to save money is simply shameful.

HOUSING PROVISIONS

The lion's share of the committee's savings comes from affordable housing programs in the Republican majority's relentless political pursuit of savings at the expense of our Nation's low-income families.

The bill before us gratuitously wipes out the Resolution Trust Corporation [RTC] Affordable Housing Programs for a paltry \$31 million savings—again a savings that is completely unnecessary to meet the targets of the Banking Committee for budget reconciliation. This home ownership program has been a real success story for the RTC. More than 104,000 dwellings have been sold at a value of \$1.5 billion under the RTC Affordable Housing Program, providing shelter to hard-pressed working families of modest means. Although the RTC shuts down after this year, there will still be properties to dispose of after December 31. Once the RTC is shut down, these properties and the Affordable Housing Program will be transferred to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. To wipe out this program will have serious consequences for low-income family home ownership opportunities far beyond the meager savings gained, particularly as direct Federal spending for affordable housing dwindles.

The bill also will permit HUD to sell all HUD-owned multifamily property without providing

tenant protections or making any effort to preserve affordable housing. Last year we made significant reforms to the multifamily property disposition program with an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote of 413 to 9. The reforms balanced the need to preserve affordable rental housing, protect low-income tenants from displacement and outlandish rent increases, accelerate the property disposition process and save the Federal Government as much as \$475 million. Nothing has changed since then. The committee's contribution to reconciliation saves more than enough money without including the virtual repeal of the Multifamily Property Disposition Reform Act and without harming low-income families who will surely be displaced with no assistance and no place to go.

Finally, the bill requires section 502 single family rural housing borrowers to repay Federal subsidies at the time a home is refinanced. While I concur with the requirement that borrowers repay Federal assistance at the time of sale, I believe that the provision in the committee recommendations provides the best evidence yet that we are engaging in policy by the numbers. Simply to raise \$39 million from low-income families, this bill would discourage families from graduating from a federal loan program. A low-income family which has scrimped and saved to purchase a home in our rural communities may be forced to pay not only the principal and interest on a refinanced first mortgage, but would have to pay at least interest on the interest credit subsidy that would now be recaptured upon refinancing.

Like so much else about this bill, much of what is in the banking title makes no sense and is indefensible from any reasonable point of view.

Thanks to Cecil G. Christian, Jr., for
Your 42 Years of Service

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Cecil G. Christian, Jr., Assistant Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service [INS] Office of Records. Mr. Christian retired from the INS after 15 years overseeing and managing the INS' records activities. He left his position as the Records Officer on September 29, 1995. In 1990, he received the Commissioner's Award for Promoting Equal Employment Opportunity.

Before joining the INS, Cecil Christian was employed at the National Archives and Records Administration. There, he worked in the Office of Records as Management Analyst and Branch Analyst.

Prior to his time at the National Archives and Records Administration, Mr. Christian served his country with distinction for 20 years as an Army aviator, staff officer and commander. He served in Europe, the Middle East, and Vietnam earning the Legion of Merit, Bronze star, Air Medals, Meritorious Service Medal and Army Commendation Medal.

Cecil G. Christian, Jr. has given 42 years of honorable service to our country. It is with pride and pleasure that I commend him for the good work he performed and his sustained commitment.

BEST OF LUCK TO BOB
SCHUFREIDER

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding newsman in my district. Bob Schufreider, news director for WCCM-AM in Lawrence, MA, is leaving the station after 8½ years of dedicated service to the listeners of the Merrimack Valley and southern New Hampshire. His talents will surely be missed.

Bob came to the station from Chicago in 1987. He worked his way up from a part-time on-air personality, to covering fires, storms, and city council meetings full-time. He has hosted numerous public affairs shows, sharing important information on topics of interest to his listeners. In addition, he has broadcast countless high school football and basketball games in communities throughout my district. He will be remembered by his listeners for his smooth play-by-play and uncanny command of statistics and sports trivia.

His is a special craft, Mr. Speaker. In this era of media mergers and superstitions, what Bob, and others like him in small and medium-size markets do, is vitally important to stitching together the fabric of a diverse community. It takes a sharp eye, and a good ear, to stay rooted and connected to the community one serves. Bob has demonstrated those abilities time and time again.

He does not depart greater Lawrence with only the memories of persons interviewed and stories filed. He leaves with his wife, Kathleen McEvoy, a native of North Andover, MA, and their daughter Hannah.

On behalf of the many listeners of WCCM-AM, I wish Bob, Kathleen, and Hannah well in their new endeavors, and look forward to their return visits to his many fans in the greater Lawrence area.

TRIBUTE TO JULIA C. HESTER
HOUSE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the outstanding community service rendered by the Julia C. Hester House in my hometown of Houston, TX.

Hester House, a multiservice agency, was chartered by the State of Texas as a nonprofit corporation in June 1943. It was named for Julia C. Hester, a distinguished public servant, who lived and worked in Houston's fifth ward during the early decades of this century. Ms. Hester, a teacher by profession, welcomed neighborhood children into her home and provided a safe location for organized social activities for children of the Houston community. She was also the State leader of a fraternal organization known as Heroines of Jericho.

Unfortunately, Ms. Hester did not live to see her deeds for young people of Houston gain the wide recognition that they deserved and eventually received. In 1943, when the Houston Community Chest, now the United Way,

supported the first community center in an African American neighborhood, the fifth ward was chosen, in part, due to the contributions of Ms. Hester.

Today, I am extremely pleased to state that Hester House faithfully carries on the work of its namesake. It has a board of directors composed of 24 members and is affiliated with the United Way of Texas Gulf Coast. On an annual basis, Hester House serves over 10,000 participants, many of which have no other place to turn for assistance.

I salute Hester House for fulfilling their mission, which is "to provide social services that enhance the quality of life for the residents of the fifth ward and surrounding communities."

In a period in which so many families are in transition, I especially commend Hester House for providing services that are extremely vital to families. Hester House offers child care services, before and after school programs for older children, and a 10 week summer day camp.

One outstanding program, the Hester House's kid's way enrichment program, provides guest speakers, educational tours and trips and self-esteem training.

Their successful program for teens provides social and career development, tutorial services, athletics, recreation, alcohol and drug abuse prevention, juvenile delinquency and teenage pregnancy prevention programs during those most influential and impressionable teenage years.

The agency's reach has extended significantly beyond just offering services for children. For seniors, they offer health screening activities, nutritional meals, community service projects, exercise classes, and several other activities.

Hester House also provides emergency food and clothing distribution, student internship placement, volunteer opportunities and emergency rental assistance.

I congratulate the board of directors, the advisory board, and the staff of Julia Hester House for their outstanding and dedicated service to the House community and wish them continued success.

TRIBUTE TO JESUS "CHUEY"
GARCIA

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to honor a community leader who passed away this week—Jesus "Chuey" Garcia.

Chuey's life was woven together by his efforts to improve the lives of those around him, especially in the San Diego community of Barrio Logan.

The center of this activity was his Chuey's Numero Uno Restaurant, which became a focal point for friends and family and a site for charitable fundraisers and community meetings. Chuey often offered his restaurant to local community groups, and every Christmas would prepare in his kitchen a holiday meal for orphans in Tijuana.

Chuey Garcia first came to the United States in 1927 from his home in Central Mexico—and he never let circumstances stop him