

winning the war on drugs in the 1980's those trends have been dramatically reversed.

According to the most recent National household survey on drug abuse, marijuana use among teenagers nearly doubled between 1990 and 1994, after 13 straight years of decline. Cocaine use is also up, and today more and more teenagers and young adults are resorting to drugs from the past like heroin and LSD.

In my own congressional district, drug use is back up to its highest levels ever. In Hamilton County, OH there has been a documented and dramatic increase in the past 12 months in the use of marijuana and harder drugs. And most frightening is that drug abuse is occurring among children at younger and younger ages.

Mr. Speaker, we must take bold and aggressive action. All Americans must be involved. The fight against drug abuse has to be handled community by community, and everyone needs to be involved.

INJUSTICES OF H.R. 2491—OMNIBUS BUDGET RECONCILIATION

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

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the most egregious assault on the American people to date. Some of the missiles have already landed: \$182 billion has been cut from Medicaid, \$270 million has been cut from Medicare. Now that the enemy has pilaged these areas, they now seek to launch an all out offensive to achieve their ultimate victory—a tax cut for the wealthiest 10 percent of Americans.

The great injustices of history have been committed in the name of unchecked and unbridled majority rule. The Framers of the Constitution warned us about the tyranny of the majority. Their fears have become reality. The safety net of America is being snatched from under them. Affordable housing programs within the RTC and FDIC have been terminated. Some \$10 billion has been cut from student loans. The earned income tax credit will be reduced by 18 percent. Keep in mind, that individuals who receive EITC have an average income of \$11,000. The Republican majority has turned its back on the American people. This measure is tantamount to thievery—the theft of the sanctity of the American people.

BALANCING THE BUDGET IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO FOR OUR FUTURE

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, let me just read a quote from Ronald Reagan's first inaugural address:

... The crisis we are facing today requires our best effort and our willingness to believe in ourselves and to believe in our capacity to perform great deeds, to believe that together with God's help we can and will resolve the problems which now confront us. After all, why should we not believe that? We are Americans. That is just as true today as it was during the first inaugural address.

Mr. Speaker, the problem of having yearly billion-dollar deficits has to end. Period. The Federal Government cannot continue on the path it is on. This is not a Democrat or Republican problem, it is an everyone's problem. Congress can no longer run away from this problem like a bunch of scared chickens.

Today Congress will have the opportunity to put the Federal Government squarely on the path to a balanced budget. It must be done. It is the right thing to do for America's future. It will be done because we are Americans.

CHRISTMAS IN OCTOBER

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

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans are at it again. The party for the rich and famous has devised a budget plan in which all Americans lose, except the wealthy. Yes, Mr. Speaker, it is Christmas in October for all of those wealthy Republican campaign contributors because the Republicans are repaying them with generous tax breaks. Meanwhile, everyone else gets the short end of the stick.

Under the Republican's reverse Robin Hood budget plan, so many programs that middle class and working families depend on—education, Medicare, Medicaid, child nutrition, Head Start, daycare, earned income tax credit, and housing, just to name a few, are being robbed while the wealthiest corporations and individuals will reap a \$245 billion tax cut.

Mr. Speaker, in order to balance the budget, a shared sacrifice is necessary; everyone must make sacrifices, not just the middle class and working people.

The Republican budget plan will hurt American families. When it comes to family values, the Republican Party talks the talk but they certainly do not walk the walk. This budget proves it.

TODAY REPUBLICANS DELIVER CLINTON ADMINISTRATION'S PROMISE

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

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, a child born today will pay an average of \$187,000 in taxes over 75 years just to cover his or her share of the interest on the national debt. Let me repeat that—a child born today will owe \$187,000 just on the interest of the national debt.

Mr. Speaker, for too long our Federal Government has squandered away the future of American families and their children. The Republican majority made a promise to the people to reduce the size of the Federal Government, balance the budget, and reduce overburdensome taxes, all in order to provide hope for the future. Today, we will pass the budget reconciliation bill which puts us on the path to a balanced budget by the year 2002.

Mr. Speaker, what the Clinton administration has promised, the Republicans will actually deliver.

THE REPUBLICANS' OUTRAGEOUS MEDICARE CUTS

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

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans' budget cut Medicare funding by \$250 billion, and it is outrageous. Have they no shame?

The Republicans should not force those persons among us, who have the greatest needs, to suffer.

What my Republican colleagues are doing to our elderly and our disabled is disgraceful.

I am extremely concerned that our rural and inner-city hospitals are at serious risk. These huge Republican cuts, along with the steady increase in uncompensated care burden, would place these hospitals in jeopardy, and the hospitals have limited or no ability to shift the costs to payers.

The quality and access to needed health care is severely threatened.

The Republican's Medicare cuts are outrageous.

Because they refuse to listen to logic, it is my prayer that the American public hear me and that they will insist that this budget be vetoed.

□ 0930

THE CUBAN LIBERTY AND DEMOCRATIC SOLIDARITY ACT

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

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. DIAZ-BALART], a member of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, could my colleagues imagine if during the Holocaust there had been a visit here by Hitler, and the press would have asked him "Who designs your suits? What is your favorite sport in the Olympics?" That is what we just saw during the visit by the Cuban tyrant, where some of our colleagues, as a matter of fact, met with him, and say now they are going to lead CODELS to go down there and lobby for the end of sanctions against him.

Some businessmen met with Castro and are asking him, "How many jobs can we transfer to your slave economy

to take away from American workers?" That is the reality of this visit that we just saw, the pathetic visit we just saw.

The answer of this House, and I want to thank the chairman of the Committee on Rules, as well as the leadership, for inserting in the bill that we are going to be discussing today, the answer of the American people and their representatives to the disgusting visit by the Cuban tyrant, is the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity Act. It is going to be passed again today, and it is the answer to this disgusting visit by the American people.

PERMISSION FOR CERTAIN COMMITTEES AND THEIR SUBCOMMITTEES TO SIT TODAY DURING 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following committees and their subcommittees be permitted to sit today while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole under the 5-minute rule: The Committee on Commerce, the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, the Committee on International Relations, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Resources, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

It is my understanding that the minority has been consulted and that there is no objection to these requests.

Mr. BEILENSEN. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, we have no objection to this request, but pending it, we would like our side to have one additional 1-minute, if that is all right with the gentleman on the other side.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). The Chair will recognize the gentleman for one 1-minute.

Mr. BEILENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

THE BUDGET RECONCILIATION BILL AND CHILDREN

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my outrage that, in the Republican rush to bestow a \$245 billion tax cut for America's wealthiest citizens, we are being asked to leave the futures of our children behind. This is nothing less than immoral.

While the wealthiest Americans will receive a \$20,000 windfall under the Republican budget, our Nation's abused and neglected children will suffer under a 19 percent cut in funding for programs offering child protection. By 2002, almost 200,000 children will be denied access to Head Start. Medicaid coverage for as many as 4.4 million children will be eliminated by 2002.

And the Republican budget denies 1 million women infant mortality assistance, affecting the births of 74,000 in-

fants each year, giving new meaning to the phrase, "women and children first."

Mr. Speaker, let us not throw our Nation's children overboard. Let us reject these immoral cuts, and oppose the Republican budget reconciliation bill.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 109, SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING SOCIAL SECURITY EARNINGS TEST REFORM, AND FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2491, SEVEN-YEAR BALANCED BUDGET RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 245 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 245

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 109) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for reform of the social security earnings limit, if called up by the majority leader or his designee. The concurrent resolution shall be debatable for twenty minutes equally divided and controlled by the majority leader and the minority leader or their designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the concurrent resolution to final adoption without intervening motion.

SEC. 2. At any time after the adoption of this resolution, the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2491) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1996. All time for general debate under the terms of the order of the House of October 24, 1995, shall be considered as expired. Further general debate shall be confined to the bill and amendments specified in this resolution and shall not exceed three hours equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 2517, modified by the amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. No further amendment shall be in order except the further amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 2530, which may be offered only by the minority leader or his designee, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amendment. All points of order against the further amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. After a motion that the Committee rise has been rejected on a day, the Chair may entertain another such motion on that day only if offered by the chairman of the Committee on the Budget or

the majority leader or a designee of either. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendment as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The motion to recommit may include instructions only if offered by the minority leader or his designee. The yeas and nays shall be considered as ordered on the question of passage of the bill and on any conference report thereon. Clause 5(c) of rule XXI shall not apply to the bill, amendments thereof, or conference reports thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. BEILENSEN], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of the resolution, all time yielded is for purposes of debate only.

(Mr. SOLOMON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 245 is the customary restrictive rule for considering reconciliation legislation.

In this case the rule first makes in order the consideration in the House of a sense of the Congress resolution, House Congress Resolution 109, introduced by Mr. HASTERT. That resolution expresses the intent of Congress to pass legislation before the end of this year to raise the Social Security earnings limit for working seniors aged 65 through 69.

That is an important commitment we made in our Contract With America and we intend to keep that commitment to America's senior citizens.

Unfortunately, the Budget Act prohibits the consideration of legislation amending the Social Security Act as part of reconciliation. But we will vote on and pass this as a separate bill before this session adjourns.

Mr. Speaker, following 20 minutes of debate on that resolution, and a vote on its adoption, the rule provides for the further consideration of H.R. 2491, the Seven Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995.

And, oh, how the title of this bill says it all—the "Seven-Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995." Today we are bringing to final fruition our efforts of the past 10 months to deliver to the American people on our promise to balance the budget in 7 years.

Yesterday, we had a full 3 hours of general debate on that bill pursuant to a unanimous-consent request that was granted in consultation with the minority leadership.

Today this rule provides for another 3 hours of general debate before we