

Well, if you are a senior, and the GOP raises your Medicare premium—that is a new tax.

If you are working 40 hours a week, and the GOP takes away your earned income tax credit—that is a new tax.

In fact that is a Newt tax.

So, Mr. Speaker, "Read our lips. No Newt Taxes."

George Bush broke his word, and NEWT GINGRICH is breaking his. But, we Democrats will stand by our word—and stand up for working families.

"Read our lips. No Newt Taxes."

Mr. Speaker, that is our Contract With America.

INSTANT REVISIONIST HISTORY

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to my dear friend from Illinois and his instant revisionist history, because the fact remains that the current Chief Executive, aided by the former majority, the liberals who once dominated this Chamber, gave us the largest tax increase in American history. Indeed, this same President, along with the liberal minority, in fact, proposes to raise Medicare premiums for seniors coming up following the next election. That is the bottom line. That is the truth.

Mr. Speaker, the facts are clear: The American people get kind of tired of this political one-upmanship. They want us to come to grips with realistic policy alternatives to balance this budget in 7 years, using the honest numbers of the nonpartisan Budget Office.

Once again the challenge is clear: Do we play the games of politics of the past, or instant revisionist history, or do we put our shoulder to the wheel and collectively govern, both the legislative branch working with the executive branch. Once again we reach out our hand saying help us govern. Let us get a balanced budget.

LET US BE MESSENGERS OF PEACE AND GOOD WILL

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

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, the holiday season offers us an opportunity to pray for peace among men and nations. We have so much to be thankful for. So different from a decade ago, the world is a much more peaceful place. In large part our Nation, its leaders, its men and women in uniform, its people, united and proud, are responsible for this state of affairs.

As we take time to count these many blessings, we should reflect upon the efforts of the peacemakers, whether they be diplomats who have worked to overcome age-old hatreds by pushing forward a hard-fought agreement in

Dayton or our soldiers protecting innocent children in Bosnia, we should pray for their safety and continued success. We should thank and pray for our President, who has been the motivating force behind this effort to bring peace behind the world.

I urge my colleagues to wear the stickers I have sent to each office. This can be a sign that we can rise above partisan wrangling to rally in support of the peacemakers, and cheer their many triumphs in Haiti, the Mideast, Northern Ireland, and Bosnia.

Mr. Speaker, let us all be messengers of peace and good will as we approach the holidays, and pray for our American soldiers in Bosnia.

PRESIDENT SHOULD SIGN BALANCED BUDGET BILL NOW

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker it has now been 18 days since the President promised in writing to sign a balanced budget bill into law by the end of this year. The Republicans have sent a balanced budget bill to the President—it is right now sitting on this desk just waiting to be signed.

The Republican balanced budget plan is good for the economy and good for the American people. Our bill will not only stimulate the economy, providing more job opportunities for all, but protects programs older Americans depend on like Medicare and Medicaid. Our bill also increases spending over 7 years in programs like student loans and the earned income tax credit, which many young people depend on.

Mr. Speaker, the President should sign the Republican balanced budget bill. If he does not like our plan then he should provide his own, using honest CBO numbers, and bring it to the bargaining table so that negotiations can begin. How much longer will we have to wait.

NORTH AMERICAN FREE-TRADE AGREEMENT COSTING JOBS IN AMERICA

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, since NAFTA, America has lost 250,000 jobs in 1995 alone. Lockheed laid off 15,000; Chemical Bank, 12,000; Bell South, 11,000; AT&T, 8,500; Boeing, 12,000; CNA, 6,000; Kmart, 6,000; General Motors, 5,000; Kodak, 4,000. Even Fruit of the Loom will make the Expandos, folks, in Mexico, 3,200 jobs lost. Meanwhile, Congress keeps debating and arguing over this balanced budget.

Tell me, Mr. Speaker, whether it is a 5-year deal, a 7-year deal, a 10-year deal, whatever the deal is, how can America balance the budget without jobs? Mexican workers do not pay taxes. Mexican workers do not pay taxes. What is next, a 20-year deal?

Beam me up. I yield back the balance of these job losses.

PROCTER & GAMBLE DOING SERVICE FOR AMERICA

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, in the midst of very pressing congressional business involving the budget, Bosnia, and the like, it sometimes is easy to overlook important events outside the legislative realm. But actions that affect our social fabric, that speak to our values as a society, often have the most profound impact upon our Nation.

I rise here to applaud the recent announcement that Procter & Gamble, a fine Cincinnati-based corporation that makes just about every product that you can buy, has decided to pull its advertising from certain degrading and exploitative television talk shows. In taking this principled stance involving its quite considerable ad budget, Procter & Gamble demonstrates an admirable social commitment.

Procter & Gamble is exercising choice, not censorship. It is choosing not to underwrite the moral decadence too often engaged in by these shows.

Private individuals and private businesses can address many of our social problems far more effectively than can Big Brother Government. By making values part of its bottom line and by joining with Bill Bennett and Senator JOE LIEBERMAN in taking off this TV trash, they are doing great things for our country.

CUT AMERICAN LOSSES ON NAFTA BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, in light of NAFTA's second anniversary a few weeks ago, we must take a long, hard look at the empty promises that were made and NAFTA's shameful reality.

We promised American workers that NAFTA would create jobs. Corporations descended on Congress promising 200,000 new jobs. The shameful truth is 250,000 were lost.

Mexican workers heard empty promises, too. They were assured higher wages and better working conditions. I witnessed NAFTA's reality first hand at Mexican maquiladoras. Some of the businesses that came to Congress making promises have left the United States and found their way to Mexico. They exploit cheap labor and Mexican workers still suffer.

We listened to promises that NAFTA would increase exports, balance trade, and even create a trade surplus. The reality is United States exports are down while Mexican exports soar. This year alone we face a projected \$40 billion trade deficit.

Mr. Speaker, these broken promises mean one thing. The time has come to fix this bad deal. I urge my colleagues to support the NAFTA Accountability Act and cut America's losses before it is too late.

BALANCED BUDGET IN 7 YEARS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO

(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, it is reported today that the President has decided to submit his third budget this year. This one is to balance in 7 years. Well, I hope three is a charm. The first two did not even come close to balancing.

But I would hope it is like the President's Medicare proposal, because, as reported yesterday in the Washington Post, if you look at expenditures in the year 2002, it is remarkably close to the Republican plan. In fact, it is less than 2 percentage points apart, less than 2 percentage points apart. Where are the cuts, Mr. President?

Well, according to this article, the President just had the wrong starting point. So if his balanced budget is as close as his Medicare plan, there is no reason for him to shut down the Government again.

Let us do the right thing for the American public, the right thing for ourselves, the right thing for our children. Let us balance the budget in 7 years.

BUDGET COMPROMISE

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the President has made a fair compromise offer to our appropriations woes. President Clinton has offered to sign all of the outstanding appropriations bills if we agree to restore \$6.8 billion from the \$222 billion extreme cuts in those spending bills. The administration wants to restore funding for education, for veterans, and for environmental efforts.

Mr. Speaker, this is a hopeful sign. The administration has signaled their effort to compromise and get the issues of the remaining appropriations bills dealt with so the taxpayers do not have to spend another \$850 million to give our Federal employees a paid vacation.

It is time to compromise. The American people have signaled they believe these Republican appropriations bills cut too much, too fast. They want to restore funding for education, veterans, housing, and environmental programs, and then get about the business of setting the priorities for a balanced budget.

With the bipartisan success we saw in the lobby reform bill, the increase in Social Security earnings limits yester-

day, and the gift ban last week, I believe we can work together for the good of the American people and pass some commonsense appropriations bills that fund these important programs and cut where needed.

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THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION FOR BALANCED BUDGET IN 104TH CONGRESS

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, more than 2½ weeks ago President Clinton signed the following commitment into law. This is the text, so there is no confusion. I quote. "The President and the Congress shall enact legislation in the first session of the 104th Congress," that is 1995, "to achieve a balanced budget no later than fiscal year 2002, as estimated by the Congressional Budget Office; and the President and the Congress agree that the balanced budget must protect future generations, ensure Medicare solvency, reform welfare, and provide adequate funding for Medicaid, education, agriculture, national defense, veterans, and the environment. Further, the balanced budget shall adopt tax policies to help working families and to stimulate future economic growth."

The Congress did this long ago. The President says he does not like the Republican balanced budget plan. That is fine, but where is the President's alternative 7-year budget plan with CBO numbers? Mr. Speaker, the President has made a commitment. The deadline is Friday. We are waiting.

VOTE TO SAVE COPS PROGRAM

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

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, today, we will vote on the Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary appropriation bill, which contains the COPS Program. Not only does this bill do away with the successful COPS Program, but if we look on page 21 of the bill, it repudiates the COPS contract that the Department of Justice has signed with our local communities. If my colleagues have received a police officer in their district under the COPS Program, Federal funding for the third year of this program may be taken away.

Having walked a beat myself as a city police officer, I am concerned that not only does the police officer have to worry about his or her personal safety and the community's safety, but now they have to worry about their employment security and safety. The new majority wishes to break the contract with our police officers. Fifty-four po-

lice officers in my district are at risk. So let us stand up for the police officers in our communities, let us not allow this new majority to risk the employment opportunities for our police officers. Vote "yes" on the Democratic motion to recommit to save the COPS Program and continue employment of cops in your district.

AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT A BALANCED BUDGET AND THEY WANT IT NOW

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

Mr. CHRYSLER. Mr. Speaker, the Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary bill will come to the floor today, and it cuts more than the House bill originally did and takes a meaningful first step toward eliminating the Commerce Department, which will be passed this year in Congress and will be on the President's desk.

Also, Mr. Speaker, the results are in on the largest public opinion poll ever taken: 7,200 registered voters. Eighty-six percent believe the President and Congress should deal with the budget issues now instead of after next year's elections; 73 percent agree that unless the President and the Congress stick to a 7-year deadline neither will balance the budget and eliminate the deficit; and 55 percent think money should be reduced by the Federal level and given back to the States and local governments who know better how to spend it.

Mr. Speaker, the results are in, the opinion is clear, the American people want a balanced budget and they want it now. The President should offer his budget now, finally.

REPUBLICANS WANT TO RAID CRIME TRUST FUND

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, today is an important day for law enforcement across America. Our Republican friends want to raid the crime trust fund and jerk a commitment of 100,000 police officers who will be on our streets, protecting our neighborhoods. It is time to stand up for our cops.

And what about law enforcement in our own neighborhood, right here on the floor of Congress? Twice now the American people have been denied the right to know what the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct has been doing the last 14 months concerning these serious ethics charges against Speaker GINGRICH.

Finally, our Republican colleagues seem willing to permit an outside real prosecutor, so long as that prosecutor's hands are tied and bound from doing anything about the serious charges of