

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, as we begin to consider how to balance the budget this week, we must remember people. Let us not balance the budget on the backs of our senior citizens.

We do not need \$245 billion in tax breaks for the wealthiest 1 percent of this country and for large corporations. We must keep in mind what our decisions do to ordinary people.

One of my citizens recently wrote to me, and if I can quote from that letter:

We used all of our life savings on Medicare and doctor bills for our golden years and now we are on Medicaid. If it were not for the help from Medicaid, we would both die. Please help us and do not let the Republicans take this away from us, because I am so afraid of this happening. With all of our medical problems, we still carry our high insurance, even though I have to borrow the money from family, and they really do not have it to give. And our insurance stops at 65. Then where will we be? Please help us.

Let us help the ordinary citizens of this country. Let us repeal the tax breaks for the wealthiest and the large corporations of this country. Let us put people first and not corporate welfare first.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET PUNISHES POOR CHILDREN

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, when it comes to taking care of children, the Gingrich welfare reform bill says, if you are a poor kid, do not get sick. Because we learned today that the Speaker does not have any qualms about taking away children's health insurance. In fact, his welfare reform bill takes Medicaid from AFDC recipients.

This hits home to me, because 28 years ago I was forced to go on welfare to provide my three children with the medical coverage and the health coverage they needed through Medicaid. I know what it is like to lie awake at night, worried to death that one of my children might get sick.

Mr. Speaker, I will not stand by quietly as the Speaker of the House tries to force this agony on other mothers, other mothers who are trying so hard to do what is best for their children.

Mr. Speaker, welfare reform is not supposed to be about punishing poor children. It is about improving their lives by giving their parents the education, the job training and the child care needed to get a job so that they can stay off welfare permanently.

□ 1445

LET US GET THE JOB DONE

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

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, let me remind people one more time that September 30 was the end of the fiscal year, and we did not get our job done. Now to be talking about shutting down Government because we did not do our job is absolutely outrageous. The only people that get hurt by this are the taxpayers. They are going to pay more and get less, which is absolutely the inverse of what they want. They would like to pay less and get more. So we got it wrong.

Now, we ought to move on these bills, get them done, get our work done. It is so late, if any other American had their work that late, they would be fired.

Then we ought to move on to getting this budget put together. It is not about whether we are going to have a balanced budget in 7 years. Both sides agree to that. It is whether we are going to have a huge tax cut for the rich that has been called the crown jewel of the contract.

Well, I am not sure with a country that runs this kind of deficit we need to be giving out jewels to the rich. That is what it is all about. Keep that focus, get the work done, and for heaven's sakes, get this body out of here for the holidays.

DEMOCRATS WILL PROTECT SENIORS AND STUDENTS

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

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, at a time when the Republicans continue to cut, slash, and rip almost all of the programs designed for our seniors and our children, the country should know that the Democrats in this Congress are fighting the extreme forces of right-wing radicals.

While our Republican colleagues have chosen to serve the special interests of the rich by their sponsorship of the greedy and selfish \$245 billion tax break for the wealthy, we Democrats are fighting for the many programs that are vital to working Americans. We Democrats are fighting to preserve Medicare, which will cost over \$450,000 loss to one hospital, Baptist Princeton in my district, from now and each year thereafter until the year 2002.

While we are fighting to preserve Medicaid, the Republicans are cutting long-term and acute care all across this country. While we are fighting to preserve education, the Republicans are cutting math programs, reading programs, Head Start, and other job-related programs.

Mr. Speaker, it should be obvious that the Democrats are fighting for the working men and women of America and the Republicans are fighting to serve their rich masters.

BALANCED BUDGET SHOULD PROTECT MEDICAID

(Mr. OLVER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, in the budget continuing resolution the Government is operating under, Republicans committed to a balanced budget that must provide adequate funding for Medicaid.

But by slashing Medicaid by \$163 billion, their budget plan threatens the health security of disabled and elderly Americans and the income security of the families who love them.

The Republican plan completely eliminates the guarantee of long-term care.

It allows the States to go after every penny—and every piece of property—held by families of those who need nursing care.

And all to give \$245 billion in tax breaks mostly to the very wealthiest among us.

Republicans should live up to their agreement and support a budget that protects Medicaid, rather than obliterating it.

BOSNIA PEACEKEEPING MISSION DESERVES SUPPORT

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, I joined a fact-finding trip to Bosnia. I left with strong reservations about our military mission there, but I have returned with the knowledge that our troops are ready and our mission is clear. I have also returned with a belief that we have a moral obligation to do what only a U.S.-led force can do: Keep the peace.

One of the highlights of our trip was a stopover in Germany to visit with American troops who will be deployed in the coming weeks. While there, I had a chance to speak with a young soldier from New London, CT, Pvt. Jarion Clarke. Private Clarke told me that he is well trained, has faith in his leaders, and believes in the United States mission in Bosnia.

I asked Private Clarke what I could do for him: "Tell the American people that we are ready and we need their support," he said. So, that is the message I bring. Our soldiers need our support. They deserve our support. The peace-keeping mission in Bosnia deserves our support.

SUPPORT THE TROOPS IN BOSNIA

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I wish to echo the sentiments of the previous speaker, the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO). I, too, was on that mission. I, too, had serious reservations of going into the Balkans. We covered five countries in 4 days in that weekend period with a bipartisan delegation of

outstanding Members of this U.S. House of Representatives.

I came back most impressed with Snuffy Smith, the admiral, and General Crouch, who have charge of our troops. These men know what they are doing. These troops are ready; they are well trained. It is not risk-free, but the western alliance and America's status in this world is at stake in this matter.

One person said something that will last with me forever, and that is that the people in the Balkans need a period of decency.

I have never seen such devastation as we saw in Sarajevo. I ask of this House when we consider, if we do, any resolution, that we take into consideration the immense need to support the troops of the United States of America.

NOT A BALANCED BUDGET

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

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, in today's USA Today on page 7 is an ad that contains the following advertisement where the National Republican Party offers a million dollars to the first citizen who can prove that the following statement is false: "In November 1995, the U.S. House and Senate passed a balanced budget bill." Then it goes on to talk about the increases in spending for Medicare.

In November 1995 the House and Senate passed a budget bill that increases the annual operating deficit of this country by \$33 billion. You see, next year's annual operating deficit will be \$296 billion, of which \$118 billion will be stolen from the trust funds that you good people are paying into on your Social Security and other programs.

That is not a balanced budget. Mr. Barber, you can write the check care of the University of Southern Mississippi scholarship fund. You are out \$1 million.

DISCHARGING COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS AND REREFERRAL TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE OF H.R. 2415, TIMOTHY C. McCAGHREN CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent the Committee on Ways and Means be discharged from consideration of the bill (H.R. 2415) to designate the U.S. Customs Administrative Building at the Ysleta/Zaragosa Port of Entry located at 797 South Ysleta in El Paso, Texas, as the "Timothy C. McCaghren Customs Administrative Building," and that the bill be rereferred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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

There was no objection.

CORRECTIONS CALENDAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING). This is the day for the call of the Corrections Calendar.

The Clerk will call the first bill on the Corrections Calendar.

REPEALING SACCHARIN NOTICE REQUIREMENT

The Clerk called the bill (H.R. 1787) to amend the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act to repeal the saccharin notice requirement.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 1787

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. NOTICE REQUIREMENT REPEAL.

Section 403 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 343) is amended by striking paragraph (p).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. BILIRAKIS] and the gentleman from California [Mr. WAXMAN] each will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida [Mr. BILIRAKIS].

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1787, legislation to repeal an unnecessary saccharin notice requirement that, with the passage of time, has become redundant and unnecessary.

In 1977 Congress passed a law preventing FDA from banning the use of saccharin. As an interim measure, the law required stores that sold products containing saccharin to post warnings until package labeling would include the required warning.

As warnings are now on all packages containing saccharin, there is no reason to maintain an unnecessary warning requirement. Eliminating this requirement will save retailers—and ultimately consumers—from unnecessary compliance costs.

I want to commend the sponsors of this legislation for bringing this bill forward, especially the gentleman from California [Mr. BILBRAY]. I also want to commend the Speaker's Advisory Group on Corrections that includes the ranking member of the Health and Environment Subcommittee that identified this bill as a candidate for the Corrections Calendar.

I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their support of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation. It is a good candidate for the Corrections Day Calendar because this bill would correct a provision in law that requires the posting of a

warning sign about the potential dangers of saccharin which is really no longer necessary. It was put into the original law dealing with saccharin at a time when we thought there ought to be a warning until such time as the label itself on the product contained the information to advise consumers.

I think that the gentleman from California [Mr. BILBRAY], my friend and colleague, is to be commended for bringing this issue to our attention. This is a bill that no one should disagree with. It is correcting a problem. I think that it is overdue. I would urge support for this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California [Mr. BILBRAY].

(Mr. BILBRAY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1787. First, I would like to begin by thanking the gentleman from California [Mr. COX] and the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. BURR], who joined me in introducing this common sense correction bill back in June.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Florida [Mr. BILIRAKIS] and the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BLILEY], who have guided this bill through subcommittee and committee and brought it to this process of corrections day with the support of the gentlewoman from Nevada [Mrs. VUCANOVICH].

The focus of this bill's correction is a classic example of the need of the correction day and the intent that was stated by the Speaker in the days that he introduced it. This bill is a good example of how we can streamline existing law and make more sensible, effective law out of a system that needs updating.

H.R. 1787 will eliminate a once-needed but now unnecessary regulation while continuing to provide consumer information and protection to small business owners and consumers alike.

The need for this bill, Mr. Speaker, became apparent last year when 54 retail companies in California were served a complaint under the State's bounty hunter statute. This complaint alleged that the stores had failed to maintain a saccharin warning sign in violation of Federal law. In April of this year, more than 20 supermarket companies in North Carolina were threatened with lawsuits for failure to have the warning signs posted.

Mr. Speaker, many of these stores that are affected are mom-and-pop operations and the signs might have got lost, might have been stolen, could have fallen behind the charcoal briquettes in the front of the store. They may have even been unaware that the regulation existed at all.

□ 1500

In any event, I think we can agree that a lawsuit on this ground would