

dren's nutrition, and leaves us with millions of hungry or malnourished kids. What a strange way to invest in this country's future.

Our Republican colleagues say these cuts are only intended to eliminate bureaucracy or waste. If that were the case, we would all vote for them.

The truth is that Republicans are playing a dangerous shell game. They want to shift the responsibility for children's health to the States, but cut billions of dollars of funding that the States would need to provide that help. These extremists say we cannot afford to support food for hungry children in America, but actually they are making these cuts to finance fantasy projects like star wars and massive tax cuts for the less than 1 percent of Americans who make over \$200,000 per year.

□ 0915

Mr. Speaker, I have heard from hundreds of parents, day care providers, and teachers who know the importance of good childhood nutrition. Perhaps if children could vote, they would not be trashed by the Contract on America.

WELCOME TO BILL CLINTON'S AMERICA

(Mrs. SMITH of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, here is what Bill Clinton's Big Government agenda has wrought.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission last year investigated a woman's complaint that a company refused to offer her a job after she told them of her disability. What was the disability? Well, it was a molar that contained a microchip that "spoke" to her and others.

Now the EEOC took the complaint seriously, and forced company officials to respond and supply "any supporting documentation."

One can only wonder what that supporting documentation might look like.

Welcome to Bill Clinton's America.

This is just another example why we need to pass the Regulatory Transition Act, a bill that will institute a moratorium on new Federal regulations while including some commonsense exceptions.

Americans are sick of Big Brother Government, Mr. Speaker. Let us get on with cutting Big Brother down to size.

LET US KEEP THE NUTRITION PROGRAMS

(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, guess who is going to pay for all those political promises, to the rich, of a tax cut? We now know. America's poorest children. We see them cutting and

slashing with glee the nutrition programs that feed the lowest income children in America. That program was started in 1946 after World War II, when America became so concerned that many of the recruits could not pass muster because of malnutrition.

Mr. Speaker, imagine a country that feeds the world now refusing to feed their own children so they can feed the fat cats that came to the fancy dinner. That is what this is about.

How awful it is to see America's politicians pull up to the table as they start slashing their budget and throw children out first. Children should be the last to go out, and now we see that they are the first to go out.

I hope that sends a real message as to what their vision of America is about. It is not mine.

TEAM AMERICA NEEDS A TIMEOUT

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, in football or basketball, a team may call a timeout when they have lost control of the game and they need time to get their act together. Sometimes you need that timeout to catch your breath or slow your opponent's momentum.

Well, I happen to believe that the Federal Government has lost control of the regulatory process in America. That's why we need to take a timeout from passing new regulations.

As we speak, the Clinton administration is planning to pursue another 4,300 new regulations for this fiscal year. That is too much, especially from an administration that claims to be reinventing Government.

Mr. Speaker, Team America needs a timeout to stop our opponents, Team Regulation, from running roughshod over us. Let's vote for H.R. 450 and return sanity back to Federal regulations.

ALLEGED VIOLATIONS UNDERSCORE NEED FOR OUTSIDE INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

(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, the ethical cloud hanging over Speaker GINGRICH's head grows darker each day. Despite the Speaker's contention that his college course is purely an academic venture, Kennesaw State College officials, where the course was once taught, tell a different story.

According to news reports, Timothy Mescon, the dean of Kennesaw College, now says that political and academic resources were commingled in the class.

In 1993, 40 of Speaker GINGRICH's colleagues at Kennesaw College wrote to the dean to protest the political nature of his course. They wrote: "It appears

that we are all acting as a part of the reelection campaign for Mr. GINGRICH, or laying the groundwork for his future political ambitions." Finally, Lois Kubal, who helped put the course together, said: "The class * * * was intended to be partisan and very political."

If these latest allegations by former Gingrich allies are true, the Speaker's course is in violation of both campaign finance laws and tax laws. They underscore the need for an independent, outside counsel to investigate this mess.

RESTORING REASON TO THE REGULATORY PROCESS

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

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, last fall Republicans promised the American people we would reduce the size and cost of the Federal Government and we are keeping that promise with unfunded mandates reform and the line-item veto. We will continue to keep our promise by cutting the Federal regulations that are choking the life out of the little guy—small business and its consumers.

Mr. Speaker, Federal regulations are costing consumers over \$500 billion a year. That is right—red tape is costing \$10,000 a year for the average family of four. These regulations can be even more costly to a small business. One small business was fined \$6,000 because an employee violated OSHA rules when he rescued a coworker trapped under a pile of dirt.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to restore reason and common sense to the regulatory process. We need to continue to work in a bipartisan way to reduce necessary and overbearing Federal regulations.

KEEP THE CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

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

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, Marie Antoinette said, "Let them eat cake." I believe the Republicans have said very loudly, "Let them eat ketchup." As a parent, I know what it is to have children in school, participating in programs that help them survive. I realize that when you talk about children, they do not vote.

But I find the Republican proposal to cut school lunches absolutely appalling. Over 13 million children and their parents rely on the school nutrition programs. If the Republicans are allowed to cut \$5 billion over the next 5 years from the WIC and child nutrition programs, our children will be the losers.

Today 5 million children under 12 are hungry. I simply want to show you the

trict, from the Julia C. Hester House in Houston, TX. This House has a compelling obligation to insure that no child in this Nation goes to bed hungry.

It has become evident to me that Republicans care only about one thing: the time remaining in their contract.

I believe the American people want a humane country; they want a country that is good for children. They want our children to eat.

Do not cut school lunches; do not cut nutrition programs for our children.

ANOTHER REGULATION IN BILL CLINTON'S AMERICA

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

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, John Shuler, a Montana rancher, was fined \$4,000 in 1993 for violating the Endangered Species Act. What was Mr. Shuler's crime? He shot and killed a grizzly bear that charged him on his own property.

Welcome to Bill Clinton's America.

This is just another of the many examples of outrageous Federal regulations that are hurting American competitiveness and, more simply, ticking Americans off.

I think it is incredibly important to understand the regulatory mindset that is at work in this administration. It is a mindset that assumes the worst about our fellow Americans, whether they be businessmen, property owners, or workers.

But all that begins to change when we pass the Regulatory Transition Act, which will institute a moratorium on new regulations. This moratorium will allow us time to carefully consider the entire issue of Federal regulation and to pass laws that preserve important safeguards while repealing those regulations that are counterproductive. This is what Americans said they wanted on November 8. And this is what we will deliver.

STOP DECLARING WAR ON OUR KIDS

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, the Gingrich Republicans are now calling for an end to our national program of free and low-cost school lunches. The message of the Gingrich Republicans to America's hungry children is clear: "Let them eat the Republican Contract."

It is sad that our Republican colleagues have not taken the time to meet with teachers, who will tell you that for many of our Nation's kids the school lunch is the only nutritious meal in their day, the only way to help a listless child get ready to learn. Why are the Gingrich Republicans gutting the school lunch program? So that

they can give tax breaks to the wealthy, a group well represented by the lobbyists in this town.

Well, America's kids need their lobbyists in Washington, too. America needs to give the Gingrich Republicans a clear message: Stop declaring war on our kids.

THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

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

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, in the last Congress, rats, bugs, and even weeds were more important than people. Certain bureaucrats have become so eager to list new species as endangered, they have lost sight of the intent of the Endangered Species Act and ignored human concerns.

The Stephens kangaroo rat, considered not only to be endangered, was partly responsible for the destruction of 29 homes in my district. In fall 1993, southern California was battling several wildfires. Because homeowners lived in critical habitat they were unable to obey California law and clear dry weeds and brush away from their homes. It was even illegal for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to set controlled fires so that they could reduce the amount of combustible materials. The result: 29 homes destroyed.

Well, Mr. Speaker, yesterday we struck a blow to rats and scored a touchdown for the American people. The Combest-Condit amendment to H.R. 450 sets not only a moratorium to the Endangered Species Act, but is retroactive to November 20, 1994. This may not bring back the 29 homes in my district, but it will help the American people realize that this Congress thinks they are more important than rats, bugs, and weeds.

FUNDING FOR THE CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to cuts in funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. There are those who say we should abolish public radio and sell public television to cable. To those of my colleagues, I say to you, there are people in our country who cannot afford to pay \$400 a year for cable. There are those who will be left out and left behind, those who will be left in the dark, left in silence.

I know what it is like growing up in rural America. I grew up on a small farm just outside Troy, AL, in the heart of the segregated South.

Radio was my window to the larger world. It was on the radio that I first heard the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. I heard his voice—the voice of

the civil rights movement—and it became my cause, my purpose and my mission for the next 30 years of my life. That voice changed my life and the lives of millions of Americans.

Today, public broadcasting reaches out across this country, bringing non-violent children's shows, news, and job training programs. It brings light and hope into every corner of this Nation. Some of my colleagues say we cannot afford public broadcasting. I say, can we afford to live without it?

REGULATORY TRANSITION ACT OF 1995

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DICKY). Pursuant to House Resolution 93 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 450.

□ 0929

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 450) to ensure economy and efficiency of Federal Government operations by establishing a moratorium on regulatory rulemaking actions, and for other purposes, with Mr. LAHOOD in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, February 23, 1995, the amendment offered by the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. HAYES] had been disposed of and the bill was open for amendment at any point.

Three hours and thirty minutes remain for consideration of amendments under the 5-minute rule.

Are there further amendments to the bill?

□ 0930

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Chairman, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. VOLKMER. My inquiry is, Mr. Chairman, concerning the amount of time that is still left, the total time still left on the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Three hours and thirty minutes.

Mr. VOLKMER. Three hours and thirty minutes from this time?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is correct.

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. STEARNS] for purposes of a colloquy.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. CLINGER] for this opportunity to have a colloquy with him, and this concerns an amendment that I would