

This would complete the contract that a bipartisan Congress made with our young people with the National and Community Service Fund Act of 1993, but we cannot do it if we pass the rescission bill this week with those cuts.

Learn and Serve America, elementary and high school and college students participate in activities that address community needs and they enhance their own academic skills. Approximately 375,000 elementary and secondary school and college students participate, growing to over \$588,000 if we had the 1996 funds.

The Senior Corps, Americans 55 or older serve in local communities on a part-time basis and they provide, for example, modest stipends for foster grandparents, and I have received a lot of mail and phone calls this week from senior companions, 480,000 seniors participate today, and if we could take it out of the rescission bill, we would be able to increase that just a small amount to 510,000.

The cuts in the Americorps is wrong and should not be because it is one of the best programs we have. If we are really going to reform welfare, we need to make sure we reform it by giving people that job experience and those jobs.

Let me talk about another example of the Saturday I was with the Summer Jobs Program that is sponsored by Houston, works at the cooperative effort in a number of our local governments. We have 2,000 jobs in my district that are summer jobs that are part of that program, 6,000 in Harris County alone. And my concern, by the rescission bill that cuts those 6,000 jobs, we are going to lose out and three or four individuals who were there Saturday who were graduates of the Summer Jobs Program.

We have a young lady, Marilena, who now works at a radio station in Houston who got her start in the Summer Jobs Program. Wilbert, who now is a supervisor for the city of Houston in waste water, got his start in a summer jobs program. Laquista is a young lady who made the news in Houston who got her start working at a summer jobs program and now is supervising clean-up in our community for the city of Houston. Arti, who not only works in my office, but is also a student who got her start in the Summer Jobs Program.

Too often we hear that the majority party now says that there is no benefit to these summer jobs program, but there is a benefit, and Saturday morning I had four people who were graduates who are now productive citizens today because of the Summer Jobs Program. And to cut out 2,000 young people in my own district or 6,000 in the county or thousands all over the United States for a 6-week Summer Jobs Program is wrong because what we are doing is we are having some short-term savings that provides for some short-term tax relief; but in the long term, the American people in our country

will lose the values of those talents of those young people whether it be in the Summer Jobs Program and productive citizens or whether it be in the Americorps and Serve Houston where we are losing not only their talents now in helping our community, but we are going to lose the experience they are getting now through Serve Houston and through Americorps for the future of our country.

We cannot be penny wise and pound foolish and lose that effort right now. And that is my concern, that the Congress this week needs to make sure that we do not cut these programs out of the rescission package. We do not need to cut those programs now and say we are going to provide for additional tax cuts now and cut out those 2,000 young people in my own district who have a summer job for 6 weeks.

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THE RESCISSION BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BROWN] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was in Twinsburg, OH, in my district, Ohio's 13th District in northeast Ohio, visiting the community center and meeting with parents, children, teachers, and nurses and talking about the Women, Infants and Children's Program and the School Lunch Program.

Some of the people I met with, some of the parents, were unemployed. Most of them were working part-time or full-time, generally for minimum wage. Often many of these parents, basically all of those parents' children were getting school lunches, because their income was not high enough that they paid full price for these lunches.

Those parents, those teachers, those children, especially those nurses, could simply not understand why extremists in this body, in Congress, want to cut school lunches, want to cut senior nutrition, want to cut programs like Women, Infants and Children; Programs that have been in effect, in terms of the School Lunch Program, for literally five decades, started by Harry Truman in 1946.

Other programs, like WIC, that have been in effect and working for a couple of decades. Programs that help young people grow, help pregnant women, help those children with nutrition and counseling. The WIC program, especially. And this was what was called a WIC center in Twinsburg.

The WIC Program is not just a giveaway program. It is a program where working class mothers come in with their children, come in while they are pregnant and get some nutritional supplements and are counseled, generally less educated women are counseled about nutrition while they are pregnant to make sure they have a healthy baby. The, after the baby is born, for

the next 5 years they come into WIC regularly and are counseled about nutrition and can get immunized, either there or are directed where they can get immunized in the first 2 years of the baby's life; all the things that we need for the future of this country.

These people did not understand why the extremists in Congress want to make these cuts. What they did understand is that School lunches, Children's nutrition Programs, programs like counseling for WIC, immunizations, all these things are the investment for the future and they make sense for this country.

They do understand that, OK, we might save a few dollars making cuts now, but in the end, long term, we will pay more money for welfare for children as they get older and have bad nutrition and did not have the advantages when they were younger. They are more likely to be on welfare and more likely to be in prison. And these young families did understand that. That that simply is bad public policy long term.

I am a deficit hog. I voted for budget cut after budget cut after budget cut in this body. But we should not be stupid about it. There is no reason to make cuts that affect our children and affect our future the way that cutting school lunches and cutting programs like WIC and nutrition programs like that would mean.

Three weeks ago this body passed an increase in military spending of \$3.2 billion. The extremists here are cutting nutrition, children's long-term-for-the-future programs on the one hand and increasing military spending \$3 billion on the other hand, for a military in a country where our military budget is larger than the next nine countries in the world. Yet we are increasing military spending, cutting school lunches and WIC Programs, and at the same time the extremists in this body want to see major tax cuts for the wealthiest taxpayers.

Just recently the Republican leaders in the Committee on Ways and Means have called for an end to the alternative minimum tax. You may remember about 10 years ago President Reagan and most of the country were outraged that many large corporations in this country were able, through all kinds of use of accountants and lawyers and all their tax breaks and loopholes, literally to avoid paying any Federal tax and sometimes actually getting the government to pay them money through some rebate programs.

Many large corporations fell into the category. So Congress and President Reagan enacted something called the alternative minimum tax to make sure that every large corporation in this country did, in fact, pay some corporate income tax to the Government. They want to eliminate that alternative minimum tax. On the one hand we are increasing military spending, we are eliminating a tax on major corporations—these are corporations that

have \$250 million or larger in assets—and we are cutting Nutrition Programs and School Lunch Programs and WIC Programs.

In the other end of that, they want to give capital gains tax breaks which will go to the richest 1 or 2 or 3 percent in this country, in large part. The great majority of capital gains, 87 percent of capital gains cuts, go to the wealthiest people in this country.

This whole Contract With America disturbs me, Mr. Speaker, because it is transferring money from the middle class to the rich. It doesn't make sense and I ask for the defeat of the rescission bill this week.

UNHEALTHY KIDS DO NOT MAKE A STRONG AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, I am sure that many of my Republican colleagues were busy this past weekend, as were by colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle. I wish some of my Republican colleagues who have proposed these cuts in programs might have accompanied me on my trip through Illinois.

My first stop was at a convention in Chicago sponsored by the Illinois Education Association, one of the largest groups of teachers in our State. Almost a thousand teachers met for a 3- or 4-day conference in Chicago to talk about issues on their mind.

I sat down for breakfast in Chicago with Gary Jones, a high school teacher in Troy, and Cindy Klickna from Springfield, IL, and I said, "What is different about this convention?" And they said, "The budget moved through quickly and we are glad to see that. But there is another thing that started coming up in the course of these conversations which is becoming more and more popular." And I said, "What is that?" And they said, "Security in schools."

Teachers who for years have been meeting and talking, scarcely talked about the question of security of teachers and students in schools. But now it has become an issue of paramount importance, not only in the city of Chicago but across the State.

All of us understand as we read in the newspaper about violence among kids. Children bringing knives and guns to school. Unfortunate and tragic incidents involving injury and death, schoolchildren one to another and threats to teachers. This is today's reality.

The reason why this is relevant is that this week on this floor of this House of Representatives we will be considering a Republican rescission bill, which is a spending cut bill, which will cut money for what is known as Safe and Drug-Free Schools. Money that we have put into a special account in the Federal Government to give to

school districts to figure out ways to make it safer for our children and grandchildren to go to school.

I wish we didn't have to do this. I wish we could put the money into computers and teachers. But every one of us knows in our heart of hearts that more than anything we want our kids coming home at the end of the day safe. Safe. And yet we are going to cut millions of dollars out of that.

The Republicans believe this is thoughtful; this is sensible. They don't think this investment is necessary. I wish a few of them could sit down with the teachers in today's schools who will tell you that taking the weapons out of schools, stopping the fighting in schools, and ending the drugs that are starting to permeate all of our kids' culture is really the key to security and the key to America's future and readiness.

I went back to Springfield, IL, which is in my district, and had another meeting and this meeting consisted of people representing the WIC Program, day-care homes, and school lunch programs. My friend the gentleman from Ohio, SHERROD BROWN, has talked about the school lunch program. I will not dwell on it.

At that meeting we talked a lot about what day care means to working mothers and fathers. A young couple in their 20's came in to see me with their children; one was 3 and another in a toddler seat. Both of them are working, and that is not unusual in America today, and they depend on quality day care to take care of their kids while they are off to work.

The Republican proposal on welfare reform is going to cut the nutrition grants which we give to day-care centers and homes across America. This is in the name of saving money. What these families told me was: Congressman, if the cost of day care gets up too high, it does not make sense to work. We are working to pay day care. We want to work. We want to pay taxes and we want to improve our lives and buy our homes and prepare for our future. But do not make an additional burden on day care, which is literally going to pull the plug on a lot of working families.

In Quincy, a week ago, there was a woman working 45 hours a week in fast food who had her daughter in day care who said, "If you are going to raise my day care bill 20 percent, I have to stop and really think does this make sense anymore?"

In the midst of a welfare debate we should be encouraging people to work. We should be helping them to stay on the job. We should not be increasing the overhead costs of going to work.

The same thing is true on the WIC Program. Here is a program which is a dramatic success—40 percent—40 percent of the infants in America are in our Federal WIC Program. And you know why it is such a big program? It works.

We have dropped the infant death rate in America. It should go even

lower, but we have dropped it dramatically because we bring in pregnant mothers. You meet early on with a counselor who says, "Here are the things you should put in your diet to have a healthy baby. And here are the things to avoid: Alcohol, narcotics and tobacco, especially."

And it works. We know it works. It is a proven success. And yet, the Republicans are coming in with their new vision of America to cut out these programs and reduce the amount of money we put in them. You know when we are going pay for that cut? Generations to come. Unhealthy kids do not build a strong America. We have got to stick with the programs that work. And I hope my Republican colleagues will get back to their districts and take a look around.

THE RESCISSION BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will consider the rule and the bill on rescissions. That \$17 billion cut will begin to fundamentally change the way the Federal Government acts and responds, but more importantly, will begin to change the fundamental way we respond to Americans.

While I suspect both will pass, I intend to oppose both the rule and the bill. The rule is too restrictive. First, it only allows the restoration of programs through other cuts within the same chapter. And second, the rule restricts cuts to those programs already proposed to be cut. In short, the rule is designed to ensure that the disproportion in cuts proposed cannot be changed.

According to the analysis of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, low-income people will bear 63 percent of the cuts, where they only account for 12 percent. And over 12 percent of the total budget is paying 63 percent of the cuts proposed. The rule makes it virtually impossible to correct that imbalance of the shift of more burdens to the poor.

I cannot support such a rule, Mr. Speaker. Again, I cannot support such a rule that reverses in such a basic and elemental way the way in which we provide for the quality of life for the poor that Americans have come to expect and in fact, have come to rely upon.

The rescission bill would change how poor people eat, where poor people live, and where the poor people work, and what they can learn, and where they can travel, and how poor people can attend to their health care when they are in need.

It should be noted that the quality of life for poor people cannot be changed