

Citizens' Equity Act to allow our seniors to work without Government penalty; and Congressional term limits to make Congress a citizen legislature.

This is our Contract With America.

BLOCK GRANTS DO NOT FEED CHILDREN

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

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, after just 67 days in power, the Republicans are now known as the party that cut school lunches.

Today, they are actually trying to convince us that block grants will be better for children.

But that is not what they said in the past.

In 1982, Congressman WILLIAM GOODLING said, and I quote: "a child's nutrition needs do not vary from State to State."

Senator BOB DOLE said: "The nutrition area is one that does not easily lend itself to State responsibility" and added "It is appropriate that the Federal Government retain primary responsibility for nutrition programs."

And Speaker, GINGRICH himself cosponsored a resolution which said, and I quote, "the Federal Government should retain primary responsibility for the child nutrition program and such programs should not be included in any block grant."

Mr. Speaker, block grants do not feed children.

Republicans understood that in the past. But now that they need the money to pay for their tax cuts for the wealthy, they seem to have forgotten.

Well, I promise you this, Mr. Speaker: the American people will not forget.

PUT THE FARMER FIRST

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

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, I have often said that farmers are the backbone of my district. The Second District of North Carolina from Rocky Mount to Dunn is the second largest producer of tobacco in America. We also have hundreds of soybean, peanut, and livestock farms. Unfortunately, Washington treats these hard working Americans like criminals. It taxes and regulates them.

A classic example of Washington's war on farmers is the tax penalty the IRS imposes on those who pass farmland down to their family members. Farmers have 2 years to notify the IRS that someone has died.

The catch is that the IRS has not made hundreds of farm families aware of this requirement. For farmers who do not have time to read the IRS fine print, the tax police demand back taxes and penalties which are so severe, that these farmers are now in the position

of having to sell their farms to pay the tax man.

Mr. Speaker, the farmer has had enough—enough of interference, enough of redtape, and enough of the IRS. Let us do something right for the men and women who put the food on the table. For starters let us pass H.R. 501, which allows farm families to hand their and down from each generation without fear of the IRS.

FREEDOM OF CHOICE ON BUDGET CUTS

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

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, this is a place where we come to make choices. Many of us, both Republican and Democrat, are ready to make choices to reduce the Federal budget, but today in the Committee on Rules, the Republican leadership of the Committee on Rules is ready to deny us a choice, a series of choices, that the American people have a right to hear us make.

This week on this floor, we will have presented to us a \$17 billion budget cut proposal by the Republican majority. Some of us agree that the budget ought to be cut, but ought to be cut in different places. We want to offer an amendment that would say: "Let us not take home heating assistance away from senior citizens across this country; instead, let us take the money from the S&L bailout. Let us not take money away from reading teachers for children across this country; let us take the money from energy subsidies to huge multinational corporations."

We are not going to get the right to make that choice unless the rule proposed by the Republican leadership is defeated. Honor your Contract With America, open up the promise, and defeat this rule.

REPUBLICANS PROMISE DELIVERY ON FIGHT TO PRESERVE THE AMERICAN DREAM

(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, you will hear a lot of whining, weeping, and gnashing of teeth on the other side of the aisle in the coming days. You see, the liberal Democrats just cannot accept that under our Republican tax relief plan, Americans will actually be allowed to keep more of their own money.

The liberal Democrats think all money belongs to the Government.

They think the Government needs the money more than working families do.

They think Government does a better job of spending your money than you do.

And they cannot accept that the bloated bureaucracy will be reduced to pay for much-needed tax relief.

They think Government should be even bigger.

They think Government does just a wonderful job of delivering services.

They think the Government needs a raise.

But Republicans will put Government on a diet. We will read every page, check every line, and challenge every figure in a search to cut waste, fraud, and abuse.

This is nothing less than a fight to preserve the American dream for our children. And we will deliver.

THE SHAMEFUL REVERSE ROBIN HOOD POLITICS OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

(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, why are Republicans cutting school lunches for our children, heating assistance for our seniors, and health care for our veterans? To pay for yet another tax cut for the wealthy.

Last week we finally got a look at the Republican tax giveaway, and we found that 50 percent of the benefits of the Republican tax cuts go to people making \$100,000 or more. The capital gains cut is worth \$8,000 to families making \$200,000 or more, while working middle class families making \$30,000 or less would only get a tax cut worth \$92.

Mr. Speaker, I say to my colleague who just spoke, yes, that is a fact, it is a diet, it is a diet for the working middle class families of this country. Cutting services for the most vulnerable to benefit the most privileged 2 percent of Americans is wrong. The reverse Robin Hood politics of the Republican Party is shameful.

TELL THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THE TRUTH

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

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I have come to the floor of the House to confront my Democratic colleagues who seem more intent on distortions, regarding the future of the School Lunch Program, rather than promoting the health and safety of our Nation's most precious asset—our children. I hope these individuals abandon hollow political rhetoric and tell the American public the truth. The Republican plan is growing school meals by 4.5 percent. Tell the American people the truth. By the year 2000, we will be spending \$1 billion more on school lunches than today. Tell the American public the truth, Republicans are cutting out Federal bureaucrats and bringing school lunches closer to home.

Mr. Speaker, for the sake of our children, let us hope the Democrats end this partisan charade and tell the truth about the Republican school lunch proposal—increased funding, more meals for the children who need them, and fewer Federal bureaucrats micromanaging our lives.

MEXICO DOES NOT DESERVE COMMENDATION FOR THEIR WAR AGAINST DRUGS

(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, 2 out of every 3 tons of cocaine that comes into America comes from Mexico and through Mexico. Brown Mexico heroin is as plentiful in American cities at times as jelly beans. Three assassinations in Mexico were recently now attributed to the drug cartel down there in Mexico.

It has gotten so bad Mexicans are running across the border with backpacks full of cocaine and heroin, and guess what, the administration commended Mexico for their war against drugs.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. Commending Mexico for their war against drugs is like commending Iran for their record on terrorism. I think NAFTA has taken on a whole new meaning. It now should be known as the "Narcotics Anonymous Federal Treatment Administration," and believe me, we need it.

I think the truth is, I remember when the administration gave a pat on the back to Gen. Manuel Noriega for his efforts on drugs. Think about that one a while.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BIODIVERSITY

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

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to discuss an interesting story about the Endangered Species Act. As the Resources Committee begins to hold hearings on this issue, it is imperative that important facts about endangered species and biodiversity be known. The ESA is vital to maintaining our natural resources and to maintaining our quality of life.

I would like to illustrate this by discussing an endangered plant called the Lake Placid scrub mint which is found in only 300 acres in Central Florida. Scientists discovered that insects were not eating this rare plant. With further analysis, scientists found the plant contained a strong natural insect repellent called trans-pulegol, as powerful as any known insect repellent. The possibilities for agriculture are enormous.

Scientists also discovered a symbiotic fungus growing on the plant

which had evolved only in association with this plant and therefore, was an extremely rare fungus. More analysis found this fungus produced an agent which had strong antifungal properties, with potential for pharmaceutical uses.

What are the real-life implications of discovering such agents in rare plants? Curing an array of diseases.

The \$79 billion pharmaceutical industry relies on natural resources for 40 percent of its prescriptions. Rare plants and animals may very well hold the key to curing the common cold, AIDS, and cancer.

URGING MEMBERS TO COSPONSOR LEGISLATION TO OPEN FEDERAL HEALTH CARE CHOICES TO SMALL BUSINESS EMPLOYEES AND TO SELF-EMPLOYED AMERICANS

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

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I am wearing this blue ribbon because the Girl Scouts today are asking everyone to be the best that they can be, and to take some kind of a pledge to try and make our communities better.

One of the things I would hope Members would do would be to seriously consider cosponsoring the bill I have, because I think it would make Americans' lives better. What would it do? I have a bill that would allow anyone who works for a small employer or who is self-employed to be able to bid off the same Federal menu of health care choices we as Members of Congress get to, the President gets to, and Federal employees get to.

Boy, would that give people some choices and put them in a large pool where their premiums would be much more reasonable.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD this editorial in Roll Call this week talking about how the Speaker of the House has put on the payroll once a year for \$100 his fundraiser, so she could have access to that health care.

Let us avoid this. Let us let everyone have it, and let us move on.

The editorial referred to is as follows:

THE \$100 A YEAR CLUB

Her fundraising services were worth \$16,000 to Rep. Newt Gingrich's (R-Ga) campaign between 1990 and 1993; helping Gingrich's Congressional staff learn how to answer constituent mail brought Nancy Bockor a measly \$100 a year. So, why did she bother? The hundred bucks Bockor earned on Gingrich's payroll enabled her to maintain her participation in the federal employees' health care plan—a far cheaper and better alternative than buying private insurance (Roll Call, March 9). Nothing wrong with that, says Gingrich spokesman Tony Blankley. It's all legitimate under the rules. The question, Blankley says, "is whether the procedures should be changed, if somebody thinks they are not correct." Well, we do. Bockor is a political fundraising consultant, not a real Hill employee. She shouldn't gain access to official benefits just because she performed a

minor—though politically valuable—service to Gingrich. Neither should anybody else in the \$100 a year club.

ENCOURAGING MEMBERS TO JOIN IN SPECIAL ORDER ON TIMBER SALVAGE

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

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, tonight, time permitting, I will be giving a very important special order on timber salvage, an issue that is vital to my district and the West.

I will explain at length the necessity of salvage and the benefits to the environment, economy, and Federal budget.

I invite everyone to watch in preparation for tomorrow's debate. We will be embarking on a course that brings our timber policy back to sanity.

For too long we have fought battles against those whose idea of preservation is pickling our national forests and putting them on a shelf with a do not disturb sign. It is time to wake up and change this destructive mentality.

Tonight, I, along with several of my colleagues, will try to dispel some of these myths. I am looking forward to this opportunity and encourage as many as can to join me.

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REPUBLICAN BUDGET CUTS

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

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make one more plea for reason and justice in the fiscal decisionmaking process of the 104th Congress. Mr. Speaker, through the rescission process, to immediately cut the Summer Youth Employment Program is a reckless and barbaric act. First, planned school lunch cuts and now the overnight zero in the budget for summer teenage employment. This savage cut again dramatically demonstrates the Republican contempt for the work ethic. We say we want the poor to work and then we wipe out the Jobs Program for teenagers. Instead of saving money by compounding the sense of hopelessness among our youth, let's save money by cutting the *Sea Wolf* submarine; let us cut the CIA and the intelligence budget from \$28 to \$14 billion.

If we cut farm price supports in half we could save \$8 billion. If we discontinue the unnecessary manufacture of the F-22 fighter plane we could save \$17 billion over the next 6 years. Using reason and a sense of justice there are effective cuts that can be made to reduce the Federal budget. But the hi-tech barbarian approach is a dishonest approach, an overwhelming bully power approach. Fiscal decisionmaking