

independent, she is raising three children. She is asking for a little help on something that to my knowledge the Deal plan does not address, H.R. 4 I hope will address in the future. It is something I think both parties ought to come back and work on and that is the subject of rent reform.

You know in a public housing unit when somebody is making money, as Ms. Patterson is, and their income goes up, their rent goes up, so what they find themselves doing is running faster just to stay in place; and in a situation where they get married or the father decides to live at home, they get thrown out completely. Or if, as in Ms. Patterson's case, you have a 16-year-old child who wants to go to work but knows that all of the money is just going to go to additional rent, it is kind of hard on them. We have to make it so that the transition to getting off of public assistance in its entirety is a little bit smoother.

Now the Republican plan has a lot of flexibility. It allows States to work with people like Ms. Patterson and it grants some waivers, and I think stuff like that is important. I will not say it is totally complete. But all of these bills we are going to have to come back. After all, the current welfare system is one of despondency and dependence probably as a result of 40 years of negligence and political payoffs and so forth. We did not get here overnight. We got here slowly. And we are probably going to pull out of this thing slowly.

The thing I do like about the Republican plan is it consolidates 45 different welfare programs into 4 flexible block grants. Anytime I hear the idea of eliminating duplication of consolidating Federal programs I get excited, because as a member of the Committee on Appropriations, I cannot tell you, Mr. Speaker, the number of government agencies that come in day after day, doing the exact same thing, but have a little bit different title, and of course it is a tad bit different turf and they are all saying please keep us alive, we are the only agency that can deliver such service. That is not true. The Republican plan consolidates services, it consolidates a number of different things that will free up money by eliminating bureaucrats' jobs and free up money to help create more flexibility to States, and lowers the tax burden for taxpayers so that the private sector can go out and create jobs.

One of the aspects I like about the Republican plan is the idea of requiring work. I think that that is important because we have got to give people the opportunity to end the cycle and become independent, and have that hope that you and I have when we get our paycheck and buy our own car and buy our own food and put a down payment on a house and so forth. I think all of that is very important.

The other thing that I like about it, I am not sure if the moderate Democrat plan addresses it or not, but ille-

gal aliens, one of the problems particularly in California, Texas, and even in Georgia, we have 28,000 illegal aliens. This restricts benefits to illegal aliens. I am sick and tired, as I know my constituents in Georgia are, of going out and earning a living and then seeing a percentage of your paycheck go to people who are illegal aliens who have never paid American taxes and do not even have proper citizenship cards. I am glad to see the Republican Party addressing that.

Stopping the welfare payment and the new benefit for having a baby, we have interviewed people who have said listen, there is in fact to some women out there and some people a motivation to have an additional child if they are going to get paid for it.

These things, Mr. Speaker, are addressed in the Republican plan. I think it is a good plan. We will look at the Deal plan; I think it has some good aspects, but I hope you all will look at ours.

WELFARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mrs. THURMAN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, we have another chart and I am glad to know that the gentleman is looking at the Deal plan because I think that that is very important, because I think it does do many of the things that the gentleman talked about, particularly in simplification, folding in waste, fraud and abuse. We are all trying to meet that same criteria. I think where we really get into the fights is over some of the funding issues and specifically because of some of the entitlement issues.

But I heard some remarks tonight that I really took exception to and that was that some of us may have lost or gotten into the Beltway kind of feeling up here. Let me tell you, I have never done that and I can tell you that the people that work in my office every day are out there helping people every day with problems that they have. So I am going to give you some facts, and some real-life situations, and not just about numbers, first of all, and then I am going to go to the numbers.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, if the gentlewoman will yield, I will never accuse you of being an inside-of-the-Beltway person because I fly home with you every weekend. I will say this: I hope you tell some of the stories to the leadership in your party who do tend to be a little bit more inside the Beltway than someone like yourself.

Mrs. THURMAN. I think we can all take some credit for that, and I will leave it at that. I want to talk about a man and woman who live in Horsehoe Beach, Thomas and Pam Wright, and they have five children, four of which are of school age. Tom was a long distance truck driver who made \$600 to \$800 a week. He was diagnosed with dia-

betes and can no longer be certified as a truck driver and now is working as a security guard, and he makes \$200 a week and he is now receiving \$230 per month in food stamps. He does not like where he is at, but he does not know what to do if this is cut off.

Danielle Plummer, a 30-year-old single mother living in Holder, FL considered herself lucky because she inherited a 40-year-old A-frame house which was paid for. So she does not have to pay rent anymore. Imagine that.

Miss Plummer recently lost her job at a McDonald's restaurant because she lost her source of transportation and if you know where this area is of Florida, there is no transportation. She receives \$212 in food stamps and \$214 in AFDC monthly for her 10-year-old daughter. Miss Plummer has been in and out of court fighting for child support and cannot receive benefits owed for her daughter.

□ 2200

She admits welfare is not where she wants to be, nor is it where she plans on remaining. However, when I asked her what she would do if her assistance she now receives was suddenly discontinued, she said, "I don't know. My God, how would I take care of my daughter?" Those are real people. Those are people that live in my district.

But in the Deal plan, I was asked to look at some situations as how the purchasing power, and I will admit, you do go up 2 percent for purchasing power for food every year, but what happens is that that power actually goes down. And this is what happens here.

In the Deal plan we keep 102 percent, the safety net, very safety net. This is the package that President Nixon and President Ford worked on, and they said, "We have got to have a thrifty food plan. We have got to make sure there is a nutritional program out there," kind of like we do with food and breakfast and those kinds of things, that very basic nutritional need. What happens is, if you look at what happens traditionally in food prices, they have gone up 3.4 percent every year. In your plan it goes up 2 percent. So what we are doing is we are notching that down every year, and not leaving it so people get good nutritional value. This is what happens.

Deal leaves it 102 percent. Republicans, under H.R. 4, actually, as you see it, it declines. So think about it this way, think about this woman who is on food stamps who has to go to the grocery store next year, because she does not have a job, she is trying, she is trying to do all the right things to raise her daughter, she goes to the grocery store, and now all of a sudden she has got to start pulling food out of the bag, because she cannot afford to keep up with prices as they have increased. It may mean a loaf of bread. It may mean some eggs. It may mean that milk. It may mean one of those basic

nutritional value foods that we talk about.

And that is what you are going to end up doing here.

Now, let me tell you about Michael and his family to finish this. Well, I do not have time, but let us just remember in this debate, this is not about numbers. This is about people with real problems, and we need to be careful.

IN SUPPORT OF THE DEAL SUBSTITUTE BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Arkansas [Mrs. LINCOLN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. Speaker, I would certainly like to say to my colleague from Georgia and the others over there that, yes, we do thank your leadership for bringing up some of these issues that we have worked very hard on over the past 3 years. And I guess I can say that, as a newer Member, I also think it is important that we shed our pettiness in terms of who is bringing up the issues and look more at what is happening to the American people. I think that is one of the objectives that I and many of the other colleagues that I have shared this bill with, the Deal substitute bill, in trying to put people above politics, and that is a very important issue that we have to do right now.

Mr. KINGSTON. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Mrs. LINCOLN. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. KINGSTON. I thought it was the Democrat chart that had a T shape on our plan versus your plans. I was only responding to your plan.

Mrs. LINCOLN. I just think it is very important for the American people to know our group and the bill that we have produced is very nonpartisan. It is a very practical bill. It is very realistic. And we are here because we want to put people before politics. That is what is important, taking the American people, looking at what their needs are.

Tomorrow we will have the options of looking at the bill offered by the gentlewoman from Hawaii [Mrs. MINK], the Deal bill, and the Republican Contract bill.

We have worked hard. We have produced a bill that is really realistic in terms of what it does for the American people and in terms of what it does for this Nation in long-term getting people off of welfare, and that is what we want. We do not want to just throw them off of welfare. We want to get them off of welfare, get them off of the generational dependency and put them into a constructive, contributing life style.

People have a tendency really to ignore the voice of reason, and I think really that is what we have got to present in the Deal bill is real reason,

looking at what people need to survive and to become independent.

It is time that we finally hear what that voice of reason is. We have talked about priorities tonight. Are you going to talk about food and making sure children get fed, or are you going to talk about \$20 billion to \$40 billion of increases in military spending? Are you going to talk about putting people back to work and giving them the opportunity to provide for themselves? That is what is important. We have got to look at where this Nation is spending its money.

In terms of percentages, if you look at the money we are spending on both military, on interest, on the debt, the talks we have had here tonight in terms of nutrition, less than 0.1 percent are a drop in the bucket in what we need to do, and our voice of reason, the Deal substitute, puts more people to work than the alternative bills that will be offered tomorrow.

The Deal substitute is the only one that devotes its entire savings to deficit reduction, and if you are serious about deficit reduction for your children and your children's children, you have got to realize that we have got to put those savings toward deficit reduction. We realize the same amount of savings roughly that the Republican plan does, but we direct our savings to deficit reduction, because we are worried about the future of our children, not only in welfare reform, but also in deficit reduction.

The Deal substitute recognizes that it is impossible to work without proper job training and child care. You cannot ask a single mother to work for her benefits if she has nowhere to take her children.

And, yes, you are right, the family structure in this Nation is deteriorating, and that young woman does not have the support network of a family, a grandparent or a parent to look after that child. She has got to depend on some child care, and we have got to provide it, and we do in the Deal substitute. We not only provide it, but we pay for it, and that is an important part of what we do.

The Deal substitute identifies the problems that have been created in the crazy checks abuse, and it solves the problem. I have seen a tremendous amount of that problem in my district, and I have been working hard over these past years to look for a reasonable solution that does not throw out the baby with the bath water. It does not put that child with cerebral palsy out on the street, but it makes sure the disabled children, especially those that are multiply disabled, are going to be helped, but the ones that are abusing the programs, those loopholes will be closed.

The Deal substitute is the only one that sets a 2-year lifetime limit on welfare benefits, the only program that is going to be offered that sets a 2-year lifetime limit.

We give the States the option of extending benefits for 2 more years with

community service, and that is what we have heard from most people is that the States know better how to craft and to recraft those programs to get their people back into the work force.

The Deal substitute gives States more flexibility than any other proposal without passing massive costs on to the States, no unfunded mandates. We do not produce the unfunded mandates, because we know it is unrealistic, and in the long run it will not work.

The Deal substitute does not demand family caps. Instead, we give that flexibility to the States, that option of denying additional benefits to mothers who have more children while on welfare.

The Deal substitute includes welfare benefits as taxable income. It is the best alternative you are going to get, and I encourage my colleagues to support it.

WELFARE REFORM AND DEFICIT REDUCTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. HAYWORTH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, it is good to see my good friend from Ohio in the chair tonight.

At the outset, I yield to my good friend from Georgia for a moment.

Mr. KINGSTON. Let me say one thing about the Deal alternative. I do agree, Mr. Speaker, with the previous speaker. It is the best alternative that is out there, not as good as H.R. 4, the Republican plan, but in terms of an alternative, I agree that the moderate Democrats are showing some leadership over there, and I hope maybe you can inspire your official leaders to show some leadership, too.

One thing though I do want to say about the Democrats' newfound interest in deficit reduction is that, you know, for since 1969, the Democrats have controlled the House, and each year we have a new debt. Now, I say since 1969; that is the last time we had a balanced budget, but year after year the deficit has gone up.

But I say this: It is a Republican and A Democrat obligation to address it, because I believe both parties created the deficit, and I am glad now that both of us are talking about it, and let us have this one-upmanship. Let us see who can top each other's deficit-reduction plan. That is what two parties are all about.

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HAYWORTH. I am happy to yield to the gentlewoman from Arkansas.

Mrs. LINCOLN. I just wanted to re-emphasize the fact if we are really truly talking about deficit reduction that all of what we have been talking about in terms of cuts, rescissions, and certainly in the welfare reform and the