

were made and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, in a partisan-ship vote, passed the extension of Somalia.

We take a look at us going into Haiti. It is costing us billions and billions of dollars in nation building.

We look at the money we have given to the former Soviet Union, Russia. We gave Russia over a billion dollars to dismantle nuclear weapons. We gave them billions of dollars in nation building.

But last year they built and are steaming five nuclear class Typhoon submarines and three other submarines that are developed just to tap into our communications cables in the Atlantic and the Pacific. They are building MiG-35's, which are superior to our F-14 and F-15. They are building AA-10 missiles, which are superior to our AMRAAM, but yet, many say the cold war is over.

And we look at the billions of dollars we are spending in Bosnia and across the, the Members on the other side of the aisle, they are decrying we are cutting, we are cutting, we need to apply the money to the deficit. Well, I say, Mr. Speaker, we would have billions of dollars to apply to the deficit and we would also not have a military with its readiness and national security forces so low.

I sit on the former Committee on Armed Services which is now called the Committee on National Security, and we have had the Joint Chiefs testify that we are on the razor's edge, or another term was buffet, which means the position just before you stall an airplane, on our national security.

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And just a minute ago, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] objected to a motion that would allow us to bring an appropriations bill forward to help the readiness. Our men and women, many agree, need better equipment, less troops and high technology. But we must help and support the appropriations bill on Tuesday.

We would have hoped that we could have filed it today because we are risking the men and women's lives.

Kara Hultgreen, a young lady, highly trained and motivated, and the first F-14 driver in the U.S. Navy, she came around the corner just a few weeks ago on an F-14 aboard the U.S.S. *Abraham Lincoln*. She had an engine failure.

On our side of the aisle. Republicans tried to get additional money to replace those engines because the compressor stalls. But many of the liberals on that side said, "Let's cut defense." They cut it \$177 billion. What we are seeing—we lost five Navy airplanes in the last 2 months, the Air Force has lost four to faulty parts and engines and poor training. I would say, Mr. Speaker, if we really care about our men and women that we expect to fight and, in some cases, die for this country, that we need to support them.

I beg Members from the other side of the aisle to consider, take a look at what we have done in the past. We need to stay out of countries like Haiti, Somalia, Rwanda, and Bosnia. Let us support things back home.

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

[Mr. OWENS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

THE MOST IMPORTANT WEEK OF THE 104TH CONGRESS: WELFARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JONES). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. FUNDERBURK] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, I said 2 nights ago that this was the most important week of the 104th Congress. This week we decided between two very different visions of America. The first vision is offered by the same people who stood guard over 30 years of disintegrating families, children having children, burned out cities, a 30-percent illegitimacy rate, and three generations of Americans who do nothing but sit at home waiting for the next government check to arrive.

The Democrats are the guardians of business as usual; more taxes, more bureaucrats, more Washington. Having lost faith in the American dream, they have nothing to offer except more of the same shopworn programs which degrade and enslave millions. They have made generations of Americans nothing more than animals in the Government barn. They promise you happiness in exchange for a handout and the loss of your freedom. Their notion of reform is to spend more of other peoples' money.

Take a look at their so-called answers to our Personal Responsibility Act. One raises taxes on every business—big and small—in America and the other cuts off child tax credits for almost half of the families in this country. Each Democratic welfare bill says the Government must give you a job and if the State doesn't have any jobs to give it will pay someone in the private sector to hire you.

This is what the liberals have in store for us. This is their version of reform: have a child out of wedlock, don't have a job and don't live with a man who is working. If you do these things the taxpayer will provide you with everything you need. Uncle Sam will give you a check each month, with free medical care, free food, and under Mr. Clinton's plan, a Federal job and free child care.

Mr. Speaker, I really feel sorry for the Democrats. They actually believe it is an act of kindness to hand able-bodied Americans womb to tomb care, demanding nothing in return. They call

this \$5 trillion nightmare that they have created—a system which dooms millions to a life of poverty and condemns helpless children to perpetual despair—compassionate. Their system is not compassionate, their system is obscene.

The ugly sideshow of the liberal's welfare system is the notorious child welfare bureaucracy. The massive increase in illegitimacy that the liberals want to subsidize has created a horrendous explosion in the number of abused and neglected children. As Mona Charen noted yesterday, "social services and charities are overburdened by the caseload but they are also overburdened by liberal thinking." Clinton Democrats are formally committed to a philosophy and practice which in most cases sends an abused and neglected child back to the parents who have hurt him, all in the name of family preservation. The Republican welfare reform bill recognizes this nonsense for the folly that it is. We believe that it is a far greater kindness to place a child with loving adoptive parents rather than to give an abusive violent parent another dozen chances to hurt that child.

Before I came to Washington, I watched the liberal Democrats and their allies in the permanent poverty industry heap scorn upon anyone who dared stand up and say that welfare socialism was destroying our country from within. But on November 8, 1994 we the people finally rose up and said enough is enough. We had enough of the professionally compassionate robbing us of our hard-earned money, dumbing down our schools, promoting deviant behavior and creating a suffocating culture of dependency for our poorest families. They had 30 years to do something about welfare and they sat on their hands and did nothing.

Mr. Speaker, I said at the beginning of my remarks that we are debating two visions of America. We know where the liberal vision has taken us. The second vision—the conservative vision—begins and ends with individual liberty. Our view of society is one in which people have the right and the opportunity to work, invest, and raise their children as they see fit. We have faith in the energy of the American people, the liberals have faith in Washington, DC.

The Republican reform bill takes aim at the heart of the welfare problem—the underage mother who enters the welfare rolls after conceiving an out-of-wedlock child. Our reform denies benefits to those who continue to have children without having any means to independently support those children. We also eliminate the Federal middleman and cut the heart out of the Washington welfare bureaucracy.

We send power back to the people. We say the real welfare reformers are in the States and counties. These are the people closest to the problem. They know their communities' needs. They

are on the front line in the war against poverty. They understand its causes and they will provide the moral and spiritual leadership so many of our people so desperately need.

Mr. Speaker, we were sent to Washington to put people to work and get the Government's hand out of working people's pockets. We say if the American people give you a hand-up you will find a real job or we will cut off your benefits in 2 years.

Let me tell you where we will be if we do not put a brake on the runaway welfare train. Today Federal welfare spending stands at \$387 billion, by 2000 we will spend \$537 billion on welfare entitlements. The madness has to stop.

We have an unprecedented opportunity to save the lives of millions of children who would otherwise be trapped in the system which has ruined previous generations. We cannot be intimidated by the liberals in Congress and the media who offer no solutions, only scare tactics. They throw out words like cruel and mean but I ask you Mr. Speaker, what is more cruel, what is more mean, then to condemn a child to life on the liberal welfare dole. That is the cruelest punishment imaginable. We cannot allow another generation of American children to fall victim to the compassion of the American left. We must be strong, we must be bold, and we must act now. Our children deserve no less.

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

[Mr. TUCKER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

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

[Mrs. SCHROEDER addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

THE REPUBLICAN WELFARE REFORM BILL IS FLAWED

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

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I am going to pick up where the last speaker left off, perhaps in a little different refrain. I might add he just accused the Democratic Party of 30 years of not tending this problem. It actually did in 1988, when it worked with President Reagan to pass the welfare reform bill which is the basis under which this Federal Government has been operating since 1988.

So if you want to place some blame, talk to President Reagan about that. He, of course, is a well-known Socialist.

Now, I want to talk about the welfare reform bill. I want to talk about why I voted against it.

I voted against it because the GOP version, the Republican version, does not stress work adequately. I voted against it because it does not preserve but instead cuts the School Lunch Program. I voted against it because the money that saved the estimated \$68 billion does not go for deficit reduction.

Let me make that clear: It does not go to reduce the budget deficit, but it is going to go fund a tax cut that is going to go sailing through here in a couple of weeks that will provide 65 percent of its benefits for everyone over \$75,000 a year while providing less than 5 percent of the benefits for those under \$30,000 a year. That is not a good trade.

We all want welfare reform. That is why I introduced a bill earlier this year that has many of the elements that have been common to these welfare reform bills. My bill has a 2-year requirement in it and after 2 years a person must go off the welfare rolls.

Mine has a tough work requirement modeled after what we have done in past years in West Virginia. Mine required, for instance, that people seek education and that they do public sector work, if necessary. But there are a lot of other things, unfortunately, that were not included in the Republican version.

A lot of things, for instance, that the Republicans do not tell us, did not talk much about. How about the fact that the Congressional Budget Office, which now has a Republican appointee—not a Democrat appointee—but the Congressional Budget Office recently scored this bill and said that not one of the 50 States, not one—not West Virginia, not any one of the States—would be able successfully to move the required amounts of people from welfare to work.

What kind of statement is that, when the Republican-dominated Congressional Budget Office itself issues a bad report?

I think it important as well to look at what the States think of this, particularly, my State. We have heard a lot about how this is going to free up the States. Take a look, for instance, at what it does for the States.

Many of us raised concerns on the House floor about what would happen when the School Lunch Program was put into a block grant with the Women, Infants, and Children Program, which was put into a block with the other nutrition programs. We raised concerns about this. They said not to worry, the States will love it. And, of course, they said there would be a real increase. And, of course, it is not an increase in the block grant, because while you can give technically the School Lunch Program a 4.5-percent increase per year, what you are not telling the people is that at the same time you are permitting the Governors to shift 20 percent of that money elsewhere. You are not telling

them that the current law provides more assistance than the new law, and you are not telling them that all the Federal nutritional standards are being removed.

You are also not telling them that in order to do that, you have to savage other nutrition programs in the block grants, such as the important Women, Infants, and Children Program.

I think it is very important to note, Mr. Speaker, that I am holding a concurrent resolution, a concurrent resolution No. 37, from the West Virginia Legislature, signed by the speaker of the house Chuck Chambers and the president of the West Virginia State Senate, Earl Ray Tomblin.

In that concurrent resolution, one of the last acts passed by our State legislature, they urged the Congress not to vote for this welfare reform act put forward by the GOP for the reason that it decimated WIC. They point out that the Women, Infants, and Children Program serves 55,000 West Virginians, provides 28 million dollars' worth of assistance, but more than that, helps young woman bring healthy babies to term.

I think it is very significant that the legislature which would be charged with enacting this legislation went on record as opposing the legislation.

I think it is also important to note that the West Virginia Board of Education, our State board of education, which is in charge of implementing the school lunch program and the school nutrition programs which you would think under the philosophy of the GOP they would be most eager to accept the School Lunch Program, the school nutrition program in a block grant; they went on record in resolution on the 10th day of March 1995 opposing this legislation and urging that the school lunch and school nutrition programs not be block-granted, because they understand it would be even more of an administrative nightmare.

The also understand that the school lunch and nutrition programs would be pitted against each other.

So, I want a bill, Mr. Speaker, that stresses work. This did not stress work. I want a bill that preserves the School Lunch Program and the nutrition programs and does not cut them. I want a bill that reduces the deficit and does not give, does not give the savings for a large tax cut for the wealthiest individuals in this country. This bill does not do that either.

For that reason, I voted against its passage.

THE NEED FOR REFORMING OSHA

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

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, recently the Subcommittee on Workforce Protection heard testimony from Assistant Secretary for Occupational