

being included. There was a real need for expedition to be able to give the self-employed taxpayers of this country the opportunity to deduct their health care benefits on insurance before April 15, and our side did everything we could to expedite the ability for that to occur. The Senate insisted on including such—

Mr. DEUTSCH. Regular order, Mr. Speaker. What about rules? Mr. SOLOMON, what about 1-minutes?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida is out of order.

Mr. DEUTSCH. What about 1-minutes, Mr. SOLOMON? I would ask for unanimous consent that the gentleman be able to conclude and that I have 1 minute to respond.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida will suspend. There will be regular order.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Ms. VELÁZQUEZ]. For what purpose does the gentlewoman rise?

AN AMERICAN DREAM RESTORATION ACT FOR THE WEALTHY

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, this week the American people see the Contract With America for what it really is, that the centerpiece of the Republican agenda, the so-called American Dream Restoration Act, is nothing but a massive tax giveaway to the wealthy.

□ 1215

Last Friday, the Wall Street Journal reported that we give \$228 billion a year in tax breaks and subsidies to large corporations. The rest of the country gets crumbs, and then picks up the tab.

This legislation is really an American dream denial act. In order to finance the tax proposals, the Republicans will deny the Republican dream to the millions of students that need financial aid to get a college education. Elimination of the Stafford loan program will deny 4.5 million low- and middle-income students college aid; ending Perkins loans cuts out another 740,000 students. Seven hundred and fifty thousand more college kids will lose their work-study jobs.

These are the cuts that the Republicans will demand in order to finance billions of dollars of tax breaks for the rich. Almost half of this tax giveaway goes to the wealthiest 10 percent of the country. This is the Republican contract. What is there to celebrate? Please, Mr. Speaker, do not forget to include corporate welfare reform in your next 100 days.

VOTE FOR TAX RELIEF

(Mr. FORBES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in full support of the Tax Fairness and Deficit Reduction Act. Over the past 4 years, Americans have been hit with two of the largest tax increases in modern memory. While home mortgage rates have continued to rise, the cost to Long Island and my area has continued to rise, Washington agencies and departments have enjoyed double digit increases in their spending budgets, helped along by over \$300 billion in new taxes over the last 4 years on hard working American families.

Today we begin the process to reverse what has been a de facto policy in Washington of punishing families. We will give \$190 billion back to the American people for their own tax relief.

One important element of this tax relief bill is a provision to help along the job creators, the small business men and women of this country who are creating the jobs. On eastern Long Island small businesses are the heart of our local economy, and across America. It is time that Washington understood and that my colleagues on the other side understood that the American people need tax relief.

THE FAMILY TAX-BREAK ACT

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

Mr. TUCKER. Step right up. Step right up for the GOP's famous disappearing act. Yes, the circus has come to town. Deficit reduction, now you see it, poof, now you do not.

Yes, Republicans want to cut taxes, but it does not take a rocket scientist to know that they cannot cut taxes \$700 billion and at the same time reduce the deficit.

This slight-of-hand tax bill is not the deficit reduction that the voters have demanded and that the Republicans in their Contract With America have promised. The Republicans' proposed tax cut will explode the deficit at a time when deficit reduction is what is needed in this country most. This \$700 billion tax cut will be a neat trick all right. It will take money out of the hands of the poor and give it into the hands of the very, very rich.

Mr. Speaker, as Yogi Berra once said, "It is deja vu all over again." The same trickle-down theory that they used in the 1980's is coming back again. It is the same trickle-down that quadrupled the deficit in the first place. In this sick, sad three-ring circus that they call the Republican GOP Party, we know that the elephants do not forget, but neither do the American taxpayers.

THE SERVE-THE-RICH SCAM GAME

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

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today the House is scheduled to pass the crown jewel of the Republican's serve-the-rich contract scam. The American public needs to understand how the Republican serve-the-rich scam game is played.

Start with the number, \$11,266. That happens to be the average amount people who make over \$200,000 a year will save in taxes each year under the Republican's tax plan. That also happens to be the approximate cost of leasing a brand new foreign-made Mercedes Benz automobile. It also happens to be the amount it would cost to serve 6,294 school lunches to poor school kids who otherwise go hungry.

So you make the choice: a brand new foreign-made Mercedes Benz for the rich, or 6,294 school lunches for the U.S. poor. And we wonder why our children are hungry? We wonder why our dollar is valueless? Get real, Congress. Let us not play the Republican serve-the-rich scam game.

LET FAMILIES SPEND MONEY, RATHER THAN GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, fascinating figures we have been hearing from our colleagues from the other side of the aisle about Mercedes Benzes and school lunches. Let us counter it just a little. A message for America's families: When the big-government party warns you how bad off you will be if you get to keep your money rather than sending it to Washington, DC, hide your wallet.

We have heard a lot about student loans lately. Let us look at the real impact of spending money back to families rather than funding more government.

If a family takes the \$500 per child tax credit that we offer today and puts it in a tax-free American Dream savings account that we will offer today, they will have \$14,766 tax free for each child after 18 years. Now, if in return the smaller government no longer subsidized interest on college loans, the end of the world according to big-government liberals, the average loan would cost \$21 more per month over the life of a student loan. That is \$2,520.

Our answer to failed big-government liberalism is to give the people the chance to keep \$14,766 of their own money. They can fully replace Government help with college and still have over \$12,000 left.

EDUCATION IS THE GATEWAY TO EVERYTHING

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

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, last week I was privileged to participate in an extraordinary field hearing at the University of San Francisco on Republican plans to dismantle student financial aid programs. The testimony we heard from students, parents, and college leaders put a human face on the disaster we face if this budget and debt buster passes.

I listened with growing anger and concern as officials from Stanford University, University of California, and U.S.F. showed in detail how the proposed cuts would devastate middle-class families and result in smaller, more elitist college populations.

We heard the moving testimony of students, Michael Rodriguez, Ronelle Baribaldi, Ameer Loggins, and Mary Wu. All are hard working and are making enormous sacrifices everyday because they have a thirst for education. They all underscored that student loans are investments, not handouts. They are smart investments in our Nation's future.

I urge my colleagues to reject this budget busting tax cut proposal. Education is the gateway to everything in this Nation. Let us not shortcut our students or our Nation's future.

SENIOR AMERICANS: AMERICA'S MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCE

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

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, as we know, the American family is overtaxed. But our families are not limited to just young newlyweds or those with kids in college. Our families include our parents and grandparents. And just as high taxes are antijobs and antifamily, they are antiseniors.

Here are the facts:

Senior citizens with an average income face the highest marginal tax rates in the country. In fact, for seniors 40- to 80-percent tax rates are not uncommon;

A senior working at a job that pays \$5 an hour will only net \$2.20 an hour after he or she works even 1 hour past the current \$11,280 earnings limit; and

A senior who earns just \$1 over the earnings limit annually will face an effective marginal tax rate of 56 percent.

Mr. Speaker, we need to restore tax fairness to all families, including seniors. Why should the American dream disappear when someone turns 65? Why should someone be discouraged from working just when they can offer years of experience and wisdom? By raising the earnings limit to \$30,000 we will be raising the hopes and futures of one of our Nation's most precious resources, our senior Americans.

HURTING MIDDLE-INCOME AMERICANS

(Mr. POMEROY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules has quite possibly wiped out the last chance to get a meaningful deduction for those millions of Americans struggling every month to pay their own health insurance. I offered an amendment which would have allowed 80 percent of the premium to be deducted and would have paid for it by limiting the child tax credit in the Republican bill to families earning up to \$80,000. If we would have foregone this tax credit for families earning 6-figure incomes, up to \$250,000, we could have fully funded this vital deduction.

For me, it is a matter of priorities. I think it is much more important for Congress to help families afford the coverage they need to get their children health insurance than to give this tax break to themselves and other families earning in the 6-figure range. It underscores what this Republican tax bill is all about: Helping the rich, and sticking it to middle-income working Americans.

WHAT IS GOOD FOR TODAY'S DEMOCRATS

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

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I want you to listen carefully to the following quote and tell me what shameless, unrepentant, unreconstructed, trickle-down, supply-sider said it: "Tax rates are too high today and tax revenue is too low. The soundest way to raise the revenues in the long run is to cut the rates now."

Jack Kemp? No. Ronald Reagan? Nope. DICK ARMEY? Close, no cigar. Actually, this wild-eyed supply-sider was none other than John Fitzgerald Kennedy. He understood what the limousine liberals in today's Democratic Party do not: Tax cuts are good for the economy.

That is why the tax bill that we are considering today is so important. It will not only restore fairness to our Tax Code, but it will also promote savings and investment, just the kind of activities that our economy needs. It was good enough for Jack Kennedy, then why is it not good enough for today's Democrats? Why? Why?

ALTERNATE MINIMUM TAX TO BE REPEALED

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, let me just say there is a little hidden dirty secret in the Republican tax bill. It was not in the contract. you will find none of the Republicans come up and talk about it. But it is the worst part of their whole bill. They repeal the alter-

native minimum tax for big corporations.

We put this provision in 1986 so that the big corporations will have to pay some taxes. The American people burn when they work hard, pay five, six, seven thousand dollars in taxes, and General Electric and Mobil and Phillips Petroleum pay none.

Well, for 6 years that has not happened. They have had to pay 25 percent of their income as taxes, and now the Republican majority wants to repeal it. Can you believe it? They are saying to the average American it is okay to go back to the old days when Unocal and Phillips Petroleum and Mobil and Ford and Chrysler paid less taxes than you. Shame on them, shame on them, shame on them.

□ 1230

IN SUPPORT OF THE TAX FAIRNESS AND DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT OF 1995

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

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Tax Fairness and Deficit Reduction Act of 1995.

Our job-creating tax cuts enhance the progressivity of the Tax Code. Middle-income taxpayers will overwhelmingly benefit directly from the capital gains tax cut, as the vast majority of taxpayers claiming capital gains are middle income.

In fact, 70 percent of all taxpayers reporting capital gains, in a recent tax year, had incomes of less than \$50,000.

By comparison, 5 percent of tax returns with capital gains were from taxpayers with annual incomes between \$100,000 and \$200,000. And, fully three-quarters of the value of all capital gains went to taxpayers earning less than \$100,000.

Most importantly, capital gains tax cuts means more jobs for the American people. One leading economist testified in the Ways and Means Committee that 285,000 jobs a year—or about 1.4 million over the 5 year period—will be gained.

The same economist showed that every \$1 billion reduction in annual taxes on capital income will lead to a \$25 billion increase in the Nation's output of goods and services.

Capital gains relief will facilitate the growth of new business and job formation, improve long-term productivity and make the United States more competitive.

Vote for job growth, lower capital costs, increased productivity and competitiveness.

Vote for H.R. 1327.

TAXING FEDERAL WORKERS

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