

The American people know instinctively that a government cannot continue to spend money that it does not have. Only one time in the last 50 years has Congress actually balanced the budget.

We, as Republicans, believe that balancing the budget is our contract with our children, because we cannot continue to spend money that we do not have, giving our children and theirs the bill.

When it comes to Medicare, we are going to protect, preserve, and improve Medicare. We are going to spend hundreds of billions of dollars more over the next 7 years as we balance the budget. Medicare spending is going to increase from \$4,700 per enrollee to \$6,400 at the end of 7 years.

So when you hear people talking about cutting Medicare, they are wrong. We are going to increase spending for Medicare and protect this program that is so vital to our seniors.

THE HEALTH CARE DEBATE

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, nobody was home on the other side of the aisle last year when the President pressed health care reform as the only way to contain runaway costs. Suddenly Republicans have discovered the cost side of his equation, but it will not balance without health care reform.

Tax cuts for the rich just passed by the House make this a mass problem with no possible solution. In the Senate some Republicans are trying to dodge the bullet by disowning the tax cuts while other Republicans over there would rather die than give them up.

This is no way to celebrate May, which is Older Americans Month. Their equation is already out of balance with 20 percent of their income going for out-of-pocket health care expenses.

The only way to relieve them and cut costs at the same time is to mop up all the inefficiency in health care with across-the-board reform.

Medicare is not out of control. The health care system is. Tax cuts for the rich make a bad situation worse.

MORE ON REPUBLICANS AND MEDICARE

(Mr. WISE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I could not let the last Republican speaker pass unchallenged who says we are really going to increase Medicare. Well, I guess it is sort of like Medicare, you are going to get the same level of services, but we are going to cut you back a significant percent.

If it is going to then be increased, why it is so many senior citizens understand that they are going to lose on

the average \$900 a year? The real concern I have is, why is this being done?

Is it being done to help Medicare? It is not being done to help Medicare. It is being done to pay for the tax cut. That is right, the tax cut for the wealthiest individuals in this country where 51 percent of the benefits of that tax cut go to those earning over \$100,000. The only problem is, if you are going to balance the budget, you have to make up for the over \$300 billion of lost revenue that is going to come because of that tax cut.

Where does it come from? Out of the hide of Medicare, out of the hide of senior citizens and out of the hide of health care.

DON'T MAKE SENIORS PAY FOR TAX CUTS FOR THE RICH

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: Do not cut Medicare to pay for tax cuts for the rich.

Under some Republican plans, seniors—37 million seniors—will pay an additional \$900 each year for health care. These cuts will be used to pay for tax cuts for the rich. For people who earn more than \$230,000.

That is not right. That is not fair.

Medicare is the lifeline for many of our seniors.

It is time to be frank and honest with the American people. Tell them what you are doing and why. Lay all your cards on the table, face up.

Do not take health care from our senior citizens to pay for tax cuts for the rich. That is not Medicare reform. And our senior citizens will not be fooled.

CUTTING MEDICARE NO WAY TO HONOR WORLD WAR II VETERANS

(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, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, we honor the brave American soldiers who put their lives on the line to secure our freedom.

But, we owe World War II veterans more than parades down Main Street, medal ceremonies, and memorials. We owe them the security of a decent and dignified retirement. Medicare is central to that promise. By cutting Medicare for seniors, Republicans break that promise.

Under the Republican budget proposal, 37 million seniors will lose \$900 a year, while 1.1 million wealthy Americans get a \$20,000 windfall. A side by side comparison, reveals the painful tradeoff: \$305 billion in Medicare cuts will pay for a \$345 billion tax cut for the wealthy.

This budget debate is all about priorities. All of us agree that we need to cut spending, but the question is where do you start. The wrong place to start is by cutting health care for seniors. If we truly want to honor the men and women who secured our future 50 years ago, let us secure their futures today, let's protect Medicare.

BANKRUPTCY IN AMERICA

(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, while everybody is celebrating V-E Day, victory in Europe, I would like to talk about B-A Day, Bankruptcy in America Day. Think about it. For 50 years America has given trillions, trillions of dollars to Europe and Japan. And in return Japan keeps ripping us off with illegal trade. And as we speak, Russia is now concluding a deal to build nuclear reactors in Iran.

Beam me up. With friends like this, my colleagues, why does America have to worry about any enemies? I say let us stop this cash giveaway to Europe and Japan, start investing that money in America. Then we would not have to tinker with Medicare.

Wake up, Congress. Our policies are so misdirected, if you threw at the ground they would probably miss.

TRADE WITH JAPAN

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, in this box is a part. It is a universal joint. I bought it on Main Street America yesterday, Main Street, Royal Oak, MI. It costs \$11.47. In Japan, this part would cost over \$100.

What does it mean, this differential? It means fewer jobs here in the United States because our products are locked out in Japan. It means fewer jobs and smaller profits for our industry which could be invested.

It also means the Japanese consumers are overcharged, and it also means that Japanese companies use profits from their sheltered markets to gain market share here to invest in the rest of Asia and elsewhere with an unfair advantage.

It is long overdue that Japan open up their automotive sector to parts and to cars. Talk has not worked. Action is necessary. We support the administration's efforts.

□ 1430

REPUBLICANS WILL SAVE, PROTECT, PRESERVE, AND IMPROVE THE MEDICARE SYSTEM

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

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TATE. Mr. Speaker, it is an exciting day in America, because the Republicans on the House side are making real change, just as we promised, with the Contract With America.

Now we are going to take on the balancing of our national budget. Let me tell the Members, Mr. Speaker, a child born today, if we do nothing, will be saddled with \$187,150 in their lifetime just in taxes, just to pay the service on our national debt. That is unacceptable. The Republicans are willing to take that on. We are also willing to save our Medicare system.

If we do nothing, if we just sit back on our hands, like some are saying we should do, it is going to go bankrupt. Republicans are committed to save it, to protect it, to preserve it, to improve it. We are not going to bury our heads in the sand, Mr. Speaker. We are going to take on the issues that are important to working people, saving our future and saving our children's future.

REPUBLICANS TRY TO REFORM A HUGE MAGICAL ILLUSION IN ATTEMPTING TO CUT MEDICARE

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, when it comes to attempts to cut Medicare for our Nation's seniors, our Republican colleagues are trying to perform one huge magical illusion. I like magic tricks just about as much as the next person, but I prefer to see them in the circus, not here on the floor of Congress.

Let us take a look at what is up the sleeves of the Gingrichites. They want to cut Medicare to 37 million seniors by about \$900 each year. This painful cut is for the very men and women who we have been celebrating on this 50th anniversary of our victory in Europe, people that we here applauded, who fought for this country abroad, or who worked for it here at home.

Yet, at this very time we find in the Committee on the Budget scheduled for tomorrow here in the House the Gingrichites' proposal to cut the Medicare benefits that are so critical to these senior citizens.

I would say that David Copperfield should beware, because with the kind of magic being performed here and the kind of illusion here, this is an act that is ready for the Las Vegas strip.

PERMISSION FOR CERTAIN COMMITTEES TO SIT TODAY DURING THE 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following committees and their subcommittees be permitted to sit today while the House is meeting in the Committee on the Whole House under the 5-minute rule:

The Committee on Agriculture; the Committee on Banking and Financial Services; the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities; the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight; the Committee on House Oversight; the Committee on International Relations; the Committee on the Judiciary; the Committee on Resources; and the Select Committee on Intelligence.

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the minority has been consulted, and that there is no objection to these requests.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, the gentleman is correct. The Democrat side has been consulted, and we have no objections.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 8, 1995.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
The Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on Wednesday, May 3, 1995 at 7:05 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits proposed legislation entitled "Antiterrorism Amendments Act of 1995."

With great respect, I am

Sincerely yours,

ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk.

THE ANTITERRORISM AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1995—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 104-71)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, and the Committee on Commerce, and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Today I am transmitting for your immediate consideration and enactment the "Antiterrorism Amendments Act of 1995." This comprehensive Act, together with the "Omnibus Counterterrorism Act of 1995," which I

transmitted to the Congress on February 9, 1995, are critically important components of my Administration's effort to combat domestic and international terrorism.

The tragic bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City on April 19th stands as a challenge to all Americans to preserve a safe society. In the wake of this cowardly attack on innocent men, women, and children, following other terrorist incidents at home and abroad over the past several years, we must ensure that law enforcement authorities have the legal tools and resources they need to fight terrorism. The Antiterrorism Amendments Act of 1995 will help us to prevent terrorism through vigorous and effective investigation and prosecution. Major provisions of this Act would:

- Permit law enforcement agencies to gain access to financial and credit reports in antiterrorism cases, as is currently permitted with bank records. This would allow such agencies to track the source and use of funds by suspected terrorists.

- Apply the same legal standard in national security cases that is currently used in other criminal cases for obtaining permission to track telephone traffic with "pen registers" and "trap and trace" devices.

- Enable law enforcement agencies to utilize the national security letter process to obtain records critical to terrorism investigations from hotels, motels, common carriers, storage facilities, and vehicle rental facilities.

- Expand the authority of law enforcement agencies to conduct electronic surveillance, within constitutional safeguards. Examples of this increased authority include additions to the list of felonies that can be used as the basis for a surveillance order, and enhancement of law enforcement's ability to keep pace with telecommunications technology by obtaining multiple point wiretaps where it is impractical to specify the number of the phone to be tapped (such as the use of a series of cellular phones).

- Require the Department of the Treasury's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms to study the inclusion of taggants (microscopic particles) in standard explosive device raw materials to permit tracing the source of those materials after an explosion; whether common chemicals used to manufacture explosives can be rendered inert; and whether controls can be imposed on certain basic chemicals used to manufacture other explosives.

- Require the inclusion of taggants in standard explosive device raw materials after the publication of