

Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government has created a sea of redtape and an ocean of mandates that are drowning our States and communities, and past attempts to break the tide simply have not worked.

The bill has broad, bipartisan support at all levels of government, and the private sector. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5, an oppose any amendments that would weaken the thrust of this legislation.

STENHOLM-SIMON BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

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

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Speaker, 130 years ago, President Lincoln, in addressing a troubled nation, said, "The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate for the stormy present. As our problems are new, we must think anew."

The unprecedented deficits that this government has incurred year after year in the last 1½ decades have created a national debt of staggering proportions. The balanced budget amendment is a new approach to the stormy financial burden afflicting this Nation. We have a firm, respected bipartisan balanced budget amendment which the Congress came close to passing 6 months ago. It is the Stenholm-Simon proposal. Let us act promptly to pass this bipartisan amendment in 1995.

CHILDREN AT RISK THROUGH INEQUITABLE DIVISION OF FEDERAL RESEARCH DOLLARS

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, last week, I returned to my district to attend a very sad funeral. Little Kelsey O'Niel was more than a neighbor girl; she was like a member of the family. She was the embodiment of the term "cute as a bug's ear." She died suddenly last Sunday night as the result of an acute asthma attack.

Not even an act of Congress can bring Kelsey back.

But, we can bring some equity to the division of research dollars that the Federal Government provides. Diseases that take our children must be a much higher priority. We can also loosen the regulations that the Food and Drug Administration [FDA] and other agencies impose on new treatments and technologies.

If we can prevent even a few future such sad events, then our efforts will be more than worth it.

Kelsey I will never forget you.

PROTECTING A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE

(Ms. FURSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I have just seen a shocking AP bulletin. It tells that three fine Oregon doctors have been targeted for harassment by antichoice groups who have created a deadly dozen list identifying 12 doctors, 3 of them from Oregon, to be the target of intense harassment. This is the kind of terrorism that leads to murder at abortion clinics.

□ 1420

This must be stopped. Abortion is legal, and it is a right that must be protected. Antiabortion groups that refuse to condemn acts of terrorism and murder are encouraging violence. This lawlessness is extremely frightening to me, and it should be to all of us.

In addition to the Federal laws we have protecting clinic entrances, I call upon my colleagues to support the resolution offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MEEHAN] requiring Federal law enforcement officials to act swiftly to protect clinics.

I support freedom of speech, but not harassment, not murder. Regardless of one's position on choice, we must stand against the escalating lawlessness at our clinics.

LISTEN CLOSELY TO CICERO

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

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, the idea that the budget should be balanced is not new; although judging from the gnashing of teeth and wringing of hands that we have heard from the other side of the aisle it is downright revolutionary; but in fact it is an idea that is older than the Founding Fathers. Listen closely to what the Roman statesman Cicero had to say on the subject in 63 B.C. It sounds like it was written today:

The budget should be balanced, the treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced. The arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed, lest Rome become bankrupt.

I would say to my Democrat colleagues to pay special heed to Cicero's words concerning the arrogance of officialdom, as it was that, as much as anything else, that led to their party's decline and fall, and as for us Republicans, we must keep in mind that we are the agents of the people who sent us here, not their masters, and we must keep our promises to them to pass a balanced budget amendment, pass an unfunded mandates bill, and reduce the size and power of government.

WE NEED FULL DISCLOSURE OF CUTS IN THE REPUBLICAN BALANCED BUDGET

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

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, later this week the House will be voting on a Republican balanced budget amendment which does contain a three-fifths supermajority requirement but does not contain any listing of the cuts necessary to balance the budget. Members of Congress are being asked to buy a pig in a poke. The Congress and the American people need disclosure, and the Republicans have been unwilling, or unable, to list the cuts that will be required. Without the facts, the American people support the balanced budget amendment 4 to 1, until they learn that Social Security, Medicare, education, et cetera, may be cut. Then the amendment is opposed 2 to 1.

Mr. Speaker, if indeed our Republican colleagues do not intend to cut Social Security, why did they defeat the amendment to build a constitutional wall between Social Security and the rest of the budget? Why did they defeat the amendment to disclose a balanced budget blueprint before sending the balanced budget amendment to the States? It is clear that the American people need full disclosure of the cuts in the Republican balanced budget. They should not be handed a pig or a piglet in a poke.

DR. SEUSS ON THE BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

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

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, with apologies to Dr. Seuss I must confess that as a former elementary school-teacher I have tried my hand at trying to explain what is going on in Congress this week in language that even a child can understand:

They will not try a balanced budget, Sam I am. They will not try it with a mouse, they will not try in the House. They will not try a balanced budget, Sam I am.

But can we fund it on the States? Or we stop it and make them wait? If we can fund it on their backs, they will never find out what we lack.

But no, we can't fund it on the States, we can't stop it and make them wait. We must try the balanced budget, Sam I am.

A balanced budget is good you'll see. No mandates, no deficit is where we'll be.

You should try it, it's no slouch, you should try it with a mouse, and Mr. Speaker, I'd like to see it in this House. Sam, I am.

MR. GINGRICH'S PERSONAL ATTACKS ON FORMER SPEAKERS OF THE HOUSE

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, 3 days ago Speaker NEWT GINGRICH referred to former Speaker Jim Wright as, quote, a

crook. Formerly Congressman NEWT GINGRICH had alternatively referred to former Speaker Tom Foley, former Speaker Jim Wright, and America's beloved Speaker Tip O'Neil as traitors, thugs.

Jim Wright was asked for a response to the current Speaker's most recent attack and, although I do not have time in this 1 minute to read former Speaker Wright's account, I will herein place it in the RECORD and would read the first sentence which said, "It would demean the office of the Speaker and the institution of Congress itself for me to respond in kind to Mr. GINGRICH, and I shall not do so."

Mr. Speaker, the remainder of former Speaker Wright's speech is calm and measured, and I place it in the RECORD so my colleagues may see it:

STATEMENT OF JIM WRIGHT

It would demean the office of the Speaker and the institution of Congress itself for me to respond in kind to Mr. Gingrich, and I shall not do so. It is not for me to call him ugly names or attribute dishonesty to his business transactions. I guess I'm just not a piglet who likes to wallow in the mud.

So far as my personal integrity is concerned, it needs no defending from remarks by Mr. Gingrich who seems to devote a great portion of his career to trying to malign other people. That's not my style, and I like to think my 72 years of living and serving speak for themselves.

When I resigned from the Speakership in 1989, I expressly offered up my job "as a propitiation for this season of ill will," thus hoping to help Congress move forward without the distractions of the bitter name calling and "mindless cannibalism" which had characterized a series of deliberate personal attacks that I regarded as unworthy and most people realized were untrue.

I am saddened by the lack of dignity and civility which any Speaker must endeavor by example to instill.

SUPPORT THE UNFUNDED
MANDATES REFORM ACT

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

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, today we will continue consideration of H.R. 5, the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act. I am pleased to be a cosponsor of this legislation that is embodied in the Republican Contract with America.

I have received letters from the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National Conference of State Legislators, as well as the Democratic Governor of my home State, North Carolina, the Honorable Jim Hunt, all expressing strong support for this legislation. Governor Hunt articulated the problem well when he said, "While these mandates may reflect well-intentioned policy goals, they often imposed substantial costs and regulatory burdens on the States that deny them the right and responsibility to set the priorities that best meet the needs of our citizens."

For too many years we in Congress have made laws that we did not hold ourselves accountable to and then mandated to both the State and local

governments, as well as the private sector, that they not only abide by the laws, but also come up with the money to pay for them.

UNFUNDED MANDATES DEVASTATING
TO RURAL COMMUNITIES

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

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss how unfunded mandates are particularly devastating to rural communities throughout the country. In Michigan, for example, the estimated costs for fiscal year 1994 as a result of 12 major unfunded mandates was nearly \$400 million.

For example, municipal water systems in my district are required by the EPA to follow the same drinking water tests as Hawaii to monitor for a herbicide used on pineapples, which are grown only in Hawaii. Municipal water systems in Michigan are not only required to report these chemicals not found in the water supply, but they have to pay for it as well. This is wrong.

This example is just one of hundreds of costly, unnecessary, unfunded Federal mandates that leave Washington and fall into our backyards at home.

If there is one theme, one goal of the 104th Congress, it must be to become more accountable. No longer should we be able to pass legislation, pat ourselves on the backs, and pretend it did not cost the taxpayers a dime. The reality is that we leave it to our States and our communities to shoulder the burden and those days must end.

□ 1430

IN SUPPORT OF THE BALANCED
BUDGET AMENDMENT

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

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, this new Congress is working hard to fulfill its promises to the American people. The most significant change this Congress must make will be done through passage of the balanced budget amendment with its three-fifths tax provision. Right now, every American's share of the national debt is over \$18,500—for my family of five that's \$92,500. Today, the deficit stands at \$176 billion. That is about \$700 for every man, woman, and child in this country. Something must be done to balance the budget. This Congress needs to act now by passing the balanced budget amendment.

The Barton amendment will ensure that the Federal Government cannot spend more than it takes in, and Congress cannot add to the Federal debt unless approved by a three-fifths majority vote of Congress. We need the discipline of a balanced budget amend-

ment to completely change the spending culture of Washington.

I urge my colleagues to pass the balanced budget amendment, not for ourselves, but for the future of our children and grandchildren.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Edwin Thomas, one of his secretaries.

BALANCING THE BUDGET

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

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the balanced budget amendment that this body will soon consider. The American taxpayers demand it. It is our duty to pass the balanced budget amendment and answer their outcry.

Mr. Speaker, if we pause and listen carefully, we can hear the giant sucking sound of the special interests draining the American people's money from Capitol Hill. I say it is time to plug that drain by passing the balanced budget amendment.

No longer should Americans be asked to stand by and watch their tax dollars be wasted away. No longer should hard-working citizens be forced to hand over their paychecks, only to see them thrown into the abyss of big bureaucracy.

I am proud to support this greatly needed balanced budget amendment and urge my colleagues to join me.

RURAL COMMUNITIES AMONG
THOSE TO BENEFIT FROM PAS-
SAGE OF UNFUNDED MANDATES
REFORM ACT

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

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 5, the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

On November 8 the American people sent a clear message that they were tired of having Washington pile ever-increasing mandates on their backs. The types of smaller rural communities such as those I represent bear the heaviest proportional burden of unfunded mandates. Instead of using their tight budgets to improve schools, police forces, or infrastructure, they have increasingly found themselves spending scarce dollars to satisfy Federal rules and regulations that have no positive impact on their communities.

Mr. Speaker, we owe them our prompt support of this important reform bill. I hope we can lay aside the gutting amendments that have been