



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 141

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, MAY 16, 1995

No. 81

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. RADANOVICH].

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

May 15, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable GEORGE P. RADANOVICH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of May 12, 1995, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member except the majority and minority leader limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 9:50 a.m.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] for 5 minutes.

AMERICANS ARE GETTING SMART ABOUT THE BUDGET

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to take the floor today to talk about how fortunate we are that the American people are so smart. I mean, as we go into this budget debate, there are a lot of people who think they were not paying attention. But when you look at the polls today, let me tell you, they were paying attention. They figured it out, and they do not like it.

Sixty percent of Americans in the polls released today reject both the

Senate and the House Republican budgets. Now, why do they do this?

Well, we have heard over and over again that they should be very happy because the cuts are going to be distributed across America, and that the Democrats are terrible people because they are inciting class warfare and they are doing all sorts of things like that.

Well, OK, so now the American people have figured out, yes, the cuts really are distributed across the entire economic gambit of Americans. But it is for middle- and low-income people. They are cutting programs, such as cuts in Medicare, cuts in school lunches, cuts in student loans, cuts in all sorts of programs that have helped them, that have helped them get up.

Now, what do the rich people get in the line of cuts? They get tax cuts. Would you know, they have all figured out that tax cuts are a whole lot better than program cuts. And guess who comes out on the short end of those cuts?

Well, once again, it is the middle class who is going to come out on the short end of those cuts. We are having to cut like mad so people over \$200,000 a year are going to get these phenomenal tax breaks. I think that is totally unfair. But it is not just what I think, now the American people are beginning to agree.

If you look at student loans, for example, in my State of Colorado there are almost 90,000 people on student loans. So they are saying the minute they get them they should start paying interest. It is absolutely no different than when you get a car, except when you get a car, you get the car. You get to use it right away. So it makes sense to start paying interest right away, because you are using the car right away.

When you are going to school, you cannot use that education until you get to the end of the schooling and you get diploma in hand. That is why we

have not charged people interest until they had diploma in hand. That is like having the real car.

So when they try to tell you this is the same, it is not the same at all. And it is going to end up causing people to borrow even more money to pay interest on the money that they previously borrowed.

I think it is outrageous that these young kids are having to graduate from school owing so much money. No wonder they do not dare get married before they are 40. I mean, the next thing we are going to have to do is figure out how octogenarians can be fertile or nobody in the middle class is going to be able to afford a family until they are in their eighties at this rate.

I think American families have figured this out, and that is why the polling numbers today are very different. The average American family feels like a squirrel in one of those wheels. They run and they run and they run, and they run harder and harder and harder every year. And you know what? At the end of the year, they are even more exhausted than they were the year before, their tongue is hanging out, and they never get out of the bottom of the wheel.

If they are suddenly going to have to deal with cuts in their parents' Medicare so that they have got to start picking that up and helping them out to the tune of about \$1,000 extra a year, if their kids are going to get double whammied with interest from the time they take the loan out so they are going to have to borrow even more, if all of these things come crushing in on them and they see many programs in schools that have enriched the schools through science, nutrition standards, and so forth being cut, guess what? They are going to have to run even faster, and they are still not going to get out of the bottom of the wheel. But

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

H4959

meanwhile, those equal cuts that went to the rich means they are going to get \$20,000 more in their pocket per year.

That is not a fair deal. I was accused of being a socialist on this floor the other day by a Member, and I must say what I want to say is the other side in their budget is socialism for the rich. No one has ever seen socialism for the rich. But this is a whole new Republican program, socialism for the rich so they can get richer. Those are the cuts that help them.

Well, I am not that kind of socialist, I can tell you, and I will make it very, very clear over and over again. That is not my program. I think Government is there to help people who need help, to teach them to fish, to get them on their legs and get them going, and I think the time has come and the American people have figured it out.

WE HAVE TO MAKE RESPONSIBLE CHOICES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. HAYWORTH] is recognized during morning business for 3 minutes.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to the words of my colleague from Colorado, and would propose to offer to the American people, Mr. Speaker, that we see another sterling, yes, even a textbook example of why there is a new minority in the Congress of the United States on that side of the aisle. It is fascinating to listen to this almost instant revisionism of history, socialism for the wealthy.

Well, that is a very interesting point of view, and I guess in terms of playground name calling, that certainly may have some validity in a nonsensical sort of way. One analog that does pertain, however, is the notion of the American family being put into a cage. The American family has been enslaved, but it has been enslaved by those proponents of big Government who believe that always there must be tax increases, that always people need to take out their wallets and give more and more money to Washington. And the facts speak for themselves.

Mr. Speaker, it is a well-known fact that in 1948 the average American family sent 3 percent of its income, the average American family of four paid 3 percent of its income in taxes to the Federal Government. And yet by 1994, on the heels of the largest tax increase in American history, the average American family paid 24.5 percent of its income in taxes to the Federal Government. And this was not class warfare, this is virtually everybody, with a quantum leap in what they had to pay to the Federal Government. And now, fresh on the heels of a nonsensical, dishonest school lunch scare program, the new minority, the guardians of the old order, are trying to scare seniors and students.

The fact is that we are not taking away student loans of the new major-

ity, but it is also the fact if we do nothing, if we allow the status quo to persist, there may not be university systems, there may not be a constitutional Republic in 5 to 10 years to have a worthy educational system to begin with.

To those who would always use the scare tactics about school lunches and claim cuts when there are increases, let me simply say this: The fact is we have to make responsible choices. The fact is that even in increasing funding or changing the method of supplying funding to give the money to people on the front lines, we are transforming what is done. We are making programs more effective to ensure that we may save them. And no clearer tactic or example can we see than in the realm of Medicare, where in fact my colleague, the preceding speaker, the gentlewoman from Colorado, tried to scare seniors and claim there are cuts.

Friends, we are making rash on America reasonable increases to save the Medicare Program. We are not making cuts. That is what we must do: make responsible choices, not come in and carp and complain and hope against hope that somehow in November 1996, the voters of America will return to a bankrupt policy of always and constant growth of Government.

GUAM COMMONWEALTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Guam [Mr. UNDERWOOD] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the lack of action on the part of the administration in fulfilling its responsibility to the people of Guam in appointing a special representative for the Guam Commonwealth.

The special representative would complete the discussions that were initiated in 1993 with the Guam Commission on Self-Determination on the issues that the Guam Commonwealth Act raises in defining a new relationship between the Federal Government and the people of Guam. Congress has deferred its action on the Guam Commonwealth Act, H.R. 1056, until the discussions with the administration's special representative are completed. However, it is impossible to complete the Commonwealth discussions when there is no one to discuss these issues with. A dialog, by definition, requires two parties.

Mr. I. Michael Heyman, the special representative who began these discussions with Guam in December 1993, announced his intention to resign on February 7 of this year. We have been waiting patiently for the administration to name a successor to Mr. Heyman. It is now 95 days later, and we are still waiting. There have been hints, rumors, and meetings, but no appointment. There have been assurances that issue this is receiving the highest

attention, but still no appointment. In short, there has been a lot of activity, but no action.

Mr. Speaker, the Guam Commission on Self-Determination and I have been extremely patient with the administration, but our patience is wearing thin. We can understand their wanting to find the right person for this job, but we question this excruciating and time-consuming scrutiny worthy of a Supreme Court nomination. In an administration not known for its speed in filling vacancies, we fear that the search for Guam's special representative is setting a new speed record, one that we are not particularly fond of holding. We'd rather leave the distinction of longest vacancy in the administration not filled to other more worthy contenders.

Mr. Speaker, the quest to establish a new self-governing Commonwealth for the people of Guam is of paramount importance to us, and is also important to the national interest. A prosperous, new Commonwealth of Guam, possessing the economic tools to secure a good future, will serve the interests of the United States in the western Pacific and the Far East into the 21st century. But none of this can happen if we don't conclude the ongoing discussions between Guam and the administration. These discussions must come to some conclusion so that Congress would have a better sense of how the important issues of self-governance can be resolved.

I, therefore, call on the administration to name a special representative for Guam Commonwealth, and to resume the important discussions that have been delayed for the past 3 months. And I again remind the administration that time is running short to complete this process within a time-frame that allows the 104th Congress to also begin its important review of the Guam Commonwealth Act.

FISCAL YEAR 1996 BUDGET RESOLUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. ALLARD] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of the budget that the Republicans on the House Budget Committee have produced.

It produces a balanced budget in 2002—just as we promised.

This will be the first balanced budget in 33 years. That is right, 1969 was the last year the Federal Government balanced its books.

As a member of the Budget Committee, I can say we have worked tirelessly since January to produce a plan that is fair and honest.

The plan has the unanimous support of the committee Republicans, as well as Democrat MIKE PARKER of Mississippi. Opponents are already attacking this plan, and distorting what it