

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, while the liberal Democrats are attacking the Speaker of the House, we are going to go on and change the government because the people last November demanded change. They want changes in foreign aid. The liberal establishment here in Washington is not real fond of change. They do not approve of things like balanced budgets or fiscal responsibility. For years, now, liberals and Washington bureaucrats have made piles of money of the American taxpayer.

Last November, Americans clearly rejected the status quo here in Washington. They rejected deficit spending, and they told Congress to balance their budget and end the bureaucratic spending spree.

This week, Congress will have a chance to make some fundamental changes in our foreign assistance programs. We will scale back foreign aid and eliminate wasteful agencies. Clearly this is an opportunity to dramatically restructure international involvement, making it more accountable to the American taxpayers and more responsive to American interests.

Less than 10 percent cut this year in foreign aid. That is disgraceful. It is not even hors d'oeuvres. Placing AID under the State Department is like giving your mother to the post office. This bill needs work. Eighty-one percent of the American people want dramatic cuts in foreign aid, and we have not done it. This bill is just the beginning. When it goes to conference, this bill needs tremendous cuts.

PLEASE DO NOT CUT FUNDING FOR EDUCATION: IT IS AMERICA'S FUTURE

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to object to the budget put forth by the majority Republicans as it relates to education cuts. The majority Republicans have been saying for the past few weeks that their budget is one for the children of America.

Honestly, Mr. Speaker, their drastic budget cut slams the door in the face of our children. Many young people today see education as their only way to become part of the middle class, and they are right. If we cut title I funding, if we cut bilingual funding, if we cut national service assistance, if we cut student loans, if we cut job training, where are they going to get the education and training they need to earn a decent income and become taxpaying citizens?

It does not save taxes next century by cutting education today. Our children will not have a job in the next century to pay taxes if they do not have access to a good education today.

Mr. Speaker, I am particularly concerned about the elimination of bilin-

gual education in the Republican budget. These two children in this picture are from the Love Elementary School in the Heights area of Houston. Love has an incredible success rate in the bilingual program at their school. The children are learning English, they are excelling in their studies, and the program works. The students are continuing into junior and senior high. But, they will not if we pass the Republican budget because it cuts education funding.

CHINA SHOULD NOT HAVE MOST-FAVORED-NATION STATUS

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

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I suspect that when we are gone, the administration will announce they are going to give China MFN. We should know several things: one, persecution has increased. Catholic priests have been arrested; on Easter Monday a Catholic priest was taken away. On Maundy Thursday they raided a house church. Violations of human rights have increased. The Gulags have increased. Most of the people watching this today are wearing clothing made perhaps in Gulags, but since that time, we have found out two additional things. We now know conclusively that they are shooting 25-year-old men and taking their kidneys and selling them for \$25,000. We have conclusive proof. I urge anyone who wants to see it to come to my office and I will show them.

The, last week, we found out in Chinese hospitals they are selling aborted fetuses, aborted babies, for food to eat. When this Congress has an opportunity to vote on MFN, I ask Members to think in terms, do they want to give a country like that MFN when they are selling aborted babies for eating and killing people for kidney transplants? These are the things that the Nazis did, and we would never give MFN to Nazi Germany.

REPUBLICANS SHOULD NOT CUT THE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

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

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I have studied the Republican budget. I have seen the charts and the graphs. I have seen the Republicans cut student loans with one hand to give a huge tax cut to the wealthiest Americans with the other hand.

Carissa Guertin of Fitchburg State College in Massachusetts has seen it, too. She says student loan cuts might take her out of college. Carissa writes, and I quote:

I am the first in my family to actually go to college. Without student aid, I will be forced to quit college and try to get a job without a degree. This may cause me to add

to the growing number of welfare recipients. I might have to become one. I do not see how student aid cuts will help our economy at all in the long run.

Mr. Speaker, I agree with Carissa.

A FRIENDLY WAGER: THE HOUSTON ROCKETS VERSUS THE SPURS

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

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I fought against student loan cuts, but today I ask for a moment of personal privilege. As spring proceeds, Mr. Speaker, many say that the hearts of Americans turn to the boys of summer. Mr. Speaker, the hearts of Texans turn to the boys of the B-ball; that is basketball.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, who I understand is from San Antonio, a friendly wager is in order. That is that the Houston Rockets will take this series in 7. I wonder, does the Speaker have the right stuff to accept this wager, the loser having to provide reasonable penalty for the loss to our respective constituents. I wonder, does he have the right stuff to accept this wager?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BONILLA). If the gentlewoman will yield, I thank her, and I would like to say I accept the challenge with great enthusiasm, and I am sure that my fellow Texan shares the pride that we all have in our State in watching two Texas teams battle it out to represent the West in the NBA finals.

I, as a Spurs ticket holder for many years, will be rooting with my heart and soul for the San Antonio Spurs, and I know the gentlewoman will be doing the same for the Houston Rockets, but regardless of who wins, I am sure that she shares my pride in knowing that there will be a Texas team represented in the NBA finals.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. We are on, Mr. Speaker.

FOREIGN AID

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

Mrs. WALDHOLTZ. Mr. Speaker, speaking as a jazz fan, wait until next year. But today, we will continue debating the American Overseas Act. This act takes bold steps to downsize the Federal bureaucracy, and at the same time make the United States more responsive to a rapidly changing world.

Critics of this bill have said that this is America turning inward, withdrawing from the rest of the world. In fact, however, this is America opening its eyes and squarely facing both our need to balance the budget and to respond to a very different and changing world. Our foreign affairs agencies were created during the cold war, when we had

to work to outbid the Soviet Union to buy friends abroad. Now, in a new post-cold-war world that is fundamentally different from the old one, our foreign affairs apparatus is too big and outdated.

The American Overseas Interest Act will overhaul the foreign aid bureaucracy by merging three independent agencies into the State Department, eliminating outdated bureaucracies, and doing away with conflicting and divisive foreign policy. I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill, and vote for eliminating bureaucracy and streamlining foreign policy. We need foreign policy for the nineties, not for the fifties.

□ 1030

DR. FOSTER DESERVING OF SUPPORT FOR SURGEON GENERAL POSITION

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

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of Dr. Henry Foster's nomination for the position of Surgeon General. Dr. Foster's credentials are impeccable. In my opinion, his background symbolizes the type of doctor we are seeking to fill this important position.

Throughout his career, Dr. Foster has immersed himself in alleviating two of our Nation's biggest problems, the crisis of teen pregnancy, and the tragedy of drug abuse. Teen pregnancy and drug abuse are perhaps the biggest factors in the high school dropout rate today, not to mention the crime, poverty, and child abuse that is rampant throughout our Nation. It is commendable that Dr. Foster has recognized this, and taken the time to reach out to the teenagers in his community and across the country.

I am offended by the way the radical right of this country and in this Congress have treated Dr. Foster. They are playing politics with a good man's life, and I object.

Dr. Henry Foster exemplifies the strong values and innovative thinking that this country needs in a leader, especially now during these difficult times. I ask that my colleagues in the Senate please bring the Foster nomination to the floor, and vote to confirm his appointment.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BONILLA). The Chair reminds Members that they should not refer to the confirmation process in the Senate in their remarks here in the House.

CRUEL CUTS IN STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor because I heard an extraordinary exchange earlier between the Democratic leader, who justly slammed the Republicans' budget for its cuts in student loans and grants that will add \$5,000 to the debt burden of the typical financial aid student graduating from college in future years for families that earn less than \$75,000 a year. A Republican freshman rose on the other side to say he would sacrifice for the sake of his daughter, he would take those financial aid cuts for the sake of his daughter.

Well, I have got news for him. He earns \$133,000 a year as a Member of Congress. He had a successful career as a sportscaster. His daughter does not need help to go to college, but millions of other American kids do who come from families of modest means, and he is stomping on their fingers as they try and reach that first rung of the ladder to climb up to the success that we all strive for in this country.

These cuts are cruel and they fall only on families who earn less than \$75,000 a year. That is the Republican budget's answer for student financial aid.

CUTS IN STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM AFFECT AVERAGE AMERICANS

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

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to bring attention to the dramatic real-life effects that the proposed cuts to Federal student loan programs and the elimination of the Department of Education will have on average Americans.

I am one of 13 children born to parents of fifth and sixth grade educations. For families like mine and maybe even others, more importantly for the millions of middle-class taxpayers, the American dream of education and improving their lives for the next generation will be just that, a dream.

On Saturday I received my doctor-of-ministry degree. For the most part I earned my degree because of my personal commitment to self-improvement and self-responsibility and the fact that somebody along the way cared about my future.

Without the National Defense Student Loan Program, I would not have even had the opportunity to go to college in the first place. It was a loan. I paid it back. Others will do the same thing if given the opportunity.

We must be mindful that even with all of our ivory tower exhortations about the virtues we hold dear, some-

body out there in real life places outside of Washington needs a helping hand. We should care enough, even if nobody else does, to help them to make their American dream come true by getting the best education they can. We can do it by maintaining student support.

STUDENT LOANS

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, let me tell you about a letter I recently received from Maria Casillas. Maria lives in my district and writes:

Cuts in student aid just don't make sense. Student aid actually saves taxpayers money by stimulating economic growth and increasing productivity. Student aid is important to me because it gives me the opportunity to get a better education than my mother or grandmother had. I work hard in school to get good grades and without financial aid, I could not afford college.

Maria wants to go to college and without Federal funding for student loans, she will not have the opportunity to do so. We cannot afford to squander our human resources. Let us invest in the future of our country. Let us provide Maria and young men and women like her with the educational opportunity they deserve. Let us do what is right for the people of this Nation, not what is right for the privileged few.

CALL FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL IN SPEAKER'S ETHICS CASE

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

Mr. JOHNSTON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is common knowledge today that the Republican members of the Ethics Committee defeated a motion to appoint a special counsel to look into the complaints against the Speaker of the House, NEWT GINGRICH. I am disheartened by this action, and I know many of my colleagues as well as public interest groups share my feelings.

Mr. Speaker, I call on you now to do what is right. Release the Republican members from their obligation to vote in lockstep. These are men and women of conscience for whom the vote consequence is beyond any inquiry into your actions.

Rise up and meet the appropriate precedent of the past. Permit the committee and this House to conduct a fair and formal investigation through the vehicle of a special counsel. Anything less falls short of your moral obligation and our collective responsibility to the public. As quoted by Al Hunt in today's Wall Street Journal, there is no way that the House of Representatives is going to achieve any credibility unless they go to an outside counsel.