

One measure, however, which I will not condone and will not even consider is any effort by this leadership to cut Social Security.

Social Security is a covenant the U.S. Government has made with its citizens, a promise to support working Americans when they are retired and living on fixed incomes.

The working families of the Nation, and of New York, want straight talk, and they deserve to know whether or not Social Security is on the table.

In the only opportunity we had to exempt Social Security in the 104th Congress, every Republican but one voted against an amendment to exempt Social Security during markup of the balanced budget amendment in the Judiciary Committee.

Simply put, we cannot afford to balance the budget on the backs of working Americans who are living on fixed incomes.

These are difficult economic times for the people of New York's southern tier and the Nation. Senior citizens should know for certain that their benefits are not in danger.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas). The Chair would like to remind all Members that there is a limitation of 20 1-minutes. There have been 16 on each side to this point. The Chair will recognize Members in order. The Chair would ask Members to adjust their ranking so that we can get on with the business of the morning. Those who were here first, I presume, will be recognized.

DEMOCRATS, NOT REPUBLICANS, RAISED TAXES ON SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, all right, let us talk about Social Security. In 1993, the first year your Democrat President was in office, the Democrat Party, without one vote from the Republican side, raised taxes on Social Security.

Then in the same legislation, the Democrat Party voted to put that money, the new proceeds, not in the Social Security trust fund but in the general fund. Why? Probably so your Democrat President could have more money to pass out as largess when he needs one of the bits and pieces of his legislation passed.

For example, your President, when NAFTA comes, he is so offended by \$20 presents from lobbyists, teeshirts from school groups, and baseball caps from veterans' organizations; he comes into the House,

If you will want to help pass NAFTA, I will give you a million dollars here. You want to save your helium reserve plant? Let me give

you a couple of million. Let me give you a couple of million for your dam back home. We want your vote.

You do not want a balanced budget amendment because you want to protect Social Security; the fact is you do not want a balanced budget amendment because you do not want a balanced budget; not to protect Social Security but protect your largess when you need votes passed, and your President uses it the most.

HIGHER MINIMUM WAGE PRODUCES ADDITIONAL JOBS

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

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as a strong supporter of the proposal put forth by President Clinton to increase the minimum wage, I would like to share with my colleagues the findings of a survey in my home State of New Jersey. Despite dire predictions by some of gloom and doom, our New Jersey businesses report that they actually added jobs to their payrolls after the minimum wage was raised in our State.

As Governor Christine Todd Whitman acknowledged in an interview following President Clinton's State of the union Address, New Jersey workers could not make ends meet on the national minimum wage of \$4.25. Our State of New Jersey has a \$5.05 minimum wage.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the fact that our State has led the Nation in providing workers with the decent living wage they deserve.

I support extending the increase in the minimum wage to every worker in our Nation. Let me point out that the value of the current Federal minimum wage, adjusted for inflation, has fallen by about 50 cents an hour since 1991.

□ 0950

It is about 27 percent lower than it was in 1979. Let us make sure that the economic recovery reaches all Americans, and let us support President Clinton's minimum wage increase.

A SPECIAL CHALLENGE TO THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SIXTH DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

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

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday evening the President stood in this Chamber and called on the American people to join him in reforming our Government. More importantly, he issued a challenge to Members of Congress to voluntarily refrain from taking lobbyists' gifts.

I am proud to say that I rise to the President's challenge and will no longer accept gifts from lobbyists. From now on this sign will grace the door of my office, and any Member who

signs this pledge sheet will also get a sign to hang on their door.

Mr. Speaker, I issue a special challenge to my colleague from the Sixth District of Georgia to take this pledge and illustrate his commitment to a gift ban by abandoning, and I will have to say it in piglet Latin, his ook-bay eal-day.

All of us have accepted one gift or another from lobbyists. However, as the President reminded us, we cannot change our yesterdays, but our todays and tomorrows we can.

SUPPORT THE THREE-FIFTHS AMENDMENT

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

Mr. HEINEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the balanced budget amendment with its three-fifths supermajority. If we in this Congress are sincere in voting for a meaningful amendment, then we must put a clutch on our ability to raise taxes to pay for our inability to do our jobs.

People across this country are constantly in a process of balancing their personal budgets. The States and municipalities across this country are balancing their budgets. Private enterprise is constantly trying to balance their budgets. I ask, "Why can't we climb aboard by balancing our budget without whimsically overtaxing the people to do this?"

We should be leaders. We should be the generals who lead the parade, not those who march behind it. Let us get out front and demonstrate that we can make tough decisions to keep our house in order. We do not need to be the parent who constantly raids the children's piggy bank to pay our way.

Support the three-fifths amendment. Vote for the Barton amendment.

THE CONSTITUTION SHOULD NOT ALLOW A MINORITY TO CONTROL THE BUDGET PROCESS

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

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, we need to pass a balanced budget amendment, but amending the Constitution really cannot be taken lightly. Our Constitution has only been amended 17 times in over 200 years since the Bill of Rights. Our Constitution is based on majority rule, and we should not vote to put budget control in the hands of a minority of Members.

In all the instances that are written into the Constitution of a supermajority, all of those are instances are where the legislative branch must approve or must override the action of another coequal branch: The affirmative vote to override a veto by the President, the Executive, the

leader of the executive branch; the rejection vote to impeach a judge, or a President, a person in one of the other branches; the affirmative vote to ratify a treaty; the affirmative vote to ratify an action by the President. The Constitution includes also the allowance for the Chambers to eject a Member that has been voted by the people, the ultimate kind of rejection.

The Constitution should not be amended to allow a minority to control the budget process.

COSIGNING A LOAN TO ONE OF THE MOST CORRUPT REGIMES IN THE WORLD IS WRONG

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

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. I hope our Speaker is listening because the American people would like to know when he is going to schedule the vote on the Mexican \$40 billion bailout.

I say to the Speaker, "You want to call it a loan guarantee. Well, if you want to loan one of the most corrupt regimes in the world \$40 billion, to cosign a note personally, you're welcome to do so."

If the President of the United States would like to do so personally, Mr. Speaker, he is also welcome to do so.

However, Mr. Speaker, do not ask the American people to cosign a loan to one of the most corrupt regimes in the world and be held accountable.

A couple of years back, in fact less than 1½ years ago, the now Speaker and President said we have to pass NAFTA or the Mexican economy will fail. Well, I voted against it, but the majority voted for it. They passed NAFTA, and now the Mexican economy has failed. They said we have to pass NAFTA or we will lose jobs in America. Well, unfortunately the majority voted for NAFTA, and we have lost 700 manufacturing jobs in my south Mississippi congressional district alone.

I say, "Mr. Speaker, you all have been wrong twice. Let's don't be wrong three times. If you're not going to have a vote, then tell the American people you will not schedule a vote. But if you're going to have a vote on this bailout, tell the American people when it's going to be, and let's don't have it in the middle of the night when the television cameras and the reporters are gone."

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas). Further 1-minutes will be in order after the close of regular business today.

PROPOSING A BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 44 and rule

XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the joint resolution, House Joint Resolution 1.

□ 0956

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 1) proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States, with Mr. WALKER in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Wednesday, January 25, 1995, all time for general debate had expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the Joint Resolution is considered as read, is not subject to amendment while pending, and is debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the gentleman from Texas [Mr. BARTON] and an opponent.

No further amendment shall be in order except those designated in section 3 of House Resolution 44. Each further amendment may be offered only by the named proponent or a designee, may be considered notwithstanding the adoption of a previous amendment in the nature of a substitute, is considered read, is not subject to amendment, and is debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent of the amendment.

If more than one amendment is adopted, only the one receiving the greater number of affirmative votes shall be considered as finally adopted.

In the case of a tie for the greater number of affirmative votes, only the last amendment to receive that number of affirmative votes shall be considered as finally adopted, except that if the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary is one of the amendments receiving the greater number of votes, then it shall be the amendment considered as finally adopted.

The Clerk will designate the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the joint resolution.

The text of the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute is as follows:

H.J. RES. 1

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years after the date of its submission for ratification:

"ARTICLE—

"SECTION 1. Prior to each fiscal year, Congress shall, by law, adopt a statement of receipts and outlays for such fiscal year in

which total outlays are not greater than total receipts. Congress may, by law, amend that statement provided revised outlays are not greater than revised receipts. Congress may provide in that statement for a specific excess of outlays over receipts by a vote directed solely to that subject in which three-fifths of the whole number of each House agree to such excess. Congress and the President shall ensure that actual outlays do not exceed the outlays set forth in such statement.

"SECTION 2. No bill to increase tax revenue shall become law unless approved by a three-fifths majority of the whole number of each House of Congress.

"SECTION 3. Prior to each fiscal year, the President shall transmit to Congress a proposed statement of receipts and outlays for such fiscal year consistent with the provisions of this Article.

"SECTION 4. Congress may waive the provisions of this Article for any fiscal year in which a declaration of war is in effect. The provisions of this Article may be waived for any fiscal year in which the United States faces an imminent and serious military threat to national security and is so declared by a joint resolution, adopted by a majority of the whole number of each House, which becomes law.

"SECTION 5. Total receipts shall include all receipts of the United States except those derived from borrowing and total outlays shall include all outlays of the United States except those for the repayment of debt principal.

"SECTION 6. The amount of the debt of the United States held by the public as of the date this Article takes effect shall become a permanent limit on such debt and there shall be no increase in such amount unless three-fifths of the whole number of each House of Congress shall have passed a bill approving such increase and such bill has become law.

"SECTION 7. All votes taken by the House of Representatives or the Senate under this Article shall be rollcall votes.

"SECTION 8. Congress shall enforce and implement this Article by appropriate legislation.

"SECTION 9. This Article shall take effect of the fiscal year 2002 or for the second fiscal year beginning after its ratification, whichever is later."

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the amendment is not subject to amendment while pending.

The gentleman from Texas [Mr. BARTON] will be recognized for 30 minutes and a Member opposed will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas [Mr. BARTON].

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that 15 of the 30 minutes that I control be allotted to the gentleman from Fort Worth, TX, Mr. PETE GEREN, for such use as he may see fit.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON].

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Chairman, each time I approach this podium with regard to this subject, I say the words "This is a historic debate," and it truly is a historic debate because we are about making a major change in the