

Because of this program, every citizen pays a hidden tax that takes money out of the pockets of American consumers to the tune of more than \$1.4 billion every year in higher food prices, according to GAO. This hidden tax has cost Americans more than \$10 billion over the last decade. In addition, the consumer interest group Public Voice has recently estimated that the sugar program has cost the Federal Government \$110 million annually because of higher purchase prices for sugar and sugar containing products used in domestic feeding and food programs. This is money that my constituents could be saving, investing, or using to buy needed items for their families and children. But because of this program, they must pay higher prices on everything containing sugar—all because of the Federal Government interfering in the marketplace.

This fall the House will be debating a new farm bill. We will also be debating the budget reconciliation bill that will balance the Federal budget in 7 years, which will force substantial cuts in farm commodity programs such as wheat, dairy, corn, cotton, and rice. While these programs have faced cuts on average of 40 percent since 1985, sugar has not been cut one iota. This is simply unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for repeal of this program.

THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA: WHAT IT MEANS FOR MEDICARE

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, three things will happen if the Republicans get their way with Medicare. No. 1, senior citizens will pay more in premiums. Hold on to your wallet, because House Republicans under NEWT GINGRICH have proposed a 100-percent increase in the monthly Medicare premium. That is right, a 100-percent increase, the largest premium increase in Medicare history.

The second thing that will happen is senior citizens will find it harder to choose their own doctor. Senate Republicans would try to push people into managed care, taking away their right to physician choice.

The third thing that will happen, Mr. Speaker, if Republicans get their way with Medicare, is that the American middle class will subsidize a huge tax break for the richest Americans.

We are starting to see the main effect of the Contract With America, a shift of money from the middle class to the rich. The Gingrich gravy train means at least \$245 billion in tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans. And guess who pays the bill?

Mr. Speaker, Gingrich Republicans want to give the American people the

largest Medicare cut in American history. It is simply not right.

WASHINGTON POST SUPPORTS REPUBLICANS ON MEDICARE

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

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I do not normally go around quoting the Washington Post, because normally it does not agree with the way I see things, being a liberal paper of record. But look what they have said just 2 days ago about exactly what my friend from Ohio, prior speaker, was just talking about. It is called medagogues.

Newt Gingrich and Bob Dole accused the Democrats and their allies yesterday of conducting a campaign based on distortion and fear. They are right. That is precisely what the Democrats are doing. It is pretty much all they are doing, and it is crummy stuff.

Crummy stuff. Those are tough words.

It is crummy stuff. They are absolutely right. And that is exactly what we hear day after day after day from the other side of the aisle.

The fact is, we are trying to simplify. We are preserving, saving, and improving Medicare and, again, that is exactly what they say.

The Republicans have a plan. It is credible. It is gutsy, it is inventive, it addresses a genuine problem that is only going to get worse. What the Democrats have instead is a lot of expostulation, TV ads, and scare talk. It is demagoguery big time.

KEEP GOVERNMENT RUNNING

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, Speaker GINGRICH says we do not want to shut down the Federal Government. The majority leader says we do not want to shut down the Federal Government. President Clinton says we do not want to shut down the Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, I offered an amendment in the Treasury-Postal bill last Wednesday which said we will continue the operations of Government because nobody wants to shut it down. They may want to reduce this program or cut out this program, but they want the Government to continue to serve Americans.

Why then, on almost a party line vote, when we have bipartisan support, the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS], the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. WOLF], the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. WYNN], the gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA], and others of us on both sides of the aisle, say nobody intends to shut down the Federal Government.

Why then do we not pass just a simple little bill that says we are not going to put this into politics. We will not play with people's lives, their abil-

ity to fund their mortgages, their food payments, their college tuition loans? Let us act responsibly. Let us keep our Government running. Let us pass the continuing resolution now.

PRESERVING MEDICARE

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

Mr. DICKEY. Mr. Speaker, last April the Medicare trustees reported that if nothing was done to Medicare, that it would go bankrupt. What we have is a proposition that we are making to try to preserve Medicare. The opposition comes and says, no that is terrible, and presents all these scare tactics.

But I think we are in a step process. What I believe is that we do have the knowledge on the side of those people who are opposing these modifications, we do have that knowledge that comes from having control of the Medicare Program for 30 or 40 years.

These people know where we can make modifications, slow down the increases, and save Medicare. What we are probably doing right now is trying to get their attention. They are probably saying, "We do not believe they are going to do it. But if they do it, we can go in there and help."

I ask those people who are opposed to those changes we are trying to make to help us with specific information that you all have so that we can help the American people and save Medicare. That is what we are trying to do.

MORE TIME NEEDED FOR MEDICARE HEARINGS

(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, it is September 20 and another day has passed, and not one Republican has been willing to come to the floor of this House and level with the American people by spelling out the details of how far they plan to reach into the pockets of American seniors and cut Medicare. I have come to the conclusion it is because most of them do not have the slightest idea. They just know they are on a mission for NEWT to cut \$270 billion out of Medicare, and they do not want the details to get in the way.

Mr. Speaker, we are told that this afternoon they are going to finally spell out some of the details at some staff briefing, and then they will have a 1-day stacked hearing on it tomorrow, all that the American people will get to see in hearings on this plan.

They spent 28 days on Whitewater. Why just have 1 day, unless it is to whitewash this bad Republican cut in Medicare?

Mr. Speaker, I think as long as the Republicans are unwilling to have a

genuine bipartisan discussion in hearings, as we have proposed with extended hearings, there is no reason for this House to meet. It ought to adjourn until the Republicans begin a real bipartisan discussion of how to reform Medicare.

□ 1045

COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE GAMBLING IN AMERICA

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

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I have a bill in now on which we have 53 cosponsors, bipartisan, which would set up a national commission to study the impact of gambling on the country.

Gambling is beginning to corrupt this country. It is spreading from two States 20 years ago to 48 States, and it is destroying the American family. Also the gambling interests are now hiring prominent political people of both parties to represent their interests.

We now have 53 cosponsors on this bill. The gentleman from Illinois, HENRY HYDE, has promised us hearings next week. I would ask and urge all Members of the Congress, Republican, Democrat, liberal, and conservative, to cosponsor this bill, so we can pass a bill that studies the impact of gambling, so when local boards of supervisors look, they know what the impact will be.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WOLF. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend my colleague for raising this issue, and I want to ask him to put me on this resolution. I think this is far overdue.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I will put the gentleman on, and urge all other Members to sign on.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, since we are not able to bring up the resolution with respect to hearings on Medicare, and we have no other choice on this side, I offer a privileged motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KNOLLENBERG). The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. BONIOR moves that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. BONIOR].

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant of Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 167, nays 237, not voting 30, as follows:

[Roll No. 672]

YEAS—167

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Andrews
Baesler
Baldacci
Barcia
Becerra
Beilenson
Bentsen
Berman
Bevill
Bishop
Bonior
Borski
Boucher
Brewster
Browder
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant (TX)
Cardin
Clay
Clement
Clyburn
Coleman
Collins (MI)
Condit
Conyers
Costello
Coyne
Cramer
Danner
de la Garza
DeLauro
Dellums
Deutsch
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doyle
Durbine
Edwards
Engel
Eshoo
Evans
Farr
Fazio
Fields (LA)
Filner
Flake
Foglietta
Ford
Frank (MA)

Frost
Furse
Gejdenson
Gephardt
Geren
Gibbons
Gonzalez
Green
Gutierrez
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hefner
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Holden
Hoyer
Jackson-Lee
Johnson (SD)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnston
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Klink
LaFalce
Lantos
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Luther
Maloney
Manton
Markey
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy
McDermott
McHale
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Miller (CA)
Mineta
Minge
Mink
Mollohan
Nadler
Neal
Ney

Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Orton
Pallone
Pastor
Payne (VA)
Pelosi
Peterson (FL)
Peterson (MN)
Pickett
Pomeroy
Poshard
Rangel
Reed
Richardson
Rivers
Rose
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Sabo
Sanders
Sawyer
Schroeder
Schumer
Scott
Serrano
Skaggs
Skelton
Slaughter
Spratt
Stark
Stenholm
Studds
Stupak
Tejeda
Thornton
Thurman
Torres
Towns
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Volkmer
Ward
Waters
Watt (NC)
Waxman
Wilson
Wise
Woolsey
Wyden
Wynn
Yates

NAYS—237

Allard
Archer
Army
Bachus
Baker (CA)
Baker (LA)
Ballenger
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Bereuter
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bliley
Blute
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono
Brownback
Bryant (TN)
Bunn
Bunning
Burr
Burton

Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Chrysler
Clinger
Coble
Coburn
Collins (GA)
Combest
Cooley
Cox
Crane
Crapo
Creameans
Cubin
Cunningham
Davis
Deal
DeLay
Dickey
Doolittle
Dreier
Duncan

Graham
Greenwood
Gunderson
Gutknecht
Hamilton
Hancock
Hansen
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Heineman
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hoke
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Jacobs
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kasich
Kelly
Kim
King
Kingston
Klecza
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaHood
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Laughlin
Lazio
Leach
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Lightfoot
Lincoln
Linder

Livingston
LoBiondo
Longley
Lucas
Manzullo
Martini
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McKeon
Menendez
Metcalf
Meyers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Molinar
Montgomery
Moorhead
Morella
Myers
Myrick
Nethercutt
Neumann
Norwood
Nussle
Packard
Parker
Paxon
Petri
Pombo
Portman
Pryce
Quillen
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Regula
Riggs
Roberts
Roemer
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roth
Roukema
Royce

Salmon
Sanford
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer
Schiff
Seastrand
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Shuster
Skeen
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Stearns
Stockman
Stump
Talent
Tanner
Tate
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Thomas
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Torkildsen
Torricelli
Traficant
Upton
Vucanovich
Walker
Walsh
Wamp
Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Wolf
Young (FL)
Zeliff
Zimmer

NOT VOTING—30

Callahan
Chapman
Clayton
Collins (IL)
DeFazio
Diaz-Balart
Dornan
Fattah
Fields (TX)
Jefferson

Kennedy (MA)
Martinez
Meek
Mfume
Moakley
Moran
Murtha
Owens
Oxley
Payne (NJ)

Porter
Reynolds
Siskiy
Smith (WA)
Stokes
Thompson
Tucker
Waldholtz
Williams
Young (AK)

□ 1108

Messrs. FLANAGAN, MILLER of Florida, and STOCKMAN changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. NEY and Mr. HILLEARY changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the motion was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 672 on the motion to adjourn, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION FOR SUNDRY COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES TO SIT TODAY DURING 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. RIGGS. 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 of the Whole House under the 5-minute rule. VerDate 20-SEP-9