

personal retirement savings accounts while Social Security benefits continue to flow unimpeded.

My bill may not be perfect, but it offers a way out and I believe Members of Congress and the President can no longer avoid working on a solution to save Social Security. This proposal holds harmless low and medium income workers and also existing retirees. Part I of the bill eliminates the unfunded liability by slowing the growth in benefits in two basic ways. Initial benefits will still rise, after inflation, but they won't almost double as they do under current law. It also imposes some modest means testing of benefits. Further, it gradually raises the retirement age 2 years longer than existing law. Together, these reforms more than eliminate the unfunded liability of the system according to Social Security's actuaries. Under part II, and most importantly, my proposal creates personal retirement savings accounts for working Americans that will be funded from the surplus after all benefits are paid.

Over time, the assets in workers' accounts will grow very rapidly, producing genuine retirement security. The balances in the private accounts are the personal property of the workers. Worker/investors will still receive Social Security checks, although they will be smaller to reflect the amount personally invested. However, the benefits flowing from their personal retirement savings accounts will more than make up the difference. Furthermore, account balances will belong to workers and can be passed on to their heirs, improving the financial security of wives, husbands and their children. Personal retirement savings accounts can be "cashed-out" as early as age 60.

With some safeguards, it would be up to each worker to determine how his funds will be invested or whether to fund a personal retirement savings account at all. In fact, workers may elect to remain in the existing system if they wish and collect only Social Security benefits. It will be their option alone whether to place a portion of their paychecks in the hands of professional money managers. However, funds must be invested under the legal limits of the Individual Retirement Accounts [IRA's]. Also, under the proposal managed investment accounts will have to meet some additional investment and reporting requirements.

Another important benefit of this proposal is that it will stabilize fiscal policy. This year, Social Security will take in \$64 billion more than it distributes. By 2002, the annual surplus will rise to \$104 billion. But in 2025 and beyond, there will be annual cash deficits of \$330 billion and rising as far as the eye can see. Under this plan, cash flow in and out of the Social Security System will always be equal. Pressure to cut other spending or to raise taxes will not be required by cash flow problems. Social Security will be depoliticized—as it should be.

Together, we can restore the solvency of America's most popular program and make it even better. H.R. 3758 does that.

CHILD SUPPORT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1996

HON. GREG GANSKE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, to day I am introducing the Child Support Enhancement Act of 1996. This legislation will help ensure that deadbeat parents take personal responsibility for their children.

It takes two people to bring a child into the world and it takes two people to raise a child in this world. Unfortunately, in too many cases, one parent believes that their responsibility ends when the baby is born.

While we can't legislate and force parents to read to their children, attend Little League baseball games or show up at birthday parties, we can help make sure there is food in children's mouths and clothes on their backs by encouraging financial responsibility. This is the personal responsibility of both parents.

Too often, the failure of parents to take this responsibility contributes to custodial parents ending up on welfare—unable to make ends meet. Or, they are forced to take on two or more jobs just to keep afloat. This keeps them away from their kids who are already one parent short.

Recent statistics are disturbing. In fiscal year 1993, while \$20 billion in child support obligations had been legally established, only \$13 billion was collected and paid. Additionally, in fiscal year 1994, the Child Support Enforcement Program collected child support payments for less than 20 percent of its caseload.

I do not believe that child support is merely a legal duty, it is a moral duty.

That is why I am introducing the Child Support Enforcement Act of 1996. This bill authorizes the seizure or interception of judgments or settlements to private individuals in suits brought against the Federal Government. The legislation applies to settlements or judgments in both administrative actions and claims in a court of law.

Currently, State child support enforcement officials and others working on behalf of custodial parents can seize or intercept money in suits against private individuals and State governments, but only in very narrow circumstances can they do this when Uncle Sam is involved.

If a deadbeat parent is going to receive money from the Federal Government, this legislation will help to ensure that the parents children get their slice of this money.

We must continue to close loopholes in the current system and make it easier for child support collectors to do their job. This will make life easier for our Nation's children.

For kids' sake, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

CONGRATULATING MAJ. GEN.
PAUL BERGSON, USAR

HON. JACK FIELDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mr. FIELDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Maj.

Gen. Paul Bergson, U.S. Army Reserve, on his recent promotion from the rank of brigadier general. I regret that pressing business back home in Texas prevented me from being with Paul at his promotion ceremony, held July 18 at the Pentagon.

I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Paul for several years through his work with the Asia Pacific Exchange Foundation. I know of no one more dedicated to serving his country and preserving the freedoms on which the United States was founded than Paul.

Currently serving as a military assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Paul has been a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army for more than three decades. His service to the Army and to his country inspires everyone who knows him.

Mr. Speaker, I know you join with me in congratulating Paul on his recent promotion; in wishing him continued success in the U.S. Army Reserve and in his business. Bergson & Company; and in extending to him and to his wonderful wife, Jan, our very best wishes for the future.

THE TERMINALLY ILL'S RIGHT TO BENEFITS ACT

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill that will provide greatly needed financial relief to individuals that are afflicted with a terminal illness. Currently, terminally ill individuals must wait for the standard 5-month waiting period before the first social security disability payment can be received. However, many people with such illnesses tragically pass away before they ever receive any payments.

Sick pay, temporary disability programs, and other private disability pension programs do not often cover a period as long as 5 months, and the gap in income during the waiting period affects terminally ill individuals when they can least afford it. Besides, these people have paid money into the Social Security System through payroll taxes and have a right to receive immediate benefits that would greatly diminish the hardships that are suddenly confronted by the terminally ill.

According to the Social Security Administration, the 5-month waiting period was instituted to ensure that people are sufficiently disabled to qualify for benefits. I strongly feel that terminal patients should, in now way, be made to justify their condition. Moreover, medical science has developed to a point where the art of diagnosing terminally ill, and therefore, disabling conditions, provides a sufficiently reliable picture of the severity of the illness. This bill would define terminally ill patients as one that has an illness which is expected to result in death within the 12 months.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me as co-sponsors of this very important legislation. Unfortunately, many Americans are hit with a merciless terminal illness while in the prime of their lives, and we should grant them their right to collect disability payments that they have earned so that they can worry less about

financial concerns and live the rest of their lives in dignity.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT URGES GREATER RECOGNITION FOR TAIWAN

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, on July 18, the European Parliament adopted a resolution urging its member states to support greater representation for the Republic of China on Taiwan in international organizations.

The resolution is a proper recognition of the great strides that the people of Taiwan have made toward democracy and respect for human rights over the past several years. This progress stands in stark contrast to the continuing tyrannical and aggressive behavior of the Communist Chinese regime in Beijing.

Since Taiwan, and not Communist China, represents the best model for the future of Chinese civilization, it is my sincere hope that the world community will follow the advice of this resolution, which I would like to insert for the RECORD.

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Having regard to Article J.7 of the Treaty on European Union,

A. Satisfied with the current state of Taiwan's democracy and Taiwan's respect for the principles of justice, human rights and fundamental freedom,

B. Welcoming the fact that the elections in Taiwan were conducted democratically and peacefully despite the overt aggression and provocation by the People's Republic of China,

C. Having regard to Taiwan's wish to participate in international aid to developing countries,

D. Having regard to the significance of developments in the political situation in Taiwan for the whole of East Asia at a geopolitical and economic level and in terms of a policy of stability, security and peace in the Western Pacific region,

E. Welcoming the attitude of reconciliation displayed by President Lee Teng-hui towards the People's Republic of China and looking forward to a dialogue spanning both sides of the Taiwan Straits,

F. Convinced that the people of Taiwan ought to be better represented in international organizations than they are at present, which would benefit both Taiwan and the whole of the international community,

G. Whereas neither the European Union nor any of its Members States have diplomatic relations with the Government of Taiwan, recognizing only the People's Republic of China,

H. Whereas Taiwan is very important to the European Union and its Members States as a trade partner,

I. Whereas it is important for the European Union and its Members States to develop their relations with the governments of both the People's Republic of China and Taiwan in an amicable and constructive spirit,

J. Urging the governments of the People's Republic of China and Taiwan to intensify their cooperation,

K. Stressing that participation by Taiwan in certain international organizations can assist with finding common ground between China and Taiwan and facilitate reconciliation between the two sides,

L. Regretting the fact that Taiwan at present is prevented from making a full contribution to the United Nations and its agencies, and stressing that, for the efficiency of the UN, Taiwan's participation would be desirable and valuable,

1. Urges:

(a) The Council and Member States to support Taiwan's attempts to secure better representation that it currently enjoys in international organizations in the field of human and labour rights, economic affairs, the environment and development cooperation following the precedent of certain cases, known to international law, of countries recognized as independent and sovereign even though the nature of their diplomatic connections and the person of then head of state did not display the full symbolic panoply of complete sovereignty (e.g., Her Britannic Majesty's Dominions, American Samoa, or, until recently, the Ukraine and Belarus);

(b) The Council and Member States to ask the United Nations to investigate the possibility of setting up a UN working group to study the scope for Taiwan to participate in the activities of bodies answerable to the UN General Assembly;

(c) The Council and Member States to encourage the governments of the People's Republic of China and Taiwan to intensify their cooperation in a constructive and peaceful spirit;

(d) The Council to Urge the Commission to adopt measures with a view to opening a European Union information office in Taipei;

2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and to the Commission.

CALIFORNIA NEEDS A BALANCED FEDERAL BUDGET

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, my Republican colleagues and I know the infinite potential for our great Nation if we balance the budget. What many do not realize is what it means at home in our own States.

The House-passed balanced budget clearly shows that we can balance the budget, provide tax relief to working families, and still provide Federal spending for programs crucial to State and local governments. However, if spending continues to grow unchecked, as it has in the past, we will heap even more debt on the backs of our children—California's children.

Californians already pay more in taxes than just about any State in the Union. California families, who today pay a higher share of their family income in taxes than at any time in our Nation's history, need a balanced budget. We have been a donor State for far too long. It's time the scales tilted.

Oddly enough, even the unions that rely on government spending agree that a balanced budget works for California—dollars for California actually go up under Congress' plan to balance the budget.

Mr. Speaker, we know that a balanced budget is good for the country. More importantly, it is good for America's hard-working families—and, it is good for California.

NEIGHORS WORKING FOR QUALITY CHILD CARE

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 300 citizens of Montgomery County, PA., who, on Saturday, June 8, raised an estimated \$10,000 during the Walk for Quality Child Care at the Montgomery County Community College campus.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, more than 4½ million children under the age of 5 are cared for during the day by someone other than their relatives. This is not an inexpensive circumstance.

The men, women, and children who gathered on June 8 recognize this. They know that without adequate funding for child care, their children's safety and well-being are jeopardized.

Many of the best child care centers cannot care for infants because of the expense. The budgets of most centers are exhausted on maintaining staff, leaving nothing in the way of activities for the children. The money raised during the Walk for Quality Child Care will be used to buy tricycles and a parachute for the children of Hatfield.

There can be no downsizing in child care. Regulations abound for child care providers; regulations which cost money to those who earn their livelihood by caring for their neighbors' children. Most spend more than 10 hours per day with children other than their own.

In a day where family budgets are squeezed by big taxes and big government, the citizens who put children first on June 8, some of whom pay in excess of \$1,000 per month in child care, combined their voices to say, "We will not let our children be the victims of economic pressure." I'm sure you join me, Mr. Speaker, in applauding these caring people for their efforts to make sure their children have the same opportunities for happiness that our generations have enjoyed.

A TRIBUTE TO E.R. "BOB" MORRISSETTE, JR.

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, as you know, the Alabama delegation is rather small in number, but we are close in mind and heart on many issues, often reaching across the political divide, especially when it involves a matter of importance to our beloved State.

That is all the more reason why the death this past Sunday of E.R. "Bob" Morrisette, Jr., a longtime aide to my colleague, Senator HOWELL HEFLIN, is so difficult to accept. While the Judge has lost an important member of his office family, our State, and especially south Alabama, has lost one of the most likeable and most decent men ever to work in the public arena.

Bob was 73 at the time of his death and unfortunately, poor health had slowed him down a bit during the past few months. But throughout his career, first as a journalist, and later as