

Orton's suggestion that line-item veto authority extend to "contract authority" for which transportation authorizations are famous. Since the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste (CCAGW) testified at joint line-item veto hearings in favor of presidential authority over contract authority as proposed by Rep. Orton, you can understand that we are suspicious that the off-budget transportation trust funds gambit is yet another end-run for the pork-barrel goal line.

The past pattern of pork-barrel abuse in funding highway, airport and waterway projects compels us to recommend in the strongest possible manner that you defeat any attempt to move the transportation trust funds off-budget. Indeed, a message needs to be sent to the entire Transportation and Infrastructure Committee—majority and minority—that we had an election last November. The old days are gone.

A final note: Not gone, apparently, are threats to cancel projects in the districts of legislative opponents, an all-too-frequent bullying tactic of the folks who used to run Congress that showed up again in the debate on the Orton amendment to the line-item veto bill. CCAGW deplores such threats and, knowing that the public would not take kindly to such intimidation and threats, hopes Members will make them known when they occur.

Sincerely,

TOM SCHATZ,

President.

JOE WINKELMANN,

Chief Lobbyist.

THE FUTURE IS OURS TO CREATE

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to welcome the Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society [WOCN] to my congressional district, Seattle, WA, on June 15–19, for their 28th annual conference. The theme of the conference, "The Future is Ours to Create," will focus on future opportunities and challenges relating to the changing and expanding role of enterostomal therapist [ET] nurses and other nurses specializing in wound, ostomy, and continence care.

Founded in 1968, the WOCN is the only national organization for nurses who specialize in the prevention of pressure ulcers and the management and rehabilitation of persons with ostomies, wounds, and incontinence. WOCN, an organization of ET nurses, is a professional nursing society which supports its members by promoting educational, clinical, and research opportunities, to advance the practice and guide the delivery of expert health care to individuals with wounds, ostomies, and incontinence.

In this age of changing health care services and skyrocketing costs, the WOCN nurse plays an integral role in providing cost-effective care for their patients. This year's Seattle conference will provide a unique opportunity for WOCN participants to learn about the most current issues and trends related to their practice. I am honored that WOCN has chosen Seattle to host its conference and wish them every success.

TRUTH IN BUDGETING ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER G. TORKILDSEN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 842) to provide off-budget treatment for the Highway Trust Fund, the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, the Inland Waterways Trust Fund, and the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund:

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 842, a bill to move transportation trust funds off budget. This change would increase the deficit and stymie future efforts to balance the budget.

This bill is the equivalent of telling someone to learn how to swim while they're drowning. Moving the trust funds off budget will make sense when Congress has its fiscal house in order, but it should not be implemented when the Federal Government is drowning in a sea of red ink.

Furthermore, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that exempting the transportation trust funds from spending cuts could increase the deficit by over \$20 billion over 5 years.

Our goal of balancing the budget must come before attempts to restructure the budget. I am not opposed to moving trust funds off budget, in principle, but we must balance the budget first.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to defeat this bill and ensure that our efforts to balance the budget stay on course.

TRUTH IN BUDGETING ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 842) to provide off-budget treatment for the Highway Trust Fund, the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, the Inland Waterways Trust Fund, and the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund:

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Chairman, today we are having a very controversial debate about where the truth in budgeting transportation funds really lies. I rise today in support of H.R. 842, The Truth in Budgeting Act.

Every time you or I pull into a gas station and fill up our cars or pay a tax on an airline ticket, we are sending money to Washington to build new highways and maintain our current transportation systems. Decades ago, these transportation trust funds were established to collect taxes from transportation users and invest in transportation capital. Today, we find the transportation trust fund balance at \$30 billion. The existence of this on-budget trust fund surplus only reinforces the public's belief that they are not getting an honest return for the taxes they pay to Washington. This issue is about tax fairness.

Spending and investment in necessary transportation improvements has been held

down to keep the balance of the trust fund artificially high in order to mask the true size of the deficit, this is just not honest. Those who pay into the trust fund should be able to count on those dollars going toward the purpose for which they were intended.

H.R. 842 does not add to the deficit. According to a March 20, 1996 estimate from the Congressional Budget Office, taking programs off budget does not change total spending of the Federal Government and does not affect spending or revenue estimates for congressional scorekeeping purposes.

H.R. 842 does not alter the transportation spending process. Congress will still have to approve every new dollar of trust fund spending.

H.R. 842, however, does assure this: When a taxpayer back home pays gasoline or airline ticket tax to the Federal Government, he knows it is going towards building or improving our national transportation system.

AMERICA DESERVES A RAISE

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, while the President offers a politically appealing, yet ineffective plan to give Americans a raise, my Republican colleagues and I have a very sound plan to give millions of working American families more money in their paychecks and greater power to decide how and where the Federal Government spends their hard earned pay.

Under the President Clinton's plan to raise the minimum wage, countless employers will have to rob Peter to pay Paul. Millions of working men and women will lose job opportunities, employment security, and pay raises. The Republican plan gives Americans the raise they deserve. It provides tax relief for families with children. Over 6 million new and more secure high-wage jobs will result from a balanced budget and less Washington red-tape.

Mr. Speaker, the President's plan to raise the minimum wage is a bad policy. It is simply a political ploy designed to divide America along class, ethnic, and gender lines. Even some of the President's own advisers, agree that his proposal hurts the people most in need: low-skilled workers, women and intercity residents. It does not help working families.

American families deserve more. They deserve to keep more of their hard earned money, they deserve lower interest rates and they deserve better, higher wage jobs. My Republican colleagues and I provide working families a true raise—the President's policies do not.

THANK YOU, VIRGINIA CARTER

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, dedicated individuals who are willing to put the interests of those in their community ahead of their own comforts are people we should admire. The

people of Sanilac County within my congressional district have been blessed with such an individual, Mrs. Virginia Carter, who is retiring after 20 years as a member of the Sanilac County Mental Health Board's Recipient Rights Advisory Committee.

People who have benefited from the excellent care provided by Sanilac County Mental Health Services have most assuredly benefited from programs either pioneered by Virginia Carter—supported employment, for example—or thriving because of her devotion to maintaining these important programs.

Not only has Virginia Carter served for 20 years on the recipient rights committee, she has been elected chairperson for 18 of those years, a real testimony to the fact that she is held in high esteem by her colleagues on the committee.

Mental health care can be a particularly trying field. Most people have a more difficult time dealing with the identification and treatment of mental health problems. Signs are not as easily identified as is a cold, nor is treatment as easy as a prescription for several days. Those who deal with the needs for mental health services must be patient, understanding, and resilient. They also need to have the support of understanding people like Virginia Carter who knows the meaning of pursuing quality care.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to know many fine, dedicated people who live in Sanilac County. It is a particular pleasure to join with so many of them who will be honoring her at a special retirement event this Friday evening.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing her the very best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 120, I regret having been unavoidably detained in a meeting with constituents, which prevented me from voting aye in support of House Resolution 316: Deploing individuals who deny the historical reality of the Holocaust and commending the work of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

This is particularly ironic since I have spoken out for over two decades about the foolishness and evil of those who deny the Holocaust and the murder of 6 million Jews in Nazi-controlled Europe during the Second World War.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT E.
HENDERSON

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Robert E. Henderson, as he retires as President and Director, Chief Execu-

tive Officer of the South Carolina Research Authority [SCRA]. The SCRA was established in 1983 as a nonprofit scientific and engineering corporation to address national and international manufacturing issues through the development of new technologies. For the past 12½ years, Dr. Henderson has shaped the SCRA into the dynamic organization that it is today, and South Carolinians are most appreciative of the contributions that he has made to our State and to the Nation.

Under the leadership of Dr. Henderson, nearly one-half billion dollars have been invested, sold, and/or contracted through SCRA research parks and technology management programs. In addition to leading South Carolina to the cutting-edge of technology, the SCRA has become a recognized leader nationally, through SCRA projects, technology, and corporate teams representing activity in almost every State in the Union.

Dr. Henderson has always responded to the call of his country and his community. During World War II, he served as a staff sergeant in the infantry of the U.S. Army, and was awarded the Purple Heart medal. He then received the bachelor of arts degree in physics from Carlton College, as well as the masters of arts degree in physics and the doctor of philosophy degree in physics from the University of Missouri.

Dr. Henderson has distinguished himself in the fields of physics and engineering, and he has published numerous scholarly articles. He has been appointed to the Defense Science Board and the Defense Manufacturing Board, in addition to having served as president of the Indianapolis Scientific and Engineering Foundation, director of the International Solar Energy Society, and a member of the Board of Visitors of Clemson University. He recently received South Carolina's highest recognition, The Order of the Palmetto.

Dr. Henderson has made great contributions to South Carolina and to our country through an outstanding career that has been diverse and exemplary. He is wished much continued success as he moves on to face new challenges and rewards.

TALENTED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS REPRESENTING OREGON

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, on April 27–April 29, 1996, more than 13,000 students from 50 States and the District of Columbia will be in Washington, DC, to compete in the national finals of the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" Program. I am proud to announce that the class from Lincoln High School from Portland will represent Oregon and the First Congressional District. These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals by winning local competitions in their home State.

The distinguished members of the team representing Oregon are: Students: Vasiliki Despina Ariston, Jereme Rain Axelrod, Rebekah Rose Cook, Tawan Wyndelle Davis, David Eyre Easterday, Amanda Hope Emmerson, Tiffany Ann Grosvenor, William John Hawkins IV, Soren Anders Heitmann,

Stacy Elizabeth Humes-Schulz, Martissa Tamar Isaak, Heather Brooke Johnson, Katherine Mace Kasameyer, Christopher Michael Knutson, Jeanne Marie Layman, Daniel Hart Lerner, Casey James McMahon, Lindsay Katrina Nesbit, Gerald William Palmrose, Mary Ruth Pursifull, Catherine Clare Rockwood, Daniel Boss Rubin, Elizabeth Leslie Rutzick, Mark Richard Samco, Kathryn Denelle Stevens, Simon Brendan Thomas, Miles Mark Von Bergen, Lauren Elizabeth Wiener, and Farleith Aiken Wolfe.

I would also like to recognize their teacher, Mr. Hal Hart, who deserves much of the credit for the success of the team. The district coordinator, Mr. Daniel James, and the State coordinator, Ms. Marilyn Cover, also contributed a significant amount of time and effort to help the team reach the national finals.

The "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" Program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The 3-day national competition simulates a congressional hearing in which students' oral presentations are judged on the basis of their knowledge of constitutional principles and their ability to apply them to historical and contemporary issues.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the "We the People" Program, now in its ninth academic year, has reached more than 70,400 teachers, and 22,600,000 students nationwide at the upper elementary, middle and high school levels. Members of Congress and their staff enhance the program by discussing current constitutional issues with students and teachers.

The "We the People" Program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective on the significance of the U.S. Constitution and its place in our history and our lives. I wish these students the best of luck in the national finals and look forward to their continued success in the years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 124, I was off the Hill well within 15 minutes return time. My pager did not respond to the 15-minute call. It did respond to the 10-minute call.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

THE WATER QUALITY PUBLIC RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT OF 1996

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Water Quality Public Right-To-Know Act of 1996. This bill will guarantee the public's right to know about the contaminants that they are exposed to in their drinking water.