

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE DYNAMIC WAY TO SCORE TAX POLICY

HON. TOM CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 1996

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of reforming the Federal budget process, to make the Federal budget process more manageable and responsive to the American people. Today, I am introducing, along with my colleagues, the Honorable Majority Leader DICK ARMEY, Joint Economic Committee Vice Chairman JIM SAXTON, Congressmen SHAYS, SANFORD, HORN, THORNBERRY, EWING, CUNNINGHAM, and MANZULLO, a sense-of-Congress resolution that would promote the concept of dynamic economic modeling.

Congress can gain valuable insight from the States in many key policy areas, and one important area is in the accurate estimation of the revenues available to provide Government services in the first place. Through the sound application of an accounting device known as dynamic economic modeling, several State governments are providing clearer and more accurate insight into revenue patterns for future years. The sense-of-Congress resolution I am introducing today is in support of the premise that dynamic economic modeling is a valuable means of estimating the effect Federal tax policy. In addition, this is a concept that Congress and the Federal Government should explore further.

The formulas now used to predict the economic impact of changes in the Tax Code don't fully reflect the fact that tax changes spur behavior and macroeconomic changes. If you don't factor in these behavior changes you get phony revenue numbers and, consequently, inaccurate budget numbers. My resolution is designed to encourage the consideration of real life and real dollars back into Government projections.

At the heart of this discussion is whether we should encourage growth and opportunity in our tax policy. By implementing dynamic economic modeling, one can get a better idea of the revenue effects that changes in sensitive tax policy cause. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for example, has been using dynamic economic methods for several years. My home State of California, it should be noted, has completed initial design and testing of a computable general equilibrium model [CGE]. As a State senator in California, I took part in this process by authoring Senate bill 1837, a bill authorizing the implementation of dynamic economic modeling techniques. This bill was passed by the California legislature and signed by Governor Wilson in 1994.

The California Department of Finance, I am pleased to say, has sent a copy of the model paper to members of Governor Wilson's council of economic advisers, specifically John

Cogan, John Taylor, and Michael Boskin of Stanford University. I expect this model will be circulated to other academics in California and elsewhere, and am confident that these models will be excellent tools to help policymakers at the State and Federal levels understand the full economic consequences of tax legislation.

Dr. Boskin, also a former Bush administration economic adviser, argued last year before Congress that dynamic economic modeling is not an attempt to cook the books as defenders of conventional models might suggest. As Dr. Boskin added, those who claim that this is an attempt to cook the books are starting with the erroneous proposition that the books are now in good shape. What he acknowledged is that there are serious problems in conventional accounting and in the current presentation of information.

Let me illustrate how dynamic modeling may work. The House of Representatives Joint Economic Committee [JEC] cites a 1990 projection of Congressional Budget Office [CBO] realizations after capital gains tax rates were increased. Initial estimates of capital gains realizations showed significant gains even after a large increase in the capital gains tax rate after 1987. According to recent Internal Revenue Service data, however, actual realizations were less than half of what was projected by CBO for 1993. Instead of projected realizations of \$295 billion in 1993, capital gains realizations remained stagnant at \$141 billion—an error of over 100 percent. In the words of the Joint Economic Committee, the higher capital gains tax rate has produced less annual real revenue in the 1990-93 time period under the lower rate of 1985, despite a larger economy.

These problems are serious enough to justify exploration of policy changes in how we project revenue. At the very least, the idea of dynamic economic modeling could provide a range of revenue estimates around the number produced by the static model.

It is time for Congress to take notice of dynamic economic modeling's implementation by States, and with the help of leading accounting firms and academics, adopt it. Ignoring the debate on alternative revenue estimating will create a bias against tax policies to create growth which are now under consideration. Good ideas which could enrich our future standard of living are a risk of outmoded economic calculations if we do not begin this dialog.

CENTENNIAL OF MILLTOWN BOROUGH, NJ

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on May 7, 1996, the Borough of Milltown, NJ, will commemorate its 100th anniversary under its

present form of government and incorporation. This occasion will be marked by the borough council at its public meeting on that date. It is a great honor and pleasure to pay tribute to this beautiful, historic community, located in the heart of Middlesex County in the Sixth Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, the community of Milltown essentially started in 1816 with Jacob Beyer, who had a local grist mill. The industrial era came to the community 27 years later. On October 9, 1888, residents met to discuss secession from the larger area of North Brunswick, and 2 weeks later a special election was held to form a borough commission and establish boundaries. On March 1889, the board of commissioners was chosen and they were sworn in on March 16 of that year. In 1896, the State legislature repealed the act relating to the commission form of government. On May 7, 1896, the new borough council was formed.

Mr. Speaker, as the Congressional Representative of Milltown, I salute the mayor and governing body, all of today's residents, and all of the men and women over the past century who have helped to build this lovely, tight-knit community into a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL ACCOUNTABILITY RESOLUTION

HON. GREG GANSKE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 1996

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the congressional travel accountability resolution. This resolution will increase the accountability of House Members for domestic and foreign trips made at taxpayers' expense.

Currently, travel taken by Members of Congress is only partially reported and not all in one place. It is nearly impossible for someone to sift through the current travel reporting maze and determine who has been where and at what expense to taxpayers.

Current reporting and disclosure requirements are inadequate. The public has a right to know how its money is spent. And most importantly, Members of Congress should be held personally accountable for their travel on the taxpayers' dime.

This resolution provides accountability, responsibility, simplicity, and common sense. These are four things the American people are demanding of the Federal Government.

This proposal has already received bipartisan support. I urge my colleagues to join me and support this long overdue reform.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

CONGRATULATING THE SPRING
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT
BAND

HON. JACK FIELDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 1996

Mr. FIELDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity to congratulate the Spring Senior High School concert band in Spring, TX, on recently winning the Sudler Flag of Honor, which is presented to the most outstanding high school concert bands in the United States and Canada.

Under the direction of Mr. Bill Watson, Jr., the Spring Senior High School concert band is just the 34th band to have earned the Sudler Flag of Honor in the 14 years that it has been awarded. And it was one of just two high school bands nationwide to have been selected for this honor this year. The award is presented by the John Philip Sousa Foundation and is intended to recognize and salute high school concert band programs of international-level excellence.

Winning the Sudler Flag of Honor proves what many of us have known for a long time: that the Spring Senior High School concert band is among the very best concert bands in North America.

The Sudler flag is designed in red, white and blue and feature the logo of the John Philip Sousa Foundation. The flag becomes the property of the band. Each member of the band receives a personalized certificate and the band director receives a personalized plaque.

To be eligible for the Sudler flag, a high school must have maintained a fine concert band for at least 7 years. Although the band's concert activities receive the most attention in the selection process, the high school's band program must be a complete one and must include a marching band, small ensembles, and solo participation by its members in contests and festivals. Also, the band conductor must have been at the same high school for at least 7 consecutive years and is expected to be involved in professional band and music education organizations and activities on the local, state and national level.

Clearly, the Sudler Flag of Honor is one of the most significant awards that a high school band can earn. It requires that band members and their director work together to achieve not just musical competence, but musical excellence.

Mr. Speaker, I know that you join with me in congratulating the young men and women of the Spring Senior High School concert band—as well as conductor Bill Watson, Jr.—on this significant achievement, and I know you join with me in wishing everyone associated with the band continued success in the years ahead.

TEMPLE EMANU-EL'S 135TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 1996

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, this weekend, San Jose will commemorate the 135th anni-

versary of Temple Emanu-El, the city's oldest synagogue, and I know that all the Members of this House will want to join me in marking this historic event.

A few dedicated families founded the Temple in 1861, originally named Bickur Cholim, to care for the sick and needy, to ensure proper burial for the dead, and, as their original articles read, to "[further] their Holy religion and language." The Temple has continued to serve this mission through this day.

Temple Emanu-El has a long history of service to both the Jewish community and the San Jose community at large. Through Interfaith Sabbaths, the congregation's work with the homeless through the Coalition of Churches and Synagogues, and their community outreach through concerts and pulpit exchanges, the Temple Emanu-El community is active in San Jose cultural and civic life. As current Rabbi Mark Schifftan remarks, the Temple provides a beacon for Jewish values and ethical imperatives for the entire community.

The history of Temple Emanu-El truly mirrors the development of San Jose. In 1861, the fledgling Temple relied on the strong support of the community's churches and civic organizations to construct its synagogue and build its congregation. Over the next 80 years, it grew with the city until a fire in 1940 destroyed the sanctuary. I am proud to tell you that, once again, the community responded enthusiastically, helping the Temple continue its services and programs. The new sanctuary was completed in 1948.

Temple Emanu-El's last 50 years have been a whirlwind of rapid growth and community development. I believe that, like San Jose, this synagogue will remain an active center of our vibrant Silicon Valley community. One of the Temple's former Rabbis, Joseph Gitin, reminds us that although the Temple has grown, its fundamental role is unchanged. "Here," he says, "we learn that our faith and discipline of Jewish ethical values prepare and equip us to live meaningful lives."

Mr. Speaker, I believe that no matter what our particular religion may be, we all strive for a similar goal. I would invite my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Temple Emanu-El's 135th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO CLARA MacNAMEE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 1996

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my district's more dedicated and caring individuals, Clara MacNamee. Clara is being honored as Marin County Teacher of the Year for 1996. I wish that I could be with her colleagues, friends and family to celebrate her remarkable accomplishments.

Clara began working with the Marin Office of Education in 1976. There, she helped develop a classroom whose sole purpose was to serve students involved with drugs and alcohol. The success of this classroom, which focused on a variety of activities, such as peer coaching, and family involvement, expanded into a charter school called Sobriety High School. Student throughout the county are now attending this school and are being

touched by Clara's enthusiasm and love of teaching. Marin County and our Nation, owe a great deal to Clara for her tireless efforts in providing exceptional education to students with special needs.

I was not surprised to learn that Clara has been the recipient of many education awards. In 1992, she received the Marin County Golden Bell Award for Academic Excellence, and, in 1993, she was awarded the California State Golden Bell Award for Academic Excellence. I continue to be impressed by Clara's dedication to the students in our community and her vision for their success.

In addition to her work in education, Clara has been a committed member of the community. She served as a CPR instructor for the American Heart Association and the Red Cross for over 10 years and was a Braille transcriber for 5 years. Clara also served as a community representative to her local Community Service District for 17 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to Clara MacNamee during this special evening at the Marin Art and Garden Center. I extend my thanks and appreciation and my hearty congratulations and best wishes to Clara for continued success in the years to come.

HONORING ROGER TILLES

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 1996

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my colleagues and the members of Temple Beth-El of Great Neck, as they gather on the weekend of May 10 and 11, 1996, to pay tribute to their president, Roger Tilles.

The son of former Temple President Gilbert Tilles, Roger's devotion to Temple Beth-El stems from his childhood. In fact, his good work began early on when, as a teenager, he was president of the Junior Temple Club.

However, Mr. Speaker, it is his charitable contributions that have been most noteworthy. Roger has been chair of the Temple's social action, building, and grounds and development committees. In 1985, he was elected a Temple trustee, eventually going on to become vice president and president of Temple Beth-El. Roger has long been a champion of family values, and he has utilized his tradition of leadership in this regard. To name but a few of these beneficial organizations, he was instrumental in launching the Beth-El Connection, a program dedicated to welcoming new families into the congregation, as well as the Family Life Program, a group devoted to strengthening the Jewish family.

In fact, Roger's philanthropic activities extend far beyond the scope of the Jewish community to encompass the many faces of Long Island. He has been an active member of the Association for a Better Long Island. Furthermore, Roger has consistently been a strong supporter of the arts. It is his love of education and culture that led to the construction of the Tilles Center at Long Island University's C.W. Post campus.

Mr. Speaker, Roger Tilles has come to symbolize the American spirit of voluntarism and generosity. I ask all my colleagues to rise with the grateful people of the Fifth Congressional