

dollars on Washington-based bureaucracy.

Today at their hearing, liberal Democrats will bring the old arguments that Republicans want to slash programs to the elderly to pay for tax breaks for the rich. But these arguments have been thoroughly rejected by the American people. Congress has proven that we can have substantial tax relief while saving sensitive programs, like Medicare, from bankruptcy.

The difference here is that Republicans trust the American people. Families should have the freedom to do what they want with their own money. Liberal Democrats love big government and they love the big taxes needed to run it.

BOB DOLE'S ECONOMIC PLAN

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, Bob Dole's economic plan does spell disaster for the millions of Americans who depend on Medicare. His proposal for a close to \$600 billion tax cut could result in \$300 billion in Medicare cuts. That is not my number, that is the Congressional Budget Office which is controlled by the Republicans. It calls the cuts draconian. They say that Medicare beneficiaries would probably find their own costs rising substantially, that is a direct quote, if \$300 billion in Medicare cuts were required. Mr. Dole says he plans to pay for this tax cut by closing corporate loopholes.

Get a hold of the New York Times this morning where this is the following quote from the New York Times:

During Mr. Dole's 27 years in the Senate, he has proved himself to be a master at engineering the very sorts of special tax breaks for constituents and corporations that he now decries. And recipients of those breaks in turn have been among Mr. Dole's most generous contributors.

Let me say this to you, that he was also very proud that he voted against Medicare, 1 of 12 to do that. Who do you trust to deal with the Medicare system, Mr. Dole or the Democrats who have stood here to defend Medicare every single day for the last 20 months against the Republican onslaught?

TEENAGE DRUG USE

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, here is a headline from the Greenville News out of South Carolina, 2 weeks ago: "Twice as Many Teens Using Drugs as in 1992."

Mr. Speaker, why do we have this headline? Why is it teen drug use has exploded? There are probably many plausible theories, but I think the most important is the attitudes of those in positions of authority. In the 1980's, the Reagan administration told young people to just say no.

But in 1993, when Bill Clinton first took over as President, he slashed the budget of the Office of National Drug Policy. Then, his administration hired about 40 staffers who had to be placed in a special drug program because they admitted to using hard drugs such as crack cocaine only a few months before going to the White House.

Mr. Speaker, when we have an administration that takes a casual view of adult drug use, its no wonder we have headlines like this.

IRS AUDIT OF COLLEGE COURSE

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

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, I believe it is time for Members of this House to stand up to intimidation. A letter has been sent from the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, Mr. ARCHER, to the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, Ms. Richardson, intimating that she should not continue with the audit of the two courses that were given in Georgia on which the Speaker was a party. They were at the Reinhardt College and the Keenesaw State University.

These audits that are ongoing are legitimate audits of a not-for-profit foundation that was possibly used for political purposes. Yet Mr. ARCHER has written to the Commissioner asking her not to continue with the audits. That is intimidation. Never, I have been here 20 years, I have never known a chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means ever try to intimidate an IRS commissioner.

ANOTHER VIEW ON IRS AUDIT

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

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman who just spoke referring to the IRS audit of the course did not point out that this may be the only college course given for credit that has been audited in the history of this country. I wonder why. The IRS is also auditing the Christian Coalition, the National Rifle Association, and Pat Robertson. I wonder if they are auditing the AFL-CIO.

This is perhaps the most biased, the most tendentious, the most politically active IRS in the history of this country. And the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means has a right to ask for an explanation. He did not order anyone to stop. He asked for an explanation. It is time that they explain their political activity.

MORE ON THE IRS

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the IRS. Murderers, terrorists, rapists, child abusers, even traffic violators are also innocent until proven guilty. It had been good enough for Madison, Jefferson, Washington, good enough for everyone except the Internal Revenue Service. The Internal Revenue Service says taxpayers should remain guilty and have to prove themselves innocent in tax court. And they said, Congress, if you change the burden of proof law it will cost us billions of dollars. Unbelievable, Congress.

Could you imagine Madison saying to Jefferson, discussing the Bill of Rights, Tom, this is great stuff but it costs too much? Beam me up. You want to talk about family values. The IRS, NEWT GINGRICH, picking on political targets.

Congress, put this thing in order. It is time to change the law. A taxpayer is a citizen, too. They should be innocent until proven guilty. Bring your damn case or do not bring it right. Think about that. I am asking Congress to change the burden of proof in a tax case and start treating taxpayers like American citizens. I yield back the balance of these laws.

REPORT ON TEENAGE DRUG USE

(Mrs. CHENOWETH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, the Department of Health and Human Services released a shocking report on teenage drug use. Here are some of the findings: Overall drug use for 12- to 17-year-olds, from 1992 to 1995 is up 78 percent; marijuana use up 105 percent in the same age group during the same period; marijuana use, in just the last year: up 37 percent; LSD use, 1992-95: up 183 percent; LSD use in just the last year: up 54 percent; cocaine use, 1994-95: up 166 percent. In just 1 year.

It used to be that the White House encouraged our young people to just say no. Today, the White House just says nothing about this explosion of teenage drug use.

The Clinton war against drugs has been a failed war against drugs. And now we see the consequences.

BACK TO SCHOOL

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, in my home State of California, which is being called the epicenter of the school enrollment explosion, 5.5 million students are returning to school this week, 100,000 more than last year. Nationwide enrollment is expected to rise by 7 percent over the next 6 years. Instead of responding to this crisis, the majority, however, is contributing to it by proposing tax cuts on the rich while voting to cut education spending by 7 percent, 7 percent below 1995 levels.

President Clinton, on the other hand, and the Democrats want to help our schools, help our schools prepare for the future by ensuring that every child enters the classroom ready to learn, by training more teachers and raising learning standards through Goals 2000, by expanding the use of technology in our classroom and by making college more affordable.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to make education our No. 1 priority and ensure that every student enters the classroom ready to learn and has the opportunity.

DRUG USE AMONG TEENS

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

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I looked at this survey that has been completed by HHS about drug use among teenagers. I do not get it. I am confused about why.

Here we have got overall drug use that has doubled in the last 4 years. Remember that after there was a substantial decline, Mr. Speaker, during the 1980's and the early 1990's, in the past 4 years overall drug use has nearly doubled. Marijuana use is up 105 percent. LSD is up 183 percent. Cocaine is up 166 percent. Inquiring minds wants to know why.

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Why, Mr. Speaker, what has changed? What has happened? What can we look to? What is the explanation?

Mr. Speaker, I was the first invitee at a townhall meeting for the homeless in Cleveland about a week ago, and I asked those people what is the No. 1 problem that got them to this situation that they find themselves in, and they said drugs.

WE NEED THE TRUTH ABOUT TAX CUTS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I think the question should be asked this morning as we move into this process where the American people will make choices: "What does a 15-percent tax cut do for you or for those Americans who are looking for a better life?"

We do not need political rhetoric. We do not need confusion. We need the truth.

It is interesting that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to now use the straw man of teenage drug use, something that all of us abhor, something that is necessary to prevent, when they are the very ones asking for almost a \$600 billion tax cut that benefits those making over \$100,000 so that, one, we can cut the drug-free schools program. As a member of the Committee on the Judiciary, that is what they

cut, cut the DARE Program that enhances and gives our children the incentive not to take drugs.

Mr. Speaker, I believe in prevention, but a tax cut does nothing but to scare seniors by causing a \$300 billion cut in Medicare, it cuts the environment and, likewise, it cuts our opportunities for education.

Let us tell the truth. This 15 percent across the board has no basis in fact. There is no way to tell how it can be done. There is no way to say that it will improve your life. Please realize what the truth is. Fight against those tax cuts and let us educate our children.

SET AN EXAMPLE ON DRUG TESTING

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

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, back in the early 1980's Ronald Reagan, at my urging, enacted random drug testing on the military. At that time over 25 percent of our active military were using drugs in one form or another. Once we put random drug testing into effect, within 4 years it had dropped from 25 percent down to 4 percent.

What is happening in America today is so frightening with 12- and 13-year-olds using marijuana and a 137-percent increase, 14- and 15-year-olds now increasing by 200 percent. Something has got to be done.

On opening day of the next Congress I will introduce a rule change to the House which will set the example bringing Members of Congress and their staff under random drug testing rules. We need to set the example. We need to go back to just say no to our young people so that they know it is important.

I hope my colleagues will support my rule change on January 3, 1997.

DOLE TAX CUT BAD FOR SENIORS

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no fear of taking a drug test, and I suggest we do it here on the floor of the House.

Let me talk about the cuts that we have in safe and drug-free schools, the same people we have heard this morning talk about the increase in drug use, and yet this majority Republican Congress cut \$99 million out of safe and drug-free schools that the President requested, again the DARE programs.

But that is not what I want to talk about today. Mr. Speaker, I really wanted to talk about the proposed spending of all the political career of Senator Dole as a budget balancer and now calling for a 15 percent tax cut. This sounds great and all of us would

like to have one, but how are we going to pay for it? In recent history, if there is any indication, it will be paid for by cuts in education, by cuts in the Medicare needs for seniors, and of course, remember last year when Senator Dole bragged about voting against the creation of Medicare in 1965. Now he says he wants to preserve and protect it.

Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that after November 5, if that happens, we will then hear about where those cuts are going to come, and they are going to come from education, from Medicare for seniors and from programs that we need to plan for the 21st century.

GINGRICH AUDIT

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

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a colleague of mine is trying to intimidate the IRS. In today's Washington Times, I read that Republican leaders are upset that the IRS is making an inquiry into the corporate funding of Speaker GINGRICH's courses at two Georgia schools. It seems that the Republican leadership is not pleased with the timing of the inquiry just 2 months before the election.

But, as my colleagues know, the information about the audit was not leaked by the IRS. In fact, it was the schools involved who told the press that these IRS audits were taking place.

Mr. Speaker, the audit is not new. It has been underway for some time. There is no political motive here. The American people deserve to know if one of their public servants has been a party to anything even remotely illegal, like the possible illegal corporate funding of these courses.

Perhaps it is ill-timed, but Speaker GINGRICH's constituents deserve to know the truth.

LAY OFF, MR. ARCHER

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, this morning the Associated Press reported that the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, BILL ARCHER, has sent an intimidating letter to the Internal Revenue Service concerning an investigation the IRS has launched into a partisan political course NEWT GINGRICH taught at two Georgia colleges.

The IRS has good reason to investigate Speaker GINGRICH. Allegations regarding the Speaker's abuse of tax exempt organizations have swirled for more than 2 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and appropriate for the IRS to investigate the serious allegations of misuse of nonprofit organizations by Speaker GINGRICH.