

that over 9,000 Connecticut school kids may not get the help that they need in order to compete in the 21st century.

The bill cuts assistance for college loans. That does not help working families.

My colleague prior to me getting up here this morning talked about drugs. They are going to cut the money for safe and drug-free schools. My colleagues bet, actions speak louder than words.

Vocational education and training cut, so that young people cannot get the opportunity to work.

Let us not cheat our children out of their future. Let us try to do something that helps working families.

EXAMINING CORPORATE WELFARE

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

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, in about an hour the House Committee on the Budget will begin its process of developing a new budget for fiscal year 1997. The hearings this morning will focus on the subject of so-called corporate subsidies or corporate welfare. One of our witnesses defines corporate welfare as the use of Government authority to confer special benefits to specific firms or industries where there is no corresponding societal benefit. I am pleased to say that in the balanced budget or in the budget resolution, 1995, the Committee on the Budget identified over \$95 billion worth of unnecessary spending on corporations.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to be releasing today a GAO report to the Committee on the Budget which will outline over 25 different projects that we could undertake to reduce corporate spending or Government spending, unnecessary Government spending, on corporations. It is time, as we face the 1997 budget cycle, to look to individual responsibility, but also corporate responsibility, and I commend the Committee on the Budget for taking the lead in this process.

PLAYING POLITICS WITH THE NATION'S FINANCIAL STANDING

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

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority today will make sure we have more uncertainty with a limited debt limit extension and more gridlock with a sure-to-be vetoed continuing resolution. No wonder the Congress has a negative rating of over 60 percent. We have even surpassed used car salesmen in lack of confidence.

On the debt limit, again we are playing games with the Nation's financial standing, giving a debt limit extension just 2 more weeks simply to gain leverage for the majority's agenda. The continuing resolution cuts education by \$3

billion, 20 percent over the last year, and decimates veterans' programs by \$200 million. In fact, this bill unfairly targets VA Secretary Jesse Brown, who is doing his job with major cuts in his office; pettiness, politics. They do not like his pointing out that VA programs are being cut dramatically. On the chopping block today, student loans, basic reading and math skills, Head Start, safe and drug free schools, vocational education.

Mr. Speaker, let us end this gridlock.

CUT CORPORATE WELFARE AND MILITARY SPENDING TO BALANCE THE BUDGET, NOT THE MIDDLE-CLASS SAFETY NET

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, in April of last year, the General Accounting office released a report showing that 73 percent of all foreign corporations operating in the United States paid no income taxes in 1991.

These multinational corporations had sales of \$359 billion in that year, yet 73 percent of them paid no taxes. Imagine that.

Mr. Speaker, it is no wonder we have a \$4.9 trillion debt when profitable corporations get away with paying no income taxes.

Yet, my Republican colleagues insist on slashing Medicare, Medicaid, Education, and the environment to balance the budget. Now I ask you, is that fair?

The American people work hard and pay their taxes. All they ask for in return is a little security in their old age, some fairness in the tax code, and a second chance if they fall through the cracks in our changing economy.

Let us cut corporate welfare and military spending to balance the budget, not the middle class safety net.

THIS FROM THE PEOPLE WHO ARE GOING TO CUT REDTAPE AND REDUCE BURDENSOME PAPERWORK

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

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, they are back. The Istook amendment, in a somewhat watered-down form, but still a red-tape-filled, bureaucratic reporting nightmare, is back, made in order as we debate the continuing resolution later today.

Is this aimed at some of the bad guys in this country? No. It is aimed at the Red Cross, the YMCA, our local college or university, even small businesses that may be going through a hard time after a disaster and getting SBA help.

And what will be required? Mr. Speaker, again, as we have seen before, annual reports to the Federal Government about any effort to influence a decision even at the city or county level.

So, the local Y trying to get the city council to help out with the child care effort will have to report that to the Federal Government. The chapter of MADD trying to get a tougher DUI bill through the State legislature is going to have to report about that to the Federal Government. And the small business that got the SBA loan and makes a contribution to a local referendum will have to report that.

Mr. Speaker, this is from the people that were going to lighten the paperwork and reporting burdens from Washington.

CUTTING EDUCATION IS NOT CUTTING THE BUDGET

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

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, if my colleagues want to know why I am voting today against the temporary spending bill, look no further than Rock Branch grade school and over 500 grade schools across West Virginia. This week at Rock Branch I met with parents, teachers, and students to hear firsthand what the cutbacks in education and title I will mean. This is a program that permits 38,000 West Virginia grade school children to have help in upgrading math and reading skills. Parents took time off from work to tell me how their children were not succeeding in school. I wish every Member here could have heard Melissa's mom as she choked back tears talking about how her daughter had moved from failing to passing with honors, or hear Brooke as she showed me how to work a computer, or hear Miss Gibson and Miss Evans, their eyes shining with pride as they talked about the students' progress.

On April 1, Mr. Speaker, West Virginia boards of education though will have to lay off hundreds of teachers and aides across the State of West Virginia, possibly deny 6,500 West Virginia grade schoolers this important learning opportunity, cutting almost \$11 million from West Virginia's most important education program. Cutting grade school education is not cutting the deficit. There is nothing more expensive than ignorance, both individually and to our society.

HELPING WORKING FAMILIES

(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, real wages are down. Thousands of workers have lost their jobs. Families are having a hard time finding the money to send their children to college, to save for retirement, to make ends meet.

Finally, Republicans are taking note. They sound like Democrats talking about the middle class.

Mr. Speaker, actions speak louder than words. Democrats raise the minimum wage, Republicans cut taxes for rich friends. Democrats vote for education and job training, Republicans raise taxes on working families.

Republicans help the rich and hurt the rest of us. They voted against Social Security, against Medicare. Senator DOLE even brags about voting against Medicare.

Republicans have started to talk about helping the middle class. It is time to do something about it.

Raise the minimum wage. Invest in education. Protect the pensions of working families.

Republicans have started to talk the talk. It is time for them to walk the walk.

□ 1030

VOTE "NO" ON THE TEMPORARY FUNDING BILL

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

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, today we will do a temporary funding billing that will cut environmental enforcement programs for the Clean Water Act, the safe drinking water program. We will cut out the COPS Program and replace it with a block grant program that does not guarantee one more police officer on the streets of America. But the biggest cuts are in education, \$3.3 billion in education.

In my district of northern Michigan, some of my counties, such as Antrim County, will lose \$100,000; Cheboygan, \$130,000; Grand Traverse County, over \$200,000. What about college student loans? Over \$4 billion in cuts in college student loans.

Mr. Speaker, we need programs that will support an increasing of wages for our workers. We need a program that will assure them good benefits and a secure retirement. We should be investing in education and training and not cutting it. Therefore, I will vote no on this temporary funding bill today.

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

Mr. LINDER. 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: the Committee on Banking and Financial Services; the Committee on Commerce; the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities; the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight; the Committee on International Relations; the Committee on the Judiciary; the Committee on National Security; the Committee on Resources; the Committee on Science; the

Committee on Small Business; the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; the Committee on Veterans' Affairs; and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

It is my understanding that the minority has been consulted and that there is no objection to these questions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

GUARANTEEING CONTINUING FULL INVESTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY AND OTHER FEDERAL FUNDS IN OBLIGATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 371 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 371

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3021) to guarantee the continuing full investment of Social Security and other Federal funds in obligations of the United States. The amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit. The motion to recommit may include instructions only if offered by the minority leader or his designee.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LINDER] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. FROST], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for purposes of debate only.

(Mr. LINDER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks and to include extraneous material.)

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, this is a simple rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 3021. House Resolution 371 provides for 1 hour of general debate in the House equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Following the hour of general debate, this resolution provides one motion to recommit as is the right of the minority. The motion to recommit may include instructions only if offered by the minority leader or his designee.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is intended to provide the Treasury Secretary with the authority to invest trust fund receipts or other Federal funds from the date of enactment of this bill through

March 29, 1996. H.R. 3021 also extends the current authority to incur debt, not subject to the public debt limit, for the purpose of guaranteeing the timely payment of Social Security payments and other Federal disbursements. We must not jeopardize the full faith and credit of the United States, and this bill assures that Social Security payments and other Federal disbursements are available to the American people who have paid into these funds.

This is a very straightforward rule. This short term legislation not only protects those who have paid into Federal trust funds but also represents a good faith effort to allow the Governors sufficient time to work with the Congress and the administration on welfare and Medicaid reform.

The Governors who are involved in efforts to reform entitlements have requested more time to finalize the details of a bipartisan welfare and Medicaid reform proposal. This bill will give us some additional time to work out an agreement that may help salvage the economic future of our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, this is not business as usual. It is about our commitment to save our country from a crisis of crushing debt. The current Federal debt is approximately \$4.9 trillion and interest on the debt is \$235 billion per year. Over the next 15 years—if current patterns continue—this Nation will pay as much on interest on the debt each year as we pay for national defense beginning as early as 1997. Absent some fiscally responsible action by this Congress and the President, the interest on the debt and the spending on entitlement programs will soon strangle our economy and rob our children and grandchildren of the American dream. It is immoral to leave this mountain of debt to future generations.

It is important to note that this bleak scenario only becomes reality if current spending patterns continue. This Congress has already begun to make a difference by passing reduced appropriations bills and by passing the Balanced Budget Down Payment Act, which will save a combined \$30 billion this year.

We know, however, that it is the uncontrolled growth of mandatory entitlement spending that will be the greatest contributor to the increasing debt. The massive spending associated with these programs is linked to the condition and magnitude of the debt. It is for this reason that we should pass this short-term debt limit increase while we continue to negotiate entitlement reform proposals that may be completed by the end of the month.

This rule and the accompanying legislation will surely pass with overwhelming support, serving as a solid sign that the House remains optimistic about the chances for responsible reforms. Given the administration's statements criticizing the Governor's reform proposals, we remain concerned that an agreement may prove elusive. However, the Governors have requested