

American people right here behind me in this Chamber and said, "The era of big government is over." I am here to announce that, unfortunately, rumors of the demise of big government were premature. Big government is in fact alive and well, and living in the White House.

In case Members have not heard, Mr. Speaker, Bill Clinton has requested billions more in spending on many of his pet projects and liberals' constituencies. The President wants more money for corporate welfare, more money for ineffective job training programs, more money for the National Endowment for the Arts, and more money for Goals 2000, and on and on and on.

Mr. Speaker, let us not delude ourselves into believing that big government is over. The President's pork barrel package proves that liberal Washington special interests and the bureaucrats still want big government. Let us continue the fight against big Federal Government, reduce the tax burden on hard-working Americans, and let us balance the budget.

THE WHITEWATER INVESTIGATION HAS REACHED THE FINAL FRONTIER OF JURISPRUDENCE

(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, some people say that politics in America is getting real strange. Take Whitewater. Please, somebody take Whitewater. Whitewater has now gone where no man or woman has ever gone before, as evidenced by juror Barbara Adams, who shows up in a sleek red and black Star Trek uniform, complete with phaser and communicator. Adams said she is constantly prepared to be beamed up by Captain Kirk.

Surprised? Not me. I would not be surprised to see some of those witnesses show up wearing a beanie with a propeller on top. Mr. Speaker, this has taken American jurisprudence to a whole new dimension. Trial by a jury of your peers is getting a whole new definition, and I pronounce here today and acclaim that Whitewater has now entered the final frontier. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker.

THE PRESIDENT IS STILL TRYING TO INCREASE GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, just this past January President Clinton stood on this very House floor and proclaimed that the era of big government is over.

Well, once again President Clinton's actions speak louder than his words. He's now threatening to shut down the Government again in an attempt to

bully Congress into giving him \$8 billion more in the appropriations bill to spend on his liberal agenda. Instead of working to balance the Federal budget, the President wants to increase spending in order to appease his liberal base of support in this election year.

Mr. Speaker, this is not what the American people want. They want a smaller, less costly, more efficient Government. They want their elected officials to represent their priorities and their values, not Washington, DC, values. And, once again, the President has let the American people down by trying to increase, not decrease Government spending.

BIG GOVERNMENT, NO; BUT EDUCATION, YES

(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 would simply say that big government is over, but I think my Republican colleagues think that opportunity for children is over as well. This Republican Congress is the bashing education Congress. They refuse to include in this continuing resolution resources for education. In fact, in my home State of Texas, we will lose \$97.8 million in title I funds, \$8.5 million in funds for the safe and drug-free schools program, and Harris County alone will lose \$7.9 million in title I funds.

Do my colleagues know what school boards around this Nation are doing? They are presently wondering whether we are going to be able to hire teachers to teach our children. Big government is one thing. We all agree we must reinvent government. But what do Members believe about educating their children and having Goals 2000 that emphasizes quality education? Republicans apparently do not believe in it. The Congress will not even fund good education programs—promoting computer and reading literacy among disadvantaged children.

The irony of it is that the Senate has agreed that we need job training and education. They voted 84 to 16 to put in some \$2.7 billion for education. We are not listening over here. What else do we not have? Summer job programs. We do not have summer jobs for our youngsters, the Senate agreed summer jobs for our youth should be funded. I wish they would listen. Education, yes; big government, no.

THE PRESIDENT SHOULD BALANCE THE BUDGET

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

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink. We have led the President to at least agree to the principle of balancing the budget, but he just won't take the next step and do it.

No matter how hard we try to make the President understand the importance of a balanced budget, for our future and for the future of our children and grandchildren, he fights us at every turn.

As a new Member of the House of Representatives, I came here to get a job done.

The American people sent us here to put a stop to the reckless spending practices that have saddled us all with a mountain of debt.

But the Clinton administration fights us at every turn. Somehow, President Clinton wants us to believe that in a budget of about a trillion and a half dollars, we're still not spending enough.

Mr. Speaker, the American people are listening; they have a Congress committed to a balanced budget and a President that isn't, despite his rhetoric to the contrary. If we cannot convince him to do what's right, perhaps the American people will.

REPUBLICAN EDUCATION CUTS ARE WRONG

(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, yesterday, the extreme agenda of House Republicans was repudiated by their own Republican colleagues in the Senate. The Senate voted 84 to 16 to pass a Democratic amendment that restored vital funding for education.

They restored \$2.7 billion in funding for education and job training programs cut by House Republicans. That means \$814 million more in basic skills training in reading and math; \$635 million restored for summer youth jobs; and \$200 million added for safe and drug-free schools.

Education is a priority for the American people. They understand that we live in an age when a good wage is tied to a good education.

Let us not turn our backs on the schoolchildren of America by cutting education funding so vital for them to live a secure and prosperous life in the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my Republican colleagues in the House will hear the wake-up call from Senate Republicans, rather than blindly charging ahead with education cuts that are both wrong headed and hard hearted, and that will hurt working middle-class families of this country.

LIBERALS ARE ADDICTED TO BIG SPENDING

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, liberals like to wrap themselves in conservative roles, partially at election times. This was the case 50 days ago when Bill

Clinton said that the era of big government was over. Fat chance, Mr. Speaker.

Liberals are very good with disguises. But they can't hide their addiction to spending other people's money. Recently, the President submitted a request to spend an additional \$8 billion for what is, essentially, a reelection pork package. The President wants to spend money on all kinds of Federal programs that will appease his liberal base. But the spending request totally contradicts the President's claim that the era of big government is over.

Mr. Speaker, our Government is now responsible for a \$5 trillion debt. That debt will be shouldered by our children and grandchildren. It is outrageous that our President would masquerade as a fiscal conservative while asking Congress to add billions more to our debt.

DO NOT BALANCE THE BUDGET ON BACKS OF CHILDREN

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

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, it is amazing. Never did I think I would be down here saying, "Listen to the Senate," but here I am saying, "Listen to the Senate," because they are speaking words we should hear here.

Yesterday they voted 84 to 16, and they said very clearly, "You do not balance the budget on the backs of America's children. You do not balance the budget on the backs of America's future." These are not the people that caused this deficit. B-2 bombers caused this deficit. All sorts of other pork projects caused this deficit.

Mr. Speaker, I think we have to get down to the specifics of how we do it. And to do this on children, children that do not have political action committees, children who do not have Gucci-shoed lawyers, they are the easy ones to shove out in the cold and say, "We have to balance the budget." We do that, and we have shortchanged the future of this Nation.

Listen to the Senate. They have understood how extreme the other side of this aisle is on those issues. Do not cut Head Start, do not cut drug-free schools, and do not demolish our future.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a concurrent resolution of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 45. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Rotunda on May 2, 1996, for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to Reverend and Mrs. Billy Graham.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendment of the

House to the bill (S. 1494) "An Act to provide an extension for fiscal year 1996 for certain programs administered by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and the Secretary of Agriculture, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that pursuant to section 9355(a) of title 10, United States Code, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints Mr. BURNS, from the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, from the Committee on Armed Services, and Mr. EXON, at large, to the Board of Visitors of the United States Air Force Academy.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 4355(a) of title 10, United States Code, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints Mr. COCHRAN, from the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. REID, from the Committee on Appropriations, Mrs. HUTCHISON, from the Committee on Armed Services, and Mr. LEVIN, at large, to the Board of Visitors of the United States Military Academy.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 6968(a) of title 10, United States Code, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints Mr. HATFIELD, from the Committee on Appropriations, Ms. MIKULSKI, from the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Armed Services, and Mr. SARBANES, at large, to the Board of Visitors of the United States Naval Academy.

□ 1115

CUT FUNDING FOR NEA

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

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, the President has again issued an ultimatum that we, as Republicans, must allow an additional \$8 billion to be spent on a host of Federal programs which many of these programs are nothing but pork barrel type projects. This spending is to satisfy the liberal groups that he needs for the upcoming election. Especially, the supporters of the National Endowment of the Arts.

I appreciate art as much as the next person. But, Mr. Speaker, it simply makes no sense to continue to tax working people's incomes to pay for works of art which insults and demean the values they hold dear.

It especially makes no sense to lay off Federal employees—with children to feed and bills to pay—so that the Government can continue to spend the taxpayer money on art which insults the religious values of the people who are being forced to pay for this so-called art.

We must stop this misuse of the taxpayers' money.

EDUCATION BUDGET CUTS

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

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my deep concern over the massive budget cuts by my Republican colleagues to education programs. We can no longer tolerate this. These are cuts that will not heal.

Their slash and burn approach to educating our children has many casualties. One example under the current continuing resolution is the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program. How can children learn in an environment where they must fear for their lives? We must give children every chance to live and learn—not take them away.

Anyone concerned with the health and safety of our children would find these cuts distressing. Who among you could look a child in the eyes and tell them that tax cuts to fat cats are more important than their education—or their life?

Mr. Speaker, it is time that we stop shortchanging our most vulnerable citizens. Hasn't enough havoc been wreaked in children's lives? We stand on the brink of another shutdown and a CR with the largest education cuts ever. Let's stop this assault on our children and restore education funding now.

PASS H.R. 739, DECLARATION OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGE ACT

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

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, much has been said this morning about education and wasting of money. We spend some \$12 billion a year in this country, \$12 billion a year on bilingual education, which means we teach kids in other than the English language.

Let me tell Members about the Ninth Street Public School in Los Angeles. Many of the students in this school are children of new Americans, and they want to learn English. Their parents want them to learn English, too, but they were so frustrated recently by the bilingual education program being foisted on their children that they took their kids out of school, boycotted the school for a week.

What does it say about our educational system when the second largest city in America has 300,000 students in bilingual education programs, where they are not taught in English, where they are not learning anything, and we are wasting billions of dollars. The parents have no recourse but to yank their kids out of school to articulate their demand for English in the classroom.

I think it is a disgrace. The students of the Ninth Street School are lucky to have parents that will fight the system for their education. Let us teach English in our schools again.

SUPPORT EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

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