

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.

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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. DOGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, the real language problem in this country is not the one we just heard about, but it is the fact that our Republican colleagues cannot understand in any language the call of the American people to deal with the real problems that affect their lives. Instead, we have a House Republican majority that has produced one failure after another in the last 14 months.

As if that were not enough, they are proposing to chalk up yet again another failure this weekend as they head home in the face of a third Government shutdown. It is as if no matter what language you speak, they cannot hear the voice of the American people, because instead of solving these problems, they continue to bicker among themselves.

The House Republicans cannot agree with the Senate Republicans concerning how many American young people they should deny an educational opportunity to. The Senate yesterday rejected the extreme House Republican cuts in education. They have got a great battle going on between the far right, the extremists who want to cut out any Federal commitment to education, and the not-so-right that say, "Well, let's just cut a few children."

The American people, whatever the language is, want to support educational commitment and opportunity for our young people, and we ought to get about that job.

STOP THE CENSUS BUREAU BEFORE IT DESTROYS FAMILY FARMS

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

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, the Bureau of the Census, in its infinite wisdom, has recently proposed to change the definition of a farm. This is a bad idea for America. America's most basic industry is agriculture and the family farm. In North Carolina, under the current definition of a farm, we have over 50,000 farms, but under one of the new proposed definitions, we would magically be reduced to only 25,000 farms. Mr. Speaker, changing the farm definition will affect the allocation of Federal funding since it also changes the distribution of the farm population among States. The Cooperative Extension and many other agriculture agencies use farm population to allocate funds. Small farms in my State represent a significant share of total production of commodities such as tobacco. Over 65 percent of minority farms would no longer be defined as farms. Mr. Speaker, now is the time for Congress to take action to stop this proposal before it economically destroys the small family farms in the Second District of North Carolina and throughout the Southeast.

GIVE THE MIDDLE CLASS A RAISE AND A DECENT EDUCATION

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

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, in their infinite wisdom, House Republican leaders are once again pushing the Government of the United States to the brink of another Government shutdown.

The reason this time is their insistence on cuts to education and the environment. These cuts are so egregious, however, that even the Republican Senate voted 84 to 16 in favor of a Democratic amendment restoring education and job training funds.

Mr. Speaker, in this changing economy, the last thing we should be doing is cutting funds for programs that will help our children compete against highly educated workers in Germany and Japan.

This Congress, Mr. Speaker, should be concentrating on how to give the American middle class a raise and a decent education, not a Republican-sponsored wedge.

WHEN WILL WASHINGTON LEARN?

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton, in his recent State of the Union Address proposed another Federal education program to provide merit based scholarships to the top 5 percent of high school graduates. This despite the fact that there are already 47 scholarship and fellowship programs operated by the Federal Government. In fact, President Bush's Presidential Access Scholarship Program—a merit based program—is still on the books.

This highlights an important point. The Education Committee has discovered over 760 Federal education programs spanning 39 separate agencies, departments, and commissions. Many of these programs were designed to meet the exact same goals—yet each has its own application process and regulations.

So why does President Clinton propose one more education program—program 761? Is it to improve the education of our children or merely to make us feel like we are educating our children by spending money and creating programs? This is a critical question we must answer—the education of our children is at stake.

REPUBLICANS DECLARE WAR ON EDUCATION FUNDING

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw attention to the war that has been declared on education funding at the elementary, sec-

ondary, and postsecondary levels by the Republican majority.

If the Republican majority's continuing resolution is extended at its current level, it would mean a \$3.3 billion cut in education programs from the fiscal year 1995 level, and this would be a devastating blow to many of the educational services our children depend on. For my State of New Jersey, this would mean a cut of \$23.5 million to title I, \$2.6 million to Safe and Drug-Free Schools, \$2.2 million to goals 2000, \$3.7 million to vocational education, \$3.7 million to the professional development grant programs, \$36 million in New Jersey alone cut in our children's educational future.

The majority's war on education is coming at a time when New Jersey's unemployment rate is above the national average of 7.3 percent. It comes at a time when we ought to be preparing our children for a more globally integrated, more technologically advanced and more competitive workplace.

Shortchanging our students today means shortchanging the National tomorrow. We should not be shutting down the Government, and we should not be shutting down our children's educational future.

HOW DO WE JUSTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION?

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

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, when you think you have heard it all from this administration, they never cease to amaze me. In today's Washington Times, the U.S. Education Secretary Richard Riley responded to an editorial that questioned the role of the Department of Education.

To justify the Federal Department of Education, let me read what Secretary Riley said: "Most recently, the President asked me to distribute the manual on school uniforms," and I have got a copy of it here, the manual on school uniforms.

I have not read this invaluable tool that helps justify the existence of the U.S. Department of Education. Maybe Secretary Riley suggests color coordination on uniforms. Maybe Secretary Riley suggests now mixing plaids and stripes. Or maybe, in fact, this manual justifies the employment of 4,876 Department of Education employees, of whom 3,322 are in Washington, DC, working on this manual on school uniforms.

REPUBLICANS HURT LOCAL EDUCATION

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

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans have our citizens facing the