

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, it is springtime in America's schoolhouse but pink azaleas are not going to be sprouting. Instead, pink slips are going to be sprouting for America's teachers.

When you see what the House Republicans are doing, every school district is going to be forced with the following decisions, either fewer teachers and larger classes and cancelled drug education programs and cancelled remedial education programs, or raise local taxes. Those are terrible choices.

Why in the world are the House Republicans insisting upon sacrificing our children's future upon the altar of deficit reduction? That is exactly what they are doing. They have an altar of deficit reduction and they are saying we are just going to have to sacrifice the children's future, because there is no one who says larger classes, fewer teachers, drop drug education, and drop remedial education is the progressive way to go.

Let us stand up. We now know who is for America's kids and who is just kidding. Fight back.

UPCOMING PRODUCT LIABILITY MEASURE PROMISES FREEDOM TO RAW MATERIAL SUPPLIERS OF MEDICAL DEVICES

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

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, thousands of Americans even at this moment are benefiting from medical devices that have saved their lives or improved their chances for good health, knee and hip joints and brain shunts and pacemakers, all sorts of ingenious devices that over the years have improved the health care capacity of our Nation.

Yet, they are in danger, these device makers, these wonderful people who are developing these kinds of apparatuses for the improvement of health. They are in danger of losing their capacity to produce them because of suits against the suppliers of the raw materials that go into these medical devices.

Next week we are going to take a giant step in trying to prevent the slowdown of the production of these medical devices by putting in with the product liability measure that we will be considering a safeguard against the raw material suppliers, so that they will feel free to keep supplying these components that make these wonderful medical devices.

CUTS FOR SCHOOLS AND THE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

(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, \$3.3 billion in cuts for our

schools and major cuts for our teachers and for our young children. Then when our young children grow up to try and have a sense of independence and work in the Summer Youth Program, what do the Republicans do? They cut it.

Let me tell Members about a young person in my community. At the age of 2 and shortly after her mother married her stepfather, her family was involved in a car wreck that left her father permanently disabled. As a result of the wreck, this young child was injured so severely that she lost her spleen and left kidney. Yet she participated in the Summer Youth Program.

She lives at home. She keeps a little of her money and the rest of it she gives to her family for their needs. The family is on SSI. She has worked for the Smiley High School, the Texas Children's Hospital. She is trying to make a difference in her life.

There is no Summer Youth Job Program in this budget by the Republicans, no hope for our youth. No schools, no teachers, nothing for our young children and nothing for our youth. What are we talking about? Summer jobs are hope for the future.

HISTORIC PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE IN IRELAND

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

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, during the past 2 years, the people of Ireland have made historic progress toward a true and lasting peace. I am a cochairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for Irish Affairs, along with the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. NEAL], and the gentleman from New York [Mr. MANTON].

The Ad Hoc Committee today is issuing a statement for St. Patrick's Day. We are urging that all parties to this process continue on the path toward peace. Specifically, we are calling upon the Irish Republican Army to immediately recommence the cease-fire. We are calling on the British Government to make every good faith effort to answer any questions that parties to the conflict have regarding the recent communique issued in London.

We also call for the commencement of all party talks by June 10 without the imposition of any preconditions by the British Government, and we call upon the President to continue his policy of active and constructive engagement in the Irish peace process. The people of Ireland have come too far to allow recent incidents to deter them on their path toward peace.

Mr. Speaker, on a bipartisan note, which should characterize this policy toward Ireland, I commend the President for issuing a visa to Gerry Adams to enter this country, and I commend Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith for standing up to the Anglophiles in the State Department.

Mr. Speaker, I include our committee statement for the RECORD, as follows:

CONGRESSIONAL AD HOC COMMITTEE ON IRISH AFFAIRS, ST. PATRICK'S DAY MESSAGE, MARCH 14, 1996

We, the members of the Congressional Ad Hoc Committee on Irish Affairs, ask all Americans to join with us in praying for peace in Ireland as we celebrate this Saint Patrick's Day.

The people of Ireland have worked too hard, and come too far on the road to peace to abandon the remarkable progress made in the past two years. The people of the United States—of Irish descent and otherwise—have shared in the joy of the Irish people at the significant steps forward just as we share in their disappointment and despair at recent setbacks.

To avoid squandering the hard-won gains toward a just and lasting peace for all Ireland, the government of the United States must remain engaged in the Irish peace process, both as an honest broker and as a guarantor of the equity of that process in ensuring that the legitimate aspirations of all parties to the conflict are fully represented. With this goal in mind, the Congressional Ad Hoc Committee on Irish Affairs:

Deplores the recent return to violence by the Irish Republican Army, and urges the IRA to reinstate the ceasefire immediately;

Calls on the British government to make every good faith effort to provide to all concerned political parties explicit clarification of any provisions of the recent joint communique by Prime Minister John Major and Taoiseach John Bruton;

Calls for the commencement of meaningful all-party talks by June 10th, without the imposition of any preconditions by the British government; and

Calls upon the President of the United States to continue his policy of active and constructive engagement in fostering the Irish peace process.

The 104th Congress has worked in bipartisan cooperation to support the Irish peace process. In addition, we have made substantial progress in addressing one of the root causes of the problems in the north of Ireland by moving closer to the historic passage of the MacBride fair employment principles as part of our contribution to the International Fund for Ireland.

We, the Members of the Congressional Ad Hoc Committee on Irish Affairs, are committed to ensuring that the United States continues to use its influence as a force for positive change in Ireland.

BEN GILMAN,	<i>Cochairman.</i>
RICHARD NEAL,	<i>Cochairman.</i>
TOM MANTON,	<i>Cochairman.</i>
PETE KING,	<i>Cochairman.</i>

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO NEIL SMITH

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

Ms. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to one of my constituents. On game days, he wears the number 90 on a red and white jersey and is every quarterback's nightmare. I am speaking of the Kansas City Chiefs all-pro defensive lineman, Neil Smith.

Today I want to take note of Neil Smith's efforts off the field. Instead of sacking quarterbacks, Neil Smith is

stopping illiteracy. He is the national spokesperson for the Foundation for Exceptional Children's "Yes I Can" program which encourages disabled children to reach their goals.

But while Neil is working to improve education, the House leadership is making drastic cuts in education programs. In Missouri, title I programs, which help children with learning disabilities, will lose over \$19 million—critical funds for students who need extra help in reading, writing and math.

I want to say to the House leadership—it's fourth down, 1 yard to go, and there are 30 seconds on the clock—let's go for it and reinstate the much needed funds for our children.

Thank you, Neil Smith, for sharing your talents and success to help all children achieve their dreams as you have.

PAYING MORE AND GETTING LESS

(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, let me tell Members what this debate is all about and what the administration and the liberals are talking about in education cuts. They are talking about paying more and getting less.

Let me read, if I may, about the great success of the programs they are talking about and what Republicans are talking about. This just appeared in the newspaper in Florida. Many of Florida's training and vocational education programs that are supposed to give Floridians the skills to find good-paying jobs are not working, according to the report.

State and Federal Governments spend about \$1 billion a year on vocational education programs in Florida, more than 1.2 million residents use the programs, but many of the State's programs fail to produce graduates or workers who can earn a decent salary. Most students who enter the programs never graduate.

In all, 37 percent of 347 job training and vocational programs perform poorly, according to the report. Only 20 percent of those who enrolled in high school vocational programs completed them. They want you to pay more and get less, and that is what this argument is about.

NO WAY TO RUN A CONGRESS

(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, when my Republican colleagues took over this institution 15 months ago, they promised to run the House like a business with the best management practices. However, their stewardship looks more like a Arnold Schwarzenegger screenplay.

The victims are everywhere. Because of the incompetence of this House majority, we are operating under a temporary spending plan, and today they want us to vote again on a 1-week extension of this spending plan. It will be the 10th temporary funding bill this year, no way to run a business or the House of Representatives.

Who suffers from this stop-and-go budgeting? Our kids, our children. Local school districts need to start planning now for the new school year, and they do not know what to expect from Washington. They do know that Republicans are slashing over \$3 billion from education. My Republican colleagues are leaving children and parents in the dark, and that is wrong.

Let us honor our commitment to education and our kids, and give them the tools that they need to succeed in the 21st century.

TAX AND SPEND IS BACK AGAIN

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

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, \$8 billion, that sure is a lot of money, and it just happens to be the amount of extra Washington big government spending that President Clinton wants.

Where will this \$8 billion come from? If the President has his way, it is going to come right from the pockets of the American taxpayer.

□ 1030

That is right, tax and spend is back again, but do not worry, America, because if you recall, the President said he feels your pain.

You know, I go home every weekend to the central coast of California, and do you realize how many people come to me and say, take more money, take more of my tax dollars and spend it on ineffective Washington programs? Well, you can understand no one does say that to me.

The message from the folks at home is very simple: They are tired of their tax dollars being spent on wasteful spending here in Washington, DC, and they are tired of spending for big government.

It is time for this Congress to say no to higher taxes, and it is time to say no to more government Washington spending.

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

Mr. KING. 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: Committee on Commerce, Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, Committee on Government Re-

form and Oversight, Committee on International Relations, Committee on the Judiciary, Committee on National Security, Committee on Resources, Committee on Science, Committee on Small Business, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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 requests.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOLEY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 1996

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 13, 1996, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 163) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1996, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 163

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Public Law 104-99 is amended by striking out "March 15, 1996" in sections 106(c), 112, 126(c), 202(c) and 214 and inserting in lieu thereof "March 22, 1996", and by inserting in section 101(a) after "The Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996" the following " , H.R. 1977", and by inserting in section 101(a) after "The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996" the following " , H.R. 2127", and that Public Law 104-92 is amended by striking out "March 15, 1996" in section 106(c) and inserting in lieu thereof "March 22, 1996".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 13, 1996, the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON] and the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] will each be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON].

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Joint Resolution 163 and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. LIVINGSTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, the joint resolution before the House would