

then the Democrat controlled Congress shot that idea down. But Big Government's biggest supporter did not stop there.

The President raised taxes by \$260 billion and used the money to increase spending. He vetoed the Republican balanced budget plan, the only realistic plan that achieved a balanced budget. Now he wants to raise taxes by \$8 billion so he can spend more money on such important Government initiatives as step aerobics, massage schools, and helping kids in other countries learn how to measure rainwater.

Mr. Speaker, the era of Big Government may be coming to an end, but with this \$8 billion pork barrel package, the President has made it clear he is going down fighting.

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR EDUCATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE

(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, yesterday 27 House Republicans sent a letter to Chairman LIVINGSTON asking that the House include additional funds for education. I want to commend our Republican colleagues who believe, as I do, that these massive cuts in education will affect the future of our children.

Education is not a waste. It is not pork. And our young people are not expendable resources. On the contrary, education is the key to our children's future and the key to our country's future success. Cutting our commitment to education is the equivalent of declaring war on ourselves. One need only look at our world competitors and see who is lengthening the school year, raising their standards and improving the product of their school system and adding money to education funding rather than cutting it.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to consider what we are doing in our education system, both in terms of funding and also the message we are sending to our Nation's children. We hear so much about providing a better future for our children and grandchildren. It is time to put our money where our mouth is.

SECRETARY O'LEARY

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, Steven Covey has the seven habits of highly effective people. Let me propose the seven habits of a highly ineffective Energy Secretary.

First, always have Madonna's jet on the runway, ready to go at any time. Second, make sure you have plenty of champagne and caviar on ice. Third, make sure you always have a five-star hotel and restaurant booked. Fourth,

always take a huge entourage with you on your trips. Remember, the more the merrier. Fifth, lavishly spend as much taxpayer money as you can on those feel-good self-help workshops.

Sixth, even if you run out of money, you can transfer money from a nuclear storage program or just furlough your employees. Seventh, if you run into any trouble, just blame Congress.

Mr. Speaker, Secretary O'Leary, the congenital flier, has some bad travel habits. It is time to revoke her free ride and end the indefensible practice of furloughing DOE workers while spending lavishly on those feel-good self-help workshops and on her personal travel budget.

MAHMOUD ABDUL-RAUF'S FREEDOM OF SPEECH

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

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, the actions of NBA basketball player, Chris Jackson, now Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf, are despicable. This superrich, NBA star should be thankful for the opportunity American free enterprise bestowed on him. Instead he refused to stand and show respect for the Stars and Stripes during the national anthem. He said he could not do so because "Old Glory" is a symbol of tyranny and oppression. He earns \$2.6 million per year—over \$31,000 per game. If that is "tyranny and oppression" there are many waiting in line to be oppressed. Now, Abdul-Rauf says he wants to move to Canada. Maybe he will be willing to pay back the cost of his education at LSU and his salary from the Denver Nuggets—all conspirators in his "tyrannical and oppressive" United States. Mr. Speaker, I lived for 6 years in a Communist regime where real tyranny and oppression existed. America is paradise. Millions of Americans have fought and died to protect Abdul Rauf's freedom of speech. If Abdul-Rauf believes the flag represents tyranny and oppression, I say let him try Iran and see if they will tolerate his disrespect and pay him millions to play basketball. When this poor "oppressed" millionaire leaves, I'll say good riddance.

THE PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW WHO TRUSTS TERRORISTS

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

Mr. BRYANT of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last Wednesday on this floor the distinguished gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HYDE] made the following statement, that he had overheard a Republican Member of this House say this, and I quote: "I trust Hamas more than I trust my own Government."

Mr. Speaker, this has to be one of the most morally reprehensible statements

I have heard ever made by any public official. For any Member of this body to say that he would trust a terrorist organization that proudly kills innocent women and children more than he trusts his own Government has no right to be a part of this Government.

I respect Mr. HYDE'S disgust at that statement. I share that disgust. I would like to further request that Mr. HYDE let the American people know who this Member of Congress is. The people of this country have a right to know who in this body is willing to say he respects and trusts a terrorist organization more than his own Government.

THE PRESIDENT HAS THE SAME OLD REMEDIES ON THE BUDGET

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

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, today the Clinton administration introduced its budget for 1997. I'm sure that liberals all across Washington are pleased to see more taxes, more money for the Federal bureaucracy, and more of the status quo.

The rest of America, I suspect, will not be as enthusiastic. Bill Clinton has no plan to save Medicare, he has no plan to reform welfare, and he offers the same old big government remedies that have failed for the last generation.

Mr. Speaker, just a few weeks ago, Bill Clinton asked Congress to give him \$8 billion in additional spending for his liberal constituencies. Now, he is asking for billions and billions more. today, the national debt stands at 5 trillion, 35 billion, and 165 million dollars. It's time for Bill Clinton to stop playing political games with our children's future. Clinton's new budget offers crystal clear proof that there is no reason to believe that he wants to balance the budget.

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR

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

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, 5 years ago the United States fought a war in the Persian Gulf to safeguard our access to a plentiful supply of crude oil in the Middle East. In 1991, the United States had a lot at stake in the Persian Gulf, and since then not much has changed. This country must make it a top priority to protect its access to a plentiful supply of crude oil—which is why we went to war in the first place. This Nation will fight for energy.

The gulf crisis prompted a need for dramatic changes in U.S. energy policy. Since that time, we have made some movement forward by allowing the export of crude oil in Alaska, and providing drilling and exploration incentives for offshore drilling. I applaud

my colleagues and the leaders of this country in the advancements we have made to this precious industry, but we must not stop there. We must continue to strive toward more U.S. oil and gas production and guard against the interruption of foreign supplies in the future. If we fail to recognize the dangers of an increased reliance on imported oil, this country could once again find itself in the same predicament we were in with the Middle East in 1991.

At a time when Washington is trying to balance the budget and promising ways to stimulate the economy, Congress and the leaders of this Nation must take a hard look at the domestic oil and gas industry for answers. In the end, this Nation's economy will reap the benefits of a strong domestic industry instead of suffering the consequences of our dangerous dependence on foreign oil.

PRESIDENT CLINTON SUPPORTS BIG GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, less than 3 months ago President Clinton, who brought us Goals 2000, AmeriCorps, a \$260 billion tax increase to pay for more Federal spending, a plan for Government-run health care, a \$16 billion pork-barrel stimulus package, and to cap it all off \$800 billion in new debt, stood in this room and with a straight face spoke these words: "The era of big government is over."

Well, well, well, and how is President Clinton hoping to end the era of big government today? Let us see, he is demanding, as his price to keep the Government open, \$8 billion more—that is right \$8 billion—in new big government spending.

Mr. Speaker, the President may have declared the end of an era, but that is about all he did. Now, do not get me wrong, Republicans have done their part. We have saved American taxpayers more than \$20 billion in the past year. But make sure you look beyond the words and observe the actions—Bill Clinton is big government's last line of defense, and he has got an \$8 billion plan to prove it.

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GIVE AMERICA'S CHILDREN A 21ST CENTURY EDUCATION

(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, 27 House Republicans joined Democrats and endorsed the Senate's plan to add \$2.6 billion back into education.

Many of us have been urging Speaker GINGRICH to follow the Senate's lead and restore these funds.

We welcome the support from our 27 Republican colleagues. Their letter said that education must be one of our Nation's top priorities and the Senate has taken responsible action to protect our children's future.

I agree and I can tell you that in my State of Connecticut, these cuts would be disastrous. Educators in Connecticut are staring down the barrel of a gun because they face a March 30 deadline for notifying teachers of layoffs if Federal funds are not available.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when Americans are anxious about their economic future, we should be increasing our investment in education. This crisis is entirely preventable. Let's pass a full-year budget that gives our citizens the tools they need to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

BILL CLINTON'S VIEW OF AMERICA: MORE TAXES, MORE SPENDING, MORE GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today the President is going to release his budget. Unfortunately, his view of America is more taxes, more spending, and more government.

This is a fact, it is not partisan rhetoric, and we should not be surprised. In the past 3 years President Clinton has passed the largest tax increase in history, vetoed welfare reform, not once, but twice, vetoed tax benefits for families and businesses, vetoed the first balanced budget in 26 years, and allowed Medicare to go bankrupt.

Now he simply wants \$8 billion more in new spending this year and a 4-percent increase in spending next year; all this despite his rhetoric that the era of big government is over. This President has proven he cannot manage his own bureaucracy. He has shown by his actions he is not ready to give the people of this country the ability to achieve their own American dream.

RESTORE FUNDING FOR EDUCATION

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, what the President and Democrats in Congress have been saying is that priorities, whether it be education, the environment, or protecting health care, particularly for seniors with Medicare and Medicaid, that these priorities should not be cut in these constant budget battles in this House of Representatives. That is why it is so important that we restore education funding.

The House has passed a bill that cuts education funding by \$3.3 billion, a 13-percent cut over the previous year. That is going to mean layoffs in local school districts or it is going to mean

property taxes to those school districts that want to keep educational programs that would otherwise be lost, and what we are saying is that in this budget battle education must be a priority.

The Republicans in the Senate have already voted to restore this education funding because they do not want to see the teachers laid off. They want to make sure that students in the various school districts around the country get a proper education, that class sizes do not get too large, that they are able to get textbooks, and they are able to get the things that are necessary and provided under title I funding.

The Republicans should not sacrifice education, and that is what they are doing here in this House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HUTCHINSON) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE CLERK,

Washington, DC, March 19, 1996.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on Monday, March 18th at 2:55 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits the text of a proposed agreement between the U.S. Government and the Government of the Argentine Republic Regarding the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.

With warm regards,

ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk, House of Representatives.

PROPOSED AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINE REPUBLIC CONCERNING PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 104-188)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress, pursuant to sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2153(b), (d)), the text of a proposed Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Argentine Republic Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy with accompanying annex and agreed minute. I am also pleased to