

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

transmit my written approval, authorization, and determination concerning the agreement, and the memorandum of the Director of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency with the Nuclear Proliferation Assessment Statement concerning the agreement. The joint memorandum submitted to me by the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Energy, which includes a summary of the provisions of the agreement and various other attachments, including agency views, is also enclosed.

The proposed agreement with the Argentine Republic has been negotiated in accordance with the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978 (NNPA) and as otherwise amended. In my judgment, the proposed agreement meets all statutory requirements and will advance the non-proliferation and other foreign policy interests of the United States. The agreement provides a comprehensive framework for peaceful nuclear cooperation between the United States and Argentina under appropriate conditions and controls reflecting a strong common commitment to nuclear non-proliferation goals.

The proposed new agreement will replace an existing U.S.-Argentina agreement for peaceful nuclear cooperation that entered into force on July 25, 1969, and by its terms would expire on July 25, 1999. The United States suspended cooperation with Argentina under the 1969 agreement in the late 1970's because Argentina did not satisfy a provision of section 128 of the Atomic Energy Act (added by the NNPA) that required full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards in nonnuclear weapon states such as Argentina as a condition for continued significant U.S. nuclear exports.

On December 13, 1991, Argentina, together with Brazil, the Argentine-Brazilian Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABACC) and the IAEA signed a quadrilateral agreement calling for the application of full-scope IAEA safeguards in Argentina and Brazil. This safeguards agreement was brought into force in March 1994. Resumption of cooperation would be possible under the 1969 U.S.-Argentina agreement for cooperation. However, both the United States and Argentina believe it is preferable to launch a new era of cooperation with a new agreement that reflects, among other things:

- An updating of terms and conditions to take account of intervening changes in the respective domestic legal and regulatory frameworks of the parties in the area of peaceful nuclear cooperation;
- Reciprocity in the application of the terms and conditions of cooperation between the parties; and
- Additional international non-proliferation commitments entered into by the parties since 1969.

Over the past several years Argentina has made a definitive break with

earlier ambivalent nuclear policies and has embraced wholeheartedly a series of important steps demonstrating its firm commitment to the exclusively peaceful uses of nuclear energy. In addition to its full-scope safeguards agreement with the IAEA, Argentina has made the following major non-proliferation commitments:

- It brought the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) into force for itself on January 18, 1994;
- It became a full member of the Nuclear Suppliers Group in April 1994; and
- It acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) on February 10, 1995.

Once Argentina's commitment to full-scope IAEA safeguards was clear, and in anticipation of the additional steps subsequently taken by Argentina to adopt responsible policies on nuclear non-proliferation, the United States entered into negotiations with Argentina on a new agreement for peaceful nuclear cooperation and reached an agreement on a text on September 3, 1992. Further steps to conclude the agreement were interrupted, however, by delays (not all of them attributable to Argentina) in bringing the full-scope IAEA safeguards agreement into force, and by steps, recently completed, to resolve issues relating to Argentina's eligibility under section 129 of the U.S. Atomic Energy Act to receive U.S. nuclear exports. As the agreement text initialed with Argentina in 1992 continues to satisfy current U.S. legal and policy requirements, no revision has been necessary.

The proposed new agreement with Argentina permits the transfer of technology, material, equipment (including reactors), and components for nuclear research and nuclear power production. It provides for U.S. consent rights to retransfers, enrichment, and reprocessing as required by U.S. law. It does not permit transfers of any sensitive nuclear technology, restricted data, or sensitive nuclear facilities or major critical components thereof. In the event of termination, key conditions and controls continue with respect to material and equipment subject to the agreement.

From the U.S. perspective the proposed new agreement improves on the 1969 agreement by the addition of a number of important provisions. These include the provisions for full-scope safeguards; perpetuity of safeguards; a ban on "peaceful" nuclear explosives; a right to require the return of exported nuclear items in certain circumstances; a guarantee of adequate physical protection; and a consent right to enrichment of nuclear material subject to the agreement.

I have considered the views and recommendations of the interested agencies in reviewing the proposed agreement and have determined that its performance will promote, and will not

constitute an unreasonable risk to, the common defense and security. Accordingly, I have approved the agreement and authorized its execution and urge that the Congress give it favorable consideration.

Because this agreement meets all applicable requirements of the Atomic Energy Act, as amended, for agreements for peaceful nuclear cooperation, I am transmitting it to the Congress without exempting it from any requirement contained in section 123 a. of that Act. This transmission shall constitute a submittal for purposes of both sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Atomic Energy Act. The Administration is prepared to begin immediately the consultations with the Senate Foreign Relations and House International Relations Committees as provided in section 123 b. Upon completion of the 30-day continuous session period provided for in section 123 b., the 60-day continuous session period provided for in section 123 d. shall commence.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 18, 1996.

THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

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 Appropriations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

The 1997 Budget, which I am transmitting to you with this message, builds on our strong economic record by balancing the budget in seven years while continuing to invest in the American people.

The budget cuts unnecessary and lower priority spending while protecting senior citizens, working families, and children. It reforms welfare to make work pay and provides tax relief to middle-income Americans and small business.

Three years ago, we inherited an economy that was suffering from short- and long-term problems—problems that were created or exacerbated by the economic and budgetary policies of the previous 12 years.

In the short term, economic growth was slow and job creation was weak. The budget deficit, which had first exploded in size in the early 1980s, was rising to unsustainable levels.

Over the longer term, the growth in productivity had slowed since the early 1970s and, as a result, living standards had stagnated or fallen for most Americans. At the same time, the gap between rich and poor had widened.

Over the last three years, we have put in place budgetary and other economic policies that have fundamentally changed the direction of the economy—for the better. We have produced stronger growth, lower interest rates,