

All in all, Wisconsin has the makings of a solid, bold welfare reform plan. We should get it done. I pledge that my administration will work with Wisconsin to make an effective transition to a new vision of welfare reform based on work . . .

That was Bill Clinton on May 18 talking on welfare. Today is July 10, and all we hear is silence. His 30 days are up and all we hear is the silence of another broken welfare promise.

WHY THERE WILL BE NO MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

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

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, the House and Senate have passed a minimum wage bill, but I want to let my colleagues in on a little secret. The Speaker is not going to let it become law.

Our dictator, Speaker GINGRICH, has decided that along with the majority Members of the extreme right in the Republican Party and Members of this House, that people working for minimum wage in my district and all over this Nation do not need this year an increase of 45 cents an hour.

Mr. Speaker, they are working right now today, while these Members up here are enjoying all their large incomes, et cetera. They say, Speaker GINGRICH and the extreme right Republicans say that my people should not get 45 cents an hour more. Now is that right? No, it is not right.

Why do we not have a minimum wage bill? Why? Because Speaker GINGRICH has decided that he is going to kowtow to the special interests that give large funds to their campaign funds.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. MCINNIS. Point of order, Mr. Speaker. I ask that the words of the gentleman be stricken. The gentleman called the Speaker of the House a dictator. I would ask for an interpretation of the House. The Speaker of the House is not a dictator, and I ask that the words of the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. VOLKMER] be stricken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOLEY). The Chair rules that point of order has come too late. There has been intervening debate.

DEADLINE FOR DECISION ON WISCONSIN WELFARE PLAN

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

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, today is the day. Thirty days have passed since Bill Clinton placed a self-imposed deadline to take action on Wisconsin's welfare waiver request.

Mr. Speaker, the Wisconsin welfare plan has bipartisan support in Wisconsin, and here in our Nation's Capitol.

The Wisconsin welfare plan truly ends welfare as we know it. It moves

people from welfare, to work, instilling personal responsibility, and lifting families and children out of the poverty trap.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Clinton pointed to the Wisconsin welfare plan as a model. He pledged his administration's firm and strong support for helping the people of Wisconsin move from welfare to work. He said and I quote, "We should get this done."

Last year, Bill Clinton promised to sign waivers within 30 days. Well, the 30 days are up, and all we hear from the White House is the sound of another broken promise.

Mr. Speaker, this is just another example of Bill Clinton saying one thing and doing another.

MAJORITY NEEDS TO GET ITS MATH RIGHT

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, when it comes to investing in our children's education, the new majority must need a refresher course in basis math because their numbers just do not add up. While school enrollment is expected to grow by 7 percent by 2002, the new majority is proposing a cut in education by 7 percent below 1995 levels.

This means that our schools, as they get more crowded, our teachers will be taking on more and our students will be receiving less; less help in fighting drugs and violence, less help in raising learning standards; and less help in basic reading and math.

Mr. Speaker, this is not the way to take care of our children. It is time for the new majority to get its math right. It is time for a budget that gives our children the tools they need to succeed in the next century.

THE NATURAL DISASTER PROTECTION PARTNERSHIP ACT

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the East Coast is currently being battered by Hurricane Bertha. As we all know, such disasters can occur at any time. The Midwest has been hit by floods in the past. The West Coast has been hit by natural disasters. Since Hurricane Hugo in 1989, the Federal Government has paid out over \$67 billion on disaster relief. Insurance companies have also paid out over \$33 billion since 1989.

But now, Mr. Speaker, we have a bill that will help out. It is called the Natural Disaster Protection Partnership Act. It forges together Government and private entities to provide geographic areas insurance protection.

This legislation will reduce cost and physical damage from natural disasters by requiring States to adopt improved enforcement of model building codes,

and would also provide a grant program, financed by the private sector, to provide badly needed resources to implement preparation and loss reduction strategies.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, we should all support this initiative.

SENATE SHOULD FREE THE MINIMUM WAGE

(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, it is day 2 and the Republican Senate continues to hold the minimum wage hostage. The Republicans are demanding that Medical Savings Accounts be added to health care reform as ransom for its release. MSA's—the Republican payoff to special interests and big donor insurance companies. The same MSA's that Consumers Union has called a time bomb * * * that will make health insurance less accessible and less affordable for many Americans.

Over 80 percent of the American people support a minimum wage increase. Today's LA Times editorial page says:

An increase in the minimum wage is long overdue. What is clearly resolved in the minds of most Americans . . . is that they want to see work encouraged and appropriately compensated.

But the Republicans would rather hold this legislation hostage to special interests.

I say enough is enough. For the sake of hard-working American families across this country—the Republicans in the Senate must give up their unreasonable demands and free the minimum wage.

PERSONAL ATTACKS Demean THE HOUSE

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

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Speaker, I was going to speak this morning on health insurance, but based on the comments of the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. VOLKMER], I think what we ought to do is take another look at ourselves.

We accomplish nothing, we demean the House, we demean each one of us when we use such words as were used by the gentleman from Missouri. I would just tell my colleagues, as a freshman Member of this House, that we do not do anything positive for our country, for our future generations, or for ourselves by vicious personal attacks.

To name someone a dictator is both inappropriate and demeaning to the House. My words would be that we should look at that and say, what are we doing when we do that? We have not put forward anything positive for anybody in terms of our districts, in terms of the American public, by doing so. I would just hope that we would follow

an example different than that as we talk in the 1-minutes in the morning.

EDUCATION: THE KEY TO THE AMERICAN DREAM

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

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately today I think my Republican colleagues just do not get it. The fact is that education is the key to the American dream and the key to global competitiveness, but American students are falling behind their foreign counterparts. Enrollment is increasing by 7 percent over the next 6 years, but the Republicans are cutting the budget by 7 percent below 1995 levels. That will not enable us to meet the American Dream.

Let us look at the cuts. They are cutting math and reading assistance for 150,000 disadvantaged students. They are cutting local education assistance by \$350 million under the Goals 2000 Program. They cut 15,000 disadvantaged students out of the Head Start Program.

They claim they want to fight drugs, but they cut \$25 million out of the Safe and Drug Free Schools Program. They say they want technological advances, but they cut \$277 million out of technology programs for schools. They say they want advanced higher education, but they cut direct student loans.

Let us give education the priority it deserves.

TIME TO STOP THE FAKE ADS

(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, if the people do not wake up, they may have the best labor-union Congress money can buy. The AFL-CIO is doing the dirty work of the liberal Democrats in Congress and of Bill Clinton.

In North Carolina, a right-to-work State, union ads falsely charged that I voted to give myself a congressional pay raise. Of course I just arrived in Congress in 1995, not in 1989, when the last pay raise was voted on.

Next, the right arm of the Democrat National Committee, the AFL-CIO, put ads on the air in Raleigh-Durham saying that my name was Randy, not David. That would be news to my parents.

Then a colleague called me from Nebraska saying that the AFL-CIO attack ad on minimum wage was being shown on television in Omaha, NE, attacking DAVID FUNDERBURK of the Second District of North Carolina. Admittedly, Nebraska starts with "N" like North Carolina, but that is where the similarity ends. And our "Randy" in Congress is from Washington State.

The big boss labor unions of the Democrat party are spending tens of mil-

lions to lie, distort and deceive the public so they can buy back a left-wing, union-controlled Congress. It is time to stop the mud and false ads.

REPUBLICANS TARGET EDUCATION AGAIN

(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, I appreciate my colleague from North Carolina when he asks to stop the slinging of the mud on the one hand, and not the other.

But, Mr. Speaker, let me talk about education this morning. Did we learn anything last year in Congress? Maybe we need to do more homework on our own. The American people overwhelmingly rejected education cuts last year, and they still do. But the Republicans want to deny education services to hundreds of thousands of children with the bill we have today.

The Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill cuts education funding \$2.6 billion below the level needed to keep up with inflation. Overall education will be cut below fiscal year 1995 levels at the same time school enrollment is going up 7 percent. Education reform funding and Eisenhower teacher training grants are being eliminated. The Republican bill provides \$475 million less in title I funding for disadvantaged children than the administration requested.

It is time for the Republicans to listen to the American people and provide the funds for education. It is America's future we are talking about.

AMERICA'S CHILDREN DESERVE BETTER

(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, while continuing to fund his pet projects around the world, President Clinton has turned his back on the Nation's fight against drugs.

For 3 years this President has made severe staff cuts to drug enforcement agencies, and, of course, drug use among children has skyrocketed. Among 12- and 13-year-olds alone marijuana use has increased 137 percent. One reason is because Mexican drug smugglers have invaded and taken over the Texas border, allowing them to bring marijuana, cocaine, and heroin into our country and to our children at will.

Even the President's drug czar admits we have lost control of the border. President Clinton gave \$20 billion to bail out Mexico, but now when we need to protect our own citizens against Mexican drug lords he says wait.

Mr. Speaker, America's children deserve better.

RESTORE EDUCATION CUTS TO RENEW THE AMERICAN DREAM

(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, today the Republicans once again rush to act as the demolition team for the American dream, as they are putting on their jerseys and getting ready to rush out there and unilaterally disarm our children as they prepare to move into the global competitive economy they are going to face in the 21st century. Yes, the Republicans are eagerly awaiting their ability to slash away at education funding.

I personally believe there is no better investment in our future than making sure every American child has a world-class education. I am ashamed when we are willing to add billions for prisons and slash away at education so that America's kids are going to be left holding the debt and no way to pay it off. This is shameful.

I hope everyone today votes for the Obey amendment, which will try to restore these cuts and put America back on line, following the American dream we were all able to follow.

THE CLINTON YEARS: NO END TO WELFARE AS WE KNOW IT

(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, Americans have spent more than \$5 trillion trying to end poverty—but throwing more of our Nation's hard-earned tax dollars at the failed programs of the 1960's is not the answer.

Remember in 1992, President Clinton campaigned on the promise to end welfare as we know it. Well, last year, when this Congress sent him a true welfare reform initiative, he vetoed it.

Then, on May 18, the President reaffirmed his desire for reform, by endorsing the welfare initiatives proposed by Wisconsin Governor Thompson.

In fact, President Clinton said, "Welfare does not have to be a partisan issue. Wisconsin has the makings of a solid, bold plan, and we should get it done."

Well, this Congress, has gotten it done. The waivers that Wisconsin needs to implement its program have been sitting on the President's desk for weeks, waiting for his approval.

Eighteen other States are also waiting for waivers to curb poverty in their communities. And according to HHS, they will wait at least 210 days, just for the initial review.

Mr. Speaker, the President has gotten one thing right about welfare reform—it shouldn't be about politics. This Congress believes it should be about giving people a hand-up, and the American people agree with us. It's