

That is the same thing President Clinton and AL GORE said in their book, "Putting People First."

So all this criticism on the Speaker, on his "withering on the vine," comment, is hypocritical. President Clinton said the same thing about the Health Care Financing Administration. In both cases, no one was talking about Medicare. Think about it.

SUPPORT THE CASTLE-TANNER WELFARE REFORM BILL

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

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, some in Congress have demonized the poor, that they have become the poster children for all that is wrong in America. They have convinced the American people that the welfare mothers and their children have caused a great debt that our Nation has acquired. They have now made the new Joan of Arc out of the teenaged mothers.

Just last week, what do they want to do when they say teenaged children are having children? The President asks for \$30 million, and they did not give one cent. They would rather spend \$6.4 billion after the child has a child. Yet, this week, what do we do for children? If you have a child, we are going to make sure we take your children off of welfare. We will teach the teenaged mother you must not do this, but when we have a chance to make a difference in their lives we do absolutely nothing.

H.R. 3734 is a mean way to reform. Yes, we need reform, and certainly the Castle-Tanner bill is a better way to reform, not the bill that is going to be introduced. This is antichildren, anti the poor. We should do better in this Nation, rather than to demonize the most vulnerable of our Nation.

PRESIDENT SUCCUMBS TO INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE

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

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton yesterday once again succumbed to international pressure, this time by suspending part of the important sanctions on the Castro dictatorship that 80 percent of this Congress voted for just a few months ago after Castro killed four Americans over international waters. Incredibly, the President who vetoed tort reform, citing the rights of Americans to sue Americans, yesterday took away the right of Americans to sue foreigners who traffic in property stolen by those foreigners from Americans.

President Clinton showed once again what pressure can get you during this American presidency if you are an enemy of the United States. The North Koreans got billions of United States taxpayer dollars by saying that they

would otherwise build nuclear powerplants. Iraq was allowed to sell billions of dollars of oil again. Iran was invited into Bosnia. Mr. Speaker, despite the collapse of the Soviet Union, a weak, indecisive White House such as the current one is hazardous to the safety of the Nation.

REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM MEASURE WILL WORSEN OUT-OF-CONTROL CAMPAIGN SPENDING

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

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, this week has been trumpeted as the great Republican reform week. But now, as we begin debate on these so-called reforms, what is the Republican leadership really thrusting on us this week?

The only bill the Republican leadership is offering is a so-called campaign finance bill—a measure designed to make out-of-control campaign spending even worse.

The Republican bill nearly triples the limits on both individual contributions and PAC contributions. And under the Republican plan, a wealthy family of four would now be able to contribute millions and millions of dollars during a 2-year election cycle.

Mr. Speaker, this is not reform. Instead of putting the brakes on this campaign spending train, the Republicans are finding new ways to add fuel to the fire.

The Republican leadership once again has ignored the pleas of the people and is focused on helping the fat cats and the special interests that own them.

The Republican leadership has once again gone too far. Extremism, not accomplishment, is the name of their game.

PRESIDENT MUST HONOR HIS COMMITMENT AND SIGN WELFARE REFORM MEASURE

(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, on May 18 during his weekly radio address, President Bill Clinton said the following: "There are bipartisan welfare reform plans sitting in the House and the Senate. They require welfare recipients to work, they limit the time people can stay on welfare, they toughen child support enforcement, and they protect our children. So I say to Congress, send me a bill that honors these fundamental principles. I will sign it right away."

Mr. Speaker, the time has come for President Clinton to keep the commitments he makes to this institution. He has repeatedly misled this body into believing he wants to reform welfare. The time has come to either put up or shut up. This week the House will con-

sider the very same welfare reform measure President Clinton said he would sign. For the future of this country, for all the young men and women caught in the endless cycle of poverty and dependency, for all the children who need strong families and safe neighborhoods, I hope that the President honors his word.

URGING BIPARTISAN SUPPORT OF CASTLE-TANNER WELFARE REFORM BILL

(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, the Speaker has proclaimed this week reform week, and primary among those reforms for all of us will be welfare reform. I urge my colleagues this morning to join in a bipartisan effort, and support the Castle-Tanner bill.

This is legislation that will successfully put people to work, will protect our children, and in particular, provide health care for those low-income children who are essential to our future growth. This bill will provide State flexibility. It will require maintenance of effort, but it will encourage and reward States that achieve that. In times of economic downturn, it will allow flexibility for States to meet those needs. Most important, Castle-Tanner does not raise taxes on low-income working people.

Mr. Speaker, I urge us to continue to work together to produce a bill the President can sign. I am proud to have worked on the Castle-Tanner bill. It does achieve needed reforms, and I urge my colleagues, all of them, to support this effort.

□ 1030

REFORM WEEK

(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, for months the Republican leadership has been heralding their upcoming reform week. Well—reform week is here but it's looking a lot more like weak reform. What was once a big buildup has become a quiet shutdown.

Not much talk about reform this week. Mostly because the Republican campaign finance reform legislation doesn't actually reform the system but makes it worse. But don't take my word for it—take the words of 10 of my Republican colleagues whose "Dear Colleague" letter reads—and I quote—"Instead of leveling the playing field in elections, this bill will result in greater incumbent protection. The bill actually increases the amounts that wealthy individuals can contribute in Federal elections."

That's right. Under current law an individual can give \$25,000. Under the

Republican campaign finance reform bill an individual will be able to give up to \$3.1 million. As my Republican colleagues also said, "The average American will be left even further behind in the Washington money chase as they are frozen out of the political process." I urge my Republican colleagues to listen to their own caucus members and vote against this weak reform legislation.

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

Mr. LIGHTFOOT. 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 Agriculture, Committee on Commerce, Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Committee on International Relations, Committee on the Judiciary, Committee on National Security, Committee on Resources, Committee on Small Business, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and 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. NEY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa?

There was no objection.

TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE, AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 475 and rule XXIII the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 3756.

□ 1033

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3756) making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the U.S. Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain independent agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes, with Mr. DREIER in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Tuesday, July 16, 1996, amendment No. 3 printed in part 2 of House Report 104-671 offered by the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. GUTKNECHT] had been disposed of.

Pursuant to the order of the House of that day, the bill is considered as read.

The text of the remainder of the bill is as follows:

TITLE II—POSTAL SERVICE

PAYMENTS TO THE POSTAL SERVICE

PAYMENT TO THE POSTAL SERVICE FUND

For payment to the Postal Service Fund for revenue forgone on free and reduced rate mail, pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of section 2401 of title 39, United States Code, \$85,080,000: *Provided*, That mail for overseas voting and mail for the blind shall continue to be free: *Provided further*, That 6-day delivery and rural delivery of mail shall continue at not less than the 1983 level: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Postal Service by this Act shall be used to implement any rule, regulation, or policy of charging any officer or employee of any State or local child support enforcement agency, or any individual participating in a State or local program of child support enforcement, a fee for information requested or provided concerning an address of a postal customer: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this Act shall be used to consolidate or close small rural and other small post offices in the fiscal year ending on September 30, 1997.

TITLE III—EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

COMPENSATION OF THE PRESIDENT AND

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

COMPENSATION OF THE PRESIDENT

For compensation of the President, including an expense allowance at the rate of \$50,000 per annum as authorized by 3 U.S.C. 102, \$250,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available for official expenses shall be expended for any other purpose and any unused amount shall revert to the Treasury pursuant to section 1552 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available for official expenses shall be considered as taxable to the President.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the White House as authorized by law, including not to exceed \$3,850,000 for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 105; including subsistence expenses as authorized by 3 U.S.C. 105, which shall be expended and accounted for as provided in that section; hire of passenger motor vehicles, newspapers, periodicals, teletype news service, and travel (not to exceed \$100,000 to be expended and accounted for as provided by 3 U.S.C. 103); not to exceed \$19,000 for official entertainment expenses, to be available for allocation within the Executive Office of the President; \$40,193,000: *Provided*, That \$420,000 of the funds appropriated may not be obligated until the Director of the Office of Administration has submitted, and the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate have approved, a report that identifies, evaluates, and prioritizes all computer systems investments planned for fiscal year 1997, a milestone schedule for the development and implementation of all projects included in the systems investment plan, and a systems architecture plan.

EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE AT THE WHITE HOUSE

OPERATING EXPENSES

For the care, maintenance, repair and alteration, refurbishing, improvement, heating and lighting, including electric power and fixtures, of the Executive Residence at the White House and official entertainment expenses of the President, \$7,827,000, to be expended and accounted for as provided by 3 U.S.C. 105, 109-110, 112-114.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to enable the Vice President to provide assistance to the President in connection with specially assigned functions, services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 106, including subsistence expenses as authorized by 3 U.S.C. 106, which shall be expended and accounted for as provided in that section; and hire of passenger motor vehicles; \$3,280,000: *Provided*, That \$150,000 of the funds appropriated may not be obligated until the Director of the Office of Administration has submitted, and the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate have approved, a report that identifies, evaluates, and prioritizes all computer systems investments planned for fiscal year 1997, a milestone schedule for the development and implementation of all projects included in the systems investment plan, and a systems architecture plan.

OPERATING EXPENSES

For the care, operation, refurbishing, improvement, heating and lighting, including electric power and fixtures, of the official residence of the Vice President, the hire of passenger motor vehicles, and not to exceed \$90,000 for official entertainment expenses of the Vice President, to be accounted for solely on his certificate; \$324,000: *Provided*, That advances or repayments or transfers from this appropriation may be made to any department or agency for expenses of carrying out such activities: *Provided further*, That \$8,000 of the funds appropriated may not be obligated until the Director of the Office of Administration has submitted for approval to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate a report that identifies, evaluates, and prioritizes all computer systems investments planned for fiscal year 1997, a milestone schedule for the development and implementation of all projects included in the systems investment plan, and a systems architecture plan.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Council in carrying out its functions under the Employment Act of 1946 (15 U.S.C. 1021), \$3,439,000.

OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Policy Development, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, and 3 U.S.C. 107; \$3,867,000: *Provided*, That \$45,000 of the funds appropriated may not be obligated until the Director of the Office of Administration has submitted, and the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate have approved, a report that identifies, evaluates, and prioritizes all computer systems investments planned for fiscal year 1997, a milestone schedule for the development and implementation of all projects included in the systems investment plan, and a systems architecture plan.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the National Security Council, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$6,648,000: *Provided*, That \$3,000 of the funds appropriated may not be obligated until the Director of the Office of Administration has submitted, and the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate have approved, a report that identifies, evaluates, and prioritizes all computer systems investments planned for fiscal year 1997, a milestone schedule for the development and implementation of all