

what they decide to do is furlough the workers and pay them; and that is what has been going on for the last 19 days. We have furloughed the workers and we have paid them, and it has cost us \$40 million a day for 19 days, three-quarters of a billion dollars, by those people who have promised us to run government like a business.

Let us see what we have done with \$40 billion, \$80 billion, \$120 billion, \$160 billion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

The Member is reminded that he should make his point with his speech rather than using props that are demeaning to the proceedings of the House.

BALANCE THE BUDGET IN 7 YEARS

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I watched with interest the befuddled stage business just preceding me in the well of this House, and as my good friend from Florida was flummoxed trying to make an argument for fiscal conservatism, it bears out the point that for the last 40 years, those proponents of tax-and-spend and spend-some-more will do anything to change the subject.

Mr. Speaker, the mission is clear: Balance the budget in 7 years using the honest, nonpartisan numbers of the Congressional Budget Office. Sure, the liberals will try to change the subject. Sure, they will try to act as if they are born-again fiscal conservatives, but just as that flummoxed piece of stage crap indicates, it will not wash.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

(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, enough is enough—that is what the majority leader of the other body said yesterday about the game of political blackmail being played by the Republican Party.

The President, Democrats, and responsible Republicans all agree that it is time to end the Government shutdown and allow Federal employees to go back to work. It is time for Speaker GINGRICH and the right-wing extremists in the House of Representatives to release these 260,000 political prisoners.

Federal employees should not have to pay for the failings of Congress. That is why I am reimbursing the U.S. Treasury for my salary for every day of the shutdown. If Federal workers are not being paid, neither should Members of Congress.

"I think we've made our point," said the Senate majority leader about the Republican shutdown. But, sadly, the only point that Republicans are mak-

ing by shutting down the Government is that they are unfit to lead.

PUT BLAME WHERE IT BELONGS

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

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, the time has long passed when we should have balanced our budget. The last speaker is absolutely right, enough is enough. I do not see any sense in what is happening.

At the White House, the President has refused consistently to live up to his agreement to balance the budget in 7 years with CBO numbers. All he sent us is a budget that is \$200 billion a year out of balance. It is time we get to it.

The House Republicans have pledged to put everything on the table, to discuss everything, but we cannot get meaningful discussions with the White House.

Let us put the blame where it belongs. Let us put the pressure where it belongs. Mr. President, enough is enough.

NO POLITICAL TOUCHDOWNS

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

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, if the Congress were a New Year's bowl game, then the legislative Heisman Trophy has to go to House Republican new Members for most successful tackles of a Federal Government: 19 days so far.

No one is scoring political touchdowns in this, Mr. Speaker. The public is throwing the yellow flag on all of our Houses, including this one.

My constituents have gone from expressing general frustration to specific anger. They are asking about the thousands of passports that are not being processed, the private vendors who are not being paid, the 2,500 housing loans a day not being processed, the \$40 million a day of small business loan guarantees not being processed, millions of dollars a day in export licenses not being issued.

One Federal supervisor in Charleston told me, BOB, we run complex operations. You cannot turn us on and off like a switch. A Federal fraud investigator reminded me that he cannot be ferreting out millions of dollars in fraud from a furloughed status.

Mr. Speaker, while the budget negotiators do their work, this House should let hundreds of thousands of Federal workers do their work. Please end this shutdown now.

LET US STAND FOR A BALANCED BUDGET

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, there are really two reasons why we need to balance the budget. The first one is that the interest is the third largest expenditure in the national budget each year.

In 2 years we will be paying the bondholders on our national debt more money than we pay for our entire Defense Department. We pay \$20 billion each month to the bondholders on our national debt, \$20 billion that could be spent on education, on health care, Medicare, Medicaid, whatever you want; \$20 billion is absolutely gone except for going into the pockets of bondholders; and that debt, ladies and gentlemen, is going to be passed back to the children of America.

The second reason is, we want to balance the budget. If we do, we can reduce interest rates. Lower interest rates mean businesses can expand. More jobs will be created, more opportunities; home mortgages will go down, automobile payments each month will go down. It is prosperity that we have to gain.

I, Mr. Speaker, stand for a balanced budget and I wish that every Member of the House would do the same.

MORE JOBS LOST FOR AMERICANS

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, AT&T just laid off 40,000 American workers. AT&T laid off 40,000 American workers, another 40,000 folks. In case you have not heard, because I know you care, another 40,000 American workers are laid off. But Uncle Sam keeps saying, do not worry, because NAFTA and GATT are going to replace those jobs with high-technology jobs.

Right. The only high-technology job I see is that new Slurpee machine at 7-Eleven. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker.

What about a Happy New Year in Basking Ridge, NJ? They lost 7,000 jobs in 1 day. Neither party will balance this budget on minimum wage jobs. Neither party has a program. The country absolutely needs a third party to do something about jobs. If there is any consolation, Mr. Speaker, I never heard of anybody committing suicide by jumping out of a basement window, and that is about the only tenement our people will live in after we keep losing jobs.

VOTE TO DEFEND AMERICA

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

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, to follow my friend, it is true that this is the first President who sent our jobs to Mexico, our troops to Bosnia, and our balanced budget to the White House trash can.

He has done something else, Mr. Speaker, and that is to veto the defense authorization bill; and the reason

the President vetoed the defense authorization bill is because we say in that bill, we shall defend America against ICBM's and have that system in place by the year 2003. The President refuses to defend this country while Iraq, Libya, China, and others hurry up and accelerate their programs on offensive missiles.

Defend America. Vote to override the President's veto today.

AMERICAN TAXPAYERS ARE BEING CHEATED

(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, it appears that self-styled Republican revolutionaries believe that the end justifies the means. Somehow they have this notion that these Federal workers are the President's Federal workers, or they are the Democrats' Federal workers. Sorry, fellows. They are the taxpayers' Federal workers, and the taxpayers are being cheated because of your shut-down.

They are being cheated because small businesses cannot get their loans processed through the SBA. They are being cheated because small businesses cannot bid on contracts because the contract offices are closed. They are being cheated because toxic waste cleanup is not proceeding. They are being cheated because student loan applications are not being processed. They are being cheated because FHA home mortgage applications are not being processed.

And then they go on and abuse the Federal workers: No checks for the Federal workers. That means no mortgage payments, no utility payments, and, sometimes, no food on the table.

There is one thing wrong with these self-styled revolutionaries. Someone told them that the end justifies the means, and they do not care who they hurt.

In this case, they hurt the taxpayer and they hurt our Federal workers, and that is a shame, Mr. Speaker.

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REPUBLICANS HAVE MET BALANCED BUDGET CHALLENGE

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

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I remember, and I think the American people remember, that last year when we Republicans tried to pass a balanced budget amendment, we were defeated because the Democrats claimed, "Oh, my goodness, you don't need a balanced budget amendment, you don't need to amend the Constitution, just present a balanced budget. Why do you have to amend the Constitution?"

OK, we met the challenge. The Republicans came up with a balanced

budget. And the very same Democrats who voted against the balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, claiming we should just do it here legislatively, are now opposing our balanced budget.

For 4 years we have heard this President claim to be a new Democrat. In fact, 4 years ago he was running on a campaign motto of being someone who was going to end welfare as we know it and would balance the budget. Now, after 4 years of rhetoric, we have come to where he cannot dodge anymore.

The fact is we have laid upon the table a balanced budget. He claims to have been in favor of the balanced budget. I hope the American people remember that, too. But when the Republicans lay their alternative out, the President refuses to lay out his alternative, and that is the reason the Government is shut down today.

DEMAND FOR A CONTINUING RESOLUTION

(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, first let me offer my deepest sympathy to the Fazio family and offer our love.

A tragedy occurred today in this House, however. One Nation under God, indivisible, and with liberty and justice for all, we stood and pledged allegiance to the U.S. flag. This is supposed to be a nation that protects working Americans, working people.

But yesterday in my community a Government worker performing essential services in the veterans hospital received for her 80 hours of work a \$5 salary check. That is right, Mr. Speaker, \$5 for 80 hours of work, a working parent with children, trying to survive, and yet she is there nurturing our veterans of war without getting compensated.

The Republicans refuse to put on the floor today a continuing resolution to open the doors of Government and pay these workers to provide the services that the taxpayers of America have asked them to provide. That is all we request, Mr. Speaker, and I demand that we put on this floor a continuing resolution to open this Government today. It is a disgrace on this House's ability to govern. Pass the Dole proposal to open this Government now.

SUNDRY MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sundry messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Mr. Edwin Thomas, one of his secretaries.

AMERICA NEEDS A BALANCED BUDGET

(Mr. ROYCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I just want to take a minute, as we commence the second session of the 104th Congress, to focus on the necessity of reaching the goal of a balanced Federal budget.

Four years from now we will enter upon the third millennium and the 225th year of our Nation and, ironically, although the American revolution was mostly about taxes, an American child born today will inherit a tax bill of \$186,000 just to cover his or her share of the interest on the national debt. That is the direct per capita cost of financing \$5 trillion. That is not the cost of paying it off. That is that child's cost in taxes during his or her lifetime.

That is not the only cost of this enormous debt. That same child born today will have to pay higher monthly mortgage payments, higher car payments, higher college loan payments, all because of a \$5 trillion debt. That is because the Federal Government will be sopping up over half of the available credit in the markets as it continually refinances the debt, causing interest rates to remain arbitrarily high.

GO DOWN, MR. PRESIDENT, WAY DOWN TO CONGRESSLAND

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, day 19—and the U.S. Government is still closed, held captive. Forty million dollars a day—down the drain, wasted—almost \$800 million. All this the Republicans say, in the name of fiscal conservatism. More than a quarter of a million Government employees at home, waiting to work and wanting to work. Still thousands of others on the job, not getting paid.

The Ayatollahs of the right continue to hold the U.S. Government hostage to their radical demands. Do it our way they say—cut Medicare, gut Medicaid, slash education and student loans, attack our environment—or we will keep the Government shut.

People unable to pay their mortgages, their car loans, their children's education bills, Government contractors unable to work, business people unable to get passports to conduct business abroad. None of this matters to the mullahs of the Republican right. They are not affected, they are constitutional officers, not Government employees.

So I say here today, go down, Mr. President, way down to congressland, tell NEWT GINGRICH to let our Government go. The American people will not give in to Republican blackmail and hostage taking.

REPUBLICANS WILL BALANCE THE BUDGET

(Mr. COX of California asked and was given permission to address the House