

Federal spending has almost tripled in the last 15 years.

One agency that we have supposedly gutted is the EPA, yet their spending has doubled in the last 10 years.

Very few people out in the country, in the private sector, have had their salaries doubled or tripled in the last 10 or 15 years.

So when people hear these crocodile tears coming out of Washington, or they read some misleading report about a cut, they should ask what that agency was getting 10 years ago, all years of very low inflation.

And they should remember that Federal spending goes way up every year under the 7-year budget passed by the House.

EVERY DAY OF SHUTDOWN COSTS APPROXIMATELY \$50 MILLION

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

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, on day 20 of the longest Government shutdown in history, once again yesterday the Republican majority refused to open the Government. This is a cruel, unnecessary hardship. There is not a businessowner in this country who would demand that his or her employees cease working and forgo their paychecks indefinitely. There is not a private employee in this country who would be expected to tolerate such treatment. Yet our Federal workers are forced to accept idleness or to work without pay.

Meanwhile, taxpayers are also paying an unfair price. Who is eliminating health and safety violations while OSHA is closed? Who is making sure laid-off workers are going to get the compensation they paid into? Who is looking out for the integrity of worker pension plans? In a word—nobody.

But everybody—every taxpayer—will be footing the bill for this fiasco. Every day of shutdown costs approximately \$50 million. Talk about Government waste.

This situation is wrong. I urge my colleagues, pass legislation to open the Government.

THE 104TH CONGRESS WILL BALANCE THE BUDGET

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I entered politics because I thought I could make a difference. As a Republican, as a proponent of a balanced budget, and as a Member of the 104th Congress, I truly feel that I have, in a small way, made a positive difference. I am very confident that in the coming days America will have a balanced budget—something the American people have demanded for many, many years.

Now, let me say that I truly feel sorry for those who are unfairly caught up in the middle of this partial Government shutdown. But, let me also add that I would feel even more shame and sorrow if we failed to discipline our Government.

We must, as a government, as leaders, think of the future and think also of our children. We must balance the budget and restore the ethic of living within our means.

This 104th Congress has made a difference and we will balance the budget.

GIVE CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in defense of the freshmen House Republicans. They have been unfairly maligned. Blaming them for this Government shutdown is like blaming the followers of the Pied Piper for being mesmerized by him. They voted with Speaker GINGRICH 92.3 percent of the time in 1995. Marching in lockstep with him is the only step that they know. No, we should give credit where credit is due. Speaker GINGRICH is individually as responsible for this shutdown as he was for the cry-baby shutdown in November. He could end personally this shutdown in 15 minutes this morning if he would simply put Republican BOB DOLE's resolution here for a vote.

Mr. Speaker, I believe there would be bipartisan support for it from almost every member of the Democratic caucus and some of the Republicans, but instead of letting people of moderation, of good will, work together to end this shutdown and the \$40 million a day that it costs the American taxpayer, they are asking that the Speaker be given extraordinary power to recess this body until January 23. That is simply fanaticism run amok in this body.

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

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

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, I was prepared for almost anything when I came to Washington 1 year ago today, but I never thought that I would spend my time defending my constituents in an all out war being waged against them by President Clinton. First, Bill Clinton decides to send \$40 billion to bail out Mexico, while our national debt stands at \$4.9 trillion and of course he does not want to balance the budget. This is a slap in the face of the workers in my district, who have already lost jobs that moved to Mexico as a result of NAFTA. Then the President and his FDA decided to attack the small tobacco farmers in my district, who struggle from year to year just to make ends meet. These are the people who provide the jobs, pay the taxes, and fight our wars. Clinton liberals are

using tobacco as a politically correct shipping boy while a member of his administration called for the legalization of cocaine. Now, Mr. Clinton in a desperate attempt to salvage his reelection, is sending young men and women from my district to Bosnia. Many casualties are the likely result, and for what American national security interest? Mr. Speaker, I have a New Year's resolution for Bill Clinton; stop waging war against the citizens of the Second District of North Carolina.

LAYOFFS AND GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN: JUST THE BEGINNING OF A TWO-PRONGED ATTACK ON THE AMERICAN MIDDLE CLASS

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, AT&T lays off 40,000 employees at a time when profits have never been better. The Republican Congress furloughs 260,000 Federal workers for no reason other than to use them as human shields in the GOP jihad to provide tax cuts to companies like AT&T.

This, Mr. Speaker, is just the beginning of a two-pronged attack on the American middle class. Daily, I get calls from constituents wondering why they cannot go back to work while negotiations over the budget continue. Even BOB DOLE has said enough is enough and that Federal workers should return to work.

However, our noble Speaker of the House, whose behavior resembles that of the King of Prussia, insists on keeping Federal workers off the job until the President goes along with his attack on Medicare. Mr. Speaker, BOB DOLE is right, enough is enough.

REPUBLICANS ARE WINNING AND ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE ON THE BALANCED BUDGET

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

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, it has been an honor and a privilege to serve the people of Georgia in Congress this past year. I truly feel that we have changed the way Congress and Washington operate. It is no longer business as usual and status quo. This past year has been long. It has been arduous, and obviously the work continues as we try to make sure the President honors his commitment to balance the budget in 7 years. But I am proud to say that we are winning. This 104th Congress has totally changed the terms of political debate. It is no longer should we balance the budget, it is now a matter of how soon we get the President to keep his word to balance the budget. It is no longer should we make government smaller, it is now a matter of how small.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans are making a difference. We have stood firm for

real change, and we will not back out of our commitment to do the right thing and balance the budget.

IF THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT WORKING THEN AT LEAST THE CONGRESS SHOULD BE

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

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, this is day 20 of the partial Government shutdown.

Yesterday the Eastern Panhandle Social Service Agency called to tell me the first Federal worker was facing eviction. Another Federal worker told me yesterday that his mortgage company would not accept even partial payment for his mortgage. Today I have contacted the West Virginia Bankers Association asking that its member banks work closely with Federal employees facing financial difficulties. They are not unemployed because of any fault of their own, and if, as the Republican leadership promises, they are going to be paid eventually, they deserve credit forbearance. But even that does not help with the check-out line at the grocery store, paying the heating bill, or buying the kids' shoes.

Now there is word that the Gingrich Republican leadership wants to recess the House for 3 weeks leaving the Government partially shut down. Mr. Speaker, I oppose the Government going on another recess while the Government is still shut down and taxpayers pay \$40 million a day for services they are not receiving.

I voted yesterday to open the Government up. I am going to vote today against letting the Congress leave today. Mr. Speaker, if the Government is not working, then at least the Congress should be.

□ 1030

LIBERAL GIVEAWAY

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, A well-known news magazine this week called tax cuts a "giveaway."

That illustrates precisely the liberal mind-set of some in the media and most in this administration.

They actually think that the money of hard-working, lawabiding taxpayers belongs to the Government, not to the people who earned it.

Tax cuts mean American families will keep more. Liberals in the media and in the administration want the Government to take more and spend more.

Americans now are staggering under the heaviest tax burden in history. And the top half of wage earners already pay 95 percent of all income taxes.

The real question is: Who knows best how to spend hard-earned dollars—the

American people or the Federal Government?

HISTORIC HEIGHTS OF IRRESPONSIBILITY

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we have risen to historic heights of irresponsibility led by our history professor. What a shame. What a shame. A previous speaker said that we needed a key to unlock Government, and he did not have the key. He was wrong.

This is the key given to all 435 of us by the voters of our districts. It is a district question for each of us to be reasonable and responsible. We had that opportunity yesterday and we had a vote, and of all of the Republicans in the House, only two, only two of my colleagues, the gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA] and the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS], used this card to unlock the lockout of Government employees and Government services to the American public.

My friend from Virginia who spoke previously said, stop making this a partisan issue. BOB DOLE is the leading candidate for President in the Republican Party. He said, this does not make sense.

MEMBERS SHOULD HAVE SALARIES WITHHELD DURING SHUTDOWN

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

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, this is day 20 of the partial shutdown of Federal Government; 760,000 Federal employees did not receive their paychecks, and 280,000 of them cannot even report to work, although I hear many of them are trying very hard to do so; they do want to work.

I am a Federal employee. If our Federal employees are not being paid, I am having my salary withheld just as they are having their salaries withheld. They are being held hostage.

Also, I am here to work. I am not furloughed, and I will stay here to work, and I will vote against this House recessing until we have our Federal Government operating fully again. It is our responsibility; let us rise to it on both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue and open up Government.

CHILD SUPPORT SUFFERS DURING SHUTDOWN

(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, it is truly difficult to balance the family budget when you do not know when the

next check is coming in. I know, because 28 years ago I was a single working mother with three small children, and I never received the child support that I was owed. Yet, as we head into the 20th day of the Gingrich Government shutdown, that is the same situation that the new majority is forcing on thousands of American families. Each day the Gingrich shutdown drags on, approximately 20,000 deadbeat parents get off the hook from paying their child support.

It is one thing being poor, Mr. Speaker, but not knowing when and if a check will come in severely compounds the problem.

By continuing to insist on huge Medicare cuts and education cuts and massive special interest tax breaks, the Gingrich Republicans are leaving thousands of American families in limbo, not knowing when they will receive their next child support check. It is time to end the Gingrich shutdown.

CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT SHARE BLAME FOR SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, this is disgraceful. We have Members over here saying it is GINGRICH's fault, it is the President's fault, it is all of our faults, folks. We have not been able to get our act together. We could pass a continuing resolution. I favor doing that, and I voted yesterday with my colleagues to do it. But the President could have signed the appropriation bills, or he could have put a balanced budget on the table and that would end this entirely too. So we all share blame.

One of the most outrageous proposals I have seen is to recess this Congress until January 23. If we recess the time to move the discharge petition, that will take a longer period of time. I think that is wrong. We ought to bring this to a vote and let the House vote on it. Congress would go home for nearly 3 weeks and leave the Government unfunded. We would be asking Federal workers to work at their jobs for a period of 1 month and not pay them, if you can imagine that, while we being fully paid would go back to our districts.

I agree with the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. WOLF] and the gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA] who just talked. While we vacation back home, we would be asking Federal workers to work without pay. It is wrong, it would be a disgrace, it would send a signal to the American people, let them eat cake. I will oppose it, Mr. Speaker.

SIGNS OF OUR TIMES

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