

Hawaii. Bud is chairman of the board of Wilson Insurance Agency, Inc., an independent insurance agency located in Chula Vista.

Bud's career as an independent insurance agent has been marked with outstanding dedication to his clients, his community, IIAA, the State association—the Insurance Brokers and Agents of the West [IBA West]—his colleagues and his profession.

On the State level, Bud served IBA West on various committees and as president in 1981. From 1983–1986 he served as the IABC representative on IIAA's board of State national directors. In 1987, Bud received the P.S.W. Ramsden Memorial Award, the highest honor bestowed by the California State association.

Bud's love of politics and legislative affairs served him well during four highly successful years as chairman of IIAA's government affairs committee. In recognition of his outstanding work on behalf of all independent agents as government affairs committee chairman, Bud was bestowed IIAA's Sydney O. Smith Legislative Award in 1994.

Bud was elected to IIAA's executive committee in 1994. In the time since, he has exhibited a spirit of dedication and concern for his 300,000 independent agent colleagues around the country.

Bud's selfless attitude also extends to his involvement in Chula Vista-area community activities. He is past-president of the Chula Vista Rotary, the Chula Vista Jaycees, the Chula Vista Community Hospital Board of Trustees and the Chula Vista Salvation Army. He also has been involved in numerous other Chula Vista community projects.

I have complete confidence that Bud will serve with distinction and provide strong leadership as president of the Independent Insurance Agents of America over the next year. I wish him and his lovely wife, Sandra, all the best as IIAA president and first lady.

IN SUPPORT OF THE BALANCED BUDGET ACT (H.R. 1015)

SPEECH OF
HON. BOB RILEY
OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 1997

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Balanced Budget Act. Before I begin, I want to commend Speaker GINGRICH, Chairman KASICH, and even President Clinton for their hard work on this historic legislation.

For too many years Congress has made broken promises and half-hearted attempts to balance the Federal budget. With a national debt in excess of \$5 trillion, we cannot wait another day.

I am committed to enacting a balanced budget for the sake of our children and their future.

This Balanced Budget Act is a giant step forward. It begins to scale back the size and scope of Government, ensuring our children the ability to invest in their future rather than paying our bills. By balancing the budget in a real and credible way, we have ensured that the real winners in this agreement are not politicians in Washington but working Americans across the country.

When I decided to run for Congress, my message was simple, the Federal Government

must learn to exercise the same fiscal restraints that families and businesses operate under each and every day.

The Balanced Budget Act will once and for all put an end to the reckless spending of the past. By reigning in excessive and irresponsible Government spending we can pass along the savings to the American people.

The economic rewards of a balanced budget include, lower interest rates, a healthier and promising economy full of opportunities for our children and grandchildren, a sound Medicare system, and more money left in working Americans' pockets.

By holding Government programs accountable and forcing Government to live within its means—as Alabama families and businesses do—we are able to deliver a smaller and smarter Government that works for the people, instead of forcing Americans to work for Washington.

Mr. Speaker, a balanced budget is not about numbers, its about people and families. Most important, its about our moral obligation to stop robbing future generations of the opportunities and prosperity they deserve.

It is irresponsible for us to keep passing our burdens onto our children. The time has come for Congress to represent the will of the people and take responsibility for balancing our Federal budget.

The Balanced Budget Act achieves fiscal responsibility the right way. By protecting seniors, providing health care for children, and ensuring veterans benefits. We have proven that we can balance the Federal budget without harming the most vulnerable in society.

This historic legislation will enable us to provide needed tax relief to working families, save Medicare from bankruptcy, and restore power, money, and influence back to the people.

I urge my colleagues to support the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

IN MEMORY OF GENE SHOEMAKER

HON. DANA ROHRABACHER
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, the scientific community lost one of its brightest stars this month when astronomer Gene Shoemaker was killed in an auto accident. His wife Carolyn was also injured and hospitalized. We should all say a prayer for her speedy recovery.

Dr. Shoemaker dedicated his life to advancing the frontiers of human knowledge and experience. He was slated to be one of the first scientists to visit the moon during the Apollo program until a minor physical impairment cost Gene his flight status. But that didn't stop his commitment to science or his passion for understanding our universe. Dr. Shoemaker pressed onward and upwards as a leader of the Lunar Ranger and Surveyor Programs over three decades ago. When the Apollo program came to an end, Gene focused on asteroids and meteors.

But Gene didn't give up his passion for Earth's natural satellite. Over two decades after leading America's first lunar science missions, he joined the science team for the Clementine mission, which discovered evi-

dence of ice on the Moon, making global headlines. Gene's years of studying asteroids and meteors convinced him that the evolution of the planets in our solar system has been changed by large asteroid and meteor impacts. Like many of the science community's best minds, Gene initially had to struggle against scientific orthodoxy for his theories to be considered. He persisted and his passion for the truth, for science, and for discovery won out. In 1994, we witnessed the most dramatic proof validating Gene's work. That year, the Shoemaker-Levy comet, which Gene, Carolyn, and their colleague David Levy discovered, crashed into Jupiter in the astronomical equivalent of the Fourth of July. Who could not be impressed or awed with reality's demonstration of Gene's vision? No matter what he was working on, Dr. Shoemaker always managed to make some of the most exciting discoveries in space science while exciting young minds about the possibilities for the future. I have little doubt that Gene and Carolyn shared the excitement of countless millions following the progress of the Pathfinder mission and its little rover Sojourner across the Martian soil.

As successful and important as Dr. Shoemaker's professional life was, his personal life stands as a monument to the better angels of our nature. With a twinkle in his eye, a gentleness in his voice, and calmness in his expressions, Gene Shoemaker proved every day that nice guys finish first. As a scientist, an outdoorsman, an individualist, and a teacher, Dr. Shoemaker's life made the world a better place. We will, of course, miss him and cannot help feeling the loss that his passing brings. Still, after reflecting on his professional accomplishments and the manner in which Gene lived his life, we cannot help but catch the infectious job with which he pursued new discoveries. That spirit lives on in the lives of those who crossed his path. It will carry us into a future that begins to realize the possibilities of Gene's vision.

BUDGET RECONCILIATION

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to explain my vote yesterday against the conference report on H.R. 1015, the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, and to express my opposition to adoption today of the conference report on H.R. 1014, the Revenue Reconciliation Act. Reconciliation has always meant one bill on revenues and spending, and these two bills must be viewed as a single package.

As many speakers before me have said, there are good things in both bills—restored SSI and Medicaid for legal immigrants; tax credits for children and for education; funds for health insurance for uninsured children; empowerment zones and brownfields; Medicare coverage of preventive services; funds to soften some of the worst provisions of last year's welfare reform.

Both bills are certainly far, far better than the versions that passed the House and the Senate—gone are the hits on Medicare beneficiaries; the consignment of workfare participants to a second class status; denial of child

tax credits to lower income working families; indexing of capital gains rates; expansion of the definition of "independent contractor"—and Democrats, including the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL], the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPRATT], and the President and his team, deserve credit for that.

But they still aren't good enough. Beyond the pluses and minuses, and the tables showing who gains and who loses, there are fundamental problems with this budget package.

First, it widens the gap between rich and poor in this Nation, when we should be working to increase fairness and narrow the income gap.

Republicans seem to think money made from money is superior to money made from work. Under these bills, working people's salaries will continue to be taxed at existing rates, but rates will be cut on profits from securities or property.

People who earn just enough to get by will get a small break—if they have children—but people who have spare money to put into the new back-loaded IRA's will get all their future interest tax-free. And people leaving large estates will be able to pass on much more without tax.

A Citizens for Tax Justice analysis of the tax bill shows that, among income groups, the lowest 20 percent will actually pay more taxes, while the top 20 percent will get more than 75 percent of the benefits. The top 1 percent alone will get more than 30 percent of the benefits.

In dollar terms, this means that those in the lowest 20 percent will pay \$39 a year more in taxes, while those in the highest 1 percent will get a \$16,000 break. Doesn't sound like tax fairness to me.

My second problem is that the reconciliation package rewards the rich with immediate tax cuts and puts off the tough decisions on spending cuts and entitlement reforms.

The justification for separating this year's reconciliation legislation into two bills seems to be to avoid accusations that Medicare cuts are to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy—to try to fool the American people by not including both in one bill.

But it is a fact that in the current climate of deficit reduction we cannot afford to give anyone tax cuts unless we also cut spending. Yesterday's spending reduction bill is not needed to reform Medicare—it won't—or to make tough specific cuts in spending—it doesn't—but to make room for tax cuts.

The future cuts in appropriations required to reach the goal of a balanced budget by 2002 are not specified, but examples given by our colleagues yesterday and today make it clear how deep they would have to be and how unlikely a future Congress would be to inflict such pain.

Medicare savings are business as usual—cuts in provider payments—and reform is left to a commission.

Medicaid cuts are almost entirely taken from the hospitals that serve large numbers of poor and uninsured people, hospitals that are already reeling from prior cuts and from the changes going on in the health care industry.

But the tax cuts begin kicking in now—the capital gains rate cuts are even retroactive.

My third problem is that these bills threaten to starve our future. Even if all the rosy assumptions are correct, and the economy continues to flourish, and tax losses don't ex-

plode, many necessary investments in our physical and social infrastructure will be unaffordable. I don't believe in term limits, and I hope to be here in 5 years, even in 10 years, but I certainly don't look forward to dealing with the budget situation we will face then because of these bills.

Mr. Speaker, there are highly visible problems with these bills, but I am also worried about the invisible. In the Republicans' unseemly rush to pass something—anything—and go on vacation, few Members have had the time to thoroughly study and understand both bills. Already, there are reports of "rifle shot" tax breaks and other goodies tucked in, in obscure language. Who knows what's in there. By itself, that should be reason enough to delay the conference report until September.

Mr. Speaker, I can count. I know this tax bill will pass as easily as yesterday's spending bill did, and the President will sign both, but you should be aware that Democrats will make every effort in the months and years to come to correct the excesses and restore fairness to our government's taxing and spending policies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me and vote against this regressive bill.

A CENTURY OF DEVOTION

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, a church is more than bricks and mortar. A church serves as the foundation of a community and its construction is a labor of love and caring. For the past 100 years, the congregation of Juniata Baptist Church has been the base of their community. This year on August 10, the Juniata Baptist Church will celebrate 100 years of community growth. For the past century, they not only have grown but have expanded to provide Christian education for their children through the creation of the Juniata Christian School.

In August 1973, Pastor Rick Flanders was called to lead the church. For the past 20 years, under his capable leadership, the church has continued its wonderful heritage of accomplishment. The church's congregation has sizably increased. In the 1990's, under Pastor Flander's guidance, the attendance has averaged over 400 people on Sunday mornings.

The Juniata Baptist Church began with a small group of Christian believers meeting in a log cabin in the early 1890's. In 1897, they completed their first regular church building with timber hewn by men of the congregation. The little assembly was then officially known as the Free Will Baptist Union Church. Early pastors were meagerly supported, but generously given lodging by members of the congregation in their homes. In 1944, the church was finally able to purchase a parsonage.

The Juniata Baptist Church has undergone several remodeling and expansion projects in its century-long existence. In 1951, William Vroman was named their pastor. Under his leadership, the little church building was extensively improved and remodeled. In 1966, after Brother Vroman moved on, the church

called Brother William Goodwin, one of the first graduates of Midwestern Baptist Seminary, as its pastor. Extensive building was done during his pastorate. The parsonage was moved from the north side of Saginaw Road to just south of the church building. A new auditorium was built in 1961, and the educational building, which houses the gymnasium and classrooms, was built in 1986. After Pastor Goodwin moved, the church called Richard Arnold to serve as pastor. He served from 1969 to 1973, during which time attendance grew and the auditorium was expanded. The parsonage was then moved across Washburn Road to make room for the auditorium expansion.

The Juniata Christian School has served members of its congregation and the community by passing along strong Christian values to future generations by maintaining a K through 12 program. In 1972, the day-school ministry began with 25 students in grades K through 3 and today they have increased to serve about 200 students in grades K through 12. The school is dedicated to teaching the Christian principles to students at an early age, so that they will have their faith to guide them through life's many challenges.

Mr. Speaker, the mission of the Juniata Baptist Church has remained consistent throughout all of the structural changes. The Juniata Baptist Church continues to provide an invaluable service to the community, teaching through example. The focus of its ministry has been constant over the years of its history: winning people to Christ and teaching them the Bible. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and the rest of our colleagues to join me in congratulating Pastor Rick Flanders and the dedicated congregation of the Juniata Baptist Church on 100 years of leadership and wish them many more to come.

PAN AM FLIGHT 103: WE WILL NEVER FORGET THE VICTIMS

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. FOX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on one of the most important and dangerous challenges America faces as we approach the 21st century: terrorism. Throughout many parts of the world Americans continue to be at risk of a terrorist attack. Sadly, the 1990's brought reality to bear hard down upon us with attacks on our own soil. The bombing of the Federal building in Oklahoma City in 1995 and the World Trade Center in New York City in 1993 are but two terrorists attacks that come to mind.

Last year, the 104th Congress took great strides to combat international terrorism, most notably with our passage of the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 and the enactment of additional sanctions against terrorist states such as Libya and Iran. But it is not enough. The war still continues and American citizens remain at risk. While we must continue to address ways in which to adopt preventative measures, we must not forget or abandon the victims themselves or the surviving families of those who have already suffered and who may still continue to suffer.

Almost 9 years ago Pan Am Flight 103 was destroyed over the quiet countryside of