

plan, after he leaves office. He also uses a number of one-time savings (such as selling government assets) to achieve balance in 2002. These one-time fixes do not really address the fundamental problem of overspending.

We have not yet begun to make the necessary decisions to get our fiscal house in long-term order. The underlying budget problem facing our country is the aging population. In fifteen years, baby boomers will begin retiring, placing great strains on programs for older Americans—Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. Each of these programs is reasonably secure for the short-term, but long-term reforms must begin now. It will be less painful and less costly to act early. Choices must be made soon on proposed changes to cost-of-living adjustments, subsidies for wealthier recipients, the retirement age, payroll taxes, and the role of private markets in strengthening Social Security and Medicare.

Prospects: The outlook is good for a balanced budget agreement. The mood of key players in Congress and the White House is positive, economic growth is creating higher revenues than expected, and health care costs are constrained. The President and leaders of both parties have had productive meetings to discuss their common ground on the budget. The most contentious issue will likely be the size and shape of tax cuts. The President wants targeted cuts for education, children, and capital gains on the sale of a home. The congressional leadership plans much larger, broad-based reductions. In our efforts to enact politically popular tax cuts, we must not rely on rosy assumptions about future growth or the likelihood that future Congresses will cut popular programs.

Conclusion: At its heart, the President's budget is a political document, designed to gain political advantage in negotiations. I do not view this budget proposal as a powerful document that addresses long-term challenges. Rather, it is an opening bid in the long process to balance the budget. In a few places, it modestly pushes the country in the right direction. It deals with long-term structural problems only on the margins.

AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION TRIBUTE

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, for 50 years the Americans for Democratic Action have served this Nation as the liberal conscience covering all issues that affect and confront our lives. While there are numerous liberal single issue organizations that have carved out extraordinary roles in developing American political thought, none have the scope and history as does the Americans for Democratic Action [ADA].

When I came to Congress first in 1965, with the war in Vietnam just beginning to awaken the protests of our youth all across our college campuses, it was the ADA that helped me to put the focus of criticism on process and peace. From 1965 to 1975 until this war ended unceremoniously, the ADA assiduously guarded the civil liberties of our citizens from the emotional and fanatical tirades of those who could not see the painful sacrifices this country was making of its young for a yet undeclared war.

The ADA was formed to serve as an independent political organization. That its politics

is more Democratic than Republican is no accident. Its founders were illustrious persons like Eleanor Roosevelt who after her husband's death rose to the ranks of First Lady of the World; Walter Reuther, who created a labor movement involved in social and economic policies well outside ordinary labor politics, and scholars like John Kenneth Galbraith, whose views helped to steer this Nation to economic growth and greater prosperity for the struggling middle class. Vice President Hubert Humphrey was also a founder of ADA.

ADA for 50 years has attracted into its ranks the great voices of political activism and its policies have become the bellwether of liberalism for all of America.

ADA was there at the beginning of the civil rights movement. In 1948, it fought valiantly for a strong civil rights plank in the platform of the Democratic Party.

ADA was the place where the policy of full employment became a national goal later called the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment Act, still guided by Leon Shull.

Empowering workers to see that politics was a way toward improvement of working conditions, wages, and job security gave ADA goals to achieve by working closely with the labor movement. Many of labor's leaders continue to serve as ADA's national vice presidents.

I was elected national president of ADA in 1978 and served in that capacity until 1981. During my tenure, ADA under the guidance of Winn Newman advanced pay comparability policies for women that brought the pay equity debate into an examination of the value of work that women do.

ADA is a movement constantly reaching out to new challenges and new areas of leadership.

Its current president, Jack Sheinkman, was the head of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union before he was elected ADA's national president. The executive director is Amy Isaacs who is in charge of its day to day operations. ADA is a national membership organization, but unlike others, it services 22 local chapters all across the country, with approximately 65,000 members.

Among our present and former Members of Congress who served ADA as national president: Hubert Humphrey, Don Edwards, Al Lowenstein, Don Fraser, George McGovern, Robert Drinan, BARNEY FRANK, TED WEISS, CHARLES RANGEL, PAUL WELLSTONE, and JOHN LEWIS. I was its first and only woman president.

Happy 50th birthday Americans for Democratic Action. And may you have many more.

A POINT OF LIGHT FOR ALL AMERICANS: CHARLES E. INNIS

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an individual who devoted his life to public service and community charity. Charles Inniss' life of 61 years has left an indelible impression on all with whom he came in contact. Although he has passed, his life will remain a testament that human compassion is one of the virtues that matters most in life. Charles Inniss was a model human being and a great

"point of light" whose contributions must not go unacknowledged.

He was a business administrator, a creative technician, and an artist all combined. He could walk with kings and never lose the common touch. Throughout his professional life at Brooklyn Union Gas. Mr. Inniss was viewed as dedicated, committed, and caring. He joined Brooklyn Union in 1979 as assistant manager in public relations and communications and retired in 1995 as vice president of the urban affairs division. Before joining Brooklyn Union, he served as assistant district service manager at Dun & Bradstreet, executive director of Studio Museum in Harlem, director of area development for the Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Corp., administrator of Brooklyn Model Cities, and director of public information and development at the Brooklyn Public Library.

It has been Mr. Inniss' humanitarian deeds that have earned him the greatest respect and admiration of those lives he has touched. He devoted his life to public service by serving on more than 25 charitable organizations. He served actively in the following organizations: the Brooklyn Arts Council, the board for the Brooklyn Children's Museum, the board for the Marcus Garvey Nursing Home, the American Association of Blacks in Energy, the Staten Island Zoological Society, the board for Catholic International, the Mayor's New York City Advisory Cultural Commission, and the Black Officers Association.

Throughout the years, Charles Inniss worked diligently in positions that he found to be beneficial to the community. He was co-founder of Career Opportunities for Brooklyn Youth, director and past chairman of the Studio Museum in Harlem, chairman of Neighborhood Artists, and past chair of the American Gas Foundation. In 1992, he was appointed by the Governor to the City University of New York board of trustees and served as chair of the university's construction fund.

Mr. Inniss has been recognized for his contributions to a broad spectrum of cultural, educational, and social services agencies, institutions and organizations. The Franciscan Sisters for the Poor named their new residence for homeless men the Charles E. Inniss St. Joseph Franciscan House in honor of his dedicated service to the organization. In addition, Mr. Inniss received an honorary doctorate of laws from St. Joseph's College, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's Forsythia Award, the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor Heritage Award, and the President's Medal for Kingsborough Community College.

Probably the most outstanding feature of Charles Inniss' character and style was his refusal to be shackled by formality and bureaucracy. He supported programs in need when his own eyes and ears told him they were positive and productive. A lack of paper work and the appropriate statistics never prevented funding activities deemed useful to the community. Mr. Inniss made Brooklyn Union one of the earliest sponsors of the Central Brooklyn Martin Luther King Commission which is now in its 12th year of service to the community.

Mr. Inniss was born in Harlem, NY and spent the formative years of his childhood in the east Bronx. He is a graduate of Evander Childs High School and served as captain of the 369th Artillery Battalion. He received a bachelor of science degree and master of public administration degree from New York University.

Charles Inniss is survived by his wife, Marge; a brother, Wilbur; two sisters, Norma and Frances; a sister-in-law, Madelaine; one niece, Wendy Woodland; one nephew, David; two grand-nephews, Christopher and Bryan; and a host of beloved and other family members.

Service to community is an unselfish and difficult calling. Consistently, Charles Inniss has made it appear to be effortless by playing a pivotal role in virtually every aspect of the lives of the people of New York. I sincerely appreciate the richness and dedication that marked Mr. Inniss' life. Charles E. Inniss is a great "point of light" for all of the people of America to revere.

GAO STUDY BILL

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, proponents of the flat tax, and there are many, argue that a flat tax would be more fair to Americans than a progressive income tax. Meanwhile, the proponents of the consumption tax tout the elimination of the Internal Revenue Service as a chief benefit. All Americans agree that a simplified tax code would eliminate loopholes and complex deductions only a tax attorney and CPA understand.

Since coming to Congress, I have supported the idea of a simplified tax system. I believe that more Americans would pay their taxes if they understood what they owed and they didn't feel they were missing out on some obscure break they overlooked. If you honestly felt that you were paying your fair share, you would have more confidence in the system. Imagine the savings to Americans in tax preparation, not to mention money spent on anti-

I think the solution is a combination of both. A flat income tax for easy filing coupled with a lower sales tax to get at the money generated by our great economic engine. This plan would incentivize savings, reduce interest rates, drive new business, and generate more economic activity while still maintaining our present level of revenues.

Today I introduced a bill that calls for the Comptroller of the General Accounting Office to study the effects of my plan, including possible deductions for interest on a home mortgage, college tuition, and a per child deduction. My bill won't change the IRS code, only require a study of the effects of a change. I am so confident in this plan that I think after the GAO study is complete, the advantages will become apparent.

I think the dire circumstances America finds itself in is a result of our poor tax and trade policies. Our tax code rewards dependency and penalizes achievement. This new tax plan would be the first step toward ending the economic crisis we face today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to cosponsor my bill.

IN SUPPORT OF AMENDING IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL] as a cosponsor of our bill to amend the law concerning communications between Government agencies and the Immigration and Naturalization Services. We appreciate New York City's mayor Giuliani bringing this important matter to our attention.

As a supporter of last year's welfare reform and illegal immigration, I am aware of the need to address some of their flaws.

The current provisions pose threats to the ability of our local government to protect the public health and safety of their residents.

Let us not discourage undocumented aliens from receiving basic health care services due to their fear of disclosing their status to INS. Otherwise, we would reduce the chances of controlling the spread of communicable diseases.

Effective law enforcement requires the trust and cooperation of all residents, even those who are currently out of status, who may have witnessed or been victims of crime. Our police need the cooperation of all to arrest criminals before they can strike again.

Bear in mind that not all restrictions on communications would be permitted. It mandates that INS and localities exchange information on criminal aliens, regardless of their status.

Accordingly, I urge our colleagues to support this important legislation.

H.R. —

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RESTRICTIONS ON COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE.

(a) PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996.—Section 434 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1644) is repealed.

(b) ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION REFORM AND IMMIGRANT RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 1996.—Section 642 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-208) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (a) and (b) inserting the following new subsection:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a Federal, State, or local government entity or official may not prohibit any government entity or official from sending to, or receiving from, the Immigration and Naturalization Service any information regarding the immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual who has been convicted of a crime under Federal, State, or local law.”; and

(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b).

HONORING MARILYN PERLMAN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Marilyn Perlman, who for more than 50

years has contributed to Mount Vernon as a public servant, a public advocate, and a full-time worker for the elderly.

She moved to Mount Vernon, with her new husband, Daniel, more than 50 years ago. She started in local politics by working in the campaign of a friend running for mayor. She became a district leader and subsequently served her city and her community with distinction in many capacities.

She was a great help to me when I first came to Mount Vernon, serving as my guide and introducing me to the many senior programs and people of the Rose Y. She chairs the focal committee for the office of the aging and has served on all the committees relating to older adults. Her activism on behalf of Westchester's senior citizens dates back many years. In 1970, she was hired by the Y to supervise the older adult program, the senior canteen. As part of the aging services network, she was involved in the successful effort to bring the adult day care and kosher nutrition programs to the Y.

Marilyn Perlman has devoted herself totally to her community and her "people", the elderly of Westchester County, accomplishing so much it leaves us unable to comprehend how we will continue without her. I join the people of Mount Vernon and all of Westchester County in thanking her and in wishing for her the best that life has to offer in her retirement, with the hope that the generosity of spirit she gave to all who had the good fortune to meet her and work with her is returned.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LASALLE D. LEFFALL

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions of an outstanding American, Dr. LaSalle D. Leffall. Dr. Leffall, a distinguished fellow alumnus of Florida A&M University, is the Charles R. Drew professor of surgery at Howard University College of Medicine, and like the namesake of his chair, his accomplishments are too numerous to list. His profound and unselfish dedication to the African-American community, especially in education and medicine, is unsurpassed, and deserves the highest recognition.

Perhaps what distinguishes Dr. Leffall most, Mr. Speaker, is that he epitomizes the concept that education is a ladder. This week Dr. Leffall helped to make that ladder a little easier to climb when he presented a check for \$350,000 to Florida A&M University, its largest donation from an individual. When matched with funds from the State of Florida, Dr. Leffall's gift will total more than \$500,000. As FAMU's distinguished president, Dr. Frederick Humphries, said, "This is a monumental contribution from one whose extraordinary achievements have brought honor and distinction to his alma mater and his community."

A son of the South, Dr. Leffall was born in Tallahassee, FL, and he was born to be great. He graduated summa cum laude from Florida A&M University at the age of 18, and 4 years later, he received his medical degree from Howard University College of Medicine, ranking first in his class. A scholar and a gentleman, Dr. Leffall is a veteran of the U.S.