

crime and the ramifications that it has on our schools, I would like to express my concern about this important issue. By the year 2010, there will be a 31-percent increase in the number of juveniles in our country. Unfortunately, the problem of juvenile crime is predicted to increase drastically as well unless we act now.

Kids today commit crimes because they know they can get away with it. A juvenile that commits a cold blooded murder can be back on the street in most cases in less than 1 year.

We must realize that juveniles can be just as dangerous as adults and begin to treat them accordingly. The system must be reformed.

Kids in America today need the support of teachers and families and churches so that they can know the difference between right and wrong, and they need to know that a crime of any sort will not be tolerated regardless of age. Our children and our children's children deserve to have the same environment to learn that all of us had growing up.

SO-CALLED BALANCED BUDGET AGREEMENT

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to comment briefly on the so-called balanced budget agreement that was reached between the President and the House and Senate Republican leadership last week. I say so-called because it is really in the nature of an agreement to agree. There are many things that are not filled in there, many questions that are not answered that we just do not know yet.

But one thing that is clear is that \$90 billion will have to be cut for the next 5 years from nondefense discretionary spending. We do not know how it is going to be cut, and we will not know that because those decisions will be made year by year by the Committee on Appropriations. But out of \$290 billion, for everything the Government spends other than on entitlements, interest on the national debt and the military, for housing, for education, for transportation, for law enforcement, crime prevention, Head Start, issuing passports, research and development, everything that we think of when we think of what the Government does, other than entitlements and the Armed Forces, we are going to have to take \$90 billion out of what is necessary to maintain the current level of services. That is going to be a major hit on our population. I simply urge caution.

HIGHWAY FUNDING SHOULD BE A FAIR DEAL FOR STATES

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

Mr. BRADY. Mr. Speaker, on this day in 1626 a wise Dutchman named Peter Minuit traded \$24 of trinkets for the island of Manhattan. It is commonly agreed that Minuit received the better end of that deal.

When it comes to highway funding, however, a lot of taxpayers find themselves on the opposite end of the situation, on the bad end of the deal. For every dollar we send to Washington for highway funding, we receive back less than 78 cents. Twenty-five other States find themselves in the same position. Even though Federal law says we ought to receive 90 cents for every dollar, 18 States do not even receive that. Donor States are fast growing.

In Texas, we are a large State, very diverse, big infrastructure needs, and we are the entryway for our trade with America's largest partner, Mexico. This year as we address transportation issues, let us make sure we are giving taxpayers the fair deal they deserve.

SUPPORT WIC FUNDING

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

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my objection to the proposed cuts in the WIC Program contained in the supplemental appropriations bill that is being considered by the House Committee on Appropriations.

The women, infants, and children's program, known as WIC, is widely known as one of the most effective and cost-effective programs this Government operates. By providing nutritious food to pregnant women and infants, the WIC Program helps to ensure that babies who are born to low-income women get the full nutrition they need to develop and to grow properly. It is estimated that every dollar invested in WIC saves at least \$3.50 in future expenditures on Medicaid and other programs.

The administration recommended \$76 million, but it has been cut to \$38 million in the supplemental bill, which means that 180,000 children and pregnant women will go unserved and hungry.

Now, we should be ashamed of ourselves for taking the food literally out of the mouths of babes, and I am pleased to know that my colleague, the gentlewoman from New Jersey [Mrs. ROUKEMA], plans to offer an amendment to restore the important funding, and I shall certainly be supporting that. The richest country in the world cannot let its vulnerable citizens go without food for lack of political backbone, and I urge the support of my colleagues.

WIC FUNDING

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

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, the gentlewoman from New York who just spoke talked about cuts in the WIC Program, and I think it is time that we set the record straight.

Funding for the WIC Program in the current fiscal year is at \$3.7 billion, the highest level ever spent for this very important program. Beyond that, we have added \$38 million in additional funding to try to ensure that all of those people, women, infants, and children, get the food that they need throughout the rest of this fiscal year. People in the administration who run these programs say \$38 million is enough to cover this current fiscal year.

I would also add that there is about \$100 million left over from prior year funding for the WIC Program, and any suggestion that Congress is cutting the WIC Program simply is not true. We are increasing the amount of money in the supplemental appropriation bill that will be on this floor next week by \$38 million for the WIC Program.

FUNDING AND JUVENILE JUSTICE

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

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, in many communities across our country, people are living in Hobbesian states of nature where life is nasty, beastly, brutish and, all too often, very, very short. The reason is that there is a dramatic rise in juvenile crime across this country.

The number of homicides committed by juveniles increased five times the rate of homicides committed by adults. Arrests for juveniles committing violent crimes will more than double during the next 15 years.

The need to address this problem clearly requires a comprehensive approach, yet the juvenile justice bill that is being attempted to be passed here in Congress only provides money for 12 States to address this problem, 12 States that include Wyoming and Vermont.

In America, Mr. Speaker, one-third of juvenile crimes occur in four cities: in Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, and Chicago. Yet under this bill, while Wyoming and Vermont receive funding to address juvenile crime, cities like Detroit, Chicago, and Los Angeles receive not a dime. It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, if we are going to address juvenile crime in a comprehensive way, we ought to apply our funding from sea to shining sea and do it in the places where juvenile crime occurs.

H.R. 1500 HURTS UTAH EDUCATION

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

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding H.R. 1500, a bill introduced last week by the gentleman from

New York, to designate 5.7 million acres in Utah, almost all of it in my district, as wilderness.

Within the 5.7 million acres in H.R. 1500 are more than half a million acres of school trust lands, and those are lands that are given to Utah in statehood to support our schools.

By surrounding these school trust lands with wilderness, H.R. 1500 would dramatically hurt their value, hurting Utah schools. The fact is, there is not one word in H.R. 1500, not one, that would protect the value of Utah's school trust lands either by trading the lands out or by providing cash value. That is why the Utah State School Board, Utah PTA, the Utah school superintendents and Utah Education Association all oppose H.R. 1500 as written.

The sponsor says he does not want to hurt Utah's school children, but that is exactly what H.R. 1500 does.

WIC FUNDING

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to contradict what my colleague from Ohio on the Republican side just said about the WIC Program. The bottom line is that the \$76 million in supplemental funds are needed for the WIC Program.

The information submitted by 50 States to the Agricultural Department in early April specifically says that they will have to drop, many of those States will have to drop women, infants, and children from WIC before the end of the fiscal year if no supplemental funding is provided. And the documents that these States filed with the Agriculture Department in early April basically took into account all unspent funds from fiscal year 1996.

The proposed \$76 million supplemental funding requested by the administration takes these funds into account. So it is simply not true that there is carryover money that is going to be available to make up for this difference. When we are giving these estimates and we are saying that we need the \$76 million extra, it takes into account those carryover funds.

I would point out, Mr. Speaker, that these estimates in these reports and the requests for this additional funding in many cases is coming from States governed by Republican Governors.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK AND JUVENILE CRIME

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, this is Teacher Appreciation Week, and these hard-working individuals deserve to be recognized for their outstanding effort.

America's teachers provide an essential ingredient to the success and fu-

ture of this country. Despite the commitment and dedication of these people, there is a pressing issue looming over our classrooms, and that is juvenile violence. Juvenile violence and crime is a constant threat to the safety of both students and teachers alike. In 1996, Texas authorities reported that of the 123,218 violent offenses committed statewide, 6 percent of these were committed by juveniles, and they resulted in the juvenile arrests of these people.

This problem must be remedied, not only in the 5th District of Texas, but across America. I am supporting the juvenile crime bill, one that will ensure that teachers will have a safe environment to teach and the students will be in a safe and secure classroom, one that is free of fear.

I think that we all agree that there is enough obstacles waiting for our children in their adult lives. I think we must make our childhood safe for those children and open to learning.

FUNDING FOR WIC

(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, let me talk about the ABC's of a mother's love. As we celebrate Mother's Day this week, let me tell my colleagues about women and infants and children, the WIC Program, which is facing a drastic cut. It is a shame that in the Committee on Appropriations, Republicans voted 28 to 24 to not give the \$78 million needed to fund and to help mothers love their children. It is a shame as we speak that 180,000 women, infants, and children are falling off the rolls every single day.

The \$38 million is not enough. The ABC's of a mother's love is to provide for those children. Those mothers dependent on the WIC Program to help their infants and children are now being deprived with this budget, but as well with the \$38 million, that is not enough.

We need full funding for the WIC Program to show a mother's love. In tribute to mothers this Mother's Day, let us give full funding, as Democrats want, for women, infants and children, which is what America stands for.

CONGRATULATING SILVER CHARM

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, sports enthusiasts around the world were treated to a stunning race Saturday during the 123d Kentucky Derby. Silver Charm raced neck and neck with Captain Bodgit from midstretch to the wire, with Silver Charm winning by a head.

Not only was this a thrilling contest, it was also noteworthy that Silver Charm and Captain Bodgit are both

Florida-bred horses, born and trained in the rich horse country surrounding Ocala, my hometown. Silver Charm is a product of Dudley Farm in Ocala, and Silverleaf Farm in Ocala is home for the horse that sired Silver Charm, Silver Buck. In addition, Captain Bodgit is a product of Marion County, bred at Ocala's Still Lake Farm.

This was the first Run for the Roses victory for a Florida horse since Unbridled won in 1990. Florida stands second only to Kentucky in breeding Derby horse winners.

Mr. Speaker, speaking for my fellow citizens from Ocala, I know that we are honored but not surprised that an Ocala horse would place first and second in the Kentucky Derby. I look forward to seeing how the Florida horses fare in the Preakness.

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SUPPORT THE PRESIDENT'S SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST FOR THE WIC PROGRAM

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

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, they say a word to the wise is sufficient. Why, then, do we not get the message here in Congress when we are told over and over again the importance of the care that we give to our children in their earliest moments of life? It is hard to believe, with all the new information we have, why the Committee on Appropriations voted last week to reduce the President's supplemental request for the WIC Program, the program for women, infants, and children, by 50 percent, cutting \$38 million from the budget.

That money is really not nearly enough anyway for WIC to serve those who are currently eligible. Even at this \$38 million supplemental funding level, more than 180,000 women, infants, and children who presently survive because of WIC will lose this life-sustaining program. Some States, including my own State of California, are already moving to remove people from the WIC Program. The program pays for itself. Indeed, it is an investment. The GAO has reported that each dollar spent on WIC saves us \$3.50 in expenditures for Medicaid and SSI for disabled children and other programs.

As we prepare for Mothers Day, as families across the country set the table to honor our mothers, let us have a place at the table for the women, infants, and children of America who are poor. Support the President's supplemental request.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 900

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 900.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHAW). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?