

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday are we working for ourselves and our own family.

We are talking about a historic budget agreement between the Congress and the President. Let us make sure a substantial part of that budget agreement has to do with tax relief. Let us get the Government off the backs of the American taxpayers. Let us cut taxes and do it now.

#### TRIBUTE TO SGT. PAUL L. COLE

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

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Police Week, a week set aside each year to honor our law enforcement officers and to pay special tribute to the 600,000 sworn officers who put their lives on the line for our protection.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of those very special officers in my community who died in the line of duty in 1996, Sergeant Paul L. Cole.

On Sunday, October 6, 1996, the Ingham County Sheriff's Department suffered a terrible loss when Sergeant Paul L. Cole was killed in a traffic accident. Sergeant Cole was en route to a domestic problem when several deer jumped in front of his patrol vehicle, causing it to slide out of control. The vehicle struck a tree, killing Sergeant Cole instantly.

Sergeant Cole was a 19-year veteran of the sheriff's department, serving in both corrections and field services. He was a department dog handler and promoted to sergeant in September 1995.

Paul has a loving wife, Kathy, and three loving children, Heather Marie, Paul Wayne, and Andrew Scott.

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to the service of Sergeant Paul L. Cole to Ingham County, MI. He was an outstanding public servant.

#### CANADA'S EFFORTS TO SEEK PROMPT NEGOTIATIONS TO BAN ANTIPERSONNEL LANDMINES

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

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I know we all applaud President Clinton's decision last year to seek a global ban on antipersonnel landmines, but the administration is seeking to achieve a ban through the U.N. Conference on Disarmament, known as the CD.

Since the CD operates by consensus, any Nation that opposes this ban can hold up the progress of achieving such a ban. This year, however, the Canadian Government will be hosting a conference at the end of the year to negotiate a ban treaty. Over 50 nations have agreed to sign the treaty at the conference. It is our best chance to get a treaty this year.

United States leadership is crucial to the success of the Canadians efforts. I urge my colleagues to urge the President to help stop the endless cycle of violence produced by AP landmines by helping us get a treaty this year through the Canadian conference.

#### WHO REALLY BENEFITS FROM REDUCTION IN CAPITAL GAINS TAX?

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, why do Republicans and most economists want to reduce the taxes on capital gains? Because it is so important to the economy of this country.

Mr. Speaker, this is vitally important to all Americans, even those who do not own a single piece of stock, who do not own their own home, who do not participate in any pension plan, and who do not have a dime in any mutual funds. In fact, I would even argue that this issue may be even more important to those Americans than to those who actually own capital.

How can this be? Our economy depends on investment capital to create jobs. The lower the tax on investment capital, the more the economy will grow and the more jobs created, jobs that people in my district need. And it is often those with no capital of their own who are most in need of an expanding economy and more job opportunities.

We need to pass a balanced budget that cuts the tax on capital gains. Job seekers everywhere around the country are counting on it.

#### DEMOCRATS RELIEVED AT RESTORATION OF WIC FUNDING

(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, it has been said that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Today House Democrats should be extremely flattered by the Republican action on today's supplemental appropriations bill.

A few weeks ago the Republican majority on the Committee on Appropriations voted down a Democratic amendment to provide \$76 million needed for the Women, Infants and Children Program. And in the weeks since, Democrats have been speaking out to the press, on the floor, and back home in their districts about the need to restore the funding for this program.

We have explained that WIC is a program that works; that WIC saves the Federal Government money; that WIC provides assistance to those in our society that need it, pregnant women and young children; and that WIC reflects the best values of this country of ours.

I am happy today that Republicans have finally come around to our way of

thinking, for they have now voted to include the very funding their colleagues voted down only a few short weeks ago, and I am glad to see that they have decided to follow our lead.

Now, 180,000 women and children will sleep better tonight knowing that they will continue to receive the vital assistance that the WIC Program provides.

#### CONGRESS IN AWKWARD POSITION WITH REGARD TO BUDGET DEAL

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

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, this Congress is in an awkward position. Congress must decide whether to accept the budget deal negotiated with the President that proposed the biggest entitlement expansion in history, a President that tried to nationalize one-seventh of the U.S. economy, a President that only 4 years ago passed the largest tax increase in U.S. history. Clearly, making a deal with the President with that track record must be viewed with caution.

But the American people have also voted to elect the Congress that will do exactly that. So these are the questions I am asking.

First, does the budget really balance by the year 2002?

Second, does this budget provides permanent tax relief to working families?

Third, does this budget provide for adequate defense spending?

Fourth, will this budget result in more jobs for my constituents, more job opportunities for college graduates and a higher standard of living for Americans?

And fifth, will this budget contain policies that tend to weaken or strengthen the family?

Those are the questions, Mr. Speaker, I will be asking, and the answers to those questions will determine which way I will vote.

#### WIC IS GOOD HUMAN INVESTMENT PROGRAM

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

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, there are two kinds of disasters, natural disasters and human disasters. Many human disasters can be prevented, and one of the ways we prevent those is to invest in programs like the WIC Program, Women, Infant and Children, that save babies from being born at premature birth weights, low birth weights, and anemic conditions.

An investment in this program, for every \$1, saves the American taxpayer \$3.54 in later social costs. This is a great program.

I am delighted that after initially cutting \$38 million, the Republicans

agree with the Democrats: WIC is a win for Democrats, WIC is a win for Republicans, but WIC, most importantly, is a win for our Nation's children.

#### COMMENDATIONS TO PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS FOR COMING TOGETHER ON BALANCED BUDGET PLAN

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to again commend the leaders of Congress and the President for coming together on a consensus to balance the budget and to encourage them to keep up the work. This issue is too important to allow it to be sidetracked.

Although a lot of discussion here in Washington is about deficit reductions and long-term economic impacts, I have found many of my constituents and many Americans would like to know how the balanced budget plan affects them and their families. To these people I would say that the balanced budget agreement will have tremendous benefits to them, their families and generations to come.

Experts have predicted a balanced Federal budget will help to lower the interest rates in our country and our economy. Having lower interest rates means paying off our credit cards, buying a car, funding education, or buying a home becomes more affordable. A balanced budget means all Americans are one step closer to making these investments.

By placing the American dream within the reach of every American without creating more expensive government programs, we will bring our friends, families and communities closer. In short, Mr. Speaker, I want each and every one of my constituents in Illinois and every American to know that the balanced budget plan of 1997 benefits all Americans and helps all Americans to help themselves, which is truly the basis upon which our country was founded.

#### WIC PROGRAM MOST SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EVER IMPLEMENTED

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

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to reiterate that prior to coming to Congress I heard the eloquent prose from Congress that underscored the need for this country to be en route to supporting policies that enhanced family values and that was cost effective and that would benefit Americans in general.

It was a shame, I felt, upon arriving here that the Republicans had proposed to reduce funding for the most vital program affecting families that this country has known, not only vital but

very effective, and that was the Women, Infants and Children Program.

I joined other colleagues in publicly denouncing that proposal that was designed to impose further pain on this country's children and that was to deny them opportunity for proper nutrition, thus propelling them into other medical problems, such as infant mortality, child anemia, and low-birth weight babies as a result.

I want to publicly thank the Republicans for hearing our cry and for hearing our plea and restoring that vital program to its full capacity.

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#### ADMINISTRATION'S ROLE IN BRAC QUESTIONED

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

Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I met with a number of National Guard members yesterday and we discussed their crucial role in our Nation's military. I find it slightly ironic that their visit coincided with news from the Pentagon that the administration is going to propose that we initiate another round of base closings.

I cannot help but make the connection that if the President had not circumvented the last round of base closings, the level of cuts that is being proposed would be unnecessary. If the reports are true, the administration will be asking the individual branches, including the National Guard, to substantially reduce their numbers, all to save money that could have been saved if BRAC had been followed by the President.

The purpose of a BRAC is to depoliticize the process and allow objective outsiders to recommend which bases should be closed based on a number of objective criteria. This process worked well until the President signed the bill, then ordered something quite different.

Another BRAC? Why does the President not start by respecting the decisions forwarded by the last BRAC?

#### WIC SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FUNDING

(Mrs. TAUSCHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the women, infants and children's program and the long-term health of the low income women, children and infants that this program helps. This program is one of the most effective social government programs that we have for protecting the present and future health of many of our most vulnerable and needy children and mothers. I applaud those Republicans in this House who have chosen to do the right thing and work in a bipartisan manner to support the 200 plus Democrats who have demanded full supplemental funding levels for WIC.

The small amount of extra money to be allocated to WIC Program is a smart and cost-effective investment in the future of our country and its children. For every dollar that we invest in WIC, we save more than \$3 in Medicaid spending and other taxpayer costs down the road. The transfer of funds needed to ensure full funding for the WIC Program will prevent some 180,000 children, 160,000 in California, from being put at risk.

As the mother of a 6-year-old I know full well how important is the kind of nutrition and care for young children which will help them be ready for school and to work hard in their young lives. I support this WIC funding.

#### TRIBUTE TO COLONEL RAY REID ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has given this country more than half a century of loyal, dedicated service, first in the Army and then the U.S. House of Representatives. Col. Ray Reid, who retires today as my senior advisor, has served the third district of Arkansas for more than 20 years as chief of staff to my two predecessors, Senator Tim Hutchinson and former Congressman John Paul Hamerschmidt. Before he took on the responsibilities of Congress in 1974, Colonel REID had already served in three wars: Vietnam, Korea and World War II.

Well known to be one of the most knowledgeable men in Washington, Ray has held the respect of everyone who has ever come into contact with him, regardless of party affiliation or position. He is known as a straight shooter who deals with everyone fairly and forthrightly.

The people of Arkansas will sorely miss this man who has proven himself to be a dedicated soldier, a committed public servant, and a loyal friend. Ray, we wish you and your wife, Jean, the greatest happiness in your future endeavors.

#### WASHINGTON'S ROLE IN HELPING THE POOR

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

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, when I am home in my district I am sometimes asked, "What can you do for the poor?" I have two responses.

First, if the poor look to Washington to solve their problems or to make them rich, they will be as disappointed in the future as they are today, some 32 years after failed welfare state policies were begun. Mr. Speaker, we have 32 years of evidence that increased spending on Government programs does not end poverty, it perpetuates it.

On the other hand, my second response offers more hope. Washington