

to prepare this proposal? How does the administration intend to continue funding this unauthorized project if it is established? I suspect that the Committee on Resources will be holding hearings to get answers to these very troubling questions.

Quite simply, this initiative will simply replace the long established and Constitutionally protected policies that govern the use of our waterways—which are critical to our economic survival, not only to the west, but to the entire nation. That is why for the past century the Supreme Court has held in case after case that in the west it is the States who control the use of water.

Mr. Speaker, there is case after case in the Supreme Court that upholds the fact that the States own the water in the western States. Let me quote from one of the seminal Supreme Court cases on this very issue, the 1978 Supreme Court decision written by Justice Rehnquist entitled "California v. U.S."

□ 2230

It states: To take from the legislatures of the various States and territories the control of water at the present time would be something less than suicidal. If the appropriation and use were not under the provisions of State law, the utmost confusion would prevail.

Mr. Speaker, I agree. Idaho Code 42-101 states: All the waters of the State, when flowing in their natural channels, including the waters of all natural springs and lakes within the boundaries of the States, are declared to be the property of the State, whose duty it shall be to supervise appropriation and allotment to those diverting the same therefrom for any beneficial purposes.

Mr. Speaker, this proposal by the President will be redefining communities. It will redefine watersheds and jurisdictional boundaries. It creates a governing authority called a river community which will redefine what the river and the entire heritage area is, which extends beyond State boundaries and jurisdictional boundaries.

Mr. Speaker, this fictional entity, the river community, will then describe and define the designation which could be the length of the entire area, whether it be an entire watershed, the length of an entire river or a short stretch of river and, as I say, it may cross State boundaries.

Mr. Speaker, we are just beginning to address this issue. We need to take immediate action. I will be here Tuesday night doing a one hour special order speech with a number of my colleagues on this very subject.

We have a little thing in this country called the separation of powers. The legislative branch creates laws. The executive branch implements the laws, and the courts interpret the laws. I think the administration has forgotten about this in this particular move.

When it comes to western resources issues, the Clinton Administration has once again

usurped the Congress's lawmaking authority. Nowhere in law can one find the American Heritage Rivers program. This action is tantamount to tyranny, and must stop; or as the Supreme Court warns: "the utmost confusion will prevail."

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to leave the Members something to think about. Perry Pendley, in his book "War on the West," wrote:

For the environmental extremists' vision of the West is of a land nearly devoid of people and economic activity, a land devoted almost entirely to the preservation of scenery and wildlife habitat. In their vision, everything becomes a vast park through which they might drive, drink Perrier and munching on organic chips, staying occasionally in the bed-and-breakfast operations into which the homes of Westerners have been turned, with those Westerners who remain fluffing duvets and pouring cappuccino. They are well on the way to achieving their objective.

You'll be hearing more on Tuesday.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the following:

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, June 4, 1997.

Ms. KATHLEEN A. MCGINTY,
Chair, Council on Environment Quality, Executive Office of the President, Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. MCGINTY: This letter is in response to your May 19, 1997 letter to Chairman Don Young, House Committee on Resources, concerning the Clinton Administration's American Heritage Rivers Initiative. This Committee has strong reservations about this unauthorized initiative, and we are fully aware of the public outcry occurring over the Federal Register Notice on this issue.

We strongly advise that the comment period for the Council on Environment Quality (CEQ), American Heritage Rivers Initiative be extended for 90 days, until at least September 9, 1997, to provide sufficient time for the American public to express their concerns.

Furthermore, as the Committee with jurisdiction over the CEQ and the Department of the Interior (DOI), we request that you prepare a detailed briefing for this Committee, and other interested Members of Congress, to fully explain your undertaking of this initiative. The committee is especially interested in a full explanation of any reprogramming of authorized funds involved in conducting the public hearings throughout the United States in April and May, 1997; a full accounting of all personnel involved from the DOI; and, a comprehensive review of what budgetary reprogramming the planned Federal Interagency Team will require in Fiscal Year 1998. This briefing should be provided as soon as possible, but no later than June 27, 1997.

Finally, this Committee has serious concerns about this initiative to designate specific areas for special Federal assistance without any authorization from the Congress. Ironically, it would appear that CEQ has totally ignored the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 in undertaking this "major Federal action." We look forward to your immediate response to this letter and especially to our oversight responsibility concerning the short public comment period CEQ has provided the American people.

Please contact Mr. P. Dan Smith, Legislative Staff, Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands at (202) 226-7736, to coordinate the briefing requested by this Committee.

Sincerely,
DON YOUNG,

Chairman, Committee
on Resources.

JAMES V. HANSEN,
Chairman, Subcommittee
on National
Parks and Public
Lands.

JOHN T. DOOLITTLE,
Chairman, Subcommittee
on Water and
Power.

HELEN CHENOWETH,
Chairman, Subcommittee
on Forests and
Forest Health.

ROBERT F. SMITH,
Chairman, Committee
on Agriculture.

BARBARA CUBIN,
Chairman, Subcommittee
on Energy and
Mineral Resources.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CON- FERENCE REPORT ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 84, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 1998-2002

Mr. SOLOMON, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105-117) on the resolution (H. Res. 160) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 84) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 1998 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 4(b) OF RULE XI WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS RE- PORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON RULES

Mr. SOLOMON, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105-118) on the resolution (H. Res. 160) waiving a requirement of clause 4(b) of rule XI with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

BALANCING THE BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOKSEY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, not long ago his excellency, President Eduardo Frei of Chile, spoke to a joint session of the Congress. He gave us some advice. He began by saying, I want to share with you why we Chileans are ever more satisfied with the dividends of freedom, why we do not want to look back, why we wish to

have a part in the new history, the history mankind is now beginning to write.

I did not find his remarks presumptuous, as some did, because I believe we have a lot that we can learn from Chile. Chile was in a period of stagnation and suffered many of the budgetary perils that exist today in the United States. But Chile rose above it. Chile today has sustained 14 years of growth averaging 7 percent annually.

Real annual wages have risen over 4 percent. Per capita income has doubled in Chile in just the last decade. Chile's savings rate is close to 25 percent. All of this has been achieved not in spite of but as a direct result of 5 consecutive years of balanced budgets and fiscal surpluses.

Listening to President Frei, I was most impressed how he described the character of the Chilean people and its leaders. He said: We have learned to be patient. Chile does not begin anew with each election. Rather, we build on our creativity and on our work.

We are well aware that we have a unique historic opportunity to achieve full development in a free market of political freedom. We value our achievements but we give equal attention to the challenges that are ahead of us.

Mr. Speaker, I say that balancing the budget is about discipline, the discipline to do the right thing, the discipline to tell the American people the truth. With annual revenues of \$1.45 trillion, the Federal Government spends more than \$1.56 trillion each year. That means that the Government spends \$4.3 billion every day, \$178 million every hour and \$3 million every minute. That also comes out to be \$50,000 per second. But more important, it means that the President and Congress cannot do what American families do every single day, and that is to spend only what they have.

We have reached a historic accord with the President now, one that will balance the budget by the year 2002.

It came as a result of compromise and fair dealing. The Republicans in the House and the Senate have dealt with the administration in a direct and honest fashion, negotiating in good faith. Now it is up to the Democrats to meet us at this historic crossroads. This country has a great history of standing up to whatever challenges God sends our way. When we were oppressed, we fought for independence against overwhelming odds. When tyranny threatened our neighbors, we stood up against it and conquered it twice. When poverty sapped our Nation's energy, we rose from it to retain our place as the greatest Nation in the world.

Today we face similar challenges. One of the most important things President Frei said was that his countrymen did not need excessive government in their lives. He said: Our people want no more paternalism. They are ready to forge their own destiny.

Now we have come to an agreement on the budget. Americans should be calling on Members of Congress from both parties to sign on the dotted line and to pass this balanced budget.

With this balanced budget, we will provide \$85 billion in tax relief over 5 years. It is not as much as we conservative Republicans think the American people deserve, but it will mean a child tax credit, death tax relief, capital gains tax relief, expanded IRAs and relief for parents who send their kids to college. This balanced budget saves Medicare for 10 years, providing America's seniors more choice and enacts real reforms that slow the growth of spending by \$115 billion over 5 years.

In addition, it provides funding for domestic priorities, including transportation, housing and education.

I will fight for this balanced budget so that we can secure freedom for the future of all Americans and those Texans that live within the Fifth District. My constituents deserve leadership that tells them the truth, that can make tough decisions and that will make their life better.

Like Chile, our character is strong enough to withstand the path to a better future for our children.

SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a growing group of Americans who are at the heart and soul of America's thriving economy, America's small business owners. During this week, Small Business Week, I want to recognize small business owners for their contributions to our economy, our society and our communities. At the heart of every small business owner is the entrepreneurial spirit which our forefathers founded and build this country. It is this spirit and heart which has kept our business competitive for the past 200 years. In today's marketplace we can see large multinational corporations facing competition from small businesses making use of the Internet to expand their markets and competing with their counterparts from across the world. When we have small business owners striking out on their own trying to make a life and a living for themselves, we cannot afford to stifle the entrepreneurial spirit by overtaxing them.

Small businesses constitute 98 percent of all businesses in America. They employ nearly 60 percent of the work force. In addition, small businesses have created about two-thirds of the net new jobs in the American economy since the early 1970s. However, the government continues to impose policies like the burdensome death tax on small business people who wish to pass their business onto their children. Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, we must recognize and assist those who make small busi-

ness work for America, those who show the drive, initiative and imagination to make themselves, their business and their communities a success so that our economy can continue to grow.

One of these individuals is a young woman from Rushville, Illinois, a small town in west central Illinois. Judy Robbins was a hopeful small business owner in Rushville who wanted to start a dance studio but really had no plan, knowledge on how to start one. Judy decided she would take the initiative herself, and she signed up for a 4-week course at the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs under the Small Business Development Council.

During the 4 weeks of her small business course training, Judy learned how to formulate a business plan, pool her resources and start a business of her own. She spent the next 4 months attempting to convince a bank to finance her business plan, finally finding an institution which would finance her idea for a dance studio. Shortly after, Judy started the dance center, dance studio, and I am happy to say that hundreds of dance steps are being performed on a daily basis in downtown Rushville today.

Mr. Speaker, Judy Robbins is a shining example of a classic American dream coming true. The American entrepreneurial spirit can and will thrive without excessive paperwork and burdensome taxes. Small business is the epitome of what is right with America and what is right with the free market. The more regulated and burdened this market becomes, the more small business owners will be unable to do their jobs and create jobs for others.

We must stop overtaxing our small businesses and hurting our economy by retaining the death tax. When we see a small business owner from our districts this week, thank him or her for contributing to the growth of our communities and our economy.

ON SMALL BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. BRADY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BRADY. Mr. Speaker, today on Capitol Hill there were a number of representatives of the National Federation of Independent Business, the organization that represents more than 600,000 of our small and independent entrepreneurs in America, led capably by Jack Farris.

They were here today to talk about government and about the role it plays in stifling small business and the jobs they have the potential to create. It reminds us and helps remind us that small business is the engine of our economic growth in America. They are the quiet, very quiet heroes of our American economy.

We all know that most of the jobs in America are created by small businesses, but they are creating jobs at 8