

and \$200 billion deficits as far as the eye could see.

With a determination to save the American dream for the next generation, the Republican Congress turned the tax-and-spend culture of Washington upside down and produced a balanced budget with tax cuts for the American people. Now that the Federal Government's financial house is finally in order, the big question facing Congress, and the President, by the way, is what is next? With the average family still paying more in taxes than they do for the basic necessities, the obvious answer is, an across-the-board tax cut for everybody.

As we move from the era of big budgets and budget deficits to budget surpluses, some in this town will argue that we can afford to spend more money on more Washington programs. This is the mindset that created the problem in the first place. For our children's sake, it should be rejected. I urge, Madam Speaker, to continue fighting for more tax relief for the American people.

THE LITTLE ROCK NINE: A RIGHTFUL PLACE IN HISTORY

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, 40 years ago nine black students came to the doors of Central High School in Little Rock, AR, and demanded a seat in a classroom where they were denied welcome. They were entitled to be there by law, but they could not be there because an angry, hateful mob and Arkansas State troopers turned them away. The Little Rock Nine did nothing wrong. They were denied an education. They were turned away by hatred and bigotry. They were turned away because they were black.

Three weeks later, on September 25, President Eisenhower ordered Federal troops to escort the Little Rock Nine into Central High School. In doing so, the Little Rock Nine rocked not just a city, they rocked the Nation. As giants in our Nation's struggle for civil rights, the Little Rock Nine have earned their rightful place in history.

So today, Madam Speaker, we mark the 40th anniversary of the desegregation of Central High School. Because of their action, we have witnessed a non-violent revolution in America. Our country is a better country, a better place, and we are better people because of them.

LEGAL ISSUES IN DISPUTED CALIFORNIA ELECTION

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam Speaker, the Republican majority on the Committee on House Oversight seems to be

willing to go to any length to overturn the election of Congresswoman LORETTA SANCHEZ. The committee majority is in the process of sharing the Immigration and Naturalization Service records of hundreds of thousands of Orange County residents with the California Secretary of State. These records contain personal information on law-abiding U.S. citizens, many of them targeted by committee investigators simply because they have Hispanic surnames or because they reside in certain neighborhoods, and that is an outrage.

Everyone in this House must be concerned if the majority is simply acting as a conduit to circumvent Federal privacy protections. We need to be concerned with the legal issues that are involved for every American in this country, and if Hispanic-Americans have to believe that, in fact, simply because of their Hispanic surname, like I who was born in the United States, will be on some list, that that is the reason that they are going to be able to introduce and get into their privacy records, that has no end, and that cannot be tolerated by this Congress.

AGAINST H.R. 1270, NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT

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

Mr. ENSIGN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1997. Rarely in America do environmental groups, do private property rights groups and the people who truly believe in States rights ever join together to oppose something or to support something. But in this case, Madam Speaker, they all join together to oppose the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1997. The reason is because from an environmental standpoint, there are safety reasons.

During the transport of nuclear waste across 43 States, there are transportation safety reasons that environmental groups oppose this for. Private property rights oppose it because it devalues private property values as nuclear waste is transported past those private profits. And States rights people are against it because this is one State having nuclear waste shoved down its throat against its will. This is against the U.S. Constitution.

PASS MEANINGFUL CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, we have heard from the White House, we have heard from the Senate, and we have heard from the American people loud and clear. It is time to move forward and pass meaningful campaign finance reform. Now we are hearing that the majority leader might do some-

thing sometime. When is this House going to be ready? When will the leadership of this House be prepared to clean up the campaign finance mess we have in this country?

This House, the people's House, should be the loudest voice in the chorus. We must put a stop to big money special interests flooding the halls of our Government. It is time, Madam Speaker, for the Republican leadership to join with us to tell the American people that the buck stops here.

WORKING FOR RACIAL HARMONY

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

Mr. DICKEY. Madam Speaker, in September 1957, I was a 17-year-old freshman living in Pine Bluff, AR, and I was traveling through Little Rock to get to my school in Conway. I had no idea what was actually going on. I am here to tell my colleagues that I also went last week to Little Rock, AR, to a reconciliation rally and saw 13,000 kids and the rest of the State working to bring ourselves together because of what happened at Little Rock Central.

That rally made me think of Wiley Branton, who is a lawyer for my city, who carefully saw that I was indifferent to this and carefully told me the story of what it was like. He was in the middle of those heated exchanges, in the middle of that history-making event.

I want to thank Wiley Branton, I want to thank my colleague JOHN LEWIS, for the service that they have given before and to thank them also and all of the people who knew me and knew how indifferent I was then for the toleration they had for me and forgiving me for my indifference. I want to do all I can to bring racial harmony to Little Rock, AR, to our State and to our Nation.

ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES

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

Mr. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in great dismay over the President's decision not to sign the Ottawa treaty banning antipersonnel land mines. The administration's position defies reason. The only way that the United States can show leadership on this issue is to sign the comprehensive ban treaty on these deadly devices. One hundred nations courageously have changed their policy, but U.S. lawyers have simply changed the definition of a landmine.

But a landmine by any other name is still a landmine, and landmines are immoral. People around the globe have come together to say, no more. No more killing, no more maiming, no more maiming of innocents. No more fear of leaving one's home to find food. No more social and economic dislocation to the world's neediest countries. I

ask the President to sign the treaty to ban the antipersonnel landmines.

□ 1115

WHAT ARE A MINORITY OF DEMOCRATS TRYING TO STOP?

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

Mr. HORN. Madam Speaker, I have answered to these rollcalls on adjournment a dozen or more times in the last few weeks. It is an attempt by a determined minority on the other side. They are not the majority. The majority of Democrats have voted against these motions to adjourn, but 66 or so people, including the Democratic leader, have voted for these nuisance motions, and those other motions they can make under the House rules. What are they trying to stop?

They are trying to stop the appropriations process which needs time on the floor to meet the October 1 beginning of the new fiscal year. They are also trying to stop the 1996 campaign finance investigation process.

Yesterday, the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight was in a meeting all day, 10 o'clock to 6 o'clock. Serious deliberations were interrupted by numerous nuisance votes to adjourn.

Some people just want us to go home. They do not want the investigation to continue. We have 58 witnesses that are unavailable that we are trying to depose, and within the 58, 11 have left the country; 11 foreigners have refused to be interviewed by the police agencies in their country to give us evidence; 36 of the 58 have pled the fifth amendment and refused to testify.

It is time the Democratic minority get to work and quit the nuisance motions. That is what the American people want—whether they are Democrats, Independents, or Republicans.

CONGRESS MUST HANDLE THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE CONCERNING ELECTIVE DEMOCRACY

(Mrs. MINK of Hawaii asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Madam Speaker, this morning I offered the motion to adjourn. I offered the motion to adjourn because I do not believe this House has the right to sit in session unless we handle the most important issue concerning the elective democracy in this country, and that is how we raise money.

All of us go out and tell our constituents we need money in order to finance our campaigns. We tell our constituents that we are governed by laws that say we cannot collect more than \$1,000 for every election, and the PAC's live under similar restrictions of \$5,000 for every election. And yet night after night we read about these people who

contribute \$100,000, \$200,000, half a million dollars to our party committees.

Who can fix it? It is only the Congress that can fix it, and we should not be in session unless we handle this. I call upon the leadership to schedule this item, and when they do, there will no longer be motions to adjourn.

SCHOOL CHOICE GAINING SUPPORT AMONG MINORITIES

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, the Secretary of Education believes giving low income parents the ability to send their children to a better and safer school is, "a simplistic world view and dead wrong." But recent polls show that school choice is gaining support in America, especially among minorities. A recent study shows that 57 percent of African-Americans and 65 percent of Hispanics support school choice. I am surprised the administration is coming out against such a commonsense idea. Secretary Riley made it clear that low income families will not be helped by this administration.

Now let me make it clear that we in Congress will continue to push for school choice. See, we do not believe the President should be the only person in public housing with the opportunity to send his child to a better school.

BIPARTISAN TASK FORCE TAKING THE BOLD STEP OF BANNING SOFT MONEY

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

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, the efforts of the bipartisan task force have given us a very real chance for meaningful campaign finance reform. I am committed to seeing that this opportunity is not lost. It is incumbent upon this Congress that we honestly address the many flaws in the current system by which we finance our campaigns. Whether we want to admit it or not, the fact is that our campaign finance system is jeopardizing our credibility. We should not fool ourselves into believing that the problem is only the illegal activities that occur during campaigns. Quite to the contrary, the real problems stem from what is allowed under the law.

Madam Speaker, our bill takes the bold and important step of banning soft money. In the last election cycle we witnessed an explosion in the amount of soft money. Democrats and Republicans combined to raise more than \$260 million, and by 2000 it will be a billion dollars.

PRESIDENT THREATENS TO CALL US INTO SESSION TO INVESTIGATE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

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

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, it is actually hilarious to listen to the President threaten to call us into session to investigate campaign finance reform. Maybe for 1 day we can investigate his friends who are in jail, 1 day we can investigate his friends who have been released from jail, 1 day to investigate his friends who are indicted and maybe soon heading to jail, 2 days to investigate his friends who received immunity, one for partial and 1 for people who have received full immunity, 2 days for his friends who are pleading the fifth and unwilling to testify, and 3 days for his friends who have given him money and are now escaped overseas, and we could actually break this down by continent, or maybe if we have a few extra days, we can look into the impeachment resolution of the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. BARR].

What a joke. Did he think of this when he was raising the million dollars in San Francisco the other day? Before or after? I think it is a mockery of this process for this President to propose that we should be looking at campaign finance reform. He is the one with the problem.

WHERE IS OUR VOTE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM?

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

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, yesterday the majority leader stated that it is his "expectation that we will finally consider campaign finance reform," this fall. I have a message for my colleague from Texas. As of this past Monday, September 22, it is already fall.

The American people have waited too long. They know the system is broken, and they want it fixed. The people lose faith day by day in our political system.

Example: Tobacco industry gets \$50 billion in a tax break; tobacco industry, single biggest contributor to the Republican Party in the last election. I do not know any working family in this country that got a \$50 billion tax break. The American people understand this.

The other body, in fact, has scheduled the vote; the President wants to pass a bill. I ask the Speaker of this House, where is our vote? And, yes, my colleagues, every single day the minority will use the tool available to them, calling for motions to adjourn, until they bring up campaign finance reform. The American people deserve it.