

nutrition programs, legal immigrants, and children, that had nothing to do with welfare reform. In signing the bill, I said that I would seek legislation to address those problems. My budget does that.

Over the last four years, we have provided tax relief to millions of working Americans and to small businesses. But I want to go further by helping middle-income Americans raise their children, send them to college, and save for the future. For those Americans, my tax plan offers a \$500 per child tax credit for all children under 13, a \$1,500-a-year tax credit to help families send their children to college for two years, a \$10,000 tax deduction for tuition and fees for higher education and training, and expanded Individual Retirement Accounts to encourage saving and enable families to cope with unforeseen problems. I am also proposing to ensure that homeowners do not have to pay capital gains taxes on 99 percent of all home sales. My tax plan would promote the hiring of long-term welfare recipients in order to help move people from welfare to work, restore the tax credit that encourages business research and development, and expand tax credits for Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities. And it would help finance my tax relief by eliminating unwarranted tax loopholes and preferences.

On the international front, we must continue to project our leadership abroad while we advance our national goals. With the Cold War over, we have a great opportunity to expand democracy overseas, but we will have a much better chance to succeed if we fulfill our international commitments. In this budget, I am proposing that we pay our arrears to the United Nations and other international organizations, so that our leadership is not undermined at this crucial time. But I will also insist that these institutions control their budgets and enact the reforms that our Government and others have called for. In addition, we must continue our support for Russia and the New Independent States of the Soviet Union as they make the difficult transition to free markets and democracy, and we must be prepared to do whatever we can to advance the difficult, but vital, peace process in the Middle East. A strong, coherent foreign policy also will help us further our progress in opening markets abroad, and my budget proposes strong, continued support for the Federal efforts that help to expand exports.

Finally, our goals both at home and abroad must rest on the firm foundation of a strong national defense. It is a strong defense that safeguards our interests, prevents conflict, and secures the peace. We must ensure that our armed forces are highly ready and armed with the best equipment that technology can provide. They must be prepared and trained for the new threats to our security—from the proliferation of weapons of mass destruc-

tion, to ethnic and regional conflicts, to terrorism and drug trafficking that directly threaten our free and open society. My budget continues to sustain and modernize the world's strongest and most ready military force, a force capable of prevailing in two nearly simultaneous regional conflicts. It fully funds our commitment to maintain the highest levels of training and readiness, and to equip our uniformed men and women with the most advanced technologies in the world. We must never fall short when it comes to defense.

CONCLUSION

Our policies are working. By dramatically cutting the deficit and investing in the future, we have helped to spur four years of strong economic growth, providing vast new opportunities for millions of Americans. Jobs, incomes, savings, investment, exports, and homeownership are all up. Crime, poverty, teen pregnancy, and inequality are all down. Clearly, we are moving in the right direction.

But our work is not done. For too long, the Federal Government has spent much more than it received, creating deficits that cast doubt on both our economic future and our ability to govern. In the last four years, we have made high progress, cutting the deficit by nearly two-thirds. I urge Congress to help me finish the job and balance the budget by 2002—giving the American people the balanced budget they deserve.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

February 6, 1997.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:10 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 499. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service under construction at 7411 Barlita Boulevard in San Antonio, Texas, as the "Frank M. Tejeda Post Office Building."

MEASURE REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 499. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service under construction at 7411 Barlita Boulevard in San Antonio, Texas, as the "Frank M. Tejeda Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-30. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Iowa; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4

Whereas, with each passing year this nation becomes deeper in debt as federal gov-

ernment expenditures repeatedly exceed available revenues, so that the federal public debt is now approximately \$4.9 trillion, or \$19,000 for every man, woman, and child; and

Whereas, the annual federal budget has not been balanced since 1969, demonstrating an unwillingness or inability of both the legislative and executive branches of the federal government to spend in conformity with available revenues; and

Whereas, knowledgeable planning, fiscal prudence, and plain good sense require that the federal budget should not be manipulated to present the appearance of being in balance while, in fact, federal indebtedness continues to grow; and

Whereas, believing that fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level, which is resulting in a lower standard of living and endangering economic opportunity now and for the next generation, is the greatest threat which faces our nation; and

Whereas, Thomas Jefferson recognized the importance of a balanced budget when he wrote, "The question whether one generation has the right to bind another by the deficit it imposes is a question of such consequence as to place it among the fundamental principles of government. We should consider ourselves unauthorized to saddle posterity with our debts, and morally bound to pay them ourselves"; and

Whereas, the principal functions of the Constitution of the United States include promoting the broadest principles of a government of, by, and for the people; setting forth the most fundamental responsibilities of government; and enumerating and limiting the powers of the government to protect the basic rights of the people; and

Whereas, the federal government's unlimited ability to borrow involves decisions of such magnitude, with such potentially profound consequences for the nation and its people, today and in the future, that it is appropriately a subject for limitation by the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, the Constitution of the United States vests the ultimate responsibility to approve or disapprove of amendments to the Constitution of the United States with the people of the several States, as represented by their elected Legislatures; and

Whereas, opposition by a small minority within Congress and, on occasion, by the President, has repeatedly thwarted the will of the people of the United States that a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States should be submitted to the States for ratification while large majorities of both Houses of Congress already have prepared considered, and voted for such amendment; now therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate Concurring, That the General Assembly of the State of Iowa requests the members of the Congress of the United States to expeditiously pass, and to propose to the Legislatures of the several States for ratification, an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring in the absence of a national emergency that the total of all federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year; and be it

Further Resolved, That the Legislatures of each of the several States comprising the United States be urged to apply to the Congress requesting the proposal for ratification of such an amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and be it

Further Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of Iowa's congressional delegation, and the presiding officers of each house of the Legislatures of each of the other States.

We, Ron J. Corbett, Speaker of the House and Mary E. Kramer, President of the Senate; Elizabeth A. Isaacson, Chief Clerk of the House, and Mary Pat Gunderson, Secretary of the Senate, hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Seventy-seventh General Assembly.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. STEVENS (for himself, Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mr. BREAUX):

S. 281. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a mechanism for taxpayers to designate \$1 of any overpayment of income tax, and to contribute other amounts, for use by the United States Olympic Committee; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. STEVENS (for himself, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. BREAUX, and Mr. MURKOWSKI):

S. 282. A bill to establish a recurring bi-annual Olympic commemorative coins program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BURNS:

S. 283. A bill to establish a Commission on Structural Alternatives for the Federal Courts of Appeals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. COATS):

S. 284. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve safety at public railway-highway crossings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SHELBY (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. SMITH):

S. 285. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income any distribution from a qualified State tuition program used exclusively to pay qualified higher education expenses incurred by the designated beneficiary, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BOND, Mr. KYL, Mr. FRIST, Mr. NICKLES, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. COATS, Mr. SANTORUM, and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 286. A bill to provide for a reduction in regulatory costs by maintaining Federal average fuel economy standards applicable to automobiles in effect at current levels until changed by law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HOLLINGS:

S. 287. A bill to require congressional approval before any trade agreements entered into under the auspices of the World Trade Organization; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DORGAN:

S. 288. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide families with estate tax relief, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DEWINE:

S. 289. A bill to designate the United States courthouse to be constructed at the corner of Superior Road and Huron Road in Cleveland, Ohio, as the "Carl B. Stokes United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself, Mr. INOUE, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. STEVENS, and Mr. THOMAS):

S. 290. A bill to establish a visa waiver pilot program for nationals of Korea who are traveling in tour groups to the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BYRD:

S.J. Res. 15. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to clarify the intent of the Constitution to neither prohibit nor require public school prayer; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. STEVENS (for himself, Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mr. BREAUX):

S. 281. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a mechanism for taxpayers to designate \$1 of any overpayment of income tax, and to contribute other amounts, for use by the United States Olympic Committee; to the Committee on Finance.

THE UNITED STATES OLYMPIC CHECKOFF ACT

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, today I bring to the Senate the United States Olympic Checkoff Act. This bill would provide significant—and needed—new funding for our Nation's amateur athletic movement. This will present a way for Americans to show support for the United States Olympic Committee, the USOC, and for our amateur athletes. Simply by checking a box on their tax returns, American taxpayers could designate a dollar from their refunds to go to the USOC, or they could enclose a contribution to the USOC when they mail their tax forms. This concept is similar to the existing Presidential checkoff. It is different though, in that this deduction for the Olympic Committee would come from the taxpayers' own money, their refunds or their contributions, and not from the money destined for the Federal Treasury.

The Amateur Sports Act of 1978 made the USOC the central coordinating body for amateur sports in the United States. The responsibilities of the act, that is the responsibilities given by the act to the USOC, include training and selecting athletes to represent the United States at international competitions and, equally important, encouraging athletic activities for all amateur athletes in the United States through grassroots sports opportunities.

What the Amateur Sports Act does not do is authorize Federal funding of the USOC. In almost every other nation in the world, Olympic and amateur sports receive substantial government funding. That is not true in our country. The USOC's primary means of raising money to support U.S. athletes and to carry out the purposes of the act is through charging sponsors a fee to use the words "Olympics" or "Olympiad," and to display the Olympic symbol of five interlocking rings. Sponsors' fees do not come close to providing the funds necessary to train our growing legions of athletes. Our athletes at the grassroots level are not getting a fair

chance to be competitive with their counterparts from nations that provide funding from government sources.

My bill would create a new trust fund in the Treasury called the United States Olympic Trust Fund. The amounts voluntarily contributed by Americans would be deposited into the trust fund. At least once quarterly, the Secretary of Treasury would distribute the amounts in the trust fund to the USOC, after deducting reasonable administrative costs.

I look forward to working with the Senate Finance Committee and all of the Senate and the House to achieve enactment of this valuable legislation in this Congress. I hope this bill will be welcomed by all Americans who believe in the importance of our country's athletic programs.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 281

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "United States Olympic Checkoff Act".

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF OVERPAYMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR UNITED STATES OLYMPIC TRUST FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter A of chapter 61 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to returns and records) is amended by adding at the end the following new part:

"PART IX—DESIGNATION OF OVERPAYMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNITED STATES OLYMPIC TRUST FUND

"SEC. 6097. AMOUNTS FOR UNITED STATES OLYMPIC TRUST FUND.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—With respect to each taxpayer's return for the taxable year of the tax imposed by chapter 1, such taxpayer may designate that—

"(1) \$1 of any overpayment of such tax for such taxable year, and

"(2) any cash contribution which the taxpayer includes with such return,

be paid over to the United States Olympic Trust Fund.

"(b) JOINT RETURNS.—In the case of a joint return showing any overpayment of \$2 or more, each spouse may designate \$1 of such overpayment under subsection (a)(1).

"(c) MANNER AND TIME OF DESIGNATION.—A designation under subsection (a) may be made with respect to any taxable year only at the time of filing the return of the tax imposed by chapter 1 for such taxable year. Such designation shall be made on the first page of the return.

"(d) OVERPAYMENTS TREATED AS REFUNDED.—For purposes of this title, any overpayment of tax designated under subsection (a) shall be treated as being refunded to the taxpayer as of the date prescribed for filing the return of tax imposed by chapter 1 (determined without regard to extensions) or, if later, the date the return is filed."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of parts for subchapter A of chapter 61 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"Part IX. Designation of overpayments and contributions for United States Olympic Trust Fund."

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable