

instead, about 15 percent of the Federal budget is being wasted on interest payments because advocates of big government continue to block all efforts to balance the budget.

Mr. President, a balanced budget amendment will change all of that. It will put us on the path to begin paying off our national debt, which is currently more than \$5 trillion. This amendment will help ensure that taxpayers' money will not continue to be wasted on interest payments.

Opponents of a balanced budget amendment act like it is something extraordinary. Mr. President, a balanced budget amendment will only require the Government to do what every American already has to do: balance their checkbook. It is simply a promise to the American people that the Government will act responsibly.

Mr. President, we do not need any more budget deals. We do not need any more "bipartisan" summits resulting in huge tax increases. What we need is a hammer to force the Congress and the President to agree on a balanced budget, not just for this year, but forever. Mr. President, a constitutional amendment to balance the budget is the only such mechanism available.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 2

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for American families, and for other purposes.

S. 3

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3, a bill to provide for fair and accurate criminal trials, reduce violent juvenile crime, promote accountability by juvenile criminals, punish and deter violent gang crime, reduce the fiscal burden imposed by criminal alien prisoners, promote safe citizen self-defense, combat the importation, production, sale, and use of illegal drugs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SESSIONS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 3, supra.

S. 4

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 4, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide to private sector employees the same opportunities for time-and-a-half compensatory time off, biweekly work programs, and flexible credit hour programs as Federal employees currently enjoy to help balance the demands and needs of work and family, to clarify the provisions relating to exemptions of certain professionals from the minimum wage and overtime requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and for other purposes.

S. 6

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 6,

a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to ban partial-birth abortions.

S. 7

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 7, a bill to establish a United States policy for the deployment of a national missile defense system, and for other purposes.

S. 9

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. INHOFE] and the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] were added as cosponsors of S. 9, a bill to protect individuals from having their money involuntarily collected and used for politics by a corporation or labor organization.

S. 15

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 15, a bill to control youth violence, crime, and drug abuse, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. KERREY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 15, supra.

S. 29

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. HAGEL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 29, a bill to repeal the Federal estate and gift taxes and the tax on generation-skipping transfers.

S. 30

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. HAGEL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 30, a bill to increase the unified estate and gift tax credit to exempt small businesses and farmers from inheritance taxes.

S. 31

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. HAGEL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 31, a bill to phase-out and repeal the Federal estate and gift taxes and the tax on generation-skipping transfers.

S. 75

At the request of Mr. KYL, the names of the Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS] and the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SESSIONS] were added as cosponsors of S. 75, a bill to repeal the Federal estate and gift taxes and the tax on generation-skipping transfers.

S. 94

At the request of Mr. BRYAN, the name of the Senator from Florida [Mr. MACK] was added as a cosponsor of S. 94, a bill to provide for the orderly disposal of Federal lands in Nevada, and for the acquisition of certain environmentally sensitive lands in Nevada, and for other purposes.

S. 102

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from West Virginia [Mr. ROCKEFELLER] was added as a cosponsor of S. 102, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve Medicare treatment and education for beneficiaries with diabetes by providing coverage of diabetes

outpatient self-management training services and uniform coverage of blood-testing strips for individuals with diabetes.

S. 104

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. THOMAS], the Senator from Virginia [Mr. ROBB], and the Senator from Kansas [Mr. BROWNBACK] were added as cosponsors of S. 104, a bill to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982.

S. 139

At the request of Mr. FAIRCLOTH, the names of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] and the Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL] were added as cosponsors of S. 139, a bill to amend titles II and XVIII of the Social Security Act to prohibit the use of Social Security and Medicare trust funds for certain expenditures relating to union representatives at the Social Security Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services.

S. 143

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] was added as a cosponsor of S. 143, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies and lymph node dissections performed for the treatment of breast cancer.

S. 181

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. THOMAS], the Senator from Colorado [Mr. ALLARD], and the Senator from Georgia [Mr. COVERDELL] were added as cosponsors of S. 181, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that installment sales of certain farmers not be treated as a preference item for purposes of the alternative minimum tax.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

At the request of Mr. HOLLINGS, the name of the Senator from Nevada [Mr. BRYAN] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 2, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 6

At the request of Mr. KYL, the names of the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. BREAUX] and the Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. INHOFE] were added as cosponsors of Senate Joint Resolution 6, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to protect the rights of crime victims.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 9

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Colorado [Mr. ALLARD] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 9, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to

require two-thirds majorities for increasing taxes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 15

At the request of Mr. MACK, the names of the Senator from Ohio [Mr. DEWINE], the Senator from Maine [Ms. SNOWE], and the Senator from Maine [Ms. COLLINS] were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 15, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Federal commitment to biomedical research should be increased substantially over the next 5 years.

SENATE RESOLUTION 26—ORIGINAL RESOLUTION REPORT AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. CHAFEE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, reported the following original resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 26

Resolved, That, in carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of such rules, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized from March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, and March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, in its discretion—

- (1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;
- (2) to employ personnel; and
- (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. (a) The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, under this resolution shall not exceed \$2,431,871, of which amount—

- (1) not to exceed \$8,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended); and
- (2) not to exceed \$2,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(b) For the period March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$2,494,014, of which amount—

- (1) not to exceed \$8,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended); and
- (2) not to exceed \$2,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

SEC. 3. The committee shall report its findings, together with such recommendations for legislation as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not later than February 28, 1998, and February 28, 1999, respectively.

SEC. 4. Expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contin-

gent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee except that vouchers shall not be required—

- (1) for the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;
- (2) for the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate;
- (3) for the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery, United States Senate;
- (4) for payments to the Postmaster, United States Senate;
- (5) for the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate; or
- (6) for the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services.

SEC. 5. There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee from March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, and March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, to be paid from the Appropriations account for "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations."

SENATE RESOLUTION 27—ORIGINAL RESOLUTION REPORT AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Finance, reported the following original resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 27

Resolved, That, in carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of such rules, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Finance is authorized from March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, and March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, in its discretion (1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate, (2) to employ personnel, and (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, under this resolution shall not exceed \$3,329,727, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$30,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(b) For the period March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$3,416,328, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$30,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

SEC. 3. The committee shall report its findings, together with such recommendations for legislation as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not later than February 28, 1997, and February 28, 1998, respectively.

SEC. 4. Expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee, except that vouchers shall not be required (1) for the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate, or (2) for the payment of telecommunications provided by the office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (3) for the payment of stationery, supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery, United States Senate, or (4) for payments to the Postmaster, United States Senate, or (5) for the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (6) for the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services.

SEC. 5. There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee from March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, and March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, to be paid from the Appropriations account for "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations."

SENATE RESOLUTION 28—ORIGINAL RESOLUTION REPORT AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. D'AMATO, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, reported the following original resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 28

Resolved, That, in carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of such rules, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized from March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, and March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, in its discretion (1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate, (2) to employ personnel, and (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. The expenses of the committee for the period of March 1, 1997, through February 28, 1998, under this resolution shall not exceed \$2,853,725 of which amount (1) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$850 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(b) For the period of March 1, 1998, through February 28, 1999, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$2,928,278 of which amount (1) not to exceed