3. Families—Approving this amendment will improve the economic health and stability of America's families.

4. Economic strength—The BBA will stabilize Washington's budgets and the national economy, enabling us to rein in our monstrous national deficit.

The strength of the Constitution can ensure a responsible budgetary framework, saving us from being swallowed by accumulating debt. The BBA will improve and protect our economy, our families and our children.

I am following the wisdom of Thomas Jefferson, who said, ''I wish it were possible to obtain a single amendment to our Constitution * * * an additional article taking from the Federal Government the power of borrowing,'' by introducing the Balanced Budget Amendment, along with Reps. STENHOLM, CASTLE, and a large and growing bipartisan group of Members.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.)

PRESERVING THE HEALTH OF SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, the 106th Congress started the day with a nationwide consensus that the health of social security is in jeopardy. Millions of American seniors have come to depend on social security, and it is our responsibility to see that a solution is found to address this looming crisis.

In the early 1980s, social security faced a similar, more immediate crisis. At that time projections showed that social security would be insolvent by 1983. Within months of that projected insolvency, reforms were enacted that provided for the continued health of the program, and included in these reforms were tax increases which would result in social security receiving more in revenue than it would pay out for benefits for several decades.

The surplus was to be placed in the social security trust fund, where it would earn interest and be saved for future retirees. American seniors were assured that the system was saved at least temporarily, and that the massive reserve account being created would ensure the fund's solvency and American seniors' security. It seemed that the crisis had been at least avoided temporarily.

Unfortunately, the surplus that was supposed to be placed in trust, ready for American seniors, was spent. Contrary to popular belief, when social security was first established in 1935, social security taxes were not placed in a trust, but instead, became part of the government's operating cash pool. Social security revenues that were not used to pay for social security benefits or administering the system were used for other government spending. This method of financing is commonly referred to as pay-as-you-go.

In reality, there is no cash in the trust fund, merely IOUs totaling the amount of money the government has borrowed and spent on other activities. The accumulated amount of IOUs currently stands at $757 billion. That is three-quarters of a trillion dollars in paper IOUs. That is not in dollars.

This was highlighted in a recent Washington Post article, which noted that every month bureaucrats at the Bureau of Public Debt turn on a laser printer and ''turn out scores of plain paper certificates that represent the retirement security of millions of Americans.'' It goes on to say that the entire trust fund ''fits in four ordinary brown accordian-style folders that one can easily hold in both hands.'' Only in Washington would four brown folders be considered a trust fund representing the retirement savings of millions of Americans.

We are all aware of the projections that show in 2013 social security will begin paying out more in benefits than it will take in. Many take comfort, noting that although the program will begin running deficits at that time, the program will not be completely bankrupt until 2032, since hundreds of billions of dollars have been placed in the trust fund.

But as we see, since there is no cash in the fund, it will effectively be bankrupt as soon as it pays out more than it takes in. That is just 14 years from today that insolvency would hit. At that point, benefits will have to be cut or the system will have to be funded through reductions in other spending, or tax increases, or return to chronic deficit spending.

That is why today I introduced legislation which honors the commitment made to American taxpayers and seniors. H.R. 160, the Social Security Strengthening and Protection Act, will pay back the money borrowed from social security and create a real trust fund with real assets.

Under my bill, 90 percent of the budget surplus would be used to purchase interest-bearing Treasury bonds. These are negotiable bonds. As opposed to IOUs, these are the same hard assets held by investors throughout the world. The use of 90 percent of the budget surplus in this fashion could continue until all IOUs in the trust fund were replaced with actual Treasury bonds.

Essentially, this legislation will create a trust fund in fact, not just in name. Social security revenue would no longer be used for anything except social security. That is how Americans think of social security. That is what they want.

I will point out that long-term, there are other challenges to be met in terms of social security. The facts are that in our parents' generation each family had four children, on average. In our generation, each family has 2 children, so clearly there has to be other fundamental changes made long-term for the solvency of social security.

But we should not compound the problem by taking a three-quarters of a trillion dollars in IOUs to social security and not having a trust fund there to depend upon. That is why I am sponsoring this legislation today, and ask my colleagues to join me in seeing that this commitment is met.

TENNESSEE PRIDE

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

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, my ancestors' history in East Tennessee goes back 200 years. The region is rich in people, culture, and heritage, but our success has not come easily. At the turn of this great American century the Tennessee Valley, at the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, was burdened by poverty and illiteracy.

However, two great institutions fueled the region's economy early in the 20th century, the University of Tennessee and the Tennessee Valley Authority. Then a powerful U.S. Senator from Tennessee helped to locate a critical defense mission called the Manhattan Project in Oak Ridge, and the Federal Government invested billions in Tennessee to help win the Cold War and break the back of communism, preserving peace in the world.

Today, as we turn into this next great American century, the East Tennessee region is home to a thriving technology corridor and a hotbed for investment and private sector economic opportunity.

With the combination of quality of life and great natural beauty, a highly-trained workforce, and investment opportunity, the East Tennessee area is one of the best examples in our country of turning lemons into lemonade.

With the siting of the Nation's top science project, the Spallation Neutron Source, at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the University of Tennessee will play an even greater role in international research and development and rise to an even higher level as one of the Nation's top educational institutions.

Mr. Speaker, we are indeed proud of the excellence in education at the University of Tennessee. But this week, this fine university celebrates another excellent achievement. The 1998 men's football team joined the Lady Vols basketball team as undisputed national champions. Led by Al Wilson, Raynoch Thompson, and Eric Westmoreland on defense, and Tee Martin and Peerless Price on offense, this national champion team is not only a team of destiny, but also serves as a good example for our young people of the ''team approach.''

These fine football players worked their way to an undefeated 13 and 0 season and the first national football championship for the University of Tennessee in 47 years.

To Coach Phillip Fulmer and his staff, Dr. Joe Johnson and the leadership of the University of Tennessee, 107,000 diehard fans and the best college football team in America, I salute you for your achievement, and thank you for instilling such pride throughout the Tennessee Valley.

□ 1830

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess, subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1954

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PEASE) at 7 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment, a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 2. Concurrent resolution providing for adjournment of the House.

The message also announced that the Secretary of the Senate inform the House of Representatives that the Senate is ready to receive the Managers appointed by the House for the purpose of exhibiting articles of impeachment against William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States, agreeably to the notice communicated to the Senate, and that at the hour of 10 o'clock a.m., on Thursday, January 7, 1999, the Senate will receive the honorable managers on the part of the House of Representatives, in order that they may present and exhibit the articles of impeachment against William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States.

The message also announced that the Secretary of the Senate notify the House of Representatives that at the hour of 1 o'clock p.m., on Thursday, January 7, 1999, in the Senate Chamber, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the articles of impeachment against William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. GALLEGLY (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and for the balance of the week on account of the death of his father.

Mr. JENKINS (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) after 2:30 p.m. today on account of recovery from surgery.

Mr. BLUNT (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) after 2:30 p.m. today, on account of the swearing-in of his son as a representative in the Missouri State legislature.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

The following Members (at the request of Mr. BERMAN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.

The following Members (at the request of Mr. HULSHOF) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHAFFER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ROYCE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WAMP, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 2 of the 106th Congress, the House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, January 19, 1999.

There was no objection.

Thereupon (at 7 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 2, the House adjourned until Tuesday, January, 19, 1999, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XXII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1. A letter from the Deputy Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Trading Hours— received January 4, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Picloram; Time-Limited Pesticide Tolerances [OPP–300748; FRL–6039–4] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received December 28, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Copper-ethylenediamine complex; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP–300777; FRL–6052–5] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received December 28, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Dicamba (3,6-dichloro-o-anisic acid); Pesticide Tolerance [OPP–300767; FRL–6049–2] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received December 28, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for the Department of Defense regarding Operation and Maintenance; Defense-wide; (H. Doc. No. 105—1); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

6. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Occupant Crash Protection [Docket No. NHTSA–98–4934] (RIN: 2127–AH24) received January 4, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Accidental Release Prevention Requirements; Risk Management Programs Under Clean Air Act Section 112(r)(7); Amendments [FRL–6214–9] (RIN: 2050–AE46) received December 28, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Withdrawal of the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations: Analytical Methods for Regulated Drinking Water Contaminants; Direct Final Rule [WH-FRL–6212–4] (RIN: 2040–AC77) received December 28, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

9. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes Florida: Redesignation of the Duval County sulfur dioxide unclassifiable area to attainment [FL–75–1–9806a; FRL–6196–8] received December 28, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

10. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—California State Implementation Plan Revision; Interim Final Determination That State Has Corrected Deficiencies [CA 211–0117; FRL–6211–9] received December 28, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

11. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification that the national emergency declared with respect to Libya is to continue in effect beyond January 7, 1999, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); (H. Doc. No. 105—3); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

12. A letter from the Executive Director, Committee For Purchase From People Who Are Blind Or Severly Disabled, transmitting the Committee's final rule—Procurement List; Additions—received January 4, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

13. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Annual Adjustment of Monetary Threshold for Reporting Rail Equipment Accidents/Incidents (FRA–98–4898, Notice No. 1) [RIN: 2130–AB30) received January 4, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

14. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting