little bit more of what already belongs to them.

This legislation was passed because Republicans think the tax burden on the middle class is too high. Revenues to Uncle Sam are at record levels. Taxes paid in Washington have risen steadily higher since the days of Ronald Reagan ended.

The idea that the Federal Government, of all things, can be trusted better to spend our money than the people that earned it, is simply mind-boggling.

FDA MISGUIDED ON PRIORITIES

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the Food and Drug Administration has approved a new-state-of-the-art antidepressant for dogs. The FDA says ''American canines are suffering from anxiety.'' Think about it, no barking beagles, no more whining weimaraners, no more defecating Dobermans.

Meanwhile, the FDA continues to deny approval for certain cancer-treating drugs to help mom and dad.

Beam me up. It is evident that the FDA has gone to the dogs. What is next, Viagra for felines?

I yield back all the misguided priorities of the Food and Drug Administration.

DOLLARS TO THE CLASSROOM

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, when we think of our children's schooling, we think of books, classrooms, computers and things like flash cards, spelling tests and calculators. We do not think of bureaucrats, bureaucratic programs and stacks of paperwork.

As we stand here today, children are sitting in their kindergarten through 12th grade classrooms, learning everything from spelling the word ''house'' to a method of reaching a calculus derivative. They are learning with a teacher, and with the use of classroom tools.

The very small part that the Federal Government does play in adding value to the elementary and secondary education experience should be to fund classroom activity directly.

Dollars to the Classroom: A simple, but profound, concept. Instead of keeping education dollars here in Washington, let us send our Federal dollars directly to the parents, teachers and principals of our local public schools, local people, who are truly helping our children to learn.

BUDGET SURPLUS BELONGS TO TAXPAYERS

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, the President said something recently in Buffalo, New York, that I think perfectly captures the attitude of our some of our friends on the left when it comes to tax cuts.

In Buffalo the President spoke about what should be done with the projected budget surpluses over the next 15 years. He said, ''We could give it all back to you and hope that you spend it right, but . . ..''

''Hope that you spend it right?'' Excuse me, what exactly does the President mean when he says ''hope that you spend it right?'' Is the budget surplus something that belongs to the government, or does it belong to the people who earn the money?

Well, it does not belong to Washington, and it does not belong to the politicians. It belongs to the people who sent the money to Washington in the first place. They are called taxpayers, and, yes, some of us believe that they ought to get some of it back.

TEACHER TECHNOLOGY TRAINING ACT

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

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will provide teachers with the technology training that they need to meet the classroom challenges of the 21st Century.

The Teacher Technology Training Act would include technology, teacher training and professional development programs that are authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Schools Act of 1994.

What it would do is it would require states to incorporate technology requirements in teacher training content and performance standards. We certainly do need this. During the 104th Congress, language was included in the Telecommunications Act to provide affordable access to the Internet for our Nation's schools.

Well, with all its possibilities, technology alone cannot improve our system of education. It could be just a useless baby-sitter, providing little educational benefit, without the help of the classroom teacher.

The classroom teacher is the key to success in bringing technology into our schools. All too often, however, teachers are expected to incorporate technology into the classroom, without even being given the training to do so.

So this bill would require that they have it. It costs no money. It would be included, and our classrooms must have teachers who know how to use technology in order for our children to succeed into the next century.

I hope my colleagues will join in cosponsoring this important legislation.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
Washington, DC, February 8, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on February 8, 1999 at 12:35 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits the National Drug Control Strategy for 1999.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL.

1999 NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL STRATEGY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, the Committee on Commerce, the Committee on Education and the Workforce, the Committee on Government Reform, the Committee on International Relations, the Committee on Resources, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the Committee on Veterans Affairs, and the Committee on Ways and Means:

To the Congress of the United States:

On behalf of the American people, I am pleased to transmit the 1999 National Drug Control Strategy to the Congress. This Strategy renews and advances our efforts to counter the threat of drugs—a threat that continues to cost our Nation over 14,000 lives and billions of dollars each year.

There is some encouraging progress in the struggle against drugs. The 1998 Monitoring the Future study found that youth drug use has leveled off and in many instances is on the decline—the second straight year of progress after years of steady increases. The study also found a significant strengthening of youth attitudes toward drugs: young people increasingly perceive drug use as a risky and unacceptable behavior. The rate of drug-related murders continues to decline, down from 1,302 in 1992 to 786 in 1997. Overseas, we have witnessed a decline in cocaine production by 325 metric tons in Bolivia and Peru over the last 4 years. Coca cultivation in Peru plunged 56 percent since 1995.

Nevertheless, drugs still exact a tremendous toll on this Nation. In a 10-year period, over 100,000 Americans will

die from drug use. The social costs of drug use continue to climb, reaching $110 billion in 1995, a 64 percent increase since 1990. Much of the economic burden of drug abuse falls on those who do not abuse drugs—American families and their communities. Although we have made progress, much remains to be done.

The 1999 National Drug Control Strategy provides a comprehensive balanced approach to move us closer to a drug-free America. This Strategy presents a long-term plan to change American attitudes and behavior with regard to illegal drugs. Among the efforts this Strategy focuses on are:

—Educating children: studies demonstrate that when our children understand the dangers of drugs, their rates of drug use drop. Through the National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign, the Safe and Drug Free Schools Program and other efforts, we will continue to focus on helping our youth reject drugs.

—Decreasing the addicted population: the addicted make up roughly a quarter of all drug users, but consume two-thirds of all drugs in America. Our strategy for reducing the number of addicts focuses on closing the ''treatment gap.''

—Breaking the cycle of drugs and crime: numerous studies confirm that the vast majority of prisoners commit their crimes to buy drugs or while under the influence of drugs. To help break this link between crime and drugs, we must promote the Zero Tolerance Drug Supervision initiative to better keep offenders drug- and crime-free. We can do this by helping States and localities to implement tough new systems to drug test, treat, and punish prisoners, parolees, and probationers.

—Securing our borders: the vast majority of drugs consumed in the United States enter this Nation through the Southwest border, Florida, the Gulf States, and other border areas and air and sea ports of entry. The flow of drugs into this Nation violates our sovereignty and brings crime and suffering to our streets and communities. We remain committed to, and will expand, efforts to safeguard our borders from drugs.

—Reducing the supply of drugs: we must reduce the availability of drugs and the ease with which they can be obtained. Our efforts to reduce the supply of drugs must target both domestic and overseas production of these deadly substances.

Our ability to attain these objectives is dependent upon the collective will of the American people and the strength of our leadership. The progress we have made to date is a credit to Americans of all walks of life—State and local leaders, parents, teachers, coaches, doctors, police officers, and clergy. Many have taken a stand against drugs. These gains also result from the leadership and hard work of many, including Attorney General Reno, Secretary of Health and Human Services Shalala, Secretary of Education Riley, Treasury Secretary Rubin, and Drug Policy Director McCaffrey. I also thank the Congress for their past and future support. If we are to make further progress, we must maintain a bipartisan commitment to the goals of the Strategy.

As we enter the new millennium, we are reminded of our common obligation to build and leave for coming generations a stronger Nation. Our National Drug Control Strategy will help create a safer, healthier future for all Americans.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 8, 1999.*

PROPOSED AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND ROMANIA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 106–13)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress, pursuant to sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2153(b) and (d)), the text of a proposed Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Romania Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, with accompanying annex and agreed minute. I am also pleased to transmit my written approval, authorization, and determination concerning the agreement, and the memorandum of the Director of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency with the Nuclear Proliferation Assessment Statement concerning the agreement. The joint memorandum submitted to me by the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Energy, which includes a summary of the provisions of the agreement and various other attachments, including agency views, is also enclosed.

The proposed agreement with Romania has been negotiated in accordance with the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended by the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978 and as otherwise amended. In my judgment, the proposed agreement meets all statutory requirements and will advance the nonproliferation and other foreign policy interests of the United States. The agreement provides a comprehensive framework for peaceful nuclear cooperation between the United States and Romania under appropriate conditions and controls reflecting our common commitment to nuclear nonproliferation goals. Cooperation until now has taken place under a series of supply agreements dating back to 1966 pursuant to the agreement for peaceful nuclear cooperation between the United States and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The Government of Romania supports international efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons to additional countries. Romania is a party to the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and has an agreement with the IAEA for the application of full-scope safeguards to its nuclear program. Romania also subscribes to the Nuclear Suppliers Group guidelines, which set forth standards for the responsible export of nuclear commodities for peaceful use, and to the guidelines of the NPT Exporters Committee (Zangger Committee), which oblige members to require the application of IAEA safeguards on nuclear exports to nonnuclear weapon states. In addition, Romania is a party to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, whereby it agrees to apply international standards of physical protection to the storage and transport of nuclear material under its jurisdiction or control. Finally, Romania was one of the first countries to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

I believe that peaceful nuclear cooperation with Romania under the proposed new agreement will be fully consistent with, and supportive of, our policy of responding positively and constructively to the process of democratization and economic reform in Central Europe. Cooperation under the agreement also will provide opportunities for U.S. business on terms that fully protect vital U.S. national security interests.

I have considered the views and recommendations of the interested agencies in reviewing the proposed agreement and have determined that its performance will promote, and will not constitute an unreasonable risk to, the common defense and security. Accordingly, I have approved the agreement and authorized its execution and urge that the Congress give it favorable consideration.

Because this agreement meets all applicable requirements of the Atomic Energy Act, as amended, for agreements for peaceful nuclear cooperation, I am transmitting it to the Congress without exempting it from any requirement contained in section 123 a. of that Act. This transmission shall constitute a submittal for purposes of both sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Atomic Energy Act. My Administration is prepared to begin immediately the consultations with the Senate Foreign Relations and House International Relations Committees as provided in section 123 b. Upon completion of the 30-day continuous session period provided for in section 123 b., the 60-day