

organ procurement. Organ donation is as simple as filling out a donor card and by just one person's donation as many as 50 people may benefit through transplantation.

It is important that we as Members of Congress raise awareness on the importance of organ and tissue donations to increase donors across our districts and throughout our land. There is no greater gift than the gift of life. We must encourage this giving and work to leave a lasting legacy to prevent the needless and tragic deaths of thousands of Americans each year.

VOTE NO ON THE D.C. CONFERENCE REPORT

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

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, in one of the great ironies of this session, I am forced to ask for a no vote on the D.C. conference report that will come before us later today. My appropriation is actually a local budget with the old federal payment now abolished. Though the budget comes balanced, replete with tax cuts and a surplus, it has proved needlessly contentious here, dragging Members into local matters that most want to avoid as somebody else's business about which Members necessarily know little.

The new Mayor, revitalized City Council and I cannot live with backdoor approaches to weakened self-government. Take it straight from D.C. itself. We all ask for a no vote on the D.C. conference report.

□ 1015

WE MUST PROVIDE REAL, MEANINGFUL, AND REASONABLE TAX RELIEF FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, Republicans in the House of Representatives are keeping their word to the American people. As a member of the Committee on Appropriations, I am very proud of the work that the committee has done and led by the gentleman from Florida who has crafted bills that will keep the agreement and maintain the budget caps that we promised back in 1997.

On the other side, the flip side, the President's budget proposal busts the budget spending by some 42 billion over our agreed upon limit. How does he get away with that my colleagues ask? By using gimmicks, by assuming new taxes on the American people knowing full well that the Republican Congress would never agree to those tax hikes.

Now we understand that a supplemental spending plan is coming our way from the White House. This emer-

gency spending would add up to 12 billion more.

Madam Speaker, this illustrates our point about why we must provide meaningful tax relief to the American people. If we do not give the American people back their money, it is sure to be spent by the big government crowd here in Washington, D.C. That would be a huge disservice to the people who pay our bills, the American taxpayer.

STAND UP AND SAY SOMETHING ABOUT THE MASSACRES GOING ON IN EAST TIMOR

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

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, 200,000 refugees, 3,000 people per hour leaving their homes and their country. Martial law imposed, paramilitary people roaming the countryside. Sound familiar? Four and a half months ago we did this in Kosovo. I thought the problem then was that this House did not have anything to say about it until we already had troops on the ground. I think we need to stand up now and say something about the massacres that are going on in East Timor.

One way or the other I happen to think that we need to do something. I think America stands for democracy; I think we need to stand up. That is why today's resolution being filed already has 20 cosponsors. It was only drafted yesterday in bipartisan support, and I ask every Member to look at that resolution and to join us to have this Congress stand up before, before we commit troops either ourselves or the United Nations or SEATO or someone else.

Stand up and be counted. Do our job.

LIBERALS HATE THE IDEA OF ALLOWING AMERICANS TO KEEP MORE OF THEIR OWN MONEY

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

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Madam Speaker, the Washington Post editorial page has editorialized yet again against the Republican tax cut proposals. Hardly a week goes by without the Washington Post and other liberal publications warning against the idea of letting Americans keep more of their hard-earned money. To me that is a pretty good indication that it is exactly what we need to do.

Of course, the same crowd that called Ronald Reagan's tax cuts dangerous, foolish, and irresponsible are now singing the same tune today. They are the same people who just 2 years ago said that it was impossible to cut taxes and balance the budget at the same time. And, of course, they are the same crowd that could not praise President Clinton enough for raising taxes by a record amount.

See, Madam Speaker, some people really do not believe that people can spend their own money better than Washington can, and they really hate the idea that people should be able to keep more of the fruits of their hard-earned labor and reap the benefits of saving and sacrificing and realizing their dreams, and of course they are against tax cuts.

GOP TAX CUT SELLS CHILDREN SHORT

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

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, over the August recess, the message from America was clear:

We do not want the GOP tax break.

What is realized, the GOP plan provides little tax relief for middle- and lower-income Americans, the ones who need it the most. It does nothing to continue our efforts to reduce the Federal debt. It does nothing to strengthen Social Security or Medicare, and it does nothing, it does nothing to help the dire conditions of our schools, the infrastructure of our schools in the United States. Republicans offer only a small arbitrage provision in the recently passed tax bill as their aid for our beleaguered school system. This initiative would provide minimal tax benefits to school districts. These benefits can actually delay school construction for more than 2 years.

We can fix our highways; we can rebuild our bridges. Why do we sit by and do nothing for the infrastructure that houses our Nation's greatest asset, our children? There are many chilling accounts of near fatal accidents at schools in New York, and I fear the day that conditions at our schools deteriorate to the point where accidents are simply unavoidable.

I know that providing tax relief to our schools for construction assistance is not only the right thing to do as a Congressman, but the right thing to do as a new parent and as an American.

THE REPUBLICAN PLAN IS FOR ALL AMERICANS, NOT JUST THE RICH

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

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, Congressional Budget Office projects approximately \$3 trillion in budget surpluses over the next 10 years. The Republican plan would take \$2 trillion of that money and put it in the Social Security and Medicare lockbox. That means that \$2 trillion goes towards retirement security for those two important programs. It also reduces the debt by \$2 trillion. The remaining \$1 trillion would be returned to the taxpayers, all taxpayers.

Now my liberal friends in the House here keep saying it is tax cuts for the rich, tax cuts for the rich. It is just not true. It is for all Americans.

The details? For example: The marriage penalty.

Right now, a married couple in this country pays higher taxes than a couple who is living together and not married. That is just not right. So it phases out the marriage penalty.

It also eliminates over time the death tax or the inheritance tax. Right now the Federal Government can take up to 55 percent of what a person has earned during the course of their life when they die. It means the family farm gets sold, small businesses get sold, people lose their jobs.

So let us save those important programs and cut taxes.

AS THE CHAMPION OF DEMOCRACY, OUR VOICE SHOULD BE THE LOUDEST FOR PROTECTING THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, on August 30 the world watched as the people of East Timor exercised their right to self-determination for the first time with nearly full participation of eligible voters; and by a staggering margin, the East Timorese chose independence from Indonesia over autonomy within it. This courage has been rewarded with the destruction of East Timor, the displacement of its people, the inaction of the Indonesian government. Since the election, hundreds have died; and nearly one-quarter of the East Timorese have been forced to flee their homes. Indonesian officials have done nothing to stop the violence and to protect the U.N. personnel there.

For the people of East Timor time is running out. We must do our part to stop the horror; we must pledge logistical support to an armed peace-keeping force to restore order in East Timor. Until order is restored, all bilateral nonhumanitarian assistance to Indonesia should be suspended; and we should use our leverage in international financial institutions to cut off multilateral assistance. We should advocate in the U.N. Security Council punitive measures against Indonesia if Habibie fails to cooperate.

As the champion of democracy, our voice should be the loudest.

CLEMENCY FOR PUERTO RICAN TERRORISTS

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Madam Speaker, my colleague from New York who preceded me in the well accurately points out yet another problem in the world, and while this House in a bipartisan basis will work its will in short order to deal with this crisis, it reminds us that we bear the bitter fruits of confu-

sion, naivete, or worse on the part of this administration in dealing with foreign policy.

Madam Speaker, the best example and the latest example is the confusing dilemma in which our Commander in Chief has placed the American people because he apparently has chosen to reward terrorists. It is sad to note the President of the United States has granted clemency to about one dozen Puerto Rican terrorists who advocated the armed overthrow of the United States Government.

Madam Speaker, the President says that he will take the terrorists at their word.

Madam Speaker, as we have learned, when we cannot trust our highest elected officials and take them at their word, how can we possibly take the word of terrorists?

YOU DO THE CRIME, YOU DO THE TIME

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

Mr. WISE. Madam Speaker, I agree. When the President is right, I stand with him; but I also have to speak out when I believe he is wrong.

Now I oppose the President's act of granting clemency to terrorists. The acts that these people were convicted of are not necessarily all that they would have been involved in. Often a U.S. Attorney in order to get a conviction will bring those cases that are most evident, where the evidence is best, even though there were other cases that could have been brought.

The only authority of the law is when wrongdoers know that the penalty will be fully carried out. This becomes doubly important in the act of terrorism because it is also essential to remove those people as quickly as possible from the scene so they cannot carry out other groups and so we send a message internationally.

Madam Speaker, these people were part of a group that brought death and destruction. They maimed police officers. They should serve the entire term.

There is an old saying: "You do the crime, you do the time," and that applies to this situation especially.

WE MUST RESPOND TO THE CRISIS IN EAST TIMOR

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, as we gather here today in Congress it is nighttime in East Timor. Thousands of refugees are fleeing the country.

East Timor is a country of 800,000 people, and nearly a third of them have had to flee since the election the other day. At that time, the people of East Timor voted overwhelmingly for independence; but instead violence rules in East Timor. And the world has not spo-

ken out adequately, appropriately, sufficiently in any way to respond.

In the course of 500 years of domination of other countries' cultures including the Japanese occupation of 50 years, never in that time were the religious institutions attacked. But in the last few days, the home of Bishop Belo was bombed, was set afire. This place was a refuge, a sanctuary for people who came for shelter from the violence and has been set afire by the militia and the military.

Madam Speaker, how much more will have to happen there before we will act to cut off the funds from the IMF? Support the Capuano resolution that will come to the floor today.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE TASK FORCE ON SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I think I have exciting news, regarding what we have accomplished in our Social Security Task Force. Our bipartisan Task Force has been working on Social Security and the possibility of a bipartisan agreement to move a solution ahead. Last year, I was asked to head up a task force on Social Security with Democrats and Republicans. That was officially started early this year as a task force of the Committee on the Budget. Republicans and Democrats, when we started the discussion were inclined to have little agreement.

The good news is we have come up with 18 findings that the Republicans and Democrats have agreed on. Next week we will have a complete report of this task force effort. I am excited. Let us keep it in our minds. Let us not be nullified by the fact that we have a surplus and somehow that surplus is going to somehow fix Social Security. It does not.

THE REPUBLICAN PLAN IS OUT OF STEP WITH AMERICAN VALUES

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

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, American working families today want to use the budget surplus in a responsible way that protects, strengthens Medicare and Social Security, that pays down the debt. The Republican plan is out of step with American values. It does nothing to extend Social Security by a single day. It dedicates not one penny to Medicare. It would force deep cuts in education, crime fighting, and national defense.

But let me tell my colleagues there is a quote from one of my Republican colleagues that sums up their views about working families, and I quote: The American people are not too enthusiastic about a tax-cut package because