

The strongest evidence of all that Americans are paying too much is the size of the budget surplus. Conservatively projected at \$2.9 trillion over the next 10 years, this surplus was earned by taxpayers. They are the ones who deserve to reap the benefits of their labors. The Republican tax relief package returned only a portion of that money to taxpayers, despite all that spin from this floor and the administration to the contrary.

Specifically, Mr. Speaker, our proposal returns 27 cents on each dollar of surplus over the next decade. The remainder we locked away to be used for protecting Social Security, strengthening Medicare, and paying off the national debt. Our tax relief package benefits all Americans, married couples, senior citizens, working families, the self-employed, public schools, and distressed neighborhoods.

We provide tax relief for married couples. One of the most unfair provisions in our present Tax Code requires married couples to pay more in taxes simply because they are married. Our plan eases this unfair penalty to the benefit of 42 million taxpayers.

We provide tax relief for education. Our plan helps parents and students facing educational expenses by raising the ceiling on education savings accounts and permitting their use for K through 12 costs, and changing bond rules to assist local school construction issues.

We provide tax relief for retirement. Our plan helps American workers gain access to a pension plan and enjoy greater retirement security by increasing limits to 401(k) plans and other retirement options, increasing portability of pensions, and simplifying pension rules.

We provide tax relief for medical expenses. Our plan makes health care and long-term care more affordable and accessible for all Americans. It allows a 100 percent deduction for health insurance premiums and long-term care insurance premiums, and provides an additional personal exemption for financial hardships associated with caring for elderly family members at home.

We provide tax relief for survivors. Our plan gradually eliminates the hated death tax, the Federal estate tax, a monstrous tax bite that has shut down far too many family farms, ranches and small businesses. And we provide tax relief to create jobs and growth.

Finally, our plan also promotes investment, risk-taking, and job creation. We provide pro-growth incentives to help attract business and create jobs in at-risk communities, and stimulate growth and investment by providing capital gains tax relief.

Let us compare the Republican plan with the Democrat alternative, which would have raised taxes by \$4 billion. That plan was defeated by this House 173 to 258. The minority leadership apparently does not believe American taxpayers deserve to get back at least

some of their hard-earned dollars, nor apparently does the present Clinton-Gore administration.

The President has vetoed the tax bill. He is not committed to cutting taxes, saving Social Security, strengthening Medicare and paying off the public debt. If he were, he would realize that our plan devotes \$2 of every \$3 to the tax surplus specifically for those purposes.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, our logic is clear and simple. If we fail to give a portion of the budget surplus back to where it belongs, to the hard-working American taxpayers, Washington will spend every dime of it and more. Everybody knows it. That is the way this town operates. Always has been, always will be.

On the other hand, I am always happy to cast my vote for putting more money in the hands of the people who earned it, the American taxpayer, not in the hands of Washington big spenders.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. WU (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of personal reasons.

Ms. CARSON (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of official business.

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. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. HULSHOF, for 5 minutes, September 28.

Mr. EHRLICH, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, September 27, 1999, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

4437. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Regulations & Legislation Division, OTS, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Management Official Interlocks [Docket No. 99-36] (RIN: 1550-AB07) received September 17, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

4438. A letter from the Under Secretary Rural Development, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Manufactured Housing Thermal Requirements (RIN: 0575-AC11) received August 31, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

4439. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Public Housing Drug Elimination Program Formula Allocation [Docket No. FR-4451-F-04] (RIN: 2577-AB95) received September 15, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

4440. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Conversion of Insured Credit Unions to Mutual Savings Banks—received August 17, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

4441. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Organization and Operations of Federal Credit Unions—received August 17, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

4442. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting the OMB Cost Estimate For Pay-As-You-Go Calculations; to the Committee on the Budget.

4443. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting Final Regulations—William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1232(f); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

4444. A letter from the Secretary, Health and Human Services, transmitting a consolidated report on the Community Food and Nutrition Program for Fiscal Years 1996 and 1997; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

4445. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the report The National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, 1996, pursuant to Public Law 101-354, section 2 (104 Stat. 415); to the Committee on Commerce.

4446. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Procurement and Assistance Management, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—DOE Authorized Subcontract for Use by DOE Management and Operating Contractors with New Independent States' Scientific Institutes through the International Science and Technology Center—received September 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4447. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety & Health, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Air Monitoring Guide [DOE G 441.1-8] received August 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4448. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Environment, Safety and Health, Department of

Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Sealed Radioactive Source Accountability and Control Guide [DOE G 441.1.13] received September 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4449. A letter from the Special Assistant to Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Implementation of Section 309(j) of the Communications Act—Competitive Bidding for Commercial Broadcast and Instructional Television Fixed Service Licenses [MM Docket No. 97-234] received August 18, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4450. A letter from the Deputy Division Chief, Competitive Pricing Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Access Charge Reform [CC Docket No. 96-262] Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers [CC Docket No. 94-1] Interexchange Carrier Purchases of Switched Access Services Offered by Competitive Local Exchange Carriers [CCB/CPD File No. 98-63] Petition of US West Communications, Inc. for Forebearance from Regulation as a Dominant Carrier in the Phoenix, Arizona MSA [CC Docket No. 98-157] received August 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4451. A letter from the Supervisory Attorney/Advisor, Common Carrier Bureau Accounting Safeguards Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—1998 Biennial Regulatory Review—Review of Accounting and Cost Allocation Requirements [CC Docket No. 98-81, FCC 99-106] August 18, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4452. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Federal Communications Commission's "Fourth Annual Report and Analysis of Competitive Market Conditions With Respect to Commercial Mobile Services"; to the Committee on Commerce.

4453. A letter from the Chief, Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—1998 Biennial Regulatory Review—Amendment of Part 18 of the Commission's Rules to Update Regulations for RF Lighting Devices [ET Docket No. 98-42] received August 18, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4454. A letter from the Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting the annual report of personal property furnished to non-Federal recipients for fiscal years 1995 through 1997, pursuant to 40 U.S.C. 483(e); to the Committee on Government Reform.

4455. A letter from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, Information Security Oversight Office, National Archives & Records Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Information Security Oversight Office [Directive No.1; Appendix A] (RIN: 3095-AA92) received September 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

4456. A letter from the Director, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Office of the Secretary of the Army, transmitting a report of vacancy; to the Committee on Government Reform.

4457. A letter from the Inspector General, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the semiannual report on activities of the Inspector General for the period of October 1, 1998, through March 31, 1999, and the Management Response for the same period,

pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

4458. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 1999-2000 Late Season [RIN: 1018-AF24] received September 20, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

4459. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Texas Regulatory Program [SPATS No. TX-041-FOR] received August 9, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

4460. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule—Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Late-Season Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations [RIN: 1018-AF24] received September 20, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

4461. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Arkansas Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Plan [SPATS No. AR-029-FOR] received September 17, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

4462. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Magnuson-STEVENSON Fishery Conservation and Management Act; Amendment of Foreign Fishing Regulations; OMB Control Numbers [Docket No. 981228324-9168-02; I.D. 121697A] (RIN: 0648-AJ70) received September 17, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

4463. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Fisheries; Bluefin Tuna Quota Adjustments [I.D. 080999K] received September 17, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

4464. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Fisheries; Large Coastal Shark Species [I.D. 052499C] received September 17, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

4465. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 610 of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No. 990304062-9062-01; I.D. 090999A] received September 17, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

4466. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Fisheries; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna [I.D. 082399A] received September 17, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

4467. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Fisheries; Large Coastal Shark Species; Commercial Fishery Closure Change [I.D. 052499C] received September 17, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

4468. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Special Surveillance List of Chemicals, Products, Materials and Equipment Used in Clandestine Production of Controlled Substances or Listed Chemicals [DEA-172N] received June 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4469. A letter from the Chief Justice, Supreme Court, transmitting a notice that the Supreme Court will open the October 1999 Term on October 4, 1999 and will continue until all matters before the Court, ready for argument, have been disposed of or declined; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4470. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Employment Standards, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule—Amendment to Section 5333(b) Guidelines To Carry Out New Programs Authorized by the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21) [RIN: 1215-AB25]—received August 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4471. A letter from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting the Demonstration Project Final Report on The Chittenden County Circumferential Highway; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4472. A letter from the Associate Administrator for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Revisions to the NASA FAR Supplement on Brand Name or Equal Procedures—received September 17, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science.

4473. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Placer Mining Industry—received August 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4474. A letter from the Deputy Executive Secretary to the Department, Center for Health Plans and Providers, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medicare Program; Graduate Medical Education (GME); Incentive Payments under Plans for Voluntary Reduction in the Number of Residents [HCFA-1001-IFC] [RIN: 0938-A127] received September 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Commerce.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. GOODLING: Committee on Education and the Workforce. H.R. 1102. A bill to provide for pension reform, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 106-331, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. CANADY: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2436. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, and the Uniform Code of Military Justice to protect unborn children from assault and murder, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 106-332, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 2679. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish the National Motor Carrier Administration in the Department of Transportation, to improve the safety of commercial motor vehicle operators and carriers, to strengthen