

LIBERAL BIG SPENDERS THREATEN SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, let me see if I have this right. As a result of balancing the Federal budget for the first time in a generation, the Republican Congress has created a record-breaking budget surplus. President Clinton, who opposed spending restraints every step of the way, now takes credit for that surplus. At the same time, and apparently with a straight face, the President calls for billions and billions of dollars in new spending programs, threatens to veto legislation because it does not spend enough, and calls for tax increases on the American people to pay for yet more Washington spending. Joined by his liberal allies in the Congress, he intends to raid the Social Security trust fund yet once again.

Mr. Speaker, we have been entrusted by the American people to protect their Social Security program. Let us not allow President Clinton and his big spending friends to betray that trust. Let us hold the line on runaway spending. Let us protect the taxpayers. Let us ensure the solvency of our Social Security system. Stop the raid, Mr. President. Stop the raid.

AT LEAST ONE ABUSIVE TAX SHELTER COULD HAVE BEEN CUT INSTEAD OF THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, of course the raid on Social Security is the one our Republican friends have already incurred through this year, but what I would like to focus on are the millions of Americans that are out there right now preparing our lunch at a fast food restaurant, caring for seniors at a nursing home or for our children at a child care center, a young police officer who is putting his or her life on the line, a young teacher trying to assure educational opportunity; all of these folks working at low-paid jobs, as they work, receive an earned income tax credit as an incentive to work, to contribute, to pay their taxes.

It is to this group of working American families that this Republican majority has turned at this very hour to finance their fiscal irresponsibility. They could have closed at least one abusive corporate tax shelter. They could have ended a tax loophole, but instead they turned to working Americans in what one executive at H&R Block says would "cause confusion and disrupt the personal lives of hard-working American families" by delaying their tax refund. This is wrong. This tactic must be rejected.

GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN: THE ALL- AMERICAN CITY

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

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, on a lighter topic, in my district last weekend we received formal recognition of what we from Green Bay have known for a long time, our area is one of the best places in America to live.

Thanks to the National Civic League and Allstate Insurance, who sponsored this wonderful program, Green Bay was named an All-American City. Our area does indeed represent the very best of grass-root citizen involvement, creative community effort, and collaborative problem solving the three key qualities embodied by this award.

I am proud to say that Green Bay is on the march, taking aggressive steps to meet its challenges in the most innovative ways we can. Those who live in Green Bay want to put the rest of the Nation on notice, there is another key quality of character we hold dear: The relentless pursuit of excellence. The All-American City award is not the end of a journey but merely another milepost in a longer journey to make sure that our area is the greatest place in the world to live, and we will not rest until we get there.

THE REPUBLICANS NEED TO GET THEIR HEADS OUT OF THE SAND

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Republicans launched a new ad campaign accusing the Democrats of dipping into the Social Security surplus.

In these ads, Republicans vowed to draw a line in the sand. It is time for the Republicans to get their heads out of the sand. Their own spending plan for next year takes \$18 billion out of the Social Security surplus. Instead of running attack ads, it is time we start working together to pass a budget that addresses the needs of the American people.

The American people, working families, seniors, and children, are waiting for this Congress to stand up and do something. The truth will set us free. The truth will liberate us all. It is time for us all to put our cards on the table. It is time for the Republicans to tell the truth. Speak the truth to the American people. That is what the American people deserve. That is what they need and that is what they want.

WHERE IS THE OUTRAGE WHEN A DEMOCRATIC MAYOR HONORS COMMUNIST RULE IN THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA?

(Mr. SCHAFFER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, 223 years ago, the Declaration of Independence was signed in Philadelphia, but just 5 days ago there was a different sort of revolt on the steps of Philadelphia's city hall. A crowd of citizens gathered there to protest a far more pernicious kind of tyranny than that which confronted the Founders themselves. It seems that the city's mayor, Ed Rendell, convened a, quote, celebration to honor and commemorate 50 years of Communist rule in the People's Republic of China; that, according to the Philadelphia Enquirer.

Now, Mayor Rendell is a Democrat; in fact, he is a prominent one. Do we think other Democrats denounced Rendell's celebration of Communist rule? Did they reprimand him for praising the very regime which today points 13 nuclear missiles at his country? Did they cry out about the communist destruction of human dignity and human rights? No.

Last week, Democrats made Rendell chairman of their party, head of the Democratic National Committee.

I am not making this up, Mr. Speaker.

What is next? Will Chairman Rendell print his party's platform in little red books?

REPUBLICANS CANNOT HAVE IT ALL

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, crafting a responsible budget is about choices. It is about priorities. We Democrats want to use the surplus to save Social Security and Medicare, pay down the debt, and educate our kids; but Republicans want to use the surplus to fund their risky \$800 billion tax giveaway.

Now we Democrats stand by our priorities because we know that they are the priorities of the American people, but Republicans cannot seem to figure out what they stand for. One minute they are for a huge tax cut for the wealthy. Then they claim their number one priority is saving Social Security. Then they are the party of education. Then it is paying down the debt. Republicans have yet to accept the responsibility of leadership because they cannot have it all.

Right now, their own Congressional Budget Office says their plan breaks the spending caps. It busts the budget. If we are going to save Social Security and Medicare and pay down our debt, then they cannot have an \$800 billion tax giveaway. Democrats know that. The President knows that, and the American people know that.

Apparently, with one day left in the fiscal year, Republicans have their heads buried in the sand and their priorities all mixed up.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S RESOURCES ACT

(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, according to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, the Planned Parenthood research arm, over 10,000 women in the United States begin to deal with an unplanned pregnancy every day.

Mr. Speaker, thousands of small crisis pregnancy centers, maternity homes and adoption services are available to these women in crisis, but often women do not know that they have such choices. That is why the Women and Children's Resources Act, a bill that the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. Bono) and I introduced last week, is so important.

The Women and Children's Resources Act would provide a fee-for-service program for providing services to women like pregnancy tests, maternity home stays, baby clothes, prenatal and postpartum health care, even adoption services and referrals for vocational training and health care.

This solution-based bill builds a bridge between pro-life and pro-choice to offer compassionate solutions to women on common ground. If today's women need choices, we must offer them real choices. Many women would choose not to have an abortion if only they knew that other options were available to them. I urge my colleagues to make this a reality. Support and cosponsor the Women and Children's Resources Act.

IT IS TIME TO GROW UP, SIT DOWN, AND COME UP WITH A BUDGET

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, for days I have stood here on the floor also sitting and watching on C-SPAN my Republican colleagues attack the President's budget and attack Democrats for spending Social Security dollars, and I knew they were playing fast and loose with their own spending plans.

First, they declare the census to be an emergency so it does not come under the budget. Then they pass a tax cut bill that they promised but they cannot deliver on over the next 10 years. Then they float the idea that, well, we cannot do it so let us add a 13th month; some of the most ludicrous things we have ever heard. Now they finally are finding out that what they have been saying and the height of cynicism for our government is that they are spending the Social Security surplus, \$18 billion. It is reported in today's Washington Post and we can see it here but I am sure it will be in all of our local newspapers. It is just in the

national media and our local media, \$18 billion in Social Security trust funds they are going to use. Yet they have been accusing the President and the Democrats of doing it.

Why do my colleagues not grow up, and we will sit down and work this out between us instead of trying to make hype out of it? Why do we not just pass a bill that will take the trust funds out of the unified Federal budget?

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: TOBACCO BAD, MARIJUANA GOOD

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

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Washington is nothing if not a city of contradictions. Within one week, we have seen the Department of Justice launch a multibillion dollar lawsuit against tobacco, and then 2 days ago we saw the President veto the D.C. appropriations spending bill because it contained a provision which would stop the District of Columbia from legalizing marijuana.

What is the President's message? Tobacco bad, marijuana good.

Mr. Speaker, recently this House passed a provision in the D.C. appropriations bill that reminded the District of Columbia that it remains part of the Union, part of America, subject to our laws and subject to our Constitution, prohibiting them from taking steps to legalize mind-altering controlled substances.

While the President will not hold the line on this and encourages the use of marijuana in the District of Columbia, we must in this body hold the line and prohibit D.C. from legalizing controlled substances.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT SHOULD NOT BE DELAYED

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

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I was stunned by this headline in the New York Times today. It said that the Republicans plan to delay the earned income tax credit for the working poor. This program, Ronald Reagan said, was absolutely the best one ever devised to help the working poor, and the answer here today is that we are going to delay its implementation.

Mr. Speaker, in this institution we would never dream of delaying an income tax refund to the wealthiest Americans. We would never dream of delaying oil incentives or mining incentives; or, heaven forbid, we would never dream of cutting back on the ethanol subsidy. But the answer today is that we should delay granting the working poor the earned income tax credit to get past this budget impasse that we currently see.

It makes no sense to harm the working poor with this issue. We should be coming to their assistance. If one works, one should not be poor. This idea makes no sense whatsoever, and it is being used as a gimmick to get around this budget impasse. We should proceed with granting the working poor this opportunity.

UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today this House will consider a bill that will be critical to families and particularly to the women of our country. H.R. 2436, the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, will recognize an unborn child who is injured or killed while in the mother's womb as a victim of a Federal crime.

Already, 24 States in our Nation have implemented laws that explicitly recognize injured, unborn children as victims of criminal acts.

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Under this bill, the penalty for the harm committed against an unborn baby would be the same as the penalty for the harm committed against the mother.

As responsible legislators, we must ensure that criminals be held accountable for their violent crimes that result in death or injury. This should apply regardless of who the victim is, whether it be the mother or the unborn child.

I hope that today our colleagues will honor the many women who have lost babies due to a crime. I hope that they will acknowledge the suffering that these women have endured because of senseless crimes and remember that they will never receive justice unless this legislation is not enacted.

This afternoon, I hope that our colleagues vote "yes" on the Unborn Victims of Violence Act.

REPUBLICANS WANT TO ELIMINATE THE EARNED INCOME TAX REFUND

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during the August work recess, when I visited with constituents in my district in Houston, Texas, a city that I might say is doing considerably well and individuals are quite pleased with the state of the economy, but when I discuss with them the \$792 billion tax cut, they were in complete horror at the thought that we would misuse the people's money for a tax cut for golf courses and various other extracurricular-type programs.

But what is more horrific is the fact that I also met with working families