the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. When you think about it, this is at a time when we have seen our new President come forward to reach out his hand and talk about bipartisanship. Yet, once again, we are forced to come to the floor of the Senate and ask to be partners in this process and to truly move ahead in a bipartisan fashion.

It is not enough just to speak about bipartisanship, just as it is not enough to just speak about issues. Our constituents expect us to act. And we have a right to expect what will happen will fulfill the words that are being talked about on Capitol Hill.

Our committee should debate all of the critical issues before us: How we pay down the maximum public debt we can so we can put money in our constituents' pockets through lower interest rates, and put money in their pockets through a tax cut, and making sure we have an economic policy that means they have a job. There are several ways in which we need to put dollars back into the pockets of the people we represent.

We also need to debate Social Security and Medicare for the future, education, which drives this economy, research, technology and education, increased labor productivity, which drives the economy, as we have heard over and over again in the Budget Committee. We need to debate national defense and protecting the environment.

One issue that I think needs great debate is the issue of protecting the Medicare trust fund. We have found, during this budget process, that the President's budget does not protect the Medicare trust fund. The President's budget does not protect the Medicare trust fund. In fact, it takes it from a protected status and moves it over into a contingency fund to be used for spending.

We tried a week ago, through Senator CONRAD's legislation, to create a lockbox for Social Security and Medicare, and say—as the American public wants us to do—that we will keep our hands off Social Security and Medicare and protect it for the future.

In this budget, we go in the exact opposite direction. We not only don't protect it and strengthen it by adding dollars for the future, it is put over into spending which, in fact, could cause Medicare to become insolvent 15 years sooner, when we expect the strain of the baby boomers coming into the system and the fact that we are going to have a long-term liability on Medicare and Social Security.

The American people need to understand that if we don't protect the Medicare trust fund, there will be a severe strain when baby boomers begin to retire in 2012. This could mean benefit cuts or increases in taxes at that time. It is not necessary for us to be put in this kind of a situation.

I hope the Republican leadership will reconsider, as we asked the chairman of the committee to do today, and reach out to us to get a bipartisan budget and tax agreement. I was fortunate to be in the House of Representatives in 1997, when the President and the Congress, of different parties, worked together to balance the budget, make critical investments in education and in our future needs, and cut taxes. If we did it then, we can do it now. We have to do it together.

If we hold a markup in committee and work together, we can get the job done. If not, I fear we continue to go back to policies we have all denounced—the practice of partisanship, one side versus the other. Our committee has worked hard, our members have been there and involved in these hearings. I commend the Chair for holding such comprehensive hearings to be able to bring forward the issues that relate to this budget so we can put together the values and priorities of our country in the form of a budget for the future.

It is extremely unfortunate that we find ourselves in this position now, at the end of the road, when the budget hearings come to a conclusion, where we do not have the opportunity to work together to draw up that budget resolution and show, in fact, that we can work together on behalf of the families we represent.

I urge the Republican leadership to allow the Budget Committee to do our work and allow us to come together to protect Social Security and Medicare for the long haul, to provide a tax cut to make sure we are paying down the debt for the future for our children, and to make sure we have outlined the priorities for the country that are most important for our families.

BUDGET RESOLUTION

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, a little earlier in the day, a very distinguished Senator from West Virginia and a very good friend—and I say that in all honesty—came to the floor and talked a little bit—more than a little bit—about the budget resolution and the current chairman of the Budget Committee. Not in negative terms. I happen to be that person. They were not negative at all.

There were a few things the distinguished Senator said that I seek to clarify. I did not do this without telling him. I sent him a copy of the budget schedule for the winter-spring of 1993 because one of the points the Senator from West Virginia made was we are moving ahead to bring a budget resolution up on April 1 or April 2.

I believe one of his major points was we do not yet have a detailed budget from the President of the United States, George W. Bush.

I will soon put this schedule in the RECORD, but here is what happened in 1993 when President Clinton was elected President. One of the big differences was they had 54 votes on that side, and we had 45 votes on our side. Understand, they could do what they wanted with the budget resolution with or without a President's budget. They could order reconciliation instructions to increase taxes with or without Republican support.

This Senator finds himself in a very different position. We have 11 Republicans and 11 Democrats, and they just happen to call me chairman, but I do not have any votes. I am one of the 11 Republicans and there are 11 Democrats.

The distinguished Senator said we were proceeding even without a detailed final budget from the new President of the United States. Here is the budget schedule for the winter-spring of 1993:

February 17, the President issues a preliminary budget overview called a ''Vision of Change for America.'' We looked at that. It is very much like what George W. Bush sent us maybe a month ago. It was a very minor document when it comes to detailed budget documents.

On March 3, the CBO gave some preliminary estimates on that. Just look at this schedule: On February 17, the President sends us this vision, this document of a few pages, and by March 12, less than 1 month, the Senate Budget Committee, on partisan lines—namely, they had the majority, we had the minority—guess what. They reported out a budget resolution.

Then the House Budget Committee did that by March 15, less than a month.

Then on March 18, 1 month after the issuance of the ''Vision of Change for America'' proposal—and I call it a proposal—the conference report was filed on the 1994 budget resolution. The House agreed to the conference report, and on April 1 the Senate agreed to a conference report on the 1994 budget resolution.

Guess when the Senate in 1993 got the budget of the President of the United States. On April 8, 8 days after they had already approved everything, including a budget resolution.

I only state that because it was suggested that it was sort of untoward and maybe not the best thing for us to do the budget resolution before we have the President's final documents, the detailed documents.

President Bill Clinton asked his democratically controlled Congress that they approve a budget resolution before he sent them the budget, and they did. That is all right with me. I was a member of the opposition. I argued as much as I could against what I thought was not the right thing to do, but understand that by April 1 everything was finished in both Houses on a budget resolution aspect, following on with the President's plans, and the President had not yet put his budget together in detail.

We have as much detail today, I assure you, Mr. President, as the Senate and House Budget Committees had when they produced budget resolutions less than 1 month after the President issued his vision plan, a rather flimsy

document, not much of a budget document, much like our President produced. We do not call that little vision document a budget; they are still working on it.

I want everyone to know it will not be untoward. It will be very much in accord with the way we have done things, to follow our Democratic brethren and do the very same thing. The President will not have his budget in detail. We will have a budget resolution. It is not a detailed budget either, if anybody thinks it is.

People say: You must know about every program in the Federal budget, as if in every budget document we deal with every program in the Federal Government. It will come as a shock, but we do not. We deal in large functions, large pieces of the budget, because that is all we have jurisdiction over. Nobody gave us jurisdiction over the details.

I sent this to Senator BYRD since he spoke about the chairman of the Budget Committee and wondered why we could do a budget resolution before we had a budget.

I repeat—they are pretty good role models on the other side of the aisle—that is what they did for their President. We are going to try very hard to do that for our President. The only difference is we do not have 54 votes that carry ''R'' after the name; we have 50. We are trying very hard to ask our Democratic friends—some of them—to help us do for our President what the Congress did for their President when he was first elected to the Presidency; that is, help us get a budget resolution out and not just wait around for a budget; do it quickly; do it as fast as we can.

I have a commitment from the leadership that we are going to take this budget resolution up as quickly as we can under the very rigorous schedule we now have. I know we are not going to get huge cooperation on the other side, although I hope a couple Senators will help us, because it still has to be filled in by the committees. We just want to lay the groundwork that President Bush deserves to get his budget considered in exactly the same way President Clinton did. The only thing he can hope for is that he have 54 votes as President Clinton had. Then he would get his plans adopted in both bodies in less than 1 month from the time he issued just his few pages of ''here is what I want to do in the future.'' It wasn't a budget. It wasn't a budget by either President.

With this budget resolution, we want to do it as quickly as possible, April 1 or April 2, for 4 or 5 days.

In addition, we want a big piece of that budget to be economic recovery. That means we are going to propose, hopefully—I haven't worked it out with everybody yet—$60 billion of the 2001 surplus; there is a big surplus sitting there this year. That $60 billion will be allowed in a bill, in a composite bill, to give back to the taxpayers because it is surplus that we ought to return to them. I don't know what way to return it to them. That can be debated. I don't think there can be any debate with what we see in the American economy. Expediency is a rule. Economic recovery ought to be our first venture and our paramount venture going in.

We will propose a $60 billion surplus be given back to the American people in the most judicious and prudent way possible. And we pass the President's marginal tax cut along with it. We won't ask for all the rest of the taxes in that first round. People are worried about it being too big. This will be a package made up just of the marginal rates and the $60 billion this year.

It will send a signal, if we can get cooperation to do this. It will not only send a signal that we are responding to the economic conditions, whatever plant closures, whatever responses there are out there, and the marketplace.

The business executives are thinking, at least we can act quickly, and we have an economic recovery part of this plan which is pretty good. I say to any person who thinks the marginal rate reduction should not be part of whatever return of surplus we have for this year, they just ought to ask those who really know about what will send a positive signal to the American economy as nothing else. That is in addition to the refund, rebate, tax cut, whatever you want to call it, giving back $60 billion. If you reduce the marginal rates permanently and tell the American people it is done, they will say, for once they did something quickly, they did something right, and our hats are off to them. That will be their hats off to us.

If we can't do that and somebody thinks we can fix it all with a $60 billion return of surplus and put off the rest, you can't do that and have any big impact on this economy.

Let me repeat, if the only package is to return a portion of this year's 2001 surplus, you cannot have an impact on the American economy. It is not big enough, even though it is $60 billion. And you get no permanency built into the notion that the marginal rates for the American taxpayers—that means everybody's tax rate—should be reduced from the top brackets to the lowest brackets.

That is about the way things are today. I am very pleased the Republican leadership, at least as I read them, as I made this presentation to a group of Republican Senators—not everyone; some Senators were busy on the floor—I saw a willingness to move, to do something, to let the tax-writing committee quickly sit down and decide to do this. We will say you have free reign to do this in these particular dimensions I have just described.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the budget schedule for winter/spring, 1993.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

BUDGET SCHEDULE—WINTER/SPRING 1993

February 17, 1993: President issues preliminary budget overview, A Vision of Change for America.

March 3, 1993: CBO issues Preliminary CBO Estimates of the Administration's Budgetary Proposals (5 pages of text, double-spaced, and 3 tables); includes minor revisions to January baseline, netting out to several billion dollars over six years, almost entirely for deposit insurance. (The baseline was next updated in The Economic and Budget Outlook issued in September 1993.)

March 12, 1993: Senate Budget Committee reports 1994 budget resolution.

March 15, 1993: House Budget Committee reports 1994 budget resolution.

March 16, 1993: CBO testifies before Ways and Means Committee.

Sometime after March 16: CBO issues An Analysis of the President's February Budgetary Proposals (about 60 pages), providing more detail on CBO's economic assumptions, reestimates, and baseline revisions. On page A–3, it notes that ''the notion that the deficit will simply fade with time and continuing economic growth has largely been punctured.''

March 18, 1993: House passes 1994 budget resolution.

March 25, 1993: Senate passes 1994 budget resolution.

March 31, 1993: Conference report filed on 1994 budget resolution; House agrees to conference report.

April 1, 1993: Senate agrees to conference report on 1994 budget resolution.

April 8, 1993: President issues detailed budget documents.

Mr. DOMENICI. If we can do it as quickly as this bill, but I don't think we can.

Wherever I said 54 Senators, my friend says it is 56. I just come from little old New Mexico. I thought it was 54. But in any event, they had good majority and proceeded with great dispatch. I will try to do that, although we only have 50/50. I will ask the American people, and I will have the President ask them, do you want to get this done or dillydally? Do you want to get both pieces done, give the public back $60 billion and cut the marginal rates, or wait around?

Wait around until when? I am not answering the question.

It is so obvious that a markup will do no good; as this Senator sees it, it will split every vote, 11–11. I am not willing to say we will do that before we put this package before the American people. I just don't think that is what we have to do.

So nobody will be confused, the other side of the aisle says the public ought to have a chance to participate in this committee deliberation. That is a wonderful thought. It is probably what all of us would like to think about our committees when they work, but I think the American people will get a real version of this when they get 5 days on the floor of the Senate. When you can offer all kinds of amendments, you can offer three budget resolutions if you like. We offer the President's as a starting point. If the other side would like to offer theirs, that is different; they can. If they amend the one we can produce, whenever it is, they can do that. It will be full, hour to hour,

minute to minute, on TV. It is not assured that will occur with a markup in committee, but we will have it, full time, every moment we speak.

Having said that, we will put together this budget as quickly as we can. We will try to share it with all the Members and eventually, as soon as we can, we will share it with the other side of the aisle. But essentially, they will have ample time in the 5 days we debate this, 50 hours. Do you know how long that is? We won't get out of here before Easter. We might meet through the night one of those nights and we will get out of here before Easter.

CLIFF TARO

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr President, a few weeks ago I went home to Ketchikan, AK. It was the first time since I became a U.S. Senator, 20 years ago, that my good friend Cliff Taro was not there to meet me. He was an exceptional man and embodied the true Alaskan pioneer spirit. Earlier this year, Cliff died. I truly miss him.

Cliff first came to Alaska in 1943, as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army Transports Corps. He was stationed at Excursion Inlet near Juneau. This was a sub port to supply the war in the Aleutians, and was where Cliff received first hand experience and an interest in stevedoring, his future occupation. After 4 years in the Army, where he advanced to the rank of captain, he went to work for Everett Stevedoring in 1946. He married his wife Nan on August 21, 1949 in Bellingham Washington and in 1952, Cliff, Nan and their two children, Jim and Debbie, moved to Ketchikan and started Southeast Stevedoring Corporation.

Cliff's accomplishments, interests and awards are abundant. He was a member of the Marine Section of the National Safety council for more than 25 years, as well as serving on the Board of Governors of the National Maritime Safety Association. Cliff was a member of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce for 40 years, served on its board of directors for seven years, and was both vice president and president of the Chamber. Additionally, he was a charter member of Alaska Nippon Kai, a Japanese trade arm of the Alaska Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of the Korean Business Council and co-founder and treasurer of Ketchikan's Save Our Community. Cliff represented Alaska on the Seattle Mayor's Maritime Advisory Committee and had been trustee and member of the Alaska Council on Economic Education.

Cliff was a member of Governor Keith Miller's Task Force to Washington, D.C. to successfully lobby for the Alaska Pipeline. He accepted an invitation by President Jimmy Carter and Governor Jay Hammond to participate in a seminar on Foreign Trade and Export Development. Cliff traveled, with me, and other members of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce, Native leaders and State of Alaska officials to England, Scotland, the Orkney Islands and Norway to survey and observe the effect of off shore drilling on their communities and how this might similarly affect Alaskan communities.

Cliff served as the Southeast Finance Chairman for my reelection to the U.S. Senate. He was a life member of the Pioneers of Alaska, member of the B.P.O. Elks, American Legion, Theta Chi Fraternity, National Association of Independent Businessmen, National Association of Stevedores and a 45-year member of the Rotary Club as well as a Paul Harris Fellow.

In 1985, Cliff was awarded the Outstanding Alaskan Award by the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce. In 1989 he was awarded an Honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities from the University of Alaska Southeast. In January 1992 he was elected to the Alaska Business Hall of Fame. He was the 2000 Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year, and Nancy and I were proud to be able to present him and Nan with this tribute.

Cliff was a supporter of little league and could often be found at the ball park or Ketchikan High games cheering on his grandchildren.

Cliff's death followed the earlier passing of his wife Nan. Survivors include their son Jim, and their daughter and son in-law Debbie and Bob Berto. He is also survived by four grandchildren: Jennie, Ethan, Brian, and Anna.

Cliff was my friend. He will be missed by all Alaskans.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of Women's History Month. This time has been appropriately designated to reflect upon the important contributions and heroic sacrifices that women have made to our Nation and consider the challenges they continue to face. Throughout our history, women have been at the forefront of every important movement for a better and more just society, and they have been the foundation of our families.

In Maryland, we are proud to honor those women who have given so much to improve our lives. Their achievements illustrate their courage and tenacity in conquering overwhelming obstacles. They include Margaret Brent, who became America's first woman lawyer and landholder, and Harriet Tubman, who risked her own life to lead hundreds of slaves to freedom through the Underground Railroad. Dr. Helen Taussig, another great Marylander, developed the first successful medical procedure to save ''blue babies'' by repairing heart birth defects. Her efforts laid the groundwork for modern heart surgery. We are all indebted to Mary Elizabeth Garrett and Martha Carey Thomas who donated money to create Johns Hopkins Medical School on the condition that women be admitted. And jazz music would not be complete without the unforgettable voice of jazz singer Billie Holiday who also hailed from Baltimore City. Their accomplishments and talent provide inspiration not only to Marylanders, but to people all over the globe.

A woman who illustrates the commitment of the women of Maryland is my good friend and colleague from Maryland, Senator BARBARA MIKULSKI. Senator MIKULSKI, who has served longer than any other woman currently in the Senate, played a key role in establishing this month. In 1981, she cosponsored a resolution establishing National Women's History Week, a predecessor to Women's History Month. Today, I wish to honor her dedication and service to the people of Maryland and this Nation.

While we recognize famous women, it is important that we acknowledge the contributions of others who daily touch our lives. It is our favorite teacher who gave us the confidence and knowledge to know that we were capable of success. It is the single mother or grandmother who toiled at a low-paying job for years to guarantee that the next generation in her family received better education and career opportunities. It is the professional women who volunteer the little spare time they have to read to children or speak to student groups, inspiring young people to aim for goals beyond what they may have otherwise imagined. And the stay-at-home mothers who devote enormous time to chauffeur their children and others from activity to activity, knowing that these many hobbies stimulate a child's interest and desire to learn. These modern day heroines, giving of their time, knowledge, and expertise must not be taken for granted.

Women have made great strides in overcoming historic adversity and bias but they still face many obstacles. Unequal pay, poverty, inadequate access to healthcare and violent crime are among the challenges that continue to disproportionately affect women. Working women earn 74 cents to every dollar earned by men. What is more troubling is that the more education a woman has, the wider the wage gap. According to a recent Census Bureau report, the average American woman loses approximately $523,000 in wages and benefits over a lifetime because of wage inequality. Families with a female head of household have the highest poverty rate and comprise the majority of poor families.

Women continue to be under-represented in high-paying professions and lag significantly behind men in enrollment in science programs. Increasing the number of women in these fields begins with encouraging girls' interest and awareness in school.

As our population ages, we must also address the special challenges of older women. Women live an average of 6 years longer than men. Consequently,