

law in 1982 that stated that it would do so. It legally bound itself to providing 40 percent of the cost of special education.

Today, nationwide it is 16 percent; in other words, less than half of the promise that was made.

For my State of Minnesota, that difference amounts to over \$200 million a year in tax money, in funding for education that has to be made up by tax money in Minnesota, with more regressive property taxes, State income taxes—money that Minnesota does not have and many other States don't have.

Now, I heard my friend from New Hampshire recite a great number of statistics that purported to demonstrate how much the Federal Government has increased its funding for education. The problem with the numbers of percentage of increase is the actual base in many of these programs—the measure was quite low. In fact, the Federal share for funding of all of K–12 education has been 7 percent. The State and local governments have been obligated to pick up the rest. For most of the time it has been desirable because it has maintained local control of our schools. But you can increase a low number by a high percent and still have a low number.

I heard lots of blaming of the previous administration, that they should have spent more for education. I would say, having come 2 years ago, probably it should have done so. Probably the last 25 years of administrations should have spent more for education—certainly in special education they should have honored that promise when it was made and kept it. The priority of the last administration, almost by necessity, was to bring this country out of deficits, to put this country back in sound fiscal condition, to put the Social Security surplus money in a lockbox so it would, therefore, meet present and future retirements.

I believe I heard the Senator from New Hampshire say that in all of those 8 years, this country was operating in a surplus. That is not the case.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has used up his time.

Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have 2 more minutes to finish my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DAYTON. Certainly we should have spent more. President Bush, to the extent he has spent more money—and he has—for special education, boosting the Federal share from 12 to 16 percent, I give him credit for doing so.

But I am not concerned about who is right. I am concerned about doing what is right. I am concerned about what is right for the schoolchildren of this Nation. I speak as a former schoolteacher who taught in a public school in New York City with 32 children in the classroom. It was the toughest job I ever had. I heard them say that the number

of students in a classroom doesn't make any difference. Anybody who has tried to teach kids knows it makes a difference. I have been to 150 more schools in Minnesota, and anybody who doesn't know they are substandard and dangerously decrepit—they can cite all the statistics they want, but they are not looking at reality. Anybody who thinks the schools are over funded and that teachers who are averaging \$40,000 nationwide are overpaid should spend a day, a week, or a year in a school and see what that job is about, see the kids from all different backgrounds and countries with different languages and capabilities—no wonder test scores are affected.

Anybody who thinks we are over funding public education is off in another world. In Minnesota and in other States where funds are not and will not be available through property taxes and State taxes, the question is, Who will help us out? The Federal Government has these tax cuts for the wealthiest people, and we are saying to these kids: No, I am sorry, you go your own way, you suffer, we are not going to put computers on your desks to enable you to succeed. We are going to test you and find out how you are doing and use the bully pulpit. It is no wonder good teachers are leaving. Who would want to stay when that is going on. This next year is about priorities for this country, priorities on how we will spend the money and the resources we have. That debate should continue.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from Ohio is recognized for 15 minutes.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to follow the Senator from Ohio for 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO OHIO COLLEGE FOOTBALL TEAMS

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I am very proud, as the 108th Congress gets underway today, to pay tribute to the awesome accomplishments of this season's Ohio State University football team—a team that, after what was certainly one of the greatest games in college football history, clinched the 2002 National Collegiate Football Championship title. This recent distinction represents Ohio State's fifth outright national football title.

It is a great privilege, also, to represent a State that is home to many outstanding schools and numerous past national champions of college football. In Alliance, OH, for example, we have the Mount Union College Purple Raiders. This exceptional football team ended the year with a 14 and 0 record, winning the division III national championship for the sixth time in 7 years.

The team is 109 and 1 in the last 11 regular seasons. Since 1990, the Raiders have won an incredible 162 out of 170 games. So I congratulate these fine

young athletes on yet another great championship season.

I want to recognize the Raiders' coach, Larry Kehres, for his dedication and commitment to the school and to the team. He has just been named the AFCA Division III National Coach of the Year, making him the first coach to win 7 national coach of the year awards. Mr. President, this is an unprecedented accomplishment. I congratulate Coach Kehres and his entire coaching staff. I wish him and the Purple Raiders and their fans all the best for next season and for many years to come.

Mr. President, I also congratulate Ohio State football coach Jim Tressel, who was named this season's Division 1–A National Coach of the Year. This is the third time Coach Tressel has been recognized as national coach of the year, and deservedly so. He is a man who already has a lifetime coaching record of 142 wins, 62 losses, and 2 ties. He has coached previous teams at Youngstown State University to 4 national championships and has qualified for the Division 1–AA playoffs a remarkable 10 times in the past. He is a native Ohioan who graduated cum laud in 1975 from another fine Ohio institution of higher learning, Baldwin Wallace College. Coach Jim Tressel stresses academics, athletics, and community responsibility. When Jim Tressel took over as head coach of Ohio State, he said this:

The two greatest days in our student-athletes lives should be the day they walk across the stage to receive their diploma and the day they slip a championship ring on their finger.

Because of Coach Tressel's dedication to his athletes, many of the players on Ohio State's football team have and will accomplish both of these great honors.

Mr. President, I am sure many of my colleagues watched last week's Ohio State-University of Miami game. What a great game it was. Both teams played very well, and both schools can be very proud. I know that Senator REID and Senator MCCONNELL certainly watched the game. They have both already come to the floor to talk about it. I thank them for their remarks on the floor earlier in the week.

I was pleased to join my friend and colleague from Ohio, Senator GEORGE VOINOVICH, in sponsoring a resolution honoring the team's achievement. This resolution commends not only the entire Ohio State athletic department, but also recognizes the support and dedication of the Ohio State marching band, the cheerleaders, the students, the administration, the board of trustees, the faculty, the alumni, the City of Columbus, the entire State of Ohio, and all of the great fans. Indeed, this season and last week's championship game represent the culmination of a year of hard work and a true team effort.

Mr. President, anyone who watched last week's game will tell you it was an

unbelievably tense game. Ohio State entered the game at least an 11½-point underdog. The team's defense was certainly key in putting Ohio State into a position where they could win the game. During the first overtime, the game was tied 17 to 17. Then facing what could have been the end of the game—fourth down and 14 yards to go—Ohio State completed a 17-yard pass to stay alive.

I know Ohio State fans, whether they were in Tempee, AZ, or whether they were, as I was, watching TV in Cedarville, OH, just could not believe what that happened. Ohio State's quarterback faded back and made that unbelievable pass on fourth down and 14. After a few more plays, the Buckeyes scored from the 1-yard line to go into that second overtime.

Then in the second overtime, Ohio State scored on a rushing attempt, and this proved to be the last score of the game. Miami got the ball, of course, and then on the last play of the game, fourth and goal at the 1-yard line, the Buckeyes blitzed and forced Miami's quarterback to rush his pass in desperation, allowing the Buckeye defensive linebacker to bat it down to the ground. This moment secured Ohio State as the 2002 national champions and gave the team a place in history. Without a doubt, both teams played well; both teams are great champions.

Many sports writers already have made the case that Ohio State's 31-to-24 double overtime victory in this year's Fiesta Bowl was the greatest championship game in the history of college football. This sort of fantastic finish was the same type of dramatic conclusion to many of the Buckeyes' wins this season.

The truth is Ohio State was underestimated the entire season, but because the players worked together as a team to overcome huge obstacles, they were able to reach their ultimate goal. The unselfish attitude of the players and coaches resulted in win after win for their team.

The Ohio State University football team defied history and odds to win 14 games in one season, overcoming all barriers along the way to persevere in the end.

I wish to conclude with the words of former Ohio State national champion coach, Ohio legend, the late Woodrow Wayne Hayes—Woody Hayes. I quote Woody Hayes:

Anytime you give a man something he doesn't earn, you cheapen him. Our kids earn what they get, and that includes respect.

It is with great respect today that I say congratulations and go Bucks.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the names of the Ohio State football team, coaching staff, and players be printed in the RECORD.

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

2002 OHIO STATE FOOTBALL TEAM ROSTER

John Adams, Tucker Allen, Will Allen, Tim Anderson, David Andrews, Kyle An-

draws, Redgie Arden, Bryce Bishop, Mike Bogart, Jason Bond, LeAndre Boone, Joe Bradley, Bobby Britton, Jason Caldwell, Bobby Carpenter, Drew Carter, Angelo Chattams, Bam Childress, Maurice Clarett, Adrien Clarke, R.J. Coleman, John Conroy, Chris Conwell, Ryan Cook, Bryce Culver, Mike D'Andrea, Doug Datish, Michael DeMaria, Mike Doss, Ivan Douglas, T.J. Downing, Tyler Everett, Dustin Fox, Simon Fraser, Chris Gamble, Steve Graef, Cie Grant;

Marcus Green, Andy Groom, Maurice Hall, Roy Hall, Ryan Hamby, Rob Harley, Ben Hartsock, A.J. Hawk, John Hollins, Santonio Holmes, Andrew Hooks, Josh Huston, Harlen Jacobs, Michael Jenkins, Branden Joe, Mike Kne, Craig Kolk, Craig Krenzel, Mike Kudla, Scott Kuhnhein, Maurice Lee, Jamal Luke, Nick Mangold, Thomas Matthews, John McLaughlin, Scott McMullen, Richard McNutt, Jeremy Miller, Brandon Mitchell, Steven Moore, Ben Nash, Donnie Nickey, Mike Nugent, Adam Olds, Shane Olivea, Pat O'Neill, Jim Otis;

Fred Pagac Jr., Roshawn Parker, Steve Pavelka, Joel Penton, Kenny Peterson, Scott Petroff, Quinn Pitcock, Robert Reynolds, Jay Richardson, JaJa Riley, Mike Roberts, Lydell Ross, Matt Russell, Nate Salley, B.J. Sander, Tim Schafer, Brandon Schnitker, Darrion Scott, Rob Sims, Antonio Smith, Troy Smith, Will Smith, Michael Stafford, Alex Stepanovich, David Thompson, Matt Trombitas, Jack Tucker, Kyle Turano, Andree Tyree, Jeremy Uhlenhake, E.J. Underwood, Chris Vance, Bryan Weaver, Stan White Jr., Kurt Wilhelm, Matt Wilhelm, Sam Williams, Steve Winner, Mike Young, and Justin Zwick.

Mr. DEWINE. I thank the Chair, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENSIGN). The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous that following the remarks of the distinguished Senator from Illinois I be recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I say to my colleague from the State of Ohio, I tuned in to that game in the final minute of the regular game and was watching as one of the Miami running backs was injured. It appeared the game was going to end with Miami being the winner. I agree with the Senator from Ohio, it was one of the most exciting college football games I have ever seen. Of course, being from Illinois, since our signature university is one of the 11 members of the Big Ten, we are particularly proud that another team from the Big Ten is the national champion, and the Ohio State Buckeyes certainly did us proud that evening. I am sure Senator DEWINE is very happy about that outcome and proud of what they did as well.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, if my colleague will yield, I appreciate my colleague's comment. I just knew my colleague from Illinois, another Big Ten school, would be rooting for the Buckeyes that day.

Mr. DURBIN. I certainly was.

Mr. DEWINE. I appreciate that.

THE ECONOMY AND EDUCATION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, we came back to Washington to be sworn in and

begin a new Congress, and the President traveled to my State of Illinois, to Chicago, to announce his proposal for an economic stimulus. We need it; we need it desperately. For the last 2 years, we have languished. Our economy has gone from bad to worst.

The President inherited a budget surplus, at least on paper, that gave us some opportunities to pay down the debt of the Nation. Instead of borrowing money from the economy to finance our Government, we were actually not borrowing at the same rate. I am careful with my rhetoric because I am being followed by Senator HOLLINGS who is the guru and past master when it comes to the questions of deficits and surplus. He will quickly disabuse me of my notions if I am wrong. He will concede, as I hope I would as well, that our budget situation today is worse than it was when President Bush took office in terms of the deficits we are generating.

That deficit situation reflects three situations, some of which we control and some we do not. No one could have anticipated the negative impact September 11 had on our economy and the increased expenses of Government for military and defense efforts. That is something for which no President can be held accountable because it was totally unexpected. That situation has added to our deficit.

The continued recession we are going through has made the deficit even worse: Fewer tax revenues going into Washington, fewer dollars available for spending on programs and a deficit as a result.

The third piece, though, has to fall on the President's lap. He came to us and said: I want to cut taxes, and if I cut taxes, this economy will turn around, trust me. The majority of the Senate and the House did—I was not one of them—and they were wrong.

The President's tax cut proposal did not invigorate the economy; it added to our deficit. So that red ink pool gets deeper and deeper. We are deeper in debt and the economy is still languishing.

The President came back this week and said: I have a brand new idea: More of the same. Let me cut taxes on the highest income people in America, and I swear to you, America, this time it is going to work; if you will just give the richest people in America a substantial tax break, we know they will do the right thing; we know they will invigorate the economy.

Isn't it interesting what the public reaction has been? CNN had a call-in and said to the American people: Do you buy the President's approach? Do you want to try this again or would you rather go for a different approach suggested by the Democrats, that we have a smaller more manageable stimulus package that helps us this year immediately and is focused on helping the majority of Americans, not just 1 percent of the wage earners, the wealthiest?