

SPENDING CONTROL ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4663) to amend part C of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to establish discretionary spending limits and a pay-as-you-go requirement for mandatory spending:

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to support the RSC budget amendment. It is a responsible amendment, and necessary in a time of war budgeting—and I would suggest, it should even be applied in times of peace.

Congress can act to reduce spending. Public support is there—I hear it from constituents all the time. People have priorities—the war on terror, economic growth through tax relief, and Less Government. They don't want millions more spent on wasteful programs that benefit narrow special interests.

We passed record tax relief and it has helped fuel growth and to create jobs. Now we can put in motion a plan to bring down federal spending—This is the next step in the Republican economic plan for America.

This amendment reverses the cycle of higher spending and higher taxes; it balances the budget within 5 years through spending caps and real deficit reduction.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN DOUG BEREUTER

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a good friend and outstanding public servant, Congressman DOUG BEREUTER.

I have become familiar with DOUG and his work having served as a member of the U.S. House delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, which he chairs. I have participated in numerous congressional delegations abroad which he has led and was always impressed with his knowledge of world affairs and his determination to increase understanding among NATO partners.

DOUG also has been a tireless advocate for his Cornhusker State constituents during his 26 year House tenure. He has served longer than any other Nebraskan, during which time he has penned many laws to help his diverse constituency, including ones to promote his State's agricultural exports, improve health care and child welfare, end international hunger, and protect Native Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call DOUG BEREUTER a friend and colleague. His constituents and our country are losing an honorable and dedicated public servant, the likes of which bring credit to this hallowed institution in which we are so fortunate to serve. I wish him and his wife, Louise, health and happiness in their future endeavors.

BOWDOIN INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, this summer marks the 40th anniversary season of the world-renowned Bowdoin International Music Festival. I take particular pride in this program, which is housed on the beautiful campus of my alma mater, Bowdoin College, in Brunswick, Maine, in my Congressional District.

Each summer for 6 weeks, more than 200 gifted young musicians of graduate, college and high school levels gather here from around the globe. They learn from and perform with some of the best teaching and performing musicians in the world. In this international community, students and faculty thrive in an intense but joyful atmosphere. The program consists of individual classes and practice, chamber coaching and group practice, master classes, and numerous performance opportunities. These include student concerts and an outreach program, in which students perform at local venues such as retirement homes and resorts. The public is also invited to the festival's "MusicFest," a formal chamber music series that features festival artists and internationally-renowned guest artists, "Upbeat!," a mix of contemporary and traditional music in an informal atmosphere, and the week-long Charles E. Gamper Festival of Contemporary Music.

The Bowdoin International Music Festival has furthered the artistic mastery of numerous students, enriched Maine's educational and cultural environment, and brought pleasure to thousands of listeners. I am confident that its success will continue for decades to come.

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LADIES AUXILIARY OF CLEARY-KRECH POST #1707, VFW

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Ladies Auxiliary of Cleary-Krech Post #1707, Veterans of Foreign Wars, from Portage, Wisconsin, who recently celebrated their 70th anniversary. This group, comprised of wives, widows, mothers, grandmothers, daughters, and sisters of those who were eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, came into existence thanks to the tireless efforts of Ella Johnson and Dorothy Krech.

From its inception, the dedicated women of the Ladies Auxiliary have held fundraisers, including bake sales, card parties, pot-luck dinners, bingo, old time dances, and WLS amateur shows at the armory. Those efforts raised money for the National Home in Eaton Rapids, Michigan and a banner for the Auxiliary. In 1937, the Auxiliary began sponsoring the National Essay Contest, giving cash prizes to the three winning essays from high school students.

In anticipation of the district conference, the Auxiliary formed their now famous kitchen

band in order to provide entertainment. This band created music using instruments such as brooms, a wash tub, rolling pins, clothes pins, and a skillet. At several special occasions, the band performed their musical talents, including the Portage Harvest Festival. In 1948, 28 members went to the Veterans Hospital in Tomah where they entertained over 350 veterans.

When the Veterans held their Midwinter Conference in Portage in January of 1950, the attendees had to stay in private homes as the hotels were filled. Two national leaders and five hundred representatives of the Veterans of Foreign Wars attended the conference, making it the largest event ever hosted by the Cleary-Krech Post #1707. In anticipation of this large crowd, the vacated police station was purchased from the city and remodeled so that it could house the participants of the conference.

Currently, the auxiliary offers services to local schools, such as the Patriot Pen Award for the best student essay about democracy. They also provide rehabilitation services to veterans and their families, senior citizens, and at-risk homeless veterans. Today, I join the City of Portage in celebrating the Ladies Auxiliary for seventy years of outstanding service to the community and the nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for debate on the Spending Control Act (H.R. 4663), rollcall vote 305, an amendment by Brady (TX); rollcall vote 306, an amendment by Chocola; rollcall vote 307, an amendment by Castle; and rollcall vote 308, an amendment by Hensarling; rollcall vote 309, an amendment by Hensarling; rollcall vote 310, an amendment by Kirk; rollcall vote 311, an amendment by Ryan; rollcall vote 312, an amendment by Ryan; rollcall vote 313, an amendment by Ryan; rollcall vote 314, an amendment by Spratt; rollcall vote 315, an amendment by Hensarling; rollcall vote 316, an amendment by Kirk; rollcall vote 317, a motion to recommit with instructions; and rollcall vote 318, final passage.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" for rollcall votes 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 315, 316, and 318. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 314 and 317.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, June 25th, I was meeting with constituents in North Carolina and unavoidably missed rollcall votes Nos. 321, 322, 323, 324, and 325.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 321; "no" on rollcall vote No. 322; "no" on rollcall vote No. 323;

"no" on rollcall vote No. 324, and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 325.

HONORING CONNECTICUT
GOVERNOR JODI RELLE

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, on July 1, 2004, my home state of Connecticut saw the dawning of a new political era. The cloud of controversy that had covered Connecticut in recent months was lifted as Lieutenant Governor Jodi Rell was installed as Connecticut's 87th Governor.

I have known our new governor for many years. We served together in the State Legislature and she has been lieutenant governor for nine and a half years. Jodi Rell understands government at both the legislative and executive levels. She is a leader and a hard worker. She understands that among her primary responsibilities is to bring high standards and confidence back to the office of governor. I have no doubt she will succeed.

On a sunny day last week, Governor Rell took office with a pledge of honor, respect and modesty. She spoke of the "culture of corruption" that has infected Connecticut's state government and she acknowledged that her predecessor's ethical problems had shaken the public's faith in government and belief in the dignity of public service.

Governor Rell said, "Today, we begin to restore faith, integrity and honor to our government. It is our solemn obligation. It will be our lasting legacy."

Governor Rell was gracious towards her predecessor. She said, "These have been very difficult and trying times for everyone, including Governor Rowland and his family. My thoughts and prayers are with them."

It was the proper tone for the day.

It was heartening to see officials from both sides of the aisle rally in support of the new governor. They understand that when faith in government is shaken and when our belief in the intrinsic virtue of public service is called into doubt, it is the business of everyone—regardless of political affiliation—to raise the level of dialogue and conduct. Truly, as Governor Rell stated, "The time to heal has begun."

The public deserves absolutely nothing less than the meritorious and disinterested public service of our elected officials. Connecticut's newest governor understands this and I am proud to offer her my full support.

A TRIBUTE TO JOSEPHINE AND
HENRY BOLUS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Josephine and Henry Bolus in recognition of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Josephine and Henry first met back in 1948 as junior high school students in lower Manhattan. Their courtship was interrupted when

Henry began his service in the Korean war. He was stationed in Japan but had to return home due to a family illness. While home, Henry proposed to Josephine, and the couple got married on May 11, 1954 in Harlem, NY at Mount Zion Lutheran Church.

Henry returned to Japan to continue his service to our country. He would later return, and he and Josephine would start their family in Brooklyn, NY.

Henry and Josephine have two children, Michael and Sabrina, three grandchildren, Michael, Ana Margaret, and Hector, and one great-grandchild, Jasmine.

On May 1, 2004, Josephine and Henry will come together in front of friends and family to renew their vows in celebration, love and commitment to each other.

Mr. Speaker, Josephine and Henry Bolus have dedicated their lives to each through 50 years of wonderful marriage, serving as an example to us all. As such, they are more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable couple.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR PHILLIP
"PHIL" JONES

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great civic leader and great Arkansan; I am honored to recognize Phil Jones in the Congress. His recent death was a great loss to his community, his family, his state, and this Nation.

Phil Jones' commitment to Northeast Arkansas was beyond compare. Mr. Jones demonstrated an energy few can match. In addition to tirelessly serving his church and his community, he is survived by his seven children, eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mr. Jones was born in Jonesboro, Arkansas, and graduated from Jonesboro High School. He served his country honorably as a supply corps officer in the U.S. Navy during the Korean Conflict and has served in a public accounting practice since the late 1950s. Mr. Jones is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Arkansas Society of Certified Public Accountants (ASCPA) and received the First Annual ASCPA Outstanding CPA in Business and Industry Award for his accomplishments in the field. Most notable in a distinguished professional career was more than 40 years of service with Hytrol Conveyor Company, most recently as vice chairman of the board of directors prior to his retirement last year.

But Mr. Jones made one of the most important realizations a member of a rural community can make: education and health care drive a region's growth. Mr. Jones graciously served on several boards affecting education issues for students ranging in age from kindergarten to college. He also served on a fund raising committee for St. Bernard's Cancer Treatment Center, as a board member of St. Bernard's Hospital Development Foundation, and as president of the Parish Council at Blessed Sacrament Church.

Mr. Jones' commitment to others did not end at our Nation's borders, however. He and

his wife, Flo, helped bring health care to the under-privileged in Mexico, Colombia and the Czech Republic.

Phil Jones knew that in order for a community to thrive, it must be supported by those within it. He was an impassioned community leader and was deeply devoted to his family. On behalf of the Congress, I extend sympathies to his family, and gratitude for all he did to make the world a better place.

HONORING JUDGE ROGER KENT
WARREN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American jurist. He not only served with great distinction on the bench, but went on to improve the quality and caseloads of other judges as well. Today I rise to acknowledge the tremendous service of Judge Roger Kent Warren, the outgoing President of the National Center for State Courts.

Judge Warren received his bachelor of arts degree from William College in 1963, and served on a Fulbright Fellowship to Iran in 1964. He was appointed as a judge to the California Municipal Court in 1976, and was elevated to the superior court in 1982. He held this post until 1993, when he became the first-ever presiding judge of the consolidated superior and municipal courts.

Judge Warren was repeatedly recognized for his excellent conduct on the bench, winning the Sacramento Judge of the Year award in 1987, 1993 and 1994; he was awarded the California Jurist of the Year award in 1995 and won the American Judges Association Award of Merit in 1996.

In March 1996, he was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Center for State Courts, a non-profit organization designed to provide courts with up-to-date information and hands-on assistance that helps our judges better serve the public. He promptly went about providing invaluable educational and consulting services to the judiciary. He formed the Assembly of Court Associations to encourage collaboration among national judicial organizations, developed initiatives such as Communities of Practice to examine the best practices for dealing with family violence, jury reform, and court performance.

On the occasion of his retirement as President and CEO of the NCSC, I rise to honor Judge Warren. The people of the United States have been fortunate to have been served by a person of his stature, and we wish him and his family the very best in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MATTIE STEPANEK

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mattie Stepanek—a remarkable