

speaks directly to the comment of the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) about call centers, which really have become the engine of economic opportunity for many citizens here in the United States. There happen to be occasions for banks, credit card companies, and a number of other businesses in America to use these call centers.

I just want to emphasize that we are a world economy, we are an integrated world. But I also think it is important that we look to recruit not only American businesses, but American workers, to be able to do work that is viable for uplifting our own inner city and rural communities. Mr. Chase has a company that hires hundreds of persons who work in a call center and secure business for a number of our companies in the Nation, and he hopes to recruit companies from around the world.

We have to balance the responsibilities of making sure that Americans are at work, of keeping American jobs, of rebuilding a manufacturing economy along with our international economy and international friendship.

In particular, I want to talk about Houston, Texas, because one of the reasons I am concerned about the journey that this Congress is taking of not being concerned about jobs and not being concerned about infusing moneys into the domestic economy is because Americans are growing, and the communities are diverse, but the work is not growing commensurate with the population. The needs of America are growing, one in particular, and I will cite Houston, Texas because we are a microcosm of the struggle of improving the transportation and mobility of this Nation.

For over 20 years, Houston has been fighting to secure the opportunity to have light rail. It is located in a 3-million-to-4-million-person metroplex, and I cannot cite for my colleagues the traffic jams in Houston, Texas. We are trying to get better.

Unfortunately, we have had great opposition fighting against us in getting light rail right in our own community. But I am very proud of Houston because in November 2003 we voted to put in place light rail, first a 22-mile and then a 39-mile light rail track.

Why am I speaking about it? Because just yesterday, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, under the gentleman from Alaska (Chairman YOUNG) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), the ranking member, gave Houston one more step toward completion of its light rail.

What does that do for Houston? What does that do for America? It creates jobs and provides the opportunity for people in this Nation to help build trains, to help build tracks, to help build a system, the technology, and to increase mobility.

I hope that in our effort to secure funding for our light rail and the authorization for our light rail, that we will have Members of our congressional

delegation, House and Senate, who will pay attention to the vote of the people of Houston. They have voted, they have spoken, and we want to have a unified effort in fighting for light rail in Houston, Texas.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to working with the mayor of the city of Houston, Mayor White, and the chairman of the Metro Board, Mr. Wolffe, who I inquired of the board's commitment to continue our light rail effort. I wanted to thank the previous board and thank the previous or existing Executive Director, Shirley Delibro, who will be passing the mantle on to another director.

But in this climate of lack of jobs, it is imperative that we support the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure as it looks to rebuild highways and freeways and roads in America in our urban and rural areas. That is where we can insist on jobs in America, with the buses, the trains, the airplanes that are covered by this transportation bill. We can encourage the utilization of American companies in providing for the improvement of our transportation system, putting America back to work, utilizing the backdrop of World War II and the aftermath of the depression, when the phrase was, a chicken in every pot and that was all that you would get.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt came in with a wise vision, putting people back to work and rebuilding America's infrastructure, and it worked. So many of us know those whose children, their economic opportunity was built upon the WPA, sweeping the streets, paving the streets, looking toward the vision of new visions and roads.

Madam Speaker, it is imperative that we do that today, and I hope this Congress will support TEA 21 and vote to invest in America and create jobs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PENCE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FILNER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MCDERMOTT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

INVESTING IN AMERICA'S FUTURE: CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FISCAL YEAR 2005 BUDGET AL- TERNATIVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening to discuss the Congressional Black Caucus's fiscal year 2005 budget alternative.

Today, the Congressional Black Caucus offered a budget substitute that would invest in America's future while restoring fiscal responsibility in fulfilling our shared sacrifice.

Madam Speaker, when we are in a state of war, finding ourselves, even as we speak, with men and women in our armed forces fighting in Afghanistan and fighting in Iraq, and finding themselves spread out across the globe, the Congressional Black Caucus, which has consistently over and over and over again reiterated that we certainly support our troops and, at the same time, we are very firm on the fact that we must address the issue of terrorism.

But we also say that we must have a budget that is balanced, not only from the standpoint of economics, but also from the standpoint of doing for the people in the United States, people who work hard every day; people who give their blood, sweat, and tears to making this country the best that it can be; people who cannot even watch this on CSPAN because they left a job at 5 o'clock today and went to another job because ends simply are not meeting.

And not only those people, but 9 million people who are not watching this because they do not have cable, and the reason why they do not have cable is because they do not have a job. Nine million of them, at the end of every 2-week period when they normally would have gotten a check, they are not getting a check anymore, because they are simply unemployed.

Madam Speaker, despite the best efforts of over 100 of my colleagues in the House of Representatives, our budget substitute, that is the budget substitute of the Congressional Black Caucus, did not pass.

But one thing is clear, as I have said to the caucus many, many times, when I borrowed the words from former Representative Bill Clay, when he said to the caucus back in September, he said, you may not win every battle, but you will set the trend. You may not get what you want at that moment, but hopefully, we will be able to plant a seed in the minds of not only Members of this Congress, but in the minds of

the country that we can do better. That is why, day after day, Members of the Congressional Black Caucus come forth to address issues that go to the center of people's lives, to the center of Americans' lives and, day after day, we come as a conscience of the Congress.

The Congressional Black Caucus budget alternative fully funded No Child Left Behind to the authorized levels. In comparison, the budget that President Bush sent to the Congress broke its promise to America's children and teachers by short-changing its own education legislation by \$7 billion.

Every time we hear about dollars, it is so hard, I think, for many of us to put faces on that short-change of dollars. But the fact is that when we go back to our districts, as I do, and I go to visit schools and I see some children in schools where rain is coming through the roof, and so often classes are overcrowded, and many times children have basically nowhere to go at 3 o'clock or 3:30; and then to look at the provisions of No Child Left Behind where it calls for substantial testing of our children, which a lot of us do not have a major problem with, but the problem is that once you test, and assuming a State can afford to test because there is not enough money in many instances for them to be able to even give all of the tests that are required by the Federal Government, the next thing we know, many school districts do not even have the money to send them to other schools.

So when we put a face on the \$7 billion that is left out of the No Child Left Behind legislation and authorization, it gives us great concern.

Not only did the CBC budget provide adequate funding to take care of our troops fighting in the battlefields of Iraq and around the world, but our budget provided over \$8 billion for our servicemen and women once they return home.

One of the things that we are seeing over and over again is young people going overseas. Many of them in the National Guard, when they joined, certainly they understood that there might come a time when they might have to go overseas. But so many of them, like the ones in our districts, find that their lives are interrupted. Resources are not there to keep the mortgage paid. Resources are not there for them to make sure that their families can carry on life the way they would normally carry on if they were not in Iraq or Afghanistan. The fact is that they find their lives interrupted.

One of the things that we wanted to do is, when they do come home, to make sure that they would be okay after they had put their lives on the line for us.

Madam Speaker, the CBC budget alternative would have doubled the funding for Historically Black Colleges and Hispanic Serving Institutions. I have often said that if we did not have HBCUs, we would have to invent them,

for they are the institutions that provide and account for most of the B.S. degrees and the Master's degrees and Doctorate degrees for the children of African Americans.

Our education increases included over \$2 billion for Pell grants, so that deserving students who may not have the financial means to attend college could obtain a college education. There was a time not very long ago when a Pell grant would cover 70 percent of a student's tuition and fees. Today, the average Pell grant probably covers somewhere between 20 and 30 percent.

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The fact is that we educate our children, and then we want them to do better than we did, and we want them to go to college; but at Morgan State University, where I sit as a member of the Board of Trustees, sadly, out of 13,000 students we had to release somewhere between 7 or 800 of them, not because they were not qualified, not because they did not want to go to college, not because they had poor attendance but because they did not have the money.

So I have said it and I will say it again, one of the worst things, if you want to talk about the threats to this society, the most dangerous threat to our society is our failure to properly educate our young. But most importantly, the CBC budget alternative fulfilled the needs of American people while setting aside money to reduce our deficit.

Now, at \$521 billion it would have placed our Nation back on the path of fiscal responsibility. Madam Speaker, we have to be honest with the American people. Our Nation is in the midst of a fiscal crisis. Not only is the Federal deficit spiraling out of control, but now we have reports from the Medicare actuary that Medicare will be bankrupt by 2019 and Social Security will soon follow. I did not say that. The Democrats did not say that.

The fact is that the official body, looking at our Medicare and our Social Security situation, said that.

Madam Speaker, I say we must be honest because up to this point the administration has been less than forthcoming with the American people and with this Congress. It has been reported that Medicare's chief actuary was told he would be fired if he reported to Congress the true costs of the Medicare bill. Earlier this year we learned that the administration fudged the conclusions of its health disparity report in order to report a more favorable national condition than what truly exists. That is a very sad commentary.

One thing that we know, and it is just a basic rule of life, that in order to correct a problem you have to, first of all, realize you have it. And if we have institutions that are being paid with taxpayers' dollars that are putting out reports that are then fudged to give a different image, a more favorable image of situations like health care

disparities of all things, then that is a very, very, very sad day; and it is a very, very, very sad commentary on anyone who would be about the business of causing that to happen.

Just last month, the President sent a budget to Congress that conveniently neglected to include the costs of extending the tax cuts while claiming that his budget would cut the deficit in half. In my neighborhood they would say, "Please."

While the administration has made a practice of misleading the American public on the true state of our Union and brushing issues under the rug, the Congressional Black Caucus has faced these challenges head on and offered real solutions. If we are to truly resolve this crisis, then we must face the facts.

I have often talked about my little girl when she was 3 years old. She would say, Daddy, let's go play hide and go seek. And she would put her hands up to her face and stand directly in front of me and say, you cannot find me. Well, that is okay for a 3 year old, but we are here in the Congress of the United States of America making policy for over 247 million people and affecting their lives on a daily basis. We have to be honest about what is going on in this body and in this city.

Week after week the members of the Congressional Black Caucus come to this House floor to make the American people aware of the problems and challenges facing our country. Today we offered real and achievable solutions to those problems. Although others in the Congress do not seem to share our budget priorities, I hope that we will share the priorities of ensuring life, liberty and happiness of all Americans.

Madam Speaker, we have one life to live. This is no dress rehearsal, and this so happens to be that life. The real truth, Madam Speaker, is that this is not a spending-driven deficit, as some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would have us believe. This deficit crisis was created by fiscal mismanagement.

In the corporate world, CEOs are held accountable to the bottom line. This November I hope all of America follows the corporate example and holds the CEO of this great Nation accountable for this government's bottom line that is now over \$500 billion in the red.

Madam Speaker, this Congress can do better. We can do better. We can do better for the American people, and the Congressional Black Caucus will continue to press this Congress to address the issues that go to the center of people's lives.

It gives me great pleasure to yield to my colleague from the great State of California (Ms. LEE), who has been at the forefront of the things that I just talked about: a fair budget process, a budget process that balances our need to protect ourselves from enemies without and enemies within, by the way, and making sure that we do all of those things that are necessary to take care of Americans.

(Ms. LEE asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks, and include extraneous material.)

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, let me thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) for not only holding this Special Order tonight to discuss the misplaced priorities and the misallocated resources found in the Republican budget and to discuss our CBC alternative budget, but just for his leadership and his attempts to organize us to wake up America. Quite frankly, I do not think the majority of American people know the damage that is being done in this place each and every day. And thanks to the gentleman's leadership, we have the opportunity to come forward to present a vision of the world, of our country that we know is an American vision, a vision based on our values.

So I want to thank the gentleman for his leadership and just hope that the gentleman's district understands how important you are to our caucus and to this entire Congress for helping us move our agenda forward. Let me also mention and thank my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), who is a member of the Committee on the Budget and he is a leader in our caucus on the budget. I want to just thank the gentleman for his very exceptional work in making this budget a very real and very progressive alternative for Members.

I want to thank all of my colleagues who contributed to the process. I think that our work speaks for itself.

As the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) indicated earlier, this budget received over 100 votes. That is a record vote, I believe, for the Congressional Black Caucus, and it is under the leadership of the gentleman that we achieved this vote. But this is the budget that really should have passed because it would have put America on the right fiscal track, and it also ensured the economic security for all Americans.

During this debate and for weeks prior to today, we have made a clear case for why and how the Republican budget sacrifices our children, our senior citizens, our security, our environment, and our economy in order, really, to advance monied interests and to promote tax breaks for the wealthy. We have made it clear that we hold the President and this Republican-led House responsible, responsible for the largest deficit in history.

The 5.6 trillion 10-year surplus projected when President Bush took office has been replaced by deficit as far as the eye can see. For 2004 the budget proposes a record deficit of \$521 billion. That is the budget they passed tonight. That is \$146 billion more than the 2003 deficit, and that was a historic record. It is a greedy budget. That is what this is. It gives to the few while sacrificing the needs of the many, and it gives the bill to our children and to their children. It is irresponsible, and it is unacceptable.

Now, unlike the Republican budget, the Congressional Black Caucus substitute has its priorities really in the right place. It is based on fairness. It is based on fiscal responsibility. And it is based on the values that we hold dear. And it happens to be balanced. Instead of gutting foreign aid programs and woefully underfunding the promised global AIDS initiative, the Congressional Black Caucus alternative includes \$800 million towards our commitment and our moral obligation to fight the devastating HIV/AIDS pandemic. And it also includes \$1 billion towards the global fund to fight aids, tuberculosis, and malaria.

Instead of ignoring our neighbors in Haiti and the African continent, the Congressional Black Caucus budget adds \$1 billion to critical development assistance to meet the critical needs in countries that really need our help the most.

Instead of rolling back our environmental programs, which the Bush budget does, and cutting badly needed enforcement programs at the Environmental Protection Agency, the Congressional Black Caucus's budget enhances them to ensure that our children and families have access to clean water and clean air. The Bush budget ensures that they have less access to clean air and clean water.

Now, California has 97 sites contaminated with toxic waste. These sites are on the national priority Superfund list and 38 sites are likely to be affected by failing to fully fund the Superfund program. The Republican budget also cuts clean water funding by 37 percent nationwide and that is mind boggling; 37 percent which is over a \$35 million cut in funding just for my home State of California alone.

Instead of leaving millions of our children behind in education and in training, they cut job training almost out for the most part and turn a blind eye to the millions of unemployed Americans, as the Bush budget does, the Congressional Black Caucus budget increases funding for school construction, for Head Start, for GEAR UP, for Perkins loans, for Pell grants, for job training which we so desperately need in an economy where so many millions of our people are unemployed. Also, funding for historically black universities, it fully up-funds the fiscal year 2005 authorization level for Leave No Child Behind.

Instead of cutting funding for housing, we do have an affordable housing crisis in this country. My home State of California is off the scale. Our budget puts more resources into housing. Affordable housing, or the lack thereof, is really a national disgrace; and it is a national emergency. Housing is, or rather it should be, a basic human right; and, unfortunately, it remains ignored and underfunded in the Republican budget again this year. And we are seeing an increasing number of homeless people out there on the streets of America, the most powerful and wealthiest country in the world.

Currently there are over 2 million households assisted by rental vouchers and turnover in this program is very low. Thirty-seven percent of vouchers are used to house our most vulnerable citizens, namely, senior citizens and persons with disabilities. This budget barely funds the 1.75 million in rental vouchers. The Bush budget for HUD proposes that public housing authorities scramble to cover the \$1.7 billion costs needed to fund the remaining 250,000 vouchers and to ensure that housing remains available to special needs populations.

Now, this ultimately means that a quarter of a million section 8 recipients, current section 8 recipients, not those in waiting lines and on the list but current section 8 recipients, they will lose their vouchers or they will be forced by the public housing authorities to increase the amount of rent that they pay. Where in the world are they going to find the money? Where are the jobs? They do not have the jobs. They do not have the resources to afford to pay more rent.

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This is just downright cruel. In my district alone, 3,000 families who are currently using section 8 vouchers to pay their rent will lose their homes. This is unacceptable. This is unconscionable.

The Bush administration must fully fund and take responsibility for our most vulnerable families living in the section 8 program; but, of course, the budget that they passed out tonight did not do that. Ours did.

In the area of crime, the Congressional Black Caucus budget keeps our commitments to our local law enforcement agencies by providing real funding programs like the community policing efforts, like the Department of Justice reentry initiatives.

Under the Republican budget, the COPS program would be slashed by 87 percent, 87 percent. Crime rates are going up in certain communities. Of course, we know the reasons, but community policing has been a remedy and a way to really affect in a very positive way the reduction of crime in many of our neighborhoods; but again, the budget that they passed out tonight cut the COPS program by 87 percent.

The Republican budget underfunds homeland security programs. The Bush administration budget cuts first responder funding by \$648 million and cuts port security grants by 63 percent, and they talk about homeland security. Yes, homeland security is very important. We must ensure the homeland, but we have got to pay for it. We have got to pay for it, and cutting port security grants by 63 percent does not tell me that this administration is committed to homeland security.

The House Republican budget is even worse. It cuts homeland security funding by an additional \$155 million in 2005 and \$857 million over 5 years. What a sham. Currently, 95 percent of all

North American and U.S. trade moves by sea, concentrated mostly in a handful of ports. Only about 5 percent of the cargo containers that enter the United States are screened, 5 percent. Any one of these containers, the vast majority of which do not have tamper-resistant seals, could hold a deadly threat, a disease hidden in a shipment of foreign fruit, radioactive material hidden in frozen seafood, or an explosive device.

Instead of skimping on homeland security, our budget, the Congressional Black Caucus budget, provides the necessary resources for the Department of Homeland Security to fully begin protecting America's rails and ports, and we provide significant resources for our first responders, the first line of defense in the event of an attack.

Homeland security, dealing with terrorism, we have got to get this administration to understand they have got to support this. They have got to support homeland security and our first line of defenders, our police officers, our firefighters, our emergency workers, our health workers.

What the CBC does not provide for is \$9 billion a year for ballistic missile defense. Missile defense merely diverts terribly scarce resources into a program that does not meet our most urgent security needs and probably will not work in any case. Let us be clear, ballistic missile defense, better known as Star Wars, would not have prevented September 11, and the approach taken in the Republican budget will not prevent its recurrence.

One other thing the Congressional Black Caucus does not provide, Halliburton's license to steal, by withholding payments to the company that has overcharged taxpayers. That is what we did in our budget. This amounts to over \$300 million. I do not know if the American people understand that the budget that the Bush

administration and that Congress reported out tonight pays Halliburton, gives them money for violating the law. Unbelievable to me, unbelievable.

Let me just read my colleague a list of some of the programs being eliminated, not cut. These are some of the programs being eliminated in the Bush budget to feed this military spending. They are eliminating alcohol abuse reduction, arts and education, close-up fellowships, community technology centers, comprehensive school reform, demonstration projects to ensure quality higher education for students with disabilities. They are taking \$7 million out of that. They are eliminating that. Dropout prevention programs, they are eliminating. Dropout prevention programs. Dropout prevention programs.

They are eliminating the Eisenhower National Clearinghouse for Math and Science Education, Elementary and Secondary School Counseling. Even Start, the Excellence in Economic Education program. They are eliminating literacy programs for prisoners. My God, what are we going to do? They will be getting out sooner or later and no skills, no job training, no jobs. What do we expect in terms of the recidivism rate, and here they are cutting out the literacy program for prisoners.

They are eliminating the Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers programs, the National Writing Project, Parental Information and Resource Centers. Recreational programs, eliminate \$3 million. They really cut out really all the federally funded recreational programs for kids. Regional Technology in Education.

They eliminate Smaller Learning Communities. They eliminate, here is another one, State Grants for Incarcerated Youth Offenders. They decimate that program. They gut it. It is gone. It is gone.

They eliminate Vocational Education National programs. They elimi-

nate the Women's Educational Equity program. They eliminate the Early Learning Opportunities Fund, the National Youth Sports. They eliminate Community Food and Nutrition Efforts. They close that down. They shut it down. They shut down the Rural Community Facilities.

They shut down Hope VI, which revitalizes many of our communities, our urban communities where the unemployment rates are soaring. They finish, they cut out, they eliminate Empowerment Zones which have provided the opportunity to create jobs and to create economic opportunities for minority- and women-owned businesses and small businesses. The Bush administration just cuts that. They cut it out. It is gone.

The more I look at that, the more upset I get. It is very hard to convey the depth of my anger at this budget.

Brownfields Redevelopment they cut that out. Rural Housing and Economic Development programs they are cutting out.

I mentioned all the COPS programs and law enforcement programs they are just taking away. They are cutting out juvenile accountability block grants. They are taking away migrant and seasonal farm workers programs. I do not know if the American people know about all these programs that, like I said, are not being cut, they are being eliminated. They are gone. They are gone.

The Tech Prep Education State grants, \$107 million, that is done. That is finished.

Madam Speaker, I will insert this list into the RECORD tonight at this point.

ZERO FUNDING

The Bush administration proposes to eliminate the following programs in fiscal 2005:

Program	2004 funding (in millions)	Reason for termination
Commerce:		
Advanced Technology Program	\$171	Duplicates private-sector efforts.
Technology Opportunities Program	14	Diminished need.
Continued Dumping and Subsidy Offset Act	293	To save money.
Education:		
Alcohol Abuse Reduction	30	Duplicates other programs.
Arts in Education	35	To fund higher priorities.
B.J. Stupak Olympic Scholarships	1	Duplicates other programs.
Close-Up Fellowships	1	Duplicates private-sector efforts.
Community Technology Centers	10	Duplicates other programs.
Comprehensive School Reform	234	Duplicates other programs.
Demonstration Projects To Ensure Quality Higher Education for Students With Disabilities	7	Goals achieved.
Dropout Prevention Programs	5	Duplicates other programs.
Eisenhower National Clearinghouse for Math and Science Education	5	Duplicates other programs.
Eisenhower Regional Math and Science Education Consortia	15	Duplicates other programs.
Elementary and Secondary School Counseling	34	Duplicates other programs.
Even Start	247	Goals not met.
Excellence in Economic Education	1	Duplicates other programs.
Exchanges With Historic Whaling and Trading Partners	9	To fund higher priorities.
Federal Perkins Loans, Capital Contributions	99	Duplicates other programs.
Foreign Language Assistance	17	Duplicates other programs.
Javits Gifted and Talented Education	11	Duplicates other programs.
Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnerships	66	Goals achieved.
Literacy Programs for Prisoners	5	Duplicates other programs.
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers	2	Duplicates other programs.
National Writing Project	18	Duplicates other programs.
Occupational and Employment Information	9	To be merged with other programs.
Parental Information and Resource Centers	42	Duplicates other programs.
Projects With Industry	22	Duplicates other programs.
Ready To Teach	14	Duplicates other programs.
Recreational Programs	3	Duplicates other programs.
Regional Educational Laboratories	67	Goals not met.
Regional Technology in Education Consortia	10	Duplicates other programs.
School Leadership	12	Duplicates other programs.
Smaller Learning Communities	174	Duplicates other programs.
Star Schools	20	Duplicates other programs.
State Grants for Incarcerated Youth Offenders	20	Limited impact.
Supported Employment State Grants	38	Goals achieved.
Tech-Prep Demonstration	5	Duplicates other programs.

Program	2004 funding (in millions)	Reason for termination
Tech-Prep Education State Grants	107	Duplicates other programs.
Underground Railroad Program	2	Goals achieved.
Vocational Education National Programs	12	Duplicates other programs.
Women's Educational Equity	3	Duplicates other programs.
Health and Human Services:		
Early Learning Opportunities Fund	34	Duplicates other programs.
National Youth Sports	18	Duplicates other programs.
Community Food and Nutrition	7	Duplicates other programs.
Rural Community Facilities	7	Duplicates other programs.
Homeland Security: Metropolitan Medical Response System	50	Goals achieved.
Housing and Urban Development:		
Community Development Block Grant	334	Congressional add-on.
HOPE VI Revitalization of Severely Distressed Public Housing	149	Goals achieved.
Empowerment Zones	15	Funding not needed.
Community Development Loan Guarantees	7	Accomplishments not measured.
Public Housing Drug Elimination Program	0	Limited results.
Brownfields Redevelopment	25	Accomplishments not reported.
Rural Housing and Economic Development	25	Duplicates other programs.
Environmental Protection Agency: Unrequested Project Funding	511	Congressional add-on.
Interior: National Park Service Statutory Aid	13	Secondary to mission.
Justice:		
Edward Byrne Memorial Grant Program	704	Merged with other programs.
Local Law Enforcement Block Grants	223	Merged with other programs.
COPS Hiring Grants	119	Merged with other programs.
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program	297	Results not demonstrated.
COPS Law Enforcement Technology Grants	157	Duplicates other programs.
COPS Interoperable Communications Technology Grants	84	Responsibility transferred to Homeland Security.
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants	59	Results not demonstrated.
Labor: Migrant Seasonal Farmworkers	77	Ineffective.
Small Business Administration: Microloan Program	17	Expensive; duplicates assistance.
U.S. Postal Service: Foregone Revenue for Reduced Mail Rate	29	Eliminates reduced rates for some nonprofit mailers.

Source: Office of Management and Budget.

Madam Speaker, let me just finally say that this Bush budget embodies values that are quite un-American, if you ask me. It is fiscally irresponsible. It mortgages our children's future, and it decimates the lives of the least of these. It is not compassionate. In fact, it is really downright mean-spirited, and I hope that the American people understand that this administration is bankrupting our children and their future, and they are investing in money interests and privileges for the few.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman for her statement.

Madam Speaker, as I listened to the gentlewoman speak, I could not help but think about the fact that when I listened to the other side talk, it seems as if they forget sometimes what the American spirit is all about and what makes America great.

One of the things that makes America great is that we view ourselves like the human body, and if there is a part of us, a part of the body that is suffering or a part of the body that needs healing, then it is like the entire body has a problem, and that is one of the things that makes this country so great.

I shall never forget when I went to Bosnia several years ago with President Clinton and we were talking with the leaders over there in Bosnia about how it is that we had quite a few troops over there but not one troop, not one of our personnel was harmed. I asked the question, Why do you think that is? These leaders all agreed, they said because America has a spirit and they know that if one American is harmed, they will pay big time, and that has been our spirit. That was been our strength.

I listened to all of the things that the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) was talking about, the programs being eliminated. You are talking about things that help people be all that they can be. I believe that our children,

something as simple as arts and education, that is something where we know that children in so many instances already have the talent within them, and it is up to us as grown-ups to do those things that are responsible for helping to bring it out of them so that they can share with the world.

When I think about Empowerment Zones, many people in these Empowerment Zone areas, because we have one in the city of Baltimore where I represent, and people are trying to climb up, and they have been told in many instances in the past, pull yourself up by your boot straps; but they did have not any boots, let alone straps. So they were pulling themselves up by their fingernails and then the Empowerment Zone comes about and helps them get on their feet. They are able to create businesses, to get people employed, pay back into the State tax coffers and the Federal Government coffers, and then we are in a better situation, but more importantly, we have built a person.

Then I think about the COPS program that you mentioned. It is very important that people feel safe in their environment. That is just crucial, and the COPS program has done so much. We saw all over this country for years the crime rate going down; and now slowly but surely in many of our jurisdictions, slowly we are seeing it rise back up, but when you have cops on the beat, the fact is their presence, just their mere presence is a deterrent to crime.

So we talk about the Hope VI program. This is a program in Baltimore that we have seen, I think we have six or seven Hope VI projects, but as I have said, on many occasions and for those who may not know what it is, it is basically a program that allows many mainly urban areas to tear down high-rise developments and then build more or less low-rise and mixed-income developments. Baltimore has changed the landscape of our city and allowed people to own homes who would not nor-

mally own homes. It has revitalized our cities in areas that were decaying. Those areas have not sprouted up, and I said in an opening of one of the IMF Hope VI projects about 2 are 3 months ago that it was like having Andy and Mayberry in the middle of Baltimore City.

So those are the things that go to making people's lives better on a day-to-day basis. Those are the things that we talk about. We hear people say tax-and-spend liberals. Well, that does not apply to this side. The fact is that we are spending a lot of money, the other side is, that is, but what about the human development, so that people will have an opportunity to live the best lives that they can?

So the fact is that we can do better.

Ms. LEE. If the gentleman would yield for just a moment, let me just comment on what you have said in terms of our values, looking out for each other, making sure that all Americans have equal opportunity.

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Madam Speaker, the insidious and the sinister nature of this Bush budget is that so many of these efforts and programs which have been eliminated or cut affect the African American, the Latino and the Asian Pacific Islander communities. They affect low-income individuals, poor people.

Now, what kind of values do we have if we are going to do that? That is not the American way from what I know. I think we need to make sure that the country understands that there are communities that are impacted by this budget, and then there are communities that are severely impacted by this budget and will take us back 50 years if this passes.

Mr. CUMMINGS. We just had a situation in my district where a water taxi capsized in a storm. Unfortunately, there were some deaths, but we also had a well-trained Navy Reserve unit which so happened to be in the vicinity. If it had not been for them, some

20-odd lives would not have been saved. During our discussions about this incident, one of the things that we talked about was homeland security. The Naval reservists were saying when incidents like this happen, if they have the kinds of equipment that they would have to have for homeland security, it would make their jobs so much easier.

A lot of people say what happened on 9/11 will not happen again; I have heard people say it only happens once. Then we had the Madrid train situation, and the fact is, when we talk about homeland security and talk about our port situation, we have the Port of Baltimore; and in talking to the people at our port, they tell us that one drug load could come in and could do so much damage to our city and citizens. And yet we are cutting back on ports?

Ms. LEE. First responder funding, police, firefighters, health care emergency workers, we are cutting \$648 million out of that budget. We are cutting port security grants by 63 percent. This totals, in terms of homeland security, an additional \$155 million in 2005 and \$857 million for 5 years. What kind of real war on terrorism do we have? What kind of commitment do we have to secure America, to secure people in our country?

We will have to look at it in a way that we have not looked at it before if in fact these numbers hold in the Bush budget.

Mr. CUMMINGS. In the Baltimore incident, what they said was, if you have the equipment you need for emergencies, like if there was some type of attack on our port or our city, even if that did not happen, just being prepared for it puts us in a position to be able to address issues that would probably have a higher likelihood of taking place. It is not like the equipment sits in a corner waiting for some terrorist to come along. And they also talked about the training that they have been involved in, and said their training was helpful.

Again, we hear mayors from all over the country, large and small cities, saying, we want to be prepared, we want to protect our people. We are the ones that have to address our firefighters and our police personnel and those who do emergency work. All they want is to make sure that they have the things that are necessary to do their job.

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, if the gentleman would yield, that is extremely important because having the resources there to do their job reduces the anxiety level. It reduces the fear factor which people quite naturally have at this point in our time.

I do not believe this administration wants people to feel that level of security. They like to keep them unstable and fearful and worried, and that is just downright wrong.

I think this budget really reflects exactly what the gentleman said. We do not have the equipment. Our first responders, our counties and cities, do

not have what they need. People know they do not have what they need, and they are afraid. People need to rise up and tell the Bush administration to fully fund homeland security.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, the gentlewoman also mentioned job training, which is so very important. The gentlewoman said there are cuts in job training.

Ms. LEE. Big cuts in job training.

Mr. CUMMINGS. There are so many people out of work. I was speaking to a colleague from Ohio, and he was saying hundreds of thousands of jobs are cut, gone. And he talked about how important it is to have job training, so if opportunities come, people will be in a position to take advantage of it. It is one thing to have opportunity, it is another thing to be prepared to take advantage of it.

It just seems to me as we see so many of our relatives and our neighbors out of a job, 9 million of them in our country, it seems to me that, if anything, we would be trying to increase the funds for job training so that people will be prepared for opportunity were it to come along. But yet and still, and the President keeps telling us jobs are coming, we have not seen them yet, but assuming he is right, if they are not prepared, what difference does it really make?

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I think I have the answer to why they cut job training, and that is, they do not know where the jobs are coming from and what to train people for. First, we have lost the service industry. We have lost manufacturing, and we are outsourcing high tech. What is left?

We had a hearing several weeks ago with Alan Greenspan, and we talked to him about the economy and job losses. I asked Chairman Greenspan, What do we tell our young people? How do we tell them to play by the rules, go to school and develop some skills and some know-how because there is a job at the end of the road? And he could not answer that.

We asked where the jobs will be in the future, what industries, what sectors do we train people for? In what regions, and what jobs are going to be available in 2 to 3 years? And there was no answer for that question. I suspect the reason they cut job training is because they do not have a clue what kinds of jobs are out there in the future to train for.

Mr. Greenspan indicated if he did not believe those jobs were going to be out there, he would be as upset as I am, and he believes they are out there, but he never told us where.

Mr. CUMMINGS. When we talk about Pell grants, and we see so many students who work so hard and they finally get to college. I am a graduate of Howard University, and since 1973, I have gone back to every graduation because I want to see the young people emerge and go out into the world. It is a good feeling that I get from seeing that.

But to know there are students today like the ones we saw down at Florida A&M and Prairie View A&M, at Morgan State and Howard, so many of them have gotten there. They have gone through so many difficulties, and they finally get to college. And many of them, although it is recommended that they not work in their first year, they are working and doing whatever they can do to make ends meet to be able to pay the tuition payments. I think it was at Prairie View when they did a survey of income of the parents, it was less than \$40,000 combined average. So the parents simply do not have it.

So we have students who are giving it the best they can. They have dreamed of being a doctor or nurse or lawyer or teacher, and finally they get that acceptance letter and they are able to scrape together some money and, maybe their cousin or Aunt Sally gives them money for their graduation present from high school, and they get there and then they find out that the Pell grant that they are getting, even combined with other sources of income, even the money they get from working a part-time job is not enough.

The sad part about it is, I believe such students at Morgan who have to drop out, and we have not done a survey, but we believe many of them never return. What that means is their income is affected for the rest of their lives. They live a totally different life. If they had gotten a college education, they would be able to do better for their children and have more opportunities and be able to open more doors for future generations.

So in this country, that is probably the richest country in the world, we fail to properly make sure that they have that support system that they need. I think that is a shame.

Ms. LEE. Going back to the Congressional Black Caucus' budget, we increased the funding for Pell grants and for our young people so they do not have to deal with the very situation that the gentleman described.

Taking it just a little further, those that somehow make it through start looking for job. There are no jobs out there; but if in fact we created an infrastructure, development initiative, if we invested in our economy by investing in health care, if we invested by establishing the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund to increase the production of affordable housing in this country, we would be able to create jobs by creating an investment in our country and in our communities for areas that people need.

People need health care and housing and transportation. We need schools to be fixed and we need construction projects going on. There are so many millions of jobs that could be created if we just invested our Federal resources into this instead of the military machine for weapons which feed the military industrial complex.

Mr. CUMMINGS. In the State of Maryland, almost every one of our

schools that prepare young people for nursing are community colleges and our 4-year colleges have long waiting lists. They cannot accommodate, they do not have the resources to accommodate the students that are qualified. Yet and still, we have a phenomenal nursing shortage. That just boggles the mind: These young people who are prepared to work in a profession where there is a demand, and that is a major problem. Those are the kinds of things that we should be addressing, when we have young people standing in line to do what they have wanted to do for the last 10 years, and do not have the chance to be able to do it.

Ms. LEE. There has to be the political will to do that, and the future has to be a priority in terms of the budget priority. You have to see young people as being our future, those who are going to really take over the world, and we have not invested in our young people. We have not developed an educational system that will allow them to develop, learn and grow and move forward.

Again, Leave No Child Behind is a classic example. It is \$9.4 billion underfunded.

Mr. CUMMINGS. The Bible says, Where there is no vision, the people perish. And the question is, and the gentlewoman hit the nail on the head, what is the vision that we have as opposed to what the other side of the aisle and our President have?

I think our vision is for a better America, an America where each person has an opportunity, just as all these Congresspeople have had, to use all of the things that are within them to be the best that they can be. We have tried in our budget to make sure that we did everything that we could to make sure that they had fertile ground to develop and be all they can be.

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Ms. LEE. I want to thank again the gentleman from Maryland for his leadership and for insisting that the Congressional Black Caucus put forth this vision, a vision that is based on true American values, a vision that is based on equality and justice, a vision that is based on fiscal responsibility, a vision that is based on not mortgaging our children's future; and it is a vision for the country that I know someday will be seen by those on the other side. It is just a matter of time.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus, as I have said before, we may not win every battle, but we certainly will stand up over and over again. It is so amazing to me that at the end of each one of these Special Orders, Madam Speaker, when we go back to our offices, we have calls from Americans. They are not just African Americans. As a matter of fact, most of them are not. These are people calling from various States throughout the country. What they are saying is thank you for

informing us and thank you for at least giving us the other side of the story, because we did not get it. We did not hear that anywhere else. We may not win. We may not win today, but at least we plant the seeds in the minds of the American people and hopefully in the minds of this Congress that there is, in fact, a better way.

Ms. LEE. Yes, there is a better way. I think Dr. King, reflecting upon him right now, showed us a better way and told us that there was a better way. He told us how the bombs bursting in Vietnam would explode here in the ghettos of America if in fact our spending priorities were not reordered. Those who care about Dr. King and celebrate his birthday in January need to celebrate his life each and every day by executing his vision. We have the opportunity to do that. What an honor. We have been elected to Congress to be able to create a better world. In fact, when we do not take those opportunities to do that, I worry for us. I worry for our country.

I say, thank God for the Congressional Black Caucus. If it were not for the Congressional Black Caucus, I do not know if, in fact, any of these issues would be crystallized in the way that they are being crystallized as a result of our efforts. I want to thank the gentleman, even though I know it is very difficult sometimes dealing with 39 of us who all have ideas. But the chairman incorporates all of our ideas and comes up with a magnificent document each and every year. I think that sooner or later our budget will be the budget. It will be the budget that is passed by this House and the other body, and it will be in the White House, and we will someday see our vision for America and for the world as being the American Dream realized and in action.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Last but not least, Madam Speaker, it was the songwriter Tracy Chapman who wrote the brilliant words: "Either we change or we live and die this way." And so the Congressional Black Caucus is about the business of changing for the better, changing so that all people may rise up and be all that God meant for them to be, but at the same time we present a budget which is fiscally responsible. That too is very important to us.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, Mr. CUMMINGS, for his steadfast support of the development of this budget alternate. I also want to thank Ms. MAJETTE and Mr. SCOTT for their leadership. I appreciate and applaud their steady stream of ideas and positions on issues we all care about. I also would like to thank all of the members of the CBC and their staff for their help in completing this very worthwhile project.

The Republican budget proposal clearly ignores the needs of Texas and of all working Americans. The Republican budget borrows from future generations to pay for today's tax cuts and federal spending. It reduces taxes on the wealthiest Americans and slams the door

on economic opportunity for working families. Neither of these outcomes is in our nation's best interest.

Madam Speaker, President Bush inherited a federal surplus of \$127 billion in 2001. His tax cuts give us a deficit of \$521 billion, an all-time record, in 2004. Recently, the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office forecast that rather than cutting the deficit in half over the next five years, as the President pledged, his budget policies will result in increasing it by \$2.75 trillion. That's an astounding and mind-boggling amount to add to the national debt over the coming decade.

The CBC budget fights for social justice. It advocates for the poor that are left out and forgotten, and more specifically African Americans and other neglected minorities. The budget of the Congressional Black Caucus fully funds No Child Left Behind, it provides funds for school construction, and it increases funding for other education and job training programs. The CBC alternative also provides funding for the minority health initiative, health insurance for the uninsured, it supports child nutrition programs, it funds job creation programs under the SBA, and it extends unemployment insurance benefits. The alternative budget also eliminates the disabled veteran's tax.

The funding for these important domestic needs comes from two sources: (1) a reduction in the tax cuts from 2001 and 2003 for an individual's adjusted gross income that exceeds \$200,000, and (2) the closing of tax loopholes, abusive tax shelters, and methods of tax avoidance. These funds total an estimated \$35.5 billion in FY05, and are used for the domestic and deficit reduction portions of the alternative budget.

I ask, Madam Speaker, that Members of this body give serious consideration to both the debate and to the challenge.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today with great fear over the direction that the Republican Party and this Administration is taking our great nation. My concern is based primarily on the national budget which was just voted on. The Nussle budget clearly did not improve upon the severely flawed Bush Administration budget. The needs of average Americans were still ignored. The interests of a wealthy few outweighed the needs of an entire nation in this budget. I say this not out of partisanship, but from a statement of the facts. I want to highlight a few areas in this budget that are particularly egregious.

EDUCATION

This President and the majority party in this body have spent so much time talking about their record on education and as hard as I try I cannot see what they have to be proud of. It is one thing to address areas of critical need with rhetoric, but to advocate a policy and then not fund it sufficiently is plain irresponsible. At the top of the list of my concerns is the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and the fact that it has become an unfunded mandate. The House Republican resolution provides at least \$8.8 billion less than the \$34.3 billion authorized for education programs under the "No Child Left Behind" Act for 2005. The CBC alternative budget is the only one that fully funds the "No Child Left Behind" Act of 2005. Without this program being fully funded low funding millions of elementary and secondary school students are left without the services

Congress and the President promised just two years ago. For example, the Republican budget denies Title I services to 2.4 million students who qualify under the Act.

But the irresponsibility does not end with No Child Left Behind. For the third straight year the Republican Party has frozen the funding level for Pell Grants. Both the Republicans and the President freeze the maximum Pell Grant award at the 2003 level of \$4,050, with an average grant of \$2,399. Such small Pell Grants make college unaffordable for millions of students: the College Board reports that tuition and fees at 4-year public colleges today average \$4,694. In any market this gap would be hard to swallow, but with the current state of joblessness that the Republican Party's agenda has created it is near impossible for so many American families to send their children to college. I fear that this agenda if allowed to continue will cause a perpetual state where our American families aren't able to succeed. The CBC budget would ease the difficulty on the plethora of American families having problems funding their children's education. It guarantees almost \$2 billion more for the Pell Grant, raising the maximum level to \$4,500, an 11 percent increase over the maximum under the Republican Budget.

In addition to this the CBC budget provides even more benefits to our education system. It adds a combined total of \$18.7 billion to educational spending which will greatly reduce the stress placed on our educational system today.

But education is not limited to elementary and secondary schools and colleges and universities. Education is a lifelong endeavor. And with that in mind the CBC budget proposes an additional \$2 billion for Job Training, Vocational Education, and Adult Education. Such funding will provide countless Americans the ability to improve their lives, their families, their communities, and their nation. The Republican budget underfunds our education and our future.

VETERANS

Our brave American veterans are another group who were outraged by the President's budget and will unfortunately be disappointed with the Republican House Budget. The majority party argues continuously about the greatness of our Armed Forces, and their right, but again it's just empty rhetoric on their part. Those brave men and women fighting on the front lines in our War Against Terror will come back home and find that the Republican Party looks at them differently once they become veterans. They are no longer treated as great heroes. Instead they are viewed as a nuisance and a way to cut the budget.

Almost all veterans need some form of health care, some will need drastic care for the rest of their lives because of the sacrifice they made in war, but the Republican Party continues to turn a blind eye to their needs. On a bipartisan basis, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs recommended that \$2.5 million more than the President's budget was needed to maintain vital health care programs for veterans. Nevertheless, the House Republican budget provides \$1.3 billion less than what the Committee recommended for 2005. The CBC budget provides an extra \$1.25 billion to meet the request of the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

The entire Department of Veterans Affairs is going to suffer because of the Republican

agenda. Over the next five years the money allocated to the Department of Veterans Affairs will not even be able to maintain these programs at their current levels. In 2007, the budget is \$227 million less than what the Department of Veterans Affairs needs to keep pace with inflation. Over five years, the Republican budget cuts \$1.6 billion from the total needed to maintain services at the 2004 level. I've heard from veterans groups throughout my district in Houston and I'm sure each Member of this body has heard from groups in their own district because veterans are one group that come from all parts of this nation. These brave veterans have told me their stories of how they are suffering now with the current state of veterans affairs. I am going to have trouble telling them that not only will things continue to stay bad but things will only continue to get worse. That is not what our returning soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan should have to look forward to, a future where their needs are not only not provided for, but are in fact ignored.

The CBC budget provides an extra \$8.7 billion in total veterans spending. An increase that is sure to fix many of the aforementioned problems. Of that extra funding \$3.6 billion will be dedicated to fund the Montgomery GI Bill. This program is, and has been, one of the most important veterans programs around, and I for one will not allow it to be underfunded. Finally, the CBC budget will give \$2.5 billion and \$25 billion over ten years to help eliminate the tax on disabled veterans known as concurrent receipts. While the Administration's tax cuts are doled out to the wealthiest Americans this budget will aid those who really need our help, our veterans.

IRRESPONSIBLE REPUBLICAN POLICIES AND HOMELAND SECURITY

Education and Veterans Affairs make up only two areas where Republican budget fails Americans. The truth is there are many other programs and services vital to our nation that are at risk because of the Republican agenda. At this point, an average American may be asking why the Republican Party finds it necessary to cut so many fundamental programs. The answer is simple, yet disturbing; the majority party is cutting important programs in order to finance all their irresponsible tax cuts. They will continue to make the argument that tax cuts provide stimulus for our economy, but millions of unemployed Americans will tell you otherwise. In fact the Congressional Budget Office itself said "tax legislation will probably have a net negative effect on saving, investment, and capital accumulation over the next 10 years."

While the Republican Party continues its offensive for irresponsible tax policies they allow our national deficit to grow increasingly larger. The deficits are so large and their policies are so irresponsible that they won't even make deficit projections past 2009. It's clear that the Republican Party is hiding from the American people. This President and this majority in Congress have yet to advocate a fiscal policy that helps average Americans. Special interests have become king in this budget at the price of sound fiscal policies.

The CBC budget will go a long way to solving this problem. Our goal is to help the common person not just the CEO. We want to protect the Average American who is struggling every day through these tough times just to get by. And this brings me to another key

problem with the Republican Budget. In what direction are they taking Homeland Security? The CBC budget provides an additional \$2.4 billion in Homeland Security funding. It provides an extra \$900 million for First Responders including the COPS Program and Citizen Corps and provides an extra \$566 million for Port Security grants and an additional \$250 million for Rail Security. We must keep American citizens out of harm's way and the CBC budget provides us with the resources to do that.

CBC ALTERNATIVE BUDGET

The truth about the budget is that a sound fiscal policy that funds needed programs is possible. The CBC Alternative Budget is an example of how we can get out of the quagmire that the Republican agenda has put this Nation in.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES FROM A PRIVATE SECTOR PERSPECTIVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, as I sat here and listened to this debate tonight, a number of things crossed my mind. I would like to pass backwards through the comments that were made by the distinguished members of the Congressional Black Caucus and address some of the subject matter. As you sit in your living rooms this evening and you consider what you have heard, you have heard our President's name used over and over again, never in a complimentary fashion, not particularly derogatory, given some of the evenings I have seen in this Chamber, but we need to keep in mind that the apparent Democrat nominee for President is a Member of the other body. According to the rules of this House, I cannot nor can any Member use the name of that Member of the other body and designate them in the same fashion that the Members we have heard here tonight have the latitude to speak about our President, our Commander in Chief and the leader of the free world.

And so that is a restriction that I have. And when I reference the apparent Democrat nominee for President, you will know who I am speaking of. However, what we have heard here is that the Congressional Black Caucus budget has fiscal responsibility because they offer a balanced budget. But the