

not receiving the kind of health care that they deserve and not being appreciated in the way they should be appreciated, I think we can do better things with that money to be able to make sure that we honor them.

I thank my colleague for allowing me to be here tonight. I look forward to the Congressional Black Caucus continuing to come to the floor to share with the American people about what is going on under the dome here in Washington D.C.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman again for his leadership. The gentleman has been here for less than 2 years now, but has made a tremendous impact on so many of us. We are very proud of his leadership.

As we close, Mr. Speaker, I assume we have about a minute, let me just say this, that the gentleman did make a point that I want to reemphasize. We want to make sure we have a strong military. But young people, if they are listening to what we are saying and they are informed, a lot of times young people will go into the military, they are looking forward, they have a vision of their future, and they want to serve this country, they want to give it their best; but they also look beyond their service. They are saying what benefits will come to me? What benefits will come to my family? So I think probably one of the best recruiting tools for a strong military is for us to keep our commitment.

When they see their grandfathers doing what the gentleman just said, waiting in long lines for their relatives and friends, that does not say very much for us.

So I think as we are in this war and as we stand up for our soldiers, we must also stand up for our veterans.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. The gentleman is 110 percent right. Veterans should not get the voice mail when they call the VA. They should get the person that is going to treat them the way that they should be treated and make sure they are scheduled for whatever appointment they need in a reasonable time and not wait 3 or 4 months just to see an optometrist.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I think it is very appropriate that we end on that note, Mr. Speaker, a note about the people we just spent a day saluting and letting them know how much we love them; but now it is not only time to salute them and tell them that we love them but it is also time to make sure that we do for them as they have been promised.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise as Member and First Vice Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus to warn our great nation. The current Administration—one that has made promises, one that has amassed tremendous debt, and one that has gotten us into a war and subsequent occupation that can be characterized as a financial abyss has put government agencies on notice this month that if reelected, the 2006 budget may include cuts for virtually all agencies in charge of do-

mestic programs, including education and homeland security.

In the Administration's "accidental" memorandum proposing potential budget cuts fails to realize that when cuts are made across the board, vulnerabilities are created in each area, and we then have a homeland security problem.

A Washington Post article (May 27, 2004, Page A01) entitled "2006 Cuts in Domestic Spending on Table," a budget analyst at the conservative Heritage Foundation tried to rationalize the Administration's proposed 2006 cuts in stating, "I think the public is ready for spending cuts . . . not only does the public understand [sic] there's a whole lot of waste in the federal budget. However, the public is ready to make sacrifices during the war on terror." There is something troubling about that statement, something that is endemic to the entire Administration. The public's supposed willingness to sacrifice is obviously in respect of the need to conserve and enhance our domestic homeland security policy. Why on earth would the public not want to spend more money on improved homeland security? National Institutes of Health (NIH) spending would be cut 2.1% in 2006, to \$28 billion, after a \$764 million increase for 2005 that brought the NIH budget to \$28.6 billion. We won't be worrying about improving our biodefense programs, apparently.

This is good news, bad news situation. The good news is that President Bush has hurt his chances of being elected again by letting people know that, if he is reelected, his budget for 2006 will include spending cuts for virtually all agencies in charge of domestic programs, including education, homeland security and others that the President backed in his campaign year. That will hurt his chances of being reelected. The bad news is that if he is reelected, his budget for 2006 will include spending cuts for virtually all agencies in charge of domestic programs, including education, homeland security and others that the President backed in his campaign year.

J.T. Young, a spokesman for the White House Office of Management and Budget, said in a memo that, "Agencies have asked for this sort of direction." Maybe that is true, but the rest of us didn't ask for such a negative policy. We need domestic programs, including education, homeland security, and others that the President backed in his campaign year.

The funding levels referred to in the memo would be a tiny slice out of the federal budget—\$2.3 billion, or 0.56 percent, out of the \$412.7 billion requested for fiscal 2005 for domestic programs and homeland security that is subject to Congress's annual discretion. It will not offset the enormous expense of the war in Iraq, an expense that we cannot even begin to estimate. But it will hurt the American people. We depend on these programs.

I am amazed by some of the items on his chopping block: The Education Department; a nutrition program for women, infants and children; Head Start; and homeownership, job-training, medical research and science programs all face cuts in 2006. This is very difficult to understand.

It also bothers me that the administration may have to make cuts in key government services to pay for the tax cuts that have gone to the wealthy members of our society. But with the budget deficit exceeding \$400 billion

this year, tough and painful cuts are unavoidable, said Brian M. Riedl, a budget analyst at the conservative Heritage Foundation, and this may be true. As I have said in the area of immigration law, we need to work together to solve our problems. If we have to cut expenses, the decision on what should be cut needs to be made on a bipartisan basis.

Another approach to offsetting our deficit would make more sense to me. We presently have between 8 and 14 million undocumented aliens living in the shadows of our society. If we brought them out of the shadows and made it possible for them to obtain good employment, they could contribute to our ability to pay off the deficit with the income taxes that they would pay.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for giving us time to discuss these important issues.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. BERKLEY (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today before 5:00 p.m. on account of a death in the family.

Mr. BALLANCE (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and June 3 on account of personal reasons.

Mrs. EMERSON (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and June 3 on account of attending daughter Katharine's graduation from Washington and Lee University.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MCDERMOTT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. CONYERS, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. HINCHEY, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WYNN, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. KIND, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. CARSON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MORAN of Kansas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PENCE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. GILCHREST, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. KLINE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. BONNER, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. TERRY, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today and June 3.

Mr. CHOCOLA, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, June 3, 2004, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8328. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Extension of Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions (Multiple Chemicals) [OPP-2004-0136; FRL-7358-7] received May 21, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8329. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Ultramarine Blue; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-2004-0056; FRL-7357-6] received May 21, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8330. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Imidacloprid; Pesticide Tolerance [OPP-2004-0090; FRL-7348-1] received May 21, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8331. A letter from the Acting Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Army, Case Number 04-05, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

8332. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to the Republic of Korea pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3)(i); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8333. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Illinois [IL222-1a; FRL-7666-1] received May 21, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8334. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans California — San Joaquin Valley PM-10 Nonattainment Area; Serious Area Plan for Attainment of the 24-Hour and Annual PM-10 Standards [CA 294-0450, FRL-7663-8] received May 21, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8335. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Air Quality Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants, Commonwealth of Virginia; Control of Emissions from Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incinerator Units [VA141-5075a; FRL-7666-5] received May 21, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8336. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Final Determination to Extend Deadline for Promulgation of Action on Section 126 Petition From North Carolina [OAR-2004-0076; FRL-7667-3] received May 21, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8337. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Hazardous Waste Management System; Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste; Proposed Exclusion [FRL-7667-5] received May 21, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8338. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Interim Final Determination that State has Corrected a Deficiency in the California State Implementation Plan, Ventura County Air Pollution Control District [CA 169-0440c; FRL-7665-3] received May 21, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8339. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, El Dorado County Air Pollution Control District, Feather River Air Quality Management District, Kern County Air Pollution Control District, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, San Bernardino County Air Pollution Control District, Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District, and Yolo-Solano Air Pollution Control District [CA 040-0448a; FRL-7662-2] received May 21, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8340. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting notification concerning the Department of the Army's Proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) to Australia for defense articles and services [Transmittal No. 04-12], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(b); to the Committee on International Relations.

8341. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad and the export of defense articles or defense services with Canada (Transmittal No. DDTC 027-04), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

8342. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Japan and the United Kingdom (Transmittal No. DTC 030-04), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

8343. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with the United Kingdom and Norway (Transmittal No. DDTC 025-04), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

8344. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles that are firearms controlled under category I of the United States Munitions List sold commercially under a contract with Colombia (Transmittal No. DTC 130-03), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

8345. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract to The Netherlands and Belgium (Transmittal No. DDTC 028-04), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

8346. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract to the Republic of Korea and Germany (Transmittal No. DDTC 032-04), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

8347. A letter from the Acting Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the annual report on Military Assistance, Military Exports, and Military Imports for Fiscal Year 2003, as required by Section 655 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA), as enacted 10 February 1996, by Section 1324 of Pub. L. 104-106, and 21 July 1996, by Section 148 of Pub. L. 104-164; to the Committee on International Relations.

8348. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2003 through March 31, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8349. A letter from the Paralegal, District of Columbia Retirement Board, transmitting the personal financial disclosure statements of Board members, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-732 and 1-734(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8350. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2003 through March 31, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 8G(h)(2); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8351. A letter from the Executive Director, Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, transmitting the audited Sixty-Third Financial Statement for the period October 1, 2002 — September 30, 2003, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8352. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting a draft bill "To modify the boundary of the Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, in the State of Florida, and for other purposes"; to the Committee on Resources.

8353. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; [Docket No. 2002-NM-335-AD; Amendment 39-13550; AD 2004-07-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 19, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8354. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737-600, -700, -700C, -800, and -900 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2002-NM-101-AD; Amendment 39-13554; AD 2004-07-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 19, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8355. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A321-111, -112, and -131 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2002-NM-17-AD; Amendment 39-13559; AD