

are that industry does not want to pay for it. They want the Federal Government to pay for it. The Federal government should not. It is unnecessary research and it is unethical.

GOVERNMENT SPENDING AND THE GROWING DEFICIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 20, 2004, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, for a moment, I want to talk about what our decision should be in this United States Congress as we approach another budget year. One of the big challenges of the Congress of the United States is the overspending of government, because it adds to the debt. Over promising adds to unfunded liabilities, and the question becomes, when is it time for Congress and the White House to start faxing and reducing the growth of the Federal Government?

I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the time is now. We should start next year making changes in the programs, such as Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, where Congress has overpromised and does not have the revenue coming in to pay for these programs in the long run. That includes Social Security.

The reason I suggest now is a good time is because the economy is growing very rapidly, and I quote from an article in the U.S. News & World Report by Editor-in-Chief, Mort Zuckerman. "New jobs are being generated in large numbers, income is growing at twice the rate of last year, and the acceleration is such that we will probably see a 5 percent growth in the gross domestic product. Sixty-one percent of private industries surveyed have added workers. That is the highest in 4 years. Business confidence has surged to a 20-year high, and business spending is exploding. The productivity boom, meanwhile, has made it possible to keep inflation under 2 percent, saving consumers billions. This has been due not just to technology but to tighter and better management controls. We are on a trajectory toward extraordinary growth in the second half of 2004 that will beget stronger job and income growth."

So the situation that we have been facing is increasing the deficit over \$500 billion a year. A deficit is the overspending in one budget year of the Federal Government; spending that exceeds all revenue coming in. This year, we are looking at \$536 billion. For the next 3 years, at least, it is going to be over \$500 billion at the rate we are going.

And let me put that in a little bit of perspective. We are a country that is about 228 years old. It took the first 200 years of this country to accumulate a debt of \$500 billion. Now we are going deeper into debt, more than \$500 billion

every year. It is time that Congress and the White House did what every family has to do, what every business has to do, and that is tighten our belts and not continue to spend more than the revenue coming in.

Some suggest we should simply increase taxes to accommodate increased spending. I am suggesting that we should prioritize spending, start slowing down the growth in spending, so we are not increasing the size of government by more than three or four times the rate of inflation.

Overspending is one issue that we are laying on future generations; the other is overpromising. Overpromising is what the budget people call unfunded liabilities. Unfunded liabilities are promises that Congress and the White House have made over and above the revenues coming in to pay for those promises. The major categories are Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. The experts predict that unfunded liabilities of this country now amount to over \$73 trillion. The money is not going to be there. And so the only ramification is to load our next generation and our young people with either the responsibility of paying for the interest on that increasing debt or increasing taxes.

It is irresponsible for Congress and the White House not to face up to some of the promises that we have made instead of pretending that the problem somehow is going to be paid for by future generations that are going to have their own problems.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would just simply suggest that every voter in America, when they go to candidate forums, ask that individual running for Congress or for the United States Senate or for President what their plans are to save Social Security and their plans to stop the overspending. The kind of debt that we are passing on to future generations is unacceptable.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 42 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETRI) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Pictures or words are usually one-dimensional. Symbols, however, are beyond language and have meaning all their own. A symbol is more than a substitute or a representation, because

a symbol contains multiple levels of significance for different people all at the same time. A flag is a symbol for a nation, as an escutcheon is a symbol for a family or a logo, a symbol for a company.

Today is Flag Day here in the United States of America. The American flag, its history and its importance is honored this day by Americans everywhere.

Lord God, when we salute the flag or pledge our allegiance facing the flag, we are making a statement of loyalty and patriotism to this country. For us here in the House of Representatives, in our prayer we dedicate ourselves and our work to You. In our pledge to the flag, we commit ourselves to uphold the American Constitution and to work for the citizenry of this great Nation.

Whether we are here as elected Members or as persons who choose to work in this great institution, we ask You to guide and protect this Nation we love and are proud to call our homeland. Be with us and all Americans, especially our military forces who are defending the flying of this flag. Long may our flag wave as a symbol of freedom and equal justice under the law, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. RENZI led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills and a joint resolution of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested.

S. 2017. An act to designate the United States courthouse and post office building located at 93 Atocha Street in Ponce, Puerto Rico, as the "Luis A. Ferré United States Courthouse and Post Office Building".

S. 2214. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service, located at 3150 Great Northern Avenue in Missoula, Montana, as the "Mike Mansfield Post Office".

S. 2415. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4141 Postmark Drive, Anchorage, Alaska, as the "Robert J. Opinsky Post Office Building".

S.J. Res. 38. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Eli Broad as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE HONORABLE RONALD WILSON REAGAN, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 663, and the order of the House of December 8, 2003, the Speaker appointed himself and the entire membership of the House to attend the funeral services for former President Ronald Wilson Reagan held Wednesday, June 9, 2004, in the Rotunda of the Capitol and Friday, June 11, 2004, at the Washington National Cathedral.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(c) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLANCE), the whole number of the House is adjusted to 434.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Washington, DC, June 9, 2004.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following messages from the Secretary of the Senate on June 9, 2004 at 5:59 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. Res. 373.
That the Senate passed S. Res. 374.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1822.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2130.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2438.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3029.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3059.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3068.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3234.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3300.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3353.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3536.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3537.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3538.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3690.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3733.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3740.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3769.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3855.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3917.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3939.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3942.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4037.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4176.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4299.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH,
Clerk of the House.

CONGRESS MUST PERMANENTLY END DEATH TAX

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, thanks to President Bush's historic tax relief, our economy is surging and 1.4 million jobs have been created since August. However, if we do not act, one of the hardest and most unjust penalties on Americans, the death tax, will return in full force in 2011.

The death tax essentially is a double tax that forces families to pay taxes on estates that are passed on from generation to generation. According to Citizens For a Sound Economy, nearly 70 percent of small businesses do not make it past the first generation because of this tax. Additionally, American Farm Bureau President Bob Stallman has pointed out that many of our Nation's farmers must sell parts or all of their land to simply pay taxes. This is also catastrophic for family-owned auto dealerships, funeral homes, and beverage distributors.

The American people know it is fundamentally wrong to be taxed twice and know the importance of passing something of value on to their own children. I urge Congress to act quickly and kill the death tax once and for all.

In conclusion, may God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

ADJUSTMENT IN NUMBER OF FREE ROAMING HORSES PERMITTED IN CAPE LOOKOUT NATIONAL SEASHORE

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 2055) to amend Public Law 89-366 to allow for an adjustment in the number of free roaming horses permitted in Cape Lookout National Seashore.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2055

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ADJUSTMENT IN THE NUMBER OF FREE ROAMING HORSES PERMITTED IN CAPE LOOKOUT NATIONAL SEASHORE, NC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The first subsection (b) of section 5 of Public Law 89-366 (16 U.S.C. 459g-4) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "100 free roaming horses" and inserting "not less than 110 free roaming horses, with a target population of between 120 and 130 free roaming horses,";

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following new subparagraph:

"(B) unless removal is carried out as part of a plan to maintain the viability of the herd; or"; and

(3) in paragraph (5), by striking "100" and inserting "110".

(b) REPEAL OF DUPLICATE SUBSECTIONS.—Section 5 of Public Law 89-366 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "(a)" after "(a)"; and

(2) by striking the second subsection (b).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2055, introduced by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) from the Committee on Resources, would allow for the adjustment in the number of free-roaming horses permitted in the Cape Lookout National Seashore. Specifically, H.R. 2055 would permit the number of free-roaming horses to increase to 110 from its current level of 100 with a targeted population of 120 to 130 horses, and would not permit the removal of the horses unless the removal is carried out as part of a plan to maintain the viability of the herd.

H.R. 2055 is supported by the majority and the minority of the Committee on Resources and the administration. I urge adoption of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)