FDA, is poison not only to the baby, but women are dying from it as well.

And now we learn, Mr. Speaker, from science and medicine that due to nerve cell development, unborn children from at least 20 weeks onward, and most likely even earlier, feel excruciating pain, two to four times more painful than you or I would feel from the same assault.

Today, along with 75 cosponsors, I have reintroduced legislation, the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act, to require in part that women seeking abortions at this stage of development be informed of this gruesome reality. These kids feel pain, and we need to make that known to those women who are procuring abortions at that gestational period.

The bill would also require that women be given the option of having anesthesia administered directly to the unborn child, because indirect administration does not cross the placenta to numb the pain that the child feels as they are being slowly dismembered by these later-term abortion methods. One of those methods, the D and E, takes about 30 minutes as the arms and the legs and the body and the torso are all hacked off. And the baby feels pain during this hideous procedure.

Interestingly, Mr. Speaker, the partial-birth abortion legal trials in various courts around the country drew new attention to the pain that unborn children feel during an abortion. In expert testimony during these trials, Dr. Sunny Anand, Director of the Pain Neurobiology Lab at Arkansas Children's Hospital, said, and I quote him, ''The human fetus possesses the ability to experience pain from 20 weeks of gestation, if not earlier, and the pain that is perceived by a fetus is more intense than that perceived by newborns or older children.''

He went on to explain that the pain inhibitory mechanisms, in other words the fibers that dampen and modulate the experience of pain, do not begin to develop until 32 to 34 weeks of gestation. Thus these children feel pain, and they feel it excruciatingly so.

Abortion is violence against children, Mr. Speaker, and these kids feel that pain.

Abortion clinics, if we look at them as what they really are, are not only killing centers, they are torture chambers as well. I hope that we all can move on this legislation as quickly as possible.

HONOR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the theme for my remarks tonight is honor thy father and thy mother. The Congressional Budget Office has confirmed, and I might say they are nonpartisan, that the projected budget deficit for this year for our country will be over $368 billion, not even counting the additional $80 billion that will be added to that when bills come before this Congress for additional funding for Iraq and Afghanistan. Though these dollars literally are coming from the Social Security Trust Fund itself, the Congressional Budget Office noted that last year was the largest deficit in the history of our Nation, $412 billion, is the reason that the dollar value of currency is dropping. In fact, if we add up the last 3 years, we have the largest budget deficit in the history of the Republic.

When President Bush came into office, there was a $5.6 trillion surplus. In fact, I thought it was rather funny at the time, Alan Greenspan was starting to get worried that we might actually pay our bills. He was a little uncomfortable that maybe the bond market would not be completely happy. What would we do if we paid all our bills?

But now we have a $2.6 trillion deficit. That is a reversal of nearly $3 trillion. It is obvious this administration and their allies in the Congress cannot handle the pursestrings of this Nation.

The very same people who brought us this fiscal train wreck, which is getting worse, are now proposing radical surgery on Social Security. Nothing President Bush has attempted to date, not even his incessant effort to shift the tax burden off the shoulders of the rich onto the middle class, is as brazen and audacious as his misguided efforts to try to gut Social Security.

There is no crisis in Social Security. Repeat, there is no crisis in Social Security. There is only a crisis in the Bush administration's handling of the budget. Why would anyone trust the Bush administration on anything regarding Social Security, seeing that they are a miserable failure in terms of the management of the account of the people of the United States?

Social Security is the most successful domestic program in the modern history of our Nation. Approximately 45 million Americans receive their Social Security insurance benefits and disability benefits. Just over 7 million of those are disability recipients. In the State that I am from, Ohio, 1,922,406 individuals receive Social Security insurance benefits and 208,000 disability benefits.

We do not know what is going to happen to our families. One out of five families in this country are going to have an unforeseen happening that will require eligibility for disability. There is no private sector policy that will ever offer it. These are insurance and disability benefits. They are not private accounts. They are not 401(k)s. They are not certificates of deposit. This is an insurance and disabilities program. It has always been that.

The Congress voted repeatedly not to allow the executive branch to dip into the trust fund, and yet that is exactly what is happening today. The President is trying to whip up a frenzy in the country and say the sky is falling, the sky is falling, trying to scare America's seniors and our young people who are going to get old someday into thinking Social Security is in crisis. Even the head of the AARP has said Social Security is not in crisis, the program will remain solvent, and what we have to do over the next 50 years is just to make sure that the gap financing that is there will cover future beneficiaries.

We can do that in several ways. We have done it before. We can do it again. In fact, what is interesting, the Bush administration's four enacted tax cuts being made permanent would cost 2 percent of GDP over the next 75 years, which is three to five times as much as any of Social Security's future financing needs. Under their plan, instead of benefits being tied to prevailing standards of living during the course of a worker's career, the change would freeze Social Security benefits at today's standard of living, which means we would keep regressing backwards, and future generations of retirees would have lower and lower benefits compared to their wages during their working lives.

This cut would apply to all beneficiaries whether or not they had chosen to have a private account. It should not be an either/or, private accounts or Social Security. It should be both, and make sure Social Security is solvent. Stop borrowing against it. And fine, let us encourage private savings like we used to in this country up until the last few years.

Social Security should be a guarantee, an insurance guarantee and a disability guarantee, as Democrats have not only promised but have delivered from the time of Franklin Roosevelt. Social Security should be a guarantee, not a gamble.

Let me end with the words to the Republicans, I can only say if they want to fight on Social Security, bring it on, because this Member intends to honor thy father and thy mother.

ABORTION

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

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the foundation of American democracy is freedom. In particular, as Americans we are all free to choose or decline issues of conscience, but regarding abortion, choice is losing in a way that may surprise many people.

Such is the case regarding physicians, hospitals and health plans that choose not to perform, pay for or refer for abortions. From Alaska to New Jersey, abortion advocacy groups are forcing health care entities to do the very thing they would not if they had the choice. Abortion advocates are using the courts, State and local agencies and laws to mandate that abortions be performed, paid for and referred for.

In July of 2002, an Alaska court forced a community hospital to provide elective, non-life-threatening, late-term abortions contrary to its policy. In New Jersey, abortion advocacy groups urged the State of New Jersey to require a Catholic health system to build an abortion clinic on its premises. Last year, the State of New Mexico refused to approve a hospital lease because the hospital-owned system declined to perform elective abortions.

Such coercion is wrong and should not be permitted, particularly with Federal taxpayer dollars. *Roe* v. *Wade* created a woman's right to an abortion. Today Federal law requires that an abortion be provided to a woman in a life-threatening situation, but in a perverse concerted effort, radical advocates for abortion are engaging in legislative and court efforts to coerce health care providers, health plans and clinics to provide, pay for and refer for elective, non-life-threatening abortions.

In July of last year, I offered an amendment during committee consideration of the Labor-HHS appropriation bill to stop this coercion. This provision was included in the bill when it came to the floor of the House, to which no one objected. It was then included in the final consolidated appropriation bill for 2005.

The Hyde-Weldon amendment is simple. It prevents Federal funding when courts and other government agencies force or require physicians, clinics and hospitals and health insurers to participate in elective abortions. My amendment in no way infringes on a woman's ability to seek and receive elective abortions. It simply states you cannot force the unwilling.

The amendment does not apply to willing abortion providers. Hyde-Weldon allows any health care entity to participate in abortions in any way they choose.

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It simply prohibits coercion in nonlife-threatening situations.

But there is the rub. People who call themselves prochoice want no tolerance afforded toward health care entities that desire their rights of conscience be respected. Sadly, radical abortion advocates only support choice on their terms and are more than willing to use the coercive power of government to advance their agenda. Their true mantra seems to be: safe, legal, and coerced.

It is predictable that abortion advocates would look to the courts to enforce their bizarre notion that abortion should not be provided just by the willing but also the unwilling, and that is just what has happened today. In California, Attorney General Lockyer filed a lawsuit against the Hyde-Weldon amendment. He makes a number of assertions in the complaint, and I want to look at some of them right now.

Interestingly, Mr. Lockyer seems to be eager to reserve the right of the State to coerce an unwilling health care provider to participate in an elective abortion, despite the fact their own State law prohibits them, and which my amendment attempts to provide such protection to all health care providers nationally.

In the 26-page complaint, the California Attorney General fails to point to even one example of a single case supporting the assertion that the Hyde-Weldon amendment would somehow interfere with the State's desire to see abortion services offered as an emergency medical service. The complaint offers no specific case where an emergency situation required an abortion in which a health care provider refused on grounds of conscience. Why? Because it does not happen. The bulk of the rhetoric in the complaint is about this very speculative scenario.

The question I have for the California Attorney General is: Prior to my amendment, was California compelling non-willing providers to perform emergency abortions? If no, then the Attorney General has nothing to fear from my amendment because that is all it addresses. If the answer is yes, then the Attorney General wishes to protect this practice as evidenced by his desire to litigate over it.

In fact, if the answer is yes, the Attorney General is ready to subordinate all other spending priorities in his State to defend his position of coerced abortions.

In this court filing he raises the notion that women will die because they will not have access to an abortion needed to save the life of the mother. Hyde-Weldon does nothing of the sort. It ensures that in situations where a mother's life is in danger a health care provider must act to protect the mother's life.

In fact, Congress passed the Federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) forbidding critical-care health facilities to abandon patients in medical emergencies, and requires them to provide treatment to stabilize the medical condition of such patients—particularly pregnant women.

The bottom line is that this lawsuit seems to be more about politics and using the coercive power of the state for forced participation in abortion, rather than ensuring that pregnant women in emergency situations have access to life-saving care.

IRAQ SUPPLEMENTAL AND TROOPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURGESS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today we learn the Bush administration plans to ask Congress for another $80 billion in emergency funds for the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. This $80 billion comes on top of an additional $200 billion that we have spent in Iraq since the beginning of the war 2 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, the Bush administration never leveled with the American people about the kind of sacrifices they would have to make in order to fight this war. You will remember that before the war, President Bush and his war cabinet said the sacrifices would be minimal. They falsely claimed the majority of the war costs could be paid for by the royalties Iraq received on the sale of its oil. Nearly 2 years have passed since the beginning of the war, and we have yet to see one cent from the sale of Iraqi oil.

You would think my Republican colleagues, particularly the ones who repeatedly come to the well of the floor to rail against the waste, fraud, and abuse in our Federal Government, would be demanding some accountability from the administration about the cost of the war. You would think they would be calling for congressional hearings demanding to hear from Defense Secretary Rumsfeld on exactly where the Pentagon spent the $200 billion Congress already appropriated for the war.

Unfortunately, Republicans have abdicated their oversight responsibility and are giving the Bush administration a free ride on the enormous miscalculations we have all witnessed in the Iraq war.

Mr. Speaker, during World War II, then Senator Harry Truman created a war investigating committee charged with exposing any fraud or mismanagement in our Nation's war efforts in both the Pacific and the Atlantic. Truman was, of course, a Democratic Senator serving in a Democratic Senate majority, overseeing the Democratic administration of President Franklin Roosevelt. Truman never worried about the fact he was investigating a President of his own party. He refused to allow politics to get in the way of good government; and as a result, his investigations saved the American taxpayer more than $15 billion.

Now, that was a lot of money back in the 1940s, and it is still a lot of money today. But I wonder just how much more money we could save the American taxpayer if congressional Republicans took their oversight responsibility seriously.

Where is the Republican Party's Harry Truman? Why are congressional Republicans so worried about asking the Bush administration for specifics on where it is spending the $200 billion Congress has already appropriated? Could it be that congressional Republicans are afraid of what they would uncover if they looked too closely into the administration's handling of the war?

The Bush administration has awarded Vice President CHENEY's old company, Halliburton, billions of dollars of no-bid contracts since the beginning of the war. Despite the lack of congressional oversight, we discovered that Halliburton was charging for meals it never served our troops. Obviously, that is a waste of America's taxpayers' money. How many other examples of fraud and abuse are out there?

Mr. Speaker, I opposed giving President Bush the authority to begin this