

Madam Speaker, many Members of both this Chamber and the Senate on both sides of the aisle served with Dr. Brademas. I believe they will share my sentiments in expressing our admiration for his outstanding public service and join me in wishing him well.

□ 1015

SAY "YES" TO THE REPUBLICAN BUDGET RESOLUTION

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, when it comes to the new Democrat Congress, it is the 1970s all over again. Think about it. We have hostages in Iran, Congress is making plans to withdraw from another unpopular war, and the Democrats return to the floor of Congress with plans to tax and spend once again. Higher taxes for working families, small businesses and family farms to finance billions of dollars in new spending with absolutely no reform of entitlements, the real threat to our children and grandchildren.

The GOP budget alternative will balance the budget by the year 2012 without tax increases, without raiding Social Security and with truly historic entitlement reform.

I say, Madam Speaker, say "no" to bell bottoms, disco and the tax-and-spend politics of the 1970s. Say "yes" to the Republican budget resolution.

DEMOCRATIC BUDGET GETS RAVE REVIEWS FROM BROAD VARIETY OF OUTSIDE GROUPS

(Mr. SIRES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, the Democratic budget is receiving rave reviews from a broad variety of outside groups. Here are just some of the examples of what Democrats are hearing.

The American Legion praised our budget because it includes \$3.3 billion more for veterans than the President's budget, making it the largest veterans increase in 77 years. In the letter, the American Legion writes: "As a Nation at war, this funding will help cover the ongoing cost of war to care for the men and women of the United States Armed Forces and their families."

The American Academy of Pediatrics writes: "This budget includes a significant commitment to infants, children, adolescents and young adults through its funding of SCHIP and Medicaid."

And the watchdog group OMB Watch writes: "We applaud its commitment to restoring fiscal responsibility by seeking to eliminate the Federal budget deficits by 2012, adopting the pay-as-you-go principle requiring that any new tax cuts and mandatory spending be paid for."

Madam Speaker, the Democratic budget shows that we can fiscally be

responsible while also meeting the critical needs of the American people. This budget deserves strong support.

DEMOCRAT TAXES—ONCE AGAIN!

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to warn all Americans of the looming taxation tidal wave that is coming under this new Democrat majority.

Democrats have unveiled their tax-and-spend budget proposal which will bring upon the American people the largest tax increase in our Nation's history.

Rather than allow Americans to make choices about how best to spend their own money, it is clear that Democrats feel they and Washington bureaucrats better understand what is good for American families.

Our Democrat colleagues repeatedly claim that the Republican tax cuts only benefit the wealthy. Well, Madam Speaker, the lowest-income Americans are about to find out just how untrue that tired rhetoric is.

The tax hikes will hit all Americans in every tax bracket, the middle class, low-income families and small businesses.

But there is an alternative. House Republicans have vowed to not just extend but make permanent the pro-growth low-tax policies that have brought recovery to our economy.

Madam Speaker, we can move away from this tired trend of big and bigger government. We can return money back to the rightful owner, the American taxpayer; and we should start right now.

DEMOCRATIC BUDGET PROTECTS MIDDLE-INCOME FAMILIES FROM A TAX INCREASE

(Ms. SHEA-PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Madam Speaker, when I ran for Congress, I ran for the rest of us, the bottom 99 percent of us who as a social worker I knew were not getting a fair shake under this administration and its followers. I knew they had created the greatest deficits in American history and that it was the middle class who had been harmed.

I stand here with great pride to ask my colleagues in the House to pass this Democratic budget which actually finally represents the middle class.

What does this budget do? Unlike the President's own budget proposal, the Democrats' House budget protects middle-class families from a tax increase. Our resolution protects 19 million families against the alternative minimum tax this year and creates a reserve fund accommodating a permanent fix. The reserve fund also will accommodate other middle-class tax cuts, including extending the child tax credit, mar-

riage penalty relief, the extension of the 10 percent individual tax credit and the elimination of most estate taxes.

Compare these middle-class tax cuts to the \$500 billion tax increase the President proposed in his budget over the next 10 years.

Madam Speaker, this Democratic House is committed to balancing the budget in the next 5 years without raising taxes, and that is what we are going to do here.

FREEWAY HOMICIDES AND AN ILLEGAL

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, as Maria Ortiz and her daughter Vanessa were driving down the Eastex Freeway in Kingwood, Texas, on Sunday afternoon, they were probably talking about the upcoming birth of Vanessa's baby boy Nathaniel.

Ignacio Gomez-Gutierrez was blasting down that same freeway in his pick-up truck. He came up behind Maria and Vanessa and slammed his truck into the back of their car, smashing the trunk into the front seat, killing them both, Maria, Vanessa and also Nathaniel.

Gomez-Gutierrez was three times the legal limit drunk. Witnesses who were following him driving stated that he was so drunk he could barely hold his head up.

After this coward killed the Ortizes, he fled from his pick-up and ran, but he was finally captured and held for the police by a bystander.

Gomez-Gutierrez had already been convicted three times for drunk driving, and he was an illegal from Mexico. But he had been never been deported after any of his convictions. If he had, Maria, Vanessa, and the baby would still be here.

How many more Americans and legal immigrants need to be killed before the Feds start deporting these criminal illegals?

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING CÉSAR CHÁVEZ

(Mr. GRIJALVA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the life of César Chávez, to commemorate his life, to ask for a national holiday. He would have been 80 years old this Saturday, and I guess the most personal thing I can say is how he affected my life and the lives of countless people. He gave voice to the powerless in this country. He gave voice to the issues of the environment, human rights, labor rights, education and turned a whole generation and a whole community to look forward to opportunity and to stand up and protect the very fundamental rights that each one of us as an American holds true.

César Chávez is not just an icon. César Chávez is a living legacy of what this country's unfinished business is, the unfinished business of giving worth to each human being in this country.

I would end with a quote by César Chávez: "We can choose to use our lives for others to bring about a better and more just world for our children."

That is the greatest opportunity we have.

DEMOCRAT LEADERSHIP PUSHING MICHIGAN IN THE WRONG DIRECTION

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, my home State of Michigan is currently experiencing really hard economic times. We have the highest unemployment in the Nation. We have the lowest personal income growth in the Nation, dropping home values, tightening family budgets.

Government overspending, combined with declining revenue from the soft job market, has forced my State into a fiscal crisis, and our Democrat Governor thinks that the way to solve the problem is by raising taxes and increasing government spending.

Here in Washington, we also have a spending problem and a deficit that is too large. So what do the Democrats offer? The largest tax increase in American history, almost \$400 billion, and massive new government spending.

The Democrats are also pushing arbitrary and draconian fuel economy standards that could decimate our domestic auto industry and cost even more Michigan jobs.

Madam Speaker, the people of Michigan just cannot take it anymore. They do not need bigger government. They need bigger paychecks, and I ask the Democrat leaders to take pity on the citizens of Michigan. Please just give Michigan a break.

CÉSAR CHÁVEZ NATIONAL HOLIDAY

(Ms. LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise this morning in strong support of H. Res. 76, a resolution to create a national holiday in honor of a great human being, César Chávez.

Madam Speaker, already nine States celebrate his life. The legacy that he left on the history of this Nation must be recognized. He made a difference not only for Latinos, not only for migrant workers, but for the poor and the working poor, and he also built a coalition of conscience across racial and economic boundaries.

I am reminded today of the political support César provided to me during my first campaign for the California legislature. He truly helped me win my

very first election, and for that I am deeply grateful.

I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting the movement for a national holiday in honor of this great civil and human rights leader and such an important historical figure of our Nation.

Feliz cumpleaños, César.
Si se puede.

CELEBRATING CÉSAR CHÁVEZ

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

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize and celebrate the 80th birthday of César E. Chávez.

César Chávez was born in Yuma, Arizona, and grew up in migrant labor camps, into the poverty of the migrant worker's life. He became an historical figure who embodied humility and extraordinary strength during his peaceful struggle towards social justice.

He was an individual who represented the ones who had less and had no representation whatsoever. He dedicated his entire life to tirelessly championing the rights of the farm laborers; and along with him was Dolores Huerta, also founder of the United Farm Workers union, fighting for better wages and conditions for those individuals that pick our fruit and feed our Nation.

César Chávez has been an extraordinary icon in my home State of Texas. In San Antonio, we honor his legacy during the annual César Chávez march to recognize those individuals that labor picking up our food.

Additionally, we cannot travel anywhere in the United States without seeing a town or street named after this amazing individual. We in San Antonio, Texas, have César Chávez Boulevard as well as others throughout the country.

I hope that his legacy will continue to remain, and I rise today to encourage my colleagues, urging the President and the Congress to establish a national holiday for César Chávez and encourage them to support H. Res. 76.

HAWAIIAN HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BALDWIN). Pursuant to section 2 of House Resolution 269, proceedings will now resume on the bill (H.R. 835), to reauthorize the programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development for housing assistance for Native Hawaiians.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. When proceedings were postponed on Tuesday, March 27, 2007, 10 minutes of debate remained on the bill.

The gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. ABERCROMBIE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CAMPBELL) each have 5 minutes remaining.

Who yields time?

□ 1030

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. We are virtually at the end of our remarks, so it would probably be useful, Madam Speaker, to reiterate from last evening's proceedings.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. I thank the gentleman from Hawaii.

Madam Speaker, I do claim the time in opposition. However, I do think the arguments relative to the bill were made last night.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I will just recapitulate for a couple of moments, then perhaps we can move to the conclusion.

I indicated last night, and I think it was agreed to by Mr. BACHUS of Alabama and others, by way of material that has been entered into the RECORD, like Mr. RENZI of Arizona, that this should not be a partisan fight. In fact, "fight" probably is the wrong word, but, I mean, even a disagreement here.

The reason that this bill passed overwhelmingly last week, with significant support from the Republican side of the aisle, was that it was supported in committee by Republicans and Democrats. The bill is here before the Congress as a result of a request by Hawaii's Republican Governor, and the former Chair of the Hawaii Republican Party, who is now the head of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

We have always had legislation in this area based on the underlying law, which was passed in 1921, by the Congress, setting aside certain lands for Hawaiians. The issue before us is about refinancing of home mortgages. This is not about whether the original law, under which the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands was established, it is constitutional.

On the contrary, that issue has been raised, and it perhaps should be raised in another context; namely, if someone wants to change the underlying law. But we should not punish my constituents or anybody's constituents for the fact that they appear before us in the form of a bill trying to carry forward on the admonitions required of them, in this instance, by the Department of Housing and Urban Development in order to get their mortgages refinanced.

Let me say, just as recently as February 9 of this year, the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against a group of individuals who came before the court, saying that funding for programs that benefit Hawaiians, in this instance, of this bill, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, constitutes an unconstitutional discrimination against non-Hawaiians.

The Federal appeals court ruled that was not the case. In fact, they returned it to the U.S. District Court to see if the plaintiffs were eligible "in any