

So, Mr. RYAN, for you to get passionate about this, not that I am not passionate about it, but I think it is important that we share this accurate information with the people, with not only Members of Congress but the American people. So I am glad that you entered it into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Those that may be able to get on-line or even get a copy of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD will be able to see these great American organizations that will endorse.

And I know, Mr. Speaker, as this budget resolution, when we start moving through the process and the Senate product and we go into conference and we send it to the President of the United States, there will be a true momentum of the American spirit that will be rolling over to the White House on Pennsylvania. It will go right down the street here.

If the President wants to veto domestic priorities and things that are going to help Americans every day and be able to make sure that our military is strong and make sure that our veterans get better service that we promised them when they signed up as volunteers to protect this country, then we have to continue, Mr. RYAN and Members, to persuade the President to do otherwise. If he wants to veto it, we have to persuade him not to do it.

I am not going to say have at it. It would be okay if it wasn't the budget of the United States of America. It would be okay if it wasn't an emergency supplemental to make sure that our troops and men and women have what they need and accountability measures are in that emergency supplemental to hold the Iraqi government's feet to the fire, and what the administration has said, and making sure that our troops have what they need when they are sent into harm's way and make sure when they come back home that they are able to even go to their son or daughter's school without coming back in 6 weeks and 2 months being shipped back to Iraq for another 14-month tour. Because the administration, it takes them so long to admit that they have a problem. They just admitted 2 weeks ago, the Defense Department just called the conflict in Iraq a civil war after a year of the media and Members of Congress saying it was a civil war. They just got there, Mr. RYAN.

So the good thing about it is that, and in the last Congress we used to talk about if we had the opportunity to do. Now we have the opportunity, and we are doing, and I would just want the majority of this House to join us in the leadership opportunities that the American people have provided us. And I am not just talking to Democrats, Mr. Speaker, I am talking to my Republican colleagues.

Because, guess what? Maybe not this November but next November is going to be another opportunity for the American people to stand in judgment. And I guarantee you this: People are

going to vote their personal priorities over their politics.

The President got out there today. They are going to get us. Terrorists are coming. We have to fight them there so we don't have to fight them over here. Well, guess what? When we passed and fully implemented the 9/11 recommendations, we are ready to protect America. That is what this budget reflects, and that is the way we protect the homeland, not continuing to stay in the middle of civil war.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Exactly. Budgets are priorities. They are blueprints for what you stand for and what you believe. And the Democrats and the Democratic budget is something that I think really is going to invigorate the country. It is not going as far as a lot of us want it to go, but the fact of the matter is we are left holding the bag of a Republican-led Congress and President that added almost \$3 trillion in debt to this country, and we have got to deal with that. That is the stark reality of the budget situation.

But, again, I would like to say this. This President has threatened to veto the supplemental bill that adds an additional \$1.7 billion for veterans, an additional \$1.7 billion for defense health care, \$500 million for post-traumatic stress, \$500 million for brain injuries. That is what the President is going to veto when he says he is going to veto the supplemental.

The American people are way ahead of us on this war, and the national intelligence estimate said that the war in Iraq has created more terrorists and has made the terrorist situation worse, Mr. MEEK. This war has created more enemies for us, has created more terrorists that are gunning for the United States. So to say that by coming home that that somehow is going to make us less safe is inaccurate and inconsistent with the national intelligence estimate and the basic common sense of most Americans.

So as we move forward in a new direction in Iraq and the budget blueprint that we have that is going to move the country in a new direction domestically, without raising taxes, as the Concord Coalition said, the Democratic budget is not raising taxes. And the Center on Budget and Policy is saying the Democratic budget is not raising taxes. I will say, and another third-party validator, the Brookings Institute, says the Democrats are not raising taxes in their new budget.

I want to repeat this. I am asking, Mr. Speaker, for the Members of this House who know the facts, who will vote on this bill, they know we are not raising taxes, and that is why we are going to get broad support on it.

But for the American people to compare this year's tax returns that they get, reserve judgment on the Democratic tax policy, compare this year's to next year's, and you will see that your tax rates are the exact same, the exact same. And you will have one more piece of evidence to put in the

column of we will be greeted as liberators, the same thing, the same column as we are in the last throes, the same column as mission accomplished. You will be able to put the Democratic budget and the Democratic tax policy in that same list.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Very quickly, while you get the chart to give the Web site, Mr. RYAN, I just wanted to say in this letter that Senator REID, the leader in the Senate, and also the Speaker here in the House wrote to the President saying that we will no longer move in the old direction but, rather, a bipartisan majority of the House and Senate believes strongly that the U.S. mission should transition to a counter-terrorism force protection and training equipment of the Iraqi forces. Phasing redeployment of U.S. troops should commence.

So this is the stage that we want to move in now. It won't be a total withdrawal but definitely will be making sure that there are accountability measures there, that their troops get trained and that we get our men and women back home more sooner than later.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. We just want them to meet the benchmarks that the President set on January 10 of this year. We are going to hold the administration's feet to the fire.

30somethingdems@mail.house.gov. For any e-mails you may want to send, www.speaker.dot.gov/30something. All of the charts that Members may want to look at are all available on these Web sites. www.speaker.gov/30something.

THE DEMOCRAT BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CARNEY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I always come over here with the intentions of using my prepared remarks, and then I hear things being said by the other side and they usually grab my attention.

I want to talk tonight a little bit about the Democrat budget, but something that one of my colleagues said just a few minutes ago needs to be repeated.

He said, budgets are what you stand for and believe. Well, what the Democrats stand for and believe is greater government spending, taking more of your money and giving to the government.

And he also said, this budget doesn't go as far as some wanted. Well, that is the truth, I am sure. I am sure there were many Democrats who wanted to raise taxes a whole lot more and spend a whole lot more of the American people's money than they are going to do, but they are going to do plenty of damage, even not going as far as some of them want to go.

So the truth is, they told it to you tonight. The budget is what you stand

for and believe; and what they stand for and believe is, again, taking more of your money and spending it.

A lot of times I speak to school groups. I spoke to one on Monday.

□ 2300

And they often ask me, What is the difference between Democrats and Republicans? And I tell them that the short answer to that is Democrats believe that government is the answer to everything. Just have more government. Take more money from the American people and put it into government. Republicans think that Americans have survived very well on individual initiative, entrepreneurship, and individual responsibility, and we don't need the government to run our lives completely. So there is a big difference.

Also, the Democrats think the government knows how to spend your money more than you know how to spend your money. Republicans think that you are quite intelligent enough to know how to spend your money and we don't need to take it away from you and give it to some bureaucrat to spend it for you. So that is the big difference. And I think, again, the Democrat budget illustrates that.

It also illustrates how out of touch they are with the citizens of this country. As one of my colleagues said the other night, and I wish it had been my line, they promised change, but what they didn't tell you was it was going to be the change left in your pocket from taking your money away from you for increased taxes.

Now, under the assumptions in the Democrats' proposed budget that is going to be voted on tomorrow, we are going to see a massive tax hike. In fact, you are going to see the largest tax increase in our Nation's history. The Democrat budget increases taxes by \$392.5 billion over 5 years, shattering their last record tax increase of \$240 billion in 1993, when they were last in control of the Congress. In fact, they would increase taxes by \$231 billion in 2012 alone.

Today, almost 100 million Americans from virtually every walk of life have a financial plan for their future that involves saving and investing, and millions more benefit from the countless jobs and opportunities that a capital marketplace creates. In addition, more than half of America's seniors receive dividend income every year and more than 30 percent receive capital gains income.

Under the Democrat budget, these seniors will see a tax increase of an average of \$1,100 on dividends and capital gains. Overall, 28 million American families will pay an additional \$1,000 a year in new investment taxes as a result of the budget. Many of these people earn annual incomes of \$50,000 and less.

This is more than just a reckless policy that endangers the strength of our economy. I see it as a cause for serious

concern for the livelihood of the people of North Carolina's Fifth District, whose tax bills would skyrocket under the proposed budget. In North Carolina alone, more than 3.1 million taxpayers would see their tax bill go up. It wouldn't be a little bump either. The average tax increase for those 3.1 million North Carolinians would be \$2,671.

This approach is completely backwards. We should be looking first to put money back into taxpayers' pockets, not taking it out.

The current budget proposal is a squandered opportunity to reform spiraling Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid costs and to give Americans the permanent tax relief they deserve. Instead it allows widespread tax increases that hit middle-income families, low-income earners, families with children, small businesses, and many others.

Some people would see more than a 100 percent increase in their taxes. For example, an elderly couple with \$40,000 in income would see a tax increase of 156% in 2011—from \$583 to \$1,489.

And a family of four with \$60,000 in income would have a tax bill that would rise from \$3,030 to \$4,893 in 2011—an increase of more than \$1,850, or 61%.

And these increases are no accident. During the budget markup, Democrats rejected every one of a series of amendments that would have prevented tax increases.

But ultimately, this budget proposal isn't a real surprise. It's business as usual for the Democrats and proves that their promises to be fiscally responsible are just empty rhetoric. If this budget is approved it will signal a return to the Democrats' beloved Tax-and-Spend model for government.

For example, if you take one look at the more than \$20 billion in pork that was added to last week's troop emergency funding bill, it becomes crystal clear where the Democrats stand on spending. And worse, they proved they don't mind using our troops as bargaining chips.

Democrats have willfully abandoned their pledge of fiscal responsibility. They pledged to follow pay-as-you-go budget rules and spending restraint to curb the deficit. And then we get this budget, which would give us the largest tax increase in history and ignore the larger consequences for our economy.

These massive tax increases would threaten to reverse the economic gains that have developed since adoption of the 2001 and 2003 tax laws.

Job Growth—A total of 7.6 million new jobs have been created—an average of 168,500 per month.

Unemployment Declines—The unemployment rate has fallen from 6.1 percent to 4.5 percent.

Economic Growth—In the past 15 quarters, real gross domestic product [GDP] has grown an average of 3.5 percent per year. In the nine prior quarters, average GDP growth was an anemic 1.1 percent.

Investment Growth—Business investment has increased for 15 straight quarters, reversing a previous nine-quarter decline.

Stock Market Gains—Despite recent market corrections, the Dow Jones Industrial Average remains 41 percent above its 2003 level.

Ignores Fiscal Benefits—These tax increases also threaten to reverse the substan-

tial deficit reduction that has occurred in the past several years.

Total federal tax revenue has increased from 16.5 percent of GDP in 2003 to 18.5 percent this year—exceeding the average percentage of the past four decades.

Tax revenue grew by 14.6 percent in 2005, 11.5 percent in 2006, and 9.3 percent in the first five months of fiscal year 2007.

Deficit Reduction. This revenue growth was the principal factor in reducing the budget deficit from \$412.7 billion in 2004 to an estimated \$214 billion this year, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Raising the 10% Tax Rate Bracket to 15 percent—More than 5 million individuals and families who previously owed no taxes would become subject to the individual income tax in 2011 if Democrats are successful in raising the 10% tax rate bracket to 15%, and reducing or eliminating other low-income tax benefits.

Eliminates Marriage Penalty Relief—23 million taxpayers would see their taxes increase, on average, by \$466 in 2011.

Cuts the Child Tax Credit in Half—31 million taxpayers would see their taxes increase, on average, by \$859 in 2011.

Every Working American Would be Affected by Democrats' Tax Hike—115 million taxpayers would see their taxes increase, on average, by \$1,795 in 2011; 83 million women would see their taxes rise, on average, by \$2,068; 48 million married couples would incur average tax increases of \$2,899; 12 million single women with children would see their taxes increase, on average, by \$1,082; 17 million elderly individuals would incur average tax increases of \$2,270; and taxes would rise, on average, by \$3,960 for 26 million small business owners.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

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:)

Ms. KILPATRICK, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ELLISON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATERS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. McDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LANGEVIN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.