

This is the total budget. Look, we are borrowing from China and other places around the world almost half of what we're spending. We are borrowing \$1.6 trillion, and the Federal tax revenue is \$2.2 billion. Those are just extraordinary numbers. Now, they say they'll fix that by cutting. Well, here we go. Here we go again with the budget at \$3.8 trillion and the deficit at \$1.6 trillion.

They said, Well, wait a minute. You can't increase revenues. No. You could decrease revenues. They say that wouldn't count. Then, Oh, well. The Department of Defense is off limits. Entitlements are all off limits. Mandatory spending, meaning agriculture subsidies and other egregious things, are all off limits. We will balance the budget by going after non-defense discretionary spending.

There seems to be a little bit of a problem here.

Here is the deficit of \$1.6 trillion. Now, if we eliminated all non-defense discretionary spending, which would mean basically the daily operations of the Government of the United States outside the Defense Department, it would be all gone; close the door; open the Federal prisons, and let the prisoners out. There would be no more Justice Department, no more FBI, no more Border Patrol, none of those things. Just get rid of all that stuff—the IRS, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Education, health education, the Centers for Disease Control. All gone.

Well, you would still have a \$1 trillion deficit. But don't worry, they're going to get us there by cutting.

You can't get there simply by cutting. Yes, you need to cut. You need to reduce and eliminate wasteful programs, but you can't pretend that you can cut revenues or that you can maintain tax loopholes for companies that move their headquarters to post office boxes in the Bahamas, like Carnival Cruise Lines—excuse me, their post office box is in Panama—which operate out of the U.S., get their customers in the U.S., use the ports of the U.S., use the U.S. Coast Guard, and whose executives live in the U.S. but they don't pay taxes here.

There is ExxonMobil, which doesn't pay taxes in the United States, but pays in other places around the world. We borrow money to give a subsidy to ExxonMobil. Yet in the last quarter of last year, they had the largest single corporate profit in the history of the world, and we're going to borrow money to give them tax rebates for taxes they didn't pay in the United States of America but that they paid elsewhere.

That system can't be fixed, the Republicans say. Those will be tax increases. You can't plug those tax loopholes. The agriculture subsidies pay people \$20 billion not to grow things. No, can't go there. We're going to balance the budget by hacking away at non-defense discretionary spending.

Unfortunately, physics and reality don't work for them here, nor does the math because it's a tiny fraction of the deficit if we totally eliminate those programs instead of just hack away at them.

So let's get real. Let's get together here. The country is confronted with a serious long-term debt problem. As everybody said yesterday, everything is on the table. Well, it's not, but everything should be on the table.

THE ASSAULT ON THE VOICE OF AMERICA—PUBLIC BROADCASTING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, the next few days on the floor of the House will be critical for the future of public broadcasting.

With the new Republican majority, people here are hoping for saving less than one cent per day on this ideological assault—on what?—public broadcasting, for 170 million Americans, their Voice of America and their window to the world.

In an era when local papers and radio stations are being gobbled up by large conglomerates, public broadcasting's 1,300 stations around the country are increasingly the only source of locally owned, locally controlled content.

Now, there is a lot of attention appropriately given to the major stations in America's large cities. We've all seen and heard programming from stations in Boston and San Francisco, New York, even in Portland, Oregon, as Oregon Public Broadcasting is recognized as one of these national leaders. For much of America outside the major metropolitan areas, public broadcasting actually plays an even more important role.

In the Rockies, the Pacific Northwest, rural areas, and the upper Midwest, often public broadcasting is not just the best local source. It is the only source of information that relates directly to their communities. The big stations in the large communities are going to be harmed by this assault on public broadcasting.

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My own public broadcasting in Oregon will lose \$2.4 million. It will really harm the quality of their effort. But it is in rural and small town America that the greatest damage will be done. For example, in eastern Oregon, it costs 11 times as much to get a signal to Burns as it does in the more populist Willamette Valley, and there simply isn't the base of population to make up for the difference with local contributions.

It's ironic that these partisans are attacking one of America's best public-private partnerships. It's not uncommon for the public investment to leverage \$6 or more of private investment to make this high quality programming possible.

Now, there are some who claim that in an era of 500 cable and satellite stations that we don't need another source of information. Well, those people fail to grasp the power of non-commercial, public broadcasting, how it is unique today. There are countless shows that are directed towards America's kids, but public broadcasting provides the only children's programming that is trying to educate and entertain our children, not sell them something.

The public supports public broadcasting, not just in opinion polls, but with tens of millions of dollars of voluntary contributions that they make every year to provide the quality programming.

I fear that this reckless partisan assault on public broadcasting is actually going to hurt our long-term efforts to tame the budget deficit. Trading a savings of less than one-half cent per day per American won't offset the damage to public confidence by eliminating what so many people believe in and count upon.

More important, it will be a loss of a valuable tool to educate and inform the public from a respected nonpartisan source, exactly how we're going to need to get information to Americans to deal with this massive deficit problem that we face.

For those of us working to meet America's challenges, public broadcasting is an essential ally; but I will say that with the tremendous outpouring of support that we are now seeing, people calling and writing Members of Congress, stopping them on the street, I think there is a good chance that those 1,300 public broadcasting stations will still be here in the future helping inform the debates of today, if all of us do our job, listen to the public, and do what is in the best long-term interests of this country.

ON EXTENDING THE PATRIOT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, last year I voted to extend the Patriot Act for 1 year. I regret that vote and was glad to have been able to correct it, although I'm pained that the House voted otherwise yesterday.

During this past year, I have become convinced that the provisions of the so-called Patriot Act are an affront to the Bill of Rights and a serious threat to our fundamental liberty as Americans.

The Fourth Amendment arises from the abuses of the British Crown that allowed roving searches by revenue agents under the guise of what were called "writs of assistance" or "general warrants." Instead of following specific allegations against specific individuals, the Crown's revenue agents were given free rein to search indiscriminately.

In 1761, the famous colonial leader James Otis challenged these writs, arguing that "a man's house is his castle;

and whilst he is quiet, he is as well guarded as a prince in his castle. This writ, if it should be declared legal, would totally annihilate this privilege." Now 250 years later, the Patriot Act restores these roving searches.

In the audience that day in 1761 was a 25-year-old lawyer named John Adams. He would later recall: "Every man of an immense crowded audience appeared to me to go away as I did, ready to take arms against writs of assistance. Then and there was the first scene of the first act of opposition to the arbitrary claims of Great Britain. Then and there, the child, 'Independence' was born."

The American Founders responded with the Fourth Amendment. It provides that before the government can invade a person's privacy the executive branch must present sworn testimony to an independent judiciary that a crime has occurred and that there is reason to believe that an individual should be searched for evidence of the crime, and then specify the place to be searched and the things to be seized. The John Doe roving wiretaps provided under this bill are a clear breach of this crystal-clear provision.

The entire point of having an open and independent judiciary is so that abuses of power can be quickly identified by the public and corrected. The very structure of this law prevents that from occurring.

I also object to the lone wolf provision of the act that allows a person who's not acting in concert with a foreign power to be treated as if they were. This malignant fiction utterly blurs the critical distinction between a private person protected under our Constitution and an enemy combatant acting as an agent of a foreign power.

My chief of staff, Igor Birman, was born in Moscow. His family emigrated to America when he was 14. He tells of the days leading up to their long-awaited departure. His father had technical expertise, and the authorities were desperate to find some pretense to cancel the family's exit visa.

A week before they departed for America, the family returned home to find that the Soviet authorities had turned their apartment upside down looking for anything that could be used to block their emigration. This was not the result of suspected criminal activity but, rather, the same kind of open-ended search the Fourth Amendment protects us against.

His younger brother was terrified and hysterical. His mother calmed the little boy by saying, Don't worry, don't worry. We're leaving in a few days for America. This will never happen to us there.

Our country is threatened by foreign governments and multinational terrorist groups which are actively trying to do us harm, backed by a fifth column within our own borders. But we have faced far more powerful governments and far better organized networks of spies and saboteurs in the

past without having to shred our Bill of Rights.

The freedom that our Constitution protects is the source of our economic prosperity, our moral authority, and our martial strength. It is also the ultimate bulwark against authoritarianism. Abraham Lincoln was right: No transatlantic military giant, let alone some fanatical terrorist group, can ever "step across the ocean and crush us at a blow." And no foreign power can destroy our Constitution. Only we can do that.

As Lincoln said: "As a Nation of free men, we are destined to live forever, or die by suicide."

CONSEQUENCES OF THE REPUBLICAN CONTINUING RESOLUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, Republicans have introduced an irresponsible and dangerous spending bill that cuts jobs, threatens American innovation, and diminishes investments in rebuilding America. Republicans only want to offer Americans a pink slip. We all want to find an appropriate way to reduce our deficit, but this certainly is not the way.

Republicans have proposed a resolution that will not decrease the deficit, but that will add \$5 trillion to the deficit through tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans, unlimited war funding, and the repeal of the health care legislation. They have not presented a serious plan for actually addressing the deficit.

The irresponsible impact of Republican spending in education: Democrats are going to fight with everything we have to ensure that the next generation of students is prepared to become the educated workforce of tomorrow. But the Republicans believe that it is okay that more than 200,000 children will be kicked out of Head Start.

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The Republicans believe that thousands of teachers should lose their jobs. The Republicans believe that Pell Grant recipients should lose \$800 worth of financial support to pursue their educations.

In the area of innovation, America's competitiveness depends on our ability to innovate and keep America number one. Republicans believe that there should be 20,000 fewer researchers supported at the National Science Foundation. They believe that there should be a \$1.4 billion reduction in science and energy research. They believe that there should be \$2.5 billion in cuts to the National Institutes of Health, representing a significant setback in cancer and other diseases and research in general, which will especially hit hard the district I represent.

If we're talking about rebuilding America, Democrats support key investments in roads, schools, bridges that are critical for businesses to grow

and that create good-paying American jobs. Republicans would rescind more than \$2.5 billion for high-speed rail projects that have already been awarded. That would allow the loss of more than 25,000 new construction jobs and the cancellation of 76 projects in 40 States. Republicans would cut \$234 million designed to improve our Nation's air traffic control system.

And as it relates to public safety, one of the most important things that a government does provide, we are here to take care of our people. We are to provide safety. The Republicans propose that more than 1,300 fewer cops should be on the streets because they are going to eliminate the COPS grants. And they would have 2,400 fewer firefighters on the job because they are going to eliminate funding for SAFER grants.

As President Obama said, we must out-innovate, out-educate, and out-build the rest of the world. Let's invest in America. Let us reject the Republican CR.

FUNDING CUTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Maine (Ms. PINGREE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Madam Speaker, we are facing some very important and difficult decisions in the coming weeks as we debate both the continuing resolution and the President's budget. I would like to talk just a little bit about some of the decisions that we have to make today as we discuss this this morning.

As some of my colleagues have already mentioned, the proposed continuing resolution that the Republicans have put on the table has draconian cuts that will not move our country forward. Whether it's cuts to the National Institutes of Health and investigating important research that we have before us, cuts to our infrastructure or education, arts and culture, cuts to our police protection and fire protection in our home communities, this budget does not do what the American people need, and it will not move us forward.

The proposed continuing resolution has made one particular cut that I want to discuss in more detail. For a party that refers to itself as "the party of jobs" and says they want to move the economy forward, I am very disturbed to see that they are slashing the funding for the Economic Development Administration, and I am here to say that doing so will pull the rug out from the very people who are creating jobs and helping turn our economy around.

Last year, I brought the administrator of the Economic Development Administration to Maine; and he saw firsthand, as he well knew, how EDA funding could help make it possible to build a new freezer facility in the city of Portland. This is a critical infrastructure improvement for our already struggling Maine fishermen. This