

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4, JOHN R. LEWIS VOTING RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT ACT OF 2021; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3684, INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF S. CON. RES. 14, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, Americans simply cannot afford S. Con. Res. 14—the Biden-Sanders budget that will authorize trillions of dollars in new taxes and spending, and I join my Republican colleagues in strongly opposing this irresponsible proposal.

One of the many egregious provisions in the Biden/Sanders budget will make conveyance at death of a small business or family farm to family members or loved ones a catastrophic tax event—possibly triggering a 40 percent death tax that must be paid immediately on how much the asset has appreciated.

Shockingly, this Biden/Sanders new death tax would not be triggered by the sale of the business or family farm—instead merely taking ownership makes the inheritor liable for the new 40 percent confiscatory tax. Many of those who inherit would be forced to sell the hereditary asset just to pay the new tax.

The author of this massive new tax and spend proposal, BERNIE SANDERS—Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee—President Biden and the Democratic leadership are ramming this highly partisan bill through Congress without serious consideration of its disastrous impact on families and the economy.

My constituents deserve better than this.

When will we return to working across the aisle in a bipartisan way?

After all of the suffering and economic pain endured by the people of my district and throughout the country during the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Biden/Bernie Sanders budget: doubles the capital gains tax to 43.4 percent, raises the tax rate for many businesses—including at least 2 million small businesses—from 21 to 28 percent and as I mentioned a moment ago imposes a major expansion of the “death tax” by taxing unrealized capital gains at death.

Small businesses in particular should not face additional tax burdens as they struggle to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Organizations such as the New Jersey Business & Industry Association and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce expressed alarm at these proposals, and the National Federation of Independent Businesses stated, “increased taxes on small businesses mean less investment in employees, less investment in small businesses, and less economic growth.”

According to the Senate Republican leadership on the Budget Committee, the reckless tax and spend plan includes: \$4.2 trillion in new spending over 10 years; \$3.5 trillion in new mandatory spending; \$263 billion in new discretionary spending, and \$390 billion in increased interest on the debt.

National debt soars to \$40 trillion (119 percent of GDP) by 2031.

Total debt (subject to limit) soars to \$45 trillion (134 percent of GDP) by 2031.

Nearly \$400 billion in defense cuts compared to current law projections.

Deficits that average \$1.6 trillion annually under the plan, reaching \$2.2 trillion by 2031.

According to supporting documents provided by Chairman SANDERS, the \$3.5 trillion reckless tax and spend spree will be “fully offset.” Because the Finance Committee was given a broad reconciliation instruction that did not require or disclose a specific level of revenue, this can be accomplished entirely by raising \$3.5 trillion in new truces. There is no restriction on the amount of tax increases allowed under this budget resolution or through the fast-track reconciliation process.

Especially in New Jersey, one of the highest taxed states in the Nation, taxpayers need relief, not the massive taxes that will be levied to pay for this Biden/Sanders budget bill.

REMEMBERING CHERYL TEAMER

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 27, 2021

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and mourn constituent, activist, public servant, lawyer, businesswoman and dear friend, Cheryl Teamer. She died this weekend at the age of 58.

A native of New Orleans, she earned her law degree at Tulane University and worked to get things done in City Hall in Mayor Marc Morial’s administration.

She then worked in government relations and founded her own consultancy and advising firm.

We all knew her for her incredible ability to multitask 20 different things at the same time, and to do it with a sense of joy.

She built relationships and bridges between people of all backgrounds and walks of life.

She loved to be in the thick of it—whatever was happening.

Cheryl Teamer was accomplished, kind, big-hearted and rooted in the New Orleans community.

She will be deeply missed. Rest easy, my friend.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON AND THE UNRIVALED PROSPERITY, PROGRESS, AND PEACE AMERICA ENJOYED DURING HIS EIGHT YEARS OF GREATNESS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 27, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to give thanks and pay tribute to William Jefferson Clinton, the 42nd President of the United States, who turned 75 last Thursday, August 19, 2021. It is still hard to believe that the rebellious Baby Boomer Generation, of which I am a member and which in its youth was the hope and promise of the nation’s fu-

ture, is now just young at heart, but in Bill Clinton it produced one of the nation’s greatest presidents.

As President, Bill Clinton, the “Man From Hope,” always put our people first and led our Nation to unrivaled heights of shared prosperity for all, unmatched progress in becoming ‘one Nation unified,’ and brought peace to Ireland, freedom to the people of Kosovo, rescued the economy of Mexico from destruction, and led America to the leadership position in the emerging globalized economy of the 21st Century. Madam Speaker, if anyone wants to know the true meaning of “American Exceptionalism” all they have to do is examine the years 1993 through 2001 when President Bill Clinton commanded the ship of state.

Under President Clinton, the United States enjoyed the longest economic expansion in American history. The President’s strategy of fiscal discipline, opening foreign markets, and investments in the American people helped create the conditions for a record 115 months of economic expansion and our economy grew at an average of 4 percent per year during the years of his presidency. More than 22 million jobs were created in less than eight years—the most ever under a single administration, and more than were created in the previous twelve years. We enjoyed the highest homeownership in American history because the strong Clinton economy and fiscal discipline kept interest rates low, making it possible for more families to buy homes, and the homeownership rate increased from 64.2 percent in 1992 to 67.7 percent, the highest rate ever. We had the lowest unemployment in 30 years. Unemployment dropped from more than 7 percent in 1993 to just 4.0 percent in November 2000. Unemployment for African Americans and Hispanics fell to the lowest rates on record, and the rate for women was the lowest in more than 40 years.

Between 1993 and 2001, reading and math scores increased for 4th, 8th, and 12th graders, and math SAT scores reached a 30-year high, 49 states put in place standards in core subjects, and federal investment in education and training doubled. During the Clinton Administration financial aid for students was nearly doubled by increasing Pell Grants to the largest award ever, expanding Federal Work-Study to allow 1 million students to work their way through college, and by creating new tax credits and scholarships, such as Lifetime Learning tax credits and the HOPE scholarship. At the same time, taxpayers saved \$18 billion due to the decline in student loan defaults, increased collections and savings from the direct student loan program.

President Clinton and Vice President Gore’s commitment to education technology, including the E-Rate and a 3,000 percent increase in educational technology funding, increased the percentage of schools connected to the Internet from 35 percent in 1994 to 95 percent in 1999. Because of President Clinton’s comprehensive anti-crime strategy of smart prevention, more police, as well as commonsense gun safety laws, the overall crime rate declined for 8 consecutive years, the longest continuous drop on record, and was at the lowest level since 1973. As part of the 1994 Crime Bill, President Clinton enacted a new initiative to fund 100,000 community police officers in more than 11,000 law enforcement agencies.

Since the President signed the Brady bill in 1993, stopping more than 600,000 felons, fugitives, and other prohibited persons from buying guns, gun crime declined 40 percent during his years in office.

President Clinton signed into law the Family and Medical Leave Act in 1993, which enabled more than 20 million Americans to take leave to care for a newborn child or sick family member without fear of losing their job. President Clinton pledged to end welfare as we know it and signed landmark bipartisan welfare reform legislation in 1996. As a result of the booming economy and welcoming job market, welfare caseloads were cut in half, to the lowest level since 1968, millions of parents joined the workforce, and “welfare is no longer a political issue to be exploited by demagogues, as people on welfare today were five times more likely to be working in 2000 than in 1992. After falling by nearly \$2,000 between 1988 and 1992, the median income for families rose by \$6,338, after adjusting for inflation during the Clinton years. In that same time, African-American family income increased even more, rising by nearly \$7,000 since 1993.

After years of stagnant income growth among average and lower income families, all income brackets experienced double-digit growth since 1993, with the bottom quintile enjoying the largest income growth at 16.3 percent. Because Congress passed President Clinton’s Economic Plan in 1993, the poverty rate declined from 15.1 percent to 11.8 percent—the largest six-year drop in poverty in nearly 30 years. In 2000, there were seven million fewer people in poverty than when President Clinton took office in 1993. The child poverty rate declined more than 25 percent, the poverty rates for single mothers, African Americans, and the elderly had dropped to their lowest levels on record, and Hispanic poverty dropped to its lowest level since 1979. In his 1995 State of the Union Address, President Clinton challenged Americans to join together in a national campaign against teen pregnancy, which resulted in the birth rate for teens aged 15–19 declining every year of the Clinton Presidency, from 60.7 per 1,000 teens in 1992 to a record low of 49.6 in 1999.

Because the Clinton Administration expanded efforts to provide mothers and newborn children with healthcare, a record high 82 percent of all mothers were receiving prenatal care by the time he left office and the infant mortality rate dropped from 8.5 deaths per 1,000 in 1992 to 7.2 deaths per 1,000 in 1998, the lowest rate ever recorded.

The accomplishments of President Clinton were just as impressive in the field of national security and foreign affairs. President Clinton understood from the beginning of his presidency that the most pervasive force in our world is globalization and he understood that while globalization is inexorable, its benefits must be harnessed to advance our objectives of democracy, shared prosperity and peace.

Under the visionary leadership of President Clinton, America exercised its influence by building with its democratic partners an international system of strong alliances and institutions attuned to the challenges of a globalized world, by ensuring this system is genuinely open to all who adhere to clearly defined standards, and by being ready to stand up for those standards when they are threatened. After the absence of such leadership the last

four years, is it not wonderful that the Administration of President Biden also understands that the power of America’s example carries more influence than examples of America’s power. But let us get back to the story of spectacular leadership and spectacular results.

The Clinton-Gore Administration led the international effort to dismantle more than 1,700 nuclear warheads, 300 launchers and 425 land and submarine-based missiles from the former Soviet Union.

President Clinton led the revitalization, adaptation, and expansion of NATO from a static Cold War alliance to a magnet for new democracies, with new partners, members and missions; adapted its command structure; admitted Hungary; Poland and the Czech Republic; and created the Partnership for Peace. President Clinton led NATO in its first military engagement and stopped the killing in Bosnia, brokered the peace in the Dayton Accords, leading to a sustained civil society complete with active opposition parties an non-governmental organizations and national and local elections taking place throughout the country.

As Commander in Chief, President Clinton took military action in Kosovo to stop genocide, ethnic cleansing, and regional instability, forcing the withdrawal of Serb forces, disbanding the Kosovo Liberation Army, and deploying an international presence in Kosovo—with a 47,000 strong NATO-led force providing security for the province, resulting in the safe and unconditional return of over 900,000 refugees. Under President Clinton, nuclear weapons and their delivery vehicles were permanently eliminated from Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty was signed; in addition, the indefinite extension of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention was achieved.

Under President Clinton, the perpetrators of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and CIA killings were brought to justice and the planned terrorist attacks against Millennium celebrations were foiled. President Clinton developed a national counter-terrorism strategy, led by a national coordinator, and the Nation’s first national strategy to protect critical infrastructure, and increased funding on critical infrastructure Protection by over 40 percent since 1998. An admirer of Nelson Mandela, a student of his teachings, and a true friend of Africa and the Caribbean, President Clinton was the second American President to visit sub-Saharan Africa, following President Jimmy Carter’s visit to Lagos, Nigeria in 1978.

As President, Bill Clinton launched and won approval for the African Growth and Opportunity Act to support increased trade and investment between the United States and Africa, strengthen African economies and democratic governments, increase partnerships to counter terrorism, crime, environmental degradation and disease, and for the Caribbean Basin Initiative enhancement legislation to promote economic prosperity in Central America and the Caribbean.

Madam Speaker, between 1998 and 2000, the national debt was reduced by \$363 billion—the largest three-year debt pay-down in American history and we were on track to pay off the entire debt by 2009 until the fiscal mismanagement of the succeeding administration. President Clinton converted the largest budget deficit in American history to the largest sur-

plus in history; the deficit was \$290 billion in 1993 and was expected to grow to \$455 billion by 1998 but instead, thanks to the leadership of President Clinton, the United States had a surplus of \$237 billion.

In the area of the great outdoors and the environment, it should be noted that President Clinton protected more land in the lower 48 states than any other president, protecting 5 new national parks, designating 11 new national monuments, and expanding two others and proposing protections for 60 million acres of roadless areas in America’s national forests.

During the Clinton years, federal government spending as a share of the economy had decreased from 22.2 percent in 1992 to a projected 18.5 percent in 2000, the lowest since 1966. On a related note, Americans enjoyed the lowest federal income tax burden in 35 years under President Clinton, who enacted targeted tax cuts such as the Earned Income Tax Credit expansion, \$500 child tax credit, and the HOPE Scholarship and Lifetime Learning Tax Credits.

As a candidate, President Clinton pledged that he would have a government “that looks like the American people,” and he made true on that commitment and then some. President Clinton appointed more African Americans, women and Hispanics to the Cabinet than any other President in history; he appointed the first female Attorney General, the first female Secretary of State and the first Asian-American cabinet secretary ever.

Under his Administration, the outright ban on gays serving in the military was ended and the military’s policy of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” worked so well in allowing LGBTQ service personnel to demonstrate their talents and skills that the policy would later be found to be unnecessary and discarded altogether.

Madam Speaker, I have laid out the major reasons why Americans are so appreciative that Bill Clinton served as the 42nd President of the United States, especially for his healing words and actions during the time of the tragic and horrific April 1995 Oklahoma City bombing at the Alfred R. Murrah Federal Building that killed 168 persons, including 19 children, and wounded more than 800 others. And as he pledged to the Nation he would, the terrorists who perpetrated this heinous act were brought to justice and punished in accordance with the law.

We Democrats thank President Clinton for all that but for much more. Bill Clinton was the unparalleled visionary Democratic political leader of the latter half of the 20th Century. In the presidential election preceding his, the Democratic candidate was beaten in the Electoral College 426–112, losing 40 states, and trailing in the popular vote by 7.8 percentage points and 7 million votes. In the presidential election before that, 1984, the Democratic candidate lost 49 of 50 states, lost the Electoral College 525–13, and lost the popular vote by 18.2 percentage points and 16.8 million votes. The electoral map and political outlook were bleak for the Governor of the “small southern state of Arkansas” but he would not be deterred and would not be outworked and did not waver in his conviction that his progressive policies promising shared prosperity and his inclusive vision in which the United States “did not have a person to waste” would attract majority support.

Madam Speaker, because of the remarkable leadership and success role-modeled by

President William Jefferson Clinton, Democrats in Congress and across the Nation know who they are, what they believe, and what is important to fight to achieve or preserve; maybe one day our friends across the aisle will be so lucky.

Happy Birthday, President Clinton, and thank you for all you did as the Nation's 42nd President and captain of the ship of state to make our Nation the most prosperous on earth and at peace in the world.

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF THE
JOHN CORBLY MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 27, 2021

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the John Corbly Memorial Baptist Church and congratulate them on serving God and western Pennsylvania for 250 years.

Originally called Goshen Baptist Church, what would become John Corbly Memorial Baptist Church consisted of two congregations. Meetings were held as early as 1769 on Muddy Creek and 1770 on Big Whiteley Creek. In April 1771, their first log meeting house was erected on Big Whiteley Creek in Garards Fort.

The congregation's first brick structure was completed in 1843, with the first service held on December 9 of that year. On February 24, 1907, a motion was made to rename the church in honor of John Corbly, the church's founder and former minister.

John Corbly was an Irish immigrant and prominent early settler of southwestern Pennsylvania. In, 1747, at 14, he started his life in the New World and was apprenticed to a Pennsylvania Quaker family. At the end of his term of indentured servitude, Corbly settled in Winchester, Virginia, and found God.

In Virginia, Corbly met Elder John Garrard, an emerging Baptist preacher in the area. He converted soon after their first encounter and became a reverend. His subsequent preaching was so impassioned and effective that it led to persecution from other Virginia religious groups. Reverend Corbly was consequently imprisoned for his beliefs.

Following his imprisonment, Reverend Corbly settled near Whiteley Creek with other Baptists. While he planned to practice his religion in peace, our nation's war for independence began and Reverend Corbly enlisted to fight, ultimately aiding in the founding of our nation.

After the Revolutionary War, Reverend Corbly returned home to raise his family and preach. Sadly, in May 1782, his wife and three children were killed on their way to church. Despite the incredible emotional toll, Reverend Corbly continued to preach and established 30 Baptist churches in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Kentucky before his death in 1803.

Madam Speaker, the story of the John Corbly Memorial Baptist Church is uniquely American. Their founder and original congregants endured religious persecution, the American Revolution, and the hardships of frontier life, yet maintained their commitment to the Gospel. The church has stood as a tes-

tament to their faith for 250 years and I look forward to what the next chapter has in store for their congregation and community.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT MAJOR
STAFFORD FOR HIS SERVICE TO
THE UNITED STATES

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 27, 2021

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Robert Major Stafford, who devoted his life to serving our country and his community. Through his tireless work ethic and dedication, Robert has left a lasting effect on those he helped in both the military and his community.

Regardless of Robert's multiple life-altering injuries, he has consistently served the public with honor and is an amazing role model for his community. After suffering a partial loss of sight at a young age, Robert was ineligible to be deployed overseas. This did not stand in his way of pursuing a life of service, and Robert went on to be stationed at both Camp Ellis and Camp Grant in the 1940s. During his time there, he worked at the hospital caring for patients, managed a bowling alley, and worked at Caterpillar making belly pans for U.S. Army tanks. Even with his partial loss of sight, he was awarded the marksman badge for his incredible shooting accuracy and received the rank of TEC 5 during his time in the Army. Following his service, he and his wife, Dorothy Wills, moved to the Upper Peninsula and raised eleven children in Iron River, Michigan.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of my constituents, I ask you to join me in honoring the service of Robert Major Stafford. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing their state is home to such a selfless leader.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
FORMER REPRESENTATIVE
DOUG APPLLEGATE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 27, 2021

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fine gentleman who was not just a former colleague, but also a fellow Buckeye, and a dear friend.

Congressman Doug Applegate of Steubenville, Ohio, served nine terms in the House from 1977 until 1994. Sadly, Doug passed away on August 7 at the age of 93.

For nearly two decades, Representative Applegate ably and honorably represented eastern Ohio's 18th Congressional District. He and his beloved wife Betty were indefatigable in their fierce advocacy for their constituents. Doug was particularly gifted in his representation of his industrial and mining region and his advocacy for the steelworkers, coal miners, and veterans who called their shared Appalachian region "home." I can recall travelling to Steubenville and viewing the industry that propelled its economy atop the Ohio river 33 miles from Pittsburgh.

Doug served as a Member and then chair of the Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Com-

ensation, Veterans, and Insurance. He never stopped championing their cause. Representative Applegate was responsible for passing a \$150 a month benefit increase for World War I pensioners and their spouses.

He also fought for raises in disability and other allowances and benefits that improved the quality of life for our heroic members in uniform.

When I was first elected to Congress and achieved appointment to the House Veterans Affairs Committee, I remember the poignant debate about Agent Orange and why Vietnam veterans should receive medical eligibility at the Department of Veterans Affairs for diagnosis and treatment of illnesses, including soft tissue cancers, they were developing due to exposure to Agent Orange. Long debate occurred in the Committee at that time as to who then this was possibly afflicting because irrefutable scientific studies had not been completed at that point in time. Doug Applegate turned the debate to positive support of Vietnam veterans self-examining themselves to determine their medical conditions by saying "There is a difference between what is scientifically provable and morally right." From that point onward, the VA covered Agent Orange diagnostic tests and treatments for Agent Orange. Doug Applegate never yielded when it came to America's veterans and he stood his ground.

Toward the end of his career, he was instrumental in ensuring Veterans Affairs became a department-level agency—allowing our heroes to receive the attention and care they deserve.

I also vividly remember his scorching denunciation of unfair trade policies, such as when he introduced legislation in 1986 to punish countries skirting steel import rules and harming American workers. He was a fighter for the working pension and the middle class. I miss his passion in these chambers.

As his tenure drew to a close, Representative Applegate was praised by his colleagues and constituents for his work to secure hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funds for Ohio, and the diligence he displayed in serving the residents of the 18th District.

While many today did not have the privilege of working alongside Representative Doug Applegate, he provides a model for us all to follow on behalf of the people of Ohio. I thank him for his honorable and faithful service, and offer my deepest condolences to his family, loved ones, and the constituents to whom he dedicated his best years. May the angels carry him close to his beloved Betty.

HONORING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY
OF MS. SUE LOTT

HON. JEFF DUNCAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 27, 2021

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of Ms. Sue Lott. Throughout her life, Ms. Lott has seen 18 different presidents and many changes in the world. Growing up during the Great Depression, Ms. Lott learned the importance of simplicity and hard work, where many of her days were spent tying strings around June bugs for fun and picking butter beans with her sister to trade for ice cream. Other days, she would