Let's go after the bad apples in the grant community, but reject the wholly invasive and suffocating approach presented in this bill. Let's demonstrate our good sense and reason and repeal this bold, beyond-the-pale attempt to micromanage the grant community and inhibit our basic civil rights.

Support the Skaggs amendment.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2127) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, generation after generation of children have been told that a college education is the key to the American dream. Well, perhaps we were wrong, or perhaps it is that we did not realize that that advice is outdated. Just look at what the majority is doing to financial aid. Then, my colleagues you determine what is the best advice you have for America's over 6 million college students who must depend on financial aid to attend college.

The $158 million cut in Perkins loans would eliminate support to approximately 150,000 needy college students. The elimination of funding for the State Student Incentive Grant Program, means that over 200,000 college students would be denied the financial assistance they need. And, if this injury is not enough, the Republicans are working to derail the direct student loan program.

I guess my colleagues would tell these students that the States will pitch in, well the students and the States are too smart to fall for that one. In fact, 18 percent of the States expect to have to eliminate their need-based student aid program, and 82 percent expect to be forced to reduce the number and amount of awards.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly urge my colleagues not to derail our young people's future, vote ''no'' against H.R. 2127.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 1995

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 4, 1995

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, today, my colleague Mr. WAXMAN and I are introducing, at the request of the administration, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Performance Partnership Act of 1995.

The proposal involves a consolidation of categorical grants into two partnerships, one for mental health and one for substance abuse. The performance partnership grant establishes a new framework for cooperation between the Federal Government and the States. Instead of using an application process partnership grants would be based on a negotiated multi-year agreement between States and the secretary of HHS, which would define objectives and ways to achieve specific health outcomes.

This proposal offers an alternative that avoids both the downsides of pure block grants—which were well documented in a February 1985 GAO study—and those of categorical grants, including multiple grant applications, spending restrictions and set-asides, and overlapping data requirements and reports. Grants such as those proposed in this bill could streamline or eliminate such requirements. Under this approach, States would have increased flexibility to set priorities and objectives and determine the means to address them.

The administration is making a serious attempt to propose a system that avoids the pitfalls of pure block grants while reducing undesirable and burdensome aspects of some categorical grants. The proposal deserves consideration, as one approach to a decision about the best way to reauthorize certain important programs of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA].

OPPOSITION TO FDA COMMISSIONER DAVID KESSLER'S MOVE TO REGULATE TOBACCO PRODUCTS

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 4, 1995

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my opposition to Food and Drug Administration [FDA] Commissioner David Kessler's unilateral move to regulate tobacco products. Thirteen Federal agencies already regulate the growth, manufacture, and use of tobacco.

The President has said he wants to address the underage use of tobacco. Everyone is in agreement with this goal. But the answer is not FDA regulation. Instead, the President should use the tools he already has at his disposal.

Congress has already spoken on the matter of youth access to tobacco products. The Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Administration Act of 1992 [ADAMHA], is the best mechanism to restrict minors' access to tobacco.

The President should direct HHS to release the final ADAMHA regulations and allow the program to work. The statute was signed into law by President Bush. Draft implementing regulations were not promulgated until August 1993. It is now August 4, 1995, and HHS has yet to release the final regulations. All 50 states have put laws on the books prohibiting the sale of tobacco products to minors and ADAMHA is the vehicle to enforce these laws and discourage youth smoking. Clearly the answer to is not FDA regulation.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage the President to take a very positive step toward restricting youth access to tobacco by releasing the final ADAMHA regulations. Congress has spoken on this issue and now it is time to implement the Federal policy set out in ADAMHA.

COMMENDING SANFORD RUBENSTEIN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 4, 1995

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise for the purpose of commending Sanford A. Rubenstein for his work as a delegate to the 1995 White House Conference on Small Business. This conference provided the forum to formulate a small business policy agenda for the 21st century. The conference discussed the most critical issues facing small business, including the need for access to capital, regulatory reform, and pro-growth tax policies. The recommendations of this conference will form the basis for important new legislation which will be considered by the Congress and the President. My thanks to Sanford A. Rubenstein for his dedication and hard work in making the 1995 White House Conference on Small Business the best ever.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2127) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Lowey amendment to restore needed funding to the Perkins Loan Program.

Supporters of this bill say that the extreme budget cuts it contains are necessary to ensure a bright future for our Nation's young people. I share the commitment to deficit reduction, but I have to wonder what kind of future our children will have if they can't afford a college education.

Student loans help prepare a new generation of scientists, teachers, doctors, entrepreneurs, and, yes, elected leaders. Many of us in this body would not be here were it not for the college education we received through student loans.

Student loans give young men and women born into poverty the means to become productive members of society. Too many lower-income families strive to send their children to college but are forced to choose between paying tuition and paying for basic necessities.

We've heard so much rhetoric in this body about personal responsibility—about making people pull themselves up by their bootstraps.