

Mr. Speaker, these broken promises mean one thing. The time has come to fix this bad deal. I urge my colleagues to support the NAFTA Accountability Act and cut America's losses before it is too late.

BALANCED BUDGET IN 7 YEARS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, it is reported today that the President has decided to submit his third budget this year. This one is to balance in 7 years. Well, I hope three is a charm. The first two did not even come close to balancing.

But I would hope it is like the President's Medicare proposal, because, as reported yesterday in the Washington Post, if you look at expenditures in the year 2002, it is remarkably close to the Republican plan. In fact, it is less than 2 percentage points apart, less than 2 percentage points apart. Where are the cuts, Mr. President?

Well, according to this article, the President just had the wrong starting point. So if his balanced budget is as close as his Medicare plan, there is no reason for him to shut down the Government again.

Let us do the right thing for the American public, the right thing for ourselves, the right thing for our children. Let us balance the budget in 7 years.

BUDGET COMPROMISE

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the President has made a fair compromise offer to our appropriations woes. President Clinton has offered to sign all of the outstanding appropriations bills if we agree to restore \$6.8 billion from the \$222 billion extreme cuts in those spending bills. The administration wants to restore funding for education, for veterans, and for environmental efforts.

Mr. Speaker, this is a hopeful sign. The administration has signaled their effort to compromise and get the issues of the remaining appropriations bills dealt with so the taxpayers do not have to spend another \$850 million to give our Federal employees a paid vacation.

It is time to compromise. The American people have signaled they believe these Republican appropriations bills cut too much, too fast. They want to restore funding for education, veterans, housing, and environmental programs, and then get about the business of setting the priorities for a balanced budget.

With the bipartisan success we saw in the lobby reform bill, the increase in Social Security earnings limits yester-

day, and the gift ban last week, I believe we can work together for the good of the American people and pass some commonsense appropriations bills that fund these important programs and cut where needed.

□ 1015

THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION FOR BALANCED BUDGET IN 104TH CONGRESS

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, more than 2½ weeks ago President Clinton signed the following commitment into law. This is the text, so there is no confusion. I quote. "The President and the Congress shall enact legislation in the first session of the 104th Congress," that is 1995, "to achieve a balanced budget no later than fiscal year 2002, as estimated by the Congressional Budget Office; and the President and the Congress agree that the balanced budget must protect future generations, ensure Medicare solvency, reform welfare, and provide adequate funding for Medicaid, education, agriculture, national defense, veterans, and the environment. Further, the balanced budget shall adopt tax policies to help working families and to stimulate future economic growth."

The Congress did this long ago. The President says he does not like the Republican balanced budget plan. That is fine, but where is the President's alternative 7-year budget plan with CBO numbers? Mr. Speaker, the President has made a commitment. The deadline is Friday. We are waiting.

VOTE TO SAVE COPS PROGRAM

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

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, today, we will vote on the Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary appropriation bill, which contains the COPS Program. Not only does this bill do away with the successful COPS Program, but if we look on page 21 of the bill, it repudiates the COPS contract that the Department of Justice has signed with our local communities. If my colleagues have received a police officer in their district under the COPS Program, Federal funding for the third year of this program may be taken away.

Having walked a beat myself as a city police officer, I am concerned that not only does the police officer have to worry about his or her personal safety and the community's safety, but now they have to worry about their employment security and safety. The new majority wishes to break the contract with our police officers. Fifty-four po-

lice officers in my district are at risk. So let us stand up for the police officers in our communities, let us not allow this new majority to risk the employment opportunities for our police officers. Vote "yes" on the Democratic motion to recommit to save the COPS Program and continue employment of cops in your district.

AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT A BALANCED BUDGET AND THEY WANT IT NOW

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

Mr. CHRYSLER. Mr. Speaker, the Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary bill will come to the floor today, and it cuts more than the House bill originally did and takes a meaningful first step toward eliminating the Commerce Department, which will be passed this year in Congress and will be on the President's desk.

Also, Mr. Speaker, the results are in on the largest public opinion poll ever taken: 7,200 registered voters. Eighty-six percent believe the President and Congress should deal with the budget issues now instead of after next year's elections; 73 percent agree that unless the President and the Congress stick to a 7-year deadline neither will balance the budget and eliminate the deficit; and 55 percent think money should be reduced by the Federal level and given back to the States and local governments who know better how to spend it.

Mr. Speaker, the results are in, the opinion is clear, the American people want a balanced budget and they want it now. The President should offer his budget now, finally.

REPUBLICANS WANT TO RAID CRIME TRUST FUND

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, today is an important day for law enforcement across America. Our Republican friends want to raid the crime trust fund and jerk a commitment of 100,000 police officers who will be on our streets, protecting our neighborhoods. It is time to stand up for our cops.

And what about law enforcement in our own neighborhood, right here on the floor of Congress? Twice now the American people have been denied the right to know what the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct has been doing the last 14 months concerning these serious ethics charges against Speaker GINGRICH.

Finally, our Republican colleagues seem willing to permit an outside real prosecutor, so long as that prosecutor's hands are tied and bound from doing anything about the serious charges of

illegal GOPAC campaign contributions, about the \$250,000 of NEWT's support, as they call it, for Speaker GINGRICH.

As the nonpartisan citizens action group, Common Cause, said yesterday, in calling for the recusal and removal of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct chairman, "What is at stake is the integrity of the House ethics process." It is time to end the coverup and stand up for law enforcement.

PRESIDENT SHOULD SIGN THE BALANCED BUDGET ACT OF 1995

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

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, Republicans in Congress have advocated a fair, realistic agenda, literally the beginning of this session of Congress. We want to balance the budget in 7 years using honest Congressional Budget Office numbers. We want to save Medicare from going bankrupt. We want genuine welfare that emphasizes work and we want to cut taxes for working families.

Despite the unending stream of misinformation coming from the press these days, the American people overwhelmingly endorse this agenda. A recent mega poll taken of 7,200 registered voters confirm that there is wide and popular support for the Balanced Budget Act now sitting on the President's desk. In fact, 86 percent of the poll's respondents said that the budget issue should be squared away this year, now.

The President should stop the rhetoric and sign what the American people overwhelmingly support, the Balanced Budget Act of 1995.

DELAYED DECISION FROM COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

(Ms. DeLAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, for 14 months the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct has dithered, dallied, and delayed making a decision on the complaints against Speaker NEWT GINGRICH. As we learned earlier this year, delays in the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct investigations give the appearance of a coverup. The secrecy and delays connected with the Bob Packwood investigation brought disgrace to this institution. Let us not repeat the same mistake when it comes to the Speaker of the House.

Public pressure and the increasing public disclosure of potential wrongdoing has compelled Republicans on the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct to consider an outside counsel, but only with severely limited duties, so that many of the questions that need to be answered would be left untouched.

Mr. Speaker, we need an outside counsel allowed to conduct a full investigation, and let the chips fall where they may. As Mr. GINGRICH himself said in 1988, the only way to ensure a thorough nonpartisan investigation of the highest ranking Member of the House is to appoint an outside counsel with, and I quote, "The independence necessary to do a thorough and complete job."

The time to appoint an outside counsel is now. Further delays will cause damage to this institution.

PRESIDENT CLINTON AND THE CBO

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

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I notice none of our Democratic colleagues want to talk about the budget this morning. Perhaps that is because they are just as confused as we are about the President's latest proposal.

Mr. Speaker, the President now says that pursuant to the bill that he signed into law, he will propose a balanced budget in 7 years, but he wants to use false numbers generated by the Office of Management and Budget.

The last time the President put forward a so-called budget, it was a vague 22-page summary, and the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office said it had annual deficits in the range of \$200 billion as far as the eye could see, well into the next century. Now the President says he will give us the details, but he still does not want to use Congressional Budget Office numbers, as he is obligated to do by the bill he signed into law.

Yet, the President, a few years ago, stood right here, gave a State of the Union Address, February 17, 1993, and said, quote, "I will point out that the Congressional Budget Office, which is normally more conservative about what is going to happen, and closer to right than previous Presidents have been. I did this so that we could argue about priorities with the same set of numbers."

It is time for the President to get with the program and follow the law that he signed.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET CUTS

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

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the invitation from my colleague to talk about the budget, because that is exactly what I came here to talk about.

Last Friday I was down in Durham, NC, in my congressional district, talking to poor people about the reconciliation bill and the budget that has been proposed by my Republican colleagues. They could not believe what I was tell-

ing them: \$270 billion in cuts in Medicare, \$180 billion in cuts in Medicaid, making our health and our future at risk.

They could not believe that our Republican colleagues were talking about cutting reading programs for the most vulnerable kids in America. They could not believe that they were talking about taking kids, 1 to 2 million more kids, and putting them in poverty, all for the purpose of giving a tax break to the richest people in America. Get real. This is real dollars we are talking about, and the future of our country we are talking about.

CLINTON BUDGET COSTS AMERICAN CHILDREN

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

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I give credit to the liberal education system that our colleagues cannot add or subtract. There is no cut in Medicare, and they know that. Mr. Speaker, the Clinton budget costs American children \$187,000, just on the interest of the national debt. By contrast, the Republican Congress is turning toward the best interest of our American children, balancing the budget and investing in their education.

I have heard colleagues say we are cutting programs such as Goals 2000. Absolutely. We zeroed out, and I would do it again, Goals 2000 on a Federal level. We are spending the money down at the State level, sending the money closest to the people, driving it down to the school districts. And they can do a Goals 2000 at the State level, but they do not have 38 instances in the bill of Goals 2000 that said the State will do this or the Federal intrusion. They can still do a Goals 2000 and these other programs. Any additional savings goes to the children.

ORGAN DONATION

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

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about an issue that is very near and dear to my heart. Organ donation. As most of my colleagues know, I underwent a successful liver transplant this summer, and because someone gave me the gift of life, I am able to be with all my friends today.

Lucky for me, organ transplantation is no longer an experimental procedure, but rather a lifesaving procedure. My colleague, the gentleman from South Carolina, FLOYD SPENCE, and I are certainly living proof that transplantation works and that it saves lives.

But, unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, FLOYD SPENCE and I were the lucky ones. The fact of the matter is, most Americans have no idea of the importance of organ and tissue donation.