

I offered an amendment to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund which could be used to fund legislation designed to improve the affordability, availability and quality of child care, and to support families' choices in caring for their children. I was disappointed, obviously, when my amendment was defeated, but was pleased that the amendment had the support of fifty of my colleagues.

The resolution also reduces funding for the Administration's education priorities by \$2 billion, and as a result, about 450,000 students could be denied safe after-school care in 1999, some 30,000 new children could be denied access to the Head Start program, and 6,500 middle schools would not have drug and violence prevention coordinators. And yet, while Republican budget increases funding above the President's request for Impact Aid, Special Education, and the title VI block grant, these increases come at the expense of many other priorities that also strengthen our commitment to children and education.

Mr. President, this budget as a whole ill-serves children and families, and that is why I was pleased to support the Democratic alternative budget offered by Senator LAUTENBERG. The Democratic alternative would strengthen our commitment to our priorities by providing funding for key initiatives such as hiring an additional 100,000 teachers, creating more after-school programs, and doubling the number of children who receive child care assistance. Further, the Democratic alternative moves us toward our goal of one million children in Head Start by 2002, doubles the number of children in early Head Start, and places up to 500,000 children in after school learning centers.

In addition, Mr. President, the Democratic alternative maintains our commitment to other Democratic priorities such as cleaning up the environment and investing in our transportation infrastructure. Moreover, it would expand Medicare coverage to Americans ages 55-65. And not least, Mr. President, the Democratic alternative strengthens Social Security by reserving the entire unified budget surplus, while maintaining strict fiscal discipline by meeting the discretionary caps in all years.

I regret, Mr. President, that the Democratic alternative was defeated. And I regret that the resolution before us today is not one that I, in good conscience, can support. In my view, the Republican budget shortchanges America's working families. I am, however, hopeful that as we move forward in the budget process, we will craft legislation that focuses on priorities like child care, education, health care, and the environment. Finally, Mr. President, in our efforts to craft a budget that targets the needs of working families, it is imperative that we remain vigilant in our efforts to maintain fiscal responsibility. ●

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD A. SEARFOSS, RICHARD M. LINNEHAN AND JAY CLARK BUCKEY

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Commander Richard A. Searfoss, mission specialist Richard M. Linnehan and payload specialist Jay Clark Buckey for their participation in the April 16, 1998, Neurolab mission STS-90. These men are on the forefront of science, bravely pioneering the new frontier of space in an effort to investigate the effects of weightlessness on the brain, central nervous system, and sensory organs.

After graduating from Portsmouth Senior High School in New Hampshire, Rick Searfoss attended the United States Air Force Academy where he was awarded the Harmon, Fairchild, Price and Tober Awards as the top overall, academic, engineering and aeronautical engineering graduate in the Class of 1978. When Commander Searfoss was selected for the astronaut program, he was a flight instructor at the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School where he was named the Tactical Air Command F-111 Instructor Pilot of the Year in 1985. Having logged over 4200 hours flying time in 56 different types of aircraft, there can be no doubt about Commander Searfoss' courage or ability.

Richard M. Linnehan, a graduate of the University of New Hampshire, is a distinguished astronaut and veterinarian. After entering into private veterinary practice and further study of animal medicine and comparative pathology, Dr. Linnehan was commissioned as a Captain in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps. He served as chief clinical veterinarian for the Navy's Marine Mammal Project at the Naval Ocean Systems Center in San Diego. Dr. Linnehan has been at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) since 1992, where he has worked in the Shuttle Avionics Integration Laboratory and in the Astronaut Office Mission Development Branch. He was a member of the international crew of the STS-78 mission in 1996, the longest space shuttle flight to date.

Jay Clark Buckey, currently a NASA payload specialist and Associate Professor of Medicine at Dartmouth Medical School in Hanover, New Hampshire, has a distinguished record in aerospace medicine. Dr. Buckey has over twenty publications to his credit in the areas of space physiology, cardiovascular regulation and echocardiographic techniques. He is a former executive board member of the American Society for Gravitational and Space Biology, as well as a member of the Aerospace Medicine Association and American College of Physicians. His accomplishments at NASA include performing as co-investigator and project manager for the Spacelab Life Sciences-1 experiment "Cardiovascular Adaptation to Zero-Gravity," for which he received

two NASA Certificates of Recognition for software developed.

WMUR-TV of Manchester and the Christa McAuliffe Planetarium of Concord are cooperating to offer a live interactive question-and-answer session with the New Hampshire astronauts on April 24, 1998, that will be shown in the Planetarium and relayed to students in the astronauts' hometowns of Portsmouth, Pelham and Hanover. Students will beam questions up to the astronauts and have the answers beamed back to them, giving the students a window into life aboard the space shuttle and an opportunity to speak with real live heroes.

Risking their own lives to determine the effects of space travel, these men exhibit bravery that should inspire us all. Mr. President, I want to congratulate Commander Richard A. Searfoss, mission specialist Richard M. Linnehan, and payload specialist Jay Clark Buckey for their outstanding work. I am proud to represent them in the U.S. Senate. ●

#### THE CCC's REBUILDING OF AMERICA

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise today to honor President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Civilian Conservation Corps.

In March 1933, there were approximately 13,689,000 Americans unemployed. Millions were standing in bread lines, or desperately pleading with community volunteer organizations for help. Thousands were making homes out of abandoned farm buildings, or just roaming around the land with no home at all.

At this time, my home state of Georgia had already known "depression" for some time. An economic recession had begun in Georgia 10 years before the stock market crashed in 1929. Farmers had already faced a century of troubles including erosion problems, and a boll weevil epidemic that wiped out cotton crops across the state.

Who would have thought that Georgians' great hope would come in the form of a New Yorker, stricken by polio, who had sought out the healing Warm Springs of Georgia nearly ten years earlier. It was the frequent Georgia visitor President Franklin D. Roosevelt who looked out on America and said he saw "one third of a nation ill-clad, ill-housed and ill-nourished." In response, he offered the people of a suffering nation a sweeping bundle of proposals—a New Deal.

A cornerstone of FDR's initiative was the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), which was signed into law on April 5, 1933.

Conceived as an employment catalyst for young men, Roosevelt said his idea was "to create a civilian conservation corps, to be used in simple work, not interfering with normal employment, but confining itself to forestry, the prevention of soil erosion, flood control and similar projects."