

SLASH AND BURN SPENDING CUTS

(Ms. SANCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the actions of the House leadership. The Republicans cannot make the tough choice on government spending, so they have resorted to across-the-board spending cuts. It is a slash-and-burn budget cutting, and this will fall squarely on the backs of seniors and children, the most vulnerable members of society. That means cutting food and education programs to poor children and destroying Meals on Wheels for home-bound seniors. The programs that have been so successful in empowering our citizens to succeed like Head Start and Gear Up and adult literacy programs are slashed or gone entirely.

Mr. Speaker, the Republicans have missed their budget deadline. They have busted the budget caps, all the while claiming to be fiscally responsible, and they are spending the Social Security surplus, more than \$19 billion of it.

So now we must judge them by their actions, or in this case, their gimmicks, calling the census an emergency, or adding a thirteenth month to the calendar year. This is not the kind of leadership the American people need and deserve from their elected representatives.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A CONSERVATIVE CONGRESS MAKES

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to my colleague from California. It seems that medicare and school lunches are back. My colleagues remember that from 1996, do they not? The spurious threat and the out and out untruths propagated by the left in their sole attempt, in their desperate attempt, to regain political power.

Certainly, Mr. Speaker, we can all agree that there is enough waste, fraud and abuse in these Washington-run programs that government can be run more efficiently and dare I say more compassionately, not by kowtowing to the interests of the labor bosses within government, but instead looking for true limited and effective government as Thomas Jefferson sought.

While facts are stubborn things, we would simply point out to my friends on the left that throughout their time and the last time they were in control of this House they spent all of the Social Security surplus, they gave us the largest tax increase in American history, and they sunk us deeper into debt.

My, what a difference a common sense, conservative Congress makes.

EVERYBODY HAS NUKES

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, China and Russia have nukes; India and Pakistan have nukes; Russia, Iran, and North Korea have nukes. Everybody has nukes. It is so bad, reports now say that McDonald's is developing the McNuke.

I ask, Mr. Speaker, what good is a nuclear test ban if every crackpot in the world keeps building nuclear weapons?

Beam me up here.

I say be careful, Congress, because America will abide by any nuclear test ban, but those crackpots throughout the world will not, and I tell my colleagues this: we can build them, but do not shoot them. Save that for the tooth fairy.

I yield back all those mad scientists with carpel funnel.

WAIVE DAVIS-BACON FOR CLEAN-UP EFFORTS FROM HURRICANE FLOYD

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, in 1992, after the Hurricane Andrew hit south Florida, President Bush suspended the Davis-Bacon law with regard to the clean-up and rehabilitation work receiving funds. President Clinton revoked that suspension when he got into office, so it never really was tested to see whether it would help get clean-up work done quicker and cheaper. I have been pushing President Clinton to waive the Davis-Bacon Act for clean-up efforts in Hurricane Floyd in my State of North Carolina and elsewhere and even sent him a letter signed by many Members of the House.

Waiving Davis-Bacon would not only save scarce Federal resources, but it would also save time in getting contractors out and create job opportunities for those in need of work. Unfortunately, I do not think I am going to get this administration to agree with me, even though it could save our taxpayers millions of dollars.

REFORM OF THE BROAD BAND POLICY

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

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to continue the debate on broad band issues. It is vital, especially in rural areas in the country such as States like Maine that there exists a competitive environment for opening up high-speed information services. I have co-sponsored legislation on this important

issue and hope that we move to initiate to open up the market in data markets throughout the country and also in Maine. If we encourage high-speed Internet connections to multiply, rural areas that are currently left out of this market will benefit. It will increase consumer choices and will assure the Internet will quickly advance technology, allowing more and better interactive media, high-speed data and video systems.

It is my hope with full Internet access we will enable rural States like Maine to compete on a more equal footing in the economic sphere and enhance the quality of life for all of our citizens. Advancing such economic opportunities is one of the most important things that we can do as Members of Congress. I encourage my colleagues to work towards reform of the broad band policy.

SUPPORT MARTA BEATRIZ ROQUE AND THE CUBAN PEOPLE, NOT THE CASTRO DICTATORSHIP

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to once again underscore the subjugation of the Cuban people and the widespread persecution of human rights dissidents and opposition leaders. This weekend the Castro regime sought to further torture Marta Beatriz Roque, one of Cuba's four leading dissidents, by moving her to a secret jail, blocking all but one relative from visiting her, and controlling even that access by having state security agents transport and monitor this relative.

Driven by the strength of her convictions and the commitment to give life and limb if necessary, if it furthers the cause of freedom and liberty for Cuba, Marta Beatriz Roque has gone on hunger strikes in defiance of the regime's threats to highlight the flagrant miscarriage of justice and the frequent violations of the rights of the Cuban people. Her uncompromising will stands as a thorn at the side of a regime seeking to hide Marta Beatriz and its brutality from the world.

My colleagues, I ask you to support Marta Beatriz Roque and the Cuban people and not the Castro dictatorship.

REPUBLICANS BALANCING THE BUDGET ON THE BACKS OF THE WORKING POOR

(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, I met with low-income working families in my district on Monday, and here is what they have to say about the GOP gimmick to delay their tax refund, the earned income tax credit:

My colleagues do not know Christina Quinn, but she says, and I quote, "My