

But at the beginning of the session, my Republican colleagues said they planned to have all this work finished on time, but a few months ago, my Republican colleagues passed a budget containing \$1 trillion in tax cuts, mostly for the rich. Their budget left no money for middle-class tax cuts, Social Security preservation, school construction, Medicare prescription drug benefits.

Now, it is October 3, Mr. Speaker, and my Republican colleagues' unrealistic budget has left them very much behind on the appropriation process.

So to make matters worse, Mr. Speaker, most of last week we spent our time voting on noncontroversial suspension bills. Today, 2 days into the new fiscal year, 11 out of 13 appropriation bills have yet to be signed into law. The Senate has yet to pass VA-HUD, the Commerce-Justice, and they have not even reported Treasury-Postal.

The House has just to pass Agriculture, Transportation, and our Labor, Health and Human Services conference reports. The Senate has not passed either the legislative branch of the Interior conference reports. President Clinton has vowed to veto the Energy and Water conference report.

Mr. Speaker, Foreign Operations, and the District of Columbia have not even been sent to conference. Mr. Speaker, in order to keep the Federal Government open for business, Congress must either pass 11 more appropriation bills that the President can sign by Friday or pass this continuing resolution. So this continuing resolution will keep the Federal Government open until October 14, despite the unfinished bills.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Republican colleagues to finish the work to pass the bills that President Clinton will sign and to fulfill their responsibility to the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.J. Res. 110 and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2001

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 604, I call

up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 110) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of H.J. Res. 110 is as follows:

H.J. RES. 110

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Public Law 106-275 is amended by striking "October 6, 2000" in section 106(c) and inserting in lieu thereof "October 14, 2000".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 604, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the second CR which is before us today merely extends the date of the original CR from October 6, 2000 through October 14, 2000. We need to do this because, although the House has passed all 13 bills, and as of a few minutes ago we now passed 6 of the conference reports, there are several that still have not passed, and we need to get those done.

We are moving along fairly well. We finished the conference report on the Transportation bill this morning. We will file that this afternoon and hopefully have it on the floor tomorrow.

Also we are scheduled to meet in conference on the Agricultural appropriations bill this afternoon, and we would hope that we can finish that tonight and have it ready for consideration by the House before the week is over.

We are moving, but there are still a few outstanding issues that need to be resolved, most of which, by the way, Mr. Speaker, are not really appropriations items, but they have to do with other items that have been placed upon these bills.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 7 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, again, there is nothing new with what we are doing here today. We have in the past had Congresses that have failed to get their appropriations work done on time and so they have required continuing resolutions; that is not the issue. The issue is why we are here on this occasion still in this same crunch, and when you answer that question, you see why this session is different from so many others in the history of the Congress.

It is different, because in past years when the Congress failed to get its appropriations work done on time, it was usually because there were honest fights which were occurring over funding levels for programs all the way through, and you had honest fights between honest pieces of legislation. And it was clear what each side in those controversies were trying to do.

This year has been different. This year we have seen bill after bill after bill come to the floor initially and each time those bills came to the floor, we were told by the majority leadership, well, we know the bill does not make sense at this point, but this is only the first inning, we will fix it up along the way.

Basically, the reason that we are stuck here today and the problem we face today does not have so much to do with what people are now doing or not doing to bring this session to a close, what we are really faced with is the consequences of what was not done in the first 10 months of this session. What was not done was to bring bills to the floor which were a genuine reflection of the intention of the majority party and which were a genuine reflection of what we really in the end expected the Congress to produce in each of the 13 appropriation categories.

Those bills essentially were political press releases put out so that the majority party could continue to pretend that there was room in the budget to fund their huge tax packages, the large majority of the breaks in those packages being directed to the most well-off among us in this society. They wanted to continue the fiction they could afford those huge tax packages, also at the same time provide a pay down of debt, a huge increase in the military budget of some \$20 billion, although not nearly as much of it went to readiness as the President asked for.

In order to maintain those fictions, they maintained the pretense that this Congress is going to spend about \$40 billion less than, in fact, it will wind up now spending. So now we are stuck here seeing this institution having great difficulty finding the off button so that people can go home.

As I said many times, that is not the fault of the majority on the Committee on Appropriations, they are practical realists. They have tried time and time again to demonstrate what kind of legislation could be passed. And when you deal with legislation straightforwardly and forthrightly and produce legislation which honestly reflects the priorities of the House, then you can pass it with a bipartisan majority on both sides; that was just demonstrated on the previous appropriations bill that we passed today.

The problem we have is now after pretending to be fiscal tightwads for almost 9 months, the majority party is now in its rush to go home, now trying to jam a lot of money into a lot of bills in a very short period of time in order to get out of here. But they were still refusing to recognize that of the new money being put on the table, a good piece of that needs to be put in the bill that funds the education, health, social service and worker protection programs in the Federal budget.

They are refusing to put money in that bill, but they put billions more in the energy and water bill, and they will put billions more in other appropriation bills as they move through this