

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I did not intend to speak this morning, but one of my colleagues on the other side aroused my interest and curiosity sufficiently to make me rise and speak to this issue.

Mr. Reagan's new biography is already controversial because it is predicated on the insights of a fictional character. Well, we have just had a fictional representation of what happened to the American economy in recent years. It was in 1993—when without a single Republican vote in the House or in the Senate—we changed the course of this economy which is now resulting in huge budget surpluses.

It is remarkable that a book that has not even been released already has such a major impact that my colleagues on the other side engage in a fictional representation of what happened to the American economy during the last 7 years.

Our economic indices are at an all-time favorable position; low unemployment, low inflation, high productivity, and the Clinton-Gore administration was in charge.

WE SHOULD STOP PRETENDING AND FACE THE REAL ISSUE, WHICH IS THE NATIONAL DEBT

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

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, following up on the previous speaker, I would just like to suggest that since this administration took office, the public debt has increased \$1.5 trillion, but that is not just the President; that is Congress and the President who control borrowing and spending.

We have decided to keep on borrowing and spending. So every year we have increased the public debt of our federal government.

To suggest that tax increases result in a stronger economy would be contrary to what almost every economist says. The previous speaker is correct—the 1993 largest tax increase in history was passed by Congress and the President without a single Republican vote.

I am going to send a copy of our debt history out as a "dear colleague" so that everybody is fully aware of what is happening to our public debt. We now owe roughly \$5.6 trillion. Ten years ago, it was half that amount.

It seems important to me that we understand that we have three parts of our public debt. One is what I call Wall Street debt, about \$3.6 trillion. One is Social Security debt, approaching \$1 trillion, and then the other 122 trust funds and intergovernment transfers, which is another \$1.2 trillion. We cannot pretend to pay down one part of the debt without considering what we are

doing to the total debt of this country. It is all debt. It all has to be paid back, if not by us, by our kids and grandchildren.

WE MUST PUT A STOP TO THE RAID ON SOCIAL SECURITY

(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, the President and House Democrats want to continue their 30-year raid on the Social Security trust fund but Republicans have drawn a line in the sand. First, we forced the President to agree to our lockbox provision, which walls off the Social Security trust fund from Washington politicians who want to use it for new Federal spending. Now we want to protect the Social Security money from the big government liberals who want to increase spending and increase the size and power of the Federal Government.

The President's budget would spend \$57 billion of the Social Security surplus in the fiscal year 2000 budget alone. We must put a stop to the raid on Social Security. Stop the raid. Let us put an end to 30 years of fiscal irresponsibility.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken later today.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING EAST TIMOR

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 292) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the referendum in East Timor, calling on the Government of Indonesia to assist in the termination of the current civil unrest and violence in East Timor, and supporting a United Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational force for East Timor, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 292

Whereas on May 5, 1999, the Governments of Portugal and Indonesia and the United Nations concluded an historic agreement intended to resolve the status of East Timor through a popular consultation based upon a universal, direct, and secret ballot;

Whereas the agreement gave the people of East Timor an opportunity to accept a pro-

posed special autonomy for East Timor within the unitary Republic of Indonesia or reject the special autonomy and opt for independence;

Whereas on August 30, 1999, 98.5 percent of registered voters participated in a vote on the future of East Timor, and by a vote of 344,580 to 94,388 chose the course of independence;

Whereas after the voting was concluded, violence intensified significantly in East Timor;

Whereas the declaration by the Government of Indonesia of martial law in East Timor failed to quell the violence;

Whereas it has been reported that hundreds of people have been killed and injured since the violence began in East Timor;

Whereas it has been reported that as many as 200,000 of East Timor's 780,000 residents have been forced to flee East Timor;

Whereas it has been reported that East Timor militias are controlling the refugee camps in West Timor, intimidating the refugees and limiting access to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, relief agencies, and other humanitarian non-governmental organizations;

Whereas it has been reported that a systematic campaign of political assassinations that has targeted religious, student, and political leaders, aid workers, and others has taken place;

Whereas the compound of the United Nations Mission in East Timor (UNAMET) was besieged and fired upon, access to food, water, and electricity was intentionally cut off, and UNAMET personnel have been killed, forcing the temporary closure of UNAMET in East Timor;

Whereas Catholic leaders and lay people have been targeted to be killed and churches burned in East Timor;

Whereas the international community has called upon the Government of Indonesia to either take immediate and concrete steps to end the violence in East Timor or allow a United Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational force to enter East Timor and restore order;

Whereas on September 9, 1999, the United States suspended all military relations with Indonesia as a result of the failure to quell the violence in East Timor;

Whereas on September 12, 1999, Indonesian President B.J. Habibie announced that Indonesia would allow a United Nations Security Council-endorsed multinational force into East Timor;

Whereas on September 15, 1999, the United Nations Security Council approved Resolution 1264, authorizing the establishment of a multinational force to restore peace and security in East Timor, to protect and support UNAMET in carrying out its tasks and, within force capabilities, to facilitate humanitarian assistance operations, and authorizing countries participating in the multinational force to take all necessary measures to fulfill this mandate; and

Whereas on September 20, 1999, the multinational force led by Australia arrived in East Timor and began to deploy for an initial period of four months until replaced by a United Nations peacekeeping operation, or as otherwise determined by the United Nations Security Council: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the people of East Timor on their exemplary participation in the August 30, 1999, popular consultation;

(2) commends the professionalism, determination, and courage of the United Nations