

The President zeroed out impact aid. When one has a military family or Native Americans and one's district, that impacts the school. The President zeroed that. IDEA gave very little amount of money to it. We increase it up to 12 percent in the bill. We think it is important. I think it is important to show the differences in priorities.

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, where does all of this leave us? Where are we now on the cusp of the final couple of weeks of this congressional session? We have set some parameters. We are going to keep the balanced budget. We made that commitment in 1997. We achieved it earlier than we thought we were going to. We are going to keep a balanced budget. We are going to stop using Social Security to pay for this year's government programs.

I have to say I read with interest the comment of the White House Chief of Staff in the Washington Post this morning. Even the White House Chief of Staff recognizes that the Republicans key goal is to not spend the Social Security surplus. That is our goal. The President has accepted that as the goal and one of the parameters within which we work. I commend him for that in recognizing that Social Security should be off limits.

We are not going to increase taxes. This House and the Senate have soundly rejected any increase in taxes. We should be having tax relief in a time of plenty, not increases in taxes. We are going to pay down the public debt next year by about \$150 billion, and I am very proud of that accomplishment and being part of that.

We are going to strengthen national defense. The President should sign the bill. It is on his desk for defense spending. It is a real increase in defense spending that will stop the erosion and the decline. If he is concerned about America's role in the world, if he is concerned about a new isolationism, it is not coming from this Congress. We are committed to maintaining a strong national defense and increasing defense spending.

We are going to improve education. I see for our children a very bright future. It is one that we are all trying to build together. But we have got to be committed to it. We have to stick to our knitting. We have to get the job done, set the parameters, work in good faith with our colleagues across the aisle and with the President of the United States. But I think that the future is there for us to see and take a few steps back from the political skirmishing of today.

I have to say it must be really tough to be in the minority. I have never, thankfully, been in the minority here. But sometimes I think that there is a small group of folks here who believe that their only job and their only role is to resist and to criticize rather than to govern and to shape. I believe that together we can govern and shape.

If we take a little bit of a step back from protecting Social Security and resisting the temptation to increase taxes, protecting our national defense, and improving education, to see things in a little bit bigger context, 3 weeks from now, we are going to be celebrating the 10th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. It has been a marvelous 10 years. We have achieved great things. We have resisted the temptation to turn in on ourselves. I remember very clearly the week that that wall came down. It was a life-changing experience for many Americans and for many Americans in uniform.

Very often, the aftermath of a great war is a rank thing. It certainly was in the First World War of this century. We resisted it after the Second World War because of the Cold War.

Ten years ago, I think there was a real fear that America would turn in on itself, but we have not. We are building a strong foundation for a new century. All of us who serve in this body should be proud of that.

We have a series of spending bills. They are pretty solid, based on some pretty solid foundations. We are committed to working with the President on the final ones, as long as they do not touch Social Security. We do not increase taxes, and we keep the focus on defense and education.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. CUNNINGHAM).

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I do not remember the exact amount, I believe it was almost 100 percent, if not 100 percent, of the authorization committee on defense supported the bill in the defense appropriation. That is in the Senate and the House. On the appropriations cycle, Democrats and Republicans alike supported the defense bill that came out in the conference. One hundred percent signed it. The President is wrong to veto a defense bill that increases our military servicemen's pay by 1.8 percent.

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is right. There are over 350 members of this House that voted yes on that final conference report.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I laud, not only the experience of the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Mrs. WILSON), even though it is in the Air Force instead of the Navy. But I laud her leadership in defense and also the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. FOWLER). I want to tell my colleagues, when it comes to standing up for our men and women in uniform, there are no two stronger women in this House than the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Mrs. WILSON) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. FOWLER).

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's remarks, and I also appreciated the Diet Coke and his willingness to back his team in spite of certain defeat.

Mr. Speaker, it is a real pleasure to be here tonight to talk about some

things that I think are important to this country. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and the President to working out these final elements of these bills.

We have drawn a line in the sand, as the gentleman from California (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) said. It is a line in the sand that says we are not going to raise taxes, and we are not going to cut Social Security. Within that, we will work with the President. Our priorities within that playing field are national defense and education. But we are willing to work with him to achieve something that is important for us and for our children. And that is our message tonight.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2466, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington (during the Special Order of Mrs. WILSON), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-407) on the resolution (H. Res. 337) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2466) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2300, ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT ACT FOR ALL

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington (during the Special Order of Mrs. WILSON), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-408) on the resolution (H. Res. 338) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2300) to allow a State to combine certain funds to improve the academic achievement of all its students, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

HOUSE BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills and joint resolutions of the following titles:

March 5, 1999:

H.R. 433, An act to restore the management and personnel authority of the Mayor of the District of Columbia.

March 15, 1999:

H.R. 882, An act to nullify any reservation of funds during fiscal year 1999 for guaranteed loans under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act for qualified beginning farmers or ranchers, and for other purposes.

March 25, 1999:

H.R. 540, An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit transfers or discharges of residents of nursing facilities as a result of a voluntary withdrawal from participation in the Medicaid Program.

March 30, 1999:

H.R. 808, An act to extend for 6 additional months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11, United States Code, is reenacted.

April 1, 1999:

H.R. 1212, An act to protect producers of agricultural commodities who applied for a Crop Revenue Coverage PLUS supplemental endorsement for the 1999 crop year.

April 5, 1999:

H.R. 68, An act to amend section 20 of the Small Business Act and make technical corrections in title III of the Small Business Investment Act.

H.R. 92, An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 251 North Main Street in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, as the "Hiram H. Ward Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

H.R. 158, An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 316 North 26th Street in Billings, Montana, as the "James F. Battin United States Courthouse".

H.R. 233, An act to designate the Federal building located at 700 East San Antonio Street in El Paso, Texas, as the "Richard C. White Federal Building".

H.R. 396, An act to designate the Federal building located at 1301 Clay Street in Oakland, California, as the "Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building".

April 6, 1999:

H.J. Res. 26, Joint Resolution providing for the reappointment of Barber B. Conable, Jr. as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

H.J. Res. 27, Joint Resolution providing for the reappointment of Dr. Hanna H. Gray as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

H.J. Res. 28, Joint Resolution providing for the reappointment of Wesley S. Williams, Jr. as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

H.R. 774, An act to amend the Small Business Act to change the conditions of participation and provide an authorization of appropriations for the women's business center program.

April 8, 1999:

H.R. 171, An act to authorize appropriations for the Coastal Heritage Trail Route in New Jersey, and for other purposes.

H.R. 705, An act to make technical corrections with respect to the monthly reports submitted by the Postmaster General on official mail of the House of Representatives.

April 9, 1999:

H.R. 193, An act to designate a portion of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

April 19, 1999:

H.R. 1376, An act to extend the tax benefits available with respect to services performed in a combat zone to services performed in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia/Montenegro) and certain other areas, and for other purposes.

April 27, 1999:

H.R. 440, An act to make technical corrections to the Microloan Program.

H.R. 911, An act to designate the Federal building located at 310 New Bern Avenue in Raleigh, North Carolina, as the "Terry Sanford Federal Building".

April 29, 1999:

H.R. 800, An act to provide for education flexibility partnerships.

May 21, 1999:

H.R. 432, An act to designate the North-South Center as the Dante B. Fascell North-South Center.

H.R. 669, An act to amend the Peace Corps Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2000 through 2003 to carry out that Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1141, An act making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

June 1, 1999:

H.R. 1034, An act to declare a portion of the James River and Kanawha Canal in Richmond, Virginia, to be nonnavigable waters of the United States for purposes of title 46, United States Code, and the other maritime laws of the United States.

June 7, 1999:

H.R. 1121, An act to designate the Federal Building and United States courthouse located at 18 Greenville Street in Newnan, Georgia, as the "Lewis R. Morgan Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

June 8, 1999:

H.R. 1183, An act to amend the Fastener Quality Act to strengthen the protection against the sale of mismarked misrepresented, and counterfeit fasteners and eliminate unnecessary requirements, and for other purposes.

June 15, 1999:

H.R. 1379, An act to amend the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplementary Appropriations Act, 1999, to make a technical correction relating to international narcotics control assistance.

June 25, 1999:

H.R. 435, An act to make miscellaneous and technical changes to various trade laws, and for other purposes.

July 20, 1999:

H.R. 775, An act to establish certain procedures for civil actions brought for damages relating to the failure of any device or system to process or otherwise deal with the transition from the year 1999 to the year 2000, and for other purposes.

July 22, 1999:

H.R. 4, An act to declare it to be the policy of the United States to deploy a national missile defense.

July 28, 1999:

H.R. 2035, An act to correct errors in the authorities of certain programs administered by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

August 10, 1999:

H.R. 66, An act to preserve the cultural resources of the Route 66 corridor and to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance.

August 11, 1999:

H.R. 2565, An act to clarify the quorum requirement for the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

August 17, 1999:

H.R. 211, An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 920 West Riverside Avenue in Spokane, Washington, as the "Thomas S. Foley United States Courthouse", and the plaza at the south entrance of such building and courthouse as the "Walter F. Horan Plaza".

H.R. 1219, An act to amend the Miller Act, relating to payment protections for persons providing labor and materials for Federal construction projects.

H.R. 1568, An act to provide technical, financial, and procurement assistance to veteran owned small businesses, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1664, An act providing emergency authority for guarantees of loans to qualified

steel and iron ore companies and to qualified oil and gas companies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2465, An act making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

September 24, 1999:

H.R. 457, An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to increase the amount of leave time available to a Federal employee in any year in connection with serving as an organ donor, and for other purposes.

September 29, 1999:

H.J. Res. 34, Joint resolution congratulating and commending the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

H.R. 1905, An act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for the other purposes.

H.R. 2490, An act making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2605, An act making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

September 30, 1999:

H.J. Res. 68, Joint resolution making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes.

October 5, 1999:

H.R. 2981, An act to extend energy conservation programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act through March 31, 2000.

October 9, 1999:

H.R. 2084, An act making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

October 19, 1999:

H.R. 3036, An act to restore motor carrier safety enforcement authority to the Department of Transportation.

October 20, 1999:

H.R. 2684, An act making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

SENATE BILLS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills of the Senate of the following titles:

March 23, 1999:

S. 447, An act to deem as timely filed, and process for payment, the applications submitted by the Dodson School Districts for certain Impact Aid payments for fiscal year 1999.

March 31, 1999:

S. 643, An act to authorize the Airport Improvement Program for 2 months, and for other purposes.

April 2, 1999:

S. 314, An act to provide for a loan guarantee program to address the Year 2000 computer problems of small business concerns, and for other purposes.

April 27, 1999:

S. 388, An act to authorize the establishment of a disaster mitigation pilot program in the Small Business Administration.