

on, computer databasing, et cetera, in which they are able to get the bad guy because of this. But the reality is much different in what is happening across the Nation.

For example, I was in the other day with one of my police departments where they told me it takes them almost a year to check fingerprints because they have no forensic lab right in their own police department. They sent off a pair of fingerprints that used to take 6 to 12 minutes to check, and they called back and were told it would take about a year before they could get the results back. They said, well, this is a very important case. And the woman on the other line said, well, if it is a very important case, we could probably make it faster. He said, well, how about the homicide of a policeman; is that important enough? And she said oh, yes, I think we can do that in two months. Meanwhile, the bad guys keep going on and doing the bad things.

The President has proposed \$1.3 billion for the new 21st Century Policing Initiative. Part of that initiative includes giving law enforcement access to the latest crime fighting technologies. This past week I had three or four departments come in and show me some of the prototypes that they have for working with computers with analysis. One of my local police departments, Santa Ana Police Department, is eagerly awaiting to see such a Justice Department program come to fruition. Santa Ana PD has already developed plans for a crime analysis unit which would map and analyze crime patterns. The work of the unit would survey crime trends and patterns to more efficiently allocate police resources and to more quickly apprehend career criminals and predict crime problems.

In the 21st century our greatest tool to fight crime is information. When departments have detailed data on crime statistics or arrest reports they can then achieve a better understanding of each city's crime problems and how to best respond. More importantly, crime analysis contributes to the COPS' philosophy by reducing administration and investigation work for our police officers.

With Santa Ana PD's excellence in community policing, and their foresight in developing a modern advanced technology to fight crime, they can develop a crime analysis unit that departments across the country can use as a model.

Let's work together to make the next step in law enforcement work. I urge my colleagues to support the 21st Century Policing Initiative and to support funding programs like the Santa Ana crime analysis unit.

#### NATIONAL DEBT IS NOT GOING DOWN UNDER PRESIDENT'S RECENTLY RELEASED BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from California (Mr. HERGER) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, the White House would like the American public and this Congress to believe that the national debt is going down under their recently released fiscal year 2000 budget. But let us look at page 389 of the President's very own budget from his Office of Management and Budget. We see that the total national debt not only does not go down but, in fact, is actually going up each year for the next 5 years to the tune of \$1.3 trillion.

Just last week I asked the President's Budget Director, Jacob Lew, during a Committee on the Budget hearing, about this, and he was evasive about the fact that the President's own budget calls for \$1.3 trillion more in total debt on our children and grandchildren. I then asked Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, the next day during a Ways and Means hearing, the same question, and Secretary Rubin refused to answer a yes or no question about whether the total debt is actually going up.

Mr. Speaker, President Clinton and his administration are grossly misleading the American people when they say the public debt is going down. They are telling a half truth. The President and his administration are correct in saying the public debt will go down, but what they are not telling us is that the total debt, the debt held by the government for Social Security and other trust funds, is going up at an even faster rate, which makes the total debt go up by, yes, \$1.3 trillion over the next 5 years. No matter if the debt is held by the public or in various trust funds, it is still debt that must be paid back at some future point.

The Clinton administration is doing future generations no favors in this budget. More accurately, it is dishonest and disingenuous for the Clinton-Gore administration to tout huge surpluses on one hand when, on the other, their budget places even more debt on the shoulders of our children and grandchildren. And as if forcing \$1.3 trillion in more debt on future generations was not enough, the President's budget called for a net tax increase of \$45.8 billion, and requests an additional \$150 billion in new spending over the next 5 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is the duty of this Congress to stop this assault on our future generations and all taxpayers. I urge my colleagues to amend the President's budget and to live within our means and to begin paying down our \$5.5 trillion national debt.

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#### EXECUTIVE ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SWEENEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. METCALF) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, to date, the President has issued 278 executive orders. A number of these have infringed on the powers and duties of Congress as dictated by Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution. One was even rescinded by Congress last year.

Today, I am introducing a concurrent resolution regarding executive orders. This vital legislation reasserts the role and responsibility of Congress to enact laws and to appropriate federal dollars. My resolution reminds all of us that only Congress has the power to spend Federal monies.

In the first century of our Nation's history, there were no problems with executive orders. They seemed to fit within the legitimate powers of the presidency because they were used mostly to direct Federal employees in carrying out their legitimate functions.

However, early in this century, presidents began issuing executive orders that pushed beyond the prescribed presidential authority. But somehow these orders seemed reasonable. They were accepted with criticism coming only from jurists and scholars who were concerned about the fine points of balance among the three coequal branches of government.

Thus, as always with the usurpation of power and authority, it begins in ways that seem needed, or at least reasonable. My resolution seeks to avoid any confusion or obscurity concerning executive orders by reestablishing congressional authority under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution. This resolution also expresses the sense of the Congress that any executive order which infringes on congressional powers and duties or which requires the expenditure of Federal funds be advisory only and have neither force nor effect unless enacted into law.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, executive orders are not authorized by the Constitution. We in Congress have taken an oath to uphold the Constitution and protect the balance that was established. I will not violate that oath, and I encourage my fellow Members of Congress to join me in cosponsoring and supporting this resolution.

#### ADMINISTRATION DECREASES BUDGET FOR VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCKEON) is recognized during morning hour debates for 2 minutes.