Mr. Speaker, this Republican-led Congress has successfully passed important and responsible legislation, and we can do it again.

**TAKE PORK OUT OF SPENDING BILL**

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

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Speaker, we have essentially a colloquy here this morning, and I would like to join with my colleague from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) in pointing out the irony of what is happening.

We are dipping into the Social Security Trust Fund, according to the leadership's plan, by at least $17 billion. We are cutting across the board, or proposed to have cut, 1 percent. But at the same time, as Senator MCCAIN, a Republican, has pointed out, we have billions and billions earmarked for pork barrel projects.

As the cochair of the House bipartisan Pork Barrel Coalition, I am strongly opposed to this type of pork barrel spending, and I call on our leadership here in the House of Representatives and in the Senate to excise all of these earmarked projects from this massive bill that is to be presented to us this week. If we would take that one simple step, we would be able to avoid going into the Social Security Trust Fund.

We owe it to our Nation's seniors, and we owe it to the next generation to take this modest step.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded that they are to refrain from using action by the other body.

**PARENTS AND TEACHERS, NOT WASHINGTON BUREAUCRATS, KNOW WHAT IS BEST FOR OUR CHILDREN**

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, in 1992, then Governor Bill Clinton, in his campaign treatise, putting people first, creating everything from Social Security to Medicare, their actions of late have proven just the opposite.

Our Vice President, Mr. Gore, and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GERHARDT), our minority leader, have both claimed that no Republicans voted for the establishment of Social Security. False.

Here are the facts. When the House passed the 1935 Social Security Act on April 19, 1935, 79 percent of the 97 Republicans voted for it: “Aye.” When the Senate acted on June 19, 1935, 75 percent of the 97 Republicans voted “aye.”

Now, claims like those we are hearing suggesting that Democrats have created everything from Social Security to the Internet are quite amusing.

Yet, the debate over the future of our most important social program is now a laughing matter. The debate should really be about whether or not we are now keeping the Social Security Trust Fund safe from a Democratic raid to pay for new programs, something they have done for over 30 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is their money. Let us send it back to those who earned it and know best how to spend it.

**WASTING AMERICA'S TAX-DOLLARS IN RUSSIA**

(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, since 1992, Uncle Sam has given Russia billions of dollars to dismantle their weapons of mass destruction. Now, who is kidding whom? Instead of dismantling, reports say Russia has built missiles, submarines, and more nuclear warheads. If that is not enough to stagger with vodka, the report said that Russia just bought 11 strategic bombers and 500 additional cruise missiles. To boot, they say what they did not spend, those Communist stole and pocketed for themselves.

Unbelievable. Whatever happened to President Reagan’s policy: Trust, but verify. It has turned into turn the other cheek.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. Boris might have fallen, but he keeps getting up with our cash.

I yield back the nuclear waste of our tax dollars spent in Russia.

**STOP BALANCING THE BUDGET ON THE BACKS OF OUR SENIOR CITIZENS**

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, although the Democrats claim they are the stand-alone founders and saviors of Social Security and Medicare, their actions of late have proven just the opposite.

Our Vice President, Mr. Gore, and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GERHARDT), our minority leader, have both claimed that no Republicans voted for the establishment of Social Security. False.

Here are the facts. When the House passed the 1935 Social Security Act on April 19, 1935, 79 percent of the 97 Republicans voted for it: “Aye.” When the Senate acted on June 19, 1935, 75 percent of the 97 Republicans voted “aye.”

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Mr. Speaker, it is their money. Let us send it back to those who earned it and know best how to spend it.

**DO-LITTLE CONGRESS**

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

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, here we are in mid-November and quite frankly, the Republican-led Congress has done very little. The appropriation bills languish and the needs of the American people are not being met. Now we seem to be arguing over four-tenths of 1 percent of a curl.

Instead, the American people asked for things that cost very little and would improve their lives, like a Patients’ Bill of Rights so patients and doctors can make their medical decisions; like an increase in minimum wage so everyone can enjoy the strong economy; like 100,000 more teachers so that we can have smaller classes. And, Mr. Speaker, why can we not provide prescription drug coverage for all of our seniors.

Mr. Speaker, let us work for the American people. Unfortunately, under the Republican-led Congress, it is always the same old song. Tax breaks for the rich and a tax on government.

**RHETORIC AND WASTE IN WASHINGTON**

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. President, come home and solve this final budget problem that we have here. We may again have an across-the-board reduction in spending to finally find the offsets to cover the additional spending the President wants to put forth. We need him to return from all of these foreign affairs trips he is taking.

It is too bad I only have 1 minute here, because I could go on for hours about the waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal Government. He claims we cannot reduce by one penny out of $1 trillion, but I can. The waste, fraud, and abuse.

Here is an example. Mr. Speaker, $14.2 billion that was for low-income...