

The disabled.—It will put the disabled on the streets, including our veterans, who have fought for our country. The bill cuts employment assistance to 3,100 homeless veterans!

The Republican plan helps the wealthy.—At the same time the Republicans are slashing programs, they are giving tax breaks to the very wealthy!

Democrats believe in responsibility.

But the Republican plan spends down the bank account. It does not save for a rainy day. It is a poor investment in our future.

The war on poverty, illiteracy, and disease.—There are hundreds of thousands of American citizens living without basic services that most Americans take for granted!

We need to take immediate action to give them the opportunity to succeed. We should have the courage and commitment to provide adequate living conditions.

No matter where they live, children must be given an equal opportunity to live healthy and safe lives. Seniors should have food, shelter, and medicine!

We should remember the words of Cesar Chavez, "Si se puede!" There is hope to take care of our children and seniors!

Conclusion.—We must look to the future. For our seniors and our young people. We must do the right thing.

We must oppose H.R. 4577. It is bad for my district! It is bad for America!

EDUCATION FUNDING REQUIRES ACCOUNTABILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I realize that Americans are flocking to the beaches and taking with them a variety of reading materials. And so I guess in that sense, Mr. Speaker, it comes as no surprise that we are treated to the latest fiction and rhetorical terror from the leftists in this community who always trust Washington bureaucrats instead of the people.

As I listened to the litany of fiction just a few moments ago preceding me in the well, I noticed with interest that nowhere in any of the statements of the gentleman from California was there one scintilla of a request for accountability. Not in the litany of alleged shortages was there a simple request to have an accounting.

Now, I guess it should come as no surprise because under the Clinton-Gore administration, Mr. Speaker, do we realize that the Department of Education cannot account for \$18 billion of our money? The books of the Department of Education are un-auditable. Mr. Speaker, Secretary Riley, President Clinton, Vice President GORE would be well-advised to take a mathematics refresher course.

No one doubts that children are our future. No one doubts that education is vitally important. But, Mr. Speaker, how do we serve the people when \$18 billion is not accounted for? That is real money.

Worst still is the notion that somehow by supplying more and more dollars, even when they cannot be accounted for, to Washington bureaucrats that somehow that magically by osmosis fixes our public schools. Nothing could be further from the truth.

We understand in this common sense Congress with an emerging bipartisan majority that the best way to help teachers teach and help children learn is to call for accountability, first and foremost with parents and teachers and local leaders. That is the key and that is the major defense. That is why our majority in this House of Representatives time and again has asked for dollars to get to the classroom. That for every dollar of Federal taxpayer money devoted to education, 90 cents go to the classroom; only 10 cents be left for the care and feeding of Washington bureaucrats.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I was pleased that every Member of this House last summer joined me in voting for the New Education Land-Grant Act that helps local school districts in 44 of our 50 states receive at low cost, \$10 an acre, up to 100 acres of federally controlled land that is not environmentally sensitive so that precious resources within those communities can go to what is really important, helping teachers teach and helping children learn. But again it becomes a question of accountability.

So when we hear the litany of fictions brought to this well, and when we hear the recitations of the gloom and doom, understand this: How can we entrust the Washington bureaucrats when these folks cannot even account for \$18 billion of our money? We do not put out a fire by throwing gasoline on it, nor do we solve problems always by throwing money. Spending money wisely, empowering parents, teachers, local leaders, Mr. Speaker, that is the way we improve education, and by getting dollars to the classroom instead of the bureaucratic cesspools where they remain unaccounted for.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES BELANOFF

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. James Belanoff, a long-time union leader for the United Steelworkers in Indiana who was part of a politically and social activist family, many of whom lived in Chicago and were actively involved in the labor and political activity of Chicago and of Illinois.

Mr. Belanoff was born in Canada and moved to Chicago where he lived until he returned home from the military and moved to Gary, Indiana, and then to Hammond. Mr. Belanoff went to work for Inland Steel, joined the union,

became involved, and ultimately became president of his local.

From 1977 to 1981, he served as full-time director of District 31 of the United Steelworkers of America. He developed his labor and community activist interests from his father who owned a grocery store, but who always was involved in civic and community life. Mr. Belanoff graduated from Roosevelt University with a bachelor's degree and was elected to two terms to the Hammond Indiana City Council.

Standing up for the common person was a trademark of Mr. Belanoff and that tradition has been embraced by other members of his family as they too have become involved in public service.

His sister, Mariam, served as a Cook County judge and as a member of the Illinois General Assembly. His nephew, Clem, is a former State representative and 10th Ward Democratic committeeman. Mr. Belanoff's son, THOMAS, is President of Local 73 of the Service Employees International Union and on the State Council of the Service Employees Union in Illinois.

In addition to his son Tom, Mr. Belanoff leaves to mourn his wife, Betty, two sons, James Junior and Joseph, a daughter, Katherine Robinson, four brothers, John, Clem, Theodore, and William, and seven grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Belanoff and the Belanoff family represent the very best of what America can be: Common folks doing uncommon things, always representing themselves and their neighbors and their friends. So I am pleased to have had this moment to pay tribute to not only a giant of a man, but a tremendously civic-, community-, and politically active family. I wish for them the best as they mourn their father, their uncle, their grandfather, and a friend to all of humanity.

INDIANA PACERS HEAD TO THE NBA FINALS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, for the first time in history of the NBA, the Indiana Pacers are going to be playing in the finals starting tonight. They are the Eastern Division champions and we are just so pleased in Indiana that that happened. The Indiana Pacers. Remember, they played the New York Knicks. They said it was the hicks versus the Knicks.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, is that the team where the best player is still the guy on the bench doing the coaching?

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Larry Bird was a great player, but he is also a great coach.