

and it was signed into law on August 6, 1965, 36 years ago.

Because of the courage of these men and women and these young children, Mr. Speaker, we have witnessed a non-violent revolution in America, a revolution of values, a revolution of ideas. Because of this march, because of this attempted march, we are on our way toward the building of what I like to call the "beloved community," toward the building of a truly interracial democracy. By marching, by standing up, these young men and women, these young children, on March 7, 1965, and the Members of Congress back in 1965, helped to expand our democracy, helped to open up the democratic process and let hundreds of thousands and millions of our citizens come in.

We live in a better country. We live in a better place because a few men and women and a few young children got in, what I call, the way to make America different, to make America better. Today, Mr. Speaker, I stand here to salute these brave men and women, men and women, with courage, who dared to sail against the wind on March 7, 1965.

CONCERNED ABOUT A TAX CUT BILL BEFORE A BUDGET BILL

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

Mr. BOSWELL. Mr. Speaker, I come tonight at this late hour troubled somewhat about an event that I think needs some attention. I kind of hesitate talking about it after those wonderful words said by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) about a very important thing. This is on another subject; but I appreciate what the gentleman said tonight, and I want to thank him for it.

Tomorrow, according to our majority leader, we are going to be dealing with the first round of our tax bill, and I am concerned about that. A few days ago President Bush came up to Nemaocolin and talked to our caucus, and we enjoyed that visit very much. We appreciated it. And in the process we asked him, Can we see a budget first? Can we see the budget? For me, that was very real, because before I came here there was a time when I was in our State legislature and had a very significant role to play in working up a balanced budget and getting our State out of bondage and out of debt. So I am very conscious of that. So we appreciated him saying that.

So he sent the document, as he said he would. I thank him for that. I did not expect it to be a perfect thing. It does not have to be, because we have the legislative process. So the document came and we laid it side by side with what our staff has, and I have had for some bit of time, and things just do not quite jive in the sense of what it

does for agriculture and what it does for education and some of the things I am very concerned about, the construction in some of our research centers and so on. I think it needs some attention.

I thought, well, that is okay, we have a process. The gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUSSLE), along with the ranking member, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT), will bring us a document that we can look at, and it will have the refinement of their work, and that will be good, it will be helpful. But that is not going to happen, so I am told, and that is wrong. It is very wrong.

I just have to reflect on what we do in our own families. I travel across my district; and when families sit at the table and talk about what they are going to do with their resources, they want to pay off their debts, if they are planning a vacation, they have to be sure that they have things in order; that the kids are ready for school, they have their clothes, all those things. They see their budget before they spend that which they may not have to spend.

County and city government, I have dealt a lot with them. In our States they have to deal with property tax. That is how they run most of county and city government. Everybody would like to have relief from property tax, me too; but they would not think of declaring a property tax relief until they considered the needs of the budget for that entity. They just would not think of it. Yet here we are about to embark on this.

In 1981, 20 years ago, when the tax bill of that day was passed, I was talking to my accountant, Mr. Chuck Church, down in Des Moines, Iowa, he is a CPA there, and we discussed this. We thought, well, this is pretty good, but then we started thinking about some of the other things that could take place. Now, I bring this up for comparison, budget first, because things are much different than it was 20 years ago.

Twenty years ago, we only had \$1 trillion in debt. Now we have \$5.7 trillion. The service of the debt now is quite a contrast. If we made a mistake then, we had the strength and so on to recover from it. Do we today, if we make a mistake? I do not know. I am concerned about it. I do not think that in those days they were thinking about the baby boomers coming on. They are coming. Now they are just 8 years away before they start entering into the fray, and we have to deal with that. Twenty years ago they were not giving that much attention. And I think that needs attention.

So we need the budget first, and I want to say to the American people tonight and whoever else is listening in their offices or wherever, common sense says show the budget. Like the

little lady said on advertising some years ago, "Show me the beef." Show us the budget so we can see where we are at and so we can go forward with good sense and make the progress we need to make.

We all would like to have tax relief. I want tax relief. The money we have here is not our money. It is the people's money. We all know that. If we have more than we need, then we ought to send it back. But we ought to deal with the realities of where we are at and not jeopardize Social Security and Medicare and defense and agriculture, and a number of things that are very, very high priorities to us. We ought to think of it and be sure that we have the budget first.

So here we are tonight, Mr. Speaker, at this point, a few hours away from taking it up, and I would hope we would give some consideration to what we have talked about.

□ 2045

THE FLORIDA VOTE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CANTOR). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, first of all let me thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. HILLIARD) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) for their discussion tonight over the fight to get the right to vote. I want to take that a step forward to discuss the fight to make sure every vote counts.

Before I begin, I want to talk a bit about the coup d'etat. I know those are strong words, Mr. Speaker, but that is what happened in Florida, on November 7, because, without a doubt, more people, not just in the United States, went to the polls and voted for Al Gore, more people in the State of Florida went to the polls and voted for Al Gore. In fact, I represent Duval County, the Third Congressional District of Florida, where 27,000 votes were thrown out, 16,000 of them African Americans, 22,000 overvotes, 6,000 undervotes, that have never been counted.

I was particularly disturbed last week when the Miami Herald, and I have got to give credit, if you read the article, they did not say that Al Gore lost Florida, but the media went in and talked about the election and indicated that in four counties, four counties, if the recount was done, that Bush would have won. But I knew for a fact they were not talking about Duval, because we just started counting the votes, the undervotes in Duval Monday. We have been in court. And so we are still counting the undervotes in Florida, over 100,000 votes that were not counted, not one time.