March 29, 2001

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

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THE DEPARTURE OF MR. MISHRA AND MR. SINGH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate March 30, Doctor’s Day, and the essential role that the medical profession plays in our country. Although we almost every year, many times we fail to properly recognize their dedication to keeping us healthy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me today in honoring the great tradition of country doctors throughout our country. I submit to the record that the American Medical Association, in cooperation with the International Medical Center, has organized a special event for his colleagues in the Physician Emeritus group.

The outcome, a symposium, “Lessons for the New Millennium From the Legacy of the Country Doctors,” was presented by Physicians Wisconsin. The symposium addressed the problem of the country doctor’s dilemma when a daughter declared an interest in becoming a doctor.
“May I mention but one instance of the many another man...”

Mrs. Christian,” airng 1937-1955, was the

Mrs. Hertzler, M.D., was the 50th president

Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 83, the budget resolution for fiscal year 2002. I urge my colleagues to join in its adoption.

Our Nation now stands at a historic crossroads. After two decades of growing deficits and rising debt, the Congressional Budget Office has now projected steadily growing surpluses for at least the next decade. The fiscal discipline enforced by the Republican Congresses since 1995 has now borne fruit.

The primary challenge now facing Congress is preventing a return to the days of deficit spending and rising debt. The FY 02 budget resolution accomplishes this and sets high but reachable goals in the areas of debt repayment and tax reduction.

In terms of debt reduction, this resolution provides for the unprecedented amount of $2.3 trillion over the next ten years, representing the maximum amount that can be retired without incurring penalties. The retirement of this substantial amount of debt will result in lower interest payment each year over the coming decade. The interest savings can then be redirected towards pressing needs or unnecessary programs. In addition, the retirement of public debt will also lead to lower interest rates as it becomes “cheaper” for the Government to borrow money.

The resolution also provides for some much needed tax relief for American families. It allows taxpayers to keep roughly one-fourth of projected budget surpluses over the next ten years (28.9 percent of $5.61 trillion) through lower tax bills for all taxpayers.

Overall, taxpayers will keep at least $1.62 trillion of their earnings over the next ten years. This will be achieved primarily through four separate pieces of legislation, each accomplishing the following: retroactive marginal rate reductions, doubling the child tax credit, providing relief from the marriage penalty, and eliminating the death tax.

In terms of funding requirements, the resolution provides for many Government programs that have critical underfunded needs. Education, Medicare, Social Security, defense, and veterans. For example, it provides a 4 percent (over $5.7 billion) increase in defense spending to increase military pay, improve troop housing and extend additional health benefits to military retirees.

The budget provides a historic 12 percent increase in veterans spending for FY 2002 to address the underfunded needs, especially in...