GOVERNMENT SPENDING CAUSES DEFICIT SPENDING

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

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Washington is out of touch with the real world again. Tax relief does not cause deficit spending, as we hear; spending causes deficit spending.

Washington spends every dime we send up here. That is the reason why this Congress stopped deficit spending in America. That is why this Congress stopped 40 years of dipping into the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds, and that is why this Congress has started to pay down a good amount of the national public debt.

Let us talk about the salmon. We spend $5 billion a year helping salmon swim upstream to their spawning grounds. We could put each fish in a first-class ticket seat and fly them to the top of the river each year and still save money. We have enough dollars for the priorities of America. What we do not have is enough for the priorities of silliness. Tax relief does not cause deficit spending; spending causes deficit spending.

STEM CELL RESEARCH IS PRO–LIFE

(Ms. HARMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge strong support in Congress and the administration for a vital field of medical research. Federal funding for embryonic stem cell research should not be caught up in the abortion debate. As many antichoice proponents have courageously noted, stem cell research is pro-life. It will save lives, not take them.

Let me review what we know about stem cell research.

First, research using embryonic stem cells is helping us understand and treat not just Parkinson’s disease, spinal cord injuries, and Alzheimer’s, but possibly heart disease, arthritis and cancer.

Second, stem cell research is going on today and should be subject to Federal guidelines. Research of the type described in the lead story in today’s Washington Post is not permitted under NIH’s ethical standards.

Third, adult stem cells are not able to develop into as many kinds of tissue as embryonic cells.

Fourth, the embryos used in stem cell research would otherwise be destroyed by fertility clinics.

Mr. Speaker, if the embryos used in this research are simply discarded, we discard with them the hope of patients across the country and the promise of a new generation of medical cures.

HYDROPOWER FOR CLEAN AND SAFE ENERGY

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, we in the House will be marking up an energy policy this week, and part of this policy will include hydropower. Hydropower provides a clean and safe source of energy. Hydropower is the fourth largest source of total generation, making it an important part of America’s energy supply mix. In addition to providing sustainable power at a low cost, hydropower production has significant environmental benefits. Hydropower production has no emissions. Every kilowatt of power that is produced from hydropower reduces the need to burn oil and coal to produce the same amount of energy.

I am pleased that the Republican energy package will include elements to assure that we maximize the potential of our existing hydropower facilities. While we work to implement policies and strategies to conserve energy, we must also work to increase energy supply to keep pace with growing demand.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that maximizing the benefits of our hydropower resources is an important part of meeting that challenge.

CHOOSING TO BE RELEVANT TO SCIENCE

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

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, stem cell research offers the prospect for cures for diseases such as diabetes, Alzheimer’s, and Parkinson’s disease. It is a development of such great historic significance that I want to hear back to another era when science was under threat from a theocracy.

About 400 years ago, Galileo Galilei was forced to recant the evidence of his eyes that the moons and the planets revolve around the Earth, as the church then insisted that we all believe. But even as the theocracy forced Galileo to recant his views, he was heard to mutter, “But the planets do move.”

Mr. Speaker, just as the planets move, stem cell research will go forward. The only question is whether it goes forward in this country or in foreign countries; with government support or without government support; subject to NIH guidelines or subject to no ethical guidelines whatsoever.

Our choice here is not about stem cell research or not. Just as no theocracy can prevent the planets from moving, no theocracy can prevent stem cell research from going on. The only choice is whether we choose to be relevant to science.

AMERICA IS A NATION OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, AND FOR THE PEOPLE

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, do my colleagues know what? Our taxes were lowered on July 1. That means we will take home more of our own money. We can thank President Bush for that.

When I was home in Texas over July 4, I met Kris and Melissa Kelly who are constituents of mine. And I asked them, what are you going to do with that tax refund? They said they are going to put a down payment on a brand-new minivan for their family. Is that not what America is all about?

Instead of allowing the Federal Government to keep our hard-earned money, creating new and expensive government programs, we gave the people their own money back so they can buy the things they need.

So I salute President Bush for all he has done for the hard-working people of this great Nation. America really is a Nation of the people, by the people, for the people.

STEM CELL RESEARCH

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

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, there should really be no debate about stem cell research, given the immense promise that it holds for a number of diseases. This is an issue that is of paramount importance to millions of Americans who stand to benefit from this groundbreaking research.

I know, because I am one of them. I suffer from Parkinson’s disease.

This debate is being mired down in the politics of abortion, but it has nothing to do with abortion. This is an issue of medicine. Stem cells are never derived from an embryo that a woman intends to be implanted into her womb, nor are embryos ever created for their...