

to these families by over \$4 billion over 6 years, resulting in more hungry children. Castle-Tanner does not include this harsh limitation.

We all want people on welfare to be self-sufficient—they want to be self-sufficient. But, the way to help people become self-sufficient is not to deny them food stamps after 4 months. Eighty percent of the able-bodied recipients between the ages of 18 and 50 receive food stamps on a temporary basis already, they leave the program within a year. H.R. 3734 will simply kick 700,000 people off the program each month, without a helping hand to find a job. What these people need most is the opportunity to work—job training, or a job slot. Castle-Tanner will give them that helping hand if they are unable to find work on their own after 6 months.

The Castle-Tanner alternative achieves significant deficit reduction. The food stamp provisions save \$20 billion over a 6-year period. The majority's bill last year was intended to achieve \$16 billion over 7 years. Castle-Tanner goes well beyond that level of savings, and yet we have been accused of not supporting welfare reform.

The American people are not mean-spirited. They do not want children to be poor and hungry. We must remember that we are reforming the programs that impact the most vulnerable of our constituents. We must remember the faces of the poor and hungry of our Nation.

Let the record show that the minority strongly supports welfare reform, but not at the cost the Nation's poor families and children, not at the cost of the Nation's future.

The CHAIRMAN. All time for general debate has expired.

Under the previous order of the House of today, the Committee rises.

Accordingly the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HAYWORTH) having assumed the chair, Ms. GREENE of Utah, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3734) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201(a)(1) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1997, had come to no resolution thereon.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 3230, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the chair appoints the following conferees on the Senate amendment to H.R. 3230:

From the Committee on National Security, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. SPENCE, STUMP, HUNTER, KASICH, BATEMAN, HANSEN, WELDON of Pennsylvania, HEFLEY, SAXTON, CUNNINGHAM, BUYER, TORKILDSEN, Mrs. FOWLER, Messrs. MCHUGH, TALENT, WATTS of Oklahoma, HOSTETTLER, CHAMBLISS, HILLEARY, HASTINGS, of Washington, DELLUMS, MONTGOMERY, Mrs. SCHROEDER, Messrs. SKELTON, SISISKY, SPRATT, ORTIZ, PICKETT, EVANS, TANNER, BROWDER, TAYLOR

of Mississippi, TEJEDA, MCHALE, KENNEDY of Rhode Island, and DELAURO.

As additional conferees from the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, for consideration of matters within the jurisdiction of that committee under clause 2 of rule XLVIII: Messrs. COMBEST, LEWIS of California, and DICKS.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, for consideration of sections 1085 and 1089 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. CASTLE, BACHUS, and GONZALEZ.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Commerce, for consideration of sections 601, 741, 742, 2863, 3154, and 3402 of the House bill, and sections 345-347, 561, 562, 601, 724, 1080, 2827, 3175, and 3181-91 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BLILEY, BILIRAKIS, and DINGELL.

Provided that Mr. RICHARDSON is appointed in lieu of Mr. DINGELL and Mr. SCHAEFER is appointed in lieu of Mr. BILIRAKIS for consideration of sections 3181-91 of the Senate amendment.

Provided that Mr. OXLEY is appointed in lieu of Mr. BILIRAKIS for the consideration of section 3154 of the House bill, and sections 345-347 and 3175 of the Senate amendment.

Provided that Mr. SCHAEFER is appointed in lieu of Mr. BILIRAKIS for the consideration of sections 2863 and 3402 of the House bill, and section 2827 of the Senate amendment.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, for consideration of sections 572, 1086, and 1122 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. GOODLING, MCKEON, and CLAY.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, for consideration of sections 332-36, 362, 366, 807, 821-25, 1047, 3523-39, 3542, and 3548 of the House bill, and sections 636, 809(b), 921, 924-25, 1081, 1082, 1101, 1102, 1104, 1105, 1109-1134, 1401-34, and 2826 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. CLINGER, Mr. MICA, and Mrs. COLLINS of ILLINOIS.

Provided that Mr. HORN is appointed in lieu of Mr. MICA for consideration of sections 362, 366, 807, and 821-25 of the House bill, and sections 890(b), 1081, 1401-34, and 2826 of the Senate amendment.

Provided that Mr. ZELIFF is appointed in lieu of Mr. MICA for consideration of section 1082 of the Senate amendment.

As additional conferees from the Committee on International Relations, for consideration for sections 233-234, 237, 1041, 1043, 1052, 1101-05, 1301, 1307, 1501-53 of the House bill, and sections 234, 1005, 1021, 1031, 1041-43, 1045, 1323, 1332-35, 1337, 1341-44, and 1352-54 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. GILMAN, BEREUTER, and HAMILTON.

As additional conferees from the Committee on the Judiciary, for consideration of sections 537, 543, 1066, 1080, 1088, 1201-16, and 1313 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. HYDE, MCCOLLUM, and CONYERS.

Provided that Mr. MOORHEAD is appointed in lieu of Mr. MCCOLLUM for consideration of sections 537 and 1080 of the Senate amendment.

Provided that Mr. SMITH of Texas is appointed in lieu of Mr. MCCOLLUM for consideration of sections 1066 and 1201-16 of the Senate amendment.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Resources, for consideration of sections 247, 601, 2821, 1401-14, 2901-13, and 2921-31 of the House bill, and sections 251-52, 351, 601, 1074, 2821, 2836, and 2837 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. HANSEN, SAXTON, and MILLER of California.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Science, for consideration of sections 203, 211, 245, and 247 of the House bill, and sections 211 and 251-52 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. WALKER, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, and Ms. HARMAN.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of sections 324, 327, 501, and 601 of the House bill, and sections 345-348, 536, 601, 641, 1004, 1009-1010, 1311, 1314, and 3162 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. SHUSTER, COBLE, and BARCIA.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for consideration of sections 556, 638, and 2821 of the House bill, and sections 538 and 2828 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. STUMP, SMITH of New Jersey, and MONTGOMERY.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of sections 905, 1041(c)(2), 1550(a)(2), and 3313 of the House bill, and sections 1045(c)(2), 1214 and 1323 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. CRANE, THOMAS, and GIBBONS.

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

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 addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

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WHY THE GOP FAILED TO DELIVER ON REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MEEHAN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I just left the Committee on Rules. Here we are on Wednesday of Reform Week and the Committee on Rules has stated that we are not going to do any reform this week. That is right, Reform Week.

This is the week that we have been waiting for for an entire year when Members will have an opportunity to try to change the way Congress does business, to try to make it, for example, illegal for a Member of Congress who is indicted and convicted directly because of their official actions from collecting a pension. This was a week when we were going to deal with legislation that would prevent the revolving door where Members of Congress come in and serve for a set period of time and then go out the door and make millions and millions of dollars paid for by special interests.

This was the Reform Week, Mr. Speaker, that we were going to do campaign finance reform, the most important reform that we could possibly enact if we are going to change the way Congress does business. The American people have been demanding campaign finance reform.

We have seen throughout this legislative session an increase in the amount of money that special interest PAC's are contributing to Members of Congress. We have seen the Republican National Committee and the political parties taking millions of dollars more than 2 years ago in this cycle, and we have seen a direct correlation between what is being debated on the floor of the House of Representatives and who the top contributors are to Members of Congress and to the Republican Party.

Now here at the last minute on Wednesday night, we are leaving tomorrow, we are not going to do campaign finance reform, it has been delayed again. The American people are fed up and disgusted with the inability of the Congress to pass real campaign finance reform.

I remember when President Bush indicated that he was going to veto the bill that was being debated in the House of Representatives, and the House of Representatives and the Senate rushed to get that bill passed and over to the President so he could veto it.

Last year, last session, we saw in the United States Senate campaign finance

reform die again. I have been part of a bipartisan group of Members of Congress and a bicameral group of Members of Congress fighting to come up with a campaign finance reform bill. We have 21 Democratic supporters of that bill and 20 Republican supporters of that bill. We have editorial support from every major newspaper all across the country. Now is the time to enact campaign finance reform.

The President has indicated that he supports a bipartisan approach. The President in his State of the Union Address right here before this body urged the Congress, urged the United States Senate to pass campaign finance reform and specifically asked the Congress to pass a bipartisan bill.

Now we see that we are not going to get any kind of campaign finance reform this week. In fact, there is no Reform Week, no Reform Week after all of the publicity and everything else that went on with this Congress going to change the way this Congress does business.

Why? Because the Republicans have offered a bill that increases the amount of money that is going to be put into the process. That is right, not limits, increases the amount of money. The Republican bill vastly increases nearly all of the contribution limits set in current law.

Campaign finance reform should be about limiting the influence of money on Congress, not expanding it. The Republican bill, for example, will allow an individual to contribute up to \$310,000 to campaigns and political parties in a single election cycle. Think of it, that is more than 10 times the current legal limit. They want to put more money into this corrupting process. No one would believe it, but that is exactly what is before the Committee on Rules of the House of Representatives.

According to the Republican bill, an individual could conceivably donate, get this, \$3.1 million to State and national parties, cumulatively. Think about it, \$3.1 million. We are going to open up this process so the more money you have, the more influence you are going to have.

The Republican bill codifies the soft money loophole in the current law. This bill vastly increases the role of national parties in local elections. Just what America is looking for, isn't it?

The party bosses in Washington are going to decide to put hundreds of thousands of dollars into individual districts all over America. That is exactly fundamentally what is wrong with the system. That is exactly and fundamentally the opposite of what Americans all over this country are demanding.

This Congress should have done better. The Republican bill would vastly increase the contributions on every area. The Republican bill would actually not limit spending like the Democratic bill and the bipartisan bill would do. This Republican bill is an absolute disaster.

Guess why they are not going to have it come up this week? Because there are moderate Republicans who know this is a sham. There are moderate Republicans who know that this is a fraud. They cannot get the votes for this disgusting, regressive piece of legislation that has no business on the floor of this House.

I would hope that as we debate campaign finance reform for an hour coming up that we would find a way to call Members of Congress, find a way to get Members of Congress to wake up and realize that we need to change this system, and the way to change this system is not to go home tomorrow afternoon at 3:00 and fail on campaign finance reform.

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

[Mr. GUTKNECHT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that in light of the fact that the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. GUTKNECHT] is not present, I ask that his name and my name be reversed in the list of special orders tonight so we can proceed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

DEFICIT HAS FALLEN AS A RESULT OF THIS CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. BONILLA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise to commend my colleagues who have succeeded in cutting spending. Cutting spending, Mr. Speaker, that is something that has not occurred in this body for 40 years. The news is out, the deficit has fallen as a result of this Congress' historic and unprecedented budget restraint.

According to yesterday's Congressional Budget Office mid-season review, this country's deficit has been cut nearly in half, and that is wonderful news for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, making cuts is not easy. Just like making cuts and restraining ourselves from spending in our very own homes is not easy, but it is necessary to preserve the opportunity for our children's future.

Last year, here in the Capitol I had my two young children, Alicia, who is 11 and my son, Austin, who is 7, here in the Capitol watching what I do at work and it struck me how profound the decisions are that we make in this chamber and how critical sometimes the votes that we cast are to their future.

Mr. Speaker, we are here today for the future of our children. We possess,