

We are going to prove our commitment to reducing the size and scope of Government by working for the passage of a balanced budget amendment. Every American family knows the importance of living within its means. Congress needs to learn that same discipline, and I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the passage of the balanced budget amendment.

LEAVE SOME FOR AMERICA

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I have some problems with the policy that allows Taco Bell to make great profits in America, but requires the taxpayers of America to make a loan to Mexico for Ma Bell to have a shop down there.

Something is wrong here, folks. We have already propped the peso up with \$6 billion with NAFTA. We have lost 40,000 jobs already with NAFTA. Now Mexico wants \$40 billion in loan guarantees so they can become well.

The \$40 billion will not make Mexico well. It will make them more dependent and limping back to Uncle Sam. And I want to advise Members, while you keep worrying about the Mexican economy, you have got people unemployed and you have problems in our own country.

By the way, what do we get for this \$40 billion? Two baseball players to be named later? I think it is time to get on a business program here, folks, stone cold business. And we are losing our pants. Think about that before we go shipping more money now to Mexico. Between Russia, Mexico, and everybody else, it is a wonder there is any program left in America.

VOTE "YES" ON BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT AND LINE-ITEM VETO

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

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, when I came to Washington I made a commitment to the people of Wisconsin. They expect me to do everything I can to reduce the size and the cost of Government, and I intend to follow through. That is why I support the balanced budget amendment and the line-item veto.

The balanced budget amendment will change Washington. No longer will we be able to fund programs with our children's money. No longer will we be able to spend taxpayer funds without asking if we have the money to do so. The line-item veto allows for the elimination of wasteful Government spending.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to change the way we do things here in Washington.

The balanced budget amendment and the line-item veto build a new structure for this Congress to live within. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on both of these important initiatives.

THE SPEAKER'S BOOK DEAL

(Mrs. MEEK of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Speaker's unbelievably good book deal, after all these secret meetings and behind the scenes deal-making, which each day brings to light new and more startling revelations, I am still not satisfied with the answers I am getting about this very large and lucrative deal our Speaker has negotiated for himself.

Now more than ever before the perception of impropriety, not to mention the potential conflict of interest, still exists and cannot be ignored.

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I demand the gentlewoman's words be taken down.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. WALKER. Point of order, Mr. Speaker. She should not approach the Chair.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The point of order is well taken.

Members should not approach the Speaker during the Clerk's report and the Chair's ruling.

□ 1120

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The Clerk will read the gentlewoman's words.

The Clerk read as follows:

News accounts tell us that while the Speaker may have given up the \$4.5 million advance, he stands to gain that amount and much more. That is a whole lot of dust where I come from. If anything now, how much the Speaker earns has grown much more dependent on how hard his publishing house hawks his book.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. It is the Speaker's opinion that innuendo and critical references to the Speaker's personal conduct are not in order.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. VOLKMER. I have a parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. VOLKMER. Is the Speaker now saying it is the ruling of the Chair that any statements as to activity, whether it is illegal or not, by the Speaker of the House in his private actions cannot be brought to the floor of this House? Is that the Chair's ruling? It appears that it is.

Mr. LINDER. Point of order.

Mr. VOLKMER. I appeal the ruling of the Chair. I want to know what the ruling of the Chair is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In answer to the gentleman's question, first, it has been the Chair's ruling, and the precedents of the House support this, a

proper level of respect is due to the Speaker.

Does the gentleman appeal the Chair's ruling?

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, I appeal the ruling of the Chair.

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. LINDER

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. LINDER moves to lay the Volkmer motion on the table.

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, would the Clerk repeat the motion?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The motion is to lay on the table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair.

The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LINDER] to lay on the table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 214, nays 169, not voting 52, as follows:

[Roll No. 17]

YEAS—214

Allard	Cremeans	Hoke
Archer	Cubin	Horn
Armey	Cunningham	Hostettler
Bachus (AL)	Davis	Houghton
Baker (CA)	DeLay	Hunter
Baker (LA)	Diaz-Balart	Hutchinson
Ballenger	Dickey	Inglis
Barr	Doolittle	Istook
Barrett (NE)	Dornan	Johnson (CT)
Bartlett	Dreier	Johnson, Sam
Barton	Duncan	Jones
Bass	Dunn	Kasich
Bateman	Ehlers	Kelly
Bereuter	Emerson	Kim
Bilbray	English	King
Bilirakis	Ensign	Kingston
Bliley	Everett	Klug
Blute	Ewing	Knollenberg
Boehlert	Fawell	Kolbe
Boehner	Fields (TX)	LaHood
Bonilla	Foley	Largent
Bono	Forbes	Latham
Brownback	Fowler	LaTourette
Bryant (TN)	Fox	Lazio
Bunn	Franks (CT)	Leach
Bunning	Franks (NJ)	Lewis (CA)
Burr	Frelinghuysen	Lewis (KY)
Burton	Funderburk	Lightfoot
Buyer	Gallegly	Linder
Callahan	Ganske	Livingston
Calvert	Gilchrest	LoBiondo
Camp	Gilman	Longley
Canady	Goodling	Lucas
Castle	Goss	Manzullo
Chabot	Graham	Martini
Chambliss	Greenwood	McCollum
Chenoweth	Gunderson	McCrery
Christensen	Hancock	McDade
Chrysler	Hansen	McInnis
Clinger	Hastert	McIntosh
Coble	Hastings (WA)	McKeon
Coburn	Hayworth	Metcalf
Collins (GA)	Hefley	Meyers
Combest	Heineman	Mica
Cooley	Herger	Miller (FL)
Cox	Hilleary	Molinari
Crane	Hobson	Moorhead
Crapo	Hoekstra	Morella