

billion are unacceptable. And continuing to saddle our children with a mountain of debt they cannot afford to pay is unacceptable.

This budget proposal represents a historic change in the direction of our country. It moves us from a government that is too intrusive, wasteful and debt ridden to a smaller, more efficient government that costs less and is responsive to State and local needs. This budget is a gateway to the future presenting a new vision of government. It moves authority out of Washington and helps empower every individual American.

It cuts taxes for America's families, seniors, and small businesses. It restores hope. It promises opportunity for the next generation. It protects Social Security. It increases spending on Medicare by over \$80 billion. And it saves it from bankruptcy. It will result in a higher net rate of savings and a higher standard of living for everyone. And should not everybody celebrate that?

Mr. Speaker, it is in the best interest that I strongly urge my House colleagues to support this resolution. It is for the children.

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#### SAYING "NO" TO THE SOUND BITES AND PHOTO OPS

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

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, as you well know, posing for photo ops, listening to sound bites, and giving easy answers can be kind of addictive.

Sometimes, the sound-bite addict needs a little help in kicking the habit.

In this House, that Republican habit is to stand before the cameras and pretend that they are getting our budget in line without hurting working Americans.

That is why this House passed a rescission package that went easy on closing tax loopholes for the rich and eliminating Government bureaucracy and boondoggles.

But those rescission got tough on something.

They got tough on summer jobs and worker training, and they got tough on student loans and day care.

Well, these sound bite addicts are about to get some tough love.

It is called a veto pen.

I applaud President Clinton and his tough choice to say no to the sound bites, photo ops and easy answers that hurt our kids, hurt our students and punish working Americans.

And I encourage my friends on the other side of the aisle to kick their easy answer habit before it is too late for the American people.

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#### THE REPUBLICANS WILL BALANCE THE BUDGET

(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, the Democrats, scare-the-people campaign about draconian cuts by Republicans is just ridiculous. The Republican budget actually increases spending by 3 percent every year for the next 7 years, spending nearly \$12 trillion more in the next 7 years than in the past.

When I was back in Dallas, my constituents put together three notebooks full of comments about ideas for reductions in Government spending. Do you know what they say? Balance the budget. So do not try to fool the American people into thinking that balancing the budget will hurt them. They know better. They know Government spends too much, and, most importantly, they know the consequences if we continue down the path that we are going on now.

They will also know, after tomorrow, that it is the Republicans who have taken the first major step toward balancing our budget.

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#### THIS IS PUNISHMENT, NOT A BUDGET

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

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, what is wrong with the truth? It seems that many people are running in the opposite direction when we simply want to tell you the truth. This is not a budget, it is simply pure punishment.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to report to you on the growing sentiments of my constituents in Houston, TX. Like other Texans and Americans nationwide, they are beginning to understand what the Republican budget proposals could really mean to their lives. I have no problem with telling them the truth, and they do not like it.

To pay for the huge tax cuts for the well-to-do, leaders of the other side of the aisle want to enact a \$283 billion cut in Medicare, three times the size of the largest previous cut in history, and Medicaid will be cut approximately \$182 million.

The lives of more than 2,000,000 Medicare seniors in Texas would be dramatically impacted, and by the year 2002 each Medicare senior in Texas would be asked to pay an additional \$1,122 out-of-pocket expenses. Each would be forced to pay \$4,000 more for fiscal years 1996 through 2002 to make up for these cuts. We want the future to be free for future generations but not on the backs of seniors and those most vulnerable.

Look at this, Mr. Speaker. Here the Republicans are cutting the dollars that the Association for Retired Citizens are about to use to help seniors find jobs. We need to do something better, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, what's wrong with the truth? This is not a budget; this is punishment.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to report to you on the growing sentiments of my constituents in Houston.

Like other Texans and Americans nationwide, they're beginning to understand what the Republican budget proposals could really mean to their lives, and they don't like it.

To pay for huge tax cuts for the well-to-do, leaders on the other side of the aisle want to enact a \$283 billion cut in Medicare three times the size of the largest previous cut in history. Medicaid would be cut approximately \$182 million.

The lives of more than 2-million Medicare seniors in Texas would be dramatically impacted.

By the year 2002, each Medicare senior in Texas would be asked to pay an additional \$1,222 out-of-pocket dollars per year for their health coverage.

Each would be forced to pay nearly \$4,000 dollars more, from fiscal years 1996 through 2002, to make up for GOP cuts.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on this side believe that a balanced budget is the correct goal, we want to free future generations from the burden of today's debt. We want to shrink the size of government in a responsible manner that will not pull the rug out from under a steady, strong economy.

And we want to make government more efficient and fair without breaking long-standing promises to the Nation's seniors or vulnerable children.

Mr. Speaker, we must and can do better.

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#### VOTE TO BALANCE THE BUDGET

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

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, let me remind my friend on the left that just spoke that punishment is saddling the future generation with the debt, if we fail to act, if we fail to pass a budget that balances over the next 5 to 7 years.

Punishment is failing to do something in the next few days that will get this country in the right direction fiscally. If we fail to act, the children of this country face \$187,000 in interest alone if they were born tomorrow. A child born tomorrow would pay \$187,000 in interest alone on this Nation's debt.

Tomorrow we have the opportunity to vote on a budget that will balance over the next 5 to 7 years. Tomorrow we have an opportunity to send this country in the right direction, to take it out of its financial abyss where the left-leaning liberals have taken it over the last 40 years.

Tomorrow we have an opportunity to take this country in the right direction. I ask my colleagues to consider very strongly where they want this country to go, a budget that is balanced or where it has been over the last 40 years.

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#### REPUBLICAN BUSINESS AS USUAL

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