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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Help us, gracious God, to see other people as they truly are with their own ideas, with their own traditions, and with their own integrity. We admit that we too often portray the character of our neighbor and the motivation of others in ways that do not serve the common good and we ought to admit our shortcoming. Lead us, O God, to think with clarity, to acquit ourselves with honor, and to respect all people for that is a mark of our humanity and the stamp of Your creation.

In Your name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. ROEMER] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ROEMER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. There will be ten 1-minutes on each side.

CUBAN EMBARGO

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, one of our colleagues has openly challenged the United States embargo against the Castro regime by announcing that he has accepted an invitation by Cuban tyrant Fidel Castro to visit Cuba in December with a group of Massachusetts businessmen.

I have asked the Treasury Department to deny my colleague, and his partners in crime, permission to travel to Cuba, for this trip clearly does not fall under the permissable guidelines. The presence of business leaders on this trip is an attempt at lobbying for the end of the trade embargo against Castro.

While some try to forge ties with the tyrant, the repression in Cuba goes unabated. While Castro fooled the United States media once again this week independent journalist Olance Nogueras Roce was jailed in a high security prison in Cuba for trying to ask a question at the Ministry of Foreign Relations.

The obvious attempt to violate the embargo on Cuba by these United States businessmen is a clear test of the Clinton administration's resolve to enforce the law against Castro. The President must step up to the challenge by denying them visas.

CIVIL WAR

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

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, today the Republicans are starting the second civil war. The second civil war between the States and States rights.

What the Republicans are proposing in their block grant approach is a race to the bottom between the States. It is going to be a race between the States on how unfriendly the States can be to the poor, the disabled, and our elderly.

By taking away the entitlement program for our senior citizens and poor children and the disabled, they are starting a war between the States on who can cut the elderly more than the next States in order to save money.

Make no mistake about it, I came from a State legislature. I know what it is like being in a State house and trying to make ends meet. With the Federal Government abandoning the most neediest of our citizens in our society, they are setting up a divided country in this Nation, and I think that this is something that we have got to stand up against.

Let us reject the civil war the Republicans are trying to wage.

Mr. Speaker, today we begin a race for the bottom.

Faster than you can say block grant, the leaders on the other side of the aisle have dismantled a program that said to children when they were most vulnerable and to seniors then they were most in need: If you are an American, you share a common right to basic health care.

Today, when we discard Medicaid, we throw out that entitlement and replace it with a lottery.

Well, as any one who plays the lottery can tell you—most people lose.

Children, poor mothers, and impoverished seniors will lose under this plan that throws all the decisions to the States without the money to do the job right.

We all know, States will not compete for who can do the most, but for who can do the least.

After today, it will not matter that you are an American.

What will matter is what side of the State line you live on.

We will 50 different answers to what it is to be an American.

I call upon my colleagues to remember that we are nation of United States and reject this plan that marches us down the road to a disunited States.

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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CHICKEN LITTLE DEMOCRATS

(Mr. NORWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, in deference to our last speaker, everybody knows that it was not the Civil War, it was the War between the States.

Mr. Speaker, today we will pass a 7-year budget reconciliation that is a huge step forward for this great Nation. In the reconciliation, we will do the things the voters asked us to do when they swept the liberal Democrats of out office. We will balance the budget in 7 years, something that has not been done in a generation. Where the liberal Democrats of the 103d Congress raised taxes, we will refund taxes back to the hard working men and women in this Nation. We will fix a Medicare system that was going bankrupt. We will reform the morally bankrupt welfare system. In short, Mr. Speaker, today we will do the things we promised the American peopled we would do.

I have listened to the Chicken Little Democrats whine ''this is too much, too fast, too hard''. But what do they offer? Nothing. Mr. Speaker, every day we ignore the problems of the Nation, they become worse. Now is the time for great action, and today will be remembered as a great day.

WHAT THE PEOPLE SAY

(Mr. ROEMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, this is the people's House. Therefore, what are the people of this great country saying about cutting taxes in order to get to a balanced budget?

Well, the Committee on the Budget went out to listen to the American people. Here is a transcript of what the Committee on the Budget heard going coast to coast in January and February.

They heard from Mr. Frank Ramsey from Prescott, AZ. He said, and I quote, ''We feel here in Prescott what needs to be done first is to cut spending long before cutting taxes.''

Cole Kleitsch of New Jersey said, ''The other thing, we cannot have a tax cut right now.''

Lynn Dill in Delaware: ''I am very unenthusiastic about tax cuts.''

Greg Pearson in Montana: ''I think it is absolutely foolish for Congress to talk about reducing taxes at all.''

Mr. Speaker, what we need to do is balance the budget by making tough cuts in spending as our coalition budget does. Let us demand sacrifice from all the American people, not division and redistributing the resources.

TAXES ARE TOO HIGH

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, perhaps confession is good for the soul, and good politics. Look at President Clinton.

Last week at a fat-cat fundraiser in Texas, he confessed that he raised taxes too much in 1993.

Today, the polls show that Mr. Clinton has gained some favor with the American public after that confession.

I am sure that news has warmed the hearts of all those Democrats who were defeated last year after helping the President pass the largest tax increase in history.

But there is a lesson in all this for those surviving House Democrats who followed their President like lemmings and voted to raise taxes on Social Security, who voted to raise taxes on low- and middle-income working families.

The lesson is that it is not too late for you to have a change of heart, just as the President has.

You can confess that you were wrong to raise taxes in 1993 and you can demonstrate your sincerity by helping the Republican majority cut the Clinton taxes and let working families keep more of their earnings. Taxes are too high. Let us cut them today.

TAXES ARE BEING RAISED TODAY

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, let us talk about taxes. In fact let us talk about the taxes that are going to be raised today in this NEWT GINGRICH Congress.

First of course is the sick tax. To be old or disabled in America is to have the opportunity to pay more and get less health care. It is a tax on being sick to finance a tax break for those who are well, very well, very well off.

Then there is NEWT GINGRICH'S new tax on work. That is right. The Americans who earn less than $30,000 will be paying more taxes after today, if Mr. GINGRICH has his way. To those who are off welfare, who walk past the drug dealer to get to the bus stop, to go across town to empty the bed pan at the nursing home, to the young mother who is off welfare, who is struggling to get child care, who is going across town to sack up another burger and fries, to those people taxes are going to go up after today. They may call that no new taxes, it is at least NEWT'S taxes.

LIBERALS OPPOSE RECONCILIATION

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, from the home office in Scottsdale, AZ, the top 10 reasons liberals oppose reconciliation. No. 10, mistaken notion that milk comes from cartons, electricity from light switches, and money from the Government instead of from taxpayers. No. 9, forget Travelgate and Whitewater; it is more fun to rip off taxpayers in the broad daylight. No. 8, tax and spend without end, tax and spend without end. Hey, Mr. Speaker, why would the American people join in that mind-numbing chant?

No. 7, liberal PR firm of Jennings, Rather and Brokaw advises keep confusing and misleading the public, then leave the rest to us. No. 6, anxiously awaiting new sitcom from Larry and Linda Thomason: Bureaucrats Know Best.

No. 5, people should not keep more of their money. That is unfair and, besides, it makes too much sense. No, 4, liberal mantra for year-round Halloween: Trick the people then treat big government.

No. 3, people's money, what a wonderful thing to waste. No. 2, self-reliance, what a dangerous concept. And the No. 1 reason liberals oppose reconciliation, a secret fear that the President will flipflop again and refuse to veto this commonsense approach to the future.

THE BUDGET BILL

(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, both parties, Democrats and Republicans, have raised taxes. Although I will not vote for the budget bill today, I want to commend the Republican Party for at least having a program and attempting to turn the country around.

There are two provisions in this bill that I have sponsored. First, it increases penalties for IRS misconduct tenfold. That will cool the jets of some of those at the IRS, folks. Second of all, it will give taxpayers an opportunity to sue the IRS for cause.

But I am disappointed. Although there is some language on shifting the burden of proof, my provision is not in there. Let me say this; one of the main reasons is money.

My colleagues, if our Founding Fathers used money as the yardstick for liberty, we would not have the protection of the Bill of Rights today. There can be no justice in America, and after this bill is over, a taxpayer will still be considered guilty and must prove themselves innocent in a court of law.

I think the Democrats did nothing about it; tell it like it is. The Republicans have an opportunity. I am hoping they give me a shot here in the next year.

VOTE TO BALANCE THE BUDGET

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

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, as of yesterday, the national debt stood at $4,975,508,732,304.35.

It's not enough to debate how previous Congresses let his happen. It is

not enough to complain and bellyache. It is not enough for Members of Congress to make excuses and dance around their most basic responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to deal with our national debt and balance the budget. The excuses are over. The gimmicks have all been tried and have failed.

Last November, the American people told Congress to get its act together. They sent a new Republican majority to do the job the first time in 40 years. Our party made a promise to give them what they have been denied for the last 25 years: simple, basic, financial accountability from the U.S. Congress.

Today is historic. For the first time in a generation, Congress will vote to balance the budget and do the right thing for America's future and for America's children.

THIS BUDGET BILL DOES THE WRONG THING

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

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, today we are going to be faced with a budget which I feel does the wrong thing. It does the wrong thing because it cuts at the very heart of our safety net in this country, and that is our seniors and their reliance on the Medicare Program.

A $270 billion reduction in the spending over the next 7 years will absolutely be a cut in services. And why? At the same time I wonder are we being given the choice, not given the choice, not given the choice to take out of this bill a $245 billion tax break.

□ 0915

This tax break is not needed. It is only being funded this year by the cuts that will be seen in the Medicare Program. Why, oh why, in the efforts to balance the budget are we reducing taxes when we are seeing the highest income earners in America seeing their taxes reduced by this bill?

BALANCING THE BUDGET WILL HELP THE POOR WITH STRONG ECONOMIC GROWTH

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, the liberal Democrats in this House say they cannot support a plan to balance the budget because it will hurt the poor too much. This is the most bizarre argument I've ever heard.

I know it drives my liberal friends nuts, but the fact is, the best antipoverty program this country has to offer is strong economic growth. And the best way to get strong economic growth is by cutting taxes. That was the lesson of the 1980's.

The tax cuts of both 1963 and 1981 created a rising tide that did indeed lift all boats. Imagine if the tax cuts of 1981 had been coupled with comparable spending restraint by the Congress. The poor might actually have been able to survive the disastrous tax increases of 1990 and 1993.

Do my liberal friends really want to help the poor. Then balance the budget and cut taxes. It is a proven solution.

EFFECT OF THE GOP BUDGET ON RHODE ISLAND CHILDREN

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

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of my constituents who have no voice but who have a very large stake in the outcome of the debate over the GOP buget—the children of Rhode Island.

The Republican budget will eliminate Medicaid coverage for almost 40,000 children in Rhode Island, many whom are disabled. The Republican budget will cut nutrition assistance for almost 50,000 children in Rhode Island. The Republican budget jeopardizes immunizations for children in Rhode Island. The Republican budget will deny 14,000 children in Rhode Island child care assistance. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, the list goes on and on.

I say to my Republican colleagues—we must work toward a balanced budget for our children, not balance the budget on the backs of our children. When it comes to public investment in children's health and education, denying a dollar today actually costs more in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote against this short-sighted and mean spirited budget reconciliation bill.

HELP AMERICAN WORKERS AND AMERICAN SMALL BUSINESS—JOIN THE TRAVEL AND TOURIST CAUCUS

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

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, we heard many speeches yesterday, and we will hear more today, good speeches on reconciliation. I just want to address one question of the aftermath of a less-government role. I think we have to allow private enterprise some elbow room, and we are going to have the opportunity to do that on Monday and Tuesday. We have for the first time ever the most important conference in this decade in this city, the Travel and Tourist Conference. Travel and tourism is the second largest industry in America. They need less taxes, they need less regulation, so we can give our people jobs.

Mr. Speaker, this is a conference for American workers, American small business, Main Street America. Travel and tourism is becoming the real economic power right here in America and all over the globe, as the futurists tell us. Now Congress can be involved in this small business enterprise, in this travel and tourism. We have the travel and tourist caucus.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. GILLMOR] is our 300th member, and I salute him for joining the travel and tourist caucus. We now have 304 members, and I ask all the Members in Congress to join the travel and tourist caucus. Let us do something positive for American workers and American small business. Please call my office, join the caucus. Let us do something for American workers.

THE REPUBLICANS' 30-YEAR GOAL TO END MEDICARE

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, 30 years ago the Republican leader of the other body voted against the creation of Medicare, and yesterday he bragged of that vote saying that he knew it did not work, and he was proud of his vote, and he was proud that he fought against Medicare.

On this side of the street, Speaker NEWT GINGRICH joined the trashing of Medicare, and on Tuesday he revealed the real GOP plan, to privatize Medicare. Speaker GINGRICH said, and I quote, ''We didn't get rid of it in round 1 because we don't think that that's politically smart.''

1965–1995, Republicans are closing in on their 30-year goal to end Medicare. Welcome to the Gingrich revolution.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). The Chair would remind Members they are not to refer to Members in the other body.

RED RIBBON WEEK

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

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, as important as budget reconciliation is, and it is very important, this morning I would like to address something else. This is National Red Ribbon Week; my colleagues may have seen people wearing these red ribbons on the floor of this House and around the country. It is a week to call on our Nation's citizens, particularly our young people, to stay healthy and drug-free.

Mr. Speaker, this is a critical and timely message because unfortunately in one generation it appears that normalized attitudes toward drug abuse has led to an epidemic increase in the number of drug users. The frightening fact is that although we seem to be

winning the war on drugs in the 1980's those trends have been dramatically reversed.

According to the most recent National household survey on drug abuse, marijuana use among teenagers nearly doubled between 1990 and 1994, after 13 straight years of decline. Cocaine use is also up, and today more and more teenagers and young adults are resorting to drugs from the past like heroin and LSD.

In my own congressional district, drug use is back up to its highest levels ever. In Hamilton County, OH there has been a documented and dramatic increase in the past 12 months in the use of marijuana and harder drugs. And most frightening is that drug abuse is occurring among children at younger and younger ages.

Mr. Speaker, we must take bold and aggressive action. All Americans must be involved. The fight against drug abuse has to be handled community by community, and everyone needs to be involved.

INJUSTICES OF H.R. 2491—OMNIBUS BUDGET RECONCILIATION

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

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the most egregious assault on the American people to date. Some of the missiles have already landed: $182 billion has been cut from Medicaid, $270 million has been cut from Medicare. Now that the enemy has pillaged these areas, they now seek to launch an all out offensive to achieve their ultimate victory—a tax cut for the wealthiest 10 percent of Americans.

The great injustices of history have been committed in the name of unchecked and unbridled majority rule. The Framers of the Constitution warned us about the tyranny of the majority. Their fears have become reality. The safety net of America is being snatched from under them. Affordable housing programs within the RTC and FDIC have been terminated. Some $10 billion has been cut from student loans. The earned income tax credit will be reduced by 18 percent. Keep in mind, that individuals who receive EITC have an average income of $11,000. The Republican majority has turned its back on the American people. This measure is tantamount to thievery—the theft of the sanctity of the American people.

BALANCING THE BUDGET IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO FOR OUR FUTURE

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, let me just read a quote from Ronald Reagan's first inaugural address:

> . . . The crisis we are facing today requires our best effort and our willingness to believe in ourselves and to believe in our capacity to perform great deeds, to believe that together with God's help we can and will resolve the problems which now confront us. After all, why should we not believe that? We are Americans. That is just as true today as it was during the first inaugural address.

Mr. Speaker, the problem of having yearly billion-dollar deficits has to end. Period. The Federal Government cannot continue on the path it is on. This is not a Democrat or Republican problem, it is an everyone's problem. Congress can no longer run away from this problem like a bunch of scared chickens.

Today Congress will have the opportunity to put the Federal Government squarely on the path to a balanced budget. It must be done. It is the right thing to do for America's future. It will be done because we are Americans.

CHRISTMAS IN OCTOBER

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

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans are at it again. The party for the rich and famous has devised a budget plan in which all Americans lose, except the wealthy. Yes, Mr. Speaker, it is Christmas in October for all of those wealthy Republican campaign contributors because the Republicans are repaying them with generous tax breaks. Meanwhile, everyone else gets the short end of the stick.

Under the Republican's reverse Robin Hood budget plan, so many programs that middle class and working families depend on—education, Medicare, Medicaid, child nutrition, Head Start, daycare, earned income tax credit, and housing, just to name a few, are being robbed while the wealthiest corporations and individuals will reap a $245 billion tax cut.

Mr. Speaker, in order to balance the budget, a shared sacrifice is necessary; everyone must make sacrifices, not just the middle class and working people.

The Republican budget plan will hurt American families. When it comes to family values, the Republican Party talks the talk but they certainly do not walk the walk. This budget proves it.

TODAY REPUBLICANS DELIVER CLINTON ADMINISTRATION'S PROMISE

(Mr. RIGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, a child born today will pay an average of $187,000 in taxes over 75 years just to cover his or her share of the interest on the national debt. Let me repeat that—a child born today will owe $187,000 just on the interest of the national debt.

Mr. Speaker, for too long our Federal Government has squandered away the future of American families and their children. The Republican majority made a promise to the people to reduce the size of the Federal Government, balance the budget, and reduce overburdensome taxes, all in order to provide hope for the future. Today, we will pass the budget reconciliation bill which puts us on the path to a balanced budget by the year 2002.

Mr. Speaker, what the Clinton administration has promised, the Republicans will actually deliver.

THE REPUBLICANS' OUTRAGEOUS MEDICARE CUTS

(Mr. HILLIARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans' budget cut Medicare funding by $250 billion, and it is outrageous. Have they no shame?

The Republicans should not force those persons among us, who have the greatest needs, to suffer.

What my Republican colleagues are doing to our elderly and our disabled is disgraceful.

I am extremely concerned that our rural and inner-city hospitals are at serious risk. These huge Republican cuts, along with the steady increase in uncompensated care burden, would place these hospitals in jeopardy, and the hospitals have limited or no ability to shift the costs to payers.

The quality and access to needed health care is severely threatened.

The Republican's Medicare cuts are outrageous.

Because they refuse to listen to logic, it is my prayer that the American public hear me and that they will insist that this budget be vetoed.

□ 0930

THE CUBAN LIBERTY AND DEMOCRATIC SOLIDARITY ACT

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

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. DIAZ-BALART], a member of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, could my colleagues imagine if during the Holocaust there had been a visit here by Hitler, and the press would have asked him ''Who designs your suits? What is your favorite sport in the Olympics?'' That is what we just saw during the visit by the Cuban tyrant, where some of our colleagues, as a matter of fact, met with him, and say now they are going to lead CODELS to go down there and lobby for the end of sanctions against him.

Some businessmen met with Castro and are asking him, ''How many jobs can we transfer to your slave economy

to take away from American workers?'' That is the reality of this visit that we just saw, the pathetic visit we just saw.

The answer of this House, and I want to thank the chairman of the Committee on Rules, as well as the leadership, for inserting in the bill that we are going to be discussing today, the answer of the American people and their representatives to the disgusting visit by the Cuban tyrant, is the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity Act. It is going to be passed again today, and it is the answer to this disgusting visit by the American people.

PERMISSION FOR CERTAIN COMMITTEES AND THEIR SUBCOMMITTEES TO SIT TODAY DURING 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following committees and their subcommittees be permitted to sit today while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole under the 5-minute rule: The Committee on Commerce, the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, the Committee on International Relations, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Resources, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

It is my understanding that the minority has been consulted and that there is no objection to these requests.

Mr. BEILENSON. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, we have no objection to this request, but pending it, we would like our side to have one additional 1-minute, if that is all right with the gentleman on the other side.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). The Chair will recognize the gentleman for one 1-minute.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

THE BUDGET RECONCILIATION BILL AND CHILDREN

(Mr. NADLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my outrage that, in the Republican rush to bestow a $245 billion tax cut for America's wealthiest citizens, we are being asked to leave the futures of our children behind. This is nothing less than immoral.

While the wealthiest Americans will receive a $20,000 windfall under the Republican budget, our Nation's abused and neglected children will suffer under a 19 percent cut in funding for programs offering child protection. By 2002, almost 200,000 children will be denied access to Head Start. Medicaid coverage for as many as 4.4 million children will be eliminated by 2002.

And the Republican budget denies 1 million women infant mortality assistance, affecting the births of 74,000 infants each year, giving new meaning to the phrase, ''women and children first.''

Mr. Speaker, let us not throw our Nation's children overboard. Let us reject these immoral cuts, and oppose the Republican budget reconciliation bill.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 109, SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING SOCIAL SECURITY EARNINGS TEST REFORM, AND FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2491, SEVEN-YEAR BALANCED BUDGET RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 245 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 245

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 109) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for reform of the social security earnings limit, if called up by the majority leader or his designee. The concurrent resolution shall be debatable for twenty minutes equally divided and controlled by the majority leader and the minority leader or their designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the concurrent resolution to final adoption without intervening motion.

SEC. 2. At any time after the adoption of this resolution, the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2491) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1996. All time for general debate under the terms of the order of the House of October 24, 1995, shall be considered as expired. Further general debate shall be confined to the bill and amendments specified in this resolution and shall not exceed three hours equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget. After general debate the bill shall considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 2517, modified by the amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. No further amendment shall be in order except the further amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 2530, which may be offered only by the minority leader or his designee, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amendment. All points of order against the further amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. After a motion that the Committee rise has been rejected on a day, the Chair may entertain another such motion on that day only if offered by the chairman of the Committee on the Budget or the majority leader or a designee of either. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendment as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The motion to recommit may include instructions only if offered by the minority leader or his designee. The yeas and nays shall be considered as ordered on the question of passage of the bill and on any conference report thereon. Clause 5(c) of rule XXI shall not apply to the bill, amendments thereof, or conference reports thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. BEILENSON], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of the resolution, all time yielded is for purposes of debate only.

(Mr. SOLOMON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 245 is the customary restrictive rule for considering reconciliation legislation.

In this case the rule first makes in order the consideration in the House of a sense of the Congress resolution, House Congress Resolution 109, introduced by Mr. HASTERT. That resolution expresses the intent of Congress to pass legislation before the end of this year to raise the Social Security earnings limit for working seniors aged 65 through 69.

That is an important commitment we made in our Contract With America and we intend to keep that commitment to America's senior citizens.

Unfortunately, the Budget Act prohibits the consideration of legislation amending the Social Security Act as part of reconciliation. But we will vote on and pass this as a separate bill before this session adjourns.

Mr. Speaker, following 20 minutes of debate on that resolution, and a vote on its adoption, the rule provides for the further consideration of H.R. 2491, the Seven Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995.

And, oh, how the title of this bill says it all—the ''Seven-Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995.'' Today we are bringing to final fruition our efforts of the past 10 months to deliver to the American people on our promise to balance the budget in 7 years.

Yesterday, we had a full 3 hours of general debate on that bill pursuant to a unanimous-consent request that was granted in consultation with the minority leadership.

Today this rule provides for another 3 hours of general debate before we

consider for 1 hour a Democrat substitute that will be offered by the minority leader or his designee.

Those 6 hours are three times as much general debate time as we had on the Clinton reconciliation bill in 1993. That is as it should be, though, on a bill this important.

The rule provides for the adoption in the House and the Committee of the Whole of that amendment in the nature of a substitute which consists of the text of H.R. 2517, introduced by the Budget Committee chairman, as modified by the amendments printed in the Rules Committee's report on this rule.

That substitute is made base text for the purpose of further amendment. That further amendment is the so-called coalition substitute which is the text of H.R. 2530, introduced by Representative ORTON and others yesterday.

It will be debated for 1 hour. The House will then vote on it after which the Committee of the Whole will rise and report the bill back to the House.

Before final passage, the minority leader or a designee may offer one motion to recommit, with or without instructions. That is something that was denied us in the minority on reconciliation bills in recent years, but is something we guaranteed to the minority in our House rules reforms at the beginning of this Congress. So, the minority will have twice as many amendments as we were allowed when we were in the minority.

Finally, the rule orders the yeas and nays on passage of the bill, and suspends the application of clause 5(c) of rule XXI, which requires a three-fifths vote on any bill, amendment or conference report containing a Federal income tax rate increase, against the passage of the bill or the adoption of any amendment or conference report thereon.

Mr. Speaker, let me hasten to add that the Ways and Means Committee has certified that there are no Federal income tax rate increases contained in this measure we are making in order by this rule.

The three-fifths vote requirement is being waived, nevertheless, as a precautionary measure to avoid any unnecessary points that might be made out of a misunderstanding of the rule.

When we adopted this rule back on January 4 of this year, we placed an analysis in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at page H34. That analysis made clear that the term only applies to increases in the income tax rates contained in sections 1 and 11 of the Internal Revenue Code for individuals and corporations, respectively.

These are the commonly understood marginal or bracket rates with which most Americans are well familiar. That is the interpretation which still applies today. And this bill does not increase those rates one iota.

Mr. Speaker, today is not really about today's vote, as historic as it is, or about the past 10 months during which we struggled to develop this glide-path to a balanced budget by the year 2002.

Today is really about the future—the future of the economy, the future of this country, and the futures of our children and grandchildren and the better world we will bestow on them by putting our fiscal house in order today.

An overwhelming majority of the American people favor balancing the Federal budget—of ensuring that we spend no more than we take in. As the last election demonstrated, they fully expect us to make good our promises to balance the budget by making the hard choices necessary to achieve that goal.

Yes, it will involve some sacrifices on the part of everyone. But today's temporary pain will be tomorrow's great gain for our country as we build a strong economic base on which to create new jobs and prosperity for all Americans.

We can no longer be content to rest on the laurels of our past achievements. They are behind us and we are now literally drowning in a sea of red ink we have created by our past actions.

We have overpromised, overspent, and underdelivered on what the Government alone is capable of doing. In so doing, we have stifled rather than promoted individual initiative and opportunity in the private sector which is the key to new jobs and our future growth and survival as a country.

Our annual interest payments on the national debt alone are consuming and crowding out the capital necessary to build the kind of private sector growth that is so critical to our country's competing in this global economy.

By our actions here today we are recognizing the need to restrain the voracious appetite of the Government that is devouring the hard-earned dollars of American workers rather than allowing them to be put to more productive use in the private sector to create new and better paying jobs.

The time has come to put an end to the fiscal madness and insanity that is driving us deeper and deeper into debt. The bill before us reverses that trend.

It is called a reconciliation bill because in a narrow sense it reconciles our spending practices with our balanced budgetary goals adopted last spring.

But, in a larger sense it is a grander kind of reconciliation because it reconciles the grim realities of today with our hopes and dreams for a brighter and more prosperous future.

We cannot achieve that glorious reconciliation with the America we want to leave to our posterity if we do not make the hard choices and votes we must confront today. We can no longer get by on espousing the rhetoric of a balanced budget while avoiding taking the tough but necessary steps to get there.

We can no longer get by on blaming others for our failed dreams of balancing the budget when we have the duty and ability today by our votes on this bill to make those dreams a reality.

Today, that dream is within our grasp—indeed, the vote is at our very fingertips. We can either vote ''yes'' for the dream of a brighter future, or ''no'' for a long nightmare of economic stagnation, failure, and collapse.

It's in our hands; the choice is ours. Support this rule and the balanced budget reconciliation bill it makes in order.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD information regarding this rule, and previous rules and other pertinent material:

H. RES 245—SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS OF THE RULE FOR CONSIDERATION OF: HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 109—SOCIAL SECURITY EARNINGS TEST REFORM; H.R. 2491—SEVEN YEAR BALANCED BUDGET RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1995

1. Provides for consideration in the House of a concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 109) Social Security earnings test reform, debatable for 20 minutes, divided between the Majority and Minority Leaders or their designees.

2. Provides three hours of additional general debate on H.R. 2491, divided equally between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget.

3. Provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 2517 modified by the amendments printed in the Rules Committee's report on the rule shall be considered as adopted in the House and the Committee of the Whole; that the bill as amended shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of further amendment; and that all points of order against provisions of the bill as amended are waived.

4. Provides that no amendment shall be in order to the bill as amended except an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 2530, which may only be offered by the Minority Leader or his designee.

5. Provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent.

6. Waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute.

7. Provides after a motion to rise has been rejected on any day, another such motion may only be offered by the Majority Leader or Budget Committee chairman.

8. Provides one motion to recommit which, if containing instructions, may only be offered by the Minority Leader or a designee.

9. Provides that the yeas and nays are ordered on final passage and that the provisions of clause 5(c) of Rule XXI (requiring a three-fifths vote on any amendment or measure containing a Federal income tax rate increase) shall not apply to the votes on the bill, amendments thereto or conference reports thereon.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS MODIFYING THE TEXT OF H.R. 2517 TO FORM THE NEW BASE TEXT FOR AMENDMENT PURPOSES

Upton (MI): Amend Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act to authorize the export of new drugs if approved in recipient country. (p. 275, after line 11, insert new Subtitle F—''FDA Export Reform and Enhancement Act'')

Horn (CA)/Davis (VA) (modified): Add new tools for Federal agencies to collect debts

owed to the United States to enhance debt collection and improve financial management. (Inserts new Subtitle B to Title V, ''Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1995,'' at page 333, line 15)

Barr (GA): Strike section 7002, ''Civil Monetary Penalty Surcharge and Telecommunications Carrier Compliance Payments.'' (p. 416, line 3 through p. 419, line 6)

Davis (VA): Strike section 10404, ''Collection of Parking Fees,'' requiring each Executive agency to collect parking fees at all Federal parking facilities. (p. 700, line 23 through page 701, line 19)

Davis (VA) (modified): Amend sec. 17201(c), National Technical Information Service, to provide that if an appropriate arrangement for the privatization of the functions of the NTI Service has not been made before the end of the 18-month period, the Service shall be transferred to the National Institute for Science and Technology. (p. 1588, lines 3 through 7)

Bliley (VA): Change the Medicaid allocation and lower the statutory caps for discretionary spending accordingly.

[Excerpted from the Rules Committee's report on H. Res. 245, the reconciliation rule]

EXPLANATION AND DISCUSSION OF CLAUSE 5(C), RULE XXI WAIVER

As indicated in the preceding paragraph, the Committee has provided in this rule that the provisions of clause 5(c) of House Rule XXI, which require a three-fifths vote on any bill, joint resolution, amendment or conference report ''carrying a Federal income tax rate increase,'' shall not apply to the votes on passage of H.R. 2491, or to the votes any amendment thereto or conference report thereon.

The suspension of clause 5(c) of rule XXI is not being done because there are any Federal income tax rate increases contained in the reconciliation substitute being made in order as base text by this rule. As the Committee on Ways and Means has pointed out in its portion of the report on the reconciliation bill—

''The Committee has carefully reviewed the provisions of Titles XIII and XIV of the revenue reconciliation provisions approved by the Committee to determine whether any of these provisions constitute a Federal income tax rate increase within the meaning of the House Rules. It is the opinion of the Committee that there is no provision of Titles XIII and XIV of the revenue reconciliation provisions that constitutes a Federal income tax rate increase within the meaning of House Rule XXI, 5(c) or (d).''

Nevertheless, the Committee on Rules has suspended the application of clause 5(c) as a precautionary measure to avoid unnecessary points of order that might otherwise arise over confusion or misinterpretations of what is meant by an income tax rate increase.

Such a point of order was raised and overruled on the final passage vote of H.R. 1215, the omnibus tax bill, on April 15, 1995. The ranking minority member of the Rules Committee subsequently wrote to the chairman of this Committee requesting a clarification of the rule. An exchange of correspondence with the Parliamentarian and the Counsel of the Joint Tax Committee was subsequently released by the chairman of this Committee on June 13, 1995, regarding the ruling and the provisions of the bill which gave rise to the point of order.

The Committee would simply conclude this discussion by citing from the section-by-section analysis of H. Res. 6, adopting House Rules for the 104th Congress, placed in the Congressional Record at the time the rules were adopted on January 4, 1995. With respect to clauses 5(c) and (d) which require a three-fifths vote on any income tax rate increase and prohibit consideration of any retroactive income tax rate increase, respectively:

''For purposes of these rules, the term 'Federal income tax rate increase' is, for example, an increase in the individual income tax rates established in section 1, and the corporate income tax rates established in section 11, respectively, of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.'' (Congressional Record, Jan. 4, 1995, p. H–34)

The rates established by those sections are the commonly understood ''marginal'' tax rates or income ''bracket'' tax rates applicable to various minimum and maximum income dollar amounts for individuals and corporations. It is the intent of this committee that the term ''Federal income tax rate increase'' should be narrowly construed and confined to the rates specified in those two sections. As indicated in the Ways and Means Committee's report, those rates have not been increased by any provision contained in H.R. 2491 as made in order as base text by this resolution.

HOUSE RECONCILIATION RULES, 1980–93

Congress year	Bill No.	Rule	Terms of rules
96th (1980)	H.R. 7765	H. Res. 776	10-hours general debate (1-hr. ea. to 8 comms., 2-hrs. Ways and Means); 4 amendments allowed: (1) Budget Comm.; (2) Strike subtitle; (3) Rep. Vanik (D); (4) Rep. Bauman (R); one motion to recommit.
97th (1981)	H.R. 3982	H. Res. 169	8-hrs. general debate, comms, of juris.; amendment in nature of substitute by chairman of Budget Comm.; 6 amendments by Rep. Latta; 1-hr. on motion to recommit.
98th (1983)	H.R. 4169	H. Res. 344	1-hr. gen. debate, Budget Comm.; amendment in nature of substitute made in order; 1 amendment by chmn. Budget Comm.; one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.
98th (1984)	H.R. 5394	H. Res. 483	6-hrs. gen. debate, Budget Comm.; (1) amend. by W&M Comm., 1-hr; (2) amend. by Rep. Pepper, 30-mins.; one motion to recommit.
99th (1985)	H.R. 3500	H. Res. 296	4-hrs. gen. debate, Budget Comm.; self-execute amendment; (1) Rep. Fazio, 30-mins; (2) Rep. Latta, 1-hr.; (3) Rep. Florio, 30-mins; one motion to recommit.
99th (1986)	H.R. 5300	H. Res. 558	3-hrs. gen. debate, Budget Comm.; self-execute amend.; (1) Rep. Rodino, 30-mins.; (2) Rep. Rodino, 30-mins.; (3) Rep. Wylie, 30-mins.; one motion to recommit without instructions.
100th (1987)	H.R. 3545	H. Res. 296/298	3-hrs. gen. debate, Budget Comm.; self-execute amend.; (1) Rep. Michel, 1-hr.; one motion to recommit without instructions.
101st (1989)	H.R. 3299	H. Res. 245/249	6-hrs. gen. debate, Budget Comm.; self-execute amend.; 10 amendments (D–7;R–3), debatable from 30-mins. to 2-hrs. ea. (varies by amendment); one motion to recommit.
101st (1990)	H.R. 5835	H. Res. 509	3-hrs. gen. debate, Budget Comm.; self-execute amends.; (1) Rep. Rostenkowski, 1-hr.; one motion to recommit without instructions.
103d (1993)	H.R. 2264	H. Res. 186	2-hrs. gen. debate; self-execute amend. (54 page); (1) Rep. Kasich substitute, (290 pages), 1-hr.; one motion to recommit without instructions.

THE AMENDMENT PROCESS UNDER SPECIAL RULES REPORTED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE,[1] 103D CONGRESS V. 104TH CONGRESS

[As of October 25, 1995]

Rule type	103d Congress		104th Congress	
	Number of rules	Percent of total	Number of rules	Percent of total
Open/Modified-open [2]	46	44	51	70
Modified Closed [3]	49	47	18	25
Closed [4]	9	9	4	5
Total	104	100	73	100

[1] This table applies only to rules which provide for the original consideration of bills, joint resolutions or budget resolutions and which provide for an amendment process. It does not apply to special rules which only waive points of order against appropriations bills which are already privileged and are considered under an open amendment process under House rules.

[2] An open rule is one under which any Member may offer a germane amendment under the five-minute rule. A modified open rule is one under which any Member may offer a germane amendment under the five-minute rule subject only to an overall time limit on the amendment process and/or a requirement that the amendment be preprinted in the Congressional Record.

[3] A modified closed rule is one under which the Rules Committee limits the amendments that may be offered only to those amendments designated in the special rule or the Rules Committee report to accompany it, or which preclude amendments to a particular portion of a bill, even though the rest of the bill may be completely open to amendment.

[4] A closed rule is one under which no amendments may be offered (other than amendments recommended by the committee in reporting the bill).

SPECIAL RULES REPORTED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE, 104TH CONGRESS

[As of October 25, 1995]

H. Res. No. (Date rept.)	Rule type	Bill No.	Subject	Disposition of rule
H. Res. 38 (1/18/95)	O	H.R. 5	Unfunded Mandate Reform	A: 350–71 (1/19/95).
H. Res. 44 (1/24/95)	MC	H. Con. Res. 17	Social Security	A: 255–172 (1/25/95).
		H.J. Res. 1	Balanced Budget Amdt	
H. Res. 51 (1/31/95)	O	H.R. 101	Land Transfer, Taos Pueblo Indians	A: voice vote (2/1/95).
H. Res. 52 (1/31/95)	O	H.R. 400	Land Exchange, Arctic Nat'l. Park and Preserve	A: voice vote (2/1/95).
H. Res. 53 (1/31/95)	O	H.R. 440	Land Conveyance, Butte County, Calif	A: voice vote (2/1/95).
H. Res. 55 (2/1/95)	O	H.R. 2	Line Item Veto	A: voice vote (2/2/95).
H. Res. 60 (2/6/95)	O	H.R. 665	Victim Restitution	A: voice vote (2/7/95).
H. Res. 61 (2/6/95)	O	H.R. 666	Exclusionary Rule Reform	A: voice vote (2/7/95).
H. Res. 63 (2/8/95)	MO	H.R. 667	Violent Criminal Incarceration	A: voice vote (2/9/95).
H. Res. 69 (2/9/95)	O	H.R. 668	Criminal Alien Deportation	A: voice vote (2/10/95).
H. Res. 79 (2/10/95)	MO	H.R. 728	Law Enforcement Block Grants	A: voice vote (2/13/95).
H. Res. 83 (2/13/95)	MO	H.R. 7	National Security Revitalization	PQ: 229–100; A: 227–127 (2/15/95).
H. Res. 88 (2/16/95)	MC	H.R. 831	Health Insurance Deductibility	PQ: 230–191; A: 229–188 (2/21/95).
H. Res. 91 (2/21/95)	O	H.R. 830	Paperwork Reduction Act	A: voice vote (2/22/95).

SPECIAL RULES REPORTED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE, 104TH CONGRESS—Continued

[As of October 25, 1995]

H. Res. No. (Date rept.)	Rule type	Bill No.	Subject	Disposition of rule
H. Res. 92 (2/21/95)	MC	H.R. 889	Defense Supplemental	A: 282–144 (2/22/95).
H. Res. 93 (2/22/95)	MO	H.R. 450	Regulatory Transition Act	A: 252–175 (2/23/95).
H. Res. 96 (2/24/95)	MO	H.R. 1022	Risk Assessment	A: 253–165 (2/27/95).
H. Res. 100 (2/27/95)	O	H.R. 926	Regulatory Reform and Relief Act	A: voice vote (2/28/95).
H. Res. 101 (2/28/95)	MO	H.R. 925	Private Property Protection Act	A: 271–151 (3/2/95).
H. Res. 103 (3/3/95)	MO	H.R. 1058	Securities Litigation Reform	
H. Res. 104 (3/3/95)	MO	H.R. 988	Attorney Accountability Act	A: voice vote (3/6/95).
H. Res. 105 (3/6/95)	MO			A: 257–155 (3/7/95).
H. Res. 108 (3/7/95)	Debate	H.R. 956	Product Liability Reform	A: voice vote (3/8/95).
H. Res. 109 (3/8/95)	MC			PQ: 234–191 A: 247–181 (3/9/95).
H. Res. 115 (3/14/95)	MO	H.R. 1159	Making Emergency Supp. Approps	A: 242–190 (3/15/95).
H. Res. 116 (3/15/95)	MC	H.J. Res. 73	Term Limits Const. Amdt	A: voice vote (3/28/95).
H. Res. 117 (3/16/95)	Debate	H.R. 4	Personal Responsibility Act of 1995	A: voice vote (3/21/95).
H. Res. 119 (3/21/95)	MC			A: 217–211 (3/22/95).
H. Res. 125 (4/3/95)	O	H.R. 1271	Family Privacy Protection Act	A: 423–1 (4/4/95).
H. Res. 126 (4/3/95)	O	H.R. 660	Older Persons Housing Act	A: voice vote (4/6/95).
H. Res. 128 (4/4/95)	MC	H.R. 1215	Contract With America Tax Relief Act of 1995	A: 228–204 (4/5/95).
H. Res. 130 (4/5/95)	MC	H.R. 483	Medicare Select Expansion	A: 253–172 (4/6/95).
H. Res. 136 (5/1/95)	O	H.R. 655	Hydrogen Future Act of 1995	A: voice vote (5/2/95).
H. Res. 139 (5/3/95)	O	H.R. 1361	Coast Guard Auth. FY 1996	A: voice vote (5/9/95).
H. Res. 140 (5/9/95)	O	H.R. 961	Clean Water Amendments	A: 414–4 (5/10/95).
H. Res. 144 (5/11/95)	O	H.R. 535	Fish Hatchery—Arkansas	A: voice vote (5/15/95).
H. Res. 145 (5/11/95)	O	H.R. 584	Fish Hatchery—Iowa	A: voice vote (5/15/95).
H. Res. 146 (5/11/95)	O	H.R. 614	Fish Hatchery—Minnesota	A: voice vote (5/15/95).
H. Res. 149 (5/16/95)	MC	H. Con. Res. 67	Budget Resolution FY 1996	PQ: 252–170 A: 255–168 (5/17/95).
H. Res. 155 (5/22/95)	MO	H.R. 1561	American Overseas Interests Act	A: 233–176 (5/23/95).
H. Res. 164 (6/8/95)	MC	H.R. 1530	Nat. Defense Auth. FY 1996	PQ: 225–191 A: 233–183 (6/13/95).
H. Res. 167 (6/15/95)	O	H.R. 1817	MilCon Appropriations FY 1996	PQ: 223–180 A: 245–155 (6/16/95).
H. Res. 169 (6/19/95)	MC	H.R. 1854	Leg. Branch Approps. FY 1996	PQ: 232–196 A: 236–191 (6/20/95).
H. Res. 170 (6/20/95)	O	H.R. 1868	For. Ops. Approps. FY 1996	PQ: 221–178 A: 217–175 (6/22/95).
H. Res. 171 (6/22/95)	O	H.R. 1905	Energy & Water Approps. FY 1996	A: voice vote (7/12/95).
H. Res. 173 (6/27/95)	C	H.J. Res. 79	Flag Constitutional Amendment	PQ: 258–170 A: 271–152 (6/28/95).
H. Res. 176 (6/28/95)	MC	H.R. 1944	Emer. Supp. Approps	PQ: 236–194 A: 234–192 (6/29/95).
H. Res. 185 (7/11/95)	O	H.R. 1977	Interior Approps. FY 1996	PQ: 235–193 D: 192–238 (7/12/95).
H. Res. 187 (7/12/95)	O	H.R. 1977	Interior Approps. FY 1996 #2	PQ: 230–194 A: 229–195 (7/13/95).
H. Res. 188 (7/12/95)	O	H.R. 1976	Agriculture Approps. FY 1996	PQ: 242–185 A: voice vote (7/18/95).
H. Res. 190 (7/17/95)	O	H.R. 2020	Treasury/Postal Approps. FY 1996	PQ: 232–192 A: voice vote (7/18/95).
H. Res. 193 (7/19/95)	C	H.J. Res. 96	Disapproval of MFN to China	A: voice vote (7/20/95).
H. Res. 194 (7/19/95)	O	H.R. 2002	Transportation Approps. FY 1996	PQ: 217–202 (7/21/95).
H. Res. 197 (7/21/95)	O	H.R. 70	Exports of Alaskan Crude Oil	A: voice vote (7/24/95).
H. Res. 198 (7/21/95)	O	H.R. 2076	Commerce, State Approps. FY 1996	A: voice vote (7/25/95).
H. Res. 201 (7/25/95)	O	H.R. 2099	VA/HUD Approps. FY 1996	A: 230–189 (7/25/95).
H. Res. 204 (7/28/95)	MC	S. 21	Terminating U.S. Arms Embargo on Bosnia	A: voice vote (8/1/95).
H. Res. 205 (7/28/95)	O	H.R. 2126	Defense Approps. FY 1996	A: 409–1 (7/31/95).
H. Res. 207 (8/1/95)	MC	H.R. 1555	Communications Act of 1995	A: 255–156 (8/2/95).
H. Res. 208 (8/1/95)	O	H.R. 2127	Labor, HHS Approps. FY 1996	A: 323–104 (8/2/95).
H. Res. 215 (9/7/95)	O	H.R. 1594	Economically Targeted Investments	A: voice vote (9/12/95).
H. Res. 216 (9/7/95)	MO	H.R. 1655	Intelligence Authorization FY 1996	A: voice vote (9/12/95).
H. Res. 218 (9/12/95)	O	H.R. 1162	Deficit Reduction Lockbox	A: voice vote (9/13/95).
H. Res. 219 (9/12/95)	O	H.R. 1670	Federal Acquisition Reform Act	A: 414–0 (9/13/95).
H. Res. 222 (9/18/95)	O	H.R. 1617	CAREERS Act	A: 388–2 (9/19/95).
H. Res. 224 (9/19/95)	O	H.R. 2274	Natl. Highway System	PQ: 241–173 A: 375–39–1 (9/20/95).
H. Res. 225 (9/19/95)	MC	H.R. 927	Cuban Liberty & Dem. Solidarity	A: 304–118 (9/20/95).
H. Res. 226 (9/21/95)	O	H.R. 743	Team Act	A: 344–66–1 (9/27/95).
H. Res. 227 (9/21/95)	O	H.R. 1170	3-Judge Court	A: voice vote (9/28/95).
H. Res. 228 (9/21/95)	O	H.R. 1601	Internatl. Space Station	A: voice vote (9/27/95).
H. Res. 230 (9/27/95)	C	H.J. Res. 108	Continuing Resolution FY 1996	A: voice vote (9/28/95).
H. Res. 234 (9/29/95)	O	H.R. 2405	Omnibus Science Auth	A: voice vote (10/11/95).
H. Res. 237 (10/17/95)	MC	H.R. 2259	Disapprove Sentencing Guidelines	A: voice vote (10/18/95).
H. Res. 238 (10/18/95)	MC	H.R. 2425	Medicare Preservation Act	PQ: 231–194 A: 227–192 (10/19/95).
H. Res. 239 (10/19/95)	C	H.R. 2492	Leg. Branch Approps	
H. Res. 245 (10/25/95)	MC	H. Con. Res. 109	Social Security Earnings Reform	
		H.R. 2491	Seven-Year Balanced Budget	

Codes: O-open rule; MO-modified open rule; MC-modified closed rule; C-closed rule; A-adoption vote; D-defeated; PQ-previous question vote. Source: Notices of Action Taken, Committee on Rules, 104th Congress.

CORRECTION OF VOTES IN COMMITTEE REPORT OCTOBER 26, 1995

The Rules Committee's report, House Report 104–292 on House Resolution 245, the rule for the consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 109 and H.R. 2491, contains three erroneously reported rollcall votes due to typographical errors during the printing process. The votes were correctly reported in the original report filed with the Clerk.

Below is a correct version of those votes as contained in the Rules Committee report as filed with the House. The amendment numbers referred to in the motions are to amendments filed with the Rules Committee—a summary of which are contained following the listing of votes in the committee report.

The corrected votes for Rollcall Nos. 215, 228, and 229 are as follows:

RULES COMMITTEE ROLLCALL NO. 215

Date: October 25, 1995.

Measure: House Concurrent Resolution 109, Sense of Congress on Social Security Earnings Test Reform, and H.R. 2491, The Seven Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995.

Motion By: Mr. Beilenson.

Summary of Motion: Motions No. 12, No. 13, and No. 35.

Results: Rejected, 5 to 8.

Vote by Member	Yea	Nay	Present
QUILLEN		X	
DREIER		X	
GOSS		X	
LINDER	X		
PRYCE		X	
DIAZ-BALART		X	
McINNIS		X	
WALDHOLTZ		X	
MOAKLEY	X		
BEILENSON	X		
FROST	X		
HALL	X		
SOLOMON		X	

RULES COMMITTEE ROLLCALL NO. 228

Date: October 25, 1995.

Measure: House Concurrent Resolution, 109, Sense of Congress on Social Security Earnings Test Reform, and H.R. 2491, The Seven Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995.

Motion By: Mr. Hall.

Summary of Motion: No. 30 and No. 38.

Results: Rejected, 4 to 9.

Vote by Member	Yea	Nay	Present
QUILLEN		X	
DREIER		X	
GOSS		X	
LINDER		X	
PRYCE		X	
DIAZ-BALART		X	
McINNIS		X	
WALDHOLTZ		X	
MOAKLEY	X		
BEILENSON	X		
FROST	X		
HALL	X		
SOLOMON		X	

RULES COMMITTEE ROLLCALL NO. 229

Date: October 25, 1995.

Measure: House Concurrent Resolution 109, Sense of Congress on Social Security Earnings Test Reform, and H.R. 2491, The Seven Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995.

Motion By: Mr. Frost.

Summary of Motion: No. 39.

Results: Rejected, 4 to 8.

Vote by Member	Yea	Nay	Present
QUILLEN		X	
DREIER		X	
GOSS		X	
LINDER		X	
PRYCE		X	
DIAZ-BALART			
McINNIS		X	
WALDHOLTZ		X	
MOAKLEY	X		
BEILENSON	X		
FROST	X		
HALL	X		
SOLOMON		X	

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET,
Washington, DC, October 26, 1995.

Hon. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON,
Chairman of the Committee on Rules, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SOLOMON: Pursuant to authority provided to me by the Committee Report accompanying the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 1996, H. Con. Res. 67, I hereby certify the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order by H. Res. 245 would result in a balanced budget by Fiscal Year 2002.

Section 210(a)(2)(C) of H. Con. Res. 67 authorized the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget to certify an amendment in the nature of a substitute, made in order by the Committee on Rules, consisting of the text of the reported bill, as modified by any amendments necessary to balance the budget and achieve compliance with reconciliation instructions. Section 210(1) further specified that the certification is to be based upon an estimate provided by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

According to the attached estimate by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office, the substitute as amended by H. Res. 245 would result in the following deficit or surplus levels: $−158 billion in Fiscal Year 1996, $−180 billion in Fiscal Year 1997, $−146 billion in Fiscal Year 1998, $−120 billion in Fiscal Year 1999, $−96 billion in Fiscal Year 2000, $−40 billion in Fiscal Year 2001, and $+1 billion in Fiscal Year 2002.

The consideration of H.R. 2491 is an historic step as Congress moves to balance the Federal budget for the first time in over 30 years. The future of our nation depends upon bringing our fiscal affairs in order. It has been an honor for me to participate in this exciting process.

Sincerely,

JOHN R. KASICH,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, October 26, 1995.

Hon. JOHN R. KASICH,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has reviewed the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 2491, the Seven-Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995, considered as adopted under the terms of the rule providing for further consideration of H.R. 2491. As provided by section 210 of the budget resolution for fiscal year 1996 (H. Con. Res. 67), CBO has projected the deficits that will result if the substitute is enacted. As specified in section 210, these projections use the economic and technical assumptions underlying the budget resolution, assume the level of discretionary spending allowed under the new statutory caps on appropriations that are contained in the substitute, and include changes in outlays and revenues estimated to result from the economic impact of balancing the budget by fiscal year 2002 as estimated by CBO in its April 1995 ''An Analysis of the President's Budgetary Proposals for Fiscal Year 1996.'' On that basis, CBO projects that enactment of the reconciliation legislation embodied in the substitute would produce a small budget surplus in 2002. The estimated federal spending, revenues and deficits that would occur if the proposal is enacted are shown in Table 1. The resulting differences from CBO's April 1995 baseline are summarized in Table 2, which includes the adjustments to the baseline assumed by the budget resolution. The estimated savings from changes in direct spending and revenues that would result from enactment of each title of the substitute are summarized in Table 3 and described in more detail in an attachment.

If you wish further details on this projection, we will be pleased to provide them.

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL.

Attachment.

TABLE 1.—PROPOSED HOUSE OUTLAYS, REVENUES, AND DEFICITS

[By fiscal year, in billions of dollars]

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Outlays:							
Discretionary	536	525	518	517	521	517	516
Mandatory:							
Medicare [1]	194	209	217	228	247	266	288
Medicaid	97	103	108	112	117	122	127
Other	501	525	553	583	614	638	671
Subtotal	792	837	878	923	978	1,026	1,086
Net Interest	257	260	260	260	258	252	247
Total outlays	1,584	1,623	1,656	1,700	1,758	1,795	1,849
Revenues	1,426	1,442	1,510	1,580	1,662	1,755	1,849
Deficit	158	180	146	120	96	40	−1

[1] Medicare benefit payments only. Excludes medicare premiums and graduate medical education spending.

Source.—Congressional Budget Office.

Notes.—The fiscal dividend expected to result from balancing the budget is reflected in these figures. Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

TABLE 2.—PROPOSED HOUSE BUDGETARY CHANGES FROM CBO'S APRIL BASELINE

[By fiscal year, in billions of dollars]

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	Total 1996–2002
CBO April baseline deficit [1]	210	230	232	266	299	316	349	NA
Baseline adjustments [2]:								
CPI rebenchmarking [3]	0	0	0	−1	−3	−6	−9	−18
Other adjustments [4]	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	10
Subtotal	1	1	1	1	−1	−4	−8	−9
Policy Changes:								
Outlays, discretionary:								
Freeze [5]	−8	−9	−12	−35	−55	−75	−96	−289
Additional savings	−10	−22	−29	−26	−22	−26	−28	−162
Welfare reform [6]	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	19
Subtotal	−16	−28	−38	−58	−74	−98	−120	−432
Outlays, mandatory:								
Medicare	−8	−15	−27	−40	−49	−60	−71	−270
Medicaid	−3	−7	−14	−23	−31	−41	−51	−169
Other	−14	−22	−22	−27	−29	−29	−31	−174
Subtotal	−25	−44	−63	−89	−109	−130	−153	−614
Net Interest	−2	−5	−9	−16	−27	−41	−60	−161
Total outlays	−42	−77	−111	−164	−210	−269	−333	−1,207
Revenues [7]	−8	33	38	40	39	39	41	223
Total policy changes	−50	−44	−73	−124	−171	−231	−292	−985
Adjustment for fiscal dividend [8]	−3	−7	−14	−23	−32	−41	−50	−170
Total adjustments and policy changes	−52	−50	−86	−146	−204	−276	−350	−1,163
House policy deficit	158	180	146	120	96	40	−1	NA

[1] Projections assume that discretionary spending is equal to the spending limits that are in effect through 1998 and will increase with inflation after 1998.

[2] The budget resolution was based on CBO's April 1995 baseline projections of mandatory spending and revenues, except for a limited number of adjustments.

[3] The budget resolution baseline assumed that the 1998 rebenchmarking of the CPI by the Bureau of Labor Statistics will result in a 0.2 percentage point reduction in the CPI compared with CBO's December 1994 economic projections.

[4] The budget resolution baseline made adjustments related to revised accounting of direct student loan costs, expiration of excise taxes dedicated to the Superfund trust fund as provided under current law, the effects of enacted legislation, and technical corrections.

[5] Savings from freezing 1996–2002 appropriations at the nominal level appropriated for 1995.

[6] Increases in statutory caps on discretionary spending to reflect shifts from mandatory spending to discretionary spending embodied in welfare reform provisions included in reconciliation bills. The cap adjustments are specified in Title XX of the bill.

[7] Revenue increases are shown with a negative sign because they reduce the deficit.

[8] CBO has estimated that balancing the budget by 2002 would result in lower interest rates and slightly higher real growth that could lower federal interest payments and increase revenues by $170 billion over the fiscal year 1996–2002 period. See Appendix B of CBO's April 1995 report. ''An Analysis of the President's Budgetary Proposals for Fiscal Year 1996.''

Source.—Congressional Budget Office.

Notes.—NA=not applicable; CPI=consumer price index. Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

TABLE 3.—HOUSE RECONCILIATION MANDATORY SPENDING AND REVENUE CHANGES BY TITLE

[By fiscal year, in billions of dollars]

Title	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	1996–2002
I—Agriculture:								
Outlays	−0.9	−1.9	−1.9	−1.9	−1.9	−2.5	−2.5	−13.3
II—Banking and Financial Services:								
Outlays	−6.4	(1)	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	−5.3
Revenues [2]	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Deficit	−6.4	(1)	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	−5.3
III—Commerce:								
Outlays	−0.3	−2.9	−2.7	−4.0	−3.7	−3.2	−1.9	−18.7
IV—Economic and Educational Opportunities:								
Outlays	−1.4	−1.1	−1.3	−1.5	−1.6	−1.7	−1.7	−10.2
V—Government Reform and Oversight:								
Outlays	−0.6	−1.0	−1.0	−1.0	−1.0	−1.0	−0.9	−6.5
Revenues [2]	−0.2	−0.4	−0.6	−0.6	−0.6	−0.6	−0.7	−3.7
Deficit	−0.8	−1.4	−1.6	−1.6	−1.6	−1.6	−1.6	−10.2
VI—International Relations:								
Outlays	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	−0.1
VII—Judiciary								
Outlays	0.0	0.0	0.0	−0.1	−0.1	−0.1	−0.1	−0.5
VIII—National Security:								
Outlays	0.4	−0.6	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	2.1
IX—Resources								
Outlays	−0.1	−0.9	−0.2	−0.1	−0.6	−0.1	−0.1	−2.1
Revenues[2]	0.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Deficit	−0.1	−0.9	−0.2	−0.1	−0.6	−0.1	−0.1	−2.1
X—Transportation and Infrastructure:								
Outlays	(1)	−0.1	(1)	−0.6	−0.1	−0.1	−0.1	−0.8
XI—Veterans' Affairs:								
Outlays	−0.3	−0.3	−0.5	−1.2	−1.4	−1.3	−1.4	−6.4
XII—Ways and Means Trade:								
Outlays	(1)	(1)	(1)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	(1)
Revenues[2]	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9
XIII—Ways and Means Revenues:								
Outlays	−0.1	−2.6	−2.8	−2.9	−3.1	−3.2	−3.3	−18.0
Revenues[2]	−0.6	−1.4	−3.1	−4.0	−4.5	−5.1	−6.1	−24.9
Deficit	−0.8	−4.1	−5.9	−6.9	−7.5	−8.3	−9.4	−42.9
XIV—Ways and Means Tax Simplification								
Revenues[2]	0.2	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	4.7
XV—Medicare:								
Outlays:								
Medicare	−7.9	−15.1	−26.9	−39.9	−49.2	−59.9	−71.3	−270.2
Graduate medical education	0.0	1.3	1.5	2.3	3.1	3.6	4.0	15.8
Subtotal	−7.9	−13.8	−25.4	−37.6	−46.1	−56.3	−67.3	−254.4
XVI—Transformation of Medicaid:								
Outlays	−2.7	−6.9	−14.3	−22.6	−31.2	−40.8	−50.9	−169.5
XVII—Abolishment of Department of Commerce:								
Outlays	0.0	(1)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	(1)
XVIII—Welfare reform:								
Outlays	−4.3	−13.4	−16.2	−18.4	−21.0	−22.1	25.2	120.6
XIX—Contract with America Tax Cut:								
Revenues[2]	−7.8	34.1	40.3	44.3	43.6	43.8	47.2	245.7
XX—Budget Process:								
Outlays	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Totals:								
Outlays	−24.7	−45.6	−64.8	−91.2	−111.1	−131.9	−155.0	−624.4
Revenues[2]	−7.9	33.3	37.6	40.4	39.3	38.8	41.3	222.7
Deficit	−32.7	−12.3	−27.2	−50.8	−71.8	−93.1	−113.7	−401.7
Interactive effects:								
Outlays	0.1	1.4	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	10.6
Totals:								
Outlays	−24.7	−44.2	−63.2	−89.5	−109.2	−130.0	−153.0	−613.8
Revenues	−7.9	33.3	37.6	40.4	39.3	38.8	41.3	222.7
Deficit	−32.6	−11.0	−25.6	−49.1	−69.9	−91.2	−111.7	−391.1

[1] Less than $50 million.
[2] Revenue increases are shown with a negative sign because they reduce the deficit.
Note.—Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.
Sources.—Congressional Budget Office; Joint Committee on Taxation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 0945

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] for yielding me the customary 30 minutes of debate time, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we strongly oppose the rule, and the legislation it makes in order—the budget reconciliation bill drafted by the Republican leadership.

The importance of the legislation before us cannot be overstated. It is a measure that makes drastic changes in a huge number of Federal programs and services; a measure that will directly affect virtually every American. Yet the rule for its consideration allows the House to consider only one substitute, and one motion to recommit. And, the rule limits the remaining time for general debate to just 3 hours, plus 1 hour for debate on the substitute.

It is true, as our friends on the other side of the aisle have pointed out, that this is a typical rule for a budget reconciliation bill. But this is not a typical reconciliation bill; it is not a bill that has been developed through the normal reconciliation process but, rather, one that has been brought to the House floor through actions of the Republican leadership that constitute an extremely serious abuse of the legislative process.

In years past, reconciliation bills were drafted in open committee meetings. When committees acted on their reconciliation instructions, Members of both parties had the opportunity to debate the issues and offer amendments. After committees acted, the Budget Committee reviewed and reported the final bill, and after that, the Rules Committee issued a rule for its consideration. All this was done in full view of the press and the public. In other words, reconciliation bills were the products of an open, democratic, deliberative, and accountable process. We knew what the bills contained, and who had agreed to the provisions in them.

The bill before us now, however, contains critical changes in agriculture programs, in the civil service retirement system, in tax policy, in the structure of a Federal department, and other important provisions that were not considered by the committees of jurisdiction, nor reviewed by the Budget Committee. Some of the provisions were not even finalized until last night.

These portions of the bill were drafted behind the closed doors of the Speaker's office, where decisions were also made to drop certain provisions from the committee reported version of the bill. Even as the Rules Committee was conducting its hearing yesterday—and even as general debate on the bill had begun on the floor—decisions were still being made by the Republican leadership about the contents of the plan we would be asked to vote on today.

We find the disregard for the normal legislative process that has been demonstrated by this process profoundly disturbing. We believe it is a huge injustice to the Members of the House and, far more important, to the people we represent.

And we, the Democratic minority, are not alone in our view of what is happening here. A recent editorial in Roll Call described what is going on by saying:

> Speaker Newt Gingrich is indisputably providing strong direction for the House, but in the process he and his hand-picked leadership are running roughshod over the congressional committee system and depriving minority Democrats, rank-and-file Republicans, and even committee chairmen of the power to shape legislation. The question arises: Is this democracy or rule by politburo?

That's not a Democratic sympathizer speaking; that's a newspaper that was equally, if not more, critical of the way the Democratic Party ran the House.

The point is, the bill before us did not arrive through the typical process, and therefore the highly restrictive rule for its consideration cannot be justified on the basis of the restrictive rules used for reconciliation bills in the past. At the very least, the rule for this particular reconciliation bill should provide the House with the opportunity to consider amendments to those sections of the bill that were drafted outside of the normal committee process.

We also object to the rule's waiver of clause 5(c) of rule XXI, which requires a three-fifths vote for any bill which contains a Federal income tax rate increase. That rule, as Members recall, was adopted at the beginning of this Congress to make it more difficult to pass an income tax rate increase.

We believe that the Republican reconciliation bill would raise income taxes on 8 million American working families because of the bill's change in the earned income tax credit. Members on the other side of the aisle have tried to assure us that, no, this bill does not raise income taxes. If that, in fact, is the case, we see no reason for the protection this rule provides against the three-fifths vote requirement for a bill that raises income taxes.

Mr. Speaker, of even greater concern to us than the procedural abuse we have seen in this year's reconciliation process is the actual legislation that process has produced.

Many of us applaud the fact that the Republican leadership set a goal of 7 years for bringing the Federal budget into balance. But we think that this particular plan reaches that goal the wrong way, and that the Republican leadership is misleading the American people by justifying the drastic spending cuts in their plan as necessary to reach a balanced budget. The fact is, it is not necessary to make such extreme spending cuts in order to balance the budget, and that will be clearly demonstrated by the Stenholm-Orton-Peterson plan that will be offered as an alternative to the Republican plan.

Furthermore, contrary to the rhetoric surrounding the Republican plan, the greatest significance of this measure is not its role in producing a balanced budget. Of far greater consequence is the fact that it will result in a monumental shift of resources from poor and middle-income Americans to the wealthiest Americans. It is a cruel, meanspirited, and misguided measure that will reward well-to-do Americans and special interests, and punish the poor.

What else but cruel can you consider a measure that provides a tax credit worth several hundred dollars per child for families earning $200,000, but not for families earning $20,000? That cuts taxes for the top 1 percent of earners by an average of $14,000, while raising taxes for millions of working families? What is fair about requiring hard-working, but low-wage American workers to foot the bill for a tax cut for doctors and lawyers and corporate executives and—yes—Members of Congress?

What else but meanspirited can you consider a bill that pulls the rug out from under working families by cutting not only the earned income tax credit, but also Medicaid, food stamps, child care assistance—the support that parents working in low-wage jobs need to stay off welfare?

What else but misguided can you consider a bill that raises the cost of student loans—the primary means available to moderate-income families to give their children a leg up in life? A bill that jeopardizes the retirement security of millions of working Americans by allowing corporations to raid workers' pension funds? And yet, at the same time, abolishes the alternative minimum tax that ensures that profitable corporations are not able to use multiple tax loopholes to escape paying taxes?

What else but wrongheaded can you consider a bill that provides special deals for industries that want to use the natural resources that belong to all Americans—giveaways of Federal resources for mining, timber, ranching, and oil and gas interests? And special deals for concessionaires in our national parks, and for ski operators in our national forests?

Mr. Speaker, this is a bad rule, for a terrible bill. I urge Members to vote ''no'' on the previous question, ''no'' on the rule, and ''no'' on the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS], one of the Members of this House who has done more to bring about some fiscal sanity than others that I know and is a member of the Committee on Rules.

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Glens Falls, NY [Mr. SOLOMON], the chairman of the Committee on Rules, for yielding me this time. I did want to underscore some of the points that he made in his excellent opening remarks.

This truly is a momentous day and certainly one of the most noteworthy in my short tenure as a member of this body. Before the sun sets today, we actually are going to pass a 7-year balanced budget plan that wipes out our national deficits and allows us to begin the process of paying down our enormous Federal debt. That is a major accomplishment and major good news for America.

We will deliver this product to the American people, because it is the right thing to do and because they have asked us to do it. No doubt we will continue to hear the words of doom, gloom, and fear from those on the other side who are still imprisoned in the status quo. Given the dire predictions and the red hot rhetoric we have already heard from the naysayers, some people might conclude that this is just about cuts, that we are gutting all that is great and good about America, instead of what we are really doing, which is excising layers of government fat that have grown up over the past 40 years.

In fact, it may surprise people to know that Federal spending under this proposal is actually slated to grow, I said grow, significantly in each of the 7 years ahead. In fact, this plan starts with an annual Federal spending program of $1.5 trillion and ends with an annual spending program that is a full $300 billion more than that. Yet in that 7th year, 2002, we will have also balanced the budget.

Now, how do we do that? It is possible because we are allowing our economy to grow. We are creating jobs, opportunities for Americans to work, opportunities to expand our economy, while at the same time we control the cancerous growth of rampant, runaway Federal spending which so many have closed their eyes to for so long.

Two years ago I stood in staunch opposition to President Clinton's budget reconciliation bill, the largest tax hike in history. Three years before that I opposed the deal worked out between President Bush and congressional Democrats. Both of these budgets had two basic flaws. They allowed for continued deficits as far as the eye could see, and they raised taxes at a time when we should have been addressing our chronic spending problem.

This year is different. We are eliminating redundant and wasteful spending. We are preserving and strengthening our vital health care programs, Medicare and Medicaid. We are reforming welfare, and we are allowing all Americans to keep more of what they earn by lowering taxes. It is their money, not Washington's.

Mr. Speaker, as one would expect, given a change of this magnitude, there have been disagreements on individual items within the package. Indeed,

there are several elements of this bill that remain troubling to me, but I have concluded that the fundamental and overriding interest of balancing the Federal books while unshackling the American people from the grip of excessive Federal Government far outweighs the drawbacks of certain of the items. In fact, Washington does not know it all.

Mr. Speaker, with all the rhetoric surrounding this debate, I recall the words of President Theodore Roosevelt who said, ''Aggressive fighting for the right is the noblest sport the world affords.'' We are today engaged in such a noble sport. We are preserving the integrity of the U.S. Government and the viability of America for our children, our grandchildren, our parents, and ourselves. I am proud of that effort, and I obviously support this rule to get us started along this 7-year path to balance the budget.

Notwithstanding the points from my good friend and colleague from California, Mr. BEILENSON, about management procedures, I believe that this is a fair rule and an appropriate rule for the reconciliaton budget process, and I certainly think it is fairer than the one we saw in the previous year. I urge support for the rule and support for the bill.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY], our distinguished friend and the ranking Democratic member of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from California for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, The more I look at this bill, the more horrified I become.

This bill is an enormous collection of heartless attacks on American children, senior citizens, and working families.

And the worst part, the most disappointing aspect of this whole horrible collection of mean-spirited cuts—is that they are made in order to lower taxes for the very, very rich.

Mr. Speaker, that is not why we were sent to Congress.

We were not sent here to cut $270 billion from Medicare on which 40 million seniors rely; We were not sent here to cut $182 billion from Medicaid, a program 4.4 million American children desperately need but will not get.

We were not sent here to cut $54 million from energy assistance for working families. And we certainly were not sent here to do all of that, in order to parcel out goodies to the very rich.

Mr. Speaker, I know it is too outrageous to believe but it is true without these Medicare cuts, this supposedly balanced budget has an $82 billion deficit.

Last week's Medicare vote and this vote are the same thing. Any one of my colleagues who votes for this bill is voting to put the squeeze on grandmothers, grandfathers, children, and working families, in order to give a tax break to the very rich.

This is an outrageous excuse for a bill and if it becomes law, it will mean some very dark days for many Americans.

This bill, takes from the mouths of babes, from the health care of seniors, from the education of students, and gives straight to the pockets of the rich.

I urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question.

□ 1000

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. PRYCE], a new member of the Committee on Rules this year who brought wisdom and common sense to our Committee on Rules and our Congress, a former judge from Columbus, OH.

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of this rule. Once again, this House faces an historic opportunity to choose between the policies of the status quo or to chart a bold new path for the future.

The Democrats argue that we are going too far too fast. Yet many on our side of the aisle believe we have not gone nearly far enough. The truth is the Republican Congress has worked long and hard to bring us to this moment in time when we are about to pass legislation to end years of rapidly expanding Government and to start this pendulum swinging the other way. Very simply, the bill before us will shift the focus of Government from quantity to quality and from spending to service.

Mr. Speaker, our national debt is nearly $5 trillion. It is very hard for mere mortals to comprehend $5 trillion. So here is an example paraphrased from the Wall Street Journal that can help us understand. Let us say Congress will try to pay the $5 trillion national debt by putting $1 every second into a special account. If 1 million seconds adds up to 12 days, then 1 billion seconds is roughly 32 years. And 1 trillion seconds is nearly 32,000 years.

In order to pay off the debt, Congress would have to deposit $1 into the account every second for the next 160,000 years. That is more time than the amount of time that has passed since the Ice Age.

As our author of this legislation, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH] told the Committee on Rules yesterday, if you had a business which lost a million dollars a day since the time that Christ walked on this earth, your business still would be far better off than this country is now.

Mr. Speaker, we have to get this under control. Lately many of my friends on the other side of the aisle have accused Republicans of being heartless, saying our budget is an attack on children. Yet a child born today will have to pay $187,000 in his or her lifetime just to pay the interest on this national debt.

So I ask, Mr. Speaker, what is so compassionate about spending money we simply do not have and then saddling our children and grandchildren with this enormous debt? Is it compassionate to condemn our children to a lower standard of living than we enjoy? The answer is clearly no. Further, it simply is arrogant to believe that Washington has a monopoly on compassion, that only Federal solutions can address problems on the State and local level.

Our plan, Mr. Speaker, suggests that there is more compassion at the level of local government with our Governors, with our mayors, with our city councils than there is in nameless, faceless Federal bureaucrats.

In closing, let me say that House Resolution 245 is a responsible rule. I urge my colleagues to adopt it and the underlying legislation so that we can begin to swing the pendulum back to an era of growth, productivity and financial security for our children and for future generations.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. WARD].

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, when the budget resolution upon which today's bill is being based was considered by this body, I stood in this very spot to challenge it based on House rule XXI, which requires a three-fifths vote of the House in order to increase taxes, a measure that was supported by the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY] and the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH], and a rule that I wholeheartedly supported as a freshman on my first day here.

Speaker GINGRICH ruled me out of order by saying that the budget was a resolution, not a bill. He advised me to study the rules. Well, Mr. Speaker, I have studied the rules. I find that the issue before us today is a bill, and it should have this rule applied to it. But now I am told that after midnight, last night, today's debate was arranged in such a way that, although Speaker GINGRICH said on January 4 that no tax increase would take place without a three-fifths majority, that this bill would be exempt from that rule. If it is a tax increase, it should require a three-fifths majority; and, if the rule is being waived today, it must be a tax increase.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DOGGETT].

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, our Republican budget chairman is correct. The pendulum of power has swung. It has swung smack-dab into the faces of American seniors, smack-dab into the faces of students trying to get a full education and into the faces of working Americans who want to claim a share of the American dream.

They give us a new sick tax for the old. They raise new barriers to education for the young and more taxes on working Americans. That is why we call this Republican bill wreckonciliation; it is a wreck for working American families.

Of course, they spell it different. They leave off the W. They call it reconciliation, like after a divorce. But you know, they are still so divorced from reality in America, the reality of what it is to work hard, to try to make ends meet for a family, the reality of what it is to survive on a Social Security check and rely on America, so divorced from a reality that their spokesman, our Republican colleague from North Carolina, thinks $183,000 is lower middle class.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I sit here in amazement when I listen to this. We are supposed to be responsible people. When you look at what we are doing with this budget, my colleagues, we are not cutting WIC. We are not cutting Head Start. We are not cutting Green Thumb. We are not cutting the RSV programs which are such good programs. We are not cutting school lunch programs.

Let me tell Members what we are doing. We are reconstructing this Federal Government. Do Members know how we are doing it? We are doing it the same way that business and industry are forced to do it in order to survive, to make a profit.

I want Members to listen to some of these words because if they read these bills here, this is what this contains. This does not contain cuts for the truly needy. My colleagues will not hear me mention one word about it.

This is what we are doing. We are merging. Ever hear that word before? We are consolidating. We are eliminating. We are privatizing. We are defunding, and we are outright abolishing dozens of antiquated, duplicative, and unnecessary bureaus, agencies, administrations, offices, commissions, and for the first time whole departments.

Do my colleagues know who is squealing like stuck pigs? It is the bureaucrats inside Washington, the taxers, the spenders, the regulators. These are the people that are being cut, and we are going to balance this budget no matter what because what is compassionate about piling this kind of irresponsible debt on our children and our grandchildren?

Mr. Speaker, you have grandchildren. I have four of them now. We are going to have some fiscal sanity in this body starting here today. This bill is going to pass with overwhelming support in this body, and we will bring about fiscal sanity.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from West Virginia [Mr. WISE].

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, after all the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Rules has said about merging and acquisition and all that, they are cutting. They are not only cutting; they are gutting.

Balancing the budget is about balancing sacrifice. There is no balance of sacrifice here. People get to keep their own money, I hear. Let me tell you who is keeping their own money. Earn over $100,000 a year, you are about 1 percent of the population, you get to keep $2,400. Earn $350,000, you get to keep $14,000.

If you are in West Virginia and you are one of the 85 percent of our State that earns less than $50,000, you will pay $530 more out of pocket either in increased taxes or lost program benefits such as student loans and Medicare. Why is it that Medicare has to be cut $270 billion, when the Medicare trustees themselves, the stewards of the fund, say only $90 billion is sufficient? The reason is for a tax cut, a tax cut that goes to the wealthiest individuals in this country.

We are talking about balancing budgets. But we are not talking here about balancing sacrifice. West Virginians say we all know we have to come to the table. We all know we have to give something. But when 85 percent of the people are having to give directly out of their pockets, directly out of their middle class and middle income abilities to make sure that those over $100,000 are able to keep far more of their money, that is not balanced sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, we must, oppose this resolution and this bill. This is about tax breaks for the wealthiest individuals, not about balancing budgets.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY], the distinguished majority leader.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to just take a moment to point out that the previous speaker who opposes tax relief in this bill opposes tax relief for 155,000 working families in his home State of West Virginia, including 13,392 families who would have their entire Federal income tax burden eliminated by the budget bill that he opposes today.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from West Virginia [Mr. WISE].

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, the majority leader does not point out that he raises taxes on 70,000 working lower income West Virginians, those under $24,000 a year. He does not point out that the tax bill he supported 2 years ago would have greatly given the wealthiest a tax break while the lowest income West Virginians would have received a tax increase. He does not point out that he is taking money out of 300,000 senior West Virginians, 400,000 of those on Medicaid, 700,000 total.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WISE. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, nor does he point out that every Texas grandmother and young child is worth half as much as one in New York under his bill.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Utah [Mr. ORTON].

Mr. ORTON. Mr. Speaker. I rise to reluctantly oppose the rule. I am reluctant because at least we will have an opportunity to present the coalition budget. But I oppose the rule because we only get 30 minutes to explain it, which simply is not enough. So let me take 45 minutes to point out one change in our budget.

We assume a change in the Consumer Price Index. The Consumer Price Index is an assumption, an economic assumption. Virtually all of the economists, including Alan Greenspan, have indicated that the CPI formula overstates inflation by up to a percentage point. Ours is not the only budget to make this assumption or make this change. In the Republican budget originally there was a six-tenths of a percentage change. There is now a two-tenths of a percentage change.

Let me simply say, I hope that we can really debate issues and we will not be attacked as raising taxes or cutting Social Security as a result of this. We have got virtually all of the Republicans on record who spoke in the debate of the original resolution saying that this is not any such tax increase. It is simply an economic formula change. I hope we will not get into that.

The Speaker has indicated that he in fact would support such a change if the President would, but somebody has got to step forward and propose it. We are doing that.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker. I yield 1 minute to our friend, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. KENNEDY].

(Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, in the words of the great movie ''Cool Hand Luke,'' what we have here is a failure to communicate.

We have Republicans accusing Democrats of being stuck in the old FDR policies, but the truth of the matter is, it is the Republicans that are stuck in the FDR era. Anybody that has benefited in any way from Government spending is the target of their cuts.

They go about providing a phenomenal tax cut to the richest people in this country, providing literally $20,000 a year to people with incomes above $350,000 and, at the same time, go about raising taxes on the some of the poorest people and the working families of this country. They cut off student loans. They go after the nursing home standards. They go after a $450 billion cut on Medicare and the Medicaid and senior citizens of this country.

Why not ask everybody to participate? Why increase the defense spending this year? Why provide a tax cut to the wealthiest people in the country? Why not ask corporate America to participate instead of lavishing on corporate American additional tax bennies? Why not ask us to stand up to Gallo Wine, to stand up to McDonald's hamburgers, to stand up to the mining

industry, the lumber industry, and all of the industries that have so many benefits that are sprinkled throughout this bill?

Let us come up with a balanced budget but let us do it with equity and equanimity in terms of this country's policies.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker. I yield 30 seconds to the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. DREIER] a member of the Committee on Rules from Claremont, CA.

□ 1015

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the 30 seconds from the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], my chairman, and I do so to simply point out that my very good friend, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. KENNEDY], who appears to have left the floor here, opposes tax relief to 656,736 working families in his State of Massachusetts including 77,225 families who would have their entire Federal tax burden eliminated under the budget bill that he is opposing today, and I think it is a sad commentary.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker. I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE].

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am here this morning to tell the truth, and I appreciate the gentleman from California, my Republican colleague's unwavering support of $270 billion in Medicare cuts, but I am not sure if he realizes that 1,200 families in his district will be cut off the earned income tax credit and will be paying more taxes or not getting the benefit of the earned income tax credit by this budget reconciliation proposal.

Since, I have come this morning to the part of the truth squad, I know my Republican colleagues realize what the Budget Reconciliation Act means to Americans. It means they are going to be locked up and hauled off to jail as this picture reflects of a senior citizen in handcuffs taken away from the one Republican held hearing on Medicare. That is what happened in the U.S. Congress when someone came, an elderly citizen, to protest the Medicare cuts. The truth should be told on how severe these cuts will be on seniors, working families, children, and our youth.

We do not have a budget deficit problem which has been misrepresented by the Republican majority. What we have is a U.S. budget deficit that has fallen for the last three years. From a high of almost $300 billion to much lower and it is going down every year. We have the best economy in the Western World. Other nations, like Japan and Germany, are wondering how we do it. We have the lowest unemployment, but, as my colleagues know, what we need in America is for working men and women, to have higher incomes, we need to make sure Medicare is in place and we certainly do not need $270 billion in tax cuts, eliminating student loans and health care for our children. We need student loans for our children. We need health care through Medicare and Medicaid. This budget can be balanced with cuts that do not hurt working men and women.

This is what is happening to the American people. Stop the untruths, this debate today should be on how this budget should be for America not against America.

My Speaker, I add quotes from the following article for the RECORD:

U.S. BUDGET DEFICIT FALLS FOR 3D YEAR

(By John M. Berry)

The deficit hit a record $290 billion in fiscal 1992 before dropping to $255 billion in 1993 and $203 billion in 1994. Strong economic growth as well as the spending cuts and tax increases in Clinton's 1993 legislation have been responsible for bringing the deficit to its lowest level since 1989.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 15 seconds to the gentleman from Claremont, CA [Mr. DREIER].

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], the distinguished chairman, once again for being extraordinarily generous with his time, and I would like to simply point out that the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE], my friend, in opposing this bill is opposing tax relief to 2,016,767 Texans including 285,572 hard-working Texans who will be taken completely off the Federal income tax roll, and it is a very sad commentary on the representation made.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE].

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California [Mr. DREIER] for his dutiful comment on my representation. Let say to him that I am proud of my representation because I know that the people in Texas will lose $24 million in Medicare over 7 years by this cut. Texas will see over 200,000 children lose medicaid coverage. Many of our Texas students who get student loans will also not get those student loans. Local health services for those using the Harris County Hospital District and those in need of mental health services being lost! And let me tell my Republican colleagues it is more important for me to stand for my constituents. They will be hurt by this budget reconciliation bill. This is an absolute travesty.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE].

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to point out that in the gentleman from California's district 22,750 taxpayers will see their taxes increased under this proposal.

Basically what we are seeing here are huge cuts in Medicare/Medicaid and other programs for middle-income Americans and low-income Americans in order to pay for tax breaks for the wealthy. I wanted to just talk briefly about those low-income seniors, mostly windows, which were discussed last week on the Medicare bill, and how they are going to be negatively impacted by this Medicaid bill and the refusal of the committee on Rules to include a provision, an amendment, today that would have protected them.

Right now those seniors who are eligible for Medicaid have Medicaid pay for their part B premium under Medicare which means that that $46 per month, which will go up to and double under the Republican proposal to almost $90 per month that these low-income seniors have to pay in order to get their part B Medicare premium, that pays for their doctor's bill. Right now that is paid for by Medicaid, but this bill would eliminate that guarantee for those people, for those millions of widows and other low-income seniors, who right now have their doctor bills and their doctor benefits paid for by Medicaid.

Mr. Speaker, I went before the Committee on Rules yesterday, and I asked that that amendment be considered that would provide that guarantee, and we were denied that even though last week on the floor of this House at the conclusion of the Medicare debate the Speaker, Speaker GINGRICH, said that this legislation was going to provide that guarantee for those widows and for those low-income seniors. Mr. Speaker, I want all my colleagues to know that there is no guarantee in this bill for those individuals, particularly those widows. The Speaker said that he was going to provide the guarantee. There is no guarantee. When we went before the Committee On Rules and asked that that be placed in order today, we were told, no, it would not be considered.

I think it is really terrible that in a context where it is suggested and it is being implemented that all these major tax cuts for wealthy Americans and those low-income seniors will not have their physician's bills paid under this legislation.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO].

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, today's historic vote will have a profound impact on the people we were sent here to represent. As the debate draws to a close, Members must stand and be counted on a fundamental question, will we provide lavish tax breaks for wealthy people and for multinational corporations or will we protect Medicare for America's seniors. The Gingrich plan that the House will vote on today is a shameful payoff for the rich and well-connected special interests paid for by a $270 billion raid on Medicare, and the American people know it.

Thirty years ago another Congress took another historic vote to create a health care system for our Nation's seniors. Not a single Republican voted for that creation of Medicare, including the majority leader of the other body, and yesterday he bragged of that

vote saying that we knew it would not work.

On this side of the street Speaker GINGRICH joined the trashing of Medicare, and on Tuesday he revealed the real GOP plan to destroy Medicare. Speaker GINGRICH said that we did not get rid of it in the first round because we do not think that that is politically smart, and he further said that we believe that it will, Medicare will, wither on the vine.

Mr. Speaker, those comments to that extent are sour grapes for seniors in this country.

Today Republicans are closing in on their 30-year goal to end Medicare, but while Republican leaders say that Medicare does not work, America's seniors know that it does work, and for 30 years it has worked. It has stood for generations as a sacred compact between our Government and our seniors. It represents a core value system that has made this country great. It embodies the principle that citizens who work hard all their lives, raise their children, pay their bills, and play by the rules will not be thrown out onto the street in their sunset years.

This budget has nothing to do with saving Medicare or with paying off our debt. It has everything to do with tax cuts for the rich, and health care for the seniors is an easy target. When the bells sound for Members to record their votes, I hope my colleagues will put the American people before the special interests. The American people deserve no less.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida [Mr. GIBBONS].

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, it pains me to get up here and have to talk about this subject, but it needs to be said.

I served here in the House in 1965 when Mr. DOLE voted against Medicare. I saw him do it, I heard him do it, and it pains me to hear that Speaker GINGRICH now says, yes, we have a plan to get rid of Medicare, but we cannot do it right now because, if we do, the seniors will get mad at us.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell the seniors this. This bill contains the Medicare cuts. The bill contains the end of Medicare. Let me tell the seniors where it is in this bill. It is in the fail-safe device that the Republicans put in this Medicare bill. It is tucked in their where we cannot see. We do not know it is going to hit us, but it requires the Secretary of HEW to make the cuts in Medicare, particularly in the fee-for-service part of Medicare, if all of their wonderful, dreamy goals are not met to cut $270 billion out of Medicare.

Mr. Speaker, it is all in this bill today, and Members of Congress should realize that when they vote for this today, particularly Republican Members of Congress ought to realize, that when they vote on this today, and listen to me, Mr. SOLOMON, listen to me, listen to me:

When you vote for this today, you're voting to end Medicare. You're voting to end Medicare. Don't be hoodwinked. It is in your proposal. It is in there in the fail-safe device that will put an end to Medicare, and the Gingrich-Dole plan to end Medicare is in this vote today.

This is a serious, serious matter. This is not just about balancing the budget. This is putting an end, this proposal that DOLE and GINGRICH have cooked up, to get rid of Medicare.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Loveland, CO [Mr. ALLARD], a very distinguished Member of this body.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, today, the 104th Congress will make history. We will enact a 7-year program that will balance the Federal budget for the first time in 33 years. For far too long, the Federal Government has lived too well. It has done so at the expense of hard-working Americans.

Deficits became a way of life for the Federal Government in the 1960's, 1970's, and 1980's. Unfortunately, they have continued into the 1990's. This plan marks a fundamental departure from the past by finally putting Uncle Sam on a diet.

This new Congress has kept its commitment to our children and grandchildren. We said we would balance the budget, and we will do it.

Last spring, defenders of the status quo defeated a balanced budget constitutional amendment. This was a setback, and many observers felt that Republicans would then simply abandon the hard work of actually balancing the budget. The skeptics were wrong. They misjudged our resolve.

Those of us elected to Congress in recent years have been particularly committed to changing the way the Federal Government does business. For years, as a veterinarian, small business owner, and State legislator, I watched one Congress after another squander our children's economic future. I grew sick of it.

Even when the American people elected Ronald Reagan as President in two successive landslides, the Congress ignored his desire to slow the growth of Federal spending. President Reagan was fond of saying that ''we could say they [Congress] spend money like drunken sailors, but that would be unfair to drunken sailors.'' At least ''the sailors are spending their own money.''

When I ran for Congress in 1990, I made one principle commitment to the people of Colorado, I would do everything I could to balance the Federal budget. That is why I am so proud to stand here today and cast what will surely be one of the most important votes I will ever cast.

Judging by the rhetoric of those who oppose this plan one might get the impression that it contains devastating cuts. This charge indicates how far removed from reality the defenders of deficits have drifted. This budget does not cut spending at all, it simply slows the rate of increase.

Let me review some very important numbers. Over the last 7 years Federal spending totaled $9.5 trillion. Over the 7 years of this balanced budget plan, 1996–2002, the Federal Government will spend a total of over $12 trillion. Where I come from that is an increase, and it is a very substantial one.

Similarly, for those who seem to think the family and business tax cuts are excessive, I point out that over the last 7 years total Federal tax receipts were just under $8 trillion, while over the next 7 years Federal tax receipts will total $11.2 trillion. That also is an increase. In fact, our tax cut reduces projected tax receipts over the next 7 years by only 2 percent. That's right, 2 percent less revenue. And we give the money back to the hard-working families who earned it in the first place.

The modest tax cut makes particular sense in light of President Clinton's revelation that even he believes the 1993 tax hike was excessive.

It is important to keep in mind why we must balance the budget. This endeavor is about much more than numbers. It is about the future standard of living for our children.

Much focus has been placed on the supposed pain of the budget restraint in our plan. This ignores the vast benefits of balancing the budget.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has stated repeatedly that balancing the budget will have a dramatic positive impact on the confidence of American families. He has also made clear his belief that interest rates would drop significantly. This view is confirmed by a recent DRI/McGraw-Hill analysis for the National Association of Realtors. According to their data, the average 30-year mortgage will drop 2.7 percentage points. On a 30-year $50,000 mortgage at 8¼-percent interest, families would save over $1,000 a year in interest payments. Now that is a real difference in people's lives.

Similarly, college loans would be much more manageable. A college student who borrows $11,000 at 8-percent interest will pay more than $2,000 less in total interest payments if rates drop just 2 percent.

Another example comes with the farm sector. While this budget reduces farm payments by $13 billion over 7 years, the Agriculture Committee estimates that a 1.5-percent reduction in interest rates will save farmers over $15 billion in payments on the outstanding farm debt over the next 7 years. And under our Freedom to Farm plan those farmers will have much more freedom to plant the crops they wish. They will also run their farms with fewer Agriculture Department bureaucrats lending a helping hand.

These are just a few examples of how lower interest rates will help families and our economy. Younger generations will benefit from lower rates for decades to come.

But it is not just the young who benefit from this budget, it is also seniors. This is a senior friendly budget. We do not touch Social Security, and we still increase Medicare spending by 6.5 percent a year. In the process we give seniors much greater freedom and control over the expenditure of their health care dollars.

I have been particularly gratified by the large number of letters I have received from seniors who say ''just do it!'' They realize that some sacrifice will be required of them, but

they want the budget balanced, an they know that we strengthen Social Security and Medicare by getting our fiscal house in order.

Last year, we made a contract with America. This balanced budget represents the very essence of that contract—a Federal Government that will be smaller, less intrusive, and more efficient. We have kept our contract, and in so doing we have done more to restore faith in our form of government than has been done in many years.

□ 1030

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. RICHARDSON].

(Mr. RICHARDSON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, although I support a balanced budget, this Republican bill is too extreme. It takes our country in the wrong direction.

I want to make it clear to the American people exactly what is wrong with this bill.

The Republican bill cuts student loans and forces students and their parents to bear the burden of paying even more for a college education.

It makes excessive cuts to Medicare by increasing the average senior's out-of-pocket cost by nearly $400 per year in order to give a tax break for the wealthy.

It makes deep cuts in long term care that will raise the cost for nursing homes and will force seniors out of nursing homes, or bankrupt their families who are trying to care for their parents and grandparents.

It eliminates the guarantee of Medicaid by threatening the health care of over 36 million low-income children, elderly, and disabled Americans—our most vulnerable Americans.

It curbs the quality of nursing homes for elderly Americans by repealing the minimum Federal requirements.

And it cuts the earned income tax credit which provides a modest tax break for the lowest-income families. These EITC cuts are a tax increase on the lowest-income working families in our country.

I am pleased that there will be a strong democratic alternative that has been praised by the Washington Post as a respectable, disciplined alternative that is easily the best horse in the race. It will balance the budget by 2002 without the extreme cuts in Medicare, it gets rid of any tax cut until the budget is balaned, it preserves the tax credit for the working poor, and it does not cut education.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to get our House in order, yet it should be done the smart way. The Republican bill only burdens hard-working, middle class Americans for the benefit of the wealthy and it must be defeated.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. MORAN].

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, when the Republican Contract With America tax act came to the floor a few months ago, I raised the point that that was in violation of the law that was passed at the very beginning of this session, that any tax increase required a three-fifths vote of this Congress. At the time, the Parliamentarian accepted what was certainly a specious judgment on the part of the Joint Tax Committee, that it did not in fact increase taxes. Subsequently, the Parliamentarian has conceded that it did, and in fact should have been required to have a three-fifths vote of this Congress in order to pass the House.

What has occurred subsequently, Mr. Speaker, is a recognition that much of our tax legislation does in fact violate that law that we chose to apply to ourselves, at least the Republican side of the aisle chose to apply it, but I think the vast majority of us agree, and what is most troubling is that in the biggest bills, for example, in the Medicare bill that we just took up, a $270 billion bill, the rule waived this three-fifths requirement.

There are some taxpayers who will in fact pay a 50 percent tax increase on the part B Medicare insurance premium. They are not aware of that. Most Members in the Congress are not. Certainly, it is in gross violation of the three-fifths requirement. That is why it was waived.

Again today, this rule waives that three-fifths requirement. I understand the argument that was raised, although I certainly cannot agree with it. Essentially what we are saying is it is inconvenient to apply it. There are several ways in which we violate the law that we earlier enacted. We passed a law that said that we ought to abide by the laws we apply to the private sector. Certainly, we ought to comply with the laws that we pass for ourselves. We ought not waive it when in fact it is inconvenient. That is what we are doing today.

I could cite several instances where there is, in fact, an income tax increase in this bill that in fact does require that there ought to be a three-fifths rule in order to pass it. I grant you, we will lose the vote on this rule, but the American public needs to know that a rule that they thought was going to protect them is being waived as part of this rule.

The biggest one is an income tax increase that will apply to low-income citizens. I have a long list of every one of the leadership of the Republican side of the aisle here saying that this three-fifths vote was going to protect all Americans. It did not say ''all Americans of higher income,'' it did not say ''all Americans except those of low-income.'' It said all Americans, but today low-income Americans will pay much more in taxes that they cannot afford if we were to pass this bill.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Michigan [Mr. BONIOR], the Democratic whip.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, we've heard talk about this budget. But there's one thing that supporters of this budget have never understood.

They've never understood the soul of this Nation.

They've never understood the poetry that is America.

The dignity of a senior who doesn't have to beg to see a doctor.

The grace of a woman with a disability able to live on her own.

The pride of a student who's earned the grades to go to college.

The self-respect of a mother working her way out of poverty.

People who just need a chance. Who just need someone to believe in them.

This budget doesn't reward the best in us. It appeals to the worst in us.

It doesn't reward our best instincts. It tramples our most basic values.

We're told that this is a courageous budget. But there's nothing courageous about cutting Medicare, Medicaid, and student loans just to pay for tax breaks for the wealthy.

We're told that Medicare is being saved. But Tuesday, the Senate majority leader bragged he was proud of his 1965 vote against Medicare saying ''we knew it wouldn't work.''

And yesterday Speaker GINGRICH himself told an insurance group, quote, ''We don't get rid of (Medicare) in round one because we don't think that that's smart politically but we believe it's going to whither on the vine.''

This budget doesn't save Medicare, it destroys it. And now we have it straight from the horse's mouth.

This budget is nothing but the biggest transfer of wealth from seniors and working families to the wealthy in the history of America.

I say to my Republican friends: don't come to this floor today and tell us that this isn't a tax break for the wealthy. Because 106 members of your own conference once signed a letter that said it was a tax break for the wealthy.

And don't tell us that families will pay less under this budget. Because the bipartisan Committee on Taxation says that 7 out of 10 families will pay the same or more.

It wasn't a Democrat who said, and I quote, ''this is a tax increase on low income workers and the poor which is unconscionable at this time.'' That was Jack Kemp—a Republican.

If this isn't a tax increase then why did you have to wave the rule that says all tax increases require a vote of three-fifths of this House?

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better. We may not have the votes to beat this rule. We may not have the votes to beat this budget. But we do have the votes to sustain a veto.

I urge my colleagues: Stop this tax increase on families. Stop this destruction of Medicare. Stop this war on our kids. And say no to this shameful budget.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California [Mr. DREIER], a member of the Committee on Rules and one of the most fiscally conservative Members of this body.

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, 3 years ago next month I had the opportunity, having worked hard in his campaign, to vote for the reelection of George Bush. Like most Republicans, I was saddened

that he was not reelected, but it really began a new day for me. I was elected in 1980 and had served for 12 years with Republican Presidents. I was ready to take on this new experience of serving with a Member of the opposing political party down at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

A few weeks after the election I wrote on Op-Ed piece in the Los Angeles Times. The L.A. Times has been held up here this morning. In that piece I talked about the fact that if Bill Clinton remained a new kind of Democrat, as he said he was throughout his campaign, I would do everything that I possibly could to support him.

In fact, throughout his campaign, remember, he talked about a balanced budget. That is exactly what we are pursuing with this legislation. He talked about health care reform. We are going at it a slightly different way than he probably had envisaged in his campaign in dealing with Medicare, but he nonetheless did talk about health care reform. He talked about welfare reform, individual initiative, and responsibility. That is exactly what we are working on in this legislation.

He also talked about the need for us to move ahead with reducing the tax burden on middle-income working Americans. We know that 75 percent of the tax reduction in this package goes to people earning less than $60,000 a year. He also talked about reducing the capital gains tax rate. Why? Because he knew that encouraging savings and investment and productivity would be key to economic growth.

It seems to me that, as we look at these items, along with his desire to reduce the regulatory burden that he outlined in his campaign, we, with this reconciliation package, are in fact helping him keep his campaign promises of 1992.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that while the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] and the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] and I were yesterday in the Committee on Rules saying ''Gosh, if you look at the fact that over the next 7 years we are going to see a 24-percent increase, a 24-percent increase in the level of Federal spending,'' that gives some of us a little concern. What it does is it shows that we are willing to recognize that there is a Democrat in the White House, there are Democrats in both Houses of Congress, and we are trying to do this in a bipartisan way.

Tragically, rather than recognizing that it is a 24-percent increase, all they do is describe it as draconian cuts. We are working to protect, preserve, and strengthen the Medicare system, contrary to anything that has been said on the other side of the aisle. Actually, this package does just that.

One of the great concerns in my State of California happens to be the issue of illegal immigration. While we are working toward a balanced budget we are actually including three times as much as the President does in his budget to deal with the issue of illegal immigration.

Reimbursement for Medicaid. We also, in this package, are looking at reimbursement to the States for the incarceration of illegals. This rule will deal with that issue, the Bliley amendment.

It seems to me that we have a great responsibility as Members of Congress to try to come together in a bipartisan way. I am very happy to say that our party does have the majority that we need to pass this very important measure, so we can get on that glidepath toward a balanced budget, so we can in fact reduce the tax burden on working Americans, and so we can, as a byproduct of that, decrease interest rates and put into place the kind of government that the American people desperately want.

Mr. Speaker, I urge an ''aye'' vote on this rule, and an ''aye'' vote for the reconciliation package.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the remainder of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California [Mr. BEILENSON] is recognized for 30 seconds.

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I would say first of all to my friend, the gentleman from California, that 22,750 working families in his own district will have their taxes raised by this bill that they are so strongly supporting.

Mr. Speaker, I urge defeat of the previous question. If the previous question is defeated we shall offer an amendment which would do two things: Strike the increase on taxes on 8 million American working families that the bill causes by cutting the earned income tax credit; and it would, second, strike the provision in the rule waiving the requirement for a three-fifths vote on any measure carrying a Federal income tax increase.

Mr. Speaker, I include our amendment for the RECORD, and I urge a ''no'' vote on the previous question.

The amendment referred to is as follows:

On page 3, lines 1 and 2, strike ''modified by the amendments printed in the report'' and insert ''modified by the amendments printed in section 3 of this resolution and in the report''.

On page 4, lines 7 through 9, strike ''Clause 5(c) of rule XXI shall not apply to the bill, amendments thereto, or conference reports thereon.''

At the end of the resolution, add the following new section:

''SEC. 3. Strike sections 13701 and 13702 (relating to earned income tax credit) and redesignate succeeding sections accordingly.''

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] is recognized for 3¾ minutes.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I just have sat here for an hour in total amazement, because I have heard speaker after speaker after speaker after speaker stand up and say ''We need to spend more money here, we need to spend more money there.'' Mr. Speaker, we have been spending more money here and more money there for years and years. We have just about ruined this country.

It means so much to young people today to be able to have a job and to be able to take home enough pay to save a little bit of money each week in order to accumulate a downpayment on a home, and then to have enough money in their take home pay to meet a mortgage, and then to have children. That is what I did with my family many years ago. We had five children almost right in a row, and then we had to educate them all and put them in college at one time, but we were able to accumulate a little bit of money in order to buy that home and to educate those children. Today, they cannot do that, because the Government takes so much money out of their pocket. I hear that we are cutting this budget.

When some of our colleagues were going to the Speaker, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH] and complaining that we were cutting too much, or they wanted to spend more here, I went to him and said ''Mr. Speaker, I don't think we are cutting enough. We are going to spend $3 trillion more over the next 7 years than we spent in the last 7 years. That is an increase in spending almost across the board. It is not enough.''

□ 1045

Mr. Speaker, I say to my colleagues, it is a giant step in the right direction.

We have a $5 trillion debt today, and that costs the taxpayers $250 billion in interest just to pay the Netherlands and Great Britain and the foreign countries that hold our debt, $250 billion that we cannot use to spend on truly needed programs. When President Clinton gave us a budget this year, it called for $1 additional trillion added to the national debt. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues what that would have done to that interest payment. It would have increased it by another $100 billion.

God forbid in inflation had set back in like it did in the late 1970's under President Jimmy Carter at 10 and 11 and 12 percent. That interest payment annually would have grown to $600 billion. Every time you spend more money on interest, you have less money to help the truly needy.

The fiscally responsible thing to do is to support this rule and support this bill. We have to do it for the future of this country, and I urge support for the rule and the bill.

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I oppose this rule for a number of reasons.

This rule would send to the floor provisions which increase payroll taxes on Federal employees and increase agency pension costs which have never been reported by any committee. It does so for one simple reason: to finance tax cuts for the wealthy.

You can forget all of our chairman's talk about shoring up the fiscal stability of the Federal retirement system. Both the General Accounting Office and the Congressional Research Service have confirmed that the system is sound and that it will always have sufficient assets to cover benefit payments to future and current retirees. There is no retirement crisis. These increases are unnecessary.

With respect to the Department of Commerce, the Republican leadership has chosen to ignore the work of at least five committees that marked-up this legislation. By doing so, the leadership also trashed the rules and procedures which are in place to ensure that this body functions as a democratic institution.

I find it disingenuous that the Republican leadership abolishes the Minority Business Development Agency. They are still funding the Market Promotion Program to promote hamburgers overseas, but they abolish the only agency willing to help minority-owned business get access to markets.

Third, Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose any effort to include the Debt Collection Improvement Act as part of reconciliation. This is a violation of committee procedure, and a violation of good faith.

Take my word for it: Members on both sides will regret passing this bill that takes money from the checks of poor Social Security recipients, and requires our elderly constituents to use automatic funds transfers at a bank to collect their Social Security.

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I oppose this rule. This budget includes many provisions that harm hardworking Americans. Several of these provisions do not belong in reconciliation. They deserve a separate vote. The House should have a conversation on these provisions.

An example of these provisions is the earned income tax credit [EITC]. The EITC will be drastically cut. The incentive to get off welfare and to work will be gutted. Jack Kemp testified on October 19 before the Senate Small Business Committee and stated

> ''I hope you guys do not go too far on removing the EITC because that is a tax increase on low income workers and the poor which is unconscionable at this time.''

Another example is the corporate pension reversion provision. I went to the Rules Committee with several of my colleagues and requested that we have a separate debate on this provision. We were denied. Corporations should not be allowed to raid pension funds.

There are many provisions in this budget that are unconscionable. Let's go back to the drawing board and come up with a budget that we can be proud to present to the people we represent.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURTON of Indiana). The gentleman will state it.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, am I correct that the rule that we are about to vote on waives the requirement of a 60-percent majority for a bill carrying an income tax rate increase?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. That is correct.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, a further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. MORAN. On April 5, more than 6 months ago, I came to this well and raised a point of order on a provision of the Contract With America Tax Relief Act. It was H.R. 1215 that repealed section 1(h) of the Internal Revenue Code affecting the maximum rate for long-term capital gains.

While the intent of this provision was to lower the capital gains rate, it actually increased the tax rate on the sale of certain small business stocks from 14 percent under current law to 19.8 percent. At that time, the Speaker ruled that this tax increase was not subject to the three-fifth rule.

In a June 12 letter, however, from House Parliamentarican Charles Johnson, it appears that the ruling was made in error, and the original point of order should have been sustained.

Mr. Speaker, am I correct in my summation?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Traditionally, the Chair does not rule on hypothetical questions or rule in advance on questions not yet presented. The Chair so responded to a parliamentary inquiry on October 19 during the consideration of a special order waiving the precise rule proposed to be waived by the pending special order. In other words, the Chair will not presume to respond to a question that is not presented as a matter in which the Chair might be required to hear argument and render a decision.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, a further parliamentary inquiry then.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. MORAN. Is it possible to waive this rule by a simple majority which was advertised by its sponsors as requiring a 60-percent majority for income tax rate increases, or does this rule need a 60-percent majority for its adoption?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Adoption of this rule only requires a majority vote.

Mr. MORAN. Despite the fact that it is waiving a rule that required a 60-percent majority?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. That is correct.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I have a further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. MORAN. Is it true that the bill before us today contains other tax increases that would make this bill subject to a three-fifths vote?

These additional taxes include a 50-percent tax penalty on Medicare-plus medical savings accounts withdrawals for any purpose other than medical care.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, regular order. The gentleman is making a speech.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I am explaining the parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair cannot rule on a bill that is not yet before the House.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary inquiry applies to the rule that is before us and is about to be voted on.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has already ruled on that.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I am itemizing six tax rate increases that should have required a three-fifths vote, and I want to clarify that it would trigger a three-fifths vote.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would point out that what the gentleman is referring to may be in a bill that is not yet before the body, and the Chair cannot rule on that until it is before the body, and the Chair has already ruled on the matter before us.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, if I may further clarify my intent, this is establishing a precedent.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, regular order. This is not a parliamentary inquiry. Let us get on with it. Come on.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The adoption of this rule will waive the rule that the gentleman is currently citing. The gentleman's questions are hypothetical at this point.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I would ask unanimous consent that the very real six tax increases that are contained in this bill be put into the RECORD at this point.

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

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The objection is heard.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, is the supermajority, the alleged taxpayer protection provision rule that is being suspended here the same rule that was suspended last week in the Medicare debate?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has just cited that it is clause 5(c) of rule XXI that is being waived.

Mr. DOGGETT. So it was waived last week and waived this week.

Mr. Speaker, is this supermajority protection for taxpayers as alleged in permanent suspension, or will it ever be applied?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. That is not a correct parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire of my friend from New York, Mr. SOLOMON, the chairman of the Committee on Rules, if he understands that I was only attempting to put information into the RECORD.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the previous question has been moved. If the gentleman wants to do it during the debate on the bill, that is one thing, but we have moved the previous question and we want to get on with the business. The gentleman knows that.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

Mr. SOLOMON. 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.

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule XV, the Chair announces that he will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the period of time within which a vote by electronic device, if ordered, will be taken on the question of agreeing to the resolution.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 228, nays 191, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 738]

YEAS—228

Allard
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baker (CA)
Baker (LA)
Ballenger
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Bartlett
Bass
Bateman
Bereuter
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bliley
Blute
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono
Brownback
Bryant (TN)
Bunn
Bunning
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Chrysler
Clinger
Coble
Coburn
Collins (GA)
Combest
Cooley
Cox
Crapo
Cremeans
Cubin
Cunningham
Davis
Deal
DeLay
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Doolittle
Dornan
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
English
Ensign
Everett
Ewing
Fawell
Fields (TX)
Flanagan
Foley
Forbes
Fowler
Fox
Franks (CT)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frisa
Funderburk
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Gunderson
Gutknecht
Hancock
Hansen
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hefley
Heineman
Herger
Hilleary
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hoke
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kasich
Kelly
Kim
King
Kingston
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaHood
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Laughlin
Lazio
Leach
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Lightfoot
Linder
Livingston
LoBiondo
Longley
Lucas
Manzullo
Martini
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McHugh
McInnis
McKeon
Metcalf
Meyers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Molinari
Moorhead
Morella
Myers
Myrick
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Norwood
Nussle
Oxley
Packard
Parker
Paxon
Petri
Pombo
Porter
Portman
Pryce
Quillen
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Riggs
Roberts
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roth
Roukema
Royce
Salmon
Sanford
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer
Schiff
Seastrand
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Shuster
Skeen
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Stearns
Stockman
Stump
Tate
Tauzin
Taylor (NC)
Thomas
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Torkildsen
Upton
Vucanovich
Waldholtz
Walker
Walsh
Wamp
Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Zeliff
Zimmer

NAYS—191

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Andrews
Baesler
Baldacci
Barcia
Barrett (WI)
Barton
Becerra
Beilenson
Bentsen
Berman
Bevill
Bishop
Bonior
Borski
Boucher
Brewster
Browder
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant (TX)
Cardin
Chapman
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coleman
Collins (IL)
Collins (MI)
Condit
Conyers
Costello
Coyne
Cramer
Danner
de la Garza
DeFazio
DeLauro
Dellums
Deutsch
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doyle
Durbin
Edwards
Engel
Eshoo
Evans
Farr
Fazio
Filner
Flake
Foglietta
Ford
Frank (MA)
Frost
Furse
Gejdenson
Gephardt
Geren
Gibbons
Gonzalez
Green
Gutierrez
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Hefner
Hilliard
Hinchey
Holden
Hoyer
Jackson-Lee
Jacobs
Jefferson
Johnson (SD)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnston
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kleczka
Klink
LaFalce
Lantos
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lincoln
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Luther
Maloney
Manton
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy
McDermott
McHale
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Mollohan
Montgomery
Moran
Murtha
Nadler
Neal
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Orton
Owens
Pallone
Pastor
Payne (NJ)
Payne (VA)
Pelosi
Peterson (FL)
Peterson (MN)
Pickett
Pomeroy
Poshard
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Richardson
Rivers
Roemer
Rose
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Sabo
Sanders
Sawyer
Schroeder
Schumer
Scott
Serrano
Skaggs
Skelton
Slaughter
Spratt
Stark
Stenholm
Stokes
Studds
Stupak
Tanner
Taylor (MS)
Tejeda
Thompson
Thornton
Thurman
Torres
Torricelli
Traficant
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Ward
Waters
Watt (NC)
Waxman
Williams
Wilson
Wise
Woolsey
Wyden
Wynn
Yates

NOT VOTING—13

Crane
Fattah
Fields (LA)
Greenwood
McIntosh
Mfume
Miller (CA)
Sisisky
Talent
Towns
Tucker
Volkmer
Weldon (PA)

□ 1112

Mr. BARCIA changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. DELAY, HEINEMAN, and GORDON changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURTON of Indiana). The question is on the resolution.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 235, noes 185, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 739]

AYES—235

Allard
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baker (CA)
Baker (LA)
Ballenger
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Bereuter
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bliley
Blute
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono
Brownback
Bryant (TN)
Bunn
Bunning
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Chrysler
Clinger
Coble
Coburn
Collins (GA)
Combest
Condit
Cooley
Cox
Crapo
Cremeans
Cubin
Cunningham
Davis
Deal
DeLay
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Doolittle
Dornan
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
English
Ensign
Everett
Ewing
Fawell
Fields (TX)
Foley
Forbes
Fowler
Fox
Franks (CT)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frisa
Funderburk
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Goodlatte
Goodling
Goss
Graham
Gunderson
Gutknecht
Hall (TX)
Hancock
Hansen
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Heineman
Herger
Hilleary
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hoke
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kasich
Kelly
Kim
King
Kingston
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaHood
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Laughlin
Lazio
Leach
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Lightfoot
Linder
Livingston
LoBiondo
Longley
Lucas
Manzullo
Martini
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McKeon
Metcalf
Meyers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Molinari
Montgomery
Moorhead
Morella
Myers
Myrick
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Norwood
Nussle
Oxley
Packard
Parker
Paxon
Petri
Pombo
Porter
Portman
Pryce
Quillen
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Riggs
Roberts
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roth
Roukema
Royce
Salmon
Sanford
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer
Schiff
Seastrand
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Shuster
Skeen
Skelton
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Stearns
Stockman
Stump
Tanner
Tate
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Thomas
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Torkildsen
Upton
Vucanovich
Waldholtz
Walker
Walsh
Wamp
Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
White

Whitfield
Wicker
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Zeliff
Zimmer

NOES—185

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Andrews
Baesler
Baldacci
Barcia
Barrett (WI)
Becerra
Beilenson
Bentsen
Berman
Bevill
Bishop
Bonior
Borski
Boucher
Brewster
Browder
Brown (CA)
Brown (OH)
Bryant (TX)
Cardin
Chapman
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coleman
Collins (IL)
Collins (MI)
Conyers
Costello
Coyne
Cramer
Danner
de la Garza
DeFazio
DeLauro
Dellums
Deutsch
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doyle
Durbin
Edwards
Engel
Eshoo
Evans
Farr
Fattah
Fazio
Filner
Flake
Flanagan
Foglietta
Ford
Frank (MA)
Frost
Furse
Gejdenson
Gephardt
Geren
Gibbons
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green
Gutierrez
Hall (OH)
Hamilton
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hefner
Hilliard
Hinchey
Holden
Hoyer
Jackson-Lee
Jacobs
Jefferson
Johnson (SD)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnston
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kleczka
Klink
LaFalce
Lantos
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lincoln
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Luther
Maloney
Manton
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy
McDermott
McHale
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Mollohan
Moran
Murtha
Nadler
Neal
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Orton
Owens
Pallone
Pastor
Payne (NJ)
Payne (VA)
Pelosi
Peterson (FL)
Peterson (MN)
Pickett
Pomeroy
Poshard
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Richardson
Rivers
Roemer
Rose
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Sabo
Sanders
Sawyer
Schroeder
Schumer
Scott
Serrano
Skaggs
Slaughter
Spratt
Stark
Stenholm
Stokes
Studds
Stupak
Tejeda
Thompson
Thornton
Thurman
Torres
Torricelli
Traficant
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Ward
Waters
Watt (NC)
Waxman
Williams
Wilson
Wise
Woolsey
Wyden
Wynn
Yates

NOT VOTING—12

Brown (FL)
Crane
Fields (LA)
Greenwood
Mfume
Miller (CA)
Sisisky
Talent
Towns
Tucker
Volkmer
Weldon (PA)

□ 1121

Mr. BAESLER changed his vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. WALDHOLTZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution just adopted.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURTON of Indiana). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Utah?

There was no objection.

LIST OF TAX INCREASES WHICH SHOULD REQUIRE A THREE-FIFTHS VOTE FOR PASSAGE

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include a list of the six tax increases that require a waiver of the three-fifths vote into the RECORD at this point.

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

There was no objection.

The list referred to is as follows:

These are a total of six tax increases in this bill. These increases are in direct violation of a law enacted on the first day of this session, which should require a three-fifths vote for passage. These tax increases are the following:

First, a 50 percent tax penalty on Medicare Plus Medical Savings Accounts for any purpose other than medical care;

Second, the Medicare Part B income contigent premium;

Third, repeal of the 5-year income averaging rule on lump sum pension distributions;

Fourth, increase in the phase-out rate for the Earned Income Tax Credit;

Fifth, the new rates applied to expatriates; and

Sixth, the new tax imposed on gambling income of Indian tribes.

Mr. Speaker, would any or all of these tax increases trigger the celebrated rule requiring a three-fifths vote majority for approval? Since your answer is yes, but for the waiver of the rule by the Republican leadership, it is important to note Mr. Speaker, when the history of this Congress is written, the main theme will be about the majority's unrelenting attack on the poor and defenseless in our society, but a chapter, however, should be reserved for its hypocrisy which is clearly evident today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, travel delays last Tuesday, October 24, prevented me from casting my vote on H.R. 1595, the bill to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem.

I would have voted ''yes'' on the bill had I been present for the vote.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING SOCIAL SECURITY EARNINGS TEST REFORM

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 245, I call up the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 109) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for raising the Social Security earnings limit, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman the designee of the majority leader?

Mr. HASTERT. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman for Illinois [Mr. HASTERT] will be recognized for 10 minutes, and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. JACOBS], who I presume is the designee of the minority leader, will be recognized for 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT].

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 1½ minutes.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this resolution, which Senator DOLE and Senator MCCAIN will be introducing in the other body, is very straightforward. Because of the unique rules of the other body, it is not possible for us to lift the Social Security earnings limit in the reconciliation bill before this House today.

But an overwhelming majority of this House and of the other body favor such a move. In fact, the President of the United States, in his 1992 campaign platform ''Putting People First'' also expressed his commitment to lifting the Social Security earnings limit.

We all agree that it is simply wrong to penalize low and middle income seniors who must work, with a tax rate equal to that of millionaires. These seniors are some of our most productive and responsible workers. They are working to provide for themselves. They do not want to be a burden to their families or the taxpayers of this Nation. We should be rewarding such behavior, not penalizing it.

Mr. Speaker, my resolution is intended to do two things. First, it restates the commitment of this House to lift the Social Security earnings limit this year. We have already passed a measure in this House to lift the earnings limit on Social Security and we expect our colleagues in the other body to take it up shortly.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Mrs. KENNELLY].

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise because I support increasing the Social Security earnings test. I believe that we should be encouraging work for all Americans, especially those who have a lifetime of experience. The current annual Social Security earnings limit of $11,000 penalizes too many who want to work after 65.

I know that many workings seniors will be disappointed today that the increase in the Social Security earnings test passed earlier this year by the House is going to be dropped by the reconciliation bill. instead, we are voting today on a resolution which merely states that Congress intends to address this issue and I thank the gentleman for this resolution, but when we do raise the earnings test, let us make sure we do so without adversely impacting the Social Security trust funds.

We do not want to reduce the solvency of the funds that guarantee every retiree a return on the money they paid into the system. Let us again find a responsible, sensible way to increase the earnings test, so that all

Americans can get a fair return for their hard work.

And let us make sure, Mr. Speaker, the earnings test applies to all people on Social Security. We should not encourage some over 65 to work and then discriminate against others, and this year, when we did pass this earnings-test increase, we discriminated against an individual over 65 who was blind. This is not fair. We should raise the limit for all people over 65 so they get a return on their hard work, and I thank the gentleman for this resolution.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER], the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding this time to me. This issue is something that has been one of my top priorities since I came to the Congress over two decades ago, raising the unfair earnings limit on seniors who want to work and continue to contribute to themselves and to their country once they have passed the retirement age of 65. It is nothing more than a tax on working, and it sends the wrong message to American seniors.

Last fall we promised seniors that we would pass legislation to raise the earnings limitation, and on April 5 we did, raising it to $30,000 by the year 2000 as part of our tax bill under the Contract With America. Then, as with all legislation, it was the Senate's turn to act on the provision. Unfortunately, the Senate did not. And, as we know all too well, without the cooperation of the Senate, no legislation is possible, no matter how strongly the House may feel about it.

Now the House will act today on its historic budget reconciliation bill. Because an arcane Budget Act rule would put the entire budget reconciliation bill at risk in the Senate if it included any Social Security provisions, at the request of the Senate we did not include the earnings limitation provision in the House budget reconciliation bill.

□ 1130

Nothing is more important to Americans of all ages than achieving a balanced budget, which the budget reconciliation bill today will do, but it is also important to let working seniors know that we remain totally committed to raising the unfair limit on earnings. That is why we introduced a concurrent resolution yesterday. It makes it clear to working seniors that we in the House remain committed to raising the earnings limit, separate from reconciliation, and that our colleagues in the Senate now join us in that commitment.

The House has already passed a bill to raise the earnings limit. It does not need to pass another. Now that Senate leaders have promised that the Senate will act, I am confident that the increase in the earnings limit that means so much to working seniors will become a reality. I have worked hard to see this happen for over two decades, joined in the Senate by Barry Goldwater as the leader sponsor until the year he retired.

The gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT] is to be commended for his efforts that have gone on for several years, as is the gentleman from Kentucky, JIM BUNNING, the chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Security of the Committee on Ways and Means.

I appreciate the support of the Speaker and the majority leader in this effort. This change is long overdue, because it means so much to hard-working seniors, and we will do everything that we can, and certainly I, as chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, to see that it comes to pass.

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. NEAL].

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the resolution we are considering today expresses the sense of Congress that the Social Security earnings limit should be increased. The timing of this concurrent resolution is very interesting, and very telling of what is really happening here today. Did the Republicans not promise senior citizens across Ameica that this year, this year, they would increase the Social Security earnings limit from the current $11,200 to an eventual $30,000 per year in the year 2000? Was not increasing the Social Security earnings limit part of the original reconciliation package? Why now is it being pulled at this moment?

The answer as to why this provision has been pulled from the bill we are considering today is quite simple: The Republicans have made a promise that they cannot and will not keep. They are finding a difficulty associated with saying on one hand they can quickly and easily balance the budget while saying on the other they can deliver on the many promises that they have made. Today the veneer is peeled off. We are witnessing exactly what is really happening.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to remind the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. NEAL], that the President of the United States said that he would lift the earnings test in 1992, and we have not seen that happen. We are doing it today, and we will make sure that it is done.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. BUNNING] who has been a leader on this issue for the last 8 years.

(Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 109.

Mr. Speaker, on this historic day, it's important to talk about promises made—and promises kept—to senior Americans who want to keep working and contributing past age 65.

A year ago in September, House Republicans promised working seniors that we would try to pass legislation to raise the limit on earnings that is so unfair, especially to middle and lower income seniors who work out of economic necessity.

And on April 5, we kept our promise to working seniors by passing a tax bill that raised the earnings limit to $30,000 by the year 2000—almost triple what it is now.

And then we sent our bill over to the Senate so our colleagues there could pass it as well. But months went by, and unfortunately the Senate took no action.

Now, the tax bill has been wrapped up in the budget reconciliation bill we are considering today. But, unfortunately there is an arcane budget rule which would put the entire budget reconciliation bill at risk if it includes any Social Security provisions.

The arcane Senate rule put us in a tough position. The budget reconciliation bill will make it possible to achieve a balanced budget for the first time since 1969, and put an end to mortgaging our grandchildren's future. And as I said yesterday, as the grandfather of 28, nothing is more important than that.

As a result, it has been determined that we must drop the earnings limit provision from reconciliation rather than risk losing it all.

Yesterday, we introduced House Concurrent Resolution 109—the resolution we are considering—to make it clear that, even though we were forced to drop the earning limit increase from reconciliation, we have not given up on our commitment to passing it—and passing it this year.

We are still committed to making sure that the earnings limit is increased.

The House has already passed the earnings limit increase—and this resolution simply says that we are committed to making sure that the Senate follows through. That is what this resolution is all about.

It's a renewal of the promise we made last year. We have not given up—and I, for one, do not intend to give up until we get the Social Security earnings limit increased. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS].

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and compatriot, and I know I should say champion, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT] for all the work he has done, because the Social Security earnings test limitation penalizes seniors who want and need to work.

In the Contract With America we pledged and voted to fix this inequity by raising the earnings threshold to a more reasonable level, and we are going to do it. Ultimately I believe we should repeal the limit altogether, because I think penalizing work is un-American and so do most Americans, but we have more work to do to reach that goal. This fix provides much-needed relief in the meantime. This resolution locks in our commitment to getting an increase in the earnings test limit signed into law this year. It also locks in the other body, and we have a

commitment from the majority leader to make that happen.

By passing this resolution, we jump the hurdle of a highly technical parliamentary problem pertaining to the rules of the other body when it comes to reconciliation, and we get the earnings test limits fix back on the fast track. This is good news for America's seniors. I cannot understand why our colleagues on the other side of the aisle cannot figure that out.

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN].

(Mr. LEVIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I will vote for this resolution, but I think we should understand what is really happening here. The Republicans, I think this resolution shows by its timing, are squirming on the hook, on the hook of rising anger against their entire budget resolution. It is going to hurt kids, millions and millions of kids. It is hard for them to speak. It is going to hurt working families of this country, but many of them are too busy working and do not have the resources to lobby this Congress. It is going to hurt seniors, and they are speaking more and more. This is a resolution to try to cover the tracks of the majority here.

In the contract, they promised seniors that they would raise the earnings limit. How did they propose to do it? By raiding the Medicare trust fund, by robbing Peter to pay Paul. How they are saying ''We will do it later.'' Do we trust them?

The majority leader on the Senate side said yesterday ''I was there, fighting the fight, voting against Medicare, one out of twelve because we knew it would not work in 1965.'' It worked in 1965 it worked in 1975, Medicare worked in 1985, it is working in 1995, and now the Republicans proposed to wreck it. This resolution is an effort to cover their tracks. I do not think it is going to fool anybody.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. GOODLATTE].

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this concucurrent resolution. I think one of the most unfair tax situations we have in this country is the earnings test on senior citizens between the ages of 62 and 70, a 50 percent tax on those earning just over $11,000 per year, in addition to the taxes they have to pay on the income that they earn, plus any State taxes and so on. Someone can be in an 80 or 90 percent tax bracket because of this earnings test. It is a tremendous disincentive for senior citizens between 62 and 70. Between 65 and 70, it is a 33 percent additional tax, a trememodous disincentive to work, at a time when many people need to remain in the work force, many people want to remain in the work force, and they ought to have the opportunity to do so.

I would say to my friends on the other side of the aisle that it is their party who originally enacted the rules in the Senate that prevent us from bringing this up in this bill. We will certainly stick by our commitment to this. It is not a matter of our not wanting to do it because of something we have done, it is because of the rules that exist. I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GIBBONS], the ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I am constantly appalled by the lack of knowledge of Members about parliamentary procedure. This bill that we are talking about, first of all, I am going to vote for this resolution. I am sorry I have to tell the old people that they might as well kiss this good-bye, because it costs $12 billion to do that. The only place in this whole Congress that you can find $12 billion is in the reconciliation bill, so after the reconciliation bill, there will not be $12 billion laying around.

However, this bill, the House reconciliation bill, will never be considered by the Senate. They will consider their own reconciliation bill. Our bill will be over there laying on the desk. They will take up our bill, and the first thing they will do is strike everything after the enacting clause. Not a word one of the House reconciliation bill will ever be considered by the Senate, so what they are talking about here is merely a ruse to allow the gentleman from Georgia, NEWT GINGRICH, to have $12 billion to bargain with you folks to buy your votes for that crazy reconciliation bill you have on the floor. That is what this is about. You all ought to know your own parliamentary procedure. This bill will never be considered there. The basis and the whole thrust of your argument is fallacious. You are not avoiding any Senate point of order because the Senate will never consider this bill. The Senate will consider their own reconciliation bill. Shame on you for lying to the American public on why you are doing this.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to remind the distinguished former chairman, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GIBBONS], that he knows that all revenue bills start in the House. We have passed the resolution for the earnings test to the Senate. They will pick that up next week. We passed this resolution today. They will pass it also today. It is on track.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. WELLER].

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Chairman, I commend the leadership, the gentleman from Illinois, DENNY HASTERT, on one of the most popular aspects of the Contract With America, raising the earnings limit for seniors.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. SHAW].

(Mr. SHAW asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this concurrent resolution.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida [Mrs. FOWLER].

(Mrs. FOWLER asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, the Social Security earnings test limit is an archaic provision, created during the Great Depression to make room for young people in the work force by forcing seniors to retire. It is impractical and outdated and should have been done away with a long time ago.

The individuals most negatively affected by the earnings limit are those who have the greatest need for the extra income, and it is not right for the Government to impose a punitive tax on their earnings. We have made a commitment to raise the earnings limit and this resolution is a step toward fulfilling that important promise this year.

I urge my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 109.

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE].

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I do intend to vote for this resolution. I do respect the sincerity of the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT]. However, there is no question in my mind that this is a gimmick on the part of the Republican leadership. Here we have a bill between Medicare and Medicaid that is going to increase taxes on senior citizens by doubling part B premiums, has a means test, eliminates a guaranty for low-income seniors to pay their part B premiums. This is a tax increase in this legislation, and that means that more seniors are going to have to go out and work. What happens if they go out and work? They are going to see the amount of Social Security that they earn be reduced.

It is not fair to suggest that somehow this Republican leadership could not incorporate expanding this earnings test in the context of this bill. They did not because they are trying to save $1 billion, $1 billion that is going to be taken from working seniors. These are seniors that are going to have to go out and work, and a lot of them are working right now. They are going to face major tax increases. The least that could have been done is to make it a little easier for them to work. More taxes, and they do not even get the benefit.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the

gentleman from Missouri [Mr. EMERSON].

(Mr. EMERSON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I have been a long-time collaborator with the gentleman from Illinois in this legislative undertaking. I associate myself with the gentleman's remarks and his efforts.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. CHABOT].

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, as even President Clinton will admit, at least when he is a little tired, the Federal Government spends too much, and just as important, it taxes too much. The tax burden on working senior citizens is especially heavy. It is absolutely intolerable that working seniors who earn just over $11,000 are forced to give up significant Social Security benefits. As part of our Contract With America, we committed to easing the tax burden on senior citizens, and I am proud that today we will reaffirm that commitment through this resolution. I urge its support.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX].

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the resolution. Currently seniors are limited to making $11,200 if they are under 70 years old. Now they can, under this resolution, make up to $30,000. Seniors are living longer. We want them to live better. At the same time we are rolling back the unfair 1993 Social Security tax increase, and we are saving Medicare. I strongly support the resolution.

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. KLINK].

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I think we need to take a few moments to understand, this is nothing more than a sense of Congress. It does not have the force of law. What we are saying is that senior citizens should have the right to earn more money. That is fine. Then let us give them the right. Let us put the force of law in this. That could have been done.

The Democrats do not control the Committee on Rules, the majority party controls the Committee on Rules. I think what we need to understand is that senior citizens may be forced to have to go to work at age 65, at age 67, at age 70, and at age 75, because we have already heard the majority leader in the other body say ''I was there, fighting the fight, voting against Medicare, because we knew it wouldn't work back in 1965.'' It did work in 1965, it is working in 1995. If it needs to be repaired let us do it that in a bipartisan fashion. We have the Speaker of the House telling people ''We did not get rid of Medicare in round one, it is not politically feasible, but we are going to get rid of it later.''

□ 1145

This is nothing more than a sham. It is a sham, it is a smoke screen. If we are going to legitimately give senior citizens the right to earn more money, then let us do it and not just do a sense of Congress.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. COBLE].

(Mr. COBLE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I have worked with the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT] for almost a decade in addressing this problem. I stand in hearty endorsement of what is before us today.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. FLANAGAN].

(Mr. FLANAGAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLANAGAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me, and I rise in strong support of the resolution.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. BARR].

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, this has been one of the most hilarious debates I have witnessed in the over 10 months that I have been here. A Democratic President lowers the earnings limit on Social Security recipients' outside earnings, increases substantially the penalty for working Americans who happen to have senior status, and we in this Congress on the Republican side are trying to raise that limit again so that senior citizens can work without being penalized, and the Democrats are dancing around, coming up with the most ludicrous reasons why they cannot support this.

This is a good resolution. We need to do it. It is the Democrats in the Senate that are preventing us from doing it now in the reconciliation, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle all know that, so let us pass this resolution and eventually pass this into law.

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, limited only by such time as I may have.

Mr. Speaker, we would like to make a couple of clarifications. Someone has said that under the Constitution, only the House of Representatives can initiate revenue bills. That is not correct. Under the Constitution, the House of Representatives can only initiate revenue-raising bills.

The other clarification is the assertion that a promise was made to raise the earnings limit, and this we do today. In fact, this we do not do today. This we promised to do some day, maybe next year.

Third, the President of the United States did not lower the earnings limit under Social Security. No one has ever lowered the earnings limit under Social Security. That would require an act of Congress to do so, but no Congress has done it. It has always been uppered, it has never been lowered.

Finally, while I do support the resolution as being in the ambit of reality, there is one element of reality I think we ought to understand. Often cited is the senior citizen who works at the McDonald's or here and there and yon just to make a little bit of money and this person is being handicapped by the earnings limit. Demonstrably, this is not true. McDonald's pays on average about $5 an hour.

The present earnings limit comes out to about $5 an hour, which is not to say that some people, about 800,000, will improve their lot by this, but mostly people who are better off.

Finally, I do not think we should ever repeal the earnings test. That has always been the condition of Social Security and I do not think that people making $5 million a year ought to get the current money out of Social Security.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to agree with the gentleman that people that make $5 million a year should not be sheltered by the earnings test.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. FOLEY] to close.

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to commend our deputy whip, Mr. HASTERT, for his efforts today. I cannot believe the folderol. President Clinton in his campaign document wanted to repeal this. The Senate, controlled by the majority, could not do it. Today, Willard Scott honored five Americans who had reached the age of 100 years old.

Let us reward these workers of America, those between 65 and 69, and repeal this discriminatory, punitive, and unfair penalty against those who want to work and help rebuild America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURTON of Indiana). Pursuant to House Resolution 245, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the concurrent resolution.

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

Mr. HASTERT. 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 414, nays 5, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 740]

YEAS—414

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allard
Andrews
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baesler
Baker (CA)
Baker (LA)
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berman
Bevill
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Bliley
Blute
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boucher
Brewster
Browder
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Brownback
Bryant (TN)
Bryant (TX)
Bunn
Bunning
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Cardin
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chapman
Chenoweth
Christensen
Chrysler
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clinger
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Coleman
Collins (GA)
Collins (IL)
Collins (MI)
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cooley
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crapo
Cremeans
Cubin
Cunningham
Danner
Davis
de la Garza
Deal
DeFazio
DeLauro
DeLay
Dellums
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Dornan
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Durbin
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Ensign
Eshoo
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Fawell
Fazio
Fields (LA)
Fields (TX)
Filner
Flake
Flanagan
Foglietta
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fowler
Fox
Frank (MA)
Franks (CT)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frisa
Frost
Funderburk
Furse
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Geren
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Green
Gunderson
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hancock
Hansen
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hefley
Hefner
Heineman
Herger
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hoke
Holden
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Jackson-Lee
Jacobs
Jefferson
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kim
King
Kingston
Kleczka
Klink
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaFalce
LaHood
Lantos
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Laughlin
Lazio
Leach
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lightfoot
Lincoln
Linder
Lipinski
Livingston
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Longley
Lowey
Lucas
Luther
Maloney
Manton
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Martini
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McDermott
McHale
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Menendez
Metcalf
Meyers
Mica
Miller (FL)
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Moakley
Molinari
Mollohan
Montgomery
Moorhead
Moran
Morella
Murtha
Myers
Myrick
Nadler
Neal
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Orton
Owens
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Parker
Pastor
Paxon
Payne (NJ)
Payne (VA)
Pelosi
Peterson (FL)
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pickett
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Poshard
Pryce
Quillen
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Reed
Regula
Richardson
Riggs
Rivers
Roberts
Roemer
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Rose
Roth
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Sabo
Salmon
Sanders
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer
Schiff
Schroeder
Schumer
Scott
Seastrand
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Shuster
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Stockman
Stokes
Studds
Stump
Stupak
Talent
Tanner
Tate
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Tejeda
Thomas
Thompson
Thornberry
Thornton
Thurman
Tiahrt
Torkildsen
Torres
Torricelli
Traficant
Upton
Vento
Vucanovich
Waldholtz
Walker
Walsh
Wamp
Ward
Waters
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weldon (FL)
Weller
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Williams
Wilson
Wise
Wolf
Woolsey
Wyden
Wynn
Yates
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Zeliff
Zimmer

NAYS—5

Beilenson
Johnston
Skaggs
Visclosky
Watt (NC)

NOT VOTING—13

Crane
Fattah
Greenwood
Hayes
Meek
Mfume
Miller (CA)
Sisisky
Towns
Tucker
Velazquez
Volkmer
Weldon (PA)

□ 1211

So the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the concurrent resolution just agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURTON of Indiana). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, this bill contains an enormous tax increase. I need it explained to me why, when I made this same parliamentary inquiry on the budget resolution back when the budget resolution was before us, Speaker GINGRICH told me I needed to learn the rules.

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

Mr. WARD. My inquiry is, I have studied the rules and rule XXI applies to bills. This is a bill, and it is a tax increase. Why does rule XXI not apply to this bill?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will state that the House, by adopting House Resolution 245, has waived that requirement of the rule. Therefore, the Chair's response at this point would be purely hypothetical, and the Chair cannot respond further at this point.

Mr. WARD. But the House resolution to which you refer is the rule that the Republican Committee on Rules has brought forth for this bill. So as I understand it, what you are saying is that Speaker GINGRICH says that you can change the rules on rule XXI when it suits your purposes, when you want to raise taxes?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. That is a statement by the gentleman and not a parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. WARD. I thank the Speaker.

SEVEN-YEAR BALANCED BUDGET RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1995

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 245 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2491.

□ 1212

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2491) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1996, with Mr. BOEHNER in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Wednesday, October 25, 1995, all time for general debate pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, October 24, 1995, and expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 245, there will be an additional 3 hours of further general debate.

The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH] and the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. SABO] each will be recognized for 1 hour and 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH].

□ 1215

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Well, we start the second day's worth of discussion and debate in regard to our plan to provide Americans with tax relief and also to balance the budget using real numbers over 7 years.

I just heard today that apparently a poll just came out within the last 24

hours where the American people apparently registered their doubt as to whether we in fact can balance the budget. Frankly, if I was not in this Chamber or in this Congress and I was out in America watching the operation of this place, I would have my doubts for this reason: For about 25 or 30 years we have been promising the people a balanced budget. I think every candidate who has run for President has promised a balanced budget. President Clinton said he would propose and execute a balanced budget within the first 4 years.

The President before him indicated we would have a balanced budget. We have been hearing this over and over and over again. But frankly, folks, we are going to have a balanced budget for two fundamental reasons. The No. 1 reason why we are going to have a balanced budget and we are going to have the discipline to execute and maintain a balanced budget over the next 7 years has to do with the American people.

Frankly, we hear a lot about polls, but I want to tell you about the poll that I follow. That poll is not just the reaction that I get in my own district, but it is the reaction among the Members when they come back from being in their districts. We heard when we came back, after the last recess, that Americans were going south on this plan, that the Republicans were starting to shake. Well, frankly, I have not seen it.

In fact, I think we have a rededicated sense of purpose to get this job done. The reason why it is working is that this House of Representatives is truly a reflection of the attitudes, the moods and the opinion of the American people.

Frankly, we are usually behind where the American people are. I believe the American people for a number of years have said it is time to give us some of our power, money and influence back. Finally we are getting the message, which is why, when Members go home, they are being positively reinforced and they are all hearing one simple message from their constituents. Just put the country first, put politics second. Balance the budget and save this country for the next generation.

Now, let me just suggest to my colleagues that I, again, have to keep going back to the reasonableness of this plan. When we look at what we have done over the period of the last 7 years, we have spent a cumulative total of $9.5 trillion. My colleagues are going to hear this from me two or three times today, $9.5 trillion. If you started a business when Christ was on earth, if you lost $1 million a day 7 days a week, you would have to lose $1 million a day 7 days a week for the next 700 years to get to one trillion. We spent 9.5 trillion over the last 7 years, and under our plan to balance the budget we are going to spend 12.1 trillion.

I mean, the revolution that we are hearing about, my colleagues, does not mean we spend less money over the next 7 years but almost $3 trillion more. Do Members know what the fight is about in this Chamber? Do my colleagues know what the fight is all about in this whole capital, Washington, DC, area? Whether we can go from 9.5 trillion to 12.1 trillion or whether we should increase that to 13.3 trillion.

The question we have to ask the American people is, can we save $1 trillion for the next generation? Nothing is more tragic than to go to the settling of an estate and have the children sit in the room and have it told to them by the lawyers that your mother and father put you in debt. We would consider that to be not a good thing to do, a bad thing to do, to tell your children that they have big bills. I mean all the creditors come into the room and you start paying it out. There goes mom and dad's house. There go their savings because they ran up all these bills.

The same is true with the Federal budget. We do not have a right to tell the next generation that we cannot stop ourselves from spending that extra trillion, because if we can just responsibly, rationally, using common sense, hold our spending increases to $3 trillion over the next 7 years, we can ensure a strong economic future.

Now, look, folks, I do not believe all these studies. I believe some of them, but let us forget the think tanks. Let us talk about the guy who sits down here at the Federal Reserve who decides what interest rates are going to be, and that is what drives this economy. He says, if for once this Congress can make the hard choice, the hard choice, folks, to spend $3 trillion rather than 4, if we can make the hard choice, we rescue the country. I mean that is really what it is all about.

When we look at the specific programs like welfare, welfare goes up by almost 400 billion. When you combine all the programs, it is interesting to note that in many States in this country, welfare recipients are getting about equal to $8 an hour. I mean that is not being skimpy. That is being pretty darn generous.

Medicaid, Medicaid is going to grow up to 443 to $773 billion. We added another $12 billion. Why? We want to do a little better. The debate is not whether it should go up, it is how much should it go up and then of course Medicare. I will tell Members on Medicare that, any way you want to cut it or slice it, our Medicare recipients will have far more, they ought to have far more. The spending is going to go from 926 to 1.6 trillion. The average senior citizen is going to go from 4,700 bucks to 6,800 bucks in spending over the next 7 years.

My colleagues, we can in fact rein this spending in, but it does not involve a nose dive. It involves a more gentle climb, rational thinking, application of common sense. If we do it, we, in fact, can save the next generation.

Tax cuts? Well, below $75,000, 74 percent of the benefits go. But I do not even want to get into this business of dividing rich and poor. We do need reconciliation in this country from a whole host of divisive claims. Let me just suggest that in 1993 the President raised taxes by $250 billion over 5 years. What is this all about? It is really all about the size and the scope of the Federal Government.

We do not think that we need to solve our problem by raising taxes. We did not think we needed to solve our problems in 1993 by raising taxes. What we are about is taking that money that was taken from the American people's pockets in 1993. We took money from their pockets. Republicans did not want to do it. We said we can do it without a tax increase. Now we are taking that money and we are putting it back into the pockets of Americans. In order to do that, Federal spending is still going to go up almost $3 trillion.

So, my colleagues, we have got the common sense plan. This plan is going to pass this House today. I will compliment one group of Democrats will compliment one group of Democrats coming forward with a balanced budget plan. I understand, although I have not read the editorial, that the New York Times and the Washington Post have both complimented them. That is a sea change, folks. We are the ones that said we could do it in 7 years. Now some of the major newspapers in this country are saying, well, we do not like the Republican plan but we can do it in 7 years. That is an incredible sea change in America.

When all is said and done, guess what? we are going to get there. We are going to have a balanced budget in 7 years. We are going to have tax relief for Americans. We are going to save the future, and we are going to restore the country for 100 additional years. At the end of the day, we will do it on a bipartisan basis. But today we have to do our job. Our job is about putting America first, putting the politics of parochialism second and just looking out for the next generation.

That little vision, we are going to look over all the swamp and all the muck and all the nasty rhetoric and the shrill rhetoric that exists on both sides. We are going to look beyond that, and we are going to look to the next generation. We are going to get this done for our precious Nation.

Support the reconciliation bill.

Mr. Chairman I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. CLEMENT].

(Mr. CLEMENT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the GOP plan.

Mr. Chairman, much of the debate I have heard today does not concern whether we should balance the budget. Of course we

should. The debate I have heard today does not concern when we should balance the budget. Most of my colleagues will agree that balancing the budget by the year 2002 is a reasonable goal.

The center of the debate today is how we will balance the budget. The Republicans propose to balance the budget with steep cuts in education, health, farm, and seniors programs. They also propose outrageously huge tax cuts up front which must be paid for with even deeper spending cuts.

Mr. Chairman, I must object to this bill, as well as to the legislative process, which has been highly unusual and chaotic. Medicare cuts were voted on separately, while the Medicaid cuts are rolled into the reconciliation bill with no separate vote. Many committees have failed to report their recommendations as called for in the budget resolution, and large parts of the bill have been drafted behind closed doors and are being added to the bill at the last minute without any scrutiny or debate.

I have here what I believe represents the bill and the process. This is a bucket of zoo doo. That's right—zoo doo. It's like a zoo around here and all are producing is doo. Elephant doo. This is what this bill is—elephant zoo doo. It stinks.

This legislation will have a financial impact on all Americans and there are winners and losers. The wealthiest Americans receive a tax cut, while the working poor receive a tax increase. Fifty-two percent of the tax cuts go to 5.6 percent of Americans with incomes greater than $100,000 a year. Less than 1 percent of the tax cuts could go to 40 percent of the families earning $20,000 or less. I think we have our priorities out of wack.

I support providing a $500 tax cut to families with children, but we can't afford to give this cut to families earning up to $200,000. This threshold needs to be lowered to $90,000.

This bill is too generous with tax cuts, which leads to the deep spending cuts in other programs. While middle-income families would benefit from the proposed tax cuts, they will suffer, for example, from the deep spending cuts in the student loan program. The cuts proposed in this bill would raise the cost of the average undergraduate student loan by almost $2,500 over 4 years.

To pay for these tax cuts, the Republican budget plan proposes to eliminate the earned income tax credit—a program supported by President Reagan—for 5 million working families. Nine million working families would see their tax credit reduced on this plan.

The GOP plan includes a provision to allow corporations to raid pension plans for millions of workers. The retirement savings of working families could be jeopardized if the economy sours of the company makes bad investment decisions. I can't understand why my colleagues would want to do this.

I also have concerns with the Medicare and Medicaid reforms included in the bill. Let me be clear: I wholeheartedly support efforts to make adjustments to the Medicare and Medicaid programs. However, I stand strongly opposed to raiding the pockets of low-income seniors, disabled recipients, and health care providers in order to pay for Republican corporate loopholes and tax cuts for the wealthy. Not only does this bill make severe reductions in Medicare's growth, it also overturns significant consumer standards designed to protect seniors from fraud and abuse. It is clear to me what lies behind this Medicare bill: The special interests, not the people's interests.

Finally, I oppose the Republican budget reconciliation bill because it eliminates the Medicaid Program, handing over these funds to the States as a block grant with little or no standards to protect the vulnerable citizens this program insures. While I am concerned about the Nation's Medicaid recipients, I am especially opposed to the Medicaid legislation because it will devastate Tennessee's 1115 waiver TennCare Program with a $4.5 billion cut over 7 years. Tennessee is the Nation's leader in experimenting with managed care for Medicaid recipients, and now we are being punished for our success. Though some may vote today to destroy TennCare because of their party loyalty, I will stand strong against this bill's destructive provisions.

In closing, this misdirected legislation would actually make economic life more difficult for a vast majority of Americans because of the steep cuts needed to pay for the tax giveaway. I must object to this legislation and hope that a reasonable compromise can be worked out before the bill is sent to the President.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, before I speak to the substance, let me congratulate my friend from Ohio on his job of chairing the Committee on the Budget and working with the Republican leadership. I was one at the beginning who thought he would do what he said. He has put a package together that I expect will pass the House today that does reflect the values and priorities of the majority. I strongly disagree with those values and priorities, but he has done it with grace. He has done it with skill. I know it is not easy to put a package together. We will talk about the substance of that package today, but his job that is his responsibility within his caucus, we should not give him praise. He has done it too well. They should give him significant praise because he has accomplished the goals of his caucus.

We disagree with that, and in time we will move on.

Mr. Chairman, what the House is undertaking today is not simply a debate about balancing the Federal budget. This is a debate much more profound. It is about two very different visions for America's future and what those visions mean for America's families, workers, and the most vulnerable among us.

The Republican vision is clear. Yesterday, on the same day we began debate on this massive budget bill, the Republican leaders in both the House and Senate voiced pride in their desire to dismantle the Medicare Program.

The Speaker of the House sees the Medicare Program only in terms of politics. He says that Republicans could not eliminate Medicare right now because it is not politically smart. But he then hastens to add that he would like to see Medicare eventually wither on the vine.

This is not a vision to renew America. And it is one that we should all reject.

On the same day, the leading Republican Presidential candidate declared that he was one of only 12 to vote against the creation of the Medicare Program 30 years ago. With pride he said he was ''fighting the fight, voting against Medicare.''

And so we now move to the budget package to be voted on in the House today. The choices are clear. My Republican colleagues will put forward a vision that rewards the wealthiest and most powerful interests in our society at the expense of the most vulnerable Americans.

They will raise taxes on low-income working families while lavishing massive tax breaks on the affluent. They will make it difficult, if not impossible, for millions of citizens to obtain adequate health care.

They will cut funding for nutrition, education, transportation and scientific research even though we have many years of evidence that these investments enhance our society and our economic future.

They will ask people to move from welfare to work at the same time they are eliminating work incentives and reducing work opportunities, and child care benefits.

And, at a time investment in education is becoming increasingly important to the health of our economy, they will cut job training and increase college costs for millions of Americans seeking to better themselves.

One of the most troubling aspects of the Republican vision is that it will escalate the 20-year trend that has pushed income inequality in this country to its highest level ever—all so that wealthy Americans can enjoy large tax breaks they don't need.

In short, throughout this budget process, Republicans have engaged in a one-sided attack on lower and middle-income Americans which will ultimately close the doors of opportunity that lead to a prosperous Nation and a higher standard of living for everyone.

So, Mr. Chairman, I call upon my colleagues to reject a vision of America that seeks to reward those who have already prospered in our economy while imposing burdens on those who have not.

□ 1230

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the very distinguished gentleman from the State of Iowa [Mr. GANSKE].

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Chairman, there are three reasons why I am going to vote for this reconciliation bill: their names are Ingrid, Bridget, and Karl, my children.

There is so much in a bill like this that it is easy to lose sight of the forest for the trees. Is this legislation exactly the way that I would have written it? Of course, not. This bill is the product of the push and shove, the battle of competing interests, the art of

compromise that is characteristic of democracy.

As you vote for this historic measure, remember Edmund Burke's praise of political courage two centuries ago:

> You well know what snares are spread about your path . . . but you have put to hazard your ease, your security, your interest, your power, even your popularity . . . you will remember that public censure is a necessary ingredient in the composition of true glory: you will remember . . . that calumny and abuse are essential parts of triumph . . . you may live long, you may do much. But here is the summit. You may never exceed what you do this day.

But to portray this bill as unworthy because it has gone through the democratic political process that all our laws go through would be unfair. I, like all 435 Members of this House, have to judge this important piece of legislation on its overall thrust. It does reform welfare, it does preserve Medicare, it does cut taxes, and most important, it does balance the budget.

I will take courage for you, my colleagues, to vote for this bill exactly because it is so big and not perfect as you would will it. But I ask you to do it for your children as I am doing it for mine.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 10 seconds.

Mr. Chairman, I would only say that the children of Members of Congress probably will do fine, but the 20,000 families in the district of the gentleman from Iowa [Mr. GANSKE] who get the EITC, the earned income tax credit, will do much worse.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. SLAUGHTER].

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the Republican budget reconciliation package. I have listened to the debate on the floor and in the Rules Committee, and can't help but remember 1981, 1983, and more important, 1993. In the early 1980's we saw two tax bills that were sold on the basis that massive tax cuts for the very wealthy would spur the economy. In the late 1970's the top marginal tax rate was close to 70 percent, and by the end of the 1980's it had been cut to almost 30 percent; did this spur economic growth and end deficit spending? Well, we started the decade with a $1 trillion debt and ended it at $4 trillion. In addition, we headed into the 1990's with an economy in deep recession.

In 1993, in response to the growing deficit and deepening economic rescission, we came to the floor to bring a budget reconciliation package to control spending and return some progressive policies to our Tax Code. A little over 2 years ago we heard the cries of economic desperation. Our package was called smoke and mirrors and I quote, ''it's our bet that this is a job killer.'' The current Speaker predicted, and I quote, ''I believe that this will lead to a recession next year. This is the Democrat machines' recession, and each one of them will be held personally accountable.'' The current majority leader predicted, and I quote, ''the impact on job creation is going to be devastating.'' Well, we passed the package without one Republican vote. Now let's discuss the results and the ability of the Republican leadership to predict economic outcomes.

The deficit came down for 3 consecutive years. Our deficit is now the lowest as a percentage of national income of any major industrial country in the world. After one of the slowest 4-year periods of job growth since the Great Depression, the economy is now enjoying a solid growth, with strong private sector job creation and low inflation. The economy has created well over 3 million private sector jobs. The Republicans were wrong then, and they are wrong now.

Today, we will be asked to cast one vote on a package that will dramatically change our Government. With one vote, we will dismantle the Department of Commerce; an agency entrusted with two critically important constitutional functions; that of the census and the filing and protection of patents. We will dismantle an agency that every day impacts millions of Americans. All done without the benefit of any comprehensive committee action. We will forever change health care for millions of low-income women, children, and senior citizens. We will end Federal, uniform nursing home standards implemented less than 10 years ago; we will force more working families into poverty and end any hope of a higher education for thousands of our children. We will forever end Medicare as we know it. It does not surprise me that the Republicans want to end Medicare, as the leader of the Republican Party in the other body has stated, ''I was there fighting the fight, working against Medicare—because we knew it wouldn't work in 1965.'' We will close many rural hosptials; cut WIC, Headstart, and significantly reduce our investment in research and development. All in the hope of economic growth and tax cuts for the very affluent. Once again, our Republican colleagues are asking Members of this body to take a leap of faith on failed economic and budget policies based on failed and misguided predictions.

I am hopeful that many of these radical changes will be dropped in conference. It is the only hope we have. I ask all of my colleagues to oppose this package.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas [Mr. SMITH], a member of the Committee on the Budget, and an expert on immigration in America.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Chairman, in the last election, the American people told us to balance the budget, cut the taxes, and end the gimmicks.

They wanted an end to Alice in Budgetland: to the rising tide of red ink that destroys jobs, makes housing and education more expensive, and encourages our addiction to big government.

They wanted an end to Alice in Budgetland: to the constant tax increases that take more and more money and decisions away from the American people.

They wanted an end to the Alice in Budgetland rosy scenarios, bogus growth numbers, and magic asterisks, the ponzi scheme by which Congress kept spending more of the people's money.

Today we keep our word. We have a plan to balance the budget. Our balanced budget plan will mean 1.2 million additional jobs by 2002. Our balanced budget will reduce interest rates, making new homes, college education and start-up businesses more plentiful and affordable.

Our plan also increases the power and decision-making of families. It's not just important to balance the budget. It matters how we balance the budget. The family and small business tax relief provisions contained in our plan are essential to returning power and money back home.

Without tax relief, we won't return decisions where they belong—to the people who do the work, pay the taxes, raise the children. Without tax relief, we aren't putting people first.

Last week in Houston President Clinton stated, ''I think I raised your taxes too much.'' We agree that the President was wrong, and that's why Republicans unanimously opposed the largest tax increase in history. That's why our plan is the only plan that returns some of the money that President Clinton took in 1993.

It's the family's money to keep. It's not Washington's money to spend. And only our balanced budget honors hard-working Americans by letting them keep more of what they earn and by spending their money with great care.

I urge my colleagues to support this balanced budget.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from my native State of North Dakota [Mr. POMEROY].

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. SABO] for yielding this time to me.

The budget before us is truly historic in its dimensions, and perhaps that is the only thing we will all agree about in the course of this debate today. As I see it, the debate between us is not about whether we ought to balance the budget. I think there is broad agreement we ought to move towards that goal. The debate is how we do it, and here is where the conflicting priorities of the parties become very clear.

This budget plan is built on a fundamentally flawed premise, that we can balance the budget while financing a tax cut primarily benefiting the most privileged among us. This makes as much sense as a family resolving to get their household's finances in order just as soon as they spend the weekend in Paris once more on that old MasterCard.

The consequences of the Republican tax plan are enormous. The wealthiest people in this country get a windfall while working and middle-income Americans lose ground. The tax cut reflects that the driving priority in this budget is to assist the wealthy in becoming even wealthier, and to this end,

they have sacrificed health programs for seniors, nutrition programs for kids, the safety net for family farmers, pension security for millions and millions of Americans. In order to accommodate the agenda of the privileged this budget makes devastating tradeoffs that pull support from those who need it and opportunity and hope from millions and millions of middle-class Americans.

Make no mistake about it. The bottom line on this budget is more wealth for the richest, less help for the neediest, and reduced hope and opportunity for middle-income families.

This bill is more than an historic budget, it is an historic and tragic mistake, on which if enacted will change the character of our great country.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. PARKER]

Mr. PARKER. Mr. Chairman, for purposes of clarification I would like to engage the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH] in a colloquy.

First let me thank the gentleman for his willingness to work with those of us who have been concerned about the public auction of the facilities in the Power Marketing Administration. It is my belief that the study provision contained in this legislation is superior to an outright sale. In fact, this non-biased study will hopefully provide our committee with the needed facts to determine whether or not a sale of the PMA's will be in the best interest of the Government in the long run.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, if the gentleman will yield, it better end up being better in the long run. I would say to the gentleman I wanted to do it this year, and he said we got to study it for a while, make sure we do the right thing. I agree with the gentleman.

Mr. PARKER. However, Mr. Chairman, I would like to seek clarification to determine whether or not the evaluation or study will look at the impact, if there is a sale of the PMA's, on the wholesale and retail electricity rates of the current customers in the affected areas.

Mr. KASICH. I think that the gentleman makes a good point, and obviously we want to make sure that, when we do this, we do it right and everybody understands what the impact will be.

Mr. PARKER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Ohio for having yielded to me. The clarification is appreciated.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the very distinguished gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. NEUMANN], a brand-spanking new, fiery member of the Committee on the Budget.

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of this. We have spent a full generation. Now the last time we balanced our budget I was a sophomore in high school. My children are now out of high school and heading on to college. I have got a daughter who is a junior in high school. It has been a full generation since we have balanced our budget. It is time we get it done.

Congratulations to the Committee on the Budget, to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH], for bringing us a bill that is going to allow us to not only keep our promises, but, more importantly, do what is right for the American people.

As my colleagues know, not enough has been made about what happens after we balance the budget. I just heard about the hopes and the dreams of the future of the middle-class America. When we balance the budget, what that means is the Federal Government stops borrowing hundreds of billions of dollars out of the private sector, and, when the Federal Government stops borrowing that money, that money is now available for real people to borrow, and when real people have the opportunity to borrow that money, that means they can buy homes, and they can buy cars, and they can get college loans to go to college, and when they get those loans, the interest rate is going to be lower because there is more access to the money. This is good news for the future of the middle class.

As a matter of fact, if somebody were to go out and buy a house today, and they were to borrow $50,000, and we had balanced the budget sooner so the interest rate was 2 points lower, they would save over $1,000 a year in the interest on the payments in that $50,000 loan.

□ 1245

If they borrowed $100,000 to buy a house, they would save $2,000. Almost $200 a month remains in the pockets of the working people of this country because we are about to balance the budget. This is good news for the hopes, for the dreams, for the future of this country.

Also, it puts this Nation back on track, that the Nation will be preserved for the next generation. Instead of giving them a legacy of growing debts, we can give our children the hopes and dreams of the future, like we received from our forefathers.

In the budget resolution we passed earlier this year, it sets some 7-year targets and it sets some 1-year targets. Again, I commend the Committee on the Budget. This proposal that we have before us today not only hits the 7-year targets, it also hits the first-year targets, and a lot of other political groups would not have done that. I commend the chairman of the committee, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH], and the committee for their tireless work at helping us keep our promises to the American people, and strongly urge support of this bill.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO].

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I rise just to let our colleague, the gentleman from Wisconsin, know that in his district 17,179 working families will have their taxes increased by this Republican bill.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California [Ms. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD], a distinguished member of our committee.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, the Republican budget is morally wrong. It does nothing to improve national living standards.

Except for the very wealthy, it hurts the majority of hard-working Americans. Three areas illustrate my point.

First, the Republican bill cuts taxes for the rich, but raises taxes on the poor. It cuts the earned income tax credit which helps keep 14 million low-paid working families earning $9,500 to $25,000 dollars a year out of poverty.

The GOP tax plan will give families earning $350,000 dollars a year a $14,000 tax cut. While the struggling, lowest paid worker must lose an additional $300 to $324 annually. That is wrong.

Second, the Republicans cut child and prenatal nutrition programs proven to be good national investments. For every $1 spent on prenatal nutrition, the WIC Program saves the American taxpayer $3.50 in special education and Medicaid expenses. To cut such programs is wrong.

Finally, the Republican plan unbelievably repeals the Nursing Home Standards Act of 1987. This act was enacted as a direct response to congressional hearings which revealed widespread abuses in State and privately run nursing homes. Abuses resulting from unsanitary conditions, malnutrition, overmedication, neglect, sexual and physical abuse.

Our current law has helped to eliminate these abuses and to improve the quality of life for nursing home seniors.

If these standards are eliminated, Republicans condemn our seniors to suffer the horrible abuses of the past. That is wrong.

Under the Republican budget reconciliation bill, the rich will be richer, but the living standard of our Nation will be made much poorer.

The only good thing about the Republican budget is that it is so extreme and unfair that the President must veto it.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. MARTINI], the courageous young freshman who is from the State of Bruce Springsteen.

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Ohio. I first would like to compliment him and his committee for the outstanding work he has done on this budget this year.

Today we are debating and are about to consider a Budget Reconciliation Act. It struck me coming over here that reconciliation, the very nature of the word itself, suggests a coming together, a solving of differences, and a

going forward. I believe that the American people today know that the Federal Government has had extreme problems with its fiscal matters over the years. I think the Americans also know that this majority of Congress has been set to correct those wrongs, but I suspect that the Americans out there still do not know if this Congress has the resolve to do that today. It is no wonder, in my opinion, Mr. Chairman, because over the last several weeks all they have heard are distortions and scares, scares intended to stop people in their tracks from going forward.

It strikes me as sad that the party whose former leader, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, once gave us the phrase ''We have nothing to fear but fear itself'' now offers us only fear itself and no solutions. Let us just look at the record for a moment, if we may.

On June 4, 1992, President Clinton promised a balanced budget. He never delivered. He promised a tax cut for middle-class families. He never delivered. Worse than never delivering, he actually implemented the biggest tax increase in the history of our Nation. Now he has even admitted he raised our taxes too much. He failed to offer a plan to end welfare as we know it, and he stayed on the sidelines as we saved Medicare from going bankrupt.

In contrast, this Congress is about keeping promises. We understand the importance of fulfilling our promises to our elderly and our children, and we will do just that. Today, for me, Mr. Chairman, it is indeed humbling to take part in such a historic vote in favor of a more fiscally sound America and a brighter America, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DOGGETT].

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Chairman, 27,641 working families in the district of the gentleman who just spoke will have their taxes increased by this Republican tax increase bill they are approving today.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to my good friend, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. STENHOLM].

(Mr. STENHOLM asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Chairman, I join my ranking Member in emphasizing that putting all substance aside, the logistics of bringing this bill to the floor have been an abhorrence not only to the usual committee process but of any democratic process.

I want to add a word or two today about the role which the Budget Committee has, or rather could have had, in today's reconciliation bill. Having spent a great deal of my career looking at budget process issues, and in fact, having enjoyed working on a number of those issues with Chairman KASICH, that is what I would like to examine now. I was both surprised and disappointed that this reconciliation bill took a minimalist approach to process reform.

Needless to say, this bill is expansive in every other regard. No one single bill has ever entailed such a comprehensive overhaul of Federal Government policy. The other side likes to speak of the Republican revolution and I would, in no way, dispute that this is a revolutionary document.

That is why I am disappointed that process reforms which could bring meaningful budget enforcement, greater integrity in the process, and a sense of openness and honesty were left out of the revolution.

Two year's ago when we were battling over the 1993 budget reconciliation bill, I engaged in intense negotiations with my leadership to move us closer to enforcement language which would guarantee the deficit reduction promises being made. In particular, we were trying to remove ''uncontrollable'' as an adjective for entitlement spending.

The agreement that we reached in 1993 was far less than I wanted, especially with regard to guaranteeing control over the Medicare Program. But do you know what? That agreement showed a lot more enforcement muscle than appears any where in this budget. I received all sorts of Republican lecturing for failing to bring my party to the stronger entitlement control I wanted and yet even that compromise language is missing in this revolution. This bill allows ''uncontrollable'' to continue accurately describing entitlement spending.

What else could have been included? Well, the substitute which I am supporting today includes deficit reduction guarantees enforced by sequestration. It has 10 year scorekeeping to make sure that things like grossly ballooning tax cuts start showing up beyond the curtains on current budget windows.

Our substitute has process reforms like line item veto and a deficit reduction lock box, which the majority of this House has said it supports. It also adopts numerous provisions borrowed from previously bipartisan bills which many people standing on the other side of the floor right now not only supported but co-authored—things like baseline reform, controlling emergency spending, continuing resolution reform.

Where are those provisions today? How did they get left out of the revolution? For a party which has made a mantra of ''Promises Made—Promises Kept'' why were not some of the promise-keepers built into this bill?

I urge my colleagues to vote no on the base bill and vote yes on the substitute which actually has a chance of maintaining the many promises being made today.

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. STENHOLM. I yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

This is a defining time and a defining vote. Very few here have made every vote in the last two Congresses to achieve significant and fair deficit reduction—beginning with support of the 1993 budget which has halved our deficit to the lowest level in a generation and decreased it for 3 years straight. I have made each of those tough deficit cutting votes.

And today I will continue to stand up for fairness, for balance, for deficit reduction, and for bipartisanship.

In this spirit, I strongly oppose H.R. 2491 as drafted because it funds ill-timed tax cuts by raising the deficit in the short-term and hurting our most vulnerable populations—seniors and children—with devastating Medicare cuts and the termination of Medicaid as a guaranteed safety net for nursing home residents.

I strongly support the bipartisan coalition substitute which defers tax cuts until we have achieved a balanced budget, treats cost-of-living increases in a non-inflationary manner, and preserves Medicaid, including regulations against nursing home abuse.

In my view, the Medicare cuts in the coalition substitute are deeper than what I would like to see, but this bipartisan effort sets a marker for further discussion. I have met with hundreds of seniors in my district, and will stand with them as we work for the fairest compromise within tough budgetary constraints.

Had H.R. 2491 been drafted with real public input, I believe its contents would be different. Now with its expected passage and its expected veto by the President, the real debate must start.

Every Federal program, every Federal dollar should be on the table as we debate—openly and in a bipartisan manner—how to share sacrifice and how to share benefits. Every program. Every person.

But the operative word is balance—a balanced budget, balanced sacrifice, balanced benefit, and an open and balanced process. Let's begin anew.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. SHAYS].

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Chairman, the first thing I want to say is I would not vote for the plan described by the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. SABO], and I do not think anybody on this side of the aisle would, but that is not our plan. That does not seem to matter to the gentleman from Minnesota and others.

We have had a budget deficit that has gone up and up and up, a debt that has gone from $385 billion 25 years ago to $4,900 billion, or $4.9 trillion. Our colleagues on that side of the aisle who have been in power for 40 years have had a chance to deal with that issue. We need to get our financial house in order, and we need to balance our Federal budget. We need to save our trust funds, particularly Medicare, and we need to transform our social and corporate welfare State into an opportunity society.

The bottom line and the most difficult part is saving our trust funds. We know what the board of trustees of the Federal hospital insurance trust fund have said. they have said that in basically 7 years the Medicare part A trust fund literally goes bankrupt, but nobody on that side of the aisle even wanted to address it until a few weeks ago.

We are addressing that fund. We are making sure that $333 billion benefits the Medicare part A trust fund, and $137 billion benefits the Medicare part B trust fund. We have extended its insolvency and its ultimate bankruptcy from the year 2002 to the year 2010.

What is so important about the year 2010? That is when the baby boomers start to get into this fund. At that point, we have the baby boomers from year 2010 to the year 2030. By the year 2030, baby boomers from the age 65 to 85 will be in the fund. What does that mean? We have workers right now, three and one-half workers are working for each individual in the trust fund. Right now three and one-third workers work for every person in the Social Security trust fund. By the year 2030, 35 years from now, there will only be two workers.

We are talking about what has happened over the last 40 years, and particularly, the last 25. Our Congresses and, regretfully, our Presidents have mortgaged the farm, and now we are trying to buy it back for our kids. this is about kids. It is about saving this country. I could not be more proud to be part of this reconciliation act. My only regret is that the President has not joined in in this effort.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 30 seconds.

Mr. Chairman, looking at the numbers as the gentleman referred to, I discovered he only has 11,000 families eligible for low-income tax credit, one of the lowest in the country. They are going to be hurt, but let me assure the gentleman from Connecticut, all the rich constituents he has are not going to be hurt. They are going to prosper. They are going to do well. His district does not resemble America.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida [Mrs. MEEK].

(Mrs. MEEK of Florida asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH], the chairman of the Committee on the Budget, and the ranking member, the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. SABO]. I served under them this session on the Committee on the Budget.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly oppose the reconciliation bill we will consider today.

Why are poor Americans being asked to shoulder most of the pain in balancing the Federal budget and paying for tax breaks for the wealthy? The answer is that they are a convenient target. Poor people can't afford to hire lobbyists to protect their interests.

We all know that cutting the Federal budget deficit is painful, but this debate isn't about pain and suffering. It is about fairness. Most of the cuts in the reconciliation bill reported by the Committee on the Budget fall on low-income Americans. The reported bill cuts $221 billion from entitlements, and $192 billion of these—87 percent—are in two Federal programs that help poor and low income Americans: Medicaid and student loans.

The Budget Committee also approved $53 billion in increased taxes, and $27 billion—51 percent—are reductions in the earned income tax credit for working Americans and low-income housing credits.

The chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means recently justified the changes in the earned income tax credit by arguing, and I quote, ''Simply put, the EITC is going to people with incomes that are too high.'' Too high? Should a single hard-working person with no children earning $8,200 a year, or $4 an hour, have her Federal income tax raised by $101 a year? Should working people struggling to get by help pay for a tax cut that goes mainly to the small minority—12 percent of all families—that earn over $100,000 a year? This bill is simply unfair.

What happened to the Republican pledge in January that it would require a three-fifths vote to raise income taxes because the Republicans said they wanted to ''help'' working Americans? Today the Republicans are waiving this requirement. People are going to bear the burden for these false promises.

The Republicans' plan to cut Florida's Medicaid payments by 26 percent over the next 7 years will have a devastating effect on Miami. Jackson Memorial Hospital accounts for 30 percent of all hospital admissions in Miami. This year Medicaid will supply $438 million to Jackson Memorial, or about 40 percent of its total revenues.

What will happen to health care for the poor if Jackson Memorial runs out of Medicaid money in October under the Republican scheme? Will they stop delivering babies? Will they stop vaccinating children in November and December? Is this fair?

Last week the Republicans voted to increase part B Medicare premiums. This week they are cutting Medicaid. What will happen to the elderly when Florida runs out of Medicaid money and can no longer pay for the Medicare part B premiums of the elderly?

What will happen to the elderly who are now in nursing homes when Florida runs out of Medicaid money? Will the elderly be put out in the street?

The Republicans opposed my efforts to make the Medicaid formula fairer. Twice I tried to have the entire House decide whether to accept the Medicaid formula adopted by the Senate Finance Committee, which is fairer and helps ease the burden of these cuts on States like Florida. But twice every Republican voted ''no'' even though my amendment would have helped a majority of the Republican Members.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 15 seconds.

Mr. Chairman, the simple fact of the matter is under the House plan the earned income tax credit is going to go up by 40 percent. Forty percent may not be enough for some that want to drive it up 60, 70, 80 percent. Forty percent is a generous increase.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HOKE].

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Chairman, I thank the chairman of the Committee on the Budget and my fellow Buckeye for yielding time to me.

Mr. Chairman, I listen to this debate and I just cannot conceive of how Americans watching it in their homes could be anything but confused, because we bandy about the word ''cut'' in such a disgraceful, shameless, and such a completely inaccurate way. The fact is we are going to increase the spending on the earned income tax credit from $22 billion in 1995 to $32 billion in 2002. Overall, this budget goes from one trillion five hundred billion to one trillion eight hundred billion; Medicare goes up from $170 billion to $244 billion; education and student loans goes up from $24 billion to $36 billion. That is a 50 percent increase. Yet all we hear from the other side is cut, cut, cut.

□ 1300

Where is the cut? It is that kind of abusive language that makes it so impossible for average Americans to decipher what the heck is going on and to make the kind of judgments that they need to be able to make in order to evaluate their representatives. In fact, the only cut that I am aware of, the only real cut in this budget has to do with foreign aid, and that is a real cut.

What is the good side, what is the upside of all of this? The upside of all of this in terms of balancing the budget, the biggest impact on American families will be with respect to what it does to interest rates, and that is a profound impact. It is not just a fog of numbers, it is not just accounting, it really makes a difference in terms of what those dollars mean to the average American working family.

DRI/McGraw Hill has said that it is a 2.7 percentage point difference as a result of balancing the budget. On a $100,000 mortgage, on a $100,000 mortgage, that amounts to about $225 per month more in the hands of the people that earn that money. That has a profound impact on a student loan. There is a tremendous difference, as well as on a car payment.

The good news is that balancing the budget puts more money in the pockets of the people that make it.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentleman from Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, in response to my colleague

from Ohio [Mr. HOKE], the last speaker, does the gentleman know that in his district 22,659 working families will have their taxes increased by this bill?

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DOGGETT].

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Chairman, our Republican budget chief is exactly right. This is a debate about promises, and how you feel about the promises depends on where you are sitting on the economic ladder of this country.

If you are way up there on top, at the apex of the American economy, sitting on a cushion sipping champagne, you got your promise fulfilled by in Republican Party bountifully, because the better off are going to get a little more better off today. If you are one of the great corporations of America that back in the days of yesteryear never paid a dime of taxes on billions of dollars of profit, you also can smile. You are better off today. You will pay zero, zip, not a dime under the repeal of the minimum tax credit.

Mr. Chairman, but what if you are not way up there on top? What if you are down on the lower rungs, just trying to struggle and make ends meet and get your kids through school? Well, those people on the economic ladder have a broken promise. If you are on Medicare, well, you get the new Republican sick tax. Yesterday, BOB DOLE was boasting, he voted against Medicare, and NEWT GINGRICH said, well, we will just let it wither on the vine. The Republicans lever a hefty sick tax because they want to help those who are well. Very well. Well off.

If you make $30,000 or less, these Republicans are going to raise your taxes, plain and simple. To the many who are trying to climb up that economic ladder and share in the American dream, they stomp on their working fingers as they try to climb up that ladder. That is why we call it Wreckonciliation, because it wrecks working families that are trying to make a go of it. It wrecks seniors who are going to have to pay that Republican sick tax.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Michigan [Mr. HOEKSTRA], a member of the Committee on the Budget.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Chairman, I thank the chairman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Chairman, the only thing that we will wreck if we do not pass this reconciliation bill is the American family. Let us talk about exactly what is going to happen to spending over the next 7 years. If we do nothing, Federal spending will rise by 37 percent. If we pass reconciliation, which we will do later on today, Federal spending, we are really going to tighten our belts for the next 7 years. We are only going to allow Federal spending to increase by 27 percent.

I came out of the private sector, and I would have loved any budget that over 7 years would have allowed me to increase spending by 27 percent. We are asking the Federal Government to get spending under control and have a gentle slope toward balancing the budget.

Spending goes up in every category. Total spending goes up. Welfare reform, welfare spending goes up. Medicare spending goes up. Per beneficiary on Medicare goes from $4,800 to $6,700. We are trying to manage health care growth to 5 percent per year. Medicaid spending goes up. Spending on student loans. Student loan spending goes by 37 percent over the next 7 years. School lunches. We heard that those were gone. Spending on school lunches goes up by 4.5 percent per year.

This is a reasonable budget; this is a commonsense reconciliation. Common people, on the street every day would love to have a budget at their house that would go up by 3 percent per year and be asked to manage to that. This makes sense. This is reform that we can manage too.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. KLINK].

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Chairman, to my dear friend, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. HOEKSTRA], I just wonder if he knew that in his district 23,679 working families will have their taxes increase by their Republican reconciliation.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. HOYER].

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the omnibus bill that I believe is a major step backwards for our Nation. I am committed to ensure our Nation's fiscal integrity. Our obligation to our future and our children demands decisive and decidedly different action to effect a disciplined conduct in our fiscal business. But the Republican package is not the answer. It is an attack on the middle class and poor Americans.

Mr. Chairman, I supported the Balanced Budget Amendment. I voted for the Stenholm budget, which would have achieved a surplus by 2002, and I will support the Orton alternative that also puts us on a path to a balanced budget by 2002. But I do not support tax cuts until we get our fiscal House in order. Balance the budget first and then consider tax reductions.

Half of the bill's tax breaks go to those who make more than $100,000 a year, while the lowest 20 percent of income earners will see their taxes go up. That is not right. If the Republicans were not so committed to tax breaks for the wealthy, this legislation would not include the draconian cuts that I oppose so strongly.

One example of the bill's attack on the middle class is provisions on Federal employees. While I am pleased that the parking provision has been dropped, what remains is still unfair and unwarranted.

In addition to the dramatic reductions in the earned income tax credit which has been spoken of, this bill makes very serious cuts in Medicare and Medicaid. Over $450 billion in health care cuts for seniors families and children.

Furthermore, the Republican proposals for welfare reform are weak on work and tough on kids; they are tougher on kids than they are on the deadbeat dads who walk out on those kids. The Orton substitute will effect real welfare change and require those who can work to work regularly.

These are just a few examples of what I believe our priorities must be. Not tax cuts in the face of deficits, but fiscally responsible policies that serve our Nation's needs, promote the American economy, and effect a balanced budget by the year 2002. I urge defeat of the Gingrich-Kasich budget.

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. CHRYSLER].

(Mr. CHRYLSER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHRYSLER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Chairman, I am proud to stand in this House today in support of our plan to balance the Federal budget over the next 7 years. It is the most compassionate thing that we can do for the children of America. One of the best ways to help the children in America is to help their mom and dad, and let them have the basic human dignity and pride that comes from bringing home a paycheck. We need less government and lower taxes; we need to let people keep more of what they earn and save, and we need to let people make their own decisions on how they spend their money, not government.

As the head of the task force to dismantle the Commerce Department, I know we found a good place to start in rightsizing the Federal Government. Former Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher put it best when he recently called his old department, ''Nothing more than a hall closet where you throw everything that you don't know what to do with.'' In fact, 60 percent of the Department has nothing to do with commerce.

In a recent Business Week poll, senior business executives said to eliminate the Department of Commerce by a two-to-one margin. Why? Because if the Commerce Department were truly the voice of business, they would be supporting a cut in capital gains tax; they would be supporting tort reform and regulatory reform, and balancing the Federal budget. In fact, the Department of Commerce is diametrically opposed to all of them.

Our plan simply makes more sense than current hodgepodge programs huddled at the agency that some now call the Department of Miscellaneous Affairs.

Mr. Chairman, our efforts to dismantle the Department of Commerce will

streamline and improve Federal efforts on behalf of American businesses and save billions of dollars, giving taxpayers and their children their money's worth. Everyone in my district, in my State, and America are better off, and 88 percent of them say, balance the Federal budget.

Last week, House Republicans unveiled their final plan to dismantle one of least defensible Departments in government: the Department of Commerce. As Majority Leader Dick Armey noted, for the first time in history, the American people will see a Cabinet chair carried out of the Cabinet Room at the White House and placed in a museum with other artifacts from American history.

Our plan to dismantle the Commerce Department is the first step in our mission to downsize a bloated Federal government that is too big and spends too much money. It will begin to put out-of-control government growth in reverse and will save taxpayers at least $6 billion over the next 7 years, a significant down payment on our plan to balance the Federal budget.

Nothing so clearly demonstrates the need to streamline the Federal Government more than the Commerce Department. Accordingly to the Department's own inspector general, this agency is a loose collection of over 100 unrelated programs. In fact, today's Department is involved in everything from managing fish farms to predicting the weather to promoting new technology.

What Commerce officials describe as ''synergy'' among Commerce's wide-ranging functions, most reasonable people simply call confusion.

What most people believe is the real mission of the Department of Commerce, promoting the interests of American business throughout the global marketplace, is actually only a fragment of what the Department actually does. Only 5 percent of Commerce's budget is devoted to trade promotion, a responsibility the Department shares with numerous other Federal agencies.

While Commerce Secretary Ron Brown continues his defense of his beleaguered Department, the business community remains notably silent. A recent Business Week poll of senior business executives illustrated their support for eliminating the Department of Commerce by a margin of two to one.

Secretary Brown insists the Department is ''the only effective Cabinet-level voice of U.S. business,'' yet industry remains skeptical. Recently, the respected Journal of Commerce quoted Willard Workman, a vice-president at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce saying, ''I've only received four phone calls from member companies asking that we lead the effort to save the Department.'' The U.S. Chamber of Commerce represents over 200,000 businesses throughout the nation.

A Wall Street Journal article earlier this year about Republican calls for the elimination of the Commerce Department was headlined ''Business Sheds Few Tears.'' The article went on to quote Clinton administration ally C. Fred Bergsten, director of the Institute for International Economics, as noting ''I don't think much would be lost'' if the Department of Commerce were eliminated.

Karen Kerrigan, president of the Small Business Survival Committee, recently rejected Secretary Brown's assertion that the business community would face dire consequences if the Department at the Commerce were dismantled: ''Having the Commerce Department at the Cabinet table has accomplished little in the past few years—in fact, taxes have risen and the regulatory burden has grown.''

Despite this resounding vote of no-confidence from the business community, Secretary Brown tries to claim credit for encouraging billions of dollars in U.S. exports and for creating hundreds of thousands of American jobs. Secretary Brown fails to understand that it is the spirit of American enterprise and entrepreneurship that drives the American economy, not government bureaucrats in Washington.

Steve Moore, director of fiscal policy studies at the Cato Institute, wryly answers the Secretary's exaggerated claims, ''Right. And if we could just find 10 more Ron Browns, the American trade deficit and unemployment would magically vanish.''

We are not, however, disputing the importance of many of the trade functions currently performed by the Commerce Department. We must aggressively pursue foreign markets and provide in-roads for American business. But to huddle these beneficial trade functions under the same administrative umbrella as the Weather Service, the Census Bureau, and the Economic Development Administration does not make sense. Our plan would change that.

That said, Mr. Brown's argument that Commerce has been a ''proven business ally at the Cabinet table'' holds little weight with America's business community and the American taxpayers who foot the bill.

Our plan provides a blueprint for what the Federal Government should be doing for American business: aggressively promoting opportunities and opening avenues for free and open trade for all industries.

Our plan will strengthen the important trade functions of the Federal Government. Currently, over 19 federal offices or agencies play some role in developing Federal trade policy. Our plan begins to consolidate this fragmented system, avoiding the confusion and missed opportunities that this scattered system often creates.

We will consolidate the trade programs of the Commerce Department, including the U.S. Foreign and Commercial Service and the Import Administration, into the Office of the United States Trade Representative, which already takes the lead in trade policy.

Secretary Brown has claimed that eliminating the Commerce Department will be tantamount to unilateral disarmament, gutting the ability of the United States to compete in world markets through aggressive export promotion and sensible trade policies. I don't think the American people buy that argument for a minute.

Mr. Brown's argument assumes that it is a good thing for the U.S. to have trade functions housed in an agency in which they are swallowed up. Do our trading partners think we are serious about trade when functions directly related to trade account for just 5 percent of the budget for the Department we call Commerce? Mr. Brown implies that our trade policy and promotion efforts will only work if they are carried out by lots and lots of people sitting in a very big building. I know the people of my district sent me here to challenge that kind of assumption.

The fact is, we can conduct a much more effective trade policy by restructuring and downsizing the trade bureaucracy. The current U.S. structure for trade policy—USTR as the leader, Commerce's International Trade Administration as the poor cousin—is an anomaly. It is wasteful, duplicative, and it reduces our effectiveness vis-a-vis our major trading partners, like Canada, Japan, France, and the United Kingdom, which have single, unified trade agencies.

I am absolutely convinced that, by breaking Commerce's trade functions out of a hidebound bureaucracy, by streamlining those functions, and by eliminating the senseless division that exists between USTR and the International Trade Administration, U.S. business will end up with a much more effective advocate, and our trading partners will face a much more formidable presence across the negotiating table. Our plan moves us toward that goal. We're not disarming—we're rethinking, retooling, consolidating and learning from the successes of our trading partners.

The Commerce dismantling plan will also consolidate the beneficial science and technology programs of the Commerce Department into the new National Institute for Science and Technology [NIST]. The General Accounting Office recently reported that Commerce Department efforts comprise only a tiny fraction of overall Federal scientific endeavors. Most of the Federal science and technology programs are carried out elsewhere in government.

Many of the Commerce Department's technology programs have become notorious as the golden gooses of what Labor Secretary Robert Reich calls corporate welfare. A prime example is the Advanced Technology Program [ATP], which provides multi-million dollar hand-outs to some of the Nation's industry giants. In most cases, ATP grants amount to nothing more than pork gone high-tech.

T.J. Rogers, the CEO of Cyprus Semiconductor, recently offered these thoughts about corporate welfare:

> Corporate welfare burdens successful companies and individuals with higher taxes and higher interest rates. And, as with social welfare, corporate welfare often hurts the intended beneficiary. The Department of Commerce is one of the primary vehicles for corporate welfare.

Our plan puts an immediate stop to these taxpayer funded giveaways.

Here again, we are moving closer to a government that makes more sense, where similar functions are housed together and the waste and duplication eliminated. The useful programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, including the National Weather Service, and the standards functions and labs of the National Bureau of Standards, are merged into the new NIST.

We consolidate Federal statistical functions, merging the Bureau of Economic Analysis [BEA] with the Bureau of Labor Statistics [BLS]. The Bureau of the Census will be held in the Office of Management and Budget for up to 6 months, in anticipation of the creation of a unified Federal Statistical Agency.

Our plan to dismantle the Department of Commerce will clean out the bureaucratic clutter from this attic of the Federal Government, eliminating over 40 unnecessary agencies and programs and shrinking those that have grown too big. For example, the plan terminates the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration, the Technology Administration, the Economic and

Statistics Administration, the Economic Development Administration, and the Minority Business Development Administration.

We eliminate the Office of Technology Policy, the Advanced Technology Program, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer, and numerous other duplicative or wasteful programs.

Our plan will also free two agencies from the burden of government red tap. The National Technical Information Service will be privatized and the Patent and Trademark Office will be made into a government corporation.

Our efforts to dismantle the Department of Commerce are an important first step in downsizing the Federal Government and letting the American people keep more of what they earn and save.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL].

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Chairman, in response to the last speaker from Michigan, did you know that in your district 19,170 working families will have their taxes increased by this Republican bill, and in Michigan, students will have to pay $211 million more for student loans because of this bill.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON].

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Chairman, the driving force behind today's vote on the budget reconciliation is the goal to balance the budget by the year 2002. I believe most of us in Congress support the goal of balancing the budget. The question is, how, by what means, who makes the sacrifice, who will balance the budget on whose back?

Every citizen has the goal of balancing their personal budget. We make decisions, we make choices. We can decide to purchase a luxury automobile if we wish, but if an average American purchases a luxury automobile, they may have to sacrifice paying for their house, providing their children nutritious food. They may have to sacrifice providing their children with good health.

Most Americans, I believe, would forgo a luxury automobile in favor of choosing to do the right thing, supporting their family, supporting their elderly, supporting their children, providing for the basics.

We have a choice today. We can decide to pay the luxury tax of $245 billion for the most wealthy Americans and for those who do not need it, or we can decide to provide for the health care of our seniors, provide for the housing of our poor, provide for education of our children. We can forgo giving the 1 percent of our citizens, those who earn over $100,000, a tax cut that they have not even asked for.

Let us balance the budget, I say. I am for that, and so are many of my colleagues on the Democratic side. For that reason, we should reject the notion that the only way to balance the budget is to accept the Gingrich proposal of balancing the budget.

I support the Democratic substitute. Why? Because they balance priorities. They protect the poor. They make sure that Medicaid is there as an entitlement, and they fund the welfare program. If we are going to balance the budget, make sure we balance the priorities for all Americans, the poor Americans, which are the majority. We do have choices. Let us make the right decision for all Americans.

□ 1315

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California [Mr. RADANOVICH].

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Chairman, today is a great day in America. As you all know, it is fall. Back in my hometown of Mariposa in California it is also fall, and what appears about this time of year is something that is known as a face fly. Why they call it a face fly is because if you are outside and you try to do some work, you are trying to get something done, you get this tiny bunch of flies that are in your eyes, in your mouth and buzzing in your ears, and they are a major distraction.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Federal Government has become a face fly in the faces of the American people. I believe that we were sent here by the American people last November 8 to get American Government out of our faces.

This budget gives that face fly a good swat. It gives freedom to the American people and freedom from a body in this Congress for the last 40 years that has tried to be America's mother, tried to be America's father, tried to be America's pastor, tried to be America's employer. We are giving freedom back to the American people to live their own lives.

I would imagine that I have got working poor in my district and their message to you is, get out of my face.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentleman from California [Mr. BECERRA].

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Chairman, I would ask my colleague, the gentleman from California, to take a closer look at this budget, because he may not know this but 52,385 working families in his district in California will have their taxes raised through this Republican reconciliation bill.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. MFUME].

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this legislation and I urge my colleagues to do the same. The bill before us represents bad policy; it is bad for America on several fronts, and I frankly fear for the future of our Nation should this legislation become law.

Supporters of this legislation are likely to talk about the future. They will say that over the next 7 years this bill will lead us toward a balance budget, and that they are doing this for their children and grandchildren.

Yet what kind of a world will these future generations be inheriting?

They will be living among seniors who do not receive adequate medical care or enough income to survive, despite having worked all their lives.

They will be surrounded by undereducated people, who were bought up in public schools that were plagued by drugs and violence and out-of-date books. Most of these people will then be relegated to menial jobs because they cannot afford a college education.

Everwhere they look, there will be whole families without adequate housing and without adequate help. Entire communities will be subject to decimation by crime, the lack of viable businesses, and by abject poverty.

Mr. Chairman, if this bill becomes law our children and grandchildren will be living in a world where hard work is not rewarded unless it reaps more than $100,000 per year.

This bill is rife with problems. In almost every area that this bill touches, it has the potential to wreak havoc on millions of Americans.

To add insult to injury—and there will be injury to millions of this Nation's most vulnerable citizens—this bill then gives aid and comfort to those who need it the least.

Let us look at just two unrelated areas which demonstrate the pain that this bill will inflict on millions of hard working Americans—the provisions addressing Federal employees and those addressing the Community Reinvestment Act.

Under this bill, Federal employees' contributions to their Federal retirement system will be increased and their cost-of-living adjustments will be delayed. In other words, Federal employees will be paying more and receiving less under this plan.

On another issue, this bill dilutes the effectiveness of the Community Reinvestment Act [CRA], which has been essential in past years in assuring that banks return some of the money they earn to the communities in which they are located. Through several provisions, this bill effectively exempts close to 90 percent of the banks and thrifts from CRA coverage. The bill also eliminates the sole enforcement mechanism in CRA.

While these two issues may not appear to be related, they are both in this bill and they are demonstrative of the destructiveness this legislation will cause to average Americans.

While I will not claim that this Congress under Democratic rule was able to resolve all of this Nation's problems, at lest we attempted to address them. This bill is simply saying to the old, the infirm, the middle class, the working poor, the students, and the children, that Congress no longer cares about their pain.

With this bill, we are saying that Congress has new priorities, and the average American is not one of them.

Mr. Chairman, I oppose this bill.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. CLAY], the ranking Democratic member of the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, be permitted to control the next

16 minutes of time on our side and that he be permitted to yield portions of that time.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. WALKER].

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Chairman, let us talk in realistic terms about the middle class in America. The fact is the middle class carries the huge working burden for this entire country. The fact is that what has happened over the last few years is that the middle class, in order to survive, has had to go from one-earner families to two-earner families and sometimes now to three- and four-earner families just to keep pace.

What has Government done along the way as we have taken on the middle class? Well, what we have done is literally taken them on by raising their taxes. We have raised their Social Security taxes, we have raised their Medicare taxes, we have raised their income taxes, and over the last 20 years more and more we have undermined their ability to keep what they earn for themselves and use it for their families.

The coup de grace was literally put in place a couple of years ago when this administration, and this Congress raised taxes enormously, the biggest single tax increase in history. Even the President now says it was too much tax. It was a huge tax increase. What it did was literally programmed in tax increases now and well into the future.

What we are trying to do in our budget is give back a little bit of that money to those people, to take away some of the tax increase that was imposed on them 2 years ago.

What do we hear? Oh, it is a tax cut for the rich. No, what is really does is goes to average middle-class Americans in a $500 per child tax credit and gives them back some of what was taken away from them by this Congress and by this administration.

Democrats do not like that. But the fact is that that is what has to be done if middle-class America is going to get back that which they earned for themselves.

What is the plan that we are offered in opposition to what we are doing? They want to continue those programmed tax cuts right on into the future. This year it will be $188 more the average family. Next year it will be $159 more for the average family. They continue those tax increases right out into the future. That is wrong. Middle-class America deserves the tax break that is contained in this budget.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman. I yield 10 seconds to the gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL]

Mr. ENGEL. In response to the last speaker from Pennsylvania, did the gentleman know that in his district 12,921 working families will have their taxes increased by this Republican bill and in Pennsylvania college students getting loans will have to pay $400 million more?

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 2 minutes.

(Mr. CLAY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, for almost a year, the Republican party has been making extravagant promises to the American people in the form of their contract on America.

A lot of well-meaning, sensible people bought into this charade. In street language, the Republicans are pulling off a classic bait and switch; they made a set of promises to the voters in order to gain power, but now they are delivering a different bill of goods that will smother the aspirations of middle-class families. Republicans are rewarding their rich supporters by hurting those who simply want to pursue the American dream through higher education.

To help finance their tax cuts for the rich, the Republicans propose to cut $10 billion from the student loan program. For many middle class, hardworking families, student loans have done more to open the doors of opportunity for their children than any other program established by the Federal Government.

The American people did not ask the Republicans to give a multi-billion dollar tax cut to the rich. The American people did not ask the Republicans to make it harder for their children to attend college by increasing the cost of student loans.

Mr. Chairman, for 50 years, our national investment in higher education has had an extraordinary rate of return. But, obviously, such generosity is too liberal and too progressive for the Republican party. On the eve of another Halloween season, this House is haunted by the ghosts of society past, when a college education was a privilege reserved for the children of the elite.

I urge my colleagues to defeat this wretched reconciliation bill.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. BONILLA].

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Chairman, this is a great day for America. We have a real chance to vote on a balanced budget today using real money, real numbers, and real cuts.

It is wrong to live beyond our means. We do not do it in our homes. We do not do it in our small businesses. We do not do it in our churches. It is wrong to continue to indebt future generations. Most of all, it is wrong and dead wrong to reject this one best opportunity to reverse the growth of Government, restore individual freedom, and lower the present and future tax burden for all Americans.

This budget bill puts America on track to a balanced budget and higher standard of living for all Americans in years ahead. This bill saves Medicare and the earned income tax credit, which is very important, while reforming welfare and providing American families with a much needed tax credit.

My colleagues, this is not a perfect bill. The agriculture section of this bill must be improved, and I am hopeful that it will be. It is a bill that must better address reimbursement for federally mandated Medicaid treatment. Also lost will be an opportunity to repeal a big boondoggle, the Davis-Bacon Act. But we can make these improvements.

I urge Members to vote ''yes'' on this bill.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentleman from Texas, [Mr. GENE GREEN]

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, does my colleague, the gentleman from Texas, know that in his district, if this bill passes, 51,213 taxpayers will pay in increased taxes because of changes in the earned income tax credit and in Texas he will lose $337 million in student loans?

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. ANDREWS].

(Mr. ANDREWS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the ranking member for yielding me the time.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the Republican bill and in support of the coalition alternative. Today I believe that there is a majority of principle for a balanced budget but only a partisan majority for the balanced budget plan offered by the Republican majority. That is because the Republican majority asked those who are best able to help themselves to do the least and those who are least able to help themselves to do the most. Nowhere in this budget is that more evident than in the field of education, and nowhere is that more evident than in the direct lending program which is abolished by the Republican bill.

My friends, the Republicans are abolishing the direct lending program because it works so well, because it shows American students and American taxpayers that this program works better than the billion-dollar-a-year corporate welfare giveaway to the banking industry, than to the hundreds of bureaucracies that have sprung up around the country wasting the money of students and taxpayers and families.

Direct lending will be preserved after the President vetoes this bill and we come together as a principled majority for a balanced budget. But none of us should vote for a bill that says to a janitor that we will raise your taxes while we lower the taxes of the person whose office you clean at night. No one should vote for a bill that says to the salespeople working for that company president, your children will pay more to go to college or will not go at all, at

the same time that the largest argibusiness in America walk off scot-free. It is the right principle. It is the wrong path to get there.

Our principled majority will join together after our President has spoken and pass a 7-year balanced budget the right way. This is not it.

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida [Mr. BILIRAKIS].

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Chairman, we all want America to remain the strongest country in the world. We want our children to grow up healthy, well-educated, drug free, and prosperous. And we want to reduce the burgeoning Federal deficit.

However, we on this side of the aisle recognize that we cannot achieve our first two goals without first addressing the deficit. We simply must get control of escalating Federal spending.

Former Senator Paul Tsongas made this clear when, appearing before my Health and Environment Subcommittee earlier this year, he testified:

> The bipartisan commission on entitlement and tax reform shocked even cynical inside-the-beltway types by pointing out that, on the current path, entitlement programs plus interest will exceed all Federal revenues by the year 2012.

Mr. Chairman, that is just 17 years away.

We do not like having to say, over and over, that Federal Government spending must be contained, that waste must be eliminated, that the bloated bureaucracy must be deflated and that all programs must be examined with an eye toward cutting. We do not like to argue, over and over again, that we need a balanced budget amendment and a line-item veto.

It would be much easier to just keep piling money on every program year after year. But it would not be responsible. Unwarranted scare tactics and false information to score cheap political points do not help.

Mr. Chairman, we must pass this landmark budget reconciliation bill to balance our Federal budget and begin to honestly address our Nation's problems.

Support this bill.

□ 1330

Mr. CLAY. Mr. chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL].

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Chairman, in response to the last speaker, did you know that in your district, 32,028 working families will have their taxes increased by this Republican bill, and in Florida college students getting loans will have to pay $276 million more?

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Rhode Island [Mr. REED].

Mr. REED. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this budget reconciliation before us today.

At the very time in our history when we need to invest more in education, this bill takes a step backwards. It goes after important programs that will help improve our education, like setting higher standards for our schools, providing for safe and drug-free schools, providing technology for our schools. These are devastating cuts to education.

When you look at the reality and get beyond the rhetoric, for working families in Rhode Island, this is even worse than the educational cuts. When you look at the Medicare proposals and the Medicaid proposals, you will see working families in Rhode Island have the cruel choice of saving more money to take care of aging parents or saving money to invest in their young children, indeed probably choosing between which fortunate child will go to college and which will be forced into the world, a complex world, without benefit of higher education. We can and must do better to ensure all of our citizens, all of our citizens have access to quality education.

Indeed, this whole proposal rests on very, very shallow grounds. The direct loan program is an example of a program that works for America, that saves money for taxpayers, is universally accepted and applauded by students and colleges alike, yet targeted for extinction. Why? Because it works too well, because it displaces bank-subsidized loans rather than providing direct loans to American students. This gimmick was employed in this new bill by changing the budget rules so we could make this efficient program look more expensive rather than more efficient as it in reality is.

These types of gimmicks underscore the cruel cuts imposed on this bill. We have to invest in education. Our economic prowess today is a result of consistent Federal policies, beginning with the GI bill, stretching through Pell grants, all of them aimed to improve human capital, the ability of our citizens to be the most educated, the most productive in the world. Yet we turn our back on that proud history and condemn our Nation to ignorance.

I reject this measure.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTLER].

(Mr. HOSTETTLER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Chairman, while I come to the floor to express my overwhelming support for this reconciliation bill, I want to make a very important point. This debate today is about so much more than the nuts and bolts of achieving a balanced budget, about accusations that Republicans are giving a tax break to the wealthy or about irresponsible individuals calling an almost $2,000-per-person increase in Medicare, a spending cut.

This is about doing what is right, what is decent, and what is required of us to do if our children and grandchildren and our parents have any chance of surviving the failure of past generations of lawmakers to exercise any kind of fiscal responsibility. This is plainly and simply the right thing to do.

Mr. Chairman, in conclusion, as I know when I sit down we are going to hear some remarks about those people in my district impacted by this bill, but these are from the same folks that said they were concerned about health care for the elderly but when faced with Medicare's imminent bankruptcy, they chose bankruptcy. We said we want to cut taxes for working families, but they did not. We said we want to balance the budget, but they did not.

Mr. Chairman, I think it just goes to show that adage, you can fool the country once, shame on us, fool the country more than once, shame on those.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentlewoman from California [Ms. WOOLSEY].

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Chairman, I would like to respond to the speaker from Indiana, wondering if he knows that in his district 31,695 working families will have their taxes increased by this Republican bill.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. ROEMER].

(Mr. ROEMER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Chairman, there is no doubt that we need to cut spending and balance the budget. The debate is not about whether we have a balanced budget, especially with our coalition budget that we Democrats will offer today. It is a question of fairness to the American people and to the children and the students of this country.

The big difference between the Republican plan and the coalition plan is cutting taxes. The Republican plan cuts taxes by $250 billion, so it takes money out of very important programs like Head Start for children, where they kick children out of Head Start programs and student aid for student loans. Now, what are the American people saying about these tax cuts? When I read about the people who testified before the Committee on the Budget and their testimony, all across this country, in Arizona, New Jersey, they said things such as Mr. Frank Ramsey in Arizona, ''We here feel in Prescott what needs to be done first is cut spending long before cutting taxes.''

In Montana, Greg Pearson said, ''I think it is absolutely foolish for Congress to talk about reducing taxes at all.'' Lynn Dill in Delaware said, ''Gentlemen, I am not looking for a tax cut. I want the best thing for the country and for the children.''

The second major difference between the Republican plan and the coalition plan is that that cuts $10 billion out of student loans. I have Indiana University at South Bend [I.U.S.B.] in my district. The average age is 28. We have

factory workers going back to school to get new skills so that they can continue to earn money for their families. We have people 55 changing their careers, going to I.U.S.B. This proposal will say to so many of these students that are 28, 38, and 48 years old, no more educational opportunities for you.

Mr. Chairman, let us sacrifice together equally. Let us not do the tax cuts at this time. It is inappropriate and unfair.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. LEWIS].

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, for 40 years we had a tax-and-spend Congress. In 1965, the war on poverty; for 30 years there has been a war on poverty, $5 trillion has been spent. And what have we got? We have more in poverty, we have more welfare, more illegitimacy, lower education, higher crime, more poverty, more drugs.

It is time to reform. It is time to balance our budget.

That Congress for 40 years spent us into a $5 trillion debt. Now, I am not going to pretend that today is going to be easy to vote on this bill, but it is time that we balance our budget.

If a House run by Democrats for 40 years had not spent the American people into the ground, we would have more resources, but we do not. Today we vote on whether to stop the bleeding or whether to continue down a path that will lead our Nation, our seniors, and our children to economic disaster.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL].

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Chairman, in response to the gentleman from Kentucky, did you know that in your district 34,543 working families will have their taxes increased by this Republican bill, and in the State of Kentucky students will have $75 million less for student loans?

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. GENE GREEN].

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I want to know how many Members on the Republican side have had a chance to read this bill. Maybe if they had, they would notice two things in the bill. One of them is that it cuts student loans, but also that in relation to that, the quote from our majority leader on the Senate side that said, ''I was there fighting the fight, voting against Medicare in 1965,'' and now he is proud to be doing it again. I hope they would look at that bill in relation to these quotes from this week.

There is an old saying that only the ignorant fear education. I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' against ignorance and to vote ''no'' against this careless and irresponsible bill we have today.

The Republicans, in their zeal to balance the budget, eliminate the stafford student loan 6-month grace period. This attack on students will increase college loan costs by $3.5 billion nationwide and $331 million in the State of Texas alone. College students will have to take out additional loans just to pay the interest.

This shows the Republicans' commitment to education, in addition, the commitment on the plus loan, or raise the interest rates for parents.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York [Ms. VELÁZQUEZ].

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the Republican budget proposal.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the current Republican budget proposal and urge a vote against this attack on working men and women.

My colleagues, what we have before us today is the naked shift of wealth at its very worst. We are robbing working class Americans to pay for tax breaks for the wealthy. In the past we have talked about changing spending priorities and investing in working America. This legislation is nothing more than a debate on de-investing in working America.

In today's society when the top 4 percent of the population's total earnings already exceed that of 50 million working class Americans—something is very wrong. Where is the fairness in giving more to those who already have so much, while taking so many desperately needed programs from those that have so little.

With reductions ranging from the earned-income tax credit, and the low-income housing tax credit, to cutting support for education, job training, and infrastructure, this budget finishes the Republicans' goal of removing society's safety net, and ending many working American's dream of a better life.

In the future we will still see groups of very prosperous people. But they will be flanked by larger groups of working poor. Sandwiched in between will be an unstable middle class, struggling just to hang on. This new polarized society will make America look more like a third world country than a world leader.

Today's vote marks the end of an era. Gone will be the world in which mothers and fathers hoped and dreamed that their children's lives would be better than their own. Today with this vote that dream will cease to exist. My colleagues, before you vote ask yourself—is balancing the budget on some arbitrary date, worth the price of our children's future? I think not.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. SHAYS].

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the gentleman from Texas a question. Does the gentleman from Texas know how much money he is depriving his constituents by voting against the $500 tax credit?

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SHAYS. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. I do not have that information. But I would imagine in my district, to my colleague and my friend, who is chairman of my committee, my district has a $25,000 median income, and they will not even be eligible.

Mr. SHAYS. Reclaiming my time, I say to the gentleman from Texas, you have given statistics. I want you to know that your vote against the $500 tax credit is going to cost your constituents $60 million.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume and yield to the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. TAYLOR].

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I am really confused on this. I thought I heard the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GIBBONS] yesterday ask you if the $500 tax break was actually in this bill. I thought I heard you say it is not. Now I am asking for a clarification. Is it or is it not?

Mr. KASICH. Since I yielded to the gentleman, the actual $500 tax credit is not contained in this bill, because we went from a bill that had 350 billion dollars' worth of tax relief to $245 billion. And now, the simple fact of the matter is that at the end of the day we will march on this floor in a conference report on reconciliation with a $500 tax credit contained in the final product.

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. But it is not in this bill?

Mr. KASICH. I control the time.

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. I am sorry.

Mr. KASICH. I cannot tell you what the ratio adjustment would be, but I would hope that nobody would attempt to distort or try to deceive people that it is somehow not the intention of the Members in this House to deliver a $500 tax credit.

Now, you cannot have it both ways. Out of one side of your mouth you cannot say we want to have it, we do not want to have any tax relief for Americans, and then on the other side of your mouth berate us because we do not technically have it done because of the way in which we do our scoring rules.

So the bottom line is we will have a $500 tax credit, and as the gentleman from Connecticut just pointed out, one of the last speakers is going to lose about $60 million from his district because he opposes the $500 tax credit.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the——

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, can the Chairman maintain order in the House? Regular order.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Parliamentary inquiry.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore (Mr. BILIRAKIS). The time is controlled by the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. The gentleman from Ohio has chosen at this point in time to yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I am not asking the gentleman from Ohio for a parliamentary inquiry. I am asking you for a parliamentary inquiry.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. The time is controlled at this point.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the very distinguished gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. KLUG].

Mr. KLUG. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman, my colleague on the Committee on the Budget, and congratulate him for all the terrific work he has done.

Friends, last month, a close friend of mine, Rick Raemisch, sheriff of Dane County, had a baby with his wife, Colleen. My family sent him off, as you might expect, a present and said, ''Congratulations.''

This place managed to send, along with our President, a tab for $190,000. That is the interest that little baby now owes this country because of the national debt this Congress has run up over the last 30 years.

I have got three boys at home, ages 3, 6, and 10, and combined, all of them now owe a half-million in interest payments because this Congress has not been able to control spending over the last three decades.

We have to balance the budget because this plan does it over the next 7 years, and it saves the promise of America for Rick and Colleen's little baby and for my three little boys.

It also saves Medicare for my 78-year-old mom, who lives in Milwaukee and who is scared to death if Congress does not do something that Medicare is gone completely, that it vanishes in the year 2002. We have to live up to our promises to our constituents to balance the budget. That is why I came here in the first place, and that is what this vote is all about this afternoon.

It is about a newborn baby in Madison, WI, and it is about my 78-year-old mom, moms and grandparents and fathers all across this country.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' to finally manage to balance the budget in this place over the next 7 years.

□ 1345

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 seconds to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. GENE GREEN].

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, the gentleman, who is a good friend of mine, did he know that in his district, 19,900 more working families would have their taxes increase if this bill passes? And in my own district, 57,757 families would have their taxes increased if this bill passes today, 57,757 in my district in the State of Texas.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Hawaii [Mrs. MINK].

(Mrs. MINK of Hawaii asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Chairman, I thank the ranking member of my committee for yielding me this time. I rise in strong opposition to this bill.

It is called a reconciliation bill, but under my definition, reconciliation means bringing people together and trying to reconcile differences. The majority party has made no such attempt, and we find in this bill crushing destruction of bills that have brought so much progress to our country. In Medicare and Medicaid, they are going to cut $455 billion.

We have already seen devastating cuts in the appropriations bill for this year in education, and this bill brings another $10 billion of cuts in student programs to enable them to go to college. We have always talked about the importance of education for our future, for our ability to compete globally and how important it is to support our young people in going to college. This bill that we are being asked to vote on today crushes that opportunity, denies millions of students the opportunity to go to college. This is a backward moving bill. I urge that it be defeated.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2491, the Seven Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995, because it breaks faith with the promises made to millions of Americans who have trusted the Government to provide certain basic services which safeguard their and their family's health, education, and welfare.

This reconciliation bill is a process gone amok. It was initially intended to coordinate the work of all the committees and enable the Congress at the end of the session to know what the total budget spending was and in addition provide for the needed legislative action required to implement actions taken by the appropriations committee. The budget process was intended to bring greater collaboration and cohesiveness in the work of the Congress.

This bill attempts to implant a 7-year budget restriction by enacting in one bill thousands of changes in statutory law intended to achieve cuts in spending in order to reach a balanced budget by the year 2002. It has created chaos and literally abandoned sunshine and open government.

I do not believe that this budget process was created to foist upon an unsuspecting public, who scarcely understands what we are doing, these monstrous changes in current law that could affect so many lives, so drastically, without open discussion and due debate.

Imagine a Medicaid and Medicare reconciliation which cuts $455 billion over a period of 7 years. These cuts were devised somewhere in the back room in secret. There were no public hearings on the thousands of sections containing these devastating cuts. These are not just pages in a bill. These cuts sever the life connection for our elderly and for many it will be disastrous choices and heavier burdens on their already hard pressed children.

On page 1242 of this bill, title XI Medicare states, ''text to be supplied.'' We have to presume that the 1,000 page bill that we voted on October 19, 1995 is what is intended to be inserted. This bill cut $270 billion of the Medicare Program without even 1 day of hearings. We know that various sections of the bill were changed during last minute negotiations, and one wonders what other changes were added to Medicare, and all the other sections.

Reconciliation means putting together the annual spending bills and making certain that statutory changes were made to align the spending with the law. That is what reconciliation should mean.

Instead this reconciliation has evolved into a demolition process in which wholesale massive destruction of programs are hastily included under the guise that it is necessary today under time targets set in the law for entirely different purposes.

One could argue about the necessity of various programs. One could differ about its efficacy. But these differences need to be discussed in the light of the day with full and open disclosure in public hearings and only after thorough and complete understanding about what is being proposed should they be brought to the floor for a vote.

There is no justification that we vote to eliminate the Department of Commerce without opportunity to debate what happens to all of the programs contained within it. This process is a disgrace and demeans this institution. There is no reason for this haste. This is deliberate chaos.

The budget resolution we passed in the spring called for the committees to report their recommendations. The Agriculture Committee did not report their recommendations. Nonetheless a recommendation is being added to this reconciliation bill by edict of the Speaker. This bypass of a standing committee is unprecedented. It is a derogation of authority and threatens the constitutional basis upon which we stand.

The 245 billion dollars' worth of tax cuts are supposed to be included in this reconciliation bill. Yet on page 1563 of the bill H.R. 2491, it still says, ''Text to be provided''. What changes are we voting on compared to the bill that the House passed in the spring?

The page where the welfare reform bill is supposed to be is also blank. We are told that it is intended that the House passed welfare reform bill is to be inserted.

It is clear to me that the thrust of this 7-year plan is to abandon the poorest, neediest, and most helpless of our population. It is definitely a plan that balances the budget on the backs of our children, our poor, our sick, and our elderly and disabled population.

Furthermore the size of the deficit is increased under their plan by the $240 billion tax cut, half of which goes to the 1 percent of our wealthiest people. Imagine giving these huge tax breaks, and on top of that repealing the alternative minimum tax which currently imposes tax on the super rich who otherwise would escape any payment whatsoever.

The tax benefits given the rich, is paid for by the poor, the ill, the elderly, the unemployed, and the disabled. It's simple mathematics. If you give away a tax dollar you should have collected, in order to still have a zero deficit, you have to take away a dollar's worth of benefit from someone.

No matter what the majority party says, the 245 billion dollars' worth of tax cuts, has to be paid for in order to have a balanced budget.

Let me outline the most egregious of all the cuts in programs that will result if this Reconciliation bill is enacted.

EDUCATION

You recall that in this year's appropriations bill for fiscal year 1996 we already cut education spending by $4.1 billion. A long list of programs were eliminated and many were cut

back badly. Our education spending priority is gone.

This reconciliation bill proposes an additional $10.1 billion of cuts over the next 7 years in various aspects of the student loan program. This is a crushing blow to thousands of students who could not make it through college without this help. The numerous changes in the program will enable the financial institutions to toughen the eligibility requirements freezing many students from getting their loans.

H.R. 2491 seriously undermines the ability of parents and students to get loans, increases the costs of these loans, and jeopardizes the structure and integrity of the program.

Eliminating the Federal interest payment during the 6-month grace period is expected to cost students $3.5 billion over 7 years. The grace period was instituted because the greatest number of defaults occurred in the first few months of repayment, when students often had difficulty finding jobs and establishing a steady income.

Republicans have also reduced the amount of money parents can borrow under the PLUS loan program and increased the interest rate charged to parents.

Perhaps the greatest harm to students and parents will come indirectly from the new costs imposed on lenders, guaranty agencies and secondary markets. The impact of these new fees and costs will increase costs on lenders and guaranty agencies causing many to leave the program, limiting access to student aid and result in redlining. This will take us back to a time which only the well-to-do had access to higher education.

These problems in gaining access to student aid will also be compounded by the elimination of the direct loan program. While Republicans insist that they support student aid, their recent actions speak otherwise. The direct loan program is the second student aid program that the House Republicans have voted to eliminate this year. The other program, the State student incentive grant program was zeroed-out in the appropriations bill.

TAXES

With respect to the $245 billion package of tax cuts, the House GOP would direct 52 percent of the package's benefits to families with incomes of over $100,000, of which 28 percent would go to families with incomes over $200,000. The proposed reduction in taxes would range from a meager $53 per year for families with incomes of $10,000 to $20,000 up to a whopping $10,362 for families with incomes of over $200,000.

The House GOP reduces the earned income tax credit by $32 billion, by rescinding the credit to families without children, broadening the definition of income used to calculate eligibility, and reducing the income level at which families can receive the EITC.

WELFARE

Although not printed in H.R. 2491, I presume the House-passed welfare reform bill has been made a part of this bill. These measures would desert low-income families in times of greatest need and punish children just because they are poor.

Most of those receiving welfare—Aid to families with dependent children, [AFDC] are children—approximately 10 out of 14 million recipients. The arbitrary lifetime limit of 5 years for cash assistance with cut off benefits to families while ignoring special circumstances these families endure. This time limit is punitive because most recipients are cyclers, unable to sustain employment and support their families continuously because at least one vital element is missing: child care, job assistance, education, health care, housing assistance or transportation.

By refusing to provide all elements of this necessary safety net, this bill denies welfare families true opportunity at self-sufficiency. Stringent work requirements as conditions of cash assistance are unreasonable without job creation. It is unrealistic to expect welfare recipients—mostly single mothers—to be able to find a good job paying a living wage while the country's unemployment rate remains high.

Low-income families will be further punished through the discontinuation of entitlement status for several programs and establishment of various block grants to States in this bill. By capping spending for these programs, States in times of fiscal hardship would be deserted, unable to receive additional Federal assistance despite the fact that the number of individuals relying on government assistance would grow. By placing programs for low-income families into block grants, the bill carries no assurance that States will use funds for these needy families.

Funding reductions and benefits caps in the Food Stamp Program, as well as the elimination and block-granting of the school lunch and breakfast programs, will severely threaten child nutrition in America. In Hawaii alone by 2002, nutrition assistance for 50,000 children would be cut; school lunch, the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children [WIC] and other child nutrition programs serving 184,000 children would be jeopardized. Nationwide, 14 million children in 2002 would lose nutrition assistance, and 32 million children could lose nutritional support.

Among other impacts of these welfare provisions, the administration estimates that more than 400,000 American children will lose child care assistance in 2002—1,450 children in Hawaii by cutting $10.6 million over 7 years. Foster care and adoption for vulnerable children will be cut by $6.3 billion over 7 years—by $32.9 million from children in Hawaii. Child protection for abused and neglected children will decrease by 19 percent in 2002—24 percent in Hawaii. Furthermore, because their paternity has not been established 3.3 million American children will be ineligible for cash assistance—12,000 in Hawaii—by the time the House bill is implemented in 2005.

Just as disagreeable in this legislation are measures to deny Federal benefits to legal immigrants—those who have followed the letter of the law and paid taxes. Most legal immigrants would be denied by assistance from Supplemental Security Income [SSI], Medicaid, food stamps, temporary assistance for needy families block grant and social services block grant programs.

Finally, the bill before us would change eligibility requirements for SSI and reduce spending by $17.6 billion over 7 years. It is appalling that this bill would allow only those low-income children to receive SSI who are severely disabled so as to require institutionalization if they are without continuous personal assistance. As many as half of the disabled children in Hawaii projected to receive SSI in 2002 under current law would be denied benefits; the figure is as many as 55 percent nationwide.

MEDICAID

Once again it is our children, low-income families, and the elderly that will feel the brunt of the Republican Medicaid plan. The Republican Medicaid plan wipes out guaranteed health care coverage for 36 million Americans, most of whom are children and cuts the program by $182 billion over the next 7 years.

Under the Republican plan no one is entitled to coverage for any services, regardless of how basic—even prenatal care, immunization for children, and care for the disabled. Instead of the current Federal guarantee of care, States will now be able to decide eligibility requirements, the level of benefits and services, and with at least 20 percent less funding they will have no choice but to cut off people or cut services.

Children will be among the most vulnerable to suffer from these cuts. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services estimates that as many as 15,161 children in Hawaii could lose Medicaid coverage under this plan. Currently 15 percent of Hawaii's children rely on Medicaid for the basic health needs. But the Republican plan will cut Federal Medicaid dollars to Hawaii by $443 million over 7 years.

The Urban Institute estimates that even if Hawaii could make up half of these cuts by reducing services and provided payments, it would still have to eliminate coverage for 29,557 people, including 15,161 children in the year 2002.

The other primary group of people who will be hurt by the Medicaid cuts is the elderly and disabled who depend upon Medicaid for long-term care. The majority of Medicaid funds goes to pay for long-term care—institutional and home care—for the elderly and disabled. In Hawaii Medicaid currently pays 60% of the costs of elderly in nursing homes. 74% of Hawaii's 3,289 nursing home patients rely on Medicaid to pay their bills.

Under this bill Hawaii's elderly and disabled will no longer have the assurance of Medicaid assistance for their long-term care. The program has been converted to a block grant to states under an inflexible, potentially inequitable formula. In addition, the bill repeals federal quality standards for nursing home residents. The bill also allows states to place liens on assets of adult children before their parents can be eligible for Medicaid.

HOUSING

With respect to housing, the Budget Reconciliation Act makes numerous reckless cuts. H.R. 2491 terminates the Resolution Trust Corporation [RTC] and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's [FDIC] affordable housing programs. Under the RTC affordable housing program, more than 104,000 residences have been sold for $1.5 billion while eliminating these programs will save a mere $32 million. These relatively meager savings will abolish these sensible and necessary services.

HUD's multifamily property disposition would be practically wiped out. This bill authorizes HUD to sell its multifamily housing projects and HUD-held mortgages without restriction. There will be no protections for displaced low-income tenants forced to enter the market and locate suitable housing that will honor a voucher. Tenants will not be guarded from rent increases and will be required to pay the difference when rents rise above the value of their voucher.

The Rural Housing and Community Development Service will be required to recapture

Federal subsidies from rural housing borrowers when a home is refinanced or a single family direct loan mortgage is paid off. A low-income family that has spent years saving their scarce resources to purchase a home will be further burdened with repaying principal and interest on a refinanced first mortgage as well as the interest credit subsidy recaptured upon refinancing. This policy goes contrary to helping families obtain the American dream; delaying efforts of low-income families to purchase their own homes.

Despite weighty testimony that many low- and moderate-income individuals are not currently assisted adequately, this bill eliminates all enforcement mechanisms of the Community Reinvestment Act [CRA]. The responsibility of financial institutions to meet the credit needs of their communities will not be monitored. Institutions could invest more outside of their communities thereby slowing the growth of these already distressed areas and make it increasingly difficult for its citizens to obtain loans.

MEDICARE

Last week this House passed Medicare cuts of $270 billion. Medicare is not about cold pieces of metal fastened together to create a space station or a stealth bomber. It is about people's standard of living. It is about having the comfort and security to know that if you become ill in your years of twilight, or disabled at any age there will be a safety net.

There are already 41 million people in this country without health insurance. Does anyone in this room believe that this number will decrease as a direct result of these provisions to cut Medicare?

The majority claims that seniors will have more choice with their Medicare plan. Sure they will have new choices but in addition, I caution you to be aware that old choices will be eliminated. Among the new choices will be the option to select a medical savings account that could have a $10,000 per year deductible; the choice to stay with a skeleton of the traditional Medicare system that will not pay for all the services it did before; and to select a provider service organization that will be unregulated, unsafe, and financially vulnerable, until States are able to implement their own regulations.

Meanwhile, old choices will be abolished. This bill includes provisions that would remove a patient's legal right to sue for malpractice more than 5 years after damages were sustained even if damages were not discovered until after this period of time; patients would not have the choice to select a nursing home that maintains federally regulated standards; and beneficiaries who exercise their choice and select a Medicare-plus option could later find that they do not have the choice to select their family doctor under their new plan.

Why are we rushing these catastrophic cuts when we have 7 years at the earliest before the Medicare trust fund will become insolvent. The Medicare trustees have not stated that we need Medicare cuts of $270 billion to make the trust fund solvent. One Trustee stated that $89 billion is all that is needed. We have 7 years to plan these changes and we have done it 8 times before.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The reconciliation bill eliminates the Commerce Department causing needless shuffling of governmental functions while eliminating successful activities that clearly benefit the American people especially in areas that promote economic growth, increase the international competitiveness of U.S. firms in global markets, and advance U.S. technology.

H.R. 2491 eliminates four agencies, the Minority Business Development Agency, U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration, Technology Administration and the Economic Development Administration. The remaining Commerce programs not eliminated are transferred to existing agencies or departments or consolidated in newly created agencies.

The U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration and the Economic Development Administration have been particularly important to economic and business development in Hawaii. These two key agencies were major contributors to the economic recovery of Kauai following Hurricane Iniki.

It is highly contradictory that Republicans who pride themselves as supporters of private enterprise would eliminate a whole agency dedicated to improving business and economic development.

The transfer of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA] to a new agency threatens weather services, State grants, fisheries, research, navigation, and sanctuaries nationwide. Negative effects of this provision will be felt the hardest in Hawaii as numerous programs lose funding or are terminated.

Finally this bill contains a provision to lift the ban on export of Alaska North Slope [ANS] crude oil which would have disastrous effects on Hawaii's consumers, who already pay the highest gas prices in the Nation. According to industry experts, this measure could increase wellhead prices for ANS by more than $2 per barrel, which would translate directly into skyrocketing gas costs for Hawaii, whose refineries run on 60-percent crude oil. The 22-year-old export ban on ANS has enabled Hawaii's refineries to hold costs down.

Should the ban be lifted, as gas prices start to rise, Hawaii and the U.S. territories would begin to receive less ANS crude. According to the State's largest refinery—BHP petroleum Americas—removal of the export ban would make exports to Pacific rim countries more attractive. The ANS provision is terribly irresponsible, at a time when the United States is importing nearly half of its petroleum, to allow domestic oil to go to foreign countries.

This is just a brief description of the thousands of harmful consequences of this bill. This bill must not become law. It destroys America's belief in what Government stands for.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. SHAYS].

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to just have a very calm dialog with my good friend; he truly is a good friend and someone I respect from Texas. I would just ask the gentleman to share that, the gentleman says in my district, What?

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SHAYS. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, 11,207 would see increases in taxes from earned income tax credit, but also your district would benefit from the increased taxes.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, so the gentleman is talking about the earned income tax credit. Is it the gentleman's point on the floor of the House that any of my constituents who get the earned income tax credit will get less next year?

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, if the gentleman will continue to yield, the number, the 11,000 number is based on the number of constituents you have that are eligible for the earned income tax credit.

Mr. SHAYS. Nobody will be taking any earned income tax away. They will not get an increase.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. They will. Under this bill, there will be less earned income tax credit.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, I just think the numbers you all are using are bogus. I am fed up with it. These are not accurate numbers. You are not disclosing that it is to be increased. There is no cut to a constituent in my district because of the earned income tax credit. It has got to end.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1⅓ minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. OWENS].

(Mr. OWENS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to two provisions in this mean-spirited attack on educational opportunity and on the lowest paid workers in America, the people who are covered by the Service Contract Act. There is no need to go after the workers in the Service Contract Act. it does not have anything to do with increasing revenues for this country. It will not cost us anything in tax expenditures; however, it may cost a great deal in food stamps and unemployment insurance if we end the service contract and lower the wages of the lowest paid workers in the country.

Wage determinations under the Service Contract Act in 30 cities come out to $6.07 per hour for janitors, $5.42 for food service workers, $5.59 for guards. Why are we going after these lowest paid workers in America? Why is the mean-spirited attack on workers continuing through the Reconciliation Act? It does not save any money. It will cost us money in the end.

We will also lose money by not investing more in education in America. Educational opportunity is an investment. It is not an expenditure. We need to widen the amount of money available in discretionary programs so that we can restore many of the cuts made in education. We want to restore the cuts in title I. We want to restore the summer youth employment grant. We also want to make certain that the job training programs which are defunded have money restored. If we extend this attempt to balance the budget over a 10-year period instead of a 7-year period, we can gain back many of the dollars that are needed to restore these educational cuts in the budget.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this mean-spirited attack on educational opportunity in America and on the lowest paid workers in America.

Education has become a matter of individual economic survival in this country. You cannot succeed, you cannot earn enough to support a family, you cannot achieve the American dream, without postsecondary education. Americans understand this and they now make enormous sacrifices to obtain access to the halls of higher education, working extra hours, taking second jobs, scrimping, saving, and, inevitably, assume crushing debt burdens.

Instead of honoring the determination and the responsibility of these Americans, today this House is about to make their struggle that much harder, piling on aid cuts of more than $10 billion. Many families will not be able to afford cuts of these magnitude. More importantly, no family should be asked to shoulder this additional burden. There is no high purpose behind all this; the only reason we are savaging these programs is to free up money for the Republican tax cut payoff.

This bill also wages a parallel assault on elementary and secondary education and job training, threatening both the availability and the quality of educational and training opportunities for millions of American children. The dramatic reduction in permissible discretionary spending that would be imposed by this bill between now and the year 2002 will savage Federal assistance for elementary and secondary education. The Labor-HHS-Education appropriations legislation passed by the House earlier this year offers just a preview of the carnage to come.

The title I program, which supports tutoring and remedial educational services for low-income children and others who are falling behind in school, is cut by $1.1 billion, or 17 percent, throwing 1.1 million educationally disadvantaged students out of the program. The Safe and Drug-Free School Program, which provides support to nearly every school district in the country for drug abuse education programming and antiviolence activities, is slashed by 60 percent, eliminating services to 23 million schoolchildren. Cuts in funding for the Adult Education Act will deny services to 125,000 illiterate adults next year. Cuts in Head Start will toss nearly 50,000 preschool children out of that acclaimed program. Support for training for disadvantaged youth is cut in half and the entire summer youth employment program is eliminated, denying 600,000 young people job and education opportunities next summer.

These draconian reductions, I emphasize, are just the beginning; this is just the first year, the first cinching of the garotte on educational funding imposed by this legislation. More than $36 billion will be bled from educational programs over the next 7 years.

The debate today is not about deficit reduction and balancing the budget. The issue is how we go about reaching the balanced budget and what programs should be given priority for funding. Earlier this year, the Congressional Black Caucus put forward a budget proposal which, like the Republican plan, balanced the budget over 7 years. We did not cut Federal support for education by one dime. Indeed, we nearly doubled spending for education, training, and other human investment programs. We expanded and improved educational opportunity in America and, at the same time, eliminated the deficit, balanced the Federal budget, and provided a tax cut to working families as well. It is not necessary to attack education in order to achieve the professed goals of the majority.

But attack education is what this legislation does, virtually and violently. Key Federal investments in education which make the American dream possible for all of our citizens are blotted out. Key Federal investments in education which make the American dream possible for all our citizens are blotted out. Key Federal investments in education which make our economy thrive are extinguished. This legislation does not provide for the future of our children and youth—it destroys it.

I oppose the repeal of the Service Contract Act because it is nothing more than an assault on the standard of living of some of the hardest working men and women in our Nation; and it is an assault which will deprive workers and their families of a fair wage, health insurance, and pension protections for their senior years.

The Service Contract Act has enjoyed bipartisan support since it was enacted in 1965 and amended in 1972. The law has been virtually without controversy because it protects some of our most exploited and victimized workers in our Nation. Today, 30 years later, the Service Contract Act continues to protect almost 1 million workers—most of whom are minority and female workers in low-wage occupations. For example, service contract workers include cooks, bakers, cashiers, mess attendants, cleaners, custodians, janitors, housekeeping aides, window washers, trash collectors, mechanics, clerks, small equipment mechanics, cafeteria workers, food preparation workers, machinery and furniture repair workers, landscapers, keypunchers, and laundry workers, to name but a few.

The single largest occupation covered by the Service Contract Act is janitor, porter, cleaner which, in 1986, accounted for 18 percent of the total SCA-covered work force. The other largest categories are housekeeping aid, security guard, mess attendant, and food service worker. These occupations are ones in which the employment of women, African-Americans, and Hispanics predominates. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of all employed janitors, porters, and cleaners, 34 percent are women, 24 percent are African-American, and 11 percent are Hispanic. In housekeeping occupations—performed outside private homes—84 percent of such workers are women, 31 percent are African-Americans, and 13 percent are Hispanic. The food preparation and service occupations also consist of high proportions of women and minorities. Fifty-seven percent of these jobs are held by women; 12 percent are held by African-Americans, and 13 percent are held by Hispanic workers. Thus, the repeal of the Service Contract Act will injure, in particular, low-wage workers and primarily women, African-Americans, and Hispanic workers.

Repeal of the SCA would shred the safety net, as modest as it is, for these service contract workers, many of whom earn a very modest wage even with the Service Contract Act. For example, janitors in Atlanta, GA, receive $12,730 under the Service Contract Act. In St. Louis, MO, janitors make $12,860 annually and in a high-wage area like Boston, janitors make $17,200 annually. When the Federal poverty line of $14,754 for a family of four is considered, it is clear that even with the protections of the Service Contract Act, workers still need the protection of the act.

One of the myths about the Service Contract Act is that it no longer protects low-wage employees, but rather protects high technology professional and managerial employees. But the act contains numerous exemptions for many types of service contracts under which so-called high technology, high wage workers are employed. There are three major categories of highly skilled and highly compensated workers who Congress specifically excluded from the Service Contract Act when it amended the law in 1976 including professional employees, executive employees, and administrative employees. Another major category of high technology workers who have been exempted from coverage includes technicians who repair and maintain computers, scientific and medical equipment, and office and business machines when those services are provided by the manufacturer.

The wage determinations issued under the Service Contract Act are not inflationary. In 30 cities, SCA wages averaged $6.07 for janitors, $5.42 for food service workers, and $5.59 for guards. Even in a high-cost metropolitan area such as Washington, DC, the prevailing wage for SCA-covered janitors is $6.35 per hour—plus $.91 per hour in benefit contributions. In Boston, janitors receive $8.60 per hour; in Memphis, janitors receive $5.60 per hour; and in Salt Lake City, janitors receive $5.85 per hour. Thus, despite the act's protection, even those earnings are quite modest. Without SCA coverage, the work force of low-skilled, predominantly minority and female workers, would quickly drop to $4.25 per hour under the pressure of the procurement system.

In summary, the Service Contract Act has allowed workers to earn a living wage. It has enabled millions of workers to enjoy the benefits of fair wages and fringe benefits such as health insurance and a pension typically unavailable in this industry. Also, many service contractors on Federal service contract jobs maintain jointly administered labor-management training programs. Many workers have participated in these training programs and have been allowed to improve their job skills and move up the economic ladder. Improved job skills for many who might otherwise have little or no job training has benefited all service contract workers and it also has benefited their employers and the Federal Government—the ultimate consumer of their services. It is for all these reasons that I oppose repeal of the Service Contract Act.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California [Ms. LOFGREN].

(Ms. LOFGREN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the seniors, working families and especially children in my district, I strongly oppose this bill.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2491, the Budget Reconciliation Act. This bill ignores the priorities of the American people by its cavalier attitude toward children and working families. One key purpose of this bill is to provide tax breaks for the wealthy; most

Americans will get nothing back or even pay more under this so-called tax break plan.

My district is made up of hard-working American families and they have sent me a loud and clear message: they want thoughtful and measured cuts in our Government, coupled with strong safeguards for our elderly, our families, and our children. This bill ignores that message.

Mr. Chairman, almost 8,000 children in my district will lose their health coverage under this bill, and thousands of working families will suffer from the cuts in student loans and higher taxes. My district, Santa Clara County, will lose $564.6 million in Medicaid funding over 7 years and health care officials warn that emergency clinics, local clinics, public hospitals, nursing homes and private hospitals could be forced to close their doors. These measures aren't part of the message I receive from my district.

This bill also cuts into some of the most important tax provisions that benefit my district. I know that many of my colleagues are dismayed that the Earned Income Tax Credit, which provides a true incentive to people trying to stay off welfare and into the work force, would be a target of this Congress. Scaling this back really amounts to a tax increase for low-wage-earning Americans.

I am equally disappointed that the Majority has seen fit to eliminate the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit. In 1993, two-out-of-three of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle cosponsored legislation in 1993 to make this credit permanent. It made sense in 1993 and it makes sense now. The city of San Jose has called this tax provision ''the single most important source of funding for the development of affordable housing.'' Since 1991, 1744 affordable units have been developed in San Jose, with a total tax credit of $100 million and a total economic impact of a quarter of a billion dollars. Mr. Chairman, this credit, like the Earned Income Tax Credit, helps people toward self-sufficiency, spurs local economies, provides jobs for local workers and provides affordable housing for struggling families. Under this same bill, 7,685 children in California will have to go without basic housing. We need housing for these children and their families. Why are we sacrificing effective credits in favor of tax breaks for those who make hundreds of thousands of dollars a year?

But this bill is about more than tax credits and tax breaks, Mr. Chairman. It's really about our children themselves. Kicked off Medicaid, deprived of school lunches, and inadequately protected from hunger, homelessness and abuse by the provisions of this bill, children are going to suffer. Did you know that over 50 percent of all Medicaid recipients are children? These children are the real losers in this bill. And to top it all off, this reconciliation bill is going to cap welfare assistance, meaning even less money will be available for these needy children.

My colleagues, it is clear that the current majority lacks interest in struggling families. When this budget takes effect, working America will be squeezed even more. What will this mean? More working families unable to afford health care, housing, education, child-care and even food; more problems with unemployment, homelessness and more stress in our local communities. Do we want this? Is this what the American people really asked for in November? I know that the people who elected me last November certainly did not.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GOODLING], the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Chairman, I would like to first of all point out what we do not do, and then I would like to point out very quickly what we do do.

First of all, we do not eliminate inschool interest subsidies even though Alice Rivlin suggested to the President that might be the way to go. We do not eliminate the 6-month grace period before students begin repaying their loans. We do not change the eligibility or the access to student loans. We do not increase loan origination fees paid by students. We do not increase the interest rate students pay on their loans nor do we take away the reduction that they are due to get in 1998.

Let me tell my colleagues what we do do. The number of student loans issued will be increased from 6.6 million this year to 7.1 million next year. The volume of student loans increases 50 percent, rising from $24 billion this year to $36 billion.

The primary impact of what we have done really falls strictly with the loan industry who are going to come up with over $5 billion. Pell grants under the House appropriation will be the maximum they have been.

The supplemental education opportunity grants will continue at the same level. The college work-study will continue at the same level. The Perkins loan will continue at the same level. The minority programs, TRIO programs which benefited minorities and disadvantaged will continue at the same level. The historically black colleges, the undergraduate and graduate college programs are fully funded at the same level.

Those are the things we are doing. At the same time, we are going to bring down interest rates so that those people paying on these loans will get a tremendous reduction by the time we get to a balanced budget. That is not my word. That is the word of most economists, including Mr. Greenspan.

So, what we have done has done nothing to hurt students. It gives them every opportunity they have ever had to get loans, to get more loans, to get higher Pell grants. We are helping students, and at the same time we are going to help them in the future because we are not going to mortgage their future.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California [Mr. BECERRA].

(Mr. BECERRA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Take a look at this bill. The Republican bill increases taxes for 14 million working families at the same time it allows multinational corporations that make billions in profits to pay no taxes. The Republican bill taxes seniors through the $270 billion cut in Medicare and the $182 billion cut in Medicaid, and at the same time we are giving the Pentagon $8- to $10 billion more than the Pentagon even requested. Can it get worse? Yes. If you have students in your family and they want to go to college, get ready because they are going to have to pay billions more in this Nation to go to college, up to perhaps $5,000 more for that student to go through college. That is a tax because it would not be that way without this bill.

So who is helped? Well, this tax cut for the wealthy and tax cut for corporations helps them. As we hear now from Speaker GINGRICH and the Senate majority leader on the Senate side saying, they never wanted Medicare to begin with. It is becoming clear who this is benefiting. It is not those who work and pay taxes. It is for those who just invest and get money.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the very distinguished gentleman from the State of Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON].

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Chairman, when the gentleman on the other side will stand and say that someone in my district is going to pay higher taxes because of this reconciliation bill, he is mistaken. Anyone who claims that EITC reform is a tax increase is either misstating the situation, being deceived or simply does not understand how the program works.

The fact is that 85 percent of current EITC spending is considered outlays or direct government payments just like AFDC. Six out of seven dollars being spent on EITC is above and beyond, as it is returned to that taxpayer, is above and beyond the aggregate taxes paid. Less of an increase is not a cut. It is not a cut in Medicare spending, and it is not a cut in the EITC spending.

In addition, in this reconciliation bill encompassed is tax relief for millions of hard-working Americans in the $500-per-child tax credit. The family making $30,000 with two children sees their taxes cut in half.

A family making $25,000 a year with two children sees their tax eliminated. Every hard-working American family in this country will be better off because of this reconciliation bill. That is the fact.

For those who listened yesterday on this floor, I had a colloquy with members of the Committee on Ways and Means, with leadership Members in this body who made a flat commitment that we would work to ensure that all American families, all working American families will be better off under this program of tax relief than they were last year. That is a commitment and that is the truth. All of this bogus talk and bogus figures about tax increases is simply misrepresenting the reality of this reconciliation bill.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. KILDEE].

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Chairman, for those of you who plan to vote for this bill today, you should do so fully aware of the consequences.

The block grant and funding reductions in the Medicaid Program in this bill will have devastating effects on disabled children across the country.

Mr. Chairman, in 1986, this Congress made changes to the Individuals with Disabilities Act [IDEA] to help States establish and operate comprehensive early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities. In 1993, this program helped 154,000 families overcome the challenges of meeting the needs of disabled infant and toddlers. This is a program of proven success and has solid bipartisan support. Why? Because it works. Talk to your States. They will tell you that this program saves money because early intervention means that fewer services are needed in the future. This means reduced reliance on medical services and families avoid the expensive tragedy of putting their children in institutions.

The infants and toddlers program has been successful because it is conducted through a partnership with the Medicaid Program. In some States over 50 percent of funding comes from Medicaid. The city of Chicago estimates that they will lose $45 million annually as a result of this change to the Medicaid Program.

If you vote for this bill, know that you will put this progress at risk and that it will devastate the dreams of disabled children and their families.

Many families, who are both poor and middle class, receive much-needed support from Medicaid for their disabled children. What kind of help do they receive? Wheelchairs, equipment used to communicate and the kind of services that make it possible for parents to keep their children at home. Voting for this bill means running the risk of forcing parents to make absolutely cruel choices about the most important thing in their lives—their children.

Do you think these parents would give this up to get a $500 tax cut? Of course not. Vote ''no'' on this bill.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the majority's budget proposal. Is there no end to the Republicans' attack on the most vulnerable in our society? They have already dismantled Medicare forcing seniors to pay more for less health care coverage. Now, the Republicans are going after those who—truly cannot—defend themselves, those who—entrust us with their future—the Nation's children.

The Republican budget: Takes away health care services from over 4 million needy children; takes away Head Start from 180,000 disadvantaged children; takes away basic assistance in reading and math from over 1 million disadvantaged children; and threatens the availability of school lunches and other nutritious meals for 32 million hungry children.

I know the children of my district and those across the State of Ohio will be hurt by the drastic cuts in health care, education, housing, and child protections alone. Over 150,000 children in Ohio will lose Medicaid coverage, and nearly 40,000 will be denied disability assistance. Over 600,000 children in Ohio will suffer from the drastic cuts in nutrition assistance. Nearly 20,000 children in Ohio will be denied child care.

In addition, assistance to over 180,000 children in Ohio is cut simply because their paternity has not been established. Over 8,000 children in Ohio will no longer have the benefits of Head Start. Over 32,000 children in Ohio will be denied the basic assistance in reading and math that they need. Summer jobs for nearly 20,000 Ohio youth who need and want to work will be eliminated. The families of over 150,000 children in Ohio will be forced to pay higher rents, when the median income or their family is only $6,800. To make matters worse, the families of over 700,000 children in Ohio will have their taxes increased by the Republican budget.

Mr. Speaker, what could these poor—little—innocent children in Ohio and across the Nation have done to the Republicans to warrant such a coldhearted attack? I urge all my colleagues to throw off these shackles of oppression being imposed by the Republicans on the American people and vote ''no'' on this bill.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the very distinguished gentleman from the State of Pennsylvania [Mr. CLINGER].

(Mr. CLINGER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Chairman, I want to point out that the only constant that we have in this world is the fact of change. We have seen an enormous change in this country. Science and technology have whisked changes by that are blinding, at a frightening rate of speed. Nevertheless, progress, opportunity, and a hope for a better tomorrow have made most of us willing participants in this ongoing change.

As we have adopted changing times, so have nearly all of society's major institutions: the American family, large corporations, small businesses, communities, every institution, Mr. Chairman, except one, the Federal Government.

The Federal Government has continued to grow and centralize power and decisionmaking authority in Washington, DC, without regard to cost or efficiency. So, Mr. Chairman, in this era of downsizing, when everyone else, everyone else is asked to do more with less, the Federal Government has continued to swell requiring a greater and greater share of American family income and business earnings.

For too long, Congress and the White House have turned a blind eye to the dire consequences of deficit spending and the mounting national debt. In the short-term, we have been a dead weight around the neck of our economy, crowding out private investments, stifling job creation and limiting economic growth and opportunity. But even worse, Mr. Chairman, in the long run, they have compromised the standard of living of our children and grandchildren.

Mr. Chairman, today that ends. Today the House is going to adopt the first balanced budget in a generation. Today we will finally stop the hemorrhaging of red ink and get our fiscal house in order.

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So I am proud to rise in support of this budget because it is an honest measure that does not rely on smoke and mirrors, rosy economic scenarios, and other phony accounting gimmicks.

In a moment I am going to hear, I am sure, how many of my constituents are likely to be, possibly going to be, disadvantaged by the passage of this budget, but what we will not hear from the other side are the hundreds of thousands of my constituents, indeed all of my constituents, who will be disadvantaged seriously if we fail to get this budget in balance by the year 2002, and I rise in strong support of this measure.

Over the past several decades our world has changed dramatically. Empires have crumbled, and infant nations have been born. Diseases have been eradicated by modern medicine, while newer, deadlier ones have emerged.

In some areas such as science and technology, the change has occurred at a blinding pace. What is invented today may be obsolete tomorrow.

Swift air travel, world-wide television coverage, and instance communications have made our planet a relatively small place. Laptop computers, once the size of living rooms, have empowered individuals by bringing a wealth of information and knowledge to our fingertips.

Keeping pace with the present, never mind catching up to the future, has made our lives more complex, more exhilarating, and more exhausting.

Nevertheless, progress, opportunity, and hope for a better tomorrow have made most of us willing participants in this ongoing change. And as we have adapted to these changing times, so have nearly all of our society's major institutions.

The American family has undergone a complete metamorphosis. Families supported by one breadwinner and one homemaker are nearly obsolete and have been replaced by single parent families or double-income families with latch-key kids.

Large corporations have become smaller and flatter to compete in the global marketplace. As we've moved from the industrial age into the information age, the more successful businesses have learned to integrate workers and technology, and replace conflict with cooperation to improve productivity.

Even the most conservative of institutions, religion, has taken advantage of technological advancements to reach followers and spread their word.

But, during this whirlwind of change, one major institution has managed to resist it. The Federal Government over the past 30 years has continued to grow and centralize power and decisionmaking authority in Washington, DC, without regard to cost or efficiency. Somehow, the Federal Government has been able to inoculate itself against the constant changes that are reshaping our world and our lives.

Its monolithic bureaucracies and rigid hierarchies have proven to be anathema to creativity, innovation, and experiment. Perverse incentives and debilitating inefficiencies have rendered the Federal Government incapable of dealing with the Nation's most vexing problems. Though Government once helped people overcome obstacles, it now has become an obstacle itself.

In this era of downsizing when everyone is asked to do more with less, the Federal Government has continued to swell, requiring a greater and greater share of American family income and business earnings. To the dismay of all Americans, we seem to be feeding more money to Washington, but getting less back in terms of results.

The Federal Government's inability to adapt to changes in the modern world coupled with Congress' addiction to spending have resulted in an overwhelming fiscal mess that should make us blush with shame or turn red with anger.

Each year since 1969, the Federal Government has failed to live within its means, spending more money than it collects in taxes and borrowing to make up the difference. For 26 straight years, we have piled more and more onto our national debt which now stands at nearly $5 trillion.

For too long, Congress and the White House have turned a blind eye to the dire consequences of these irresponsible spending practices. In the short term, deficit spending and the mounting National debt have been a dead weight around the neck of our economy, crowding out private investment, stifling job creation, and limiting economic growth and opportunity.

But even worse, in the long run, deficit spending compromises the standard of living of our children and grandchildren. We are risking the prosperity of future generations in order to consume more today.

Well, today, Mr. Speaker, that ends. Today, the House will adopt the first balanced budget in a generation. Today, we finally will stop the hemorrhaging of red ink and get our fiscal house in order.

I am proud to rise in support of H.R. 2491, the Seven-Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act because it is an honest, credible measure that does not play the popular Washington game of relying on smoke and mirrors, rosy economic scenarios, and other phony accounting gimmicks to balance the budget. Rather, it makes the tough decisions that are necessary to really and truly get to a balanced budget.

For instance, it saves billions by tackling the difficult issue of welfare dependency. Not only does it overhaul our welfare system to encourage work and self-sufficiency, it also attacks corporate welfare by closing $30 billion in corporate tax loopholes.

The measure also achieves savings by revamping Federal farm subsidy programs so that American farmers can move away from dependence on Government support while remaining competitive in the global market and continuing to feed the world.

Some budget savings in this budget are not easy, but necessary if we are going to make the Federal Government smaller, more cost effective, and more responsible to the taxpayer. The Government Reform and Oversight Committee, of which I am chairman, crafted the section dismantling the bloated, misguided Department of Commerce. It will save billions and serve as a blueprint for future downsizing efforts.

Many provisions in the budget simply make sense. For 70 years, the Federal Government has maintained a helium reserve for national security purposes. Today, however, the U.S. military uses B–2 bombers and F–16 fighters to defend the Nation, not blimps. Privatizing the helium reserve and saving millions of dollars is just common sense.

Other provisions are long overdue. As chairman of the Government Reform and Oversight Committee, I worked to end special pension treatment for Members of Congress and their staff. The American people have been screaming for congressional pension reform, and this budget delivers it.

Another reason this budget package has earned my support is because it doesn't rely on the tried-and-failed method of deficit reduction: raising taxes. We can't tax our way out of debt or into prosperity, and history has borne that out. This time, instead of hitting the taxpayers up for more money, we have struck at the core problem: Congress' addiction to spending.

During the course of debate, we have heard concerns and criticisms about various line-item cuts and programmatic changes in the budget, however, we must not lose sight of the fact that balancing the budget is a necessity, not a luxury. In my mind, beside rescuing the standard of living of future generations, balancing the Government's books will have two vital impacts on our Nation.

First, balancing the budget will significantly boost our economy by reducing long-term interest rates by 2 percent. Families will pay less for mortgages, student loans, care loans and credit card payments. Lower interest rates will help businesses to expand, create jobs, and improve their international competitiveness. A balanced budget will create 6.1 million additional jobs and increase per capita income 16.1 percent over the next 10 years.

No Federal Government program can provide the American people as much in benefits that a balanced budget can.

Second, and maybe even more important, balancing the budget may restore the American public's confidence in its Government. The Founding Fathers instilled in us a health dose of skepticism for government, but this has festered into a deep distrust and cynicism about government.

Some pundits and political scientists attribute these feelings to the Vietnam war and Watergate. I disagree. When I talk to people back home who are disgusted with Washington, they don't mention Vietnam or Watergate, they point to what's going on today. They don't understand how their leaders can so poorly manage the nation's finances.

The public recognizes that many of the problems facing our Nation—the economy, cultural and moral decay, foreign conflicts—can be influenced, but not completely controlled by the President and Congress. But they know that managing the Federal Government's fiscal affairs is a direct function of Congress and the White House, and we have been derelict in our duties for too long.

For these people, balancing the budget is not just about hope, opportunity, and prosperity, its about cleaning up the mess in Washington.

As elected officials responsible for governing the Nation, we should not—indeed, we cannot—underestimate the power of regaining the American people's trust and confidence. After all, balancing the budget is only the beginning, not the final product of the task at hand.

I remind my colleagues that balancing the budget and reducing the size of Government is only half of what we must do. Government still has vital functions and can improve the lives of people in many circumstances. Our obligation is to transform our current 1930's style Government into a 21st century Government capable of coping with the challenges confronting modern society.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I am proud to vote for this budget. Though I don't agree with every detail, I support this measure because it will balance the budget while still allowing spending to increase at a responsible rate; it will save Medicare for current and future beneficiaries; it will provide tax relief to middle class American families; and it will invigorate our economy and help create jobs.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 seconds to the gentleman from Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, in answer to my chairman of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, 28,588 constituents lose——

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Montana [Mr. WILLIAMS].

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Montana [Mr. WILLIAMS] is recognized for 2 minutes.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding this time to me.

Today America departs from a long, unbroken tradition of bipartisan support for America's students and for the schools they attend. From college grants to Head Start, Mr. Chairman, Republican, as well as Democrat, Presidents and Congresses have been in agreement until today. Chapter 1, arts education, drug-free schools, just name it, Goals 2000, was the product of a Republican President, former President Bush. But today the far right, the radical right, is in full throat on the Republican side, and so today for the first time in the history of this Nation the public's demand of bipartisan support for education is being broken.

Mr. Chairman, the Republican proposal today cuts student loans for the first time in history by $10 billion, and these proposals never had a single day of hearing, never had one single public comment from that public that insists on bipartisanism. There will be significant increases in the cost of college for working families and their children, and now we are hitting them with a big price increase for college, an increased price tag for college, of 5 billion with a ''b,'' $5 billion.

What do we know about this proposal? First, it will, count on it, it will force students to pay approximately $4 billion more for the student loans they receive, and for their parents, they will be able to borrow less than they can

now borrow, and it will cost America's parents $1 billion more than they pay today to borrow that money.

The sad thing, my colleagues, is that today, because of the radical right, we have abandoned a long, proud American tradition of bipartisan support for our students and for their schools.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GOODLING], the chairman of the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Ohio for yielding this time to me.

What I have been trying to say in committee for a long time is that we better talk about excellence and quality rather than access. Let me tell my colleagues that during the last 5 years we have increased, we have increased, spending on Head Start 180 percent. How many students do my colleagues think we have increased during that time? Thirty-nine percent.

Something is not right. The students are not getting the help, the children are not getting the help. Obviously, the administrators must be. If we increase spending 180 percent and we only increase participation by 39 percent, we are not helping the kind of people we are supposed to be helping.

So, Mr. Chairman, I do not take a back seat because I made some suggestions in relationship to chapter 1 and relationship to Head Start because we must insist on quality. We cannot just talk about access because we are not helping the people we set out to try to help.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO].

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Chairman, today we finally have an opportunity to vote against the Gingrich agenda, to repudiate a document that in chapter and verse, in precise detail, dictates the single most egregious redistribution of wealth in our history. Contained in this budget bill are provisions that give the wealthiest families in this country, as this chart amply shows, the top 1 percent, a $14,000 tax break. Speaker GINGRICH calls this tapestry of tax breaks the crown jewel of the Republican agenda, but, sad to say, it is really a crown of thorns. As this chart shows once again, families earning less than $50,000 a year, most middle-class families, end up footing the bill. They will lose nearly $650 a year through a combination of tax increases and benefit cuts.

Mr. Chairman, the Gingrich bill trashes the tax credit for low-income working families; 4.3 million families would lose the credit altogether, and another 14.2 million families would actually see their taxes increase.

The children's tax credit; jewel or thorn? My colleagues, be the judge. Forty-six percent of the children in this country will not get a single dime of the $500 tax credit.

The president of Citizens for Tax Justice, a nonpartisan organization, called the tax provisions of this bill a hoax. He is right, and the American people have a right to feel wronged. The American people should not be martyr to a cause they do not agree with and do not support.

I urge my colleagues in this perhaps-most-significant vote in the years I have been in this Congress to vote against what is a massive, unprecedented transfer of wealth that only makes worse class warfare in this country.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida [Mrs. FOWLER].

(Mrs. FOWLER asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in extreme support of this measure that gets us on the road to improved fiscal health for our Nation.

Mr. Chairman, the vote we are about to take marks a historic change in the way this Nation conducts its business. It shows that this Congress is taking seriously its responsibility to rein in excess spending and achieve a balanced budget—something our Nation has not enjoyed since 1969. This reconciliation measure will help restore the fiscal health of our Nation and provide a brighter future for our children, who will otherwise be saddled with the consequences of our inaction.

In addition, this bill includes $245 billion in tax reductions over the next 7 years. It will allow our citizens to keep more of their own hard-earned money. By returning these resources to our Nation's families and creating the means for greater investment in private enterprise and economic growth, we will help to meet the needs of all Americans.

I urge my colleagues to support this historic bill.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 seconds to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. GENE GREEN].

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, conservative estimates of the tax increases for earned income tax credit constituents will increase. I am opposed to the bill because my taxpayers will pay more, but do not take my word for it. Take Jack Kemp, who last week said:

> I hope you guys do not go too far on removing the EITC because that is a tax increase on low income workers and the poor which is unconscionable at this time . . .

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that following the statement of the gentleman from Utah [Mr. ORTON] that the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DE LA GARZA], the ranking Democrat on the Committee on Agriculture, be permitted to control the next 15 minutes of time on our side, and that the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL], the ranking member of the Committee on Commerce, be permitted to control the balance of the time remaining on our side, and that each have the authority to yield to other members.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute 45 seconds to the gentleman from Utah [Mr. ORTON].

Mr. ORTON. Mr. Chairman, both of the bills that are under consideration, the Republican reconciliation bill and the coalition bill, will balance on the same date in 2002 if the projections are accurate. Both use CBO scoring, but what happens if the projections are not accurate? That is the problem we have had in the past. It is easy to project a balanced budget. We need enforcement mechanisms to be sure it is there.

The budget under consideration does two things which I support. It continues the current practice of enforceable discretionary caps and extends the pay-as-you-go provisions, but that is it. The coalition budget does additional steps, and it places the deficit targets in law and requires that, if we do not meet these targets, the President come back with a recommendation of how to meet those targets, and requires the Congress to vote, and if the Congress cannot determine how to meet those targets, would place into effect sequestration. It also puts into place tools to aid us in cutting spending like applying the line-item veto to 1996 spending bills. It also applies the lockbox provision to the appropriation cuts. It also would extend, so that we have a more fair representation and more accurate projections, it would extend projecting and scoring to 10 years, would also take emergency spending and put it on budget, requiring us to create an emergency account which we fund and then spend out of that rather than waiving the budget to spend on emergencies, and would also eliminate baseline budgeting.

Mr. Chairman, all of these enforcement mechanisms I believe have bipartisan support. That is the reason for voting for the coalition budget, and, if my colleagues cannot see their way fit to voting for the coalition budget, at least let us put these things in in conference.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the very distinguished gentleman from Delaware [Mr. CASTLE], the former Governor.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the 7 year Balanced Budget Act. My commitment to balancing the budget is based on personal experience. I have lived through disastrous times in my own State when we did not balance our State budget and I have seen the tremendous economic recovery that occurred when the State took the tough steps necessary to balance its budget.

In the 1970s, the State of Delaware was an economic basket case. We had the highest personal income taxes in the country—19.8 percent—but the State could still not balance its budget because it was spending too much; businesses were leaving the State as fast as they could get out. In short, Delaware's State government operated the way the Federal Government operates today.

Delaware finally decided to face the music, we passed a balanced budget amendment and began to get our economic house in order. Since that time, Delaware has been one

of the economic showplaces of the Nation. We have balanced our budget 19 straight times, reduced taxes 6 times; we have created more jobs on a percentage basis than virtually any other State; reduced poverty more than any other State during the 1980's. This would not have happened if we had not balanced our budget.

It's time for the Federal Government to do this for the entire Nation. Mr. Chairman, I know from my experience as a Governor, balancing a budget is not easy. Tough decisions have to be made. This legislation makes those decisions in a fair manner. I have not agreed with every provision and have worked hard to modify some of them.

I strongly support the inclusion of the Castle-Upton-Martini deficit reduction certification and monitoring provision in the bill. This requires a process of that will ensure that we stay on path to a balanced budget each year until 2002. I also appreciate the efforts that have been made to improve the Medicaid funding formula to ensure that all States are treated fairly in the necessary effort to reform the Medicaid System.

Whatever particular differences we have with specific provisions of this bill, we can not and should not overlook the larger and most important goal of balancing the budget.

Simply put, because of its deficit spending, the Federal Government is eating up money that would normally go to businesses and individuals. This year the Government will pay $233 billion in interest on the debt, more than the $160 billion deficit for this year. If we don't change we will be paying $340 billion in interest by 2002.

If the Government stops depleting the pool of money available for savings, it would lower business's costs of borrowing and enable them to invest in the equipment that makes their employees more productive and increases their paychecks. Earlier this year, a private economist estimated that balancing the budget would raise our national output an extra 2.5 percent over the next 10 years. That would mean an average of an extra $1,000 a year for each American family. The economy would create 2.4 million more jobs by 2005 than if we do nothing about the deficit.

The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that enactment of balanced budget legislation will result in lower interest rates that will save the Government over $170 billion in interest payments by 2002.

Tearing up Uncle Sam's credit card allows the private sector to grow and affects us all from lower home mortgages to more business expansion.

Balancing the budget is good for us now and it is great for our kids and the Nation's future. I urge passage of the reconciliation bill.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, and my colleagues, I rise in opposition to the main Gingrich Republican substitute amendment and in favor of what we call the coalition proposal that the gentleman from Texas [Mr. STENHOLM] and others have worked out.

Balancing the budget is not an issue everyone is for, reducing the deficit is not an issue everyone is for, and our section in agriculture though bears a tremendous burden, more than the norm. We have always provided in the past 10 years over $50 billion. If every other committee had done what the Committee on Agriculture has done, we would not be worrying here about reducing the budget or balancing the budget. We have done it. We have done our fair share. But in this case the process I must object to. We have not had a hearing on the freedom to farm, we have not had any discussion. We have had votes in the committee where everything failed. Basically the freedom to farm that is in this proposal has not and does not have the approval of the Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly suggest that it might be well for us in the agriculture sector, in the areas where we impact negatively on Medicare, on Medicaid, that this is not the proper procedure, and I had to go to the Committee on Rules to say, ''We have not had the opportunity to handle this. I hope that you do something for us.'' Unfortunately they did not.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2491, and in support of the Democratic substitute.

Mr. Chairman, the process of the development of this reconciliation bill has brought us a season of surprises:

First, in a year when the No. 1 fiscal priority of the American people is to balance the budget, the Gingrich Republicans propose a $245 billion tax cut:

Second, when a primary concern for many Americans revolves around providing health care for their elderly parents, Republicans cut Medicare by $270 billion; and

Finally—because of Republican conflicts over their own priorities—national farm policy for the next 7 years has been written in the House Committee on Rules.

Mr. Chairman, the 1995 reconciliation process has turned into the sole forum for establishing national farm policy for the next 7 years. In past years, we have had the opportunity to prepare comprehensive farm policy in a deliberative, all-inclusive manner. When we've been required to comply with budget reconciliation instructions, the House Agriculture Committee has complied to the tune of $50 billion in savings from 1981 through 1993.

The confusion this year of the policymaking process with the deficit elimination process has led to paralysis in the Agriculture Committee. For the first time ever, the House Agriculture Committee has failed to meet its budget reconciliation obligations.

As a result—Mr. Chairman—Speaker GINGRICH and his Rules Committee were given the task of writing farm policy that will take us through 2002.

I do want to commend Chairman ROBERTS for his efforts this year. He was placed in an impossible position. The Gingrich Republicans are requiring a 25 percent reduction in agricultural spending in order to provide a $245 billion tax cut. Mr. ROBERTS fought hard earlier this year for that tax cut to be scaled back, but to no avail. We agree that the tax cut is inappropriate and that it leads to farm program cuts so deep that the viability of our Nation's food production system is threatened.

Mr. Chairman, Americans are the best fed people in the world. They have a stable and abundant supply of nutritious food, and pay a lower percent of their disposal income for food than any other nation in the industrialized world. I like to think that the House Agriculture Committee—on a bipartisan basis and in spite of what editorial writers say—has played a constructive role in that success story.

Nevertheless, Speaker GINGRICH, the Republican leader, and the Republican whip wrote a letter to Chairman ROBERTS last month. That letter dictated to the Agriculture Committee—in no uncertain terms—the specific policy option the committee was to choose in order to meet its reconciliation savings. No room was left for the committee to deliberate—for the committee to obtain the views of farmers, of consumer groups, of the administration.

Mr. Chairman, the Freedom to Farm Act included by decree of Speaker GINGRICH in the bill now before the House, was first introduced as a bill in August. Our committee has not held one hearing on it. The details of the dairy portion were only made available in September: same story—no hearings.

Mr. Chairman, farmers in every region of this country have very grave concerns about the agriculture provisions before the House. They represent a sudden and dramatic abandonment by the government of its roll in sharing the farmer's risk. Farmers are particularly concerned that this sudden withdrawal of the Federal Government from sharing their risks may make the difference in their fight to stay on the farm. Yes, they may know that each year they will get a cash payment, but if prices collapse next year, will that payment be enough? If wheat prices fall to $2.50, how many wheat farmers will be out of business in Kansas, in the Dakotas, in Washington? If cotton prices fall back down to 45 cents, how many cotton growers—spread out all over the South—will survive? If corn prices are under $2, where will the corn belt be? What if milk prices fall to $9, how many of New England's dairy farmers can make it?

Mr. Chairman, farmers will hope for the best. But if the best doesn't materialize, and a substantial base of our food and fiber production capacity is lost—will we feel that it was worth the risk, to have incurred that loss in order to provide a $245 billion tax cut?

All these questions, Mr. Chairman, and we have no answers—not even opinions. All we had in the Agriculture Committee this year were a few votes. No discussion. No consideration of the views of the farmers, the consumers, the businesses that thrive on the products of agriculture—those hearings on which we've always heavily relied. The policy before the House was not aired out in the Agriculture Committee, it was dictated by Speaker GINGRICH and Republican Leader ARMEY.

Mr. Chairman, it is not easy to figure out where we went wrong this year but I do know this: The most basic needs of our society are at stake and we are nowhere near to a consensus on where we should go. The paralysis of the Agriculture Committee and the dissension within the majority party make it clear that we need to start over again. We need to support the Democratic substitute and if that fails, we need to vote this bill down and start again.

The American people don't want this bill and many American farmers will not survive this bill. A right-thinking bipartisan majority defeated this proposal in the Agriculture Committee. Many of my colleagues on the Republican side know that the agriculture title in this bill is

wrong. I urge them to resist the Speaker's pressure and to join with us; to oppose this bill today; and to work with us in trying to reach a consensus on a balanced budget that doesn't undermine agriculture.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1415

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BLILEY].

(Mr. BLILEY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Chairman, of all the things I have done in my career as a public servant—of all the things that, God willing, I may still yet accomplish—I believe I have never been more proud than I am today, standing in support of this reconciliation bill.

For decades, responsible voices across the political spectrum have warned Congress to get control over entitlement spending; today, we heed their call.

Since the 1970's, economists have forewarned a coming fiscal tragedy if Congress failed to muster the courage to balance the deficit; today, after 30 years of excuses, we will do just that.

For years now, reconciliation was the time when the promises ended and the excuses began.

Excuses, And justifications. And rationales.

Excuses that said balancing the budget was impossible.

Justifications that explained why it couldn't be done.

Rationales for the failure of this Congress to act.

Today is the day the excuses come to an end; the dawn of a new day, a day of political leadership.

A day of courage.

A new day of accountability in government.

Today will be remembered as the day the new Congress transformed Washington's approach to government.

We are long overdue.

A child born this year will pay more than $187,000 over his or her lifetime just to pay the interest on the debt we have already accumulated.

It's too late to change that.

But it is not too late to change the growth of that debt in the years ahead.

It has taken this Republic more than 200 years to build up a debt of almost $5 trillion.

But if we fail to act today, that debt will more than double in just the next two decades.

If we fail to act today to bring entitlement spending under control, those same entitlements—together with interest on the debt—will consume every dollar paid by every taxpayer by the year 2030.

If we fail to act today, your children, my grandchildren, will be turned down for college loans, for home mortgages, for credit cards—because the money will already have been committed, earmarked toward fueling the Government's debt.

But we will act today—and our Commerce Committee had a major role in getting us to this day, with historic reforms in Medicare and Medicaid, and with the first-ever elimination of a Cabinet-level department, the Department of Commerce.

We will act today. I'm proud of that. The American people can be proud of it, too.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to our distinguished colleague, the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON].

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Chairman, those of us who come from rural America know there will be profound implications from this budget reconciliation proposal that is put before us, not only for our farming communities, which feed the rest of this country. We know that 3 percent of our farmers are feeding 97 percent of our population, yet this bill, which had no hearing, the freedom-to-farm bill, will now put those farmers at great peril, because now they will pull that security from them.

In addition to the farm bill itself, there are other bills in our areas in rural America. We earn about one-third as much as the rest of America. That means we have less money for shelter, less money for clothes, less money for health care. Yet, through this bill, that means we will be threatened in terms of our senior citizens. By the way, there are more senior citizens living, in proportion to our population, in rural areas than anywhere else, so we will have to take care of the sick.

Tell me, how, through this bill, do we respond. This bill is a disaster for America, but it is far more harmful to those who live in rural America. For those of our community who would like to have water, sewer, and industrial development, again, no funds for housing, very little funds for water and sewer. Those funds have been cut. I remind Members, in the Committee on Agriculture itself both Republicans and Democrats voted for an amendment to the freedom-to-farm bill to extend at least $800 million more so small communities could have water and sewer. Did I find it when I looked in the bill? No, it was deleted. This is a disaster. We should vote against this bill.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida [Mr. SHAW].

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Chairman, I had not planned to speak in this part of the debate, but I have been sitting in my office listening to the debate, and sitting here on the floor listening to it. I have heard so much about this Republican tax increase. What this side has been talking about is the cuts in the earned income tax credit. The earned income tax credit started in 1975. It started out as a $2 billion a year program. It now has grown to $20 billion a year. That is a 1,000 percent increase.

Is the Republican plan cutting it? No, we are not cutting it. I have a graph next to me that I think very graphically depicts, in picture form, so maybe those who have been debating can understand it. The red bars, as we see, starting in the year 1996, are the Republican proposal. The blue shows what existing law is, and what existing law would be if the present spending levels were to remain in place. As we can clearly see, in each year where we see the red bars, that is the Republican plan, the spending levels are substantially over 1995 and continue to escalate. As a matter of fact, it escalates out to $27 billion.

People might say ''Where are the savings coming from?'' The savings are coming from people who do not have children. We feel that the earned income tax credit was meant, really, to help people out that are trying to raise families. The question is, of the people that have children, were any of them cut. Yes, some of them were cut. That was at the highest level of income. The ones going into the workplace, the ones that are becoming first-time employed, they are not all affected by what the Democrats call this huge cut.

The argument has been going on on this side of the aisle to say ''This is a tax increase.'' Let me tell the Members that is what is wrong with this country today, that type of mentality. Eighty-five percent of the money sent out by Uncle Sam as an earned income tax credit is an outlay, 85 percent of it. That means only 15 percent is actually a refund in taxes.

If we look at the whole reconciliation bill we will also find something else in there that people who are taxpayers are getting. That is a $500 credit for children. The people that are losing the earned income tax credit at the higher end of the scale, they are going to receive a tax credit. It comes out in the wash, and it is just, really, about the same. The only people that are going to actually lose this are the single taxpayers that do not have children, that are not raising families.

I tell the Members, with the type of mentality and the type of argument that has been going on in this Chamber today, it is no wonder that we are swimming in red ink. This is irresponsible accounting and it is irresponsible debate.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield 30 seconds to our distinguished colleague, the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO].

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say to my colleague that if it was not a tax increase, then why did he need a budget waiver for this bill?

Let me just say that what they have done here with the earned income tax credit, it is $23.3 billion in taxes of low-income working families. They are going to raise the taxes of 14.2 million families who make less than $28,000 in 1996, and the charts can say whatever they want, that is an absolute fact. Take the words of Jack Kemp, who was appalled at what you are doing in

terms of cutting the earned income tax credit.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. STENHOLM].

Mr. STENHOLM. The first thing I want to do, Mr. Chairman, is make this general observation, that are we not truly blessed to live in a country that has the most abundant food supply, the best quality of food, the safest food supply, at the lowest cost of any other country in the world?

From that point I make another observation. Here we are, I thought about to discuss one of the most important things for agriculture in the United States in the budget, and we are talking EITC on this side, and no one is discussing agriculture. That has been our problem all year on agriculture. We have ideology running it on this side, and some of us on this side would like to deal with technology. We would like to talk about how we make certain things work. Instead, we are still debating freedom to farm. That is in the budget. Where is someone over here to defend freedom to farm? Where is someone on this side who is prepared to stand up and say the Freedom to Farm Act is the way we ought to go? No one is yet, and I am sure there will be someone soon.

This has been the point we have been trying to make all year, not one single minute of hearings have been held on the agricultural sector freedom to farm, which is in the budget today. A simple question, a simple statement. Basically what we are saying, we should not unilaterally disarm our farmers in the international marketplace with trade, GATT, NAFTA, all of the things that are going on, when the rest of the world is continuing to subsidize farmers.

What do we hear from the other side? Freedom to farm, freedom to farm, freedom to go broke. Somehow, some way, people believe that we can have our farmers competing with the European Economic Community that are increasing their subsidies. That is the answer we hear in this wonderful budget coming from this side of the aisle. That is the thing we have wanted to see debated and discussed time and time again.

For the first time in years, if not history, we have a farm bill in this bill that nobody seems prepared to defend. No one has seen fit even to have hearings. Yet, here we are today, unilaterally disarming, at least from the majority budget. Support the coalition budget, the best alternative.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time, given that we are ahead in time.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the gentleman discontinuing his presentation, inasmuch as it is totally unrelated to what we are speaking about on this side, agriculture.

Again, I protest the process. On that side they have legislation that was not approved by the committee, which is, in my years here, in the history of this Congress, basically the first time that that has been done. I am terribly embarrassed, one, and upset and frustrated that this process has gone on.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLEY].

Mr. DOOLEY. Mr. Chairman, we have heard why there are good reasons for senior citizens to be very concerned about this reconciliation bill. We have heard very good reasons on why the working poor ought to feel threatened by the passage of this reconciliation bill. I am here to explain why farmers throughout this country, in particular dairy farmers, should be very, very concerned about the prospects of what is included in this bill.

The dairy title in this reconciliation bill, if it was instituted, would require the immediate deregulation of our dairy industry. It would eliminate any type of dairy policy that has guided this country for the last 60 years, that has ensured stability of prices throughout this country. They would eliminate that overnight, which would ensure that we would have thousands of dairy farmers throughout this country being driven into bankruptcy.

Every economist that has analyzed the deregulation plan has come to the conclusion that it would result in at least a 15-percent decline in prices, and dairy farmers cannot withstand that. This policy is also one which is not consistent with Republican philosophy, as far as I can tell, because the Republican proposals for dairy farmers in this, with their deregulation, they are willing to obligate taxpayers of this country to start writing checks to dairy farmers.

In fact, the provisions of this dairy title would allow a dairy farmer today to sell his herd in the next month, and taxpayers for the next 7 years would be required to write them a check, even if they were not milking another cow for the next 7 years. In fact, a dairy farmer in my area with a 1,000 cow herd would be eligible under this dairy program that the Republicans are promoting for a $200,000 check next year, a $200,000 check coming from the taxpayers of this country.

The Republicans campaigned on a Contract With America. They campaigned that they were going to do good things. They convinced some of their constituencies they were going to do good things, but this contract that the Republicans are signing for the taxpayers on behalf of the dairy farmers in this country is obligating them to a check that they are going to write that they cannot afford. It is bad policy and we ought to defeat this bill.

□ 1430

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. LAUGHLIN], a very valued member of our conference.

Mr. LAUGHLIN. Mr. Chairman, passage of the 7-Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act demonstrates to the American people that the new Republican majority will deliver on its promises and end business as usual in Congress.

This reconciliation package provides for a balanced budget by the year 2002. With this proposal, we will balance the budget while allowing the citizens of this country to keep more of their hard-earned money. With this reconciliation package, we are telling the hard-working citizens of this country that they, not the Federal Government, can and should decide where their money is spent.

This package marks the beginning of a shift toward the goals and decisions of the individual, and an end to the burdensome, intrusive, bureaucratic agencies like the IRS.

Democrats will say that we cannot afford to give hard-working Americans a tax break while balancing the budget. With this plan, we will prove that we can and that we will. Provisions such as a reduction in the capital gains tax will mean more jobs and economic growth. This is what the American people have asked for, and this is what we are delivering.

The American people understand the importance of balancing the Federal budget. They understand that Republicans have offered the solution, and that Democrats have offered scare tactics. We need to pass the Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act today for our children and grandchildren.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 seconds to our distinguished colleague from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON].

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the last speaker from Texas if he realizes that people from Texas, through this bill, at least, will lose $4.3 billion in Medicare for his senior citizens. That is a 20-percent cut for the citizens of his district.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the previous speaker if he realizes that this legislation will reduce by half the rice-growing area of Texas.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. ROSE].

(Mr. ROSE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Chairman, the Republican revolution has just rolled over rural America and left the family farmer in the tire tread marks. The drastic changes to farm commodity programs being forced upon family farmers by this bill that we will vote on today are unprecedented in their severity and in their lack of judicious consideration by the House Committee on Agriculture.

The budget cuts envisioned for rural America by the Republican leadership

have not had a single day of hearings, have not been adequately debated, have not been approved by the House Committee on Agriculture. The chairman of the Committee on Agriculture has spent more time discussing the Republican Freedom to Farm Act with the editorial boards of the Wall Street Journal and the New York Times than he has with his Democratic and Republican colleagues on the House Committee on Agriculture.

Even with the ringing endorsements of the Wall Street Journal and corporate executives of well-known rural centers like New York, Chicago, and San Francisco, the Republican farm bill failed the House Committee on Agriculture. We voted it down in a bipartisan vote. After meeting strong bipartisan resistance, the leadership circumvented the traditional committee process and has inserted Freedom to Farm in the Republican budget.

Now, I would say to my colleagues, this is being told to the American farmer as a great visionary piece of work. However, we have not seen one single visionary on the Republican side here today talking to you about how great Freedom to Farm is. What is the matter, brothers and sisters? If it is so wonderful, why are you not out here extolling the virtues of Freedom to Farm?

I have a letter here to the Speaker signed by about 15 Republican Members of this body to the Speaker, and it says:

> The Senate is bringing us a workable package of agricultural budget savings that we can all live with. Why not come to an agreement on an approach that achieves the budget target and avoids a disastrous vote for rural Republicans?

Brothers and sisters, my colleagues, do not do Freedom to Farm. We have done enough to rural America. This is the last straw.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas, Mr. SAM JOHNSON, a gentleman who had much time in Vietnam to think about how much he cares about our country and its children.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, this morning I saw a bumper sticker that was very appropriate for today. It read, ''Hey, Congress, do your job, balance the budget.''

I think today America is closely watching this debate to see if Congress is finally going to live up to its promise of balancing our Nation's budget, and that includes agriculture too, I say to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DE LA GARZA]. America has heard the Democrats' scare tactics, the rhetoric, and the empty promises before, and they are fed up with it.

Mr. Chairman, it is the Democrats' tax and spend policy of the last 40 years that has driven this country into the financial crisis that we are facing today. I am proud to say that the Republicans are ready to act now and do what Americans elected us to do, and that is, balance the budget. We are going to send the President a plan that cuts spending by $894 billion, and for the first time in 26 years, balances America's checkbook.

This bill eliminates hundreds of wasteful government programs, ends welfare as we know it, protects, preserves, and strengthens Medicare, returns power to the States, and provides much-needed tax relief to hard-working Americans.

Mr. Chairman, the President says he will veto this historic document. If he does not have the leadership or the courage to balance the budget, lower taxes, and secure a safe future for our children, just remember, that for each day after a veto he will be personally responsible for adding millions of dollars to the national debt.

So if you are for less taxes, less government, and a balanced budget, your vote for this budget will create more jobs, more opportunity, and more prosperity for our Nation. A vote for this plan is a vote for the future of America.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 5 seconds to say to the gentleman from Texas, Mr. SAM JOHNSON, we have a plan that balances the budget. We have a plan that balances the budget.

Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Alabama [Mr. BEVILL].

(Mr. BEVILL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEVILL. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this budget plan. I will vote against it and I wish I could vote against it twice. This bill will create more suffering for senior citizens and children than any legislation ever passed by Congress. If it passes, I strongly urge the President to veto it.

This bill severely cuts Medicare, requiring senior citizens to pay more for their health care needs. It jeopardizes their choice of doctors, the quality of care they receive and their ability to pay for it. It eliminates Federal standards for nursing homes.

This bill severely cuts Medicaid, imposing a tremendous burden on States to meet the needs of poor children. It eliminates the School Lunch Program, replacing it with a block grant that will not cover all needy children when poverty increases.

This bill destroys work incentives for thousands of low-income working families trying to stay off welfare. It cuts the earned income tax credit, designed to help the working poor, while cutting taxes for the nation's wealthiest people.

In fact, this budget plan favors the big corporations, the high-income people and the special interests at the expense of those who can least afford it.

I favor reducing the size of the Federal Government. I am a long-time co-author of a constitutional amendment to force a balanced Federal budget. And, I think we can do a better job of enforcing laws already on the books to cut waste, fraud, and abuse in government programs.

But, I will never support legislation that seeks to balance the budget on the backs of senior citizens and children.

This is the worse piece of legislation I have ever seen and I strongly urge my colleagues to do the right thing and vote against it.

(Mr. DE LA GARZA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, today the House will consider a substitute to the Gingrich budget bill. This substitute contains agriculture provisions that will reduce the deficit $4.6 billion over 7 years. These are the provisions that were considered by the Committee on Agriculture and failed on a 22 to 27 vote. In spite of the fact that they were desirable policy, they did not meet the committee's reconciliation obligation. Many of my colleagues across the aisle regretted that they could not support it because it did not meet the requirements of the budget resolution to balance the budget by 2002.

Today, my friends, you can now support reductions of $4.6 billion for agriculture, not $13.4 billion in cuts—three times that size, and reap the benefit of a balanced budget because the substitute also balances the budget by 2002.

Yesterday, I heard my good friend Chairman ROBERTS testify before the Rules Committee what his freedom to farm provisions would do as part of the Gingrich plan.

Chairman ROBERTS said American farmers would pay $15 billion less in interest expenses because of a balanced budget. Mr. Chairman, the substitute will reduce the same $15 billion in interest expenses for American farmers because the substitute also balances the budget.

Chairman ROBERTS said American farmers will have increased planting flexibility because of freedom to farm in the Gingrich budget plan. Mr. Chairman, American farmers will also have increased planting flexibility in the substitute budget plan.

Chairman ROBERTS said that freedom to farm will lock up the baseline for farmers so that when we will have to pass more cuts in coming years, and he said not to fool ourselves—we will have more deficit reduction bills just like this one, that farm spending will be protected. Mr. Chairman, I do not know why there will be more reconciliation, perhaps the tax cuts are too high or the spending cuts are not real, but if you vote for the substitute, there will be no need for future reconciliation because it will balance the budget.

Chairman ROBERTS said that freedom to farm was a market-oriented plan. Mr. Chairman, unless, by market-oriented, Chairman ROBERTS means the unimpeded opportunity to lose your shirt, the substitute bill is also market-oriented. Farmers will respond to market prices in their planting and marketing decisions.

But when farm prices are driven down by large supplies, poor economic growth, or an overvalued currency, as happened in the past, the substitute's farm program will increase payments to farmers to partially offset those market losses. And when prices are high, government payments will decline or cease altogether, reducing benefits when farmers do not

need them. Under freedom to farm, farmers will receive the same $6 billion in 1996, for instance, whether prices are low-baseline levels, or above, as USDA has recently projected them, and requiring only $2.8 billion in payments to farmers.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to our distinguished colleague from Minnesota [Mr. MINGE].

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Chairman, a cute phrase can be deceptive. This is certainly the case with the mislabeled farm portion of this massive bill. The farmers in my area call it the Farm Failure Act of 1995. It is designed to stabilize land values, not commodity prices. It benefits landowners far more than farmers. It mandates automatic payments regardless of crop prices. It discredits the farm programs.

In fact, it mandates these payments even if the prices are at record highs. In this time of huge deficits, it is estimated that it will cost $10 billion more than a simple continuation of present programs. We not only balance the budget on the backs of farmers, we are cutting them off at the knees.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that all of us agree that we should balance the budget in 10 years. We should balance it in 5 years. We have a plan that would balance the budget in 7 years, and it would do so without the harsh, dramatic impact on agriculture that this bill that the Republican majority proposes would impose.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nevada [Mr. ENSIGN], another distinguished member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

(Mr. ENSIGN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Chairman, there is no easy way to do what Congress is about to do. If it was easy to do, previous Congresses would have done that. The national debt we are passing on to our children, including my 3-year-old son, Trevor, and his little sister who will be born in a little over a month, is nothing short of immoral. It is immoral to do to poor children, middle-class children and wealthy children, because if nothing is done, poor children will never get to be middle class or wealthy.

This bill is not only pro family because it begins to lift the debt burden from our children and grandchildren, but there are many other provisions on which I will touch on just a few.

First of all, this bill addresses the marriage penalty. There is a $500 per child tax credit. There is a $500 elderly care tax credit. There is also an adoption tax credit, and there is also estate tax relief so family-owned businesses such as family-owned farms can survive without having to sell off all of their assets so they can send that money back here to Washington. Mr. Chairman, it is bad enough that citizens pay taxes all of their lives, but then when they die, they have to pay taxes again.

This debate is largely about who should spend the people's money. Should families have more of the money they earn to spend at their discretion in the manner best suited to their situation, or should the Federal Government, which already has demonstrated all too well the inefficient way it spends money. Should the Federal Government be increasingly let into our pocketbook to waste our tax dollars?

I believe that the words tax cuts are not bad words. This is your money, America. Do you not deserve a little more of it back? Is everyone satisfied with the bang that they are getting for their buck?

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 seconds to the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON].

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I wanted to bring to the attention of our colleagues that approximately 14 of our Republican colleagues addressed a letter to the Speaker where they call the proposal, welfare for the Freedom to Farm bill. They said they would rather have a Senate version than the version here.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 seconds to the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. TAYLOR].

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out to my colleague that just spoke that the chairman of the Committee on the Budget, Mr. KASICH just informed this body that the $500 tax credit is not in this bill.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from North Dakota [Mr. POMEROY].

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Chairman, this portion of the budget represents the deepest cuts and most drastic changes proposed in agriculture in decades. You would have thought that the Freedom to Farm Act might have warranted very thorough consideration. In fact, it did not have a single hearing in the Committee on Agriculture.

Basically, House leaders told rural America, this is what we are going to do, now sit down, shut up, and take it. But we did not take it in the House Committee on Agriculture. We defeated the proposal. However, House leaders had the audacity to move this into the budget in spite of the House Committee on Agriculture rejection. Shame on all of you who have participated in such a vicious charade for rural America.

I am not surprised that for most of this debate there is not a single Republican House Committee on Agriculture member here to defend what has been done.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I would just like to thank the gentleman from North Dakota [Mr. POMEROY] for his help on the spousal impoverishment, which was very fine help. We appreciate it.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 3½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. THOMAS] of the Health Subcommittee from the Committee on Ways and Means.

(Mr. THOMAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

□ 1445

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Chairman, what I want to do is try to refocus our attention away from perhaps the more rancorous partisan aspects and frankly look at a little bit longer term perspective.

Because I am here representing two individuals who are not here in both the House and the Senate. Senator Bentsen is no longer with us, and J.J. Pickle is no longer with us. But for a number of years, Senator Bentsen joined with Senator ROTH and I joined with J.J. Pickle to focus on what we call superIRA accounts, the idea that individuals would have greater control over that money, which was theirs, which had been put away.

We were unsuccessful for a number of years, but I am pleased to announce that in this particular reconciliation bill a couple of the key points that Senator Bentsen, Senator ROTH, Jake Pickle, and I fought for, for a number of years, are present.

Today, if you withdraw from your IRA to spend on medical expenses for yourself prior to the 59½ year, you not only have to pay taxes on the money you withdrew from your own savings, you also have to pay a 10-percent penalty. That just does not make any sense. What we do today is say, if it is for medical expenses, you do not have to pay and you do not have to pay the penalty.

I might add that President Clinton's 1996 budget also includes this provision; and I might say that H.R. 11, which was passed by this House and unfortunately vetoed by President Bush two Congresses ago, contained that provision as well. So it is just kind of a nice culmination of a number of bipartisan projects that come together today in this particular bill.

In addition, the long-term care insurance provision. You do not now get to deduct the cost of long-term care insurance as part of your medical expenses. This has been a project that we have worked on bipartisan for a long, long time. As a matter of fact, President Clinton has this in his 1996 budget as well. We think it is a good idea, and we included it in this reconciliation package.

In addition to that, we are supposed to talk about taking care of your own. Today, if you have a senior or an elderly in your home, your parent, your relative, you do not get any tax credit whatsoever for the out-of-pocket costs in taking care of that individual. In this reconciliation bill, you get credit for those expenses.

In addition to that, when we examined the medical savings accounts and those who were uninsured, we thought that those young people who are working above the poverty level but do not need all of that third-party first-dollar coverage of comprehensive medical care really did not have a product in the marketplace that fit their needs. This reconciliation bill contains a medical savings account provision for young people who can shape their insurance needs to what they need at an affordable cost.

In addition to that, you have an orphan tax credit that has been worked on on a bipartisan basis for years. It had lapsed. We had not been able to renew it. It is for those drugs that go to Tourette's disease, go to Huntington's disease, but there simply is not a broad enough base to pay for them. That is in this bill.

There are a number of provisions that for a number of years on a bipartisan basis we have tried to move forward. I just thought people should know in the middle of this partisan rancor that there are a number of provisions that colleagues here today have voted for and colleagues who have been here in the past have voted for, and it is a really good provision.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 seconds to the gentlewoman from Florida [Mrs. THURMAN].

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Chairman, just this point. Do we all know that 14 Republicans wrote Speaker GINGRICH saying this bill is a disastrous vote for rural Republicans?

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I want to thank all the members that worked with us in the Committee on Agriculture. I am saddened by the fact that the legislation which appears in the reconciliation is not the product of the Committee on Agriculture. I am concerned about that.

But the Stenholm proposal balances the budget in 5 years. The Committee on Agriculture has met its commitment. We have reduced over $50 billion in the past 10 years. No one can point the finger at the Committee on Agriculture that we have not done our share.

The CHAIRMAN. Under the previous unanimous-consent agreement, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL] will control the remaining 30 minutes for the minority.

The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH] has 27¾ minutes remaining.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL].

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, does the majority not want to use its time? It is such a great bill they have got. I would be delighted to defer to listen to that.

Mr. SHAYS. If I heard the gentleman correctly, Mr. Chairman, we have 27 minutes and this gentleman has 30 minutes remaining. Is that correct?

The CHAIRMAN. That is correct.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, we reserve the balance of our time.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, I would observe that it is usually the practice for the majority to set forth what a great piece of legislation this is. I am waiting for somebody over there to tell me what a great piece of legislation this is.

Mr. SHAYS. I would be happy to point out to the gentleman, but we reserve the balance of our time.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 2½ minutes.

Mr. Chairman, I can understand the reluctance of my Republican colleagues to tell us what a great bill it is because, quite frankly, this is one of the worst pieces of legislation I have ever seen in the 40 years I have served in this body. The bill includes both Medicare and Medicaid cuts and tax breaks.

Our Republican colleagues said that they were not tying the two together. Well, they are tying them together in this bill. The poor and the aged are going to understand that the contributions that they are making of about $500 billion is being made so that a tax cut can be given to the wealthiest Americans. That is finally proven in this piece of legislation.

The pernicious approach violates the contract we have with seniors who have paid for their Medicare benefits. It means seniors will pay more and get less choice of doctors, poor quality lab tests, and nursing homes that do not meet common standards of decency.

By separating action on Medicare from the rest of reconciliation, Republicans tried to convince us that $270 billion in Medicare cuts do not pay for $245 billion in tax breaks for the rich. But Americans can perform the simple math required. They know when someone is pulling the wool over their eyes.

The bill also destroys Medicaid. Under the mantra of State's rights, Republicans are pulling the safety net out from under middle class families, poor children, women, seniors, and the disabled—the most vulnerable of Americans. Up until last night, the Republican bill arbitrarily cut $182 billion from Medicaid. Now they say they have fixed it by cutting only $170 billion. But this midnight deal does not change the fact that this bill abdicates the Federal Government's role in Medicaid, reduces health care for the most needy, and invites abuse by States. It takes away vitally important guarantees under current law: protection from having to sell the family home or farm to pay for a loved one's nursing home care; guaranteeing coverage for seniors with Alzheimer's; setting minimum standards of safety, cleanliness, and decency for nursing homes; and guaranteeing health care for children and pregnant women.

I and other Members tried to correct one of the most glaring defects in the bill by offering an amendment on behalf of Mr. GINGRICH. In debate last week, the Speaker obviously was under the misimpression that his new MediGrant Program does what current law guarantees—covering the cost of Medicare premiums for seniors under the poverty line. In fact, this bill repeals what current law provides. Our amendment would have restored provisions the Speaker erroneously relied on and guarantee that the poorest of seniors have Medicare coverage. But the Rules Committee gagged us from amending the bill so that it will do what the Speaker says it does.

I also want to point out the devastating impact that this bill has on health care for veterans. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs says that the harsh spending caps in the Republican plan will require 41 veterans hospitals to close their doors. As a result, more than 1 million veterans will be denied health care by 2002. I do not share the misguided view of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle that the best way for veterans to stay healthy is not to get sick.

This bill walks away from responsible government to help people in need in favor of lining the pockets of the wealthiest Americans with unneeded tax cuts. In addition to health care cuts, this bill slashes education, job training, and other programs upon which we empower people to help themselves.

Most Americans will get nothing, or pay more under the GOP tax break. The small percentage of the tax cuts that will go to families earning less than $50,000 a year will be more than offset by spending cuts. These families stand to lose $648 a year or more under the GOP plan. Those earning more than $350,000—the richest 1 percent—will get $14,050 a year for the tax cut. I find it curious that my Republican colleagues, who criticize the President for not cutting middle class taxes enough, are rushing to raise taxes on many low income families. I must confess I am not surprised, however, that they would follow through on their threats to slash programs vital to the financial security of working Americans.

Finally, I must object to the cavalier manner in which the Republican leadership has included massive changes in farm programs. The so-called freedom-to-farm proposal was found to be so objectionable that the House Agriculture Committee failed to get it out of committee. On an issue as vital as our Nation's food security, this bill shreds responsible legislating for partisan game playing and makes rural Americans the pawns.

This is not the way to legislate, and it is a dangerous way to govern.

Mr. Chairman, this is the biggest and the most important bill to be considered by the House this year. The cuts are too large. It hurts terribly the health care coverage of millions of Americans.

I strongly oppose the bill. I now look forward to hearing from my Republican colleagues about what a great piece of legislation this is.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 1 minute.

Mr. Chairman, I say the reason the gentleman has not heard from us is he has not been on the floor listening.

Just taking Medicare, for instance. We have not increased co-payments; we have not increased deductibles. The

premium stays the same at 31.5 percent. No one has to leave their fee-for-service system. If they want to, they can go. If they go into a private care, every month they can come back into their system.

What the gentleman does not want people to know is that we are going to spend 73 percent more, over $600 billion more in the next 7 years than we did in the last 7 years; what the gentleman does not want people to know is in the 7th year we are spending 50 percent more than we do today on Medicare; and what the gentleman does not want people to know is that the per beneficiary goes from $4,800 to $6,700.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN].

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Connecticut for yielding me the time, and I commend him for his unwavering support over the years for fiscal sanity and say that I am very proud to stand up here today and support this bill that leads us to the first balanced budget in 26 years.

But I also want to talk about some other things. As the gentleman from Michigan says, many of us are eager to talk about some of the good things in this bill beyond the fact that we come to the first balanced budget in 26 years, which is of paramount importance.

This afternoon, I want to highlight a few of the small business incentives in this package that go beyond that critical task of getting spending under control but will encourage saving and job creation to lead to real long-term economic growth.

Let me give a good example. It is not too glamorous, but it is extremely important to small businesses, to workers and employers in small businesses around this country. It is the long-overdue, comprehensive simplification of our pension laws in this country. And it is in this bill.

These changes which the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. CARDIN] and others on both sides of the aisle have been working on will make it easier and less expensive for businesses to both establish plans and to maintain pension plans, thus encouraging and enabling people to save, an important public policy goal in its own right, and also will encourage people to plan and to take responsibility for their futures and for their retirement.

Pension law is a great example of an area where Congress, by meddling, has hurt workers and employers who are trying to do the right thing. Quite simply, as the rules and regulations have multiplied in this area, fewer and fewer employers are able to offer pension plans. It has gotten to the point where today only 20 percent of those employers with less than 25 employees offer any kind of pension plan at all. It is no surprise that our savings rate is among the lowest, if not the lowest, in the industrialized countries.

Another example of rules that are outdated, overly complex and impede job creation are the subchapter S corporation rules and regulations. That includes most of the small and family-owned businesses in America. The sub-S changes that we have made, and they are in this bill, will help companies grow and flourish, create new jobs and will keep family businesses family-owned.

The point I want to emphasize is that the pension, subchapter S and other reforms in this legislation are going to stimulate national investment and savings, foster business growth, and they are good for America, and they are all in this bill.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 seconds to myself to point out to the gentleman from Ohio, who just spoke about the bill, that Ohio will lose $4.1 billion in health care for the elderly and the disabled. Most of this is in nursing home care which will have to be paid for by their hard-working middle-class families.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. WAXMAN].

(Mr. WAXMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, there are many, many reasons to oppose this legislation: It savages health and education programs; it gives tax breaks to the wealthy at the same time it takes the earned-income tax credit away from people who need it; it contains some outrageous assaults on some of our most treasured environmental assets.

Under the cover of balancing the budget, this bill is a disaster for American people, full of special interest giveaways and policies that will do irreparable harm to the health and well-being of America's working families, children and seniors. Nowhere is that effect more obvious than in the actions taken to slash and undermine the Medicare and Medicaid Programs.

The so-called Medicare reform of Mr. GINGRICH is nothing less than an attempt to destroy Medicare as we know it, and take away from our seniors the ability to stay in a strong and viable Medicare Program where they can choose their own doctor and be protected against having to pay that doctor a lot of extra dollars out of their own pocket.

The Gingrich Medicare reform hikes the Medicare premium dramatically, and takes away the guarantee for seniors struggling to live on incomes below poverty that Medicaid will pay their Medicare part B premium and cost-sharing. Despite the personal assurances of Speaker GINGRICH to this House last week, that help that seniors have now is not there.

If there is any doubt about what the agenda is here, we need to look no further than the statements reported in today's Washington Post:

Majority Leader Dole, stating with pride that in 1995, ''I was there, fighting the fight, voting against Medicare.''

Speaker Gingrich, bragging to the insurers about what the Republicans are doing to Medicare, ''Now, we don't get rid of it in round one because we don't think that's politically smart . . .''.

It is not that he does not think it is a good idea to get rid of Medicare, but it is smart politics to cover up the impact in the first round.

I do not think it is smart politics to think that you can fool the American people about what is going on here. Democrats are proud to defend Medicare, not because we think it is smart, but because it is the right thing to do.

With Medicaid, Mr. GINGRICH and his Republican colleagues do not even seem to think they have to put up a smokescreen as they dismantle it. They take away any guarantee of coverage for people who need nursing home care, for severely disabled children, and adults who have nowhere else to turn for help, for 18 million poor children who have no other source of health care. That is one-quarter of the kids in this country who are about to be put at risk to join the ranks of the uninsured.

They take billions of Federal dollars out of the system to provide health care for people who have no other options, and they leave States, counties, and cities holding the bag when they find that there is not enough money to deal with the problem. They leave the States with the choice of raising taxes to try to replace Federal revenue, or simply cutting people off from help.

And they tip the scales toward cutting people off. States will soon be competing with surrounding States in a race to the bottom—afraid to try to keep an adequate Medicaid Program in place because too many desperate people from surrounding areas will try to come in to get help.

There is more. They do not want to pay nursing homes enough to support the delivery of decent quality care. So their answer to that problem is to repeal the nursing home standards.

They undo all the protections of current law, and hope people will not understand what they are doing. They hope this will get through before they get caught.

Look what they did in terms of protecting the spouse of someone who goes into a nursing home from ending up in poverty. First, they repealed all the protections. Not one Republican voted for restoring them when we offered an amendment to protect against spousal impoverishment in committee. They were very outspoken that they did not need or want Federal standards.

Then they started to feel some heat in the press, and even they started to feel uneasy defending what they had done. So they changed it—all of a sudden the amendment all the Republicans hated in committee showed up in the Kasich bill. Now they were finally willing to say that a State could not impoverish the spouse.

But there is just one problem—they let the nursing home itself require the

spouse or the adult children of the person in the nursing home to make them pay extra if they wanted their husband or wife, father or mother, to get care in the nursing home. I think we call that giving with one hand and taking away with the other.

What happened? Once again, when the light of day shined on what they were doing, they reversed course.

Now the rule adds a Bliley amendment—one that Mr. BLILEY did not ask to be made in order, I might not, until we caught them at what they were doing—that would not let the nursing home get that extra money. Well good! That is what they should have done in the first place.

But the fact is they are still trying to hide the biggest thing of all. What they are hiding is that the spouse who needs the nursing home care in the first place is not assured of getting it!

People with Alzheimer's getting coverage under Medicaid now: They have no guarantee they will be covered.

People who could stay at home if they had some help: No guarantee of coverage.

People who have to have nursing home care: No guarantee of coverage, and even if they do get it, no guarantee that it will be in a decent facility.

Even veterans now getting services: No guarantee they will continue to get coverage.

This is wrong. It is wrong to say to millions of working families with severely disabled children, that they have no guarantee of help anymore.

It is wrong to say to families who have no health insurance coverage for their children, that they have no guarantee of help anymore.

It is wrong to say to low-income seniors that they have no guarantee that we will help pay their Medicare premiums and cost-sharing anymore.

And it is wrong to say to States, and counties, and cities, it is your problem. We have washed our hands of its.

There are many things that are wrong with this bill. But what is done to Medicaid alone is enough to vote against it. What is done to Medicare alone is also enough to vote against it.

The health and security of America's seniors and children depend on what we do here today. Defeat this bill.

□ 1500

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. EWING], the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Risk Management and Speciality Crops.

(Mr. EWING asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EWING. Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I have been concerned, listening to the debate here today, the criticism of the process followed by the Committee on Agriculture.

In fact, in many ways it was not the majority party's problem. We went through the process. We debated the issues. The Democrats were given an opportunity to put forth their substitute, and it failed. We came along with the substitute put forth by Republican Members, and it failed, and the one program that had the most votes was the one which is in this bill. This program is the Freedom to Farm Act.

The one that the Democrats voted for cut just as much money from agricultural programs as Freedom to Farm.

Let us not lose sight of the big picture. Our prior Congresses have been cutting agricultural spending for producers and putting it into social programs. We are going to continue that process of phasing out Big Government controls and regulations on agriculture, and it is going to go to deficit reduction.

This program is a good program. It meets the needs. It is important that it is passed with this bill.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 seconds to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BROWN].

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out to the gentleman who just spoke, under this bill the State of Illinois will lose $3.5 billion in health care for the elderly and disabled, mostly nursing home care, which will have to be paid for by hard-working, middle-class families, and his vote will increase taxes for thousands of middle-class families at the same time.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Oregon [Mr. WYDEN].

(Mr. WYDEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. Chairman and colleagues, I believe that there is a clear consensus in this body for bipartisan reform of the Medicaid Program, and clearly the States can play a critical role in reforming that essential program.

Five States have been the lead; five States have been a laboratory for change, and the tragedy today is that this bill will turn out the laboratory for change in our home State of Oregon. This bill means that a program that is serving more than 100,000 low-income people will have to be dismantled. This means that charity care is going to increase. This means our welfare rolls are going to increase.

I would note specifically in a letter I just received from Jean Thorne, who is our Governor's assistant on Federal health policy, that she believes that the level of funding involved in this bill is going to require the dismantling of the Oregon health plan. This is a tragedy. It is a tragedy for Oregonians. But it is a tragedy for our Nation because we need bipartisan Medicaid reform, Medicaid reform that stresses prevention, holds down costs through health maintenance organizations, and this plan does it.

Let us reject this bill. Let us not turn out the lights on the laboratories for health care change in America like in my home State of Oregon.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that there is a very strong, bipartisan consensus in this House to fix Medicaid—and to fix Medicaid in some very fundamental and tough-minded ways.

And I believe that the State can play a very important role in this matter as our laboratories for change and innovation.

This bill, unfortunately, turns out the lights on those laboratories for change by eliminating waivers for these experiments in five States including my home State of Oregon.

This is bad medicine for Oregonians, and no remedy for the beleagured Federal taxpayer.

This is the last thing we should be doing. It is unwise because it will remove health care coverage from thousands of our fellow citizens, it will hog-tag States that already have undergone significant reforms, and it ultimately will cost tax payers far more dollars than you are attempting to save in this reconciliation package.

This bill sends us marching backwards, dooming States that have had the political guts to reform, back into the bad old days of public welfare programs.

Oregon is one of the States that has lead the way toward a century Medicaid Program, and our waiver plan has full, bipartisan support within our congressional delegation. It has that support because in the last 16 months: Oregon has enrolled 130,000 working poor into managed care; reduced uncompensated, charity expense at hospitals by 30 percent; and has delivered a Medicaid Program which, per capita, is 10 percent less costly than the national average.

This bill even with the new provisions worked out by the speaker last night, dooms the Oregon health plan.

I have just received a letter from Jean Thorne, governor Kitzhaber's Federal policy director and the former manager of the state's Medicaid Program.

Here is what she has to say about the measure we are voting on, today, with regard to our health plan.

Short-term, she says that while additional moneys inserted into this bill last night will alleviate some of the problems in the first year, we will likely need to take actions limiting the program before the end of the 1996 fiscal year.

After that, according to Thorne's letter, the package will cause the Oregon plan to plummet as if from a cliff.

She says the 7 year loss from this measure "is still almost $2 billion."

> It is likely that such a level of funding loss will require us to dismantle the Health Plan. If this were to happen, it would mean that approximately 130,000 low-income Oregonians would no longer have Medicaid coverage. These are people who are primarily families with children.

My colleagues, and particularly my colleagues within the Oregon delegation, make no mistake, this will kill the Oregon health plan as we know it.

I suspect, after speaking with State officials this morning, that this will force a special session of our State legislature early next year to revamp the Oregon plan.

This will mean fewer services covered, and fewer Oregonians under health care coverage.

One State official speculated that somewhere between 30,000 and 40,000 Oregonians—working poor—will have to be let out of their coverage in the next 15 to 20 months.

Mr. Chairman, I should point out that under this plan we have reduced the number of welfare recipient in the State by about 8 percent in the last year. We projected further decreases of about 12 percent over the next 2 years.

That projection, like health care coverage for some tens of thousands of Oregonians, is now out the window as well.

We will see our welfare rolls, and our welfare costs, grow because of the loss of this waiver.

Mr. Chairman, as I said we have worked cooperatively in our delegation to try to get this issue turned around, and I want to especially commend the work of my colleague, JIM BUNN.

But we have no remedy in what is proposed, today.

This language is a prescription for higher public costs, higher costs to hospitals which will be shifted to other consumers, and the loss of decent health coverage for many, many of my fellow Oregonians.

I urge my colleagues to reject this measure.

STATE CAPITOL,
Salem, OR, October 26, 1995.

To: Congressman Ron Wyden.

From: Jean I. Thorne, Federal Policy Coordinator.

Subject: Amendment to House Medicaid Bill.

In reviewing the special adjustment made for Oregon in the House bill, I believe it helps alleviate the need to take immediate action to possibly dismantle the Oregon Health Plan, but it does not change the long-term outlook for the Plan.

As I read the language included in the bill, it provides a one-time allotment to Oregon of an additional $155 million in fiscal year 1996, but does not change the allotments in subsequent years. The amount of funding provided in 1996 basically would equal the amount spent in 1995 plus an inflation factor of 7.24%. We are anticipating approximately 9% growth in Oregon's Medicaid expenditures between fiscal years 1995 and 1996, so although this additional amount of funding will alleviate much of the immediate problem, we will likely need to take actions before the end of the fiscal year to trim back the Health Plan and other areas of Medicaid, such as long-term care services. By fiscal year 1997, more drastic actions will be necessary, although it is unknown at this point whether a special legislative session prior to the regular 1997 session would be necessary.

Clearly, beginning with 1997 we face the same problems as in the original House bill. The seven-year anticipated loss with this change is still almost $2 billion, as opposed to $2.1 billion. It is likely that such a level of funding loss will require us to dismantle the Health Plan. If this were to happen, it would mean that approximately 130,000 low-income Oregonians would no longer have Medicaid coverage. These are people who are primarily families with children. Since the beginning of the Health Plan in February 1994, we have increased the number of Oregonians with Medicaid coverage by almost 50%. We currently have over 75% of all Medicaid enrollees receiving services through prepaid health plans. The amount of funds hospitals spend on charity care has decreased by over 30%. Our welfare caseloads have declined by 8%, with another 12% decline anticipated in the current two-year budget period. At the same time, our spending per beneficiary is more than 10% below the national average. Our ability to ''squeeze'' additional savings out of the program is severely limited. If the Oregon Health Plan were to be dismantled, we would face the prospects of actually going backwards from the gains we have made—less people covered, less people in managed care, more costs shifted to other payers and welfare caseloads increasing.

We deeply appreciate the work of Congressman Bunn in getting this issue before Congress, but we recognize that it is only a first step. Our hopes are that we can secure an exemption for states with operating Section 1115 waivers to continue under the funding terms of the waiver, allowing us to prove that our demonstration programs can improve the health of poor persons in a cost-efficient manner.

JOHN A. KITZHABER,
Governor.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Florida [Mr. FOLEY].

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Chairman, I am anxious to hear the speeches when people stop buying treasury bills because our debt has grown so large that people are no longer interested in taking the risk.

This bill brings us to reality. It will reduce the cost of real interest payments.

On the farm bill, they say it was done in the dark of night. We had 10,000 farmers at 19 field hearings from California to New York to Florida, talking about reforming agriculture. Now, one group says we have done too much to agriculture and we are hurting rural America. My God, I live in rural America. I respect rural America. They asked me, MARK FOLEY, to make changes in the agriculture policy of this Nation.

So I stand here proudly to support the Freedom To Farm Act. We will unshackle agriculture. We will allow them to become productive. We will feed America's families. We will save us tremendous interest costs around this Nation and make our farmers proud to be Americans once again, which they are today.

Let us not hear the rhetoric that this bill is bad for America, because when the final numbers are in, when we save our children's future, when we save the bankruptcy of this Nation, when we make our people proud of this country once again, the numbers and the votes and the sentiment of America will be with us.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 seconds to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. RUSH].

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out to the gentleman who just spoke that under this bill the State of Florida will lose $5.9 billion in health care for the elderly and the disabled. Most of this is coming from nursing home care which would have to be paid for by hard-working middle-class families.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BROWN].

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Chairman, now I get it. Now I understand why the Gingrich majority believes this bill is good for middle-class America.

The gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. HEINEMAN] recently noted those with incomes between $300,000 and $750,000 a year are middle class. I get it: The middle class that this reconciliation bill will help has an income of $300,000 a year.

The Gingrich plan cuts Medicare to give tax breaks to people making one-half of a million a year. Why? Well, Speaker GINGRICH told an extremist group of supporters of his, ''We don't get rid of Medicare in round one, because we don't think that would be politically smart. We don't think that is the right way to go through a transition. We believe it is going to wither on the vine because we think people are voluntarily going to leave it.''

Shame on them, cutting Medicare, trying to destroy Medicare to give a tax break to people making one-half of a million a year.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Iowa [Mr. LATHAM].

(Mr. LATHAM asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Chairman, I think it is interesting when you talk about agricultural policy and not having hearings, we had 19 hearings concerning the Freedom to Farm Act and getting ideas from farmers themselves. One gentleman who spoke earlier admitted during the committee hearing, on the Democrat side, that he had never attended any of these hearings.

I think it is kind of interesting, I am sure he must have been listening to bureaucrats here in Washington, but the thing they told, the farmers told us, they want flexibility, they want a safety net, and they want relief from regulations that are strangling agriculture today.

One important thing to remember, when we actually get to a balanced budget, it is going to lower interest costs by 1.2 to 2 percent, and when you look at agriculture that is borrowing $141 billion a year, over 7 years, that more than makes up for any reduction in farm spending, and under the bill that is in our reconciliation act, there is more disposable net farm income than even existing law would be.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois [Mrs. COLLINS].

(Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out that the gentleman who just spoke, under this bill, the State of Iowa will lose $590 million in health care for the elderly and disabled, and most of this is nursing home care which will have to be paid for by their hard-working middle-class families.

Mr. Chairman, maybe Speaker GINGRICH is planning to save his book royalties to pay for his hospital, doctor, and nursing home bill if he ever needs it, but most older Americans don't have that luxury.

This bill delivers a knock-out punch to middle-income families, and I don't mean those middle-income families defined by Congressman HEINEMAN as

making $300,000 to $750,000 a year. Not only does it cut student loans their children will need for college, but it is also going to force them to pay for much of the health care their parents now receive under Medicare and Medicaid. Talk about taking the care out of health care; that's a double whammy.

BOB DOLE yesterday proudly proclaimed that he voted against Medicare when it was created in 1965 because, and I quote, ''we knew it wouldn't work.''

Well Senator, let me tell you: You couldn't be more wrong—Medicare works. When Medicare was signed into law by President Johnson, nearly 30 percent of senior citizens lived below the poverty line and half of all senior citizens had no health insurance. Today barely 12 percent live in poverty and an astounding 99.1 percent have health insurance coverage.

The Republican leadership sure has a knack for revising history.

The Gingrich Medicare plan will force the elderly and their children to pick up the tab for $270 billion in payments for doctors, hospitals, medical equipment such as wheel chairs, and drugs that Medicare now covers. Adding insult to injury, it is the elderly and their middle-class sons and daughters who will not benefit from the huge tax break these health care cuts are intended to give to people earning more than $100,000 a year.

In fact, while the Republican tax plan gives a $14,000 tax break to a wealthy family with an income over $350,000, it actually raises taxes by more than $600 for middle-income families with incomes below $50,000.

Just listen to what the Speaker wants to take away from elderly and middle-class Americans to pay for his tax cut.

First, Speaker GINGRICH will cause hospitals in the Chicago metropolitan area to lose more than $2.8 billion. The city of Chicago, alone, will lose $1.3 billion; almost half that amount, $699 million, will be lost by the 11 hospitals in my congressional district.

Cuts of this magnitude will force these hospitals to sharply reduce the number of patients they can serve.

If the Speaker were on the floor, I'd say to him: Mr. Speaker, is your tax break for the wealthy worth the risk that thousands in the Chicago metropolitan area may be denied a hospital bed?

Second, under the Speaker's Medicare bill, each of Illinois' 1.6 million Medicare recipients will see their health care costs rise by at least $3.500.

Mr. Chairman, where is the fairness in a proposal that pays for a $14,000 tax break for the wealthy by forcing the elderly to pay $3,500 more than they currently pay for health care?

Third, Mr. GINGRICH's Medicaid proposal will lead to the termination of nursing home care for an estimated 350,000 people simply to pay for his crown jewel of a tax cut for the rich. Meanwhile, seniors will be asked to pay the jeweler.

Fourth, the Speaker will cut payments for more than 60 percent of all the Illinois elderly who enter nursing homes. With the Speaker's blessing, no elderly or disabled individual will be guaranteed coverage for any benefit, including nursing home care.

Mr. Chairman, is giving a tax break to wealthy Americans really worth denying nursing home care each year to 50,000 sick and aged folk who live in my State?

Is it really worth denying long-term care for 96,000 elderly and disabled in my State? That's 49 percent of all those currently receiving such services.

Mr. Chairman, as my constituent, Irene Nelson, a senior citizen from Chicago, testified at the Democratic alternative Medicare hearings, and I quote, ''It is obvious to me that the people who are making these decisions are completely out of touch with the daily struggles of senior citizens like me.''

I beg of you, my colleagues: Please don't do this to your parents and to our Nation's elderly citizens. Find it in your heart to vote against the Speaker's changes that make Medicare and Medicaid into medican't.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. HILLEARY].

(Mr. HILLEARY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in proud support of this historic legislation.

Mr. Chairman, I proudly rise in support of this historic legislation, H.R. 2491, the Seven-Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995. This legislation keeps the promises I made to the people of the Fourth district of Tennessee.

This bill balances the Federal budget in 7 years, provides genuine welfare reform, preserves Medicare for our elderly now and in the future, and provides real tax relief for middle-class families.

I am confident that the changes we are making here today will lead to lower interest rates and growth.

Not growth in the Federal bureaucracy, but growth in the private economy creating more jobs for the people of Tennessee.

History has shown us over and over again that raising taxes hurts economic growth and never raises as much money as promised. In fact, this morning in the Wall Street Journal, former Chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, Martin Feldstein, wrote an article showing that President Clinton's income tax increase in 1993 failed to raise the money he claimed. He writes that the IRS has recently published data showing that the steep increase in the tax rates raised only about one-third of the amount of money that President Clinton had predicted.

For the families of my district in Tennessee, they will see real tax relief. The $500-per-child tax credit means that families with children earning less than $25,000 will no longer pay Federal income tax. Families making $30,000 will see their Federal income tax bill cut almost in half. Furthermore, lowering the capital gains tax will mean more economic growth and more jobs for the people in Tennessee.

Unlike past efforts of Congress to balance the budget, H.R. 2491 doesn't rely on accounting tricks or gimmicks. It makes real cuts.

All of us in this Chamber, everyone in Tennessee and throughout the country has benefited over the years from the Federal Government's overspending.

But this overspending has a devastating impact on our young who are the future of our country. Right now, a child born today will pay an average of $187,000 in taxes over a lifetime just to pay the interest on the debt. This irresponsibility in the Federal Government can't continue. It must stop. We can't continue to do this to our children.

Cutting out programs many people have become comfortable with is not a job any of us cherish or enjoy. I can assure everyone that making these cuts was not easy, but I can say that they are fair.

Is this legislation perfect?

I will be the first to admit that it is not a perfect bill. It's no secret that I personally believe that we can and should balance the budget in less than 7 years.

Did we cut out only the wasteful programs and leave only the good ones?

No, I think there is still plenty more that can be cut and we may have made some errors where we cut. Some of these errors can and will be corrected as the legislative process continues. Other problems we may have to address with corrective legislation next year.

One of the problems we identified was in the funding formula for the new Medigrant Program. Under the House version of the Medicaid bill which uses 1994 as the base year for Medicaid payments, Tennessee was in fact being penalized for pioneering a State run Medicare/Medicaid Program.

Under TennCare, Tennessee had paid out an extra $180 million to its Medicaid recipients that was not included in fiscal year 1994. This short fall was a result of an entire 3 months of payments that the Federal Government had not included in its equation because of accounting differences between them and the State of Tennessee.

Mr. Chairman, I am encouraged by the willingness of the Speaker to work with the Members of Tennessee on the Medigrant funding levels. The Speaker acknowledged a discrepancy between the State of Tennessee's 1994 Medicaid funding and the numbers used by the Federal Government.

I thank the Speaker for his understanding of this problem and his support for putting an extra $180 million into TennCare's 1996 funding level to insure that no harm would come to Tennessee's Medicaid recipients.

Furthermore, I extend my appreciation to the Speaker for his commitment to continue negotiations as this legislation continues through this process to ensure that Tennesseans receive their fair share of funding for the TennCare Program.

I believe we can work out these final problems before the conference report is brought back to the House.

Mr. Chairman, we need to move forward this historic legislation to change the direction of the Government.

I proudly support this bill and urge all of my colleagues to vote for H.R. 2491.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. GOODLATTE].

(Mr. GOODLATTE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of this vitally important legislation for the future of our country.

Today we are keeping our promise to America for a better future, and fulfilling the people's mandate for change. No more excuses,

no more Washington gimmicks. It's time to do the right think—it's time to balance the budget.

Passing this budget reconciliation bill will bring more change to the way Washington operates than any other legislation in the last half century. It eliminates deficits over the next 7 years and does it honestly and fairly. And in doing so, it eases the crushing burden of Federal debt on our children.

A balanced budget is more than just an accounting trick. Balancing the budget will lower interest rates which will mean lower mortgage rates, lower car loan costs, lower rates on student loans, and more jobs.

For instance, according to DRI-McGraw/Hill, an independent economic consulting firm, fixed rate mortgages would drop by 2.7 percentage points and adjustable rate mortgages would drop by 1.7 percentage points by 2002. This would boost home values by 8 percent, existing home sales by 11.5 percent, and housing starts by 65,000 each year.

With this bill we keep other promises such as bringing real reform to the welfare system. It breaks the cycle of dependency, and emphasizes work, personal responsibility, and the preservation of the family. It shifts power and resources back to the States and slices away government bureaucracy.

The bill includes Medicare provisions, passed earlier this year, which preserve, protect, and strengthen Medicare. It saves Medicare from bankruptcy while still increasing spending on this important health care program. It's security for our seniors who have planned for their retirements with the hope that Medicare will be there. And it's security for baby-boomers who know we are committed to a sound Medicare system when they retire.

We deliver on our promise of tax relief for America's families and a cut in the capital gains tax to spur job creation and economic growth. According to the Joint Economic Committee, a $500 per-child family tax credit means families with children earning less than $25,000 will see their entire Federal income tax liability eliminated. Families with incomes of $30,000 will have 48 percent of their Federal income tax liability eliminated.

And capital gains tax relief means jobs and economic growth. Investment will not happen without capital, and capital will not be freed up without tax relief. Economic growth and more jobs means more tax revenue.

Despite what our critics say, we can balance the budget and still give relief to our hardworking and overburdened taxpayers. And one thing we know for sure, increasing taxes has not produced balanced budgets.

The American people want a smaller, more efficient government, but Washington has failed to deliver until now. With this bill we begin slimming an overweight Federal bureaucracy by eliminating an entire Cabinet-level agency—the Commerce Department.

The budget reconciliation bill is the right thing for America and America's families. We keep our word and balance the budget. Most important, we save the future of the American dream for our children.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2½ minutes to the very distinguished gentlewoman from Connecticut [Mrs. JOHNSON].

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Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Chairman, what we are doing here today is passing the components of a program that over 7 years will balance this Nation's budget, but also put in place a tax policy that will assure that the jobs will be created that people need for their own security and that our Nation needs, to enjoy a level of economic growth that will make that balance possible.

This overall bill also addresses many problems. It is the first time we have tried to put in place a policy that would protect people of all ages from the catastrophic cost of nursing home care. If we do not start now, we cannot succeed for future generations.

But also within this bill are many, many detailed provisions that the public does not know about, but that will directly affect their lives. In the Taxpayer Bill of Rights section, a section that is bipartisan, that was developed in a bipartisan way, has bipartisan support, this bill builds on the work of the Hon. Jake Pickle of Texas, who spent many years trying to get this very legislation passed. I am proud not only have we adopted his work, but we have gone beyond it. Because through the Taxpayer Bill of Rights, we make the taxpayer now not a David who meets Goliath, but an equal who has an opportunity to be heard by the IRS, to have a fair shot at paying only their fair share of taxes.

For the first time, this Taxpayer Bill of Rights will begin to look at the terrible and bad breaks that so many couples who are separated and divorced get when dealing with the IRS. For the first time we ask the IRS, for the first time in all of our history, to come back to us every year with the 20 most important problems that taxpayers face. For the very first time the IRS will have the responsibility for their taxpayer advocates to actually tell the Congress what are the 20 most serious problems the people face in dealing with their Government, and then we will be able to change those things. We do not allow for their suggestions to go through the IRS or the Department of the Treasury. They must come directly to us so that they cannot be filtered.

We do many, many things in this bill to protect taxpayers from IRS actions and to put taxpayers on an equal footing with their Government.

Mr. Chairman, I urge support of this legislation.

Mr. Chairman, I want to draw our colleagues' attention to some very important provisions in the Ways and Means Committee title of H.R. 2517 which collectively are known as the Taxpayer Bill of Rights 2.

For taxpayers who go up against the Internal Revenue Service, it is too often a David vs. Goliath contest. The IRS is Goliath and the taxpayer is David. The Ways and Means Committee title includes the recommendations developed by the Subcommittee on Oversight to increase the rights of taxpayers in dealing with the IRS. The campaign to safeguard taxpayer rights has a long history. The Taxpayer Bill of Rights 2 portion of title XIII will establish a new milestone in protecting taxpayers. Like the David in biblical history, the average taxpayer may be smaller than the rival IRS, but we are giving him some strong weapons with which to defend himself.

The original Taxpayer Bill of Rights was enacted in 1988. While this action was a good first step, there was a consensus that more could be done to protect the rights of taxpayers. The Oversight Subcommittee developed follow-up legislation during the 102d Congress, but regrettably it did not become law.

One of the early priorities of the Oversight Subcommittee in the 104th Congress was to protect the rights of taxpayers in dealing with the IRS. Despite the helpful effects of the 1988 legislation, the chorus of constituent complaints against the IRS convinced us that further action was needed. On March 24, 1995, the Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing to investigate what additional safeguards were apprporiate to provide taxpayers more evenhanded treatment in their dealings with the IRS. The hearing opened our eyes to the many areas in which we need to act in order to protect taxpayers.

For example, we learned of cases where the IRS began auditing a taxpayer's return and then the IRS employee conducting the audit was transferred to a new division, and the return sat for another year or two before the audit was completed. Under current law, the IRS has no authority to abate the interest which runs up during this period. The bill addresses this problem by giving the IRS authority to abate interest charges that accrue as a result of unreasonable delays caused by the IRS's own mistakes.

The bill will also make it easier for taxpayers who win their cases against the IRS in court to collect attorney's fees. Under current law, not only does a taxpayer have to prevail against the IRS to collect attorney's fees, she must also prove that the IRS was not justified in pressing its case against her. Our bill would shift the burden to the IRS of proving that its position was substantially justified. This is consistent with the judicial principle that the party in control of the facts should bear the burden of proof.

Another major problem area is the treatment of separated or divorced taxpayers. Under current law, couples who file a joint tax return are each fully responsible for the accuracy of the return and for the full tax liability, even though only one spouse may have earned the income which is shown on the return. This is called joint and several liability. Spouses who wish to avoid joint and several liability may file as a married person filing separately.

The Oversight Subcommittee learned of many instances where divorced taxpayers who signed a joint tax return during their former marriage were treated harshly when the IRS later disputed the accuracy of the return. Far too often, the IRS tried to collect the entire amount due from the wife, even though the omitted income or erroneous deductions which caused the tax deficiency were attributable solely to her former husband. In some cases, the person pursued for payment of the taxes due was not even aware that a tax return filed during the marriage had been audited or the additional taxes were due.

In an era where almost 50 percent of marriages end in divorce, this problem is contributing to the perception that the tax system is unfair. The time has come to reexamine the

joint and several liability standard and to consider replacing it with a proportionate liability standard, under which each spouse would be responsible for the tax on that portion of their income which he or she earned. In order to fully consider the ramifications of such a change, our bill requires the Treasury Department and the General Accounting Office to conduct detailed studies examining possible changes to the joint and several liability standard designed to better protect the interests of separated and divorced couples. This is an area that we definitely intend to revisit after the studies are complete.

The Subcommittee on Oversight met on September 12, 1995, and unanimously approved a package of recommendations to address the taxpayer problems which we had identified from our hearing and from the numerous communications we had received from taxpayers. The recommendations for a Taxpayer Bill of Rights 2 were introduced on September 14, 1995, as H.R. 2337. The full Committee on Ways and Means included in its reconciliation title a Taxpayer Bill of Rights 2 subtitle which is virtually identical to the work product of the Subcommittee on Oversight.

I am gratified at our action for two reasons. First, we have acted forcefully to protect the rights of taxpayers in dealing with the IRS. Second, the subcommittee's action was bipartisan, it was strongly supported by Members of both parties. I hope this will set the example for all the activities of the Oversight Subcommittee.

Mr. Chairman, the Nation's taxpayers probably will never enjoy paying their taxes, but they should not feel powerless in dealing with the IRS. The taxpayer Bill of Rights 2 will help to better safeguard the rights of taxpayers. Until Congress implements fundamental reforms of the tax system, the next best approach is to make the current system operate in a way which treats taxpayers more fairly.

Finally, the following is a brief outline of the Taxpayer Bill of Rights two provisions which are included in title XIII of H.R. 2517:

1. Creation of Independent Taxpayer Advocate. (a) Statutorily establish the position and office of the Taxpayer Advocate within the Internal Revenue Service (IRS); (b) require the IRS to make annual reports to the tax-writing committees describing the 20 most serious problems taxpayers encounter when dealing with the IRS, along with the Taxpayer Advocate's recommendations for administrative and legislative actions to resolve such problems; and (c) require the IRS to provide that regional problem resolution officers will actively participate in the selection and evaluation of local problem resolution officers.

2. Expand Taxpayer Assistance Order (TAO) Authority. Provide the Taxpayer Advocate with broader authority to intervene on behalf of taxpayers.

3. Authority to Review a TAO. Provide that a TAO may be modified or overturned only by the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, Taxpayer Advocate, or Regional Problem Resolution Officer, and require a written explanation for modifications or reversals of TAOs.

4. Improved Notification of Installment Agreement Changes. (a) Require the IRS to notify taxpayers 30 days before modifying or terminating installment agreements (except in jeopardy cases) and to include in such notification the specific reasons for the action taken; and (b) require the IRS to establish an administrative appeals process in the case of modifications or terminations of installment agreements.

5. Expand Abatement-of-Interest Authority. (a) Provide the IRS with expanded authority to abate interest resulting from erroneous or dilatory ''managerial acts'' (e.g., for cases where the assessment or collection of a deficiency has been unreasonably delayed as a result of IRS's loss of tax records, or IRS personnel management decisions, including the termination, transfer, training, and the granting of leave for any reason to IRS employees responsible for the handling of the taxpayer's case); and (b) give the U.S. Tax Court the jurisdiction to review the IRS's failure to abate interest on an abuse of discretion standard for taxpayers who meet the net worth criteria of section 7430.

6. Extend Interest-Free Period for Remitting Tax. Extend the interest-free period provided to taxpayers for the payment of tax liability reflected in the first notice from 10 days to 21 days, if the total tax liability shown on the notice of deficiency is less than $100,000.

7. Study of the ''Joint and Several'' Liability Standard. Require the Treasury Department and the General Accounting Office to conduct studies, to be submitted to the tax-writing committees within six months of the date of enactment, analyzing: (a) the effects of changing the current standard of ''joint and several'' liability for married couples to a ''proportionate'' liability standard; (b) the effects of requiring the IRS to be bound by the terms of a divorce decree which directly addresses the responsibility for the tax liability arising from joint tax returns filed during the former couple's marriage; (c) proposals for expanding the ''innocent spouse'' relief of IRC section 6013; and (d) the effects of overturning the application of *Poe* v. *Seaborn* for income tax purposes in community property states.

8. Election to File Joint Return Without Making Full Payment. Repeal the provision that requires full payment of tax liabilities as a precondition to taxpayers switching from married-filing-separate status to married-filing-jointly status.

9. Improved Treatment of Separated or Divorced Spouses. Upon written request, require the IRS to inform either spouse as to whether the IRS is making any attempt to collect the tax liability from the other spouse; the general nature of the collection effort; and, the amount collected.

10. Authority to Withdraw Notice of IRS Liens. Provide the IRS with authority to withdraw a public notice of tax lien prior to payment in full by the indebted taxpayer when it is ''. . . in the best interest of the taxpayer and the Government'' and require that in the case of an erroneous lien, upon taxpayer request, the IRS must make reasonable efforts to notify major credit agencies and financial institutions of the erroneous filing of the lien.

11. Authority to Return Levied Property. Provide the IRS with authority to return the proceeds of levies, without prejudice against future reinstatement of the levy, if it is ''. . . in the best interest of the taxpayer and the Government.''

12. Increase the Protections of Taxpayers from IRS Levy Actions. Increase the exemption level on fuel, furniture and personal effects to $2,500, and index it thereafter for inflation.

13. Offers-in-Compromise. Provide that offers-in-compromise which reduce tax liabilities by less than $100,000 do not require a written opinion from the Office of the Chief Counsel. Offers in compromise which would reduce tax liabilities by $100,000 or more would continue to be subject to approval by a written opinion from the Office of the Chief Counsel.

14. Civil Damages for Fraudulent Filing of Information Returns. Create a federal cause of action for a person who has been victimized by a willfully filed fraudulent information return to recover the greater of $5,000 or actual damages from the person(s) who filed the fraudulent information return.

15. IRS Responsibility to Verify Accuracy of Information Returns. In cases where a taxpayer asserts reasonable dispute about the accuracy of an information return, the IRS would be required to take reasonable steps to investigate the accuracy of the information return and would bear the burden of producing reasonable and probative information to corroborate the return. The reasonable steps which the IRS must take to corroborate the disputed information return would vary in response to the facts and circumstances of each case. The objective is to meet the standard outlined in Portillo v. Commissioner, 932 F.2d 1128 (1991).

16. Expansion of Attorney-Fees Provisions. (a) In cases where a taxpayer substantially prevails over the IRS in a tax dispute, switch the burden of proof from the taxpayer to the IRS to establish that the IRS was substantially justified in maintaining its position against the taxpayer; (b) increase the hourly rate of the attorney fees eligible for reimbursement from the current rate of $75 to $110, and index this amount after 1996; (c) clarify that the taxpayer's failure to extend the statute of limitations shall not be considered to be a failure to exhaust the administrative process; and (d) repeal the current prohibition which denies the reimbursement of attorney fees in some court actions for a declaratory judgement.

17. Taxpayer Reliance on IRS Guidance. In determining whether or not the IRS was ''substantially justified'' in maintaining its position against the taxpayer, the fact that IRS employees did not follow its own published guidance (e.g., revenue rulings, revenue procedures, and information releases) in examining the taxpayer, will create a rebuttable presumption that the IRS's position was not substantially justified for the purpose of applying section 7430.

18. Increased Damage Awards to Taxpayers Harmed by Reckless IRS Collection Actions. (a) Increase the ceiling on damages to $1 million; and (b) give the courts discretion to reduce a damage award because of the taxpayer's failure to exhaust the administrative remedies in the collection process, rather than a mandatory denial.

19. Modification of the Penalty to Collect and Remit Payroll Taxes. (a) Require the IRS to issue a preliminary notice 60 days in advance of any demand for payment of the 100-percent penalty imposed by section 6672, except in jeopardy cases; (b) in cases where the IRS is seeking to hold a person responsible for payroll taxes under section 6672, the IRS would be required to share with such person the identities of other persons who the IRS also asserts are responsible for the taxes and the collection activities which it has pursued against those persons; (c) create a federal cause of action for a person who may be held liable for the collection of tax under section 6672 to seek contribution from other persons who have a similar liability under the law, but who have not yet contributed their proportionate share of the liability for the collection of the tax. The ''responsible person'' seeking a contribution would proceed by bringing an independent action against the third parties; and (d) provide that the IRS will not impose the 100-percent penalty under section 6672 on unpaid, volunteer trustees or directors of tax-exempt organizations if such persons serve solely in an honorary capacity, do not participate in the day-to-day or financial operations of the

organization, and do not have actual knowledge of the failure to remit payroll taxes to the IRS.

20. *Enrolled Agents as Third-Party Record Keepers.* Add ''enrolled agents'' to the list of third party record keepers to whom section 7609 applies.

21. *Safeguards Related to Designated Summons.* (a) Require that IRS regional counsel review any designated summons before it is issued against a taxpayer; (b) limit the issuance of a designated summons to taxpayers being audited as part of the IRS's Coordinated Exam Program (about 1,600 of the largest corporate taxpayers); (c) prohibit the IRS from issuing a designated summons for the purpose of third-party information gathering, except in circumstances where the taxpayer being examined has transferred its books or records to a third party; and (d) require the IRS to submit an annual report to Congress describing the designated summonses issued by the IRS during the preceding year.

22. *Relief from the Retroactive Application of IRS Regulations.* Provide that the effective date of any temporary, proposed, or final regulation shall not be before the earliest of:

(a) the date the regulation is filed in the Federal Register; (b) in the case of a final regulation, the date of the temporary or proposed regulation to which it relates was filed with the Federal Register; and (c) the date on which any notice substantially describing the expected contents of any temporary, proposed, or final regulation is issued to the public. However, this limitation will not apply: (a) where the regulations are issued within 12 months of the enactment of the statutory provision to which the regulation relates; (b) where the Secretary of the Treasury determines that the regulation should be retroactive in order to prevent abuse; (c) where the regulation is directed at correcting procedural defects in an earlier regulation; (d) where the regulation relates to the internal policies, practices, and procedures of the Treasury Department; (e) where the taxpayer elects to have the entire regulation apply retroactively, i.e, back to the date of the underlying statute; or (f) in cases where Congress grants authority to the Secretary to prescribe the effective date of a regulation.

23. *Report on IRS Pilot Program for the Appeal of Enforcement Actions.* Require the IRS to submit a report to the tax-writing committees, by March 1, 1996, about the scope and results of its pilot program for the appeal of enforcement actions, including lien, levy, and seizure actions, together with any recommendations for legislative actions which may be necessary to facilitate the implementation of a permanent process for appeals of such enforcement actions.

24. Phone Numbers of Payors on Form 1099. Require that the providers of information returns include the phone number of the payor's service representative on the form 1099.

25. Notification to Taxpayers of Overpayments. Require that the IRS make a reasonable attempt to notify, within 60 days, those taxpayers who have made payments which the IRS cannot properly post to the taxpayer's account.

26. Damage Claims for Taxpayers Injured When the IRS Uses Improper Informants. Create a civil cause of action allowing a taxpayer to sue the Government for the lesser of $500,000 or actual damages (plus costs) in cases where any Federal Government employee intentionally compromises the collection of any tax due from an attorney, accountant, or enrolled agent representing a taxpayer in exchange for information supplied by the taxpayer to such a professional for the purpose of obtaining tax advice.

27. Annual Reminders of Outstanding Tax Liabilities. Require the IRS to send out annual reminders to taxpayers with outstanding delinquent accounts that are not in active collection status.

28. Extension of Authority for IRS Undercover Operations. The Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 exempted IRS undercover operations from certain statutory restrictions controlling the use of Government funds (which generally provide that all receipts be deposited in the general fund of the Treasury and all expenses be paid out of appropriated funds). This exemption expired on December 31, 1991. In general, the exemption permits the IRS to ''churn'' the income earned by an undercover operation to pay additional expenses incurred in the undercover operation. Extend the IRS ''churning'' authority to December 31, 2000.

29. Disclosure of Form 8300 Information on Cash Transactions. Amend IRC section 6050I to allow form 8300 information to be disclosed for either civil or criminal enforcement or regulatory purposes under the same rules applicable to Currency Transaction Reports. This would permit form 8300 information to be used at various levels of government to identify targets for investigation of possible nontax related crimes.

30. Simplified Disclosure Procedures. Amend IRC section 6103(c) to delete the word ''written'' from the requirement that ''written consent'' from the taxpayer is necessary for the disclosure of taxpayer information to a designated third party.

31. Study on Interest Netting. Require the Secretary of the Treasury to conduct a study of the manner in which the IRS has implemented Congress's directions regarding the netting of interest on overpayments and underpayments and the policy and adminstrative implications of global interest netting. Before submitting the report of such study, Treasury would be required to hold a public hearing on global interest netting to receive comments from interested parties. The record of these hearings should be included in the report.

EFFECT OF PROPOSED HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE EITC REFORMS ON EITC SPENDING BASELINE

[Fiscal years 1995–2002]

[Millions of dollars]

	Fiscal year 1996	Fiscal year 1997	Fiscal year 1998	Fiscal year 1999	Fiscal year 2000	Fiscal year 2001	Fiscal year 2002	Total 1996–2002
EITC under present law	23,762	25,870	26,947	28,077	29,338	30,536	31,735	196,265
Budgets effects of proposed reforms	−160	−3,417	−3,603	−3,754	−3,940	−4,109	−4,268	−23,251
EITC under proposed reforms	23,602	22,453	23,341	24,323	25,398	26,427	27,467	[1] 173,011

[1] Totals do not add due to rounding. Estimates based on data from Joint Committee on Taxation.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentlewoman from Oregon [Ms. FURSE].

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out to the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Mrs. JOHNSON] that the State of Connecticut would lose $590 million in health care for the elderly and the disabled.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. RUSH].

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, on Tuesday, I spent a good part of my morning at La Rabida Children's Hospital on Chicago's South Side. Similar to many other children's hospitals across the Nation, over half the children cared for at this fine institution rely on Medicaid.

I met many of these children on Tuesday. And I want to remind my colleges on the other side of the aisle that these children are not faceless statistics. They are human beings.

Like 10-year-old Tyronne, who has been coming to La Rabida for the last 9 years of treatment of severe asthma, sickle cell anemia, and scoliosis (sko-lee-osis).

When hospitals like La Rabida care for Tyronne, they do so at considerably greater cost than what it takes to care for adults. This is because of the wide array of equipment and supplies necessary to treat children of all ages and sizes.

Children's hospitals cannot shift costs to adult patients or, like some other hospitals, to commercial payers.

Mr. Speaker, children's hospitals are able to serve as an integral part of this Nation's approach to health care because of Federal funding provided to them via the Medicaid Program.

And the Newt Gingrich Republicans want to ignore this fact by passing the responsibility for basic health care services for children to the States—a responsibility, that many States cannot or do not want to bear.

The American people must take a long hard look at this so-called Gingrich Republican revolution, and see the wreckage left in its wake.

The Gingrich Republican meat ax will cut deep. It will cut to the bone. It will cut to the marrow.

It will cut the lifeline of many of our Nation's children. It will cut their access to basic health care.

Basic health care for our children is not a privilege, it is a fundamental right.

We must balance the budget, for our children, not on the backs of our children.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT], the distinguished deputy whip.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HASTERT. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, I would like to engage the gentleman from Illinois; [Mr. HASTERT], the chief deputy whip and member of the Commerce Committee in a colloquy in order to clarify one of the Medicaid provisions in this bill. As an active member of health care, I am extremely concerned with the enormous problem of health care waste, fraud, and abuse that has riddled the program. The amount of such waste, fraud, and abuse perpetrated on taxpayers is staggering and must be eradicated.

It is my understanding that section 2123 would prohibit any State from using its Federal MediGrant funds for any purpose other than medical assistance for eligible beneficiaries. Is that correct?

Mr. HASTERT. The gentleman is correct. Section 2123 would prohibit the States from using any of the Federal funds provided by this act for any purpose other than providing benefits and administering the provisions of this act.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. The reason I want to clarify this point is because we are all aware of the tremendous amount of waste, fraud, and abuse in the current Medicaid system. If the States are successful in exposing this waste and fraud, the residents from my State of Pennsylvania would like to know that these savings will be used to provide needed health care services—and not be diverted for some other unrelated purpose.

Mr. HASTERT. I think the gentleman raises a very important point. The public has every right to expect that the Federal funds Congress provides for health care services for the poor will in fact be used for health care. This bill gives them that assurance.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. I thank the gentleman, again, for engaging in this discussion. I commend the gentleman, Chairman BLILEY, and the Commerce Committee for acknowledging the serious problem of waste, fraud, and abuse and for including these true reforms in the House budget reconciliation bill.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. CRANE], the chairman of the Subcommittee on Trade.

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I came to this body in 1969, and I reflected back when we got into this debate about counsel my father gave us as children. He passed away this summer at the age of 94, mercifully in his sleep without pain and suffering. He told us as kids, he said, ''Boys, you have two obligations in life: One is to be givers and not takers; and, two, leave it better than you found it.''

I wrote him a letter after we got into this process of trying to turn this country around before he died, and I said, ''Pop, you know, I was always able to be a giver, because I controlled that.'' But when I came here in 1969, our national debt was in the neighborhood of $385 billion. I knew that we were facing the prospect of a $5 trillion national debt this year. And I reflected back that in 1969 we had a budget surplus, a modest $3 billion, but, still, it was a surplus, and I thought we were going to engage in elimination of debt at that time. And I steadily watched this situation deteriorate.

Now, does this move fast enough in guaranteeing that we get our books in balance for our children and our grandchildren? No, not in my estimation. Does this provide us the kind of tax relief that is necessary to again revitalize our economy? No, not in my estimation. But it is a move in the right direction.

I think all of us have to share a responsibility, having participated in this process for all of these years, in creating a kind of a climate that, if it is not addressed in 7 years, is hardly salvaging anything, in 7 years to get us back on track.

This country still represents the world's last, best hope, and it is not just for our children and our grandchildren. We are talking posterity. And each one of us, when we raise our hand and are sworn in in this body, has the obligation to engage in that commitment.

Mr. Chairman, I would urge all of my colleagues, back off, take another look at this, because this is in the national interest. This is in the interest of mankind.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the budget reconciliation bill. While I have made separate remarks on other provisions in this package, as chairman of the Trade Subcommittee, I would like to point out some of the benefits of the trade provisions included in this bill. While these provisions have not been at the center of the debate on the reconciliation bill, they nonetheless provide important tools for U.S. business and industry in the global marketplace.

Included within the budget reconciliation package are a number of technical corrections to certain trade legislation and other miscellaneous trade provisions. Passage of these provisions will streamline implementation of the Customs Modernization Act, the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, the Andean Trade Preference Act, the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, the Harmonized Tariff Schedule, and the North American Free Trade Act. The administration and the business community have reviewed each of these provisions and concluded that they are noncontroversial.

The bill also includes an extension of the generalized system of preferences program [GSP] which expired on July 31, 1995. For over 20 years, the President has been authorized to grant tariff preferences to developing countries under GSP. Congress extended the program on a short-term basis in the 1993 budget reconciliation bill, and then again in the Uruguay Round Trade Agreements Act in 1994.

I support extension of GSP because it is a useful program for promoting increased trade with lesser developed countries. USTR can use GSP benefits effectively as a trade policy tool to achieve more open markets for U.S. exports. Testimony received by the Trade Subcommittee of the Committee on Ways and Means confirms that many U.S. businesses depend on duty-free treatment under GSP to help reduce costs.

H.R. 2491 extends authority for GSP for 2.5 years, to terminate on December 31, 1997. So that there will be no gap in duty-free treatment provided under the GSP Program, the bill would provide for refunds of any duty paid, upon request, between July 31, 1995, and the date of enactment. The recommendations lower the per capita GNP limit from $11,800 to $8,600, a number which would be indexed. When countries reach this limit, which is considered high income under the bill, the President is required to terminate the country's eligibility for GSP benefits.

H.R. 2491 would lower the competitive need limit in current law from $114 million in 1994 to $75 million in 1995 and increase it by $5 million each year after 1995. The bill would authorize the President to designate additional articles from the least developed beneficiary countries as eligible for GSP. This new authority does not apply to statutorily exempt articles such as textiles and footwear. Finally, the bill updates various provisions in order to simplify administration of the GSP Program.

Also, I would like to address the issue of trade adjustment assistance. The Committee on Ways and Means carefully examined not only trade adjustment assistance for workers and firms, but also adjustment assistance programs tailored to the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement. The committee's recommendations harmonize general trade adjustment assistance programs for workers with the NAFTA Workers Security Act programs.

I firmly believe that protectionism destroys jobs, while free trade creates jobs by increasing our competitiveness in the global marketplace. Nevertheless, we have extended both general and NAFTA-related trade adjustment assistance to reassure those workers uncertain about free trade.

NAFTA-related trade adjustment assistance for workers will be extended through September 30, 1998. General trade adjustment assistance will be extended through September 30, 2000. Our recommendations require workers to enter approved training programs to receive further cash benefits. The Secretary of Labor will be permitted to issue waivers of the training requirement only if training is not available. Our recommendations also terminate relocations allowances under both general TAA and NAFTA-related TAA. This will end a two-tiered system of haves and have-nots in which workers unemployed due to foreign competition are relocated at the expense of the Federal Government while those unemployed due to domestic competition are not eligible for such assistance.

The provisions included in the reconciliation bill reauthorize general trade adjustment assistance programs for firms through September, 2000, at which time these programs will terminate.

The budget reconciliation bill also dismantles and reorganizes the Commerce Department as part of the congressional effort to streamline Government, increase its efficiency,

and save taxpayer dollars. The legislation retains a number of trade-related functions that are aimed toward achieving gains for U.S. companies and places them within the U.S. Trade Representative. I strongly believe that we should preserve powerful tools in this way to negotiate initiatives that open foreign markets, encourage growth in U.S. exports, and fight foreign unfair trade practices. This effort will remove a Cabinet seat and streamline our Government, while at the same time preserving the functions that keep our U.S. companies competitive.

I would like to add a word here about consideration of H.R. 2371, the Trade Agreement Authority Act, which is not included in the reconciliation bill. This legislation would renew trade agreements negotiating and implementing authority for the administration—to so-called fast track authority. We tried very hard to come to an understanding with the administration concerning the content and form of this special procedure. However, the administration would not agree to our language and seems to be prepared to do without this authority.

I believe that fast track is extremely important if we are to continue to implement trade agreements that strengthen our economy, create good jobs, and reduce the deficit—including an agreement with Chile. However, the administration must recognize that fast track is a derogation of the rules of the Congress. As such, congressional concerns over the use of fast track for issues that are not directly related to trade must be taken into account if these special procedures are to be used by the administration in the future.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon [Ms. FURSE].

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding time.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out to the two gentlemen from Illinois that Illinois will lose $3.5 billion in health care under this bill.

I rise today to opposed this bill. Gosh, even Pat Buchanan says the Medicare cuts are to deep. I have heard the GOP being called the get old people party. Well, I think now, after this bill, it is going to be called the gut our protections party.

This bill treats Medicare as a piggy bank, to pay for a tax cut for the rich, and we did not get 1 day of hearing. This bill shuts down State efforts to reform health care, like the Oregon health plan. This bill eliminate protections for seniors, for children, for the environment, for students, while increasing Pentagon spending by $63 billion.

Look, I am a grandmother. I know what makes sense. This does not make sense. We should vote no. Let us not gut our protections; let us eliminate the GOP budget.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. SHAW], the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Human Resources of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Chairman, for the second time this year, the House will be asked to decide between the status quo and making real reforms to the failed welfare system.

Consider the millions of Americans now on welfare. History tells us that they came from farms, they came from all over this Nation and elsewhere in search of a better life for themselves and their families. They settled in the cities, they settled in the coal mines, and they were hard working because there was a strong work ethic.

Then the jobs went away. So when the jobs left the big cities and the mines closed, why did not the same people who were the children of those who came to the factories, who came to the cities seeking a better way of life, why did they not follow? Why did they not go where there were better jobs and better opportunities?

They did not because the Congress of the United States, this Government, put into place a welfare system that was corrupt and destructive—although thought to be kind and gentle. For generations now, we have seen this destructive welfare system stay in place and keep people where there are no jobs, a system that destroys self-esteem, destroys families, destroys the basic moral fiber that has held this Nation together. Now is the time to sweep this failed welfare system away.

One of my colleagues has said that, through our welfare reforms, the Republicans are coming for the poor and the children. Yes, we are. We are coming for them to pull them out of the life of dependency and poverty. We are sweeping away a destructive system, and we are putting in a system that can work.

For once, after we pass this bill, let us join together in a new meaning of the American spirit and solve the problems of poverty in this country, to give people back self-dignity, to discourage illegitimacy, to promote the family, and to promote the values that have made this country great.

Support real welfare reform; support the Republican reconciliation bill.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 seconds to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. RUSH].

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Chairman, this bill is destructive to the people of Florida. I would like to point out to the gentleman from Florida who just spoke, that Florida will lose $5.9 billion in health care for the elderly and the disabled. Most of this is nursing home care which would have to be paid for by their hard-working middle-class families.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Arkansas [Mrs. LINCOLN].

(Mrs. LINCOLN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. Chairman, I think all Americans across this Nation have called on us in Congress to do what is fair and reasonable to put our Nation back on track. We all here share a common goal in balancing the budget and eliminating the deficit in order to put our Nation back on track. But most Americans learn that you have to eat your vegetables first before you get your dessert, and that basically translates to we have got to cut our spending, our abuse, and our waste first.

There are two choices before us today: No. 1, to achieve the goal while squeezing senior citizens, farmers, children, and military retirees, or, No. 2, achieve the goal by requiring that every group of Americans give a little to make a contribution. If we were blindfolded as Members of the House of Representatives to all of the partisan politics that go on here, and asked to just base our decisions weighted on the merits of these two packages, we would not want to cut $100 billion more out of Medicare than is necessary to balance the budget. We would not want to cut $9 billion more out of agriculture than is necessary to balance the budget.

This does not allow veterans the health care choices that they want and deserve. It raises taxes on lower income Americans by $23 billion by removing the EITC. It cuts $10 billion more out of student loan programs than is necessary to balance the program. It does devastating things to rural America and the life we know there.

I just ask my colleagues to take a serious look at what is an honest and fair way of balancing this budget for the American people, and that is the coalition budget.

□ 1530

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Nevada [Mr. ENSIGN].

(Mr. ENSIGN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. Chairman, I was raised by a single mother with no child support, and each and every day I saw her get up and go to work, a lesson that was taught to me that we have robbed from welfare families. This has lead to a generational dependency. There is nothing more important in America to learn than the work ethic. If we want people to get out of poverty, they have to work.

Our EITC program will preserve the incentive to go and get a job and stay off of welfare. In fact, when the EITC was created in 1975 total spending was about $2 billion. Today EITC spending is $20 billion. That is a tenfold increase. Under our plan, total EITC spending will continue to grow to about $27 billion.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I know some of our public schools are not that great these days, but even these schools know that this is addition, not subtraction. The American people know that spending more on something is not a cut. Only those who employ confusion and scare tactics fail to understand this lesson.

The last point I want to make, Mr. Chairman, is that some are calling this a tax increase because we happen to not be giving it to people with children. The last time I checked, when we give a subsidy to the American people and then happen to remove that subsidy, that is not a tax increase. That is something we are taking from one taxpayer, giving to the other, and then all of a sudden we decide we cannot afford to continue to give more and more of their money in taxes to other people and redistributing that.

Those on the left are calling this a tax increase. That is the mindset they have. That is how corrupt they are in their thinking.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 seconds to the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO].

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, in response to the gentleman who just spoke, if we are not raising taxes then we did not need a budget waiver.

Let me quote Jack Kemp. This is a tax increase on low-income workers and the poor, which is unconscionable at this time. We eliminate the credit for working people who are without children. That is 4.3 million people and we increase the phaseout rate.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE].

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, as Congress takes up the budget, the American public fears the Republicans plan to curb Medicare spending, scoffs at their tax cut and flatly does not believe that the plan would produce a balanced budget by 2002. That is from the latest New York Times CBS News poll that came out yesterday.

Mr. Chairman, I do not normally pay attention to polls, but this time the polls got it right and the American people got it right. The Republicans call this the Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act, but how do we begin balancing the budget by implementing such a large tax cut? We estimate that after 7 years the national debt will be at least $268 billion higher because of this tax cut that provides generous benefits for the wealthy. The legislation actually would raise taxes on taxpayers earning less than $30,000 a year.

Mr. Chairman, with all these tax cuts for the rich, and without a balanced budget, what are we getting in return? Well, essentially we are abolishing Medicare and Medicaid. The Speaker indicated in the quote earlier, Speaker GINGRICH, that it is not being abolished right away but eventually we will get rid of it.

For Medicaid recipients, for seniors, they are doubling the part B premium, increasing their taxes. They are imposing means testing. They are squeezing the hospitals so much that providers and other providers at hospitals will close or scale back their quality. And also seniors are going to lose their choice of doctors.

Medicaid is actually abolished in this. Instead, we have block grants going to the States without any strings attached, really. So there are no guarantees that poor people will get health care. Also, we lose the nursing home standards. So much money will be squeezed out of this system we can be sure those nursing homes are going to decrease in terms of the quality of care.

I went before the Committee on Rules and I asked that there be a guarantee for low-income seniors who no longer will have their part B premium for the doctors paid under this legislation. The Speaker said last week there was going to be that guarantee. There is no guarantee. The public is right, the poll is right. Medicare and Medicaid are essentially abolished and there will be no balanced budget.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentlewoman from Kansas [Mrs. MEYERS].

(Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this balanced budget amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I agree with many of my colleagues who believe today is an historic day. I have served in the House of Representatives for a decade, and this is the very first opportunity I will have to vote for a balanced budget.

There is no question that in a bill this size, which makes changes in almost every department and agency of government, every Member will find provisions with which they disagree. There are some provisions in this legislation which I would prefer to see changed, or in some cases dropped. But I will support this legislation nevertheless, for three reasons:

First, we must preserve the Medicare Program from bankruptcy, and this legislation is a first step in slowing the rate of growth of the program. This legislation does not cut Medicare or Medicaid. It does slow the rate of growth in these programs. While increasing spending from $4,800 this year to $6,700 in 2002, per Medicare beneficiary.

I believe the changes we are making in these health programs will secure health care for the elderly and the poor well into the next century. But, in making these changes, we must ensure that people are not hurt by the changes—and so we must closely monitor these programs over the next several years to be certain that they are working as we envision.

Second, over the past several years, I have worked very hard to change our welfare system, and this bill contains the same provisions of legislation I authored in 1993. I believe our welfare system has failed the very people it was designed to help. Instead of moving people out of poverty and into well-paying jobs, it has trapped people by fostering illegitimacy, weakening families, and discouraging work. If we don't make changes in these programs, by the year 2000, 80 percent of majority children, and 40 percent of all children, will be born out of wedlock. Our concern is the children. The dollars are important, without a doubt, but the changes we are making today are for the children. We want our children to be born into caring families, to have fathers, to enjoy childhood, and to be able to pursue an education. This means that above all else, we must curb the illegitimacy rate and restore personal responsibility in a caring and compassionate way. And I think that is what we are doing in this bill.

Third, finally, I will support his bill today because we cannot afford to fail. This is our first step toward a balanced budget in 2002. If we don't do it now, we may not have another chance until it is too late.

This process will not get any easier; and may not get done at all if we fail the very first year we try—and we cannot afford to fail.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, how much time is remaining on both sides?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH] has 11 minutes and 45 seconds, and the gentlewoman from California [Ms. ESHOO] has 13½ minutes remaining.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington [Ms. DUNN].

Ms. DUNN of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I rise to address one of our country's greatest domestic problems, the Nation's illegitimacy rate. In 1940, the rate was well under 5 percent. Even 15 years ago, in 1980, the illegitimacy rate was only 15 percent. Today, 15 years later, it is doubled. It is 30 percent. It is a terrible revolution in birth patterns.

Mr. Chairman, the consequences of this explosion are staggering. Everyone, including the President, recognizes that the exploding illegitimacy rate is the Nation's most important domestic problem because it is the leading cause of school failure, crime, unemployment, and welfare dependency.

Why does illegitimacy lead to these problems? Consider these four facts: First, the poverty rate among children with never-married mothers is almost eight times that of children in two-parent families. Second, the odds of an out-of-wedlock child being on welfare are 10 times that of a child born into a two-parent family. Third, the odds of an out-of-wedlock child having a parent who does not work are six times greater than the odds for a child from a two-parent family. In fact, 40 percent of children born out of wedlock have no working role model parent in their lives. And fourth, the rate of school suspension among out-of-wedlock children is over three times as high as the rate of children from two-parent families.

Mr. Chairman, everybody realizes that illegitimacy is an outrage but only Republicans are proposing solutions that will effectively alleviate the problem. We get what we pay for, Mr. Chairman, and the Federal Government is now guaranteeing a package of benefits to teenaged children who have babies that adds up to $12,000 every year. By far, the most important action we can take to reduce illegitimacy and to stigmatize this most destructive behavior is to cut the cash subsidies.

The House Republican welfare reform bill is the only bill that deals with illegitimacy in this direct fashion. Only

Republicans have the courage to take the strong action necessary to combat the tragic scourge of illegitimacy. Unfortunately, Mr. Chairman, I do not see any other way to do it.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 10 seconds to the gentlewoman from Illinois [Mrs. COLLINS].

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I want to point out to the gentlewoman from Washington who just spoke that in her State her constituents will lose $2.36 billion in health care for the elderly and the disabled. That is really what I call guardians of the privileged.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MARKEY].

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Chairman, last Thursday night the Speaker stood in this well and charged me with misrepresenting the facts, with engaging in an absurd misrepresentation and allegation. He said, in fact, there is a provision in the Medigrant program that provides that senior citizens at the poverty level and below have all of their part B premium paid for by the taxpayers 100 percent.

Now, my hope was that when he spoke last Thursday night, he was going to include that in this reconciliation package. They have not. In fact, only 44 percent of all those poor seniors' Medicare part B premiums are going to be covered. They are not, in fact, protected at all 100 percent. Just the opposite is the case.

Mr. Chairman, back in the 1960's our political leaders asked us not what our country could do for us, but what we could do for our country. Well, in 1995, the Republican motto is ask not what our country can do for us, but ask what we can do for the country club. This is a contract with the country club. This takes money out of the pockets of senior elderly, out of students, piles it up, and then gives tens of billions of dollars of tax cuts to the wealthy in our country. The wealthy are not asked to sacrifice.

Mr. Chairman, back in the Civil War, because the wealthy could buy their way out of the war, they said it was a rich man's war but a poor man's fight. Well, here in this reconciliation battle in 1995, it is a rich man's war but it is a poor man's fight. The rich man get tremendous, tens of thousands of dollars in tax breaks, and the poor seniors have their Medicare premiums go up. The poor students and working class families have their student loan payments go up, and yet the Republicans stand here and tell us that they care about the working people in this country.

Mr. Chairman, this is a wrong vote for America, just plain wrong. Vote no on the Republican reconciliation bill.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. HOUGHTON].

(Mr. HOUGHTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Chairman, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. CRANE] was up here a little earlier talking about suggestions that his father had made to him in his early years, one was to give and not take, and the other was to leave the world better than when he found it. He might have added another thing. Do not spend it unless we have it.

This bill gives us an opportunity for the first time I have seen since I have been down here to spend within our means. President Reagan used to talk about morning in America. I really feel we can extend this to this is morning in America for our children. No party has a lock on caring. No party is trying to hurt our children or our mothers or our nursing homes or our seniors. It is all our jobs to protect them.

Mr. Chairman, most Republicans and Democrats, I would like to feel, with the possible exception of some of the fire brands, are going about the task of doing this thing quietly and carefully.

Let me give Members an example. There is a thing that the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL] has been working on with me called the work opportunity tax credit. People come off welfare, they need jobs, this is a way to create incentives for those people who are willing to offer them jobs. It is a wonderful program. It hires those people who have not had jobs and also it helps retain them. Is it going to solve all the problems in welfare? Certainly not. But it will help.

This is not a perfect bill, Mr. Chairman. I have never seen any bill which is perfect down here, but it is a good bill and I support it.

Mr. Chairman, on another issue, I hope this legislation will foster the development of provider networks, including specialty networks. They would assure seniors that they will have choices relating to behavioral, rehabilitation and any other specialty care services.

The private sector has engaged in direct contracting with specialty networks in order to lower costs and improve access to quality treatment as well as expand choice for consumers. The Medicare program should also explore the utilization of these specialty networks for the same reasons.

I believe the Health Care Financing Administration has adequate demonstration authority under current law to test the feasibility and desirability of permitting specialty provider sponsored networks to serve the new Medicare market. A demonstration project would serve to determine whether seniors have access to the most cost effective quality treatments for specialized services.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 20 seconds to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. KLINK].

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Chairman, to my good friend from New York, Mr. HOUGHTON, I want to point out that when the gentleman puts his card in the machine and casts his vote for this reconciliation bill today that people in his State of New York who are elderly and disabled will lose $11.2 billion, and this money will have to be made up for in nursing home care and hospital care by their hard-working middle class families.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Vermont [Mr. SANDERS].

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me time.

Mr. Chairman, in one word, in one word, this Republican reconciliation bill can be described as a fraud. Nothing more, nothing less, a fraud. What kind of sense does it make to ask senior citizens to pay $312 a year more for a weekend Medicare Program while the Republicans give a $14,000-a-year tax break to people making $300,000 a year?

□ 1545

Why should we ask low-income workers to pay more in taxes, while we cut and do away with taxes for some of the largest and most profitable corporations in America?

Why do we throw 20,000 Vermonters off of Medicaid, low-income, disabled people, children, senior citizens off of Medicaid, while we retain and not cut $800 billion in corporate welfare for the privileged and the wealthy?

Mr. Chairman, this Republican proposal is a fraud and it must be returned to sender. Let us defeat it today.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT].

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Chairman, we have heard a lot of allegations today here. I have heard my socialist friend from Vermont talk about cuts for people on Medicare. The fact is in our reconciliation bill we raise, over the 7 years, people's Medicare from $4,800 to $6,700, a 40-percent increase.

Mr. Chairman, if we want to talk about cuts, I would like to take a look at this placard that we have here. We want to talk about what a real cut is. In the Clinton 1993 health care bill, in section 9101 of the Clinton bill it said: The Secretary shall provide each year for payment to regional alliances for the amount equal to the Federal medical assistance a percentage of 95 percent. That is a cut. The 5-percent decrease is a real cut. My colleagues can see here on the math, we go down 5 percent.

In the Republican majority 1995 Medicaid Program, there is an increase. The Medicaid growth increase for fiscal year 1996 is 7.2 percent and it grows from there. The conference agreement of the budget resolution grows Medicaid 7.2 percent.

Mr. Chairman, a cut is below the line. A cut is what we had in the Clinton health care bill when we cut Medicaid and only gave it to people at 95 percent; a 5-percent cut. Increase is when the line goes above and we give the American taxpayers and people on Medicaid, the American poor that need it, a 7.2-percent increase.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO].

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, let me just say that Medicare, Medicaid, that

is what this is about. It is tax breaks for the rich versus Medicare and Medicaid.

The Speaker, in his own words, has said what he believes we ought to do with Medicare, and that is that we do not get rid of it now in round one because we do not think it is politically smart, but we do believe that it is going to wither on the vine.

That is the true, the true statement about the Speaker and how he feels about the Medicare Program and its future.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. THORNBERRY].

(Mr. THORNBERRY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my support for the Seven Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995.

I do so with concern over several of the bill's provisions, particularly those relating to the Federal Helium Program, the Freedom to Farm Act, and certification requirements for weather radar service office. But these concerns are outweighed by the historical significance of the bill, and the singular importance of its No. 1 goal—mainly, to balance the budget in 7 years.

It has been 27 years since the Federal Government passed a balanced budget. In that time, a burden of debt has been placed on American families that casts a long shadow over current and future generations. A child born today will pay an average of $187,000 in lifetime taxes just to pay off interest on the national debt. It is a moral imperative that we get this weight off this shoulders. It is what we were elected to do.

But just as important as removing this burden for those coming into the world is restoring economic opportunity and security for those already here.

The single most imposing obstacle to economic advancement in our Nation today is the Federal Government. It discourages savings and security by overtaxing middle-income families. It stifles growth and investment by overregulating small businesses. And, for the less fortunate, it smothers hope and independence by promoting welfare over work. What Ronald Reagan said more than 15 years ago still holds true: In our country today, government is not the solution to our problem—government is the problem.

This legislation addresses this problem in many important ways. Among the bill's many worthwhile provisions, I am especially pleased with those which reform the welfare system in a way that emphasizes work and family. I am also happy that this bill takes a much-needed first step toward reducing the outrageous pensions Members of Congress receive. Finally, I am pleased with the provision that replaces the current Medicaid system with MediGrants, which will not only benefit taxpayers by controlling runaway spending, but will also benefit States by giving them the freedom to develop health care delivery systems that suit their needs the best.

As I indicated, I do have concerns about the provisions relating to three specific areas. The Federal Helium Program has become an easy issue to demagogue, but the provisions included in this legislation do not provide the guarantee of a reliable, affordable supply of helium which this country must have. In addition, I am concerned that the provisions relating to the Freedom to Farm Act are not in the best interests of the country. However, my reservations in this regard are overcome by the certainly that the problems with these provisions will addressed in conference. I am also concerned with possible lapses in public safety caused by repealing the requirement that no weather service offices be shut down unless there is proven to be no degradation of radar coverage. This is critical to my region of the country, where radar coverage is not up to par. We should use House-approved language providing for a streamlined procedure which reduces unnecessary spending and emphasizes quality of service in problem areas.

I would also like to briefly touch on why I voted against the alternative measure introduced by a coalition of Members from the other side of the aisle. The coalition should be commended for offering a substantive alternative that balances the budget in 7 years. Both the leadership of their own party and their President have failed to do either of these things. However, the coalition proposal falls short in several critical areas. For one thing, it would provide for an adjustment in the consumer price index, which could lead to a reduction in Social Security benefits. Second, the coalition plan fails to provide tax relief for the middle class, thereby breaking the promise we made to American taxpayers.

I am pleased that the majority reconciliation bill fulfills this important promise by providing tax relief to families and incentives for job creation, both of which are absolutely essential and long overdue. These provisions will allow taxpayers to keep a portion of the money taken in the tax increase passed in August 1993, and correct an ill-conceived policy that even the President admits was a mistake. I am also happy that this legislation includes the Taxpayer Bill of Rights, which will provide taxpayers with protections from a wide range of Government abuses.

Mr. Chairman, this bill is truly historic. While is not perfect, it represents a giant leap toward keeping the promise we made to the American people to balance the budget and get our Nation heading in the right direction.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the very distinguished gentleman from Florida [Mr. GIBBONS].

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Chairman, I want to talk to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH] a second. The stock market has already voted on the gentleman's plan today. It is down 50 points. I would say to the gentleman, ''Your crown jewel has turned to paste.''

The crown jewel, the $500 tax cut for every child that has been so freely advertised by my Republican friends, is now down to $365 per child, and the bill has not even gotten to second reading here on the floor. Lord knows what it will be when it gets to third reading or gets back from the Senate.

But, Mr. Chairman, that is not all of it. That $365 per child, that was $500 for every child, does not cover 33 percent of all the children who are in families who would qualify for this. Their families do not qualify for 1 red cent.

So, the $500 per child tax cut is down to $365 and 33 percent of the families get absolutely nothing out of this. It all goes to the rich. Then they tax, wrack, tear, root $270 billion out of the sick and the old. They tear, root, and rip $450 billion, almost a half a trillion dollars, out of children, out of sick people, out of nursing home care people.

Mr. Chairman, this is a travesty on the American public. Nobody is arguing about balancing the budget. The argument is how we balance the budget. Who has to carry the burden? The Republican way, the ''Get Old People'' way, the GOP way, is to give to the rich a $245 billion tax cut, then take all of that money and the rest of the balancing of the budget money out of the children, the sick, the poor, and the aged.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Oregon [Mr. BUNN].

Mr. BUNN of Oregon. Mr. Chairman, the Oregon Health Plan is an innovative, cost-effective plan. We spend $3,800 per person in Oregon, down over 10 percent from the national average.

Hospital charity care had gone down 30 percent since the implementation of the plan. Welfare rolls have decreased 8 percent and we have covered an additional 130,000 people. The governor said we needed $1,042,000,000; the Speaker has provided $1,025,000,000 in this plan.

Mr. Chairman, we will have an Oregon Health Plan next year. We will work with the leadership to provide it beyond that.

Mr. Chairman, I am grateful for the leadership's support for the Oregon Health Plan.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Illinois [Mrs. COLLINS].

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out to the gentleman from Oregon [Mr. BUNN] who just spoke over on the GOP side that out of this bill, the State of Oregon will lose $1.8 billion in health care for the elderly and the disabled.

Mr. Chairman, even the doctors say that, ''People will be sicker and people will die as a result of this toxic mix of funding cuts and elimination of standards.'' We need to keep that in mind.

Mr. Chairman, the GOP guardians of the privileged ought to look at what the doctors are saying. ''People will be sicker and people will die as a result of this toxic mix of funding and standard cuts.''

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from California [Ms. ESHOO] has 6 minutes 10 seconds remaining and the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH] has 5 minutes 15 seconds remaining.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER], the very distinguished chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Chairman, as I listened to this debate, I was struck by the growing philosophical differences

between the two parties. It is unfortunate, because we should all be Americans instead of Republicans and Democrats.

But there is a difference between us. As we Republicans move forward to balance the budget and reduce the tax burden on the American people, we have made our governing philosophy very clear. We believe that the strength of this Nation lies not with the Government, but with each of us individually in our communities, in our churches, in our homes. Left to their own, without Government interference, redtape, or excessive taxation, there is no problem the American people cannot solve.

But Mr. Chairman, the great social experiment of the last 30 years has led to an unparalleled expansion of the Federal Government. Sadly, this has failed to solve our Nation's most difficult problems. Nowhere is that more the case than in our miserable and unfortunate welfare system where, in the last 30 years, we have spent over $5 trillion in the war on poverty, only to lose the war.

Mr. Chairman, the Government that the Democrats brought, along with the bankruptcy at whose brink they have left us, has overextended its reach and it has made promises to the people that no government can fulfill.

Government cannot take the tax dollars that are earned by one citizen, hand them over to another, and then believe that they have improved the lot of either citizen, yet for 30 years, Government tried that. It is called tax and spend.

Mr. Chairman, the time has come to admit that tax and spend has failed. It is time to reduce the size of Government and to give the tax dollars back to the people who earn them. I say to my colleagues across the aisle, ''It ain't your money. It belongs to the people who have earned it.''

Mr. Chairman, it is clear from this debate that the Democrat Caucus is the liberal caucus. The overwhelming majority of the Democrat Party, a party that I once belonged to myself, insists that the Government in Washington, DC remains the only solution and represents the best hope of how to solve people's problems, if only we would just spend more money.

Those on the other side argue over and over again that we could make our Nation's problems go away. If only we, the Government, had a few more of the people's tax dollars, we could solve our problems, so say the Democrats.

Mr. Chairman, while the world has changed, the Democrats in Washington have not. They still cling to the notion that an ever-expanding Federal Government, one that requires more taxes from its citizens, is the best hope that we have to solve our problems. As we downsize Government to a balanced budget, they do not want to give any dividend to the hard-working taxpayers of this country.

Mr. Chairman, we fell differently. While the hearts of the Democrats may sound as if they are in the right place, their fingers are in the wrong place. Their fingers remain stuck deep in the wallets of middle-income Americans trying to take from one citizen in order to give to another.

The Democrats in Congress cling to the notion that big Government, is best; that more power in Washington is wise; and that more spending leads to more solutions.

To my colleagues across the aisle, I have a simple message: Let it go. Let it go. Let it go.

Mr. Chairman, I say to my Democrat colleagues, We tried their way for 30 years. We raised taxes and we increased spending. Now it is our turn. We want to cut taxes, yes. Not for rich Americans; for middle-income Americans. That is what our tax bill does.

We want to cut spending and we want to balance the budget. That is what this bill does and that is why I am voting for it and why it is historic in turning this country around and giving it back to the people.

Ms. ESCHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 15 seconds to the gentlewoman from California [Ms. HARMAN].

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out that when the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER] casts his vote, the elderly and disabled in his State will lose $6.5 billion in health care. Most of this is in nursing home care for seniors, which will have to be paid for by the hard-working middle-class families.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California [Ms. HARMAN].

(Ms. HARMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this budget.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. DEUTSCH].

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Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Chairman, there is an old expression: If it looks like a duck and it sounds like a duck and it quacks like a duck and it walks like a duck and it smells like a duck, there is probably a pretty good darn chance it is a duck.

Let me tell my colleagues about the Republicans and Medicare. BOB DOLE: ''I was there fighting the fight, voting against Medicare, one out of twelve, because we knew it would not work in 1965,'' a couple of days ago.

Speaker GINGRICH on Medicare: ''We do not get rid of it in round one, because we don't think that that is politically smart and we don't think that is the right way to go through a transition period. But we believe it is going to wither on the vine because we think people are voluntarily going to leave it,'' just yesterday.

There are three big lies about the Medicare plan. The first one is that it is such a terrible thing that there is a 7-year actuarial life. In the 30 years of the Medicare System, 12 of those 30 years, there was a shorter actuarial life, and we did something about it. We made tough choices, and we did something about it. We changed it, not unprecedented health insurance.

The second big lie is $270 billion in cuts. The actuaries, nonpolitical people, not numbers out of the ballpark. It has nothing to do with saving Medicare. The money is not going into the trust fund. It is a flat-out lie. The $270 billion in Medicare is not going to save Medicare. It is just a flat-out lie. It has nothing to do with the problems with the trust fund.

The third problem and the third lie is the issue of choice. My colleagues continue to say that there is going to be choice. It is a false choice, because essentially the Speaker is right; no one will be able to stay in Medicare except for the richest of the rich, because people will be forced out of Medicare, forced into substandard HMO's. This plan is wrong, wrong, wrong. I urge a no vote.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 1½ minutes.

(Ms. ESHOO asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this Gingrich budget. There are many reasons to oppose it, but I want to highlight two: how it treats our Nation's elderly and our Nation's children. On both counts, this legislation fails miserably to live up to our Nation's historic commitment to those in the autumn of their lives and those in the spring of their lives.

There is nothing in this bill to prevent nursing homes from using physical restraints on seniors without a doctor's order, nothing to prevent nursing homes from evicting the elderly for financial reasons, nothing to prevent abuses which existed in many States prior to critical Federal intervention.

As a member of the Committee on Commerce, I was proud to offer an amendment which would have continued the guarantee of health coverage for our children. That failed. As a result of these Medicaid cuts and other Gingrich proposals, our children will receive less health care, less preschool education, and less money to live on.

This Gingrich budget fails the test of decency for our children, for our elderly, and it deserves to be defeated. It does not honor our fathers and our mothers, and it totally dishonors our Nation's children.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 20 seconds to the gentlewoman from Illinois [Mrs. COLLINS].

(Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I hope that my friends and my colleagues on the other side realize what everybody is saying about this

thing that is absolutely true. That is that, because Federal law forbids denying emergency care to uninsured, hospitals could avoid financial harm only by closing emergency rooms and trauma centers, and the general public is going to be hurt.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. KLINK].

(Mr. KLINK asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Chairman, I thought I was misreading my calendar. I thought that it was a week after Halloween, not the week before Halloween, because, you see, this week the masks come off. Last week we heard the Speaker give an impassioned speech here in this very well in which he gave us, first of all, his entire family tree and told us how important Medicare was to all of these people and how he was going to make sure that Medicare was there for them. Then this week, when speaking to a group of very important people in the insurance industry, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, he said: ''We don't get rid of it in round one because we do not think that politically it is smart. We don't think that is the right way to go through a transition period, but we believe it is going to wither and die on the vine.''

I ask, when was the Speaker being truthful? Was he being truthful to us a week ago in this very well when he talked to us about the fact this was an important program that he was trying to save, or in fact was he being truthful to these people that he was talking to from the insurance industry?

For a few Americans this bill is really going to be like the Good Ship Lollipop. It is going to shower sugarplums and candy canes in the form of tax breaks for the very wealthy. But for most of middle-class America, this bill that we are debating here on the floor of the House today is indeed the S.S. *Titanic*. It simply will not float.

This bill is going to shred a health care system that has protected senior citizens for 30 years. It cuts Medicare by $270 billion. It cuts Medicaid by 180 billion. To those who think we have a good health delivery system, 60 percent of the money that goes into training doctors and into taking care of medical needs of our country come from these programs. Vote against this bill. It is horrendous.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the distinguished gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL].

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL] is recognized for 35 seconds.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, I have listened all during this debate to my Republican colleagues say that Medicare does not work. I do not like to hear that, and I do not think the senior citizens like to hear it, because Medicare has worked. Medicare has prolonged the lives of senior citizens. Medicare has given a better standard of living to the American people. Medicare has prevented young people from having to choose between college for their kids and health care for their parents. Medicare has seen to it that, instead of less than 50 percent of the senior citizens having health care, that now almost 100 percent do. Americans are covered by health care amongst the senior citizens.

Americans are urged by the New York Times, and they say, reject the big Medicare cuts. The big Medicare cuts we are talking about here are nothing more or less than something that is going to hurt the senior citizens, and it is being done by the Republicans to ensure that they can give a tax cut to the very rich.

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. FAWELL].

(Mr. FAWELL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FAWELL. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this reconciliation bill.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 2517, the Seven Year Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995. The current budgetary situation facing this Nation is staggering. Years of deficit spending have pushed our national debt to nearly $5 trillion. For a child born today, the share of this debt totals $19,000. The landmark measure before us today, which would set a glidepath to achieve a balanced Federal budget by the year 2002, will provide our children with a future that promises economic opportunity and prosperity, rather than a future of paying for our irresponsible fiscal behavior.

Earlier this year, Congress adopted the congressional budget resolution, a nonbinding blueprint of Federal spending over the next 7 years. This resolution recommended reducing the overall growth of Federal spending to 3 percent annually, instead of the current 5 percent annual growth. H.R. 2517 fulfills the promise of the budget resolution and makes the necessary changes in our revenue and spending laws to achieve a balanced budget for the first time in a generation.

H.R. 2517 would balance the Federal budget by restraining spending and shrinking the size of Government. The plan encompasses innovative reforms in all areas of Federal spending, including: reforming the welfare system to emphasize work, families, and responsibility; restructuring Medicare to reign in out-of-control health care expenditures, and simultaneously giving seniors more choice in health care services; converting the Medicaid Program into ''Medigrants,'' block grants to the States to allow more flexibility in providing health care to the disadvantaged elderly and disabled; closing billions of dollars in corporate tax loopholes; scaling back agriculture subsidies; abolishing the Department of Commerce; repealing burdensome and costly Federal statutes, such as the Service Contract Act; privatizing portions of the Federal bureaucracy, such as the U.S. Enrichment Corporation; and, terminating out-dated Federal programs, such as the Federal Helium Program.

Opponents of this legislation argue that Republicans are recklessly cutting Federal spending. A closer look at the plan, however, reveals that there are no cuts in spending. To illustrate, during the last 7 years, from 1989 to 1995, Federal spending totaled $9.5 trillion; under the Republican plan, during the next 7 years Federal spending will total $12.1 trillion. The growth in the major Federal programs over the next 7 years is indisputable: Medicare spending will increase by $672 billion; Medicaid spending will increase by $330 billion; and, welfare spending will increase by $346 billion. The bottom line is clear: under the Republican plan, overall Federal spending will increase by $2.6 trillion during the 1995–2002 period. Only in Washington can these increases in spending be considered cuts. On the same note, I would also point out that even with the enactment of $245 billion in tax relief in this legislation, overall Federal revenues will still increase by $3.3 trillion during the same period.

H.R. 2517 is not a perfect bill. There is one provision in particular about which I would like to comment. Section 13607 of the legislation effects a seismic change in pension law by permitting employers to withdraw for any purpose so-called excess assets from ongoing private pension plans of the defined benefit variety. This is said to raise about $9.5 billion in revenue from the $27 billion in withdrawals expected to be made by employers over the 5-year window opened up under the bill. ''Excess assets'' means assets above a threshold defined as the larger of 125 percent of current liability or the plan's full funding limit—equal to the lesser of the plan's accrued actuarial liability or 150 percent of current liability.

In short, this means that employers can withdraw plan assets above a minimum asset threshold which can, in effect, vary from 125 to 150 percent of current liability depending on plan structure.

The potential risks related to these provisions are not small. My first concern is that so-called excess assets can be withdrawn from a pension trust even by employers in bankruptcy who can then terminate the plan with no guarantee the remaining assets will be sufficient to pay for all plan benefits. This is because the defined threshold beyond which assets may be withdrawn can be less than the threshold of assets required in the event of the actual plan termination by a financially distressed employer.

I believe the American Academy of Actuaries is correct in saying that the minimum threshold for asset reversions should be based on plan termination liability, rather than current liability. I generally concur with the views expressed by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation [PBGC], that a plan whose current liability is 125 percent funded may in fact be less than 100 percent for purposes of its liability at plan termination. This discrepancy is the result of differences in the actuarial assumptions used for interest, mortality, and expected retirement age. While the PBGC calculations may not be perfect, the discrepancy between current and termination liability is real, and the danger to employees, pensioners and the taxpayer in the case of the termination of an underfunded plan by an insolvent employer is real.

The overall funding of defined benefit pension plans has declined precipitously since 1987 when, in order to increase revenues, Congress placed an artificial full funding limit, that is, a maximum limit, on the level of tax-deductible employer contributions. As a result,

many large employer plan sponsors have been forced to take contribution holidays, and thus have been prevented from funding toward projected actuarial liabilities—a more accurate measure of long-term pension plan costs than current liability. I believe it is time to reconsider the suitability of this artificial maximum contribution limit and ensure a more sound funding target—it is not the time to adopt a definition of excess assets based on the inadequate standard of current liabilities.

It may, indeed, be time to reconsider the suitability of this artificial maximum contribution limit and ensure a more sound funding target of at least ''plan termination liability'' which is the level of plan assets needed to pay all benefits upon the actual termination of a plan. Clearly, it could not have been intended that a large employer in or facing bankruptcy be enabled to extract assets from a pension plan and to then terminate the employer's plan or plans, leaving other employers who pay PBGC premiums or taxpayers to pay for the pensions of the employer's underfunded plan or plans. This can be avoided by listening to the voice of pension experts in the American Academy of Actuaries who suggest the withdrawal threshold be based on at least termination liability.

It also may well be that a more refined pension policy allowing for the reversion of pension assets that are truly excess could help restore employer interest in defined benefit plans and, thus, expand pension coverage. However, the provision should be crafted carefully, should amount to more than a temporary revenue raising measure, and should take into consideration the protections of that title I of Employer Retirement Income Security Act [ERISA] presently provides to plan participants and retirees. Without a permanent provision employers will have no incentive to create or remain in defined benefit plans—and that purported benefit of section 13607 will never be realized. Care must also be taken to recognize the complexity of individual plans, including the fact that so-called excess assets can arise from contributions made by employees as well as those made by employers.

Moreover, the reversion provisions of section 13607 may not even generate the revenue projected. Corporations with a tax loss carry-forward will look to acquire companies with excess assets, so that they can take a reversion tax free. Alternatively, companies may wait to take reversions until they have a tax-loss year. Thus, we may be encouraging the removal of an estimated $27 billion of excess assets without gaining the sought-after revenue.

The success of ERISA private pension plans in America has been immense—$3.5 trillion of assets invested in America. In addition, unlike Social Security and many public pension plans, the assets are real. So far, ERISA's ''prudent man rule'' has protected the sanctity of those trust funds. We have been successful in the House in fighting off the administration's efforts to hawk economically targeted investments [ETI's] to private pension plan fiduciaries. That effort could rightly be described as an attempt by the administration to force private pension assets to be used for socially correct investments. We want to allow employers the right to take true excess funds from their pension trusts, but the words ''excess funds'' are, at best, actuarial indefinite and vague. It is therefore essential that the formula for allowing employers to remove funds from pension trusts be unquestionably based on the most conservative of actuarial principles. I believe that this is the essence of what Republicans stand for. I fear, however, that section 13607 is not fully consistent with these principles.

Finally, I remain concerned that the reversion provisions in section 13607 do not include the ERISA amendments necessary to enable pension plan asset reversions to be legally consummated.

Nevertheless, Mr. Chairman, although I have these concerns about the pension reversion provisions, this reconciliation bill has many more positives than negatives. And there still is opportunity—in conference—for salutary changes. What is most important is that the constant failure of Congress to reach a balanced budget is leading us to an unforgivable consequence: passing on trillions of dollars in Federal debt to future generations of Americans. The best time to begin putting matters in order is today; when it comes to making tough decisions to rein in total Federal spending, tomorrow never comes.

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from California [Mr. BILBRAY].

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from California [Mr. BILBRAY] is recognized for 40 seconds.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Chairman, I am a freshman. I have not been here before, but I do recognize the fact that the citizens of the United States want to get their fair share for their dollar spent.

The colleagues to my left keep pointing out about Medicare. My seniors are saying, why pay more than twice the rate of inflation? Any good consumer would not only encourage that, they would demand that. That is all we are saying.

Let me leave you with this: I keep hearing my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, who controlled this body for 40 years, saying that they support a balanced budget. As a freshman who has come here this year, my question to them is, why again and again ever since the 1960's have they not been able to present that balanced budget to the people?

So all I ask them to do is quit finding excuses not to vote for a balanced budget. The American people want it. They are tired of the excuses from Washington, and they want us to prove that we can balance the budget just like they do every day of their lives.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 245, all time for general debate, has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 2517, as modified by the amendments printed in House Report 104–292, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered as an original bill for the purpose of further amendment and is considered read.

The text of the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as modified, is as follows:

N O T I C E

Incomplete record of House proceedings. Except for concluding business which follows, today's House proceedings will be continued in the next issue of the Record.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1905, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

Mr. BUNN of Oregon submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H.R. 1905) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. NO. 104–293)

The Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1905) ''making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes,'' having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its amendments numbered 6, 18, 20, 23, 24, 26, 32, 36, 44, 45, 46, 47, 57, and 58.

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendments of the Senate numbered 7, 13, 14, 25, 33, 38, 39, 40, 43, and 54; and agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 1:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 1, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$121,767,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 2:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 2, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment insert:

Norco Bluffs, California, $375,000;

Ohio River Greenway, Indiana, $500,000;

Kentucky Lock and Dam, Kentucky, $2,000,000;

Mussers Dam, Middle Creek, Snyder County, Pennsylvania, $300,000; and

West Virginia Port Development, West Virginia, $300,000: Provided, That the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is directed to undertake a study of water supply and associated needs in the vicinity of Hazard, Kentucky, using $500,000 of the funds

appropriated under this heading in Public Law 103–316 for Hazard, Kentucky.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 3:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 3, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$804,573,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 4:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 4, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment insert:

Homer Spit, Alaska, repair and extend project, $3,800,000;

McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System, Arkansas, $6,000,000: Provided, That $4,900,000 of such amount shall be used for activities relating to Montgomery Point Lock and Dam, Arkansas;

Red River Emergency Bank Protection, Arkansas and Louisiana, $6,600,000;

Sacramento River Flood Control Project (Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District), California, $300,000;

San Timoteo Creek (Santa Ana River Mainstem), California, $5,000,000;

Indiana Shoreline Erosion, Indiana, $1,500,000;

Arkansas City flood control project, Kansas, $700,000, except that for the purposes of the project, section 902 of Public Law 99–662 is waived;

Winfield, Kansas, $670,000;

Harlan (Levisa and Tug Forks of the Big Sandy River and Upper Cumberland River), Kentucky, $12,000,000;

Williamsburg (Levisa and Tug Forks of the Big Sandy River and Upper Cumberland River), Kentucky, $4,100,000;

Middlesboro (Levisa and Tug Forks of the Big Sandy River and Upper Cumberland River), Kentucky, $1,600,000;

Salyersville, Kentucky, $500,000;

Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (Hurricane Protection), Louisiana, $13,348,000;

Ouachita River Levees, Louisiana, $2,300,000;

Red River below Denison Dam Levee and Bank Stabilization, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas, $2,500,000;

Roughans Point, Massachusetts, $710,000;

Marshall, Minnesota, $850,000;

Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, $1,000,000;

Broad Top Region, Pennsylvania, $4,100,000;

Glen Foerd, Pennsylvania, $200,000;

South Central Pennsylvania Environmental Restoration, Pennsylvania, $3,500,000;

Wallisville Lake, Texas, $5,000,000;

Virginia Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection, Virginia, $1,100,000;

Hatfield Bottom (Levisa and Tug Forks of the Big Sandy River and Upper Cumberland River), West Virginia, $200,000; and

Upper Mingo (Levisa and Tug Forks of the Big Sandy River and Upper Cumberland River), West Virginia, $2,000,000: Provided, That the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, shall transfer $1,120,000 of the Construction, General funds appropriated in this Act to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Interior shall accept and expend such funds for performing operation and maintenance activities at the Columbia River Fishing Access Sites to be constructed by the Department of the Army at Cascade Locks, Oregon; Lone Pine, Oregon; Underwood, Washington; and the Bonneville Treaty Fishing Access Site, Washington: Provided further, That using funds appropriated in Public Law 103–316 for the Sacramento River Flood Control Project (Deficiency Correction), California, project and funds appropriated herein for the Sacramento Urban Area Levee Reconstruction, California, project, the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is directed to acquire all or part of the Little Holland tract, with any and all appurtenant water rights, for wetland and fish and wildlife activities pursuant to the authority of section 906 of Public Law 99–662 and conditioned on a determination made by the Secretary, pursuant to Section 906, that acquisition is in the Federal interest.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 5:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 5, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$1,703,697,000*; and the Senate agreed to the same.

Amendment numbered 8:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 8, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum named in said amendment insert: *$151,500,000*; and the Senate agreed to the same.

Amendment numbered 9:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 9, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended as follows:

In lieu of the sum named in said amendment, insert: *$62,000,000*; and the Senate agreed to the same.

Amendment numbered 10:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 10, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Retain the matter proposed by said amendment, and on page 7, line 18, of the House engrossed bill, H.R. 1905, strike ''the'', and insert in lieu thereof, ''any civil''.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 11:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 11, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Delete the matter stricken by said amendment and insert the matter proposed by said amendment, amended as follows:

Strike subsection (d) and insert in lieu thereof the following: *(d) If any of the four Corps of Engineers hopper dredges is removed from normal service for repair or rehabilitation and such repair prevents the dredge from accomplishing its volume of work regularly carried out in each of the past three years, the Secretary shall not significantly alter the operating schedules of the remaining Federal hopper dredges established in accordance with the requirements of subsection (a) above.*

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 12:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 12, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter inserted by said amendment, insert:

SEC. 103. With the exception of the use of funds to process any required Department of the Army permits, none of the funds appropriated herein or otherwise available to the Army Corps of Engineers may be used to assist, guide, coordinate, administer, prepare for occupancy of, or acquire furnishings for or in preparation of a movement to the Southeast Federal Center.

And, on page 9, line 12, of the House engrossed bill, H.R. 1905, strike ''(b) PROJECT DEPTH.—'' and all that follows through ''harbor or refuge.'', on page 10, line 2 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

(b) PROJECT DEPTH.—The project described in subsection (a) is modified to provide for an authorized depth of 12.5 feet.

(c) NAVIGATION CHANNEL (MODIFIED).—The reauthorized project navigation channel shall be defined by the following coordinates: 2911N–2239E, 3240N–2504E, 3964N–2874E, 4182N–2891E, 4469N–2808E, 4692N–2720E, 4879N–2615E, 4952N–2778E, 4438N–2980E, 4227N–3097E, 3720N–3068E, 3076N–2798E, 2996N–2706E, 2783N–2450E.

(d) HARBOR OF REFUGE.—The project described in subsection (a), including the breakwalls, pier and authorized depth of the project (as modified by subsection (b)), shall continue to be maintained as a harbor of refuge.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 15:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 15, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

SEC. 106. Using $2,000,000 of the funds appropriated herein, the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is authorized to undertake the Indianapolis, Indiana, project, authorized in section 5 of Public Law 74–738, as amended, and as modified to include certain riverfront alterations as described in the Central Indianapolis Waterfront Concept Master Plan, dated February, 1994, at a total cost of $65,975,000 with an estimated first Federal cost of $39,975,000 and an estimated first non-Federal cost of $26,000,000.

SEC. 107. SOUTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 313 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (106 Stat. 4845–4847) is amended—

(1) in the heading to subsection (c) by striking ''WITH SARCD COUNCIL'';

(2) in subsection (c) by inserting ''with State, regional, and local officials, including, where applicable,'' after ''consult'';

(3) in subsection (d)(2)(A) by inserting ''where applicable,'' after ''Council'';

(4) in subsection (g)(1) by striking ''$17,000,000'' and inserting ''$50,000,000''; and

(5) in subsection (h)(2) by striking ''Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, and Somerset'' and inserting ''Armstrong, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Clearfield, Fayette, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Indiana, Juniata, Mifflin, Somerset, Snyder, and Westmoreland''.

(b) COST SHARING.—Section 313(d)(3) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (106 Stat. 4846) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) Cost sharing.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Total project costs under each local cooperation agreement entered into under this subsection shall be shared at 75 percent Federal and 25 percent non-Federal. The non-Federal interest shall receive credit for the reasonable costs of design work completed by such interest prior to entering into a local cooperation agreement with the Secretary for a project. The Federal share may in the form of grants or reimbursements of project costs.

''(B) INTEREST.—In the event of delays in reimbursement of the non-Federal share of a project, the non-Federal interest shall receive credit for reasonable interest to provide the non-Federal share of a project's cost.

''(C) LANDS, EASEMENTS, AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY CREDIT.—The non-Federal interest shall receive credit for lands, easements, rights-of-way, and relocations toward its share of project costs, including direct costs associated with obtaining permits necessary for the placement of such project on public owned or controlled lands, but not to exceed 25 percent of total project costs.

''(D) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE CREDIT.—Operation and maintenance costs for projects constructed with assistance provided under this section shall be 100 percent non-Federal.''.

SEC. 108. Using $2,000,000 of the funds appropriated herein, the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is authorized and directed to proceed with engineering, design, and construction of projects to provide

for flood control and improvements to rainfall drainage systems in Jefferson, Orleans, and St. Tammany Parishes, Louisiana, in accordance with the following reports of the New Orleans District Engineer: Jefferson and Orleans Parishes, Louisiana, Urban Flood Control and Water Quality Management, July 1992; Tangipahoa, Techefuncte and Tickfaw Rivers, Louisiana, June 1991; and Schneider Canal, Slidell, Louisiana, Hurricane Protection, May 1990. There is authorized to be appropriated $25,000,000 for the initiation and partial accomplishment of projects described in these reports. The cost of any work performed by the non-Federal interests subsequent to the above cited reports, as determined by the Secretary of the Army to be a compatible and integral part of the projects, shall be credited toward the non-Federal share of the projects.

SEC. 109. (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provisions of this section, the Secretary of the Army shall convey to the City of Prestonburg, Kentucky, all right, title, and interest of the United States, in and to the land described in the Supplemental Agreement—Modification No. 2 to the Department of the Army lease #DACW69–1–76–0186, executed by and between the Department of the Army and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, together with any improvements thereon.

(b) CONDITIONS.—The conveyance authorized by this section is subject to the following conditions:

(1) The City shall ensure that the land conveyed by this section will be used for public use recreational purposes and to further the regional economic development.

(2) The City shall use all proceeds derived from the sale or lease of any mineral rights conveyed pursuant to this section for the development, operation, and maintenance of recreational facilities on the lands conveyed in accordance with this section.

(3) The City shall accept the property in its condition at the time of the conveyance. The Secretary shall not be required to make any improvements in the property's condition, and the City shall hold and save the United States free from any claims or damages arising from any activities on the conveyed land either on the date of the conveyance or any subsequent date.

(4) If the City uses the land conveyed under this section for any purpose other than those specified in this paragraph, the Secretary shall notify the City of such failure. If the City does not correct such nonconforming use during the 1-year period beginning on the date of such notification, the Secretary shall have a right of reverter to reclaim possession and title to the land conveyed under this section.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 16:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 16, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the section number named in said amendment, insert: *110*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 17:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 17, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$12,684,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 19:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 19, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$411,046,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 21:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 21, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$273,076,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 22:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 22, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment insert: *$2,727,407,000, to remain available until expended*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 27:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 27, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$981,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 28:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 28, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment insert: *For nuclear waste disposal activities to carry out the purposes of Public Law 97–425, as amended, including the acquisition of real property or facility construction or expansion, $151,600,000, to remain available until expended, to be derived from the Nuclear Waste Fund.*

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 29:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 29, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$3,460,314,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 30:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 30, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$5,557,532,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 31:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 31, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$1,373,212,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 34:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 34, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter inserted by said amendment insert: *: Provided, That of the amount herein appropriated, $85,000,000 shall be available for obligation and expenditure only for an interim storage facility and only upon the enactment of specific statutory authority.*

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 35:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 35, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$366,697,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 37:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 37, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$244,391,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 41:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 41, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$170,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 42:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 42, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment insert:

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out the functions of the United States member of the Delaware River Basin Commission, as authorized by law (75 Stat. 716), $343,000.

CONTRIBUTION TO DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

For payment of the United States share of the current expenses of the Delaware River Basin Commission, as authorized by law (75 Stat. 706, 707), $428,000.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 48:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 48, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment insert:

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out the functions of the United States member of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission as authorized by law (84 Stat. 1541), $318,000.

CONTRIBUTION TO SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

For payment of the United States share of the current expenses of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, as authorized by law (84 Stat. 1530, 1531), $250,000.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 49:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 49, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert: *$109,169,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 50:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 50, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert: *The Tennessee Valley Authority shall, not later than March 30, 1996, submit to Congress a preliminary plan for funding the environmental research center from sources other than direct appropriations to the Tennessee Valley Authority after fiscal year 1996; and the Senate agree to the same.*

Amendment numbered 51:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 51, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken by said amendment, insert:

SEC. 501. Section 510 of Public Law 101–514, the Fiscal Year 1991 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, is repealed.

SEC. 502. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, the report referred to in Title 30 of Public Law 102–575 shall be submitted within five years from the date of enactment of that Act.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 52:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 52, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken by said amendment, insert:

SEC. 504. Section 4(a) of the Act entitled ''An Act to provide for the restoration of the fish and wildlife in the Trinity River Basin, California, and for other purposes'', approved October 24, 1984 (98 Stat. 2723), is amended—

(a) in paragraph (1), by striking ''October 1, 1995'' and inserting in lieu thereof ''October 1, 1996''; and

(b) in paragraph (2), by striking ''ten-year'' and inserting in lieu thereof ''eleven-year''.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 53:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 53, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken by said amendment, insert:

SEC. 507. In order to ensure the timely implementation of the Colorado Ute Indian Water Rights Settlement Act of 1988, the Secretary of the Interior is directed to proceed without delay with construction of those facilities in conformance with the final Biological Opinion for the Animas-La Plata project, Colorado and New Mexico, dated October 25, 1991.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 55:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 55, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

SEC. 508.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration.

(2) COUNCIL.—The term ''Council'' means the Northwest Power and Conservation Planning Council.

(3) EXCESS FEDERAL POWER.—The term ''excess Federal power'' means such electric power that has become surplus to the firm contractual obligations of the Administrator under section 5(f) of the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 839c(f)) due to either—

(A) any reduction in the quantity of electric power that the Administrator is contractually required to supply under subsections (b) and (d) of section 5 of the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 839c), due to the election by customers of the Bonneville Power Administration to purchase electric power from other suppliers, as compared to the quantity of electric power that the Administrator was contractually required to supply as of January 1, 1995; or

(B) those operations of the Federal Columbia River Power System that are primarily for the benefit of fish and wildlife affected by the development, operation, or management of the System.

(b) SALE OF EXCESS FEDERAL POWER.—Notwithstanding section 2, subsections (a), (b), and (c) of section 3, and section 7 of Public Law 88–552 (16 U.S.C. 837a, 837b, and 837f), and section 9(c) of the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 839f(c)), the Administrator may, as permitted by otherwise applicable law, sell or otherwise dispose of excess Federal power—

(1) outside the Pacific Northwest on a firm basis for a contract term of not to exceed 7 years, if the excess Federal power is first offered for a reasonable period of time and under the same essential rate, terms and conditions to those Pacific Northwest public body, cooperative and investor-owned utilities and those direct service industrial customers identified in subsection (b) or (d)(1)(A) of section 5 of the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 839c); and,

(2) in any region without the prohibition on resale established by the second sentence of section 5(a) of the Act entitled ''An Act to authorize the completion, maintenance, and operation of Bonneville project for navigation, and for other purposes'', approved August 20, 1937 (commonly known as the ''Bonneville Project Act of 1937'') (16 U.S.C. 832d(a)).

(c) STUDY BY COUNCIL.—(1) Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the Council shall review and report to Congress regarding the most appropriate governance structure to allow more effective regional control over efforts to conserve and enhance anadromous and resident fish and wildlife within the Federal Columbia River Power System.

(d) CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROCUREMENT.—The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, acting through the North Pacific Division of the Corps of Engineers, is authorized to place orders for goods and services related to facilities for electric power generation and fish and wildlife mitigation associated with the Federal Columbia River Power System with and through the Administrator using the authorities available to the Administrator.

(e) RESIDENTIAL EXCHANGE.—Notwithstanding the establishment, confirmation and approval of rates pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 839e, and notwithstanding the provisions of 16 U.S.C. 839c(c), the cost benefits of eligible utilities' total purchase and exchange sales under 16 U.S.C. 839c(c)(1) shall be $145,000,000 for Fiscal Year 1997, and the net benefits paid to each eligible electric utility shall be $145,000,000 multiplied by the percentage of the total of such net benefits paid by the Administrator to such utility for Fiscal Year 1995.

(f) PERSONNEL FLEXIBILITY.—The Administrator may offer employees voluntary separation incentives as deemed necessary which shall not exceed $25,000. Recipients who accept employment with the United States within five years after separation shall repay the entire amount to the Bonneville Power Administration.

(g) SAVINGS.—Unless superseded by an Act of Congress, the authority provided by this section is expressly intended to extend beyond the fiscal year.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 56:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 56, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

SEC. 509. Section 7 of the Magnetic Fusion Energy Engineering Act (42 U.S.C. 9396) is repealed.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 59:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 59, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the section number named in said amendment, insert: *510*; and the Senate agree to the same.

JOHN T. MYERS,
HAROLD ROGERS,
JOE KNOLLENBERG,
FRANK RIGGS,
RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN,
JIM BUNN,
BOB LIVINGSTON,
TOM BEVILL,
VIC FAZIO,
JIM CHAPMAN,
Managers on the Part of the House.

PETE V. DOMENICI,
MARK O. HATFIELD,
THAD COCHRAN,
SLADE GORTON,
MITCH MCCONNELL,
ROBERT F. BENNETT,
CONRAD BURNS,
ROBERT C. BYRD,
FRITZ HOLLINGS,
HARRY REID,
BOB KERREY,
PATTY MURRAY,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

The managers on the part of the House and the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1905) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes, submit the following joint statement to the House and the Senate in explanation of the effects of the action agreed upon by the managers and recommended in the accompanying conference report.

The language and allocations set forth in House Report 104–149 and Senate Report 104–120 should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in the conference report and statement of the managers. Report language included by the House which is not changed by the report of the Senate or the conference, and Senate report language which is not changed by the conference is approved by the committee of conference. The statement of the managers, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases in which the House or Senate have directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL

The summary tables at the end of this title set forth the conference agreement with respect to the individual appropriations, programs and activates of the Corps of Engineers. Additional items of conference agreement are discussed below.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

Amendment No. 1: Appropriates $121,767,000 for General Investigations instead of $129,906,000 as proposed by the House and $126,323,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees are aware that there is existing authority for the Corps of Engineers to maintain the Dog River in Alabama from the Mobile Harbor Ship Channel to 2,600 feet west of the Alabama Highway 163 bridge. The river has severe siltation west of that point and is not navigable during low tide. From within available funds, the Corps of Engineers is directed to use $200,000 to initiate a reconnaissance study of that portion of the Dog River.

The conference agreement includes $150,000 for the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Palm Beach County, Florida, project, Using these funds, the Corps of Engineers is directed to perform a reevaluation study of the authorized navigation improvements along the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway in Palm Beach County.

The conference agreement includes $6,205,000 for the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway study, the same as the budget request. The purpose of this study is to address the need for navigation capacity expansion on the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway. The conferees believe that the environmental component of the study should be limited to any impacts associated with expanding the capacity of the two systems. Therefore, the conferees direct

the Corps of Engineers to not expand the scope of the study such that its total cost exceeds that presented in the current Project Management Plan. In addition, because of the need for a timely review of future navigation needs on the upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway, the conferees direct the Corps to expedite work on the study and ensure that the Division Engineer's public notice on the feasibility report is issued no later than December of 1999.

The Secretary of the Army is directed to initiate a general reevaluation report for the Truckee Meadows Flood Control project, Nevada, authorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 1988. Of the $400,000 provided in the conference agreement for the Lower Truckee River, Nevada, project, $50,000 is appropriated for this investigation. The report will consider additional flood protection at and below Reno, Nevada, through levee/channel improvements, local impoundments, and potential reoperation of existing reservoirs in the watershed. The report will also consider the potential for environmental restoration along the Truckee River and tributaries in the Reno-Sparks area.

The conference agreement includes $600,000 for the Corps of Engineers, in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation, to continue the feasibility study for lake stabilization in the Devils Lake Basin of North Dakota as described in Public Law 102–377. The conferees expect the Corps of Engineers to expedite planning for emergency mitigation measures including emergency outlet options to the Sheyenne River, upper basin storage, and enhanced diking. The Corps of Engineers shall make its recommendations to the Congress for upper basin storage and enhanced diking by March 1, 1996, and shall report on the status of the lake stabilization study by September 30, 1996.

The conference agreement includes $559,000 for the Army Corps of Engineers to continue preconstruction engineering and design for the Noyo Harbor Breakwater, California, project. The conferees are aware of a proposal to utilize prefabricated steel structures in lieu of a stone breakwater, at considerably less cost than the $22,900,000 now projected. Furthermore, the structures can be fitted to generate electricity. The potential for reduced construction costs, together with the ancillary benefit of wave power generation, would facilitate local cost sharing. The conferees, therefore, direct that the funds be utilized for efforts to validate the viability of using these structures to serve as breakwaters, including modeling.

The conference agreement includes the following amounts for Coordination Studies With Other Agencies: Cooperation With Other Agencies, $480,000; Section 22 Planning Assistance to States, $2,000,000; Special Investigations, $3,400,000; Gulf of Mexico Program, $300,000; Interagency Water Resources Development, $1,000,000; National Estuary Program, $180,000; North American Waterfowl Management Plan, $180,000; and $380,000 for the Pacific Northwest Forest Case Study as described in the Senate Report.

Within the funds available for the Flood Plain Management Services Program, the conferees have provided $100,000 for a study along the Jacks Defeat Creek watershed in Monroe County, Indiana.

The conference agreement includes $30,432,000 for Corps of Engineers research and development activities. Included in this total is $23,732,000 for the Corps' base research and development program; $1,900,000 for evaluation of environmental investments; $2,000,000 for earthquake engineering; $1,000,000 for zebra mussel control; $1,500,000 for the characterization and restoration of wetlands; and $300,000 for the continuation of the Construction Technology Transfer Project between the Corps of Engineers' research institutions and Indiana State University.

Amendment No. 2: The conference agreement includes language providing $375,000 for the Norco Bluffs, California, project, as provided for in the House and Senate bills; restores House language stricken by the Senate for the Ohio River Greenway, Indiana, project amended to provide $500,000 instead of $1,000,000 as proposed by the House; includes language proposed by the Senate for the Kentucky Lock and Dam, Kentucky, project amended to provide $2,000,000 instead of $2,500,000 as proposed by the Senate; restores House language stricken by the Senate providing $300,000 for the Mussers Dam, Pennsylvania, project; and includes language proposed by the Senate providing $300,000 for the West Virginia Port Development, West Virginia, project. The conference agreement also deletes language contained in the House and Senate bills providing funds for the Indianapolis Central Waterfront, Indiana, project. Funding for this project has been included under Construction, General.

The conference agreement also includes language for a watershed study in the vicinity of Hazard, Kentucky, using previously appropriated funds. The Corps of Engineers is directed to prepare a reconnaissance level study addressing flood control, water supply and water quality needs as well as opportunities for environmental restoration in the Upper Kentucky River basin. In particular, the Corps is directed to evaluate the potential to reallocate excess storage in existing Corps lakes and alternatives thereto, for the purpose of providing additional water supply capability to meet expanding regional needs.

CONSTRUCTION, GENERAL

Amendment No. 3: Appropriates $804,573,000 for Construction, General instead of $807,846,000 as proposed by the House and $778,456,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees understand that the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works determined on September 1, 1995, that the Army Corps of Engineers will cost share the project for design deficiency correction of the Klamath-Glen Levee in Del Norte County, California, under the same financial terms as the original construction. This is in accordance with the technical conclusions of the Initial Appraisal Report of the San Francisco District Engineer, entitled ''Terwer Creek Erosion, Klamath-Glen Levee, Klamath River, Del Norte County, California'', March 1994. In view of this determination, and so that the necessary repairs can begin as quickly as possible, the Secretary of the Army is directed to utilize funds appropriated in this or prior appropriations Acts for the project.

The Corps of Engineers may allocate up to $150,000 of the funds provided for the Central and Southern Florida Project Review Study or from other sources, for the purpose of initiating a study to determine whether the construction of a wastewater reuse facility in Dade County, Florida, should be incorporated within the overall project authorization upon receipt of necessary approval. Such reuse facility would be intended to increase the supply of surface water to the Everglades system and Everglades National Park, in turn benefiting recreation and enhancing fish and wildlife.

The conference agreement includes $78,800,000 for the Columbia River Juvenile Fish Mitigation, Washington and Oregon, program as proposed by the Senate instead of $68,800,000 as proposed by the House. Of the funds provided, $1,000,000 is available for advanced planning and design for public and private facilities affected by the operation of the John Day project at minimum pool levels. The conferees share the concern of both the Senate and the House regarding the costs and justification for the John Day drawdown as an effective method for salmon recovery. To date, the conferees have not been provided with any scientific evidence supporting the drawdown; therefore, the Administration is directed to provide scientific justification of the project as an effective means of salmon recovery along with any further requests for funding. Considering the extraordinary cost of completing this project, if the Administration does not find significant benefits, the proposal should be abandoned altogether. The conferees also note that the mitigation necessary to lower John Day Reservoir to minimum operating pool will require specific authorization from Congress.

The conferees understand that rapid and substantial improvement in fish passage in the Federal Columbia River power system is a high priority. Accordingly, the conferees direct the Secretary of the Army to independently evaluate annually the performance of the Corps of Engineers in achieving improvements in fish passage and to provide these evaluations to the Committees on Appropriations. The conferees further direct the Corps and the Bonneville Power Administration, in consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, to develop a set of recommendations for improving the system by which fish passage improvements are designed, tested and implemented at the Federal projects. These improvements should seek to shorten the time requirements, reduce the costs, and improve the biological success of fish passage projects. The Corps and BPA should submit these recommendations to the Committees on Appropriations within six months of enactment of this Act and should proceed to implement immediately reforms for which they have the authority.

The Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is directed to design and construct a Regional Visitors Center in the vicinity of Shreveport, Louisiana, to provide information to the public on the Red River Basin, national and local water resources development of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Red River Waterway Project. The Regional Visitors Center is to be constructed using funds appropriated for construction of the Red River Waterway Project, and will be operated and maintained using funds appropriated for operation and maintenance of the waterway.

The conferees wish to emphasize their continued support for the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Programs. These programs, which require only modest amounts of budgetary resources, have proven to be of great value and are particularly important to many small communities throughout the Nation. Therefore, the conferees direct the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to continue the planning, engineering, and design of projects under all of the continuing authorities programs whether or not they will be approved for construction by the end of fiscal year 1996, initiate new projects under normal procedures for the continuing authorities programs, and continue budgeting these programs in fiscal year 1997 and beyond.

For the Emergency Streambank and Erosion Control (Section 14) program, the conferees direct the Corps of Engineers to undertake the projects identified in the House Report. In addition, the conference agreement includes $242,000 for the project to provide erosion protection for the Russell-Allison Levee along the Wabash River in Lawrence County, Illinois, and $325,000 for repair of the Ohio River levee in Marietta, Ohio. For the Small Flood Control Projects (Section 205)

program, the conferees direct the Corps of Engineers to undertake the projects identified in the House and Senate Reports. In addition, the conference agreement including $200,000 for the Corps of Engineers to initiate and complete a feasibility study to control flooding at the town of Sumava Resorts, Indiana, and $65,000 for a feasibility study of the Bellepoint floodwall, Frankfort, Kentucky, project. For the Small Beach Erosion Control (Section 103) program, the conferees direct the Corps of Engineers to undertake the Aqua Hedionda Lagoon project in Carlsbad, California, as described in the House Report. For the Project Modifications for the Improvement of the Environment (Section 1135) program, the conference agreement includes funds for the projects identified in the House Report and also includes $100,000 for the St. Paul Harbor, Alaska, project and $370,000 for the Valdez Harbor, Alaska, project. For the Small Navigation Projects (Section 107) program, the conference agreement includes $1,000,000 for the Ouizinkie Harbor, Alaska, project, $500,000 for the Larsen Bay Harbor, Alaska, project, $200,000 for the Williamsburg, Alaska project, and $250,000 for the Tatitlik Harbor, Alaska, project.

Amendment No. 4: The conference agreement includes language in the bill for the following projects, which were funded at the same level in the House and Senate bills: Sacramento River Flood Control Project (Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District), California ($300,000); Harlan, Kentucky ($12,000,000); Williamsburg, Kentucky ($4,100,000); Middlesboro, Kentucky ($1,600,000); Salyersville, Kentucky ($500,000); Glen Foerd, Pennsylvania ($200,000); Wallisville, Texas ($5,000,000); and Red River Emergency Bank. Protection, Arkansas and Louisiana ($6,600,000).

The conference agreement restores House language stricken by the Senate providing funds for the San Timoteo Creek feature of the Santa Ana River Mainstem, California, project ($5,000,000), and the Indiana Shoreline Erosion, Indiana, project, ($1,500,000).

The conference agreement provides $13,348,000 for the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (Hurricane Protection), Louisiana, project instead of $11,848,000 as proposed by the House and $11,838,000 as proposed by the Senate, provides $2,500,000 for the Red River below Denison Dam, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas, project instead of $3,800,000 as proposed by the House and $2,000,000 as proposed by the Senate; and provides $4,100,000 for the Broad Top Region, Pennsylvania, project as proposed by the House instead of $2,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes language proposed by the Senate which provides $3,800,000 for repair and extension of the Homer Spit, Alaska, project; provides $6,000,000 for the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System, Arkansas, project, of which $4,900,000 is for the Montgomery Point Lock and Dam; provides $700,000 for the Arkansas City, Kansas project and waives section 902 of Public Law 99–662; provides $670,000 for the Winfield, Kansas, project; provides $2,300,000 for the Ouachita River Levees, Louisiana, project; provides $710,000 for the Roughans Point, Massachusetts, project; provides $850,000 for the Marshall, Minnesota, project; provides $1,000,000 for the Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, project, provides; $1,100,000 for the Virginia Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection, Virginia, project; provides $2,000,000 for the Hatfield Bottom, West Virginia, project; provides $2,000,000 for the Upper Mingo, West Virginia, project; and provides that $1,120,000 shall be transferred to the Secretary of the Interior for performing operation and maintenance activities at the Columbia River Fishing Access Sites to be constructed in Oregon and Washington.

The conferees have also included language in the bill that directs the Secretary of the Army to acquire all or part of the Little Holland Tract in California for wetlands restoration and waterfowl and fishery habitat enhancement and/or mitigation purposes conditioned on a determination made by the Secretary that acquisition is in the Federal interest; and language that provides $3,500,000 for the South Central Pennsylvania Environmental Restoration project.

The conferees are aware of the need for continued emergency construction on the Red River between Index, Arkansas, and Shreveport, Louisiana. However, due to bank caving problems that may be induced by the previously funded Sulfur Revetment now under construction, the conference agreement includes $6,600,000 to initiate and complete design and construction of the Canale Revetment in lieu of the Dickson Revetment.

The conferees direct the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to extend the levee identified in Plan B of the approved draft specific project report for Williamsburg, Kentucky, dated April 1993, by approximately 2,000 feet upstream using funds provided for this project.

For the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (Hurricane Protection) project, the conference agreement includes an additional $4,000,000 to continue construction of parallel protection along the Orleans and London Avenue outfall canals, and an additional $1,500,000 for the project to intercept and convey landside runoff from Jefferson Parish lakefront levees. The conferees agree that the landside runoff project is not a separable element of the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (Hurricane Protection) project and direct that future budget requests for the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity (Hurricane Protection) project include funding for landside runnoff.

The amount provided for the Red River below Denison Dam project includes $500,000 to continue the Bowie County Levee, Texas, portion of the project. The conferees direct the Corps of Engineers to continue to prepare plans and specifications for restoration or replacement of the Bowie County Levee as authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1946 for incorporation into the Federal levee system to provide the same level of protection as the adjoining Miller County Levee in Arkansas under the terms and conditions of section 3 of the Flood Control Act of 1936, Public Law 74–738.

The funds to be transferred to the Secretary of the Interior for Columbia River Fishing Access Sites provide for the capitalized operation and maintenance costs for phase I sites. In addition, the conference agreement includes $600,000 for engineering and design of an additional six Bonneville pool sites planned under phase II.

On September 22, 1995, the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works advised the House and Senate Committees of a proposal to enter into a Section 215 agreement with the city of Arkansas City, Kansas, to provide for a credit toward the local contribution for certain work to be performed by the city in connection with the authorized Arkansas City flood control project. The conferees have no objection to that proposal and the Secretary may immediately execute the agreement with the understanding that the credit will not exceed the statutory limit of Section 215 of Public Law 90–483, as amended.

FLOOD CONTROL, MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES, ARKANSAS, ILLINOIS, KENTUCKY, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, MISSOURI, AND TENNESSEE

Due to the severe budgetary situation, the conference agreement includes; $307,885,000 for the Flood Control, Mississippi River and Tributaries, project, which is the same as the amount provided by the House and the Senate and $11,365,000 below the budget request. At the same time, the conferees recognize the importance of this project to the Nation. The conferees agree that the reductions made to the individual features within the Mississippi River and Tributaries project were made without prejudice and expect the Corps of Engineers to manage the project, including the reprogramming of funds where necessary, to derive the maximum benefit from the funds provided.

The conferees are aware that the Corps of Engineers no longer requires the use of lands in the Vidalia, Louisiana, area previously used for casting and storage of articulated concrete mats used for construction of the Mississippi River and Tributaries project. In the interest of public safety and environmental restoration, the conferees direct the Corps of Engineers to use up to $900,000 of the funds available for the Mississippi River and Tributaries project to return lands to acceptable environmental condition now that the casting operations have ceased.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, GENERAL

Amendment No. 5: Appropriates $1,703,697,000 for Operation and Maintenance, General instead of $1,712,123,000 as proposed by the House and $1,696,998,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees recognize that flooding in the wake of Typhoon Oscar, which resulted in a Presidential disaster declaration in Southcentral Alaska, devastated the harbor at Seward, Alaska, just as the winter season was approaching. The Corps of Engineers is, therefore, encouraged to expedite work using available funds, including such contractual economies of effort with the City of Seward and the State of Alaska as are necessary in the judgment of the District Engineer, to restore full use to the port and port facilities impacted by the flooding.

The conference agreement includes $280,000 for the Pearl River, Mississippi and Louisiana, project, the same as the budget request. These funds are to be used to maintain the project in caretaker status and correct any safety problems, including lighting and boat trolley system improvements, at Pool's Bluff Sill and other lock locations.

Upon resolution of the status of the section 401 permit, the Corps of Engineers may use $250,000 of available funds to resume design work on the proposed expansion of the Renard Isle confined disposal facility at Green Bay Harbor, Wisconsin.

Amendment No. 6: Provides $5,926,000 for the Raystown Lake, Pennsylvania, project as proposed by the House instead of $3,426,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 7: Inserts language proposed by the Senate which directs the Secretary of the Army to maintain a minimum conservation pool of 475.5 feet at the Wister Lake, Oklahoma, project.

REGULATORY PROGRAM

The conferees agree wit the language contained in the House and Senate Reports for the Regulatory Program of the Corps of Engineers. In addition, the conferees understand that the Corps of Engineers has under review an application by the City of East Chicago, Indiana, for the construction of a breakwater in Lake Michigan. The conferees expect the Corps to work with the city toward an expeditious resolution to the permitting process.

GENERAL EXPENSES

Amendment No. 8: Appropriates $151,500,000 for General Expenses instead of $150,000,000 as proposed by the House and $153,000,000 as proposed by the Senate and provides that the funds shall remain available until expended as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 9: Restores language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate limiting the funds available for general administration and related functions in the Office of the Chief of Engineers with an amendment providing that not to exceed $62,000,000 shall be available for that purpose instead of $60,000,000 as proposed by the House.

Amendment No. 10: Inserts language proposed by the Senate which provides that the plan for reducing the number of division offices which the Secretary of the Army is directed to develop and submit to the Congress shall be submitted to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and amends language contained in the House and Senate bills which provides that the division office plan shall not change the function of any district office by adding the words ''any civil'' before ''function''. This amendment is necessary to clarify that it is not the intent of the conferees to prohibit the Corps of Engineers from making necessary adjustments in mission and function of districts handling military construction to accommodate the shrinking military workload.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

Amendment No. 11: Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate which provides that the Corps of Engineers shall advertise for competitive bid at least 7,500,000 cubic yards of the hopper dredge volume accomplished with Government-owned dredges in fiscal year 1992 and which further provides that none of the funds available to the Corps of Engineers may be used to undertake improvements or major repair of the hopper dredge McFARLAND and inserts similar language proposed by the Senate. The Senate language differs from the House language in that it permits the Corps of Engineers to expend funds to maintain the McFARLAND's current operational condition and in that it includes an additional subsection relating to the use of the four Corps of Engineers hopper dredges, which has been amended by the conference agreement to provide that if any of the Corps' hopper dredges is removed from normal service for repair or rehabilitation, the Secretary of the Army shall not significantly alter the operating schedules of the remaining dredges.

Amendment No. 12: Inserts language proposed by the Senate which provides that none of the funds appropriated in this Act or otherwise available to the Corps of Engineers may be used for activities associated with moving the Corps' headquarters office to the Southeast Federal Center with an amendment which clarifies that this limitation on the use of funds does not apply to the use of funds required to process any Department of the Army permits, and makes technical corrections to Section 102, which modifies the authorization for the Manistique Harbor, Michigan, project.

Amendment No. 13: Inserts language proposed by the Senate which modifies the authorization for the Petersburg, West Virginia, project by increasing the total estimated cost to $26,600,000, with an estimated first Federal cost of $19,195,000 and an estimated first non-Federal cost of $7,405,000.

Amendment No. 14: Inserts language proposed by the Senate which authorizes the Secretary of the Army to accept from a non-Federal sponsor additional lands, not to exceed 300 acres, at the Cooper Lake and Channels, Texas, project and further authorizes the Secretary, upon acceptance of those lands, to redesignate an amount of mitigation lands, not to exceed 300 acres, to recreation purposes. The amendment also provides that the lands accepted from the non-Federal sponsor shall provide habitat value at least equal to that provided by the lands redesignated to recreation purposes and that all costs of work to be undertaken pursuant to the amendment shall be borne by the donating sponsor.

Amendment No. 15: Deletes language proposed by the Senate which directs the Secretary of the Army to take such actions as are necessary to obtain and maintain an elevation of 977 feet above sea level at the Lake Traverse, South Dakota and Minnesota, project and inserts the new sections described below.

Section 106 authorizes the Secretary of the Army to undertake the Indianapolis, Indiana, project authorized by Section 5 of Public Law 74–738 as modified to include certain riverfront alterations as described in the Corps of Engineers Central Indianapolis Waterfront Concept Master Plan, dated February, 1994. Non-Federal funds expended on or after the date of the Corps of Engineers report on items and outlined for construction in the Corps' document shall be applied to the non-Federal cost-sharing requirements.

Section 107 modifies section 313 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992, the South Central Pennsylvania Environmental Restoration Infrastructure and Resource Protection Development Pilot Program. The modification includes changes to the consultation requirements to reflect a revised geographic scope, an increase in the authorized funding level, and several technical changes. The conferees have also included $3,500,000 under the Construction, General account to accomplish high priority work under the section 313 authority.

Section 108 authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Army to proceed with engineering, design, and construction of projects to provide for flood control and improvements to rainfall drainage systems in Jefferson, Orleans, and St. Tammany Parishes in Louisiana. The conferees are aware of the disastrous floods due to torrential rainfalls that occurred in southeast Louisiana in May of 1995, which resulted in the loss of seven lives, inundation of over 35,000 homes, and estimated property and infrastructure losses exceeding $3,000,000,000. This event produced the second highest number of flood insurance claims ever for a flood event. In addition, between 1978 and 1989, flood insurance claims for this area totaled $227,000,000. Therefore, because of the urgent need to prevent such disasters from recurring, the conferees have directed the Secretary of the Army to proceed immediately with economically justified flood control improvements that have been identified in reports of the Corps of Engineers' New Orleans District Engineer. No further feasibility studies are required for the projects authorized in this section. The conferees intend that the cost-sharing requirement. Between the Federal and non-Federal interests be consistent with the provisions for flood control and hurricane protection projects, as appropriate, in the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, except that the non-Federal sponsor shall receive credit, as part of the non-Federal share of the cost of these projects, for any work accomplished subsequent to those reports as determined by the Secretary of the Army to be a compatible and integral part of the projects. The projects include, but are not limited to, pumping station and channel improvements in Jefferson and Orleans Parishes, channel improvements along Mile Creek in Covington, hurricane protection along the Lake Pontchartrain shoreline in Mandeville, and hurricane protection and improved drainage in the Schneider Canal area in Slidell. An amount of $25,000,000 has been authorized for the Corps to proceed with work on these projects.

Section 109 directs the Secretary of the Army to convey land at the Dewey Lake, Kentucky, project to the City of Prestonburg, Kentucky, for the development of public use recreational facilities and to further regional economic development.

Amendment No. 16: Inserts language proposed by the Senate which authorizes the Secretary of the Army to undertake the Coos Bay, Oregon, project in accordance with the Report of the Chief of Engineers, dated June 30, 1994, at a total cost of $14,541,000, with an estimated Federal cost of $10,777,000 and an estimated non-Federal cost of $3,764,000, and changes the section number.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATES INVESTIGATIONS	BUDGET ESTIMATES PLANNING	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE INVESTIGATIONS	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE PLANNING
	ALABAMA				
(N)	ALABAMA RIVER BELOW CLAIBORNE L&D, AL	238,000	---	238,000	---
	ALASKA				
(N)	ANIAK, AK	---	---	50,000	---
(N)	ANCHOR POINT HARBOR, AK	208,000	---	208,000	---
(SPE)	CHENA RIVER WATERSHED STUDY, AK	200,000	---	100,000	---
(N)	CHIGNIK HARBOR, AK	---	237,000	---	237,000
(N)	COOK INLET, AK	70,000	---	70,000	---
(N)	KAKE HARBOR, AK	---	186,000	---	186,000
(N)	KUSKOKWIM RIVER, AK	175,000	---	175,000	---
(N)	NOME HARBOR, AK	200,000	---	280,000	---
(N)	NORTHERN SEA ROUTE, AK	100,000	---	100,000	---
(N)	ST PAUL HARBOR, AK	100,000	---	150,000	---
(N)	WRANGELL, AK	---	---	175,000	---
	ARIZONA				
(RCP)	ALAMO LAKE, ARIZONA	200,000	---	200,000	---
(FDP)	GILA RIVER & TRIBUTARIES, N SCOTTSDALE DRAINAGE AREA	400,000	---	450,000	---
	GILA RIVER & TRIBUTARIES, SANTA CRUZ RIVER BASIN	---	---	100,000	---
(FDP)	GILA RIVER, GILLESPIE DAM TO YUMA, AZ	400,000	---	400,000	---
(FDP)	GILA RIVER, TORTOLITA DRAINAGE AREA, AZ	200,000	---	300,000	---
	RIO DE FLAG, AZ	---	---	200,000	---
(FDP)	RIO SALADO, SALT RIVER, AZ	300,000	---	300,000	---
(FDP)	TUCSON DRAINAGE AREA, AZ	180,000	---	180,000	---
	ARKANSAS				
	ARKANSAS RIVER LEVEE, PLUM BAYOU, AR	---	---	300,000	---
	ARKANSAS RIVER, TUCKER CREEK, AR	---	---	280,000	---
(FDP)	MAY BRANCH, FORT SMITH, AR	250,000	---	250,000	---
(FDP)	MCKINNEY BAYOU, AR & TX	450,000	---	450,000	---
	CALIFORNIA				
(FC)	AMERICAN RIVER WATERSHED, CA	---	3,000,000	---	3,000,000
(SPE)	CENTRAL BASIN GROUNDWATER PROJECT, CA	375,000	---	375,000	---
	CITY OF ARCADIA WATER INFRASTRUCTURE RESTORATION, CA	---	---	300,000	---
(SP)	CITY OF ENCINITAS, CA	169,000	---	169,000	---
(N)	CRESCENT CITY HARBOR, CA	250,000	---	250,000	---
(N)	CRESCENT CITY HARBOR, CA	---	50,000	---	50,000
(N)	HUMBOLDT HARBOR AND BAY (DEEPENING), CA	---	410,000	---	410,000
	IMPERIAL COUNTY WATERSHED, CA	---	---	150,000	---
(SPE)	LACDA WATER CONS & SUP(HANSEN & LOPEZ DAMS), CA	400,000	---	400,000	---
(SPE)	LACDA WATER CONS & SUP(WHITTIER NARROWS & SANTA FE DAM	460,000	---	460,000	---
(SP)	MALIBU COASTAL AREA, CA	200,000	---	200,000	---
(FDP)	MARIN COUNTY SHORELINE, SAN CLEMENTE CREEK, CA	234,000	---	234,000	150,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATES INVESTIGATIONS	BUDGET ESTIMATES PLANNING	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE INVESTIGATIONS	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE PLANNING
(N)	MARINA DEL REY AND BALLONA CREEK, CA	200,000	---	200,000	---
(FDP)	N CA STREAMS, CACHE CREEK ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, C	200,000	---	200,000	---
	N CA STREAMS, MIDDLE CREEK, CA	---	---	300,000	---
(FDP)	N CA STREAMS, SACRAMENTO RIVER FISH MIGRATION, CA	300,000	---	300,000	---
(FDP)	N CA STREAMS, WINTERS & VICINITY, CA	200,000	---	200,000	---
(FDP)	N CA STREAMS, YUBA RIVER BASIN, CA	100,000	---	100,000	---
(FC)	NAPA RIVER, CA	---	787,000	---	787,000
	NAPA RIVER, SALT MARSH RESTORATION, CA	---	---	200,000	---
(N)	NEWPORT BAY HARBOR, CA	250,000	---	250,000	---
	NORCO BLUFFS, CA	---	---	375,000	---
(N)	NOYO RIVER AND HARBOR (BREAKWATER), CA	---	559,000	---	559,000
(FC)	PAJARO RIVER AT WATSONVILLE, CA	---	500,000	---	500,000
	PENINSULA BEACH, CA	---	---	200,000	---
(N)	PILLAR POINT HARBOR, CA	225,000	---	225,000	---
(N)	PORT HUENEME, CA	300,000	---	300,000	---
(N)	PORT OF LONG BEACH (DEEPENING), CA	---	750,000	---	750,000
	RUSSIAN RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, CA	---	---	100,000	---
(SPE)	SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN DELTA, CA	800,000	---	800,000	---
(FDP)	SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN DELTA, LITTLE HOLLAND TRACT,	290,000	---	290,000	---
(FDP)	SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN DELTA, PROSPECT ISLAND, CA	100,000	---	100,000	---
	SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN DELTA, WESTERN DELTA TRACT	---	---	200,000	---
(FDP)	SAN ANTONIO CREEK, CA	150,000	---	250,000	---
(SP)	SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CITIES OF OCEANSIDE AND CALSBAD, CA.	300,000	---	300,000	---
(N)	SAN FRANCISCO BAY BAR CHANNEL, CA	240,000	---	---	---
(SP)	SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY, OCEAN BEACH, CA	125,000	---	125,000	---
(N)	SAN FRANCISCO HARBOR, CA	100,000	---	100,000	---
(FDP)	SAN JOAQUIN R BASIN, PINE FLAT DAM, F&WL HABITAT RESTO	500,000	---	500,000	---
(FDP)	SAN JOAQUIN RIVER BASIN, ARROYO PASAJERO (FRESNO CO),	700,000	---	700,000	---
(FDP)	SAN JOAQUIN RIVER BASIN, CALIENTE CREEK STREAM GROUP,	171,000	---	171,000	---
	SAN JOAQUIN RIVER BASIN, FIREBAUGH AND MENDOTA, CA	---	---	150,000	---
(FDP)	SAN JOAQUIN RIVER BASIN, KAWEAH RIVER, CA	40,000	---	40,000	200,000
(FDP)	SAN JOAQUIN RIVER BASIN, SOUTH SACRAMENTO COUNTY STRMS	500,000	---	500,000	---
	SAN JOAQUIN RIVER BASIN, STOCKTON METROPOLITAN AREA, C	---	---	400,000	---
	SAN JOAQUIN RIVER BASIN, TULE RIVER, CA	---	---	200,000	---
	SAN JUAN AND ALISO CREEKS, CA	---	---	150,000	---
(FC)	SAN LORENZO RIVER, CA	---	100,000	---	100,000
(FC)	SAN RAFAEL CANAL, CA	---	250,000	---	250,000
(FDP)	SANTA BARBARA COUNTY STREAMS, CA	81,000	---	81,000	---
(N)	SANTA BARBARA HARBOR, CA	---	50,000	---	50,000
(N)	SANTA MONICA BREAKWATER, CA	---	350,000	---	350,000
(FDP)	SEVEN OAKS AND PRADO DAMS WATER CONSERVATION, CA	265,000	---	265,000	---
(N)	SF BAY, LEONARD RANCH (DISPOSAL), CA	150,000	---	150,000	---
(N)	SOUTHAMPTON SHOAL CHANNEL, CA	240,000	---	---	---
(FDP)	UPPER GUADALUPE RIVER, CA	285,000	---	285,000	---
	UPPER PENITENCIA CREEK, CA	---	---	300,000	---
	VENTURA AND SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SHORELINE, CA	---	---	200,000	---
(FDP)	WHITEWATER RIVER BASIN, CA	370,000	---	370,000	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATES INVESTIGATIONS	BUDGET ESTIMATES PLANNING	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE INVESTIGATIONS	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE PLANNING
	CONNECTICUT				
(FDP)	CENTRAL CONNECTICUT COASTAL FLOODING, CT.....	65,000	---	65,000	---
	DELAWARE				
(N)	C&D CANAL - BALTIMORE HBR CONN CHANNELS, DE & MD (DEEP	57,000	---	57,000	---
(SP)	DELAWARE BAY COASTLINE, DE & NJ.....	880,000	---	880,000	---
(SP)	DELAWARE COAST FROM CAPE HENLOPEN TO FENWICK ISLAND, D	145,000	---	145,000	---
(N)	DELAWARE RIVER MAIN CHANNEL DEEPENING, DE, NJ, & PA...	---	780,000	---	780,000
	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA				
(FC)	WASHINGTON, DC & VICINITY.....	---	200,000	---	200,000
	FLORIDA				
	ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WW, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL.....	---	---	---	150,000
(SP)	BREVARD COUNTY, FL.....	107,000	---	107,000	---
(FDP)	COAST OF FLORIDA STUDY, FL.....	750,000	---	650,000	---
(SP)	DAYTONA BEACH SHORES, FL.....	112,000	---	112,000	---
(N)	HILLSBORO INLET, FL.....	---	300,000	---	300,000
(N)	JACKSONVILLE HARBOR, FL.....	414,000	---	414,000	---
	LIDO SARASOTA BEACH, FL.....	---	---	100,000	---
(BE)	PANAMA CITY BEACHES, FL.....	---	415,000	---	415,000
(N)	PANAMA CITY HARBOR, FL.....	---	285,000	---	285,000
(N)	PONCE DE LEON INLET, FL.....	233,000	---	233,000	---
(N)	ST LUCIE INLET, FL.....	---	400,000	---	400,000
	GEORGIA				
(SPE)	ATLANTA WATERSHED STUDY, GA.....	350,000	---	250,000	---
(N)	BRUNSWICK HARBOR, GA.....	300,000	---	300,000	---
(N)	LOWER SAVANNAH RIVER BASIN, GA & SC.....	25,000	---	25,000	---
(N)	LOWER SAVANNAH RIVER BASIN, GA & SC.....	---	250,000	---	250,000
(RCP)	NEW SAVANNAH BLUFF LOCK & DAM, GA.....	130,000	---	---	---
(N)	SAVANNAH HARBOR EXTENSION, GA.....	332,000	---	332,000	---
	HAWAII				
(N)	BARBERS POINT HARBOR MODIFICATION, OAHU, HI.....	200,000	---	200,000	---
(N)	KIKIAOLA SMALL BOAT HARBOR, KAUAI, HI.....	---	170,000	---	170,000
(N)	MAUI SECOND HARBOR, MAUI, HI.....	130,000	---	130,000	---
(FDP)	WAILUPE STREAM FLOOD CONTROL STUDY, OAHU, HI.....	200,000	---	200,000	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATES INVESTIGATIONS	BUDGET ESTIMATES PLANNING	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE INVESTIGATIONS	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE PLANNING
	ILLINOIS				
(FDP)	ALEXANDER AND PULASKI COUNTIES, IL	175,000	---	175,000	---
(BE)	CHICAGO SHORELINE, IL	---	400,000	---	400,000
(FDP)	DES PLAINES RIVER, IL	362,000	---	362,000	---
(RDP)	FREEPORT, IL	108,000	---	108,000	---
(FC)	NUTWOOD DRAINAGE AND LEVEE DISTRICT, IL	---	150,000	---	150,000
(RCP)	SNY ISLAND, IL	248,000	---	248,000	---
(FDP)	SOUTHEAST CHICAGO, IL	200,000	---	200,000	---
(RCP)	UPPER MISSISSIPPI & ILLINOIS NAV STUDY, IL, IA, MN, MO	6,205,000	---	6,205,000	---
(RDP)	WAUKEGAN HARBOR, IL	25,000	---	25,000	---
	INDIANA				
(FDP)	INDIANAPOLIS, WHITE RIVER (NORTH), IN	55,000	---	55,000	200,000
(FDP)	LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN, CALUMET TOWNSHIP, IN	100,000	---	100,000	---
(FDP)	LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN, DYER, IN	60,000	---	60,000	---
(FDP)	OHIO RIVER FLOOD PROTECTION (INDIANA SHORELINE), IN	275,000	---	---	---
	OHIO RIVER GREENWAY, IN	---	---	---	500,000
(FDP)	WABASH RIVER BASIN COMPREHENSIVE, IN & IL (MIDDLE REAC	153,000	---	228,000	---
	IOWA				
(FDP)	CORALVILLE LAKE, IA	---	---	100,000	---
(FDP)	MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEES, IA, IL & MO	50,000	---	50,000	---
	KANSAS				
(FDP)	GRAND (NEOSHO) RIVER, KS	---	---	500,000	---
(RCP)	MISSOURI RIVER LEVEE SYSTEM, UNITS L455 & R460-471, KS	475,000	---	475,000	---
(RCP)	SALINA, KS	200,000	---	200,000	---
(RCP)	TOPEKA, KS	150,000	---	150,000	---
(FDP)	TURKEY CREEK BASIN, KS & MO	111,000	---	111,000	---
(RCP)	WILSON LAKE, KS	100,000	---	100,000	---
(FC)	WINFIELD, KS	---	670,000	---	---
	KENTUCKY				
	GREEN RIVER LOCK AND DAM NO. 6	---	---	50,000	---
(N)	KENTUCKY LOCK AND DAM ADDITION, KY	---	---	---	2,000,000
(N)	MCALPINE LOCKS AND DAM, KY & IN	---	1,487,000	---	---
	METROPOLITAN LEXINGTON, FAYETTE COUNTY, KY	---	---	400,000	---
(FDP)	METROPOLITAN LOUISVILLE, BEARGRASS CREEK, KY	270,000	---	270,000	---
(FC)	METROPOLITAN LOUISVILLE, POND CREEK, KY	---	300,000	---	300,000
(FDP)	METROPOLITAN LOUISVILLE, SOUTHWEST, KY	100,000	---	100,000	---
(FDP)	METROPOLITAN REGION OF CINCINNATI, NORTHERN KENTUCKY,	300,000	---	300,000	---
(N)	UNIONTOWN/OHIO RIVER MAINSTEM STUDY, KY, IL & IN	2,600,000	---	2,600,000	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATES INVESTIGATIONS	BUDGET ESTIMATES PLANNING	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE INVESTIGATIONS	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE PLANNING
	LOUISIANA				
	AMITE RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES	---	---	200,000	---
(FDP)	BAYOU BARTHOLOMEW, LA	100,000	---	100,000	---
(FC)	COMITE RIVER, LA	---	160,000	---	160,000
(FC)	EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH, LA	---	900,000	---	900,000
(N)	INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY LOCKS, LA	500,000	---	500,000	---
(FDP)	JEFFERSON PARISH, LA	800,000	---	800,000	---
(FDP)	LAFAYETTE PARISH, LA	34,000	---	234,000	---
(N)	LAKE CHARLES SHIP CHAN, BY-PASS AND GEN ANCHORAGE AREA	47,000	---	587,000	---
(N)	MISSISSIPPI RIVER SHIP CHANNEL, LA	---	---	300,000	---
(N)	MISSISSIPPI RIVER - GULF OUTLET BANK EROSION, LA	25,000	---	25,000	---
(FDP)	ORLEANS PARISH, LA	60,000	---	60,000	---
(N)	PORT FOURCHON, LA	---	100,000	---	100,000
(FC)	WEST BANK - EAST OF HARVEY CANAL, LA	---	1,100,000	---	1,100,000
	WEST SHORE - LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN, LA	---	---	500,000	---
	MARYLAND				
(FC)	ANACOSTIA RIVER & TRIBUTARIES, MD & DC	---	1,100,000	---	1,100,000
(FDP)	ANACOSTIA RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES, MD & DC	450,000	---	450,000	---
(SPE)	ANACOSTIA RIVER FEDERAL WATERSHED IMPACT ASSESS, MD &.	300,000	---	200,000	---
(N)	BALTIMORE HARBOR ANCHORAGES & CHANNELS, MD	---	50,000	---	50,000
(N)	BALTIMORE HARBOR ANCHORAGES AND CHANNELS, MD	291,000	---	291,000	---
(FDP)	BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN WATER RESOURCES STUDY, MD	500,000	---	500,000	---
(SPE)	CHESAPEAKE BAY TIME VARIABLE MODEL, MD, VA, PA & DC	335,000	---	335,000	---
(RCP)	JENNINGS RANDOLPH LAKE - REALLOCATION, MD & VA	200,000	---	200,000	---
(SPE)	LOWER EASTERN SHORE, MD & DE	250,000	---	---	---
(N)	OCEAN CITY, MD AND VICINITY	850,000	---	850,000	---
(FDP)	PATUXENT RIVER WATER RESOURCES, MD	350,000	---	350,000	---
(N)	SMITH ISLAND ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, MD	300,000	---	150,000	---
	MASSACHUSETTS				
(FDP)	BLACKSTONE RIVER WATERSHED RESTORATION, MA & RI	300,000	---	100,000	---
(N)	BOSTON HARBOR, MA	---	185,000	---	185,000
	MICHIGAN				
	SAULT STE MARIE, MI	---	---	---	200,000
	MINNESOTA				
(FDP)	CROOKSTON, MN	150,000	---	150,000	---
(SPE)	POMME DE TERRE RIVER - MINNESOTA RIVER VALLEY, MN	75,000	---	---	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATES INVESTIGATIONS	BUDGET ESTIMATES PLANNING	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE INVESTIGATIONS	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE PLANNING
	MISSISSIPPI				
(FDP)	HANCOCK, HARRISON AND JACKSON COUNTIES, MS	62,000	---	62,000	---
	JACKSON METROPOLITAN AREA, MS	---	---	---	1,299,000
(N)	LOWNDES COUNTY PORT BARGE FLEETING AREA, MS	100,000	---	100,000	---
	MISSOURI				
(FC)	BLUE RIVER BASIN, KANSAS CITY, MO	---	10,000	---	10,000
	FABIUS RIVER DRAINAGE DISTRICT, MO	---	---	125,000	---
(FDP)	ST LOUIS REGION, MO	150,000	---	150,000	---
(FDP)	SWOPE PARK INDUSTRIAL AREA, KANSAS CITY, MO	144,000	---	144,000	---
	NEBRASKA				
(FDP)	ANTELOPE CREEK, LINCOLN, NE	90,000	---	90,000	---
(FDP)	LOWER PLATTE RIVER & TRIBS, NE	441,000	---	441,000	---
(FC)	WOOD RIVER, GRAND ISLAND, NE	---	200,000	---	200,000
	NEVADA				
(FDP)	LOWER TRUCKEE RIVER, NV	---	---	400,000	---
	NEW JERSEY				
	BARNEGAT INLET TO LITTLE EGG INLET, NJ	---	---	550,000	---
(SP)	BRIGANTINE INLET TO GREAT EGG HARBOR INLET, NJ	115,000	---	115,000	---
(SP)	GREAT EGG INLET TO TOWNSEND INLET, NJ	290,000	---	290,000	---
(SP)	LOWER CAPE MAY MEADOWS - CAPE MAY POINT, NJ	350,000	---	350,000	---
(FC)	LOWER SADDLE RIVER, BERGEN COUNTY, NJ	---	963,000	---	963,000
(SP)	MANASQUAN INLET TO BARNEGAT INLET, NJ	290,000	---	290,000	---
(N)	NEW YORK HBR AND ADJACENT CHANNELS, CLAREMONT TERMINAL	---	400,000	---	400,000
(SP)	RARITAN BAY AND SANDY HOOK BAY (CLIFFWOOD BEACH), NJ	52,000	---	52,000	---
(SP)	RARITAN BAY AND SANDY HOOK BAY, NJ	620,000	---	620,000	---
(FC)	RARITAN RIVER BASIN, GREEN BROOK SUB-BASIN, NJ	---	3,600,000	---	3,600,000
(FDP)	SOUTH RIVER, RARITAN RIVER BASIN, NJ	25,000	---	300,000	---
(SPE)	STONY BROOK, PRINCETON TOWNSHIP, NJ	250,000	---	---	---
(SP)	TOWNSENDS INLET TO CAPE MAY INLET, NJ	80,000	---	80,000	---
	NEW MEXICO				
(FDP)	ESPANOLA VALLEY, RIO GRANDE AND TRIBUTARIES, NM	118,000	---	118,000	---
(FC)	LAS CRUCES, EL PASO AND VICINITY, NM	---	200,000	---	200,000
(SPE)	RIO DE CHAMA, ABIQUIU DAM TO ESPANOLA, NM	232,000	---	232,000	---
(FDP)	ROCKY ARROYO/DARK CANYON, PECOS RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES,	45,000	---	45,000	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATES INVESTIGATIONS	BUDGET ESTIMATES PLANNING	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE INVESTIGATIONS	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE PLANNING
	NEW YORK				
(N)	ARTHUR KILL CHANNEL - HOWLAND HOOK MARINE TERMINAL, NY	---	400,000	---	800,000
(SP)	ATLANTIC COAST OF NEW YORK, NY	1,400,000	---	1,400,000	---
(N)	HUDSON RIVER HABITAT RESTORATION, NY	350,000	---	350,000	---
(SP)	JAMAICA BAY, MARINE PARK AND PLUMB BEACH, NY	350,000	---	350,000	---
(N)	LAKE MONTAUK HARBOR, NY	195,000	---	195,000	---
(BE)	LONG BEACH ISLAND, NY	---	525,000	---	525,000
(N)	MATTITUCK HARBOR, NY	250,000	---	---	---
(SP)	MONTAUK POINT, NY	125,000	---	125,000	---
(N)	NEW YORK HARBOR ANCHORAGE AREAS, NY	100,000	---	100,000	---
(SP)	NORTH SHORE OF LONG ISLAND, NY	26,000	---	26,000	---
(SPE)	ONONDAGA LAKE, NY	95,000	---	95,000	---
(N)	RARITAN BAY ANCHORAGES, NY AND NJ CHANNELS, NY & NJ	100,000	---	100,000	---
(N)	REYNOLD'S CHANNEL AND NEW YORK STATE BOAT CHANNEL, NY.	170,000	---	170,000	---
(SP)	SOUTH SHORE OF STATEN ISLAND, NY	30,000	---	330,000	---
(FDP)	SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN WATER MANAGEMENT, NY, PA & MD.	290,000	---	290,000	---
(SP)	YONKERS SHORELINE, NY	332,000	---	332,000	---
	NORTH CAROLINA				
(FC)	BRUNSWICK COUNTY BEACHES, NC	---	500,000	---	500,000
(N)	CAPE FEAR - NORTHEAST (CAPE FEAR) RIVER, NC	400,000	---	400,000	---
(SP)	DARE COUNTY BEACHES, NC	290,000	---	290,000	---
(N)	WILMINGTON HARBOR, CHANNEL WIDENING, NC	---	570,000	---	570,000
	NORTH DAKOTA				
(SPE)	DEVILS LAKE, ND	125,000	---	600,000	---
(FDP)	GRAND FORKS, ND	225,000	---	225,000	---
	OHIO				
(FC)	METROPOLITAN REGION OF CINCINNATI, DUCK CREEK, OH, KY.	---	300,000	---	300,000
	OKLAHOMA				
(FDP)	CIMARRON RIVER AND TRIBS, OK, NM, CO, & KS	350,000	---	---	---
(RCP)	OPTIMA LAKE, OK	100,000	---	---	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATES INVESTIGATIONS	BUDGET ESTIMATES PLANNING	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE INVESTIGATIONS	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE PLANNING
	OREGON				
(N)	COLUMBIA RIVER NAVIGATION CHANNEL DEEPENING, OR & WA..	900,000	---	900,000	---
(FDP)	COLUMBIA SLOUGH, OR.....	55,000	---	55,000	---
(FDP)	JOHNSON CREEK, OR.....	200,000	---	200,000	---
(FDP)	MIDDLE FORK WILLAMETTE FISHERY RESTORATION, OR.....	350,000	---	350,000	---
(FDP)	SOUTH SANTIAM FISHERY RESTORATION, OR.....	35,000	---	35,000	---
(SPE)	WALLA WALLA RIVER WATERSHED, OR & WA.....	100,000	---	100,000	---
(FDP)	WILLAMETTE RIVER BASIN REVIEW, OR.....	500,000	---	500,000	---
(MP)	WILLAMETTE RIVER TEMPERATURE CONTROL, OR.....	---	1,000,000	---	1,000,000
	PENNSYLVANIA				
(FC)	CHARTIERS CREEK, PA.....	---	570,000	---	570,000
(COM)	CONEMAUGH RIVER BASIN, PA.....	200,000	---	200,000	---
(FDP)	JUNIATA RIVER BASIN, PA.....	50,000	---	50,000	---
(FDP)	MILTON, PA.....	15,000	---	15,000	---
	MUSSERS DAM, MIDDLE CREEK, SNYDER CO, PA.....	---	---	---	300,000
(RCP)	YOUGHIOGHENY LAKE - SEC 216.....	250,000	---	200,000	---
	PUERTO RICO				
(FC)	ARECIBO RIVER, PR.....	---	281,000	---	281,000
(FC)	RIO GRANDE DE LOIZA, PR.....	---	453,000	---	453,000
	SOUTH CAROLINA				
(N)	CHARLESTON HARBOR, SC (DEEPENING/WIDENING).....	158,000	---	158,000	---
(N)	GEORGETOWN HARBOR, SC.....	300,000	---	300,000	---
(N)	SANTEE, COOPER, CONGAREE RIVERS, SC.....	300,000	---	300,000	---
(FDP)	WACCAMAW RIVER, SC.....	300,000	---	---	---
	SOUTH DAKOTA				
(FC)	BIG SIOUX RIVER, SIOUX FALLS, SD.....	---	390,000	---	390,000
(SPE)	JAMES RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL, SD.....	10,000	---	10,000	---
(FC)	WATERTOWN AND VICINITY, SD.....	---	20,000	---	20,000
	TENNESSEE				
	BLACK FOX, MURFREE AND OAKLAND SPRINGS WETLANDS, TN...	---	---	---	200,000
(FDP)	METRO CENTER LEVEE, DAVIDSON CO, NASHVILLE, TN.....	400,000	---	400,000	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATES INVESTIGATIONS	BUDGET ESTIMATES PLANNING	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE INVESTIGATIONS	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE PLANNING
	TEXAS				
	ALPINE, TX	---	---	300,000	---
(FC)	BRAYS BAYOU, HOUSTON, TX	---	500,000	---	500,000
(RDP)	BUFFALO BAYOU & TRIBUTARIES - ADDICKS & BARKER RESERVO	50,000	---	50,000	---
	COLONIAS ALONG U.S. - MEXICO BORDER, TX	---	---	---	300,000
(N)	CORPUS CHRISTI SHIP CHANNEL, TX	100,000	---	100,000	---
(FC)	CYPRESS CREEK, HOUSTON, TX	---	300,000	---	300,000
(SPE)	CYPRESS VALLEY WATERSHED, TX	50,000	---	50,000	---
(FC)	DALLAS FLOODWAY EXTENSION, TRINITY RIVER, TX	---	500,000	---	500,000
(N)	GIWW - ARANSAS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, TX	---	750,000	---	750,000
(RDP)	GIWW - HIGH ISLAND TO BRAZOS RIVER, TX (SECTION 216)	300,000	---	300,000	---
(RCP)	GIWW - PORT O'CONNOR TO CORPUS CHRISTI BAY, TX	150,000	---	---	---
(RDP)	GIWW-CC BAY TO PORT ISABEL, TX AA642	400,000	---	400,000	---
(FC)	GREENS BAYOU, HOUSTON, TX	---	300,000	---	300,000
(N)	HOUSTON - GALVESTON NAVIGATION CHANNELS, TX	---	1,100,000	---	1,100,000
(N)	NECHES RIVER & TRIBS SALTWATER BARRIER, TX	---	100,000	---	100,000
(FDP)	PECAN BAYOU, BROWNWOOD, TX	150,000	---	150,000	---
(FDP)	PLAINVIEW, BRAZOS RIVER BASIN, TX	30,000	---	30,000	---
(FC)	SOUTH MAIN CHANNEL, TX	---	900,000	---	900,000
(FDP)	UPPER TRINITY RIVER BASIN, TX	304,000	---	304,000	---
	UTAH				
	PROVO AND VICINITY, UT	---	---	450,000	---
(FC)	UPPER JORDAN RIVER, UT	---	100,000	---	100,000
	VIRGIN ISLANDS				
(RDP)	CROWN BAY CHANNEL, VI	150,000	---	150,000	---
	VIRGINIA				
(N)	AIWW BRIDGE AT GREAT BRIDGE, VA	---	1,000,000	---	1,000,000
	CHESAPEAKE BAY SHORELINE, POQUOSON, VA	---	---	100,000	---
(SPE)	EASTERN SHORE, ACCOMACK AND NORTHAMPTON COUNTIES, VA	248,000	---	248,000	---
(RCP)	JOHN H KERR LAKE, VA & NC	350,000	---	250,000	---
(SPE)	NANSEMOND RIVER BASIN, SUFFOLK, VA	370,000	---	370,000	---
(BE)	SANDBRIDGE, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	---	470,000	---	470,000
	WASHINGTON				
(SPE)	CHIEF JOSEPH POOL RAISE, WA	400,000	---	400,000	---
(COM)	DUWAMISH AND GREEN RIVER, WA	300,000	---	300,000	---
(RCP)	HOWARD HANSON DAM (ADDITIONAL STORAGE), WA	400,000	---	400,000	---
(RDP)	MOUNT ST HELENS ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, WA	15,000	---	---	---
(N)	PUGET SOUND CONFINED DISPOSAL SITES, WA	98,000	---	98,000	---
(COM)	STILLAGUAMISH RIVER, WA	200,000	---	200,000	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATES INVESTIGATIONS	BUDGET ESTIMATES PLANNING	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE INVESTIGATIONS	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE PLANNING
	WEST VIRGINIA				
(FDP)	CHEAT RIVER BASIN, WV	65,000	---	65,000	---
(N)	KANAWHA RIVER NAVIGATION, WV	703,000	---	703,000	---
(N)	MARMET LOCKS AND DAM, WV	---	5,319,000	---	5,319,000
(N)	MONONGAHELA RIVER WATERFRONT, WV	300,000	---	300,000	---
(FDP)	NORTH BRANCH POTOMAC RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL RESTOR, WV &.	275,000	---	275,000	---
	TYGART RIVER BASIN, WV	---	---	400,000	---
	TYGART RIVER BASIN (BARBOUR COUNTY), WV	---	---	400,000	---
	WEST VIRGINIA PORT DEVELOPMENT, WV	---	---	300,000	---
	WYOMING				
(FDP)	JACKSON HOLE RESTORATION, WY	270,000	---	270,000	---
	MISCELLANEOUS				
	AUTOMATED INFORMATION SYSTEM SUPPORT	3,605,000	---	2,600,000	---
	COASTAL FIELD DATA COLLECTION	4,000,000	---	3,600,000	---
	COORDINATION STUDIES WITH OTHER AGENCIES	14,790,000	---	7,920,000	---
	ENVIRONMENTAL DATA STUDIES	160,000	---	---	---
	ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE PARTNERSHIPS	615,000	---	---	---
	FLOOD DAMAGE DATA	500,000	---	---	---
	FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT SERVICES	15,000,000	---	8,600,000	---
	GREAT LAKES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM (SEC. 401)	---	---	500,000	---
	HYDROLOGIC STUDIES	770,000	---	700,000	---
	INTERNATIONAL WATER STUDIES	500,000	---	500,000	---
	NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF WATER SUPPLY DEMAND AND AVAILAB	3,000,000	---	---	---
	NATIONAL DREDGING NEEDS STUDY OF PORTS AND HARBORS	909,000	---	450,000	---
	NATIONAL SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE	2,050,000	---	---	---
	OHIO RIVER BASIN STUDY	---	---	500,000	---
	PRECIPITATION STUDIES (NATIONAL WEATEHER SERVICE)	550,000	---	400,000	---
	PRESIDENT'S CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN	600,000	---	---	---
	REMOTE SENSING/GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM SUPPORT	400,000	---	300,000	---
	RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	40,574,000	---	30,432,000	---
	SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTERS	350,000	---	175,000	---
	STREAM GAGING (U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY)	770,000	---	770,000	---
	TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS	950,000	---	950,000	---
	REDUCTION FOR ANTICIPATED SAVINGS AND SLIPPAGE	-26,988,000	---	-41,117,000	---
	TOTAL, GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS	117,273,000	38,352,000	79,673,000	42,094,000

TYPE OF PROJECT:
- (N) NAVIGATION
- (BE) BEACH EROSION CONTROL
- (FC) FLOOD CONTROL
- (MP) MULTIPURPOSE, INCLUDING POWER
- (SP) SHORELINE PROTECTION
- (FDP) FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION
- (RCP) REVIEW OF COMPLETED PROJECT
- (RDP) REVIEW OF DEFERRED PROJECT
- (COMP) COMPREHENSIVE
- (SPEC) SPECIAL

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTION, GENERAL

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE
	ALABAMA		
(N)	BAYOU LA BATRE, AL	1,000,000	1,000,000
(N)	BLACK WARRIOR AND TOMBIGBEE RIVERS, VICINITY OF JACKSO	500,000	500,000
(N)	TENNESSEE - TOMBIGBEE WATERWAY WILDLIFE MITIGATION, AL	12,400,000	12,400,000
	ALASKA		
(N)	HOMER SPIT, REPAIR AND EXTENSION, AK	---	3,800,000
(N)	KODIAK HARBOR, AK	3,000,000	3,000,000
	ARIZONA		
(FC)	CLIFTON, AZ	900,000	900,000
(FC)	HOLBROOK, AZ	2,261,000	2,261,000
(FC)	NOGALES WASH, AZ	75,000	75,000
(FC)	RILLITO RIVER, AZ	4,894,000	4,894,000
	ARKANSAS		
(MP)	DARDANELLE LOCK AND DAM POWERHOUSE, AR (MAJOR REHAB)	3,500,000	3,500,000
(N)	MCCLELLAN - KERR AR RVR NAV SYSTEM, LOCKS AND DAMS, AR	6,000,000	6,000,000
	RED RIVER EMERGENCY BANK PROTECTION, AR	---	6,600,000
	CALIFORNIA		
(FC)	COYOTE AND BERRYESSA CREEKS, CA	12,000,000	12,000,000
(FC)	GUADALUPE RIVER, CA	8,100,000	8,100,000
(FC)	LOS ANGELES COUNTY DRAINAGE AREA, CA	11,367,000	11,367,000
(N)	LOS ANGELES HARBOR, CA	100,000	250,000
	LOWER SACRAMENTO AREA RECONSTRUCTION, CA	---	500,000
(FC)	MARYSVILLE/YUBA CITY LEVEE RECONSTRUCTION, CA	6,000,000	6,000,000
(FC)	MERCED COUNTY STREAMS, CA	700,000	700,000
	MID-VALLEY AREA LEVEE RECONSTRUCTION, CA	---	500,000
(N)	MORRO BAY HARBOR, CA	124,000	124,000
(N)	OAKLAND HARBOR, CA	14,000,000	14,000,000
(N)	RICHMOND HARBOR, CA	3,296,000	3,296,000
(FC)	SACRAMENTO RIVER BANK PROTECTION PROJECT, CA	3,000,000	3,000,000
(N)	SACRAMENTO RIVER DEEPWATER SHIP CHANNEL, CA	100,000	100,000
(FC)	SACRAMENTO RIVER FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT, CA (DEF CORR)	100,000	100,000
	SACRAMENTO RIVER FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT (GCID), CA	---	300,000
(FC)	SACRAMENTO URBAN AREA LEVEE RECONSTRUCTION, CA	1,870,000	1,870,000
	SAN DIEGO RIVER AND MISSION BAY, CA	---	1,900,000
(N)	SAN FRANCISCO BAY TO STOCKTON, CA	800,000	800,000
(FC)	SANTA ANA RIVER MAINSTEM, CA	70,249,000	70,249,000
(FC)	SANTA PAULA CREEK, CA	300,000	2,300,000
(N)	SONOMA BAYLANDS WETLAND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT, CA	500,000	500,000
(BE)	SURFSIDE - SUNSET - NEWPORT BEACH, CA	100,000	100,000
(FC)	WEST SACRAMENTO, CA	7,000,000	7,000,000
(FC)	WILDCAT AND SAN PABLO CREEKS, CA	1,240,000	1,240,000
(E)	YOLO BASIN WETLANDS, SACRAMENTO RIVER, CA	720,000	720,000
	COLORADO		
(FC)	ALAMOSA, CO	600,000	600,000
	FLORIDA		
	BROWARD COUNTY, FL	---	450,000
(FC)	CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA, FL	3,726,000	4,026,000
(FC)	DADE COUNTY, FL	1,300,000	1,300,000
(N)	FORT PIERCE HARBOR, FL	2,590,000	2,590,000
(MP)	JIM WOODRUFF LOCK AND DAM POWERHOUSE, FL & GA (MAJOR R	600,000	600,000
(BE)	LEE COUNTY, FL (REIMBURSEMENT)	600,000	600,000
(N)	MANATEE HARBOR, FL	1,450,000	1,450,000
(BE)	MARTIN COUNTY, FL	3,202,000	3,202,000
(N)	MIAMI HARBOR CHANNEL, FL	1,000,000	1,000,000
	PINELLAS COUNTY, FL	---	3,000,000
(BE)	SARASOTA COUNTY, FL	4,400,000	4,400,000
	ST JOHNS COUNTY (ST AUGUSTINE BEACH), FL	---	350,000
	GEORGIA		
(MP)	HARTWELL LAKE POWERHOUSE, GA & SC (MAJOR REHAB)	1,400,000	1,400,000
(MP)	RICHARD B RUSSELL DAM AND LAKE, GA & SC	4,400,000	4,400,000
(MP)	THURMOND LAKE POWERHOUSE, GA & SC (MAJOR REHAB)	2,200,000	2,200,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTION, GENERAL

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE
	ILLINOIS		
(FC)	EAST ST LOUIS, IL	3,700,000	3,700,000
(N)	FOUR LOCKS, ILLINOIS WATERWAY, IL (MAJOR REHAB)	3,254,000	3,254,000
(N)	LOCK AND DAM 24, MISSISSIPPI RIVER, IL & MO (MAJOR REH	2,000,000	2,000,000
(N)	LOCK AND DAM 25, MISSISSIPPI RIVER, IL & MO (MAJOR REH	4,300,000	4,300,000
(FC)	LOVES PARK, IL	750,000	750,000
(N)	MELVIN PRICE LOCK AND DAM, IL & MO	2,400,000	2,400,000
(N)	OLMSTED LOCKS AND DAM, IL & KY	32,100,000	32,100,000
(FC)	REND LAKE, IL (DEF CORR)	300,000	300,000
(N)	UPPER MISS RIVER SYSTEM ENV MGMT PROG, IL, IA, MO, MN.	19,455,000	19,455,000
	INDIANA		
(N)	BURNS WATERWAY HARBOR, IN (MAJOR REHAB)	4,000,000	4,000,000
(FC)	FORT WAYNE METROPOLITAN AREA, IN	4,000,000	4,000,000
	INDIANA SHORELINE EROSION, IN	---	1,500,000
	INDIANAPOLIS CENTRAL WATERFRONT, IN	---	2,000,000
(FC)	LITTLE CALUMET RIVER, IN	5,000,000	5,000,000
	OHIO RIVER FLOOD PROTECTION, IN	---	1,000,000
	IOWA		
(N)	LOCK AND DAM 14, MISSISSIPPI RIVER, IA (MAJOR REHAB)	700,000	700,000
(N)	MISSOURI RIVER FISH AND WILDLIFE MITIGATION, IA, NE, K	5,700,000	5,700,000
(FC)	MISSOURI RIVER LEVEE SYSTEM, IA, NE, KS & MO	125,000	125,000
(FC)	MUSCATINE ISLAND, IA	220,000	220,000
(FC)	PERRY CREEK, IA	168,000	168,000
(FC)	WEST DES MOINES, DES MOINES, IA	4,040,000	4,040,000
	KANSAS		
	ARKANSAS CITY, KS	---	700,000
	WINFIELD, KS	---	670,000
	KENTUCKY		
(MP)	BARKLEY DAM AND LAKE BARKLEY, KY	1,600,000	1,600,000
(FC)	DEWEY LAKE, KY (DAM SAFETY)	1,400,000	1,400,000
(FC)	FRANKFORT, SOUTH FRANKFORT, KY	2,623,000	2,623,000
	MCALPINE LOCK AND DAM, KY, IN	---	3,487,000
	SALYERSVILLE, KY	---	500,000
	LOUISIANA		
	LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN STORM WATER DISCHARGE, LA	---	850,000
(FC)	ALOHA - RIGOLETTE, LA	2,379,000	2,379,000
(FC)	LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN AND VICINITY, LA (HURRICANE PROTECT	7,848,000	13,348,000
(FC)	LAROSE TO GOLDEN MEADOW, LA (HURRICANE PROTECTION)	1,440,000	1,440,000
(N)	MISSISSIPPI RIVER - GULF OUTLET, LA	3,200,000	3,200,000
(FC)	NEW ORLEANS TO VENICE, LA (HURRICANE PROTECTION)	3,360,000	3,360,000
	OUACHITA RIVER LEVEES, LA	---	2,300,000
	RED RIVER BELOW DENISON DAM, LA, AR, TX	---	2,500,000
(N)	RED RIVER WATERWAY, MISSISSIPPI RIVER TO SHREVEPORT, L	16,673,000	16,673,000
	SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA, LA	---	2,000,000
(FC)	WESTWEGO TO HARVEY CANAL, LA (HURRICANE PROTECTION)	1,000,000	1,000,000
	MARYLAND		
	BALTIMORE HARBOR AND CHANNELS, MD	---	339,000
(E)	CHESAPEAKE BAY OYSTER RECOVERY, MD	230,000	230,000
	MASSACHUSETTS		
	ROUGHANS PT, REVERE, MA	---	710,000
(FC)	TOWN BROOK, QUINCY AND BRAINTREE, MA	990,000	990,000
	MICHIGAN		
	CEDAR RIVER HARBOR, MI	---	82,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTION, GENERAL

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE
	MINNESOTA		
(FC)	CHASKA, MN	3,740,000	3,740,000
	MARSHALL, MN	---	850,000
	MISSISSIPPI		
(N)	PASCAGOULA HARBOR, MS	2,812,000	2,812,000
(FC)	TOMBIGBEE RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES, MS & AL	4,686,000	4,686,000
	MISSOURI		
(FC)	BLUE RIVER CHANNEL, KANSAS CITY, MO	9,600,000	9,600,000
(FC)	CAPE GIRARDEAU - JACKSON, MO	200,000	200,000
(N)	MISS RIVER BTWN THE OHIO AND MO RIVERS (REG WORKS), MO	5,700,000	4,700,000
	STE GENEVIEVE, MO	---	1,000,000
	NEBRASKA		
(FC)	MISSOURI NATIONAL RECREATIONAL RIVER, NE & SD	20,000	20,000
	NEVADA		
(FC)	TROPICANA AND FLAMINGO WASHES, NV	4,000,000	4,000,000
	NEW JERSEY		
(FC)	MOLLY ANN'S BROOK AT HALEDON, PROSPECT PARK AND PATERS	3,750,000	3,750,000
(N)	NEW YORK HARBOR & ADJACENT CHANNELS, PORT JERSEY CHANN	550,000	550,000
(FC)	RAMAPO RIVER AT OAKLAND,NJ	70,000	70,000
(N)	SALEM RIVER, NJ	3,576,000	3,576,000
(BE)	SANDY HOOK TO BARNEGAT INLET, NJ	15,700,000	15,700,000
	NEW MEXICO		
(FC)	ABIQUIU DAM EMERGENCY GATES, NM	1,200,000	1,200,000
(FC)	ACEQUIAS IRRIGATION SYSTEM, NM	120,000	1,500,000
(FC)	ALAMOGORDO, NM	100,000	100,000
	NEW YORK		
(BE)	EAST ROCKAWAY INLET TO ROCKAWAY INLET AND JAMAICA BAY,	6,100,000	6,100,000
(BE)	FIRE ISLAND INLET TO MONTAUK POINT, NY	10,400,000	10,400,000
(N)	NEW YORK HARBOR COLLECTION AND REMOVAL OF DRIFT, NY &.	100,000	100,000
(FC)	NORTH ELLENVILLE, NY (DEF CORR)	4,015,000	4,015,000
	NORTH CAROLINA		
(N)	AIWW - REPLACEMENT OF FEDERAL HIGHWAY BRIDGES, NC	6,500,000	5,600,000
(FC)	CAROLINA BEACH AND VICINITY, NC	3,300,000	3,300,000
(BE)	FORT FISHER, NC	2,094,000	2,094,000
	NORTH DAKOTA		
(FC)	HOMME LAKE, ND (DAM SAFETY)	200,000	200,000
(FC)	LAKE ASHTABULA AND BALDHILL DAM, ND (DAM SAFETY)	4,700,000	4,700,000
(FC)	LAKE ASHTABULA AND BALDHILL DAM, ND (MAJOR REHAB)	853,000	853,000
(FC)	SHEYENNE RIVER, ND	500,000	500,000
	OHIO		
	HOLES CREEK, WEST CARROLLTON, OH	---	190,000
(FC)	WEST COLUMBUS, OH	2,800,000	2,800,000
	OKLAHOMA		
(FC)	FRY CREEKS, BIXBY, OK	1,700,000	1,700,000
(FC)	MINGO CREEK, TULSA, OK	4,400,000	4,400,000
(MP)	TENKILLER FERRY LAKE, OK (DAM SAFETY)	530,000	530,000
	OREGON		
(MP)	BONNEVILLE POWERHOUSE PHASE I, OR & WA (MAJOR REHAB)	8,530,000	8,530,000
(MP)	BONNEVILLE POWERHOUSE PHASE II, OR & WA (MAJOR REHAB)	7,000,000	7,000,000
	COLUMBIA RIVER IN-LIEU INDIAN FISHING SITES, OR & WA	---	1,720,000
(FC)	ELK CREEK LAKE, OR	500,000	500,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTION, GENERAL

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE
	PENNSYLVANIA		
	BROAD TOP REGION, PA	---	4,100,000
(FC)	JOHNSTOWN, PA (MAJOR REHAB)	1,230,000	1,230,000
	GLEN FOERD, PA	---	200,000
(FC)	LACKAWANNA RIVER, OLYPHANT, PA	240,000	240,000
(FC)	LACKAWANNA RIVER, SCRANTON, PA	357,000	357,000
(N)	LOCKS AND DAMS 2, 3 & 4, MONONGAHELA RIVER, PA	15,000,000	15,000,000
(BE)	PRESQUE ISLE PENINSULA, PA (PERMANENT)	450,000	450,000
	SOUTH CENTRAL PENN ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, PA	---	3,500,000
(FC)	TURTLE CREEK, PA	1,964,000	1,964,000
(FC)	WYOMING VALLEY, PA (LEVEE RAISING)	4,300,000	4,300,000
	PUERTO RICO		
(FC)	PORTUGUES AND BUCANA RIVERS, PR	12,451,000	12,451,000
(FC)	RIO DE LA PLATA, PR	250,000	250,000
(FC)	RIO PUERTO NUEVO, PR	7,000,000	7,000,000
	SOUTH CAROLINA		
(BE)	MYRTLE BEACH, SC	17,000,000	17,000,000
	TENNESSEE		
(MP)	CENTER HILL DAM, TN (DAM SAFETY)	904,000	904,000
	TEXAS		
(FC)	BEALS CREEK, BIG SPRING, TX	1,916,000	1,916,000
(N)	CHANNEL TO VICTORIA, TX	3,100,000	3,100,000
(FC)	EL PASO, TX	400,000	400,000
(N)	GIWW - SARGENT BEACH, TX	20,000,000	20,000,000
(FC)	MCGRATH CREEK, WICHITA FALLS, TX	110,000	110,000
(FC)	RAY ROBERTS LAKE, TX	3,500,000	3,500,000
(MP)	SAM RAYBURN DAM AND RESERVOIR, TX (DAM SAFETY)	9,474,000	9,474,000
(FC)	SAN ANTONIO CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT, TX	7,097,000	7,097,000
(FC)	SIMS BAYOU, HOUSTON, TX	12,000,000	12,000,000
(FC)	WACO LAKE, TX (DAM SAFETY)	300,000	300,000
	WALLISVILLE LAKE, TX	---	5,000,000
	VIRGINIA		
(FC)	JAMES R OLIN FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT, VA	7,400,000	7,400,000
(N)	NORFOLK HARBOR AND CHANNELS (DEEPENING), VA	600,000	600,000
(FC)	ROANOKE RIVER UPPER BASIN, HEADWATERS AREA, VA	400,000	400,000
	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	---	1,100,000
(BE)	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA (REIMBURSEMENT)	925,000	925,000
	WASHINGTON		
(FC)	CHEHALIS RIVER, SOUTH ABERDEEN AND COSMOPOLIS, WA	1,377,000	1,377,000
(MP)	COLUMBIA RIVER JUVENILE FISH MITIGATION, WA, OR & ID	78,800,000	78,800,000
(FC)	HOWARD HANSON DAM, WA (DAM SAFETY)	1,587,000	1,587,000
(MP)	LOWER SNAKE RIVER FISH & WILDLIFE COMPENSATION, WA, OR	8,000,000	8,000,000
	WEST VIRGINIA		
(FC)	LEVISA AND TUG FORKS AND UPPER CUMBERLAND RIVER, WV, V	6,300,000	26,200,000
(FC)	MOOREFIELD, WV	4,200,000	4,200,000
(FC)	PETERSBURG, WV	7,900,000	7,900,000
(N)	ROBERT C BYRD LOCKS AND DAM, OHIO RIVER, WV & OH	10,000,000	10,000,000
(N)	WINFIELD LOCKS AND DAM, WV	11,840,000	11,840,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTION, GENERAL

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE
	WISCONSIN		
	PORTAGE, WI	---	250,000
	MISCELLANEOUS		
	AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL PROGRAM	---	4,000,000
	BEACH EROSION CONTROL PROJECTS (SECTION 103)	3,000,000	1,500,000
	CLEARING AND SNAGGING (SECTION 208)	500,000	300,000
	DAM SAFETY ASSURANCE PROGRAM	2,000,000	2,000,000
	EMERGENCY STREAMBANK & SHORELINE PROTECTION (SEC. 14)	10,000,000	7,000,000
	EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION	18,984,000	18,984,000
	FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS (SECTION 205)	22,000,000	17,000,000
	INLAND WATERWAYS USERS BOARD - BOARD EXPENSES	40,000	40,000
	INLAND WATERWAYS USERS BOARD - CORPS EXPENSES	185,000	185,000
	NAVIGATION MITIGATION (SECTION 111)	500,000	600,000
	NAVIGATION PROJECTS (SECTION 107)	5,000,000	3,500,000
	PROJECT MODIFICATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE ENVIRONME	24,280,000	10,850,000
	WETLAND AND AQUATIC HABITAT CREATION	15,000,000	2,500,000
	REDUCTION FOR ANTICIPATED SAVINGS AND SLIPPAGE	-33,401,000	-62,201,000
	TOTAL, CONSTRUCTION GENERAL	785,125,000	804,573,000

TYPE OF PROJECT:
(N) NAVIGATION
(BE) BEACH EROSION CONTROL
(FC) FLOOD CONTROL
(MP) MULTIPURPOSE, INCLUDING POWER

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - FLOOD CONTROL, MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
	GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS		
	SURVEYS:		
	GENERAL STUDIES:		
(FDP)	MORGANZA, LA TO THE GULF OF MEXICO	500,000	500,000
(FDP)	MISSISSIPPI DELTA, MS	1,800,000	1,800,000
(FDP)	REELFOOT LAKE, TN	238,000	238,000
	COLLECTION AND STUDY OF BASIC DATA	325,000	325,000
	PRECONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING AND DESIGN:		
(FC)	EASTERN ARKANSAS REGION (COMPREHENSIVE STUDY), AR	2,200,000	2,200,000
(FC)	LOWER WHITE RIVER, BIG CREEK & TRIBUTARIES, AR	200,000	200,000
	LOUISIANA STATE PENITENTIARY LEVEE, LA	---	100,000
	SUBTOTAL, GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS	5,263,000	5,363,000
	CONSTRUCTION		
(FC)	CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN	63,090,000	61,000,000
(FC)	EIGHT MILE CREEK, AR	580,000	580,000
(FC)	MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEES, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN	32,450,000	30,000,000
(FC)	ST FRANCIS BASIN, AR & MO	10,000,000	10,000,000
(FC)	TENSAS BASIN, RED RIVER BACKWATER, LA	11,294,000	11,294,000
(FC)	WHITEMAN'S CREEK, AR	850,000	850,000
(FC)	ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, FLOODWAY SYSTEM, LA	5,300,000	5,300,000
(FC)	ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, LA	27,000,000	27,000,000
(FC)	MISSISSIPPI AND LOUISIANA ESTUARINE AREAS, MS & LA	1,500,000	1,500,000
(FC)	MISSISSIPPI DELTA REGION, LA	13,300,000	13,300,000
(FC)	HORN LAKE CREEK & TRIBUTARIES (INCL COW PEN CREEK), MS	148,000	148,000
	YAZOO BASIN, MS:	(47,928,000)	(47,928,000)
(FC)	BIG SUNFLOWER RIVER, MS	8,920,000	8,920,000
(FC)	DEMONSTRATION EROSION CONTROL, MS	22,000,000	22,000,000
(FC)	F&WL MITIGATION LANDS, MS	25,000	25,000
(FC)	MAIN STEM, MS	25,000	25,000
(FC)	REFORMULATION UNIT, MS	2,810,000	2,810,000
(FC)	TRIBUTARIES, MS	2,948,000	2,948,000
(FC)	UPPER YAZOO PROJECTS, MS	11,200,000	11,200,000
(FC)	NONCONNAH CREEK, TN & MS	1,600,000	1,600,000
(FC)	WEST TENNESSEE TRIBUTARIES, TN	2,900,000	2,900,000
	SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	217,940,000	213,400,000
	MAINTENANCE		
(FC)	CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN	61,825,000	56,000,000
(FC)	LOWER ARKANSAS RIVER - NORTH BANK, AR	146,000	146,000
(FC)	LOWER ARKANSAS RIVER - SOUTH BANK, AR	115,000	115,000
(FC)	MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEES, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN	5,630,000	5,630,000
(FC)	ST FRANCIS RIVER BASIN, AR & MO	9,363,000	9,363,000
(FC)	TENSAS BASIN, BOEUF AND TENSAS RIVERS, AR & LA	2,628,000	2,628,000
(FC)	WHITE RIVER BACKWATER, AR	1,258,000	1,258,000
(FC)	ATCHAFALAYA BASIN FLOODWAY SYSTEM, LA	206,000	206,000
(FC)	ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, LA	13,341,000	13,341,000
(FC)	BATON ROUGE HARBOR - DEVIL SWAMP, LA	150,000	150,000
(FC)	BAYOU COCODRIE AND TRIBUTARIES, LA	87,000	87,000
(FC)	BONNET CARRE, LA	875,000	875,000
(FC)	LOWER RED RIVER - SOUTH BANK LEVEES, LA	77,000	77,000
(FC)	MISSISSIPPI DELTA REGION, CAERNARVON, LA	415,000	415,000
(FC)	OLD RIVER, LA	4,821,000	4,821,000
(FC)	TENSAS BASIN, RED RIVER BACKWATER, LA	2,740,000	2,740,000
(N)	GREENVILLE HARBOR, MS	258,000	258,000
(N)	VICKSBURG HARBOR, MS	223,000	223,000
	YAZOO BASIN, MS:	(22,638,000)	(22,638,000)
(FC)	ARKABUTLA LAKE, MS	3,500,000	3,500,000
(FC)	BIG SUNFLOWER RIVER, MS	2,012,000	2,012,000
(FC)	ENID LAKE, MS	3,500,000	3,500,000
(FC)	GREENWOOD, MS	860,000	860,000
(FC)	GRENADA LAKE, MS	4,329,000	4,329,000
(FC)	MAIN STEM, MS	1,390,000	1,390,000
(FC)	SARDIS LAKE, MS	4,200,000	4,200,000
(FC)	TRIBUTARIES, MS	1,135,000	1,135,000
(FC)	WILL M WHITTINGTON AUX CHAN, MS	474,000	474,000
(FC)	YAZOO BACKWATER AREA, MS	529,000	529,000
(FC)	YAZOO CITY, MS	709,000	709,000
(FC)	WAPPAPELLO LAKE, MO	3,601,000	3,601,000
(N)	MEMPHIS HARBOR (MCKELLAR LAKE), TN	1,415,000	1,415,000
(FC)	INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS	1,368,000	1,368,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - FLOOD CONTROL, MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
(FC)	MAPPING	1,008,000	1,008,000
	SUBTOTAL, MAINTENANCE	134,188,000	128,363,000
	REDUCTION FOR SAVINGS AND SLIPPAGE	-38,141,000	-39,241,000
	TOTAL, FLOOD CONTROL, MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES	319,250,000	307,885,000

TYPE OF PROJECT:
(N) NAVIGATION
(FC) FLOOD CONTROL

	ALABAMA		
(N)	ALABAMA - COOSA RIVER, AL	5,668,000	5,668,000
(N)	BAYOU CODEN, AL	231,000	231,000
(N)	BAYOU LA BATRE, AL	455,000	455,000
(N)	BLACK WARRIOR AND TOMBIGBEE RIVERS, AL	16,820,000	16,820,000
(N)	BON SECOUR RIVER, AL	551,000	551,000
(N)	DAUPHIN ISLAND BAY, AL	252,000	252,000
(N)	DOG AND FOWL RIVERS, AL	505,000	505,000
(N)	FLY CREEK, AL	249,000	249,000
(N)	GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, AL	3,172,000	3,172,000
(MP)	MILLERS FERRY LOCK & DAM - WILLIAM "BILL" DANNELLY LAK	5,156,000	5,156,000
(N)	MOBILE HARBOR, AL	17,780,000	17,780,000
(N)	PERDIDO PASS CHANNEL, AL	350,000	350,000
(MP)	ROBERT F HENRY LOCK AND DAM, AL	3,688,000	3,688,000
(N)	TENNESSEE - TOMBIGBEE WATERWAY, AL & MS	21,090,000	21,090,000
(MP)	WALTER F GEORGE LOCK AND DAM, AL & GA	6,434,000	6,434,000
	ALASKA		
(N)	ANCHORAGE HARBOR, AK	1,380,000	1,380,000
(FC)	CHENA RIVER LAKES, AK	1,649,000	1,649,000
(N)	DILLINGHAM HARBOR, AK	599,000	599,000
(N)	HOMER HARBOR, AK	265,000	265,000
(N)	KETCHIKAN, THOMAS BASIN, AK	564,000	564,000
(N)	NINILCHIK HARBOR, AK	182,000	182,000
(N)	NOME HARBOR, AK	305,000	305,000
	VALDEZ HARBOR, AK	---	275,000
	ARIZONA		
(FC)	ALAMO LAKE, AZ	1,167,000	1,167,000
(FC)	PAINTED ROCK DAM, AZ	3,736,000	3,736,000
(FC)	WHITLOW RANCH DAM, AZ	112,000	112,000
	ARKANSAS		
(MP)	BEAVER LAKE, AR	3,983,000	3,983,000
(MP)	BLAKELY MT DAM - LAKE OUACHITA, AR	4,640,000	4,640,000
(FC)	BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE, AR	1,153,000	1,153,000
(MP)	BULL SHOALS LAKE, AR	4,575,000	4,575,000
(MP)	DARDANELLE LOCK AND DAM, AR	6,385,000	6,385,000
(MP)	DEGRAY LAKE, AR	4,189,000	4,189,000
(FC)	DEQUEEN LAKE, AR	1,096,000	1,096,000
(FC)	DIERKS LAKE, AR	997,000	997,000
(FC)	GILLHAM LAKE, AR	1,006,000	1,006,000
(MP)	GREERS FERRY LAKE, AR	4,447,000	4,447,000
(N)	HELENA HARBOR, AR	500,000	500,000
(N)	MCCLELLAN - KERR ARKANSAS RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM, AR.	25,248,000	25,248,000
(FC)	MILLWOOD LAKE, AR	1,789,000	1,789,000
(MP)	NARROWS DAM - LAKE GREESON, AR	3,524,000	3,524,000
(FC)	NIMROD LAKE, AR	1,363,000	1,363,000
(MP)	NORFORK LAKE, AR	3,582,000	3,582,000
(N)	OSCEOLA HARBOR, AR	453,000	453,000
(N)	OUACHITA AND BLACK RIVERS, AR & LA	5,304,000	5,304,000
(MP)	OZARK - JETA TAYLOR LOCK AND DAM, AR	4,175,000	4,175,000
(N)	WHITE RIVER, AR	2,200,000	2,200,000
(N)	YELLOW BEND PORT, AR	142,000	142,000
	CALIFORNIA		
(FC)	BLACK BUTTE LAKE, CA	1,534,000	1,534,000
(FC)	BUCHANAN DAM - H V EASTMAN LAKE, CA	1,529,000	1,529,000
(N)	CHANNEL ISLANDS HARBOR, CA	890,000	890,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - FLOOD CONTROL, MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
(FC)	COYOTE VALLEY DAM (LAKE MENDOCINO), CA	2,410,000	2,410,000
(FC)	DRY CREEK (WARM SPRINGS) LAKE AND CHANNEL, CA	3,172,000	3,172,000
(FC)	FARMINGTON DAM, CA	158,000	158,000
(FC)	HIDDEN DAM - HENSLEY LAKE, CA	1,705,000	1,705,000
(N)	HUMBOLDT HARBOR AND BAY, CA	4,670,000	4,670,000
(FC)	ISABELLA LAKE, CA	702,000	702,000
(N)	LOS ANGELES - LONG BEACH HARBOR MODEL, CA	160,000	160,000
(FC)	LOS ANGELES COUNTY DRAINAGE AREA, CA	3,413,000	3,413,000
	LOS ANGELES RIVER, CA	---	600,000
(FC)	MERCED COUNTY STREAM GROUP, CA	172,000	172,000
(FC)	MOJAVE RIVER DAM, CA	217,000	217,000
(N)	MORRO BAY HARBOR, CA	2,580,000	2,580,000
(N)	MOSS LANDING HARBOR, CA	845,000	845,000
(FC)	NEW HOGAN LAKE, CA	1,529,000	1,529,000
(MP)	NEW MELONES LAKE (DOWNSTREAM CHANNEL), CA	893,000	893,000
	NEWPORT BAY HARBOR, CA	---	1,265,000
(N)	OAKLAND HARBOR, CA	2,205,000	2,205,000
(N)	OCEANSIDE HARBOR, CA	1,045,000	1,045,000
	OCEANSIDE HARBOR SAND BYPASS, CA	---	750,000
(N)	PETALUMA RIVER, CA	1,690,000	1,690,000
	PILLAR POINT HARBOR, CA	---	400,000
(FC)	PINE FLAT LAKE, CA	2,451,000	2,451,000
(N)	PORT HUENEME, CA	135,000	135,000
(N)	REDWOOD CITY HARBOR, CA	2,600,000	2,600,000
(N)	RICHMOND HARBOR, CA	6,481,000	6,481,000
(N)	SACRAMENTO RIVER (30 FOOT PROJECT), CA	457,000	457,000
(N)	SACRAMENTO RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES (DEBRIS CONTROL), CA	872,000	872,000
(N)	SACRAMENTO RIVER SHALLOW DRAFT CHANNEL, CA	117,000	117,000
(N)	SAN DIEGO HARBOR, CA	1,085,000	1,085,000
(N)	SAN FRANCISCO BAY - DELTA MODEL STRUCTURE, CA	2,000,000	2,000,000
(N)	SAN FRANCISCO BAY LONG TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, CA	150,000	150,000
(N)	SAN FRANCISCO HARBOR AND BAY (DRIFT REMOVAL), CA	2,195,000	2,195,000
(N)	SAN FRANCISCO HARBOR, CA	1,825,000	1,825,000
(N)	SAN JOAQUIN RIVER, CA	1,659,000	1,659,000
(N)	SAN PABLO BAY AND MARE ISLAND STRAIT, CA	1,080,000	1,080,000
(FC)	SANTA ANA RIVER BASIN, CA	2,889,000	2,889,000
(N)	SANTA BARBARA HARBOR, CA	1,038,000	1,038,000
(FC)	SUCCESS LAKE, CA	2,358,000	2,358,000
(N)	SUISUN BAY CHANNEL, CA	665,000	665,000
(FC)	TERMINUS DAM (LAKE KAWEAH), CA	1,474,000	1,474,000
(N)	VENTURA HARBOR, CA	2,288,000	2,288,000
(N)	YUBA RIVER, CA	30,000	30,000
	COLORADO		
(FC)	BEAR CREEK LAKE, CO	429,000	429,000
(FC)	CHATFIELD LAKE, CO	1,000,000	1,000,000
(FC)	CHERRY CREEK LAKE, CO	978,000	978,000
(FC)	JOHN MARTIN RESERVOIR, CO	1,475,000	1,475,000
(FC)	TRINIDAD LAKE, CO	609,000	609,000
	CONNECTICUT		
(FC)	BLACK ROCK LAKE, CT	249,000	249,000
(FC)	COLEBROOK RIVER LAKE, CT	375,000	375,000
(FC)	HANCOCK BROOK LAKE, CT	264,000	264,000
(FC)	HOP BROOK LAKE, CT	724,000	724,000
(FC)	MANSFIELD HOLLOW LAKE, CT	349,000	349,000
(FC)	NORTHFIELD BROOK LAKE, CT	325,000	325,000
(FC)	STAMFORD HURRICANE BARRIER, CT	245,000	245,000
(N)	STONY CREEK, CT	412,000	412,000
(FC)	THOMASTON DAM, CT	471,000	471,000
(FC)	WEST THOMPSON LAKE, CT	486,000	486,000
	DELAWARE		
(N)	CHESAPEAKE AND DELAWARE CANAL - ST GEORGE'S BRIDGE REP	14,000,000	14,000,000
(N)	INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, DELAWARE R TO CHESAPEAKE BAY, D	16,090,000	16,090,000
(N)	MURDERKILL RIVER, DE	40,000	40,000
(N)	WILMINGTON HARBOR, DE	2,513,000	2,513,000
	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
(N)	POTOMAC AND ANACOSTIA RIVERS (DRIFT REMOVAL), DC	785,000	785,000
(N)	WASHINGTON HARBOR, DC	35,000	35,000
	FLORIDA		
(N)	AIWW, NORFOLK TO ST JOHNS RIVER, FL, GA, SC, NC & VA	75,000	75,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - FLOOD CONTROL, MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
(N)	APALACHICOLA BAY, FL	187,000	187,000
(N)	CANAVERAL HARBOR, FL	4,736,000	4,736,000
(FC)	CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA, FL	9,846,000	9,846,000
(N)	CHARLOTTE HARBOR, FL	3,275,000	3,275,000
(N)	EAST PASS CHANNEL, FL	886,000	886,000
(N)	FERNANDINA HARBOR, FL	1,623,000	1,623,000
(N)	FORT PIERCE HARBOR, FL	712,000	712,000
(N)	INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, CALOOSAHATCHEE R TO ANCLOTE R,	221,000	221,000
(N)	INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, JACKSONVILLE TO MIAMI, FL	3,293,000	3,293,000
(N)	JACKSONVILLE HARBOR, FL	4,119,000	4,119,000
(MP)	JIM WOODRUFF LOCK AND DAM, LAKE SEMINOLE, FL, AL & GA.	5,111,000	5,111,000
(N)	JOHNS PASS, PINELLAS COUNTY, FL	400,000	400,000
(N)	MIAMI HARBOR, FL	295,000	295,000
(N)	NEW PASS, SARASOTA, FL	1,086,000	1,086,000
(N)	OKEECHOBEE WATERWAY, FL	3,933,000	3,933,000
(N)	OKLAWAHA RIVER, FL	127,000	127,000
(N)	PALM BEACH HARBOR, FL	1,459,000	1,459,000
(N)	PANAMA CITY HARBOR, FL	717,000	717,000
(N)	PONCE DE LEON INLET, FL	2,147,000	2,147,000
(N)	PORT ST JOE HARBOR, FL	72,000	72,000
	REMOVAL OF AQUATIC GROWTH, FL	3,700,000	3,700,000
(N)	ST AUGUSTINE HARBOR, FL	4,000	804,000
(N)	ST LUCIE INLET, FL	85,000	85,000
(N)	TAMPA HARBOR, FL	3,744,000	3,744,000
(N)	WITHLACOOCHIE RIVER, FL	34,000	34,000
	GEORGIA		
(MP)	ALLATOONA LAKE, GA	5,894,000	5,894,000
(N)	APALACHICOLA CHATTAHOOCHEE AND FLINT RIVERS, GA, AL &.	4,321,000	4,321,000
(N)	ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, GA	1,916,000	1,916,000
(N)	BRUNSWICK HARBOR, GA	3,411,000	3,411,000
(MP)	BUFORD DAM AND LAKE SIDNEY LANIER, GA	7,377,000	7,377,000
(MP)	CARTERS DAM AND LAKE, GA	5,218,000	5,218,000
(MP)	HARTWELL LAKE, GA & SC	10,364,000	10,364,000
(MP)	J STROM THURMOND LAKE, GA & SC	9,480,000	9,480,000
(MP)	RICHARD B RUSSELL, GA	7,307,000	7,307,000
(N)	SAVANNAH HARBOR, GA	8,377,000	8,377,000
(N)	SAVANNAH RIVER BELOW AUGUSTA, GA	2,475,000	2,475,000
(MP)	WEST POINT DAM AND LAKE, GA & AL	5,114,000	5,114,000
	HAWAII		
(N)	BARBERS POINT HARBOR, HI	143,000	143,000
(FC)	IAO STREAM FLOOD CONTROL, MAUI, HI	480,000	480,000
	IDAHO		
(MP)	ALBENI FALLS DAM, ID	4,467,000	4,467,000
(MP)	DWORSHAK DAM AND RESERVOIR, ID	9,144,000	9,144,000
(FC)	LUCKY PEAK LAKE, ID	1,054,000	1,054,000
	ILLINOIS		
(N)	ANDALUSIA HARBOR, IL	71,000	71,000
(N)	CALUMET HARBOR AND RIVER, IL & IN	600,000	600,000
(FC)	CARLYLE LAKE, IL	3,715,000	3,715,000
(N)	CHICAGO HARBOR, IL	2,545,000	2,545,000
(N)	CHICAGO RIVER, IL	610,000	610,000
(FC)	FARM CREEK RESERVOIRS, IL	273,000	273,000
(N)	ILLINOIS AND MISSISSIPPI CANAL, IL	465,000	465,000
(N)	ILLINOIS WATERWAY (LMVD PORTION), IL	1,440,000	1,440,000
(N)	ILLINOIS WATERWAY (NCD PORTION), IL & IN	20,844,000	20,844,000
(N)	KASKASKIA RIVER NAVIGATION, IL	1,717,000	1,717,000
(N)	LAKE MICHIGAN DIVERSION, IL	645,000	645,000
(FC)	LAKE SHELBYVILLE, IL	6,399,000	6,399,000
(N)	MISS R BETWEEN MO R AND MINNEAPOLIS (LMVD PORTION), IL	12,437,000	12,437,000
(N)	MISS R BETWEEN MO R AND MINNEAPOLIS, IL, IA, MN, MO &.	73,347,000	73,347,000
(FC)	REND LAKE, IL	3,434,000	3,434,000
(N)	ROCK ISLAND SMALL BOAT HARBOR, IL	123,000	123,000
(N)	WAUKEGAN HARBOR, IL	970,000	970,000
	INDIANA		
(FC)	BEVERLY SHORES, IN	35,000	35,000
(FC)	BROOKVILLE LAKE, IN	711,000	711,000
(N)	BURNS WATERWAY HARBOR, IN	1,545,000	1,545,000
(N)	BURNS WATERWAY SMALL BOAT HARBOR, IN	95,000	95,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - FLOOD CONTROL, MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
(FC)	CAGLES MILL LAKE, IN	625,000	625,000
(FC)	CECIL M HARDEN LAKE, IN	762,000	762,000
(FC)	HUNTINGTON LAKE, IN	643,000	643,000
(N)	INDIANA HARBOR, IN	320,000	320,000
(N)	MICHIGAN CITY HARBOR, IN	540,000	540,000
(FC)	MISSISSINEWA LAKE, IN	1,073,000	1,073,000
(FC)	MONROE LAKE, IN	680,000	680,000
(FC)	PATOKA LAKE, IN	790,000	790,000
(FC)	SALAMONIE LAKE, IN	807,000	807,000
	IOWA		
(FC)	CORALVILLE LAKE, IA	2,654,000	2,654,000
(FC)	MISSOURI RIVER - KENSLERS BEND, NE TO SIOUX CITY, IA	61,000	61,000
(N)	MISSOURI RIVER - SIOUX CITY TO MOUTH, IA, NE, KS & MO	6,068,000	6,068,000
(FC)	RATHBUN LAKE, IA	2,028,000	2,028,000
(FC)	RED ROCK DAM - LAKE RED ROCK, IA	3,539,000	3,539,000
(FC)	SAYLORVILLE LAKE, IA	4,956,000	4,956,000
	KANSAS		
(FC)	CLINTON LAKE, KS	2,014,000	2,014,000
(FC)	COUNCIL GROVE LAKE, KS	1,038,000	1,038,000
(FC)	EL DORADO LAKE, KS	498,000	498,000
(FC)	ELK CITY LAKE, KS	765,000	765,000
(FC)	FALL RIVER LAKE, KS	892,000	892,000
(FC)	HILLSDALE LAKE, KS	1,128,000	1,128,000
(FC)	JOHN REDMOND DAM AND RESERVOIR, KS	2,238,000	2,238,000
(FC)	KANOPOLIS LAKE, KS	1,493,000	1,493,000
(FC)	MARION LAKE, KS	2,533,000	2,533,000
(FC)	MELVERN LAKE, KS	1,567,000	1,567,000
(FC)	MILFORD LAKE, KS	1,886,000	1,886,000
(FC)	PEARSON - SKUBITZ BIG HILL LAKE, KS	893,000	893,000
(FC)	PERRY LAKE, KS	1,919,000	1,919,000
(FC)	POMONA LAKE, KS	1,939,000	1,939,000
(FC)	TORONTO LAKE, KS	330,000	330,000
(FC)	TUTTLE CREEK LAKE, KS	2,202,000	2,202,000
(FC)	WILSON LAKE, KS	1,307,000	1,307,000
	KENTUCKY		
(MP)	BARKLEY DAM AND LAKE BARKLEY, KY	7,026,000	7,026,000
(FC)	BARREN RIVER LAKE, KY	1,898,000	1,898,000
(N)	BIG SANDY HARBOR, KY	1,035,000	1,035,000
(FC)	BUCKHORN LAKE, KY	1,272,000	1,272,000
(FC)	CARR FORK LAKE, KY	1,593,000	1,593,000
(FC)	CAVE RUN LAKE, KY	979,000	979,000
(FC)	DEWEY LAKE, KY	1,092,000	1,092,000
(N)	ELVIS STAHR (HICKMAN) HARBOR, KY	400,000	400,000
(FC)	FISHTRAP LAKE, KY	1,607,000	1,722,000
(FC)	GRAYSON LAKE, KY	986,000	986,000
(N)	GREEN AND BARREN RIVERS, KY	1,378,000	1,378,000
(FC)	GREEN RIVER LAKE, KY	1,904,000	1,904,000
(N)	KENTUCKY RIVER, KY	1,059,000	1,059,000
	KENTUCKY RIVER LOCKS AND DAMS 5-14, KY	---	3,000,000
(MP)	LAUREL RIVER LAKE, KY	1,261,000	1,261,000
(N)	LICKING RIVER OPEN CHANNEL WORK, KY	30,000	30,000
(FC)	MARTINS FORK LAKE, KY	649,000	649,000
(FC)	MIDDLESBORO CUMBERLAND RIVER BASIN, KY	65,000	65,000
(FC)	NOLIN LAKE, KY	1,956,000	1,956,000
(N)	OHIO RIVER LOCKS AND DAMS, KY, IL, IN, OH, PA & WV	53,568,000	53,568,000
(N)	OHIO RIVER OPEN CHANNEL WORK, KY, IL, IN, OH, PA & WV	6,025,000	6,025,000
(FC)	PAINTSVILLE LAKE, KY	940,000	940,000
(FC)	ROUGH RIVER LAKE, KY	1,780,000	1,780,000
(FC)	TAYLORSVILLE LAKE, KY	963,000	963,000
(MP)	WOLF CREEK DAM - LAKE CUMBERLAND, KY	6,488,000	6,488,000
(FC)	YATESVILLE LAKE, KY	1,033,000	1,033,000
	LOUISIANA		
(N)	ATCHAFALAYA RIVER AND BAYOUS CHENE, BOEUF AND BLACK, L	12,786,000	12,786,000
(N)	BARATARIA BAY WATERWAY, LA	921,000	921,000
(FC)	BAYOU BODCAU RESERVOIR, LA	504,000	504,000
(N)	BAYOU LAFOURCHE AND LAFOURCHE JUMP WATERWAY, LA	10,000	10,000
(FC)	BAYOU PIERRE, LA	25,000	25,000
(N)	BAYOU TECHE, LA	727,000	727,000
(FC)	CADDO LAKE, LA	159,000	159,000
(N)	CALCASIEU RIVER AND PASS, LA	4,095,000	4,095,000
(N)	FRESHWATER BAYOU, LA	1,659,000	1,659,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - FLOOD CONTROL, MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
(N)	GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, LA & TX	16,110,000	16,110,000
(N)	HOUMA NAVIGATION CANAL, LA	3,897,000	3,897,000
(N)	LAKE PROVIDENCE HARBOR, LA	292,000	292,000
(N)	MADISON PARISH PORT, LA	37,000	37,000
(N)	MERMENTAU RIVER, LA	2,081,000	2,081,000
(N)	MISSISSIPPI RIVER - BATON ROUGE TO GULF OF MEXICO, LA.	51,837,000	51,837,000
(N)	MISSISSIPPI RIVER - GULF OUTLET, LA	12,054,000	12,054,000
(N)	MISSISSIPPI RIVER OUTLETS AT VENICE, LA	1,645,000	1,645,000
(N)	RED RIVER WATERWAY - MISSISSIPPI RIVER TO SHREVEPORT,	9,714,000	10,714,000
	REMOVAL OF AQUATIC GROWTH, LA	1,865,000	1,865,000
(N)	TANGIPAHOA RIVER, LA	100,000	100,000
(FC)	WALLACE LAKE, LA	186,000	186,000
	MAINE		
(N)	CRIEHAVEN HARBOR, ME	293,000	293,000
	SCARBOROUGH RIVER, ME	---	960,000
	YORK HARBOR, ME	---	714,000
	MARYLAND		
(N)	BALTIMORE HARBOR & CHANNELS, MD (50 FT)	13,425,000	13,425,000
(N)	BALTIMORE HARBOR (DRIFT REMOVAL), MD	455,000	455,000
(N)	BALTIMORE HARBOR (PREVENTION OF OBSTRUCTIVE DEPOSITS),	520,000	520,000
(N)	BROAD CREEK, MD	360,000	360,000
(N)	CHESTER RIVER, MD	660,000	660,000
(N)	CRISFIELD HARBOR, MD	65,000	65,000
(FC)	CUMBERLAND, MD AND RIDGELEY, WV	104,000	104,000
(N)	FISHING BAY, MD	70,000	70,000
(N)	HERRING CREEK, TALL TIMBERS, MD	40,000	40,000
(FC)	JENNINGS RANDOLPH LAKE, MD & WV	1,604,000	1,764,000
(N)	KNAPPS NARROWS, MD	782,000	782,000
(N)	NANTICOKE RIVER NORTHWEST FORK, MD	260,000	260,000
(N)	OCEAN CITY HARBOR AND INLET AND SINEPUXENT BAY, MD	125,000	125,000
(N)	TWITCH COVE AND BIG THOROFARE RIVER, MD	150,000	150,000
(N)	WICOMICO RIVER, MD	615,000	615,000
	MASSACHUSETTS		
(FC)	BARRE FALLS DAM, MA	342,000	342,000
(FC)	BIRCH HILL DAM, MA	336,000	336,000
(FC)	BUFFUMVILLE LAKE, MA	331,000	331,000
(N)	CAPE COD CANAL, MA	8,087,000	8,087,000
(FC)	CHARLES RIVER NATURAL VALLEY STORAGE AREA, MA	153,000	153,000
(FC)	CONANT BROOK LAKE, MA	236,000	236,000
(FC)	EAST BRIMFIELD LAKE, MA	385,000	385,000
(N)	GREEN HARBOR, MA	364,000	364,000
(FC)	HODGES VILLAGE DAM, MA	339,000	339,000
(FC)	KNIGHTVILLE DAM, MA	355,000	355,000
(FC)	LITTLEVILLE LAKE, MA	326,000	326,000
(FC)	NEW BEDFORD FAIRHAVEN AND ACUSHNET HURRICANE BARRIER,	241,000	241,000
(N)	NEWBURYPORT HARBOR, MA	646,000	646,000
(N)	SCITUATE HARBOR, MA	208,000	208,000
(N)	SESUIT HARBOR, MA	217,000	217,000
(FC)	TULLY LAKE, MA	384,000	384,000
(N)	WELLFLEET HARBOR, MA	1,214,000	1,214,000
(FC)	WEST HILL DAM, MA	479,000	479,000
(FC)	WESTVILLE LAKE, MA	369,000	369,000
	MICHIGAN		
(N)	ALPENA HARBOR, MI	218,000	218,000
(N)	ARCADIA HARBOR, MI	77,000	77,000
(N)	BOLLES HARBOR, MI	29,000	29,000
(N)	CHANNELS IN LAKE ST CLAIR, MI	245,000	245,000
(N)	CHARLEVOIX HARBOR, MI	118,000	118,000
(N)	DETROIT RIVER, MI	4,729,000	4,729,000
(N)	EAGLE HARBOR, MI	60,000	60,000
(N)	FRANKFORT HARBOR, MI	372,000	372,000
(N)	GRAND HAVEN HARBOR, MI	817,000	817,000
(N)	GRAND MARAIS HARBOR, MI	218,000	218,000
(N)	GRAND TRAVERSE BAY HARBOR, MI	123,000	123,000
(N)	GRELICKVILLE, MI	63,000	63,000
(N)	HARBOR BEACH HARBOR, MI	77,000	77,000
(N)	HOLLAND HARBOR, MI	417,000	417,000
(N)	INLAND ROUTE, MI	31,000	31,000
(N)	KEWEENAW WATERWAY, MI	1,641,000	1,641,000
(N)	LELAND HARBOR, MI	280,000	280,000
(N)	LEXINGTON HARBOR, MI	224,000	224,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - FLOOD CONTROL, MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
(N)	LITTLE LAKE HARBOR, MI	136,000	136,000
(N)	LUDINGTON HARBOR, MI	495,000	495,000
(N)	MANISTEE HARBOR, MI	440,000	440,000
(N)	MENOMINEE HARBOR, MI & WI	32,000	32,000
(N)	MONROE HARBOR, MI	772,000	772,000
(N)	MUSKEGON HARBOR, MI	805,000	805,000
(N)	ONTONAGON HARBOR, MI	455,000	455,000
(N)	PENTWATER HARBOR, MI	799,000	799,000
(N)	POINT LOOKOUT HARBOR, MI	301,000	301,000
(N)	PORT AUSTIN HARBOR, MI	188,000	188,000
(N)	PORT SANILAC HARBOR, MI	260,000	260,000
(N)	PORTAGE LAKE HARBOR, MI	103,000	103,000
(N)	ROUGE RIVER, MI	297,000	297,000
(N)	SAGINAW RIVER, MI	1,802,000	1,802,000
(N)	SAUGATUCK HARBOR, MI	918,000	918,000
(FC)	SEBEWAING RIVER (ICE JAM REMOVAL), MI	10,000	10,000
(N)	ST CLAIR RIVER, MI	868,000	868,000
(N)	ST JOSEPH HARBOR, MI	1,080,000	1,080,000
(MP)	ST MARYS RIVER, MI	14,962,000	14,962,000
(N)	WHITE LAKE HARBOR, MI	434,000	434,000
	MINNESOTA		
(FC)	BIGSTONE LAKE WHETSTONE RIVER, MN & SD	475,000	475,000
(N)	DULUTH - SUPERIOR HARBOR, MN & WI	3,396,000	3,396,000
(FC)	LAC QUI PARLE LAKES, MINNESOTA RIVER, MN	550,000	550,000
(N)	MINNESOTA RIVER, MN	145,000	145,000
(FC)	ORWELL LAKE, MN	4,077,000	4,077,000
(FC)	RED LAKE RESERVOIR, MN	302,000	302,000
(N)	RESERVOIRS AT HEADWATERS OF MISSISSIPPI RIVER, MN	3,515,000	3,515,000
	MISSISSIPPI		
(N)	BILOXI HARBOR, MS	461,000	461,000
(N)	CLAIBORNE COUNTY PORT, MS	153,000	153,000
(FC)	EAST FORK, TOMBIGBEE RIVER, MS	203,000	203,000
(N)	GULFPORT HARBOR, MS	2,876,000	2,876,000
(N)	MOUTH OF YAZOO RIVER, MS	113,000	113,000
(FC)	OKATIBBEE LAKE, MS	1,773,000	1,773,000
(N)	PASCAGOULA HARBOR, MS	2,998,000	2,998,000
(N)	PEARL RIVER, MS & LA	280,000	280,000
(N)	ROSEDALE HARBOR, MS	410,000	410,000
(N)	YAZOO RIVER, MS	3,000	3,000
	MISSOURI		
(N)	CARUTHERSVILLE HARBOR, MO	300,000	300,000
(MP)	CLARENCE CANNON DAM AND MARK TWAIN LAKE, MO	5,279,000	5,279,000
(FC)	CLEARWATER LAKE, MO	2,065,000	2,065,000
(MP)	HARRY S TRUMAN DAM AND RESERVOIR, MO	8,549,000	8,549,000
(FC)	LITTLE BLUE RIVER LAKES, MO	1,403,000	1,403,000
(FC)	LONG BRANCH LAKE, MO	731,000	731,000
(N)	MISS RIVER BETWEEN OHIO AND MO RIVERS, MO & IL (REG WO	18,858,000	18,858,000
(N)	NEW MADRID HARBOR, MO	300,000	300,000
(FC)	POMME DE TERRE LAKE, MO	1,668,000	1,668,000
(FC)	SMITHVILLE LAKE, MO	1,030,000	1,030,000
(N)	SOUTHEAST MISSOURI PORT, MISSISSIPPI RIVER, MO	150,000	150,000
(MP)	STOCKTON LAKE, MO	3,528,000	3,528,000
(MP)	TABLE ROCK LAKE, MO	5,565,000	5,565,000
(FC)	UNION LAKE, MO	16,000	16,000
(FC)	WAPPAPELLO LAKE, MO	20,000	20,000
	MONTANA		
(MP)	FT PECK DAM AND LAKE, MT	4,050,000	4,050,000
(MP)	LIBBY DAM, LAKE KOOCANUSA, MT	5,009,000	5,009,000
	NEBRASKA		
(MP)	GAVINS POINT DAM, LEWIS AND CLARK LAKE, NE & SD	6,363,000	6,363,000
(FC)	HARLAN COUNTY LAKE, NE	1,488,000	1,488,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
	MISSOURI NATIONAL RECREATIONAL RIVER, NE , SD	---	200,000
(MP)	MISSOURI R MASTER WTR CONTROL MANUAL, NE, IA, KS, MO	500,000	500,000
(FC)	PAPILLION CREEK & TRIBUTARIES LAKES, NE	742,000	742,000
(FC)	SALT CREEK AND TRIBUTARIES, NE	811,000	811,000
	NEVADA		
(FC)	MARTIS CREEK LAKE, NV & CA	378,000	378,000
(FC)	PINE AND MATHEWS CANYONS LAKES, NV	163,000	163,000
	NEW HAMPSHIRE		
(FC)	BLACKWATER DAM, NH	387,000	387,000
(FC)	EDWARD MACDOWELL LAKE, NH	346,000	346,000
(FC)	FRANKLIN FALLS DAM, NH	614,000	614,000
(FC)	HOPKINTON - EVERETT LAKES, NH	827,000	827,000
(FC)	OTTER BROOK LAKE, NH	392,000	392,000
(FC)	SURRY MOUNTAIN LAKE, NH	401,000	401,000
	NEW JERSEY		
(N)	BARNEGAT INLET, NJ	1,455,000	1,455,000
(N)	CHEESEQUAKE CREEK, NJ	2,590,000	2,590,000
(N)	COLD SPRING INLET, NJ	485,000	485,000
(N)	DELAWARE RIVER AT CAMDEN, NJ	850,000	850,000
(N)	DELAWARE RIVER, PHILADELPHIA TO THE SEA, NJ, PA & DE	18,157,000	18,157,000
(N)	DELAWARE RIVER, PHILADELPHIA, PA TO TRENTON, NJ	1,255,000	1,255,000
	MANASQUAN INLET, NJ	---	100,000
(N)	NEW JERSEY INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, NJ	3,729,000	3,729,000
(N)	SALEM RIVER, NJ	410,000	410,000
(N)	SHARK RIVER, NJ	1,190,000	1,190,000
(N)	TOMS RIVER, NJ	290,000	290,000
	NEW MEXICO		
(FC)	ABIQUIU DAM, NM	1,352,000	1,352,000
(FC)	COCHITI LAKE, NM	2,040,000	2,040,000
(FC)	CONCHAS LAKE, NM	1,134,000	1,134,000
(FC)	GALISTEO DAM, NM	244,000	244,000
(FC)	JEMEZ CANYON DAM, NM	398,000	398,000
(FC)	SANTA ROSA DAM AND LAKE, NM	998,000	998,000
(FC)	TWO RIVERS DAM, NM	356,000	356,000
	NEW YORK		
(FC)	ALMOND LAKE, NY	438,000	438,000
(FC)	ARKPORT DAM, NY	226,000	226,000
(N)	BAY RIDGE AND RED HOOK CHANNELS, NY	230,000	230,000
(N)	BLACK ROCK CHANNEL AND TONAWANDA HARBOR, NY	3,205,000	3,205,000
(N)	BROWNS CREEK, NY	500,000	500,000
(N)	BUFFALO HARBOR, NY	455,000	455,000
(N)	BUTTERMILK CHANNEL, NY	820,000	820,000
(N)	DUNKIRK HARBOR, NY	309,000	309,000
(N)	EAST RIVER, NY	195,000	195,000
(N)	EAST ROCKAWAY INLET, NY	930,000	930,000
(FC)	EAST SIDNEY LAKE, NY	483,000	483,000
(N)	FIRE ISLAND TO JONES INLET, NY	1,668,000	1,668,000
(N)	GLEN COVE CREEK, NY	130,000	130,000
(N)	GREAT SODUS BAY HARBOR, NY	10,000	10,000
(N)	HUDSON RIVER CHANNEL, NY	1,380,000	1,380,000
(N)	HUDSON RIVER, NY	2,520,000	2,520,000
(N)	IRONDEQUOIT BAY HARBOR, NY	160,000	160,000
(N)	JAMAICA BAY, NY	220,000	220,000
(N)	JONES INLET, NY	3,880,000	3,880,000
(N)	LAKE MONTAUK HARBOR, NY	1,930,000	1,930,000
(N)	LITTLE SODUS BAY HARBOR, NY	1,560,000	1,560,000
(N)	MATTITUCK HARBOR, NY	570,000	570,000
(FC)	MT MORRIS LAKE, NY	1,810,000	1,810,000
(N)	NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY CHANNELS, NY	205,000	205,000
(N)	NEW YORK HARBOR (DRIFT REMOVAL), NY & NJ	4,886,000	4,886,000
(N)	NEW YORK HARBOR (PREVENTION OF OBSTRUCTIVE DEPOSITS)	740,000	740,000
(N)	NEW YORK HARBOR, NY	6,020,000	6,020,000
(N)	OAK ORCHARD HARBOR, NY	10,000	10,000
(N)	OLCOTT HARBOR, NY	10,000	10,000
(N)	OSWEGO HARBOR, NY	496,000	496,000
(N)	SHINNECOCK INLET, NY	200,000	200,000
(FC)	SOUTHERN NEW YORK FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS, NY	853,000	853,000
(FC)	WHITNEY POINT LAKE, NY	515,000	515,000
(N)	WILSON HARBOR, NY	10,000	10,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
	NORTH CAROLINA		
(N)	ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, NC	5,097,000	5,097,000
(FC)	B EVERETT JORDAN DAM AND LAKE, NC	1,237,000	1,237,000
(N)	BEAUFORT HARBOR, NC	350,000	350,000
(N)	BELHAVEN HARBOR NC	415,000	415,000
(N)	BOGUE INLET AND CHANNEL, NC	655,000	655,000
(N)	CAPE FEAR RIVER ABOVE WILMINGTON, NC	1,200,000	1,200,000
(N)	CAROLINA BEACH INLET, NC	852,000	852,000
(FC)	FALLS LAKE, NC	1,070,000	1,070,000
(N)	LOCKWOODS FOLLY RIVER, NC	857,000	857,000
(N)	MANTEO (SHALLOWBAG) BAY, NC	6,506,000	6,506,000
(N)	MASONBORO INLET AND CONNECTING CHANNELS, NC	4,650,000	4,650,000
(N)	MOREHEAD CITY HARBOR, NC	3,108,000	3,108,000
(N)	NEW RIVER INLET, NC	1,595,000	1,595,000
(N)	NEW TOPSAIL INLET AND CONNECTING CHANNELS, NC	840,000	840,000
(N)	PAMLICO AND TAR RIVERS, NC	125,000	125,000
(N)	ROANOKE RIVER, NC	125,000	125,000
(N)	SILVER LAKE HARBOR, NC	200,000	200,000
(FC)	W KERR SCOTT DAM AND RESERVOIR, NC	2,848,000	2,848,000
(N)	WILMINGTON HARBOR, NC	6,048,000	6,048,000
	NORTH DAKOTA		
(FC)	BOWMAN - HALEY LAKE, ND	222,000	222,000
(MP)	GARRISON DAM, LAKE SAKAKAWEA, ND	9,154,000	9,154,000
(FC)	HOMME LAKE, ND	149,000	149,000
(FC)	LAKE ASHTABULA AND BALDHILL DAM, ND	1,230,000	1,230,000
(FC)	PIPESTEM LAKE, ND	405,000	405,000
(FC)	SOURIS RIVER, ND	101,000	101,000
	OHIO		
(FC)	ALUM CREEK LAKE, OH	861,000	861,000
(N)	ASHTABULA HARBOR, OH	1,088,000	1,088,000
(FC)	BERLIN LAKE, OH	1,907,000	1,907,000
(FC)	CAESAR CREEK LAKE, OH	1,186,000	1,186,000
(FC)	CLARENCE J BROWN DAM, OH	722,000	722,000
(N)	CLEVELAND HARBOR, OH	13,038,000	13,038,000
(N)	CONNEAUT HARBOR, OH	655,000	655,000
(FC)	DEER CREEK LAKE, OH	620,000	620,000
(FC)	DELAWARE LAKE, OH	623,000	623,000
(FC)	DILLON LAKE, OH	914,000	914,000
(N)	HURON HARBOR, OH	820,000	820,000
(N)	LORAIN HARBOR, OH	407,000	407,000
(FC)	MASSILLON LOCAL PROTECTION PROJECT, OH	25,000	25,000
(FC)	MICHAEL J KIRWAN DAM AND RESERVOIR, OH	922,000	922,000
(FC)	MOSQUITO CREEK LAKE, OH	1,026,000	1,026,000
(FC)	MUSKINGUM RIVER LAKES, OH	8,287,000	8,287,000
(FC)	NORTH BRANCH KOKOSING RIVER LAKE, OH	213,000	213,000
(FC)	PAINT CREEK LAKE, OH	521,000	521,000
(N)	PORTSMOUTH HARBOR, OH	75,000	75,000
(N)	ROCKY RIVER, OH	12,000	12,000
(FC)	ROSEVILLE LOCAL PROTECTION PROJECT, OH	30,000	30,000
(N)	SANDUSKY HARBOR, OH	1,030,000	1,030,000
(N)	TOLEDO HARBOR, OH	3,502,000	3,502,000
(FC)	TOM JENKINS DAM, OH	430,000	430,000
(N)	VERMILION HARBOR, OH	10,000	10,000
(FC)	WEST FORK OF MILL CREEK LAKE, OH	609,000	609,000
(FC)	WILLIAM H HARSHA LAKE, OH	850,000	850,000
	OKLAHOMA		
(FC)	ARCADIA LAKE, OK	292,000	292,000
(FC)	BIRCH LAKE, OK	749,000	749,000
(MP)	BROKEN BOW LAKE, OK	2,059,000	2,059,000
(FC)	CANDY LAKE, OK	39,000	39,000
(FC)	CANTON LAKE, OK	1,692,000	1,692,000
(FC)	COPAN LAKE, OK	874,000	874,000
(MP)	EUFAULA LAKE, OK	4,405,000	4,405,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
(MP)	FORT GIBSON LAKE, OK	4,271,000	4,271,000
(FC)	FORT SUPPLY LAKE, OK	847,000	847,000
(FC)	GREAT SALT PLAINS LAKE, OK	337,000	337,000
(FC)	HEYBURN LAKE, OK	754,000	754,000
(FC)	HUGO LAKE, OK	1,527,000	1,527,000
(FC)	HULAH LAKE, OK	401,000	401,000
(FC)	KAW LAKE, OK	1,702,000	1,702,000
(MP)	KEYSTONE LAKE, OK	3,819,000	3,819,000
(FC)	OOLOGAH LAKE, OK	1,373,000	1,373,000
(FC)	OPTIMA LAKE, OK	511,000	511,000
(FC)	PENSACOLA RESERVOIR - LAKE OF THE CHEROKEES, OK	5,000	5,000
(FC)	PINE CREEK LAKE, OK	1,168,000	1,168,000
(MP)	ROBERT S KERR LOCK AND DAM AND RESERVOIRS, OK	4,862,000	4,862,000
(FC)	SARDIS LAKE, OK	857,000	857,000
(FC)	SKIATOOK LAKE, OK	789,000	789,000
(MP)	TENKILLER FERRY LAKE, OK	3,371,000	3,371,000
(FC)	WAURIKA LAKE, OK	1,894,000	1,894,000
(MP)	WEBBERS FALLS LOCK AND DAM, OK	3,515,000	3,515,000
(FC)	WISTER LAKE, OK	947,000	947,000
	OREGON		
(FC)	APPLEGATE LAKE, OR	664,000	664,000
	ASTORIA HARBOR, NORTH BREAKWATER, OR	---	275,000
(FC)	BLUE RIVER LAKE, OR	442,000	442,000
(MP)	BONNEVILLE LOCK AND DAM, OR & WA	18,788,000	18,788,000
(N)	CHETCO RIVER, OR	500,000	500,000
(N)	COLUMBIA & LWR WILLAMETTE R BLW VANCOUVER, WA & PORTLA	11,017,000	11,017,000
(N)	COLUMBIA RIVER AT THE MOUTH, OR & WA	8,013,000	8,013,000
(N)	COLUMBIA RIVER BETWEEN VANCOUVER, WA AND THE DALLES, O	420,000	420,000
(N)	COOS BAY, OR	4,349,000	4,349,000
(N)	COQUILLE RIVER, OR	454,000	454,000
(FC)	COTTAGE GROVE LAKE, OR	719,000	719,000
(MP)	COUGAR LAKE, OR	1,282,000	1,282,000
(N)	DEPOE BAY, OR	3,000	3,000
(MP)	DETROIT LAKE, OR	2,247,000	2,247,000
(FC)	DORENA LAKE, OR	552,000	552,000
(FC)	FALL CREEK LAKE, OR	559,000	559,000
(FC)	FERN RIDGE LAKE, OR	920,000	920,000
(MP)	GREEN PETER - FOSTER LAKES, OR	2,558,000	2,558,000
(MP)	HILLS CREEK LAKE, OR	752,000	752,000
(MP)	JOHN DAY LOCK AND DAM, OR & WA	14,988,000	14,988,000
(MP)	LOOKOUT POINT LAKE, OR	5,439,000	5,439,000
(MP)	LOST CREEK LAKE, OR	3,914,000	3,914,000
(MP)	MCNARY LOCK AND DAM, OR & WA	12,561,000	12,561,000
(N)	PORT ORFORD, OR	425,000	425,000
(N)	PORT OF TOLEDO, OR	---	500,000
(N)	ROGUE RIVER, OR	816,000	816,000
(N)	SIUSLAW RIVER, OR	864,000	864,000
(N)	SKIPANON CHANNEL, OR	61,000	61,000
(N)	TILLAMOOK BAY AND BAR, OR	43,000	43,000
(N)	UMPQUA RIVER, OR	1,094,000	1,094,000
(N)	WILLAMETTE RIVER AT WILLAMETTE FALLS, OR	846,000	846,000
(FC)	WILLAMETTE RIVER BANK PROTECTION, OR	70,000	70,000
(FC)	WILLOW CREEK LAKE, OR	482,000	482,000
(N)	YAQUINA BAY AND HARBOR, OR	1,565,000	1,565,000
	PENNSYLVANIA		
(N)	ALLEGHENY RIVER, PA	12,736,000	12,736,000
(FC)	ALVIN R BUSH DAM, PA	612,000	612,000
(FC)	AYLESWORTH CREEK LAKE, PA	205,000	205,000
(FC)	BELTZVILLE LAKE, PA	1,425,000	1,425,000
(FC)	BLUE MARSH LAKE, PA	2,059,000	2,059,000
(FC)	CONEMAUGH RIVER LAKE, PA	3,112,000	3,112,000
(FC)	COWANESQUE LAKE, PA	2,084,000	2,084,000
(FC)	CROOKED CREEK LAKE, PA	1,201,000	1,201,000
(FC)	CURWENSVILLE LAKE, PA	669,000	669,000
(FC)	EAST BRANCH CLARION RIVER LAKE, PA	1,036,000	1,036,000
(N)	ERIE HARBOR, PA	468,000	468,000
(FC)	FOSTER JOSEPH SAYERS DAM, PA	683,000	683,000
(FC)	FRANCIS E WALTER DAM, PA	675,000	675,000
(FC)	GENERAL EDGAR JADWIN DAM AND RESERVOIR, PA	331,000	331,000
(FC)	JOHNSTOWN, PA	1,243,000	1,243,000
(FC)	KINZUA DAM AND ALLEGHENY RESERVOIR, PA	1,559,000	1,559,000
(FC)	LOYALHANNA LAKE, PA	1,155,000	1,155,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
(FC)	MAHONING CREEK LAKE, PA	1,844,000	1,844,000
(N)	MONONGAHELA RIVER, PA	16,586,000	16,586,000
(FC)	PROMPTON LAKE, PA	463,000	463,000
(FC)	PUNXSUTAWNEY, PA	37,000	37,000
(FC)	RAYSTOWN LAKE, PA	3,426,000	5,926,000
(N)	SCHUYLKILL RIVER, PA	1,930,000	1,930,000
(FC)	SHENANGO RIVER LAKE, PA	2,074,000	2,074,000
(FC)	STILLWATER LAKE, PA	373,000	373,000
(FC)	TIOGA - HAMMOND LAKES, PA	2,415,000	2,415,000
(FC)	TIONESTA LAKE, PA	1,256,000	1,256,000
(FC)	UNION CITY LAKE, PA	296,000	296,000
(FC)	WOODCOCK CREEK LAKE, PA	1,242,000	1,242,000
(FC)	YORK INDIAN ROCK DAM, PA	3,044,000	3,044,000
(FC)	YOUGHIOGHENY RIVER LAKE, PA	1,833,000	1,833,000
	PUERTO RICO		
(N)	SAN JUAN HARBOR, PR	10,000	10,000
	SOUTH CAROLINA		
(N)	ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, SC	2,420,000	2,420,000
(N)	CHARLESTON HARBOR, SC	5,426,000	6,626,000
(N)	COOPER RIVER, CHARLESTON HARBOR, SC	2,469,000	2,469,000
(N)	FOLLY RIVER, SC	386,000	386,000
(N)	GEORGETOWN HARBOR, SC	3,509,000	3,509,000
(N)	LITTLE RIVER INLET, SC & NC	64,000	64,000
(N)	MURRELLS INLET, SC	65,000	65,000
(N)	PORT ROYAL HARBOR, SC	1,192,000	1,192,000
(N)	SHIPYARD RIVER, SC	428,000	428,000
(N)	TOWN CREEK, SC	491,000	491,000
	SOUTH DAKOTA		
(MP)	BIG BEND DAM - LAKE SHARPE, SD	6,079,000	6,079,000
(FC)	COLD BROOK LAKE, SD	190,000	190,000
(FC)	COTTONWOOD SPRINGS LAKE, SD	184,000	184,000
(MP)	FT RANDALL DAM - LAKE FRANCIS CASE, SD	8,520,000	8,520,000
(FC)	LAKE TRAVERSE, SD & MN	973,000	973,000
(MP)	OAHE DAM - LAKE OAHE, SD & ND	9,363,000	9,363,000
	TENNESSEE		
(MP)	CENTER HILL LAKE, TN	5,251,000	5,251,000
(MP)	CHEATHAM LOCK AND DAM, TN	5,895,000	5,895,000
(MP)	CORDELL HULL DAM AND RESERVOIR, TN	4,192,000	4,192,000
(MP)	DALE HOLLOW LAKE, TN	4,082,000	4,082,000
(MP)	J PERCY PRIEST DAM AND RESERVOIR, TN	4,410,000	4,410,000
(MP)	OLD HICKORY LOCK AND DAM, TN	7,281,000	7,281,000
(N)	TENNESSEE RIVER, TN	13,637,000	13,637,000
(N)	WOLF RIVER HARBOR, TN	650,000	650,000
	TEXAS		
(FC)	AQUILLA LAKE, TX	623,000	623,000
(FC)	ARKANSAS - RED RIVER BASINS CHLORIDE CONTROL - AREA VI	1,139,000	1,139,000
(FC)	BARDWELL LAKE, TX	1,210,000	1,210,000
(FC)	BELTON LAKE, TX	2,249,000	2,249,000
(FC)	BENBROOK LAKE, TX	1,610,000	1,610,000
(N)	BRAZOS ISLAND HARBOR, TX	1,038,000	1,038,000
(FC)	BUFFALO BAYOU AND TRIBUTARIES, TX	3,649,000	3,649,000
(FC)	CANYON LAKE, TX	1,657,000	1,657,000
(N)	CHANNEL TO PORT MANSFIELD, TX	1,510,000	1,510,000
(FC)	COOPER LAKE AND CHANNELS, TX	874,000	874,000
(N)	CORPUS CHRISTI SHIP CHANNEL, TX	2,190,000	2,190,000
(MP)	DENISON DAM - LAKE TEXOMA, TX	6,033,000	6,033,000
(FC)	ESTELLINE SPRINGS, TX	12,000	12,000
(FC)	FERRELLS BRIDGE DAM - LAKE O'THE PINES, TX	2,130,000	2,130,000
(N)	FREEPORT HARBOR, TX	2,870,000	2,870,000
(N)	GALVESTON HARBOR AND CHANNEL, TX	136,000	136,000
(N)	GIWW - CHANNEL TO VICTORIA, TX	1,595,000	1,595,000
(FC)	GRANGER DAM AND LAKE, TX	1,459,000	1,459,000
(FC)	GRAPEVINE LAKE, TX	1,956,000	1,956,000
(N)	GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, TX	17,805,000	17,805,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
(FC)	HORDS CREEK LAKE, TX	1,007,000	1,007,000
(N)	HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL, TX	5,823,000	5,823,000
(FC)	JOE POOL LAKE, TX	810,000	810,000
(FC)	LAKE KEMP, TX	218,000	218,000
(FC)	LAVON LAKE, TX	2,303,000	2,303,000
(FC)	LEWISVILLE DAM, TX	2,798,000	2,798,000
(N)	MATAGORDA SHIP CHANNEL, TX	5,145,000	5,145,000
(N)	MOUTH OF THE COLORADO RIVER, TX	1,780,000	1,780,000
(FC)	NAVARRO MILLS LAKE, TX	1,388,000	1,388,000
(FC)	NORTH SAN GABRIEL DAM AND LAKE GEORGETOWN, TX	1,540,000	1,540,000
(FC)	O C FISHER DAM AND LAKE, TX	1,120,000	1,120,000
(FC)	PAT MAYSE LAKE, TX	873,000	873,000
(FC)	PROCTOR LAKE, TX	1,528,000	1,528,000
(FC)	RAY ROBERTS LAKE, TX	783,000	783,000
(N)	SABINE - NECHES WATERWAY, TX	11,946,000	11,946,000
(MP)	SAM RAYBURN DAM AND RESERVOIR, TX	4,217,000	4,217,000
(FC)	SOMERVILLE LAKE, TX	2,282,000	2,282,000
(FC)	STILLHOUSE HOLLOW DAM, TX	1,519,000	1,519,000
(N)	TEXAS CITY SHIP CHANNEL, TX	1,525,000	1,525,000
(MP)	TOWN BLUFF DAM - B A STEINHAGEN LAKE, TX	1,502,000	1,502,000
(N)	TRINITY RIVER & TRIBUTARIES, TX	1,270,000	1,270,000
(FC)	WACO LAKE, TX	2,014,000	2,014,000
(FC)	WALLISVILLE LAKE, TX	473,000	473,000
(MP)	WHITNEY LAKE, TX	3,659,000	3,659,000
(FC)	WRIGHT PATMAN DAM AND LAKE, TX	2,326,000	2,326,000
	VERMONT		
(FC)	BALL MOUNTAIN LAKE, VT	548,000	548,000
(N)	NARROWS OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN, VT & NY	645,000	645,000
(FC)	NORTH HARTLAND LAKE, VT	398,000	398,000
(FC)	NORTH SPRINGFIELD LAKE, VT	483,000	483,000
(FC)	TOWNSHEND LAKE, VT	506,000	506,000
(FC)	UNION VILLAGE DAM, VT	363,000	363,000
	VIRGINIA		
(N)	ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, VA	3,169,000	3,169,000
(N)	CHANNEL TO NEWPORT NEWS, VA	590,000	590,000
(N)	CHINCOTEAGUE BAY CHANNEL, VA	42,000	42,000
(N)	CHINCOTEAGUE HARBOR OF REFUGE, VA	36,000	36,000
(N)	CHINCOTEAGUE INLET, VA	888,000	888,000
(N)	CRANES CREEK, VA	321,000	321,000
(N)	DEEP CREEK, VA	597,000	597,000
(FC)	GATHRIGHT DAM AND LAKE MOOMAW, VA	2,169,000	2,169,000
(N)	HAMPTON RDS, NORFOLK & NEWPORT NEWS HBR, VA (DRIFT REM	647,000	647,000
(N)	HOSKINS CREEK, VA	395,000	395,000
(N)	JAMES RIVER CHANNEL, VA	1,616,000	1,616,000
(MP)	JOHN H KERR LAKE, VA & NC	8,770,000	8,770,000
(FC)	JOHN W FLANNAGAN DAM AND RESERVOIR, VA	1,551,000	1,551,000
(N)	NORFOLK HARBOR (PREVENTION OF OBSTRUCTIVE DEPOSITS), V	200,000	200,000
(N)	NORFOLK HARBOR, VA	5,131,000	5,131,000
(FC)	NORTH FORK OF POUND RIVER LAKE, VA	351,000	351,000
(MP)	PHILPOTT LAKE, VA	2,266,000	2,266,000
(N)	QUEENS CREEK, MATHEWS COUNTY, VA	337,000	337,000
(N)	RUDEE INLET, VA	570,000	570,000
(N)	STARLINGS CREEK, VA	389,000	389,000
(N)	TANGIER CHANNEL, VA	467,000	467,000
(N)	THIMBLE SHOAL CHANNEL, VA	1,355,000	1,355,000
(N)	TYLERS BEACH, VA	34,000	34,000
(N)	WATERWAY ON THE COAST OF VIRGINIA, VA	1,268,000	1,268,000
	WASHINGTON		
(MP)	CHIEF JOSEPH DAM, WA	12,038,000	12,038,000
(N)	COLUMBIA RIVER AT BAKER BAY, WA & OR	26,000	26,000
(N)	COLUMBIA RIVER BETWEEN CHINOOK AND SAND ISLAND, WA	7,000	7,000
(MP)	COLUMBIA RIVER SYSTEM OPERATION REVIEW, WA, ID, MT & O	559,000	559,000
(N)	EVERETT HARBOR AND SNOHOMISH RIVER, WA	870,000	870,000
(N)	GRAYS HARBOR AND CHEHALIS RIVER, WA	10,655,000	10,655,000
(FC)	HOWARD A HANSON DAM, WA	1,373,000	1,373,000
(MP)	ICE HARBOR LOCK AND DAM, WA	14,884,000	14,884,000
(N)	KENMORE NAVIGATION CHANNEL, WA	202,000	202,000
(N)	LAKE WASHINGTON SHIP CANAL, WA	6,877,000	6,877,000
(MP)	LITTLE GOOSE LOCK AND DAM, WA	4,978,000	4,978,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
(MP)	LOWER GRANITE LOCK AND DAM, WA	10,618,000	10,618,000
(MP)	LOWER MONUMENTAL LOCK AND DAM, WA	5,318,000	5,318,000
(FC)	MILL CREEK LAKE, VIRGIL B BENNINGTON LAKE, WA	731,000	731,000
(FC)	MT ST HELENS, WA	432,000	432,000
(FC)	MUD MOUNTAIN DAM, WA	1,922,000	1,922,000
(N)	OLYMPIA HARBOR, WA	12,000	12,000
(N)	PUGET SOUND AND TRIBUTARY WATERS, WA	1,155,000	1,155,000
(N)	QUILLAYUTE RIVER, WA	2,250,000	2,250,000
(N)	SEATTLE HARBOR, WA	678,000	678,000
(FC)	STILLAGUAMISH RIVER, WA	174,000	174,000
(FC)	TACOMA, PUYALLUP RIVER, WA	56,000	56,000
(MP)	THE DALLES LOCK AND DAM, WA & OR	12,270,000	12,270,000
(N)	WILLAPA RIVER AND HARBOR, WA	431,000	431,000
	WEST VIRGINIA		
(FC)	BEECH FORK LAKE, WV	956,000	956,000
(FC)	BLUESTONE LAKE, WV	1,741,000	1,741,000
(FC)	BURNSVILLE LAKE, WV	1,187,000	1,187,000
(FC)	EAST LYNN LAKE, WV	1,296,000	1,296,000
(N)	ELK RIVER HARBOR, WV	3,000	3,000
(FC)	ELKINS, WV	10,000	10,000
(N)	KANAWHA RIVER LOCKS AND DAMS, WV	11,376,000	11,376,000
(FC)	R D BAILEY LAKE, WV	1,632,000	1,632,000
(FC)	STONEWALL JACKSON LAKE, WV	957,000	957,000
(FC)	SUMMERSVILLE LAKE, WV	1,310,000	1,310,000
(FC)	SUTTON LAKE, WV	1,753,000	1,753,000
(N)	TYGART LAKE, WV	1,615,000	1,615,000
	WISCONSIN		
(N)	ALGOMA HARBOR, WI	117,000	117,000
(N)	CORNUCOPIA HARBOR, WI	107,000	107,000
(FC)	EAU GALLE RIVER LAKE, WI	560,000	560,000
(N)	FOX RIVER, WI	2,215,000	2,215,000
(N)	GREEN BAY HARBOR, WI	1,029,000	1,029,000
(N)	KENOSHA HARBOR, WI	130,000	130,000
(N)	KEWAUNEE HARBOR, WI	300,000	300,000
(FC)	LA FARGE LAKE, WI	43,000	43,000
(N)	MANITOWOC HARBOR, WI	257,000	257,000
(N)	MILWAUKEE HARBOR, WI	3,123,000	3,123,000
(N)	SHEBOYGAN HARBOR, WI	883,000	883,000
(N)	STURGEON BAY HARBOR & LAKE MICHIGAN SHIP CANAL, WI	2,831,000	2,831,000
(N)	TWO RIVERS HARBOR, WI	760,000	760,000
	WYOMING		
(FC)	JACKSON HOLE LEVEES, WY	979,000	979,000
	MISCELLANEOUS		
	CIVIL WORKS ENERGY DATA SYSTEM	60,000	---
	COASTAL INLET RESEARCH PROGRAM	4,000,000	2,000,000
	DREDGING DATA AND LOCK PERFORMANCE MONITORING SYSTEM	480,000	480,000
	DREDGING OPERATIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH (DOER)	3,000,000	---
	DREDGING OPERATIONS TECHNICAL SUPPORT PROGRAM (DOTS)	3,350,000	1,675,000
	EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS PROGRAM FOR BUILDINGS AND LIFELINES	1,250,000	800,000
	ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW GUIDE FOR OPERATIONS (ERGO)	2,000,000	---
	HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE RESTORATION	3,000,000	---
	INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS	7,818,000	6,000,000
	MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN MAINSTEM MODEL DEVELOPMENT	1,000,000	500,000
	MONITORING OF COMPLETED COASTAL PROJECTS	2,100,000	1,900,000
	NATIONAL DAM SAFETY PROGRAM	20,000	20,000
	NATIONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAMS (NEPP)	7,000,000	5,000,000
	NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION	4,000,000	2,000,000
	NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY (NRI)	500,000	---
	NATURAL RESOURCES TECHNICAL SUPPORT (NRTS)	1,800,000	---
	PEER REVIEW PROGRAM	400,000	---
	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS FOR O&M	3,500,000	---
	POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRAM	4,000,000	---
	PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS	11,498,000	7,000,000
	PROTECT, CLEAR AND STRAIGHTEN CHANNELS (SECTION 3)	50,000	50,000
	REAL TIME WATER CONTROL RESEARCH PROGRAM (WCRP)	1,000,000	---
	REINVESTED USER FEES FOR RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS	5,000,000	---
	RELIABILITY MODELS PROGRAM FOR MAJOR REHABILITATION	675,000	500,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

TYPE OF PROJECT	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE
	REMOVAL OF SUNKEN VESSELS	1,000,000	500,000
	REPAIR EVALUATION MAINTENANCE RESEARCH (REMR II)	6,000,000	1,500,000
	RIVER CONFLUENCE ICE RESEARCH	1,150,000	---
	SCANNING HYDROGRAPHIC OPERATIONAL AIRBORNE LIDAR SURVE	1,750,000	1,750,000
	SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS	3,058,000	3,000,000
	SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS	4,108,000	3,000,000
	WATER OPERATIONS TECHNICAL SUPPORT (WOTS) PROGRAM	1,600,000	---
	WATERBORNE COMMERCE STATISTICS	4,200,000	4,200,000
	WETLANDS ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION	500,000	---
	REDUCTION FOR ANTICIPATED SAVINGS AND SLIPPAGE	-55,770,000	-67,770,000
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	1,749,875,000	1,703,697,000

TYPE OF PROJECT:
(N) NAVIGATION
(BE) BEACH EROSION CONTROL
(FC) FLOOD CONTROL
(MP) MULTIPURPOSE, INCLUDING POWER

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

The summary tables at the end of this title set forth the conference agreement with respect to the individual appropriations, programs and activities of the Bureau of Reclamation. Additional items of conference agreement are discussed below.

GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

Amendment No. 17: Appropriates $12,684,000 for General Investigations instead of $13,114,000 as proposed by the House and $11,234,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 18: Deletes language proposed by the Senate providing $300,000 for the completion of the feasibility study of alternatives for meeting drinking water needs on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation and surrounding communities in South Dakota. Funding for this project ($150,000) is included in the amount appropriated in Amendment No. 17.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Amendment No. 19: Appropriates $411,046,000 for Construction Program instead of $417,301,000 as proposed by the House and $390,461,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $12,069,000 for Miscellaneous Project Programs of the Central Valley Project, California, which includes $200,000 for the Salmon Stamp Program as described in the House Report, $250,000 for the Colusa Basin Drainage District Management Project, and $5,750,000 for the unscreened diversions program, which is $250,000 less than the budget request.

The conferees have provided $6,540,000 for the Sacramento River Division of the Central Valley Project, California. The amount provided includes: $3,000,000 for the completion of engineering and design and initiation of construction of a new fish screen and fish recovery facilities at the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District's Hamilton City Pumping Plant; $1,000,000 for the continuation of the pilot research pumping facility evaluation; $500,000 for the program to find solutions for passage for endangered and threatened fish at the Red Bluff Diversion Dam; $865,000 for the installation and evaluation of alternative fish guidance systems at Reclamation District 108 and Reclamation District 1004; and $300,000 for the Winter-Run Chinook Salmon Captive Broodstock Program.

The conference agreement includes $5,067,000 for the Trinity River Restoration Program, California, the same as the budget request and the amount provided in the House and Senate bills. Included in this total is $500,000 to carry out the interagency agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Hoopa Valley Tribe regarding the Cooperative for Comprehensive Fisheries Management and funds necessary to complete the Environmental Impact Statement is support of the instream flow decision the Secretary of the Interior is required to render in 1996.

On July 17, 1995, one of the eight spillway gates at Folsom Dam in California failed resulting in an uncontrolled flow of 40,000 cubic feet per second of water from the reservoir. The total loss of water was about 360,000 acre-feet, which is approximately 35% of total reservoir capacity. The conferees are aware that the Bureau of Reclamation has begun work to design a replacement for the damaged gate, with the goal of having the replacement gate installed in 1996. Because of the timing of this event, no funds were included in either the House bill or the Senate bill to accomplish this work. The conferees agree that the Bureau of Reclamation may reprogram up to $6,000,000 of the funds available to it in fiscal year 1996, upon notification of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, for the removal and replacement of the damaged gate and the remediation of the remaining spillway gates at Folsom Dam. If additional funds are required in fiscal year 1996 to complete the work, the Bureau of Reclamation should request those funds following the normal reprogramming procedures.

On August 22, 1995, the Department of the Interior submitted to the House and Senate subcommittees a request to reprogram $5,000,000 to the Los Angeles Area Water Reclamation and Reuse, California, project. Because of the unanticipated funding needs which have arisen, including the need to repair Folsom Dam in California and the need to make additional dam safety repairs at Ochoco Dam in Oregon, the conferees have agreed to defer, without prejudice, action on this reprogramming request.

The conference agreement includes $1,500,000 for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation as proposed by the Senate. The House had deleted the funds requested by the Administration for this program. Within the amounts provided for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, $500,000 shall be made available to support the Spring Run and Coho Salmon Programs approved by the House under the Central Valley Project, Miscellaneous Project Programs, California, and $100,000 shall be made available to support the Kaweah River Delta Corridor Project. The conferees are concerned about certain grants that have been made by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to organizations known to be hostile to the interests of private landowners and those engaged in the productive and lawful use of public lands. The conferees have included the funding cited above for the Foundation based upon the understanding that its grant award procedures have been considerably tightened, and that the Foundation will make a concerted effort to avoid making further grants to the types of organizations described above. The Foundation's performance in this regard will be closely monitored by the Committees during the coming year.

The conference agreement includes $5,000,000 for the Wetlands Development Program. From within that amount, the conferees direct that $3,600,000 be utilized to continue the Caddo Lake wetlands project in Texas.

The conferees agree with the language contained in the House Report regarding the Rillito Creek, Arizona, High Plains Groundwater Recharge Demonstration project. In addition, the conference agreement includes $500,000 for the Bureau of Reclamation to continue the Equus Beds recharge project in Kansas.

Amendment No. 20: Provides that $94,225,000 of the funds appropriated under the Construction Program shall be available for transfer to the Lower Colorado River Basin Development Fund for construction of the Central Arizona Project as proposed by the House instead of $92,725,000 as proposed by the Senate.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Amendment No. 21: Appropriates $273,076,000 for Operation and Maintenance instead of $278,759,000 as proposed by the House and $267,393,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Due to the budgetary situation, the conferees have provided $273,076,000 for the Bureau of Reclamation's operation and maintenance program, which is $15,683,000 below the budget request and $1,224,000 below the amount appropriated in fiscal year 1995. The conferees expect the Bureau of Reclamation to use the flexibility available to it in managing the operation and maintenance program to ensure that the most critical maintenance needs are met. In that regard, the conferees agree with the language contained in the House Report regarding the growth in the Associated Operation and Maintenance Program and expect the Bureau of Reclamation to derive a significant share of the reduction below the budget request from the various Associated O&M Programs in order to retain as much money as possible for operation and maintenance of projects.

The conferees note that the backlog in replacements, additions, and extraordinary maintenance items continues to grow for the Central Valley Project in California. In addition, the conferees are concerned that the Bureau of Reclamation has failed to comply with the directive to submit a plan, by February of 1995, for reducing the backlog in replacements, additions, and extraordinary maintenance items in a timely manner and direct that this previously requested plan be submitted as soon as possible. The conference agreement does include $4,625,000 for replacements, additions, and extraordinary maintenance items, the same as the budget request. The conferees urge the Bureau of Reclamation to continue its efforts to reach consensus with the canal authorities on the manner that those funds are allocated. The conference agreement also includes $5,454,000 for operation and maintenance of the Trinity River Division. The amount provided includes sufficient funds to continue to monitoring and tagging tasks, repair of winter damage, and sediment control needed for continued management of the Trinity River fishery.

The conferees have been informed that landowners and farmers suffered flooding and destruction of crops in March 1995 from waters of the Arroyo Pasajaro in Fresno County, California. The waters were diverted from the San Luis Canal, jointly operated by the Bureau of Reclamation and the State of California. The conferees direct the Bureau to evaluate the damage and report back to Congress on whether Federal responsibility is involved and if steps should be taken to provide compensation to those suffering damage.

CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT RESTORATION FUND

The conferees direct that the $1,000,000 requested for the San Joaquin River Basin Resource Management Initiative, and any funds remaining from previous fiscal years, not be expended for that purpose. This action is consistent with action of the Congress during consideration of H.R. 1158. In the reports accompanying that bill, the Bureau of Reclamation was directed not to obligate any additional funds in fiscal year 1995 for the San Joaquin River Basin Resource Management Initiative.

The conference agreement includes $12,281,000 for the Shasta Dam Temperature Control Device, $1,000,000 above the budget request.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE
GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS		
ARIZONA		
TUCSON/PHOENIX WATER CONSERVATION AND EXCHANGE STUDY..	50,000	50,000
VERDE RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT STUDY.....	125,000	125,000
CALIFORNIA		
DEL NORTE CNTY/CRESCENT CITY WASTEWATER RECLAMATION ST	---	300,000
FORT BRAGG WATER RECLAMATION STUDY.....	---	500,000
IMPERIAL VALLEY WATER RECLAMATION & REUSE STUDY.....	175,000	175,000
LOWER OWENS RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY.....	100,000	---
MALIBU CREEK FISHERY ENHANCEMENT STUDY.....	50,000	---
SALTON SEA RESEARCH PROJECT.....	---	100,000
SAN FRANCISCO AREA WATER RECLAMATION STUDY.....	700,000	1,000,000
SO CALIF COASTAL WATER SUPPLY STUDY.....	50,000	50,000
SO CALIF COMPREHENSIVE WATER SUPPLY & RECLAMATION STUD	750,000	750,000
COLORADO		
GRAND VALLEY PROJECT WATER CONSERVATION STUDY.....	50,000	50,000
SOUTHWEST COLORADO RURAL WATER SUPPLY.....	75,000	---
YAMPA RIVER WATER SUPPLY STUDY.....	50,000	50,000
IDAHO		
IDAHO RIVER SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT.....	100,000	100,000
UPPER SALMON RIVER WATER OPTIMIZATION.....	150,000	150,000
KANSAS		
KANSAS COMPREHENSIVE INVESTIGATION.....	100,000	75,000
MONTANA		
WESTERN MONTANA WATER CONSERVATION STUDY.....	200,000	200,000
YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN STUDY.....	140,000	120,000
NEBRASKA		
NEBRASKA WATER SUPPLY ASSESSMENT.....	100,000	75,000
NEVADA		
WALKER RIVER BASIN.....	---	150,000
NEW MEXICO		
RIO GRANDE/LOW FLOW CONVEYANCE CHANNEL.....	100,000	75,000
SAN JUAN RIVER GALLUP - NAVAJO WATER SUPPLY, NM.....	---	100,000
OKLAHOMA		
OKLAHOMA WATER SUPPLY STUDY.....	100,000	75,000
OREGON		
CARLTON LAKE RESTORATION.....	50,000	50,000
CENTRAL OREGON IRRIG SYS CONSERVATION PROJ FEASIBILITY	200,000	200,000
UPPER DESCHUTES PROJECT.....	50,000	50,000
GRANDE RONDE RIVER BASIN	200,000	200,000
NORTHWEST OREGON REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY.....	300,000	300,000
OREGON STREAM RESTORATION PLANNING STUDY.....	150,000	150,000
OREGON SUBBASIN CONSERVATION PLANNING	200,000	200,000
OWYHEE STORAGE OPTIMIZATION STUDY.....	50,000	50,000
SOUTHERN OREGON COASTAL RIVER BASINS.....	100,000	100,000
SOUTH DAKOTA		
CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX RESERVATION.....	---	150,000
SOUTH DAKOTA		
BLACK HILLS REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT STUDY.....	150,000	150,000

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE
TEXAS		
EDWARDS AQUIFER REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES & MGMT STUDY.	240,000	240,000
RINCON BAYOU-NUECES MARSH WETLANDS RESTOR/ENHANCE PROJ	150,000	150,000
RIO GRANDE/RIO BRAVO INTERNATIONAL BASIN ASSESSMENT...	200,000	150,000
RIO GRANDE CONVEYANCE CANAL/PIPELINE.....	---	150,000
UTAH		
ASHLEY/BRUSH CREEKS OPTIMIZATION STUDY.....	75,000	75,000
WEBER BASIN WATER QUALITY/WATERSHED.....	100,000	100,000
WASHINGTON		
WASHINGTON RIVER BASIN PLANNING.....	75,000	75,000
VARIOUS		
BEAR RIVER BASIN WATER QUALITY/WATERSHED.....	100,000	100,000
COLORADO RIVER WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.....	375,000	375,000
DROUGHT INVESTIGATIONS.....	40,000	40,000
ENVIRONMENTAL & INTERAGENCY COORDINATION ACTIVITIES...	1,877,000	1,000,000
FISH & WILDLIFE HABITAT PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT..	50,000	---
GENERAL PLANNING STUDIES.....	2,435,000	1,635,000
INVESTIGATION OF EXISTING PROJECTS.....	540,000	432,000
LOWER COLORADO INDIAN WATER MANAGEMENT STUDY.....	75,000	---
MINOR WORK ON COMPLETED INVESTIGATIONS.....	150,000	120,000
MISSOURI RIVER BASIN TRIBES IN NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA.	250,000	250,000
PALLID STURGEON RECOVERY DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM.....	140,000	140,000
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES.....	1,665,000	1,332,000
UPPER SNAKE RIVER BASIN STORAGE OPTIMIZATION.....	200,000	200,000
UPPER SNAKE RIVER BASIN SALMON MIGRATION WATER STUDY..	250,000	250,000
TOTAL, GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS.....	13,602,000	12,684,000
CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM		
CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION AND COLORADO RIVER BASIN SALINITY CONTROL PROJECTS		
CALIFORNIA		
CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT:		
AUBURN-FOLSOM SOUTH UNIT.....	1,357,000	1,357,000
DELTA DIVISION.....	6,500,000	6,580,000
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECT PROGRAMS.....	11,869,000	12,069,000
SACRAMENTO RIVER DIVISION.....	875,000	6,540,000
SAN FELIPE DIVISION.....	664,000	664,000
SAN LUIS UNIT.....	800,000	800,000
SHASTA DIVISION.....	749,000	19,749,000
TRINITY RIVER RESTORATION PROGRAM.....	5,067,000	5,067,000
LOS ANGELES AREA WATER RECLAMATION/REUSE PROJECT.....	9,300,000	8,300,000
BRACKISH WATER RECLAMATION DEMONSTRATION FACILITY.....	---	1,000,000
SAN DIEGO AREA WATER RECLAMATION PROGRAM.....	2,340,000	2,340,000
SAN GABRIEL BASIN PROJECT.....	9,750,000	8,000,000
SAN JOSE WATER RECLAMATION/REUSE-TITLE 16.....	1,750,000	1,750,000
COLORADO		
GRAND VALLEY UNIT, TITLE II, CRBSCP.....	5,799,000	5,799,000
LOWER GUNNISON BASIN UNIT, TITLE II, CRBSCP.....	1,231,000	1,231,000
PARADOX VALLEY UNIT, TITLE II, CRBSCP.....	300,000	300,000
IDAHO		
MINIDOKA NORTH SIDE DRAINWATER PROJECT.....	60,000	60,000
NORTH DAKOTA		
GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT, P-SMBP.....	24,900,000	24,900,000
OREGON		
UMATILLA BASIN PROJECT.....	6,700,000	6,875,000

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE
SOUTH DAKOTA		
BELLE FOURCHE UNIT, P-SMBP	3,802,000	3,802,000
MID-DAKOTA PROJECT	2,500,000	11,500,000
MNI WICONI PROJECT	10,500,000	22,300,000
TEXAS		
NORTHWEST WASTEWATER REUSE PROJECT	---	1,500,000
WASHINGTON		
COLUMBIA BASIN PROJECT	1,698,000	2,573,000
YAKIMA BASIN ENHANCEMENT PROJECT	---	1,500,000
VARIOUS		
COLUMBIA/SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY	15,000,000	13,500,000
NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION	3,255,000	1,500,000
ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROG., UC R	6,373,000	6,373,000
ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION/RECOVERY PROJ., LC REG	2,170,000	2,170,000
ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROG., PN R	170,000	170,000
INDIAN WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT	4,357,000	4,357,000
TITLE I DIVISION, CRBSCP	2,300,000	2,300,000
TITLE II, NEW FORMAT, CRBSCP	6,000,000	500,000
WATER CONSERVATION CHALLENGE PARTNERSHIPS	9,000,000	---
SUBTOTAL, REGULAR CONSTRUCTION	157,136,000	187,426,000
DRAINAGE AND MINOR CONSTRUCTION:		
BOISE PROJECT, ID	510,000	510,000
BRANTLEY PROJECT, NM	650,000	650,000
COLORADO RIVER FRONT WORK AND LEVEE SYSTEM, AZ - CA	1,800,000	1,800,000
KLAMATH PROJECT, OR - CA	2,818,000	2,818,000
LAKE MEREDITH SALINITY CONTROL, NM - TX	100,000	570,000
LEADVILLE/ARKANSAS RIVER RECOVERY, CO	600,000	600,000
MC GEE CREEK PROJECT, OK	125,000	125,000
MOUNTAIN PARK PROJECT, OK	700,000	700,000
NEWLANDS PROJECT, CA - NV	7,250,000	7,250,000
NUECES RIVER PROJECT, TX	105,000	105,000
PALMETTO BEND PROJECT, TX	25,000	25,000
PICK-SLOAN MISSOURI BASIN PROGRAM:		
NORTH LOUP DIVISION, P-SMBP, NE	900,000	900,000
OAHE UNIT, P-SMBP, SD	80,000	80,000
RECLAMATION RECREATION MANAGEMENT ACT-TITLE 28, VARI	3,500,000	3,500,000
TRES RIOS WETLANDS DEMONSTRATION, AZ	500,000	500,000
VELARDE COMMUNITY DITCH PROJECT, NM	---	1,500,000
WETLANDS DEVELOPMENT, VARIOUS	2,330,000	5,000,000
YAKIMA FISH PASSAGE/PROTECTIVE FACILITIES, WA	1,210,000	1,210,000
SUBTOTAL, DRAINAGE AND MINOR CONSTRUCTION	23,203,000	27,843,000
SAFETY OF DAMS PROGRAM:		
CROOKED RIVER, OCHOCO DAM, OR	6,000,000	6,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR DAM SAFETY PROGRAM	1,270,000	1,270,000
INITIATE SAFETY OF DAMS CORRECTIVE ACTION	38,175,000	35,175,000
SAFETY OF DAMS CORRECTIVE ACTION STUDIES	2,500,000	2,500,000
SALT RIVER PROJECT, BARTLETT DAM, AZ	8,085,000	8,085,000
SALT RIVER PROJECT, HORSESHOE DAM, AZ	1,103,000	1,103,000
SAN CARLOS IRRIGATION - COOLIDGE DAM, AZ	974,000	974,000
UMATILLA PROJECT, COLD SPRINGS DAM, OR	5,250,000	5,250,000
YAKIMA, BUMPING LAKE DAM, WA	1,825,000	1,825,000
SUBTOTAL, SAFETY OF DAMS	65,182,000	62,182,000
REHABILITATION AND BETTERMENT:		
OGDEN RIVER PROJECT, UT	975,000	975,000
SHOSHONE, WY	1,300,000	1,300,000
WEBER BASIN PROJECT, UT	2,474,000	2,474,000
SUBTOTAL, REHABILITATION AND BETTERMENT	4,749,000	4,749,000
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:		
ENERGY/WATER PRODUCT EFFICIENCY STANDARDS	450,000	---
GROUNDWATER RECHARGE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM	771,000	1,271,000
IMPROVED RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT CONTROL	300,000	---
TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENT	300,000	300,000
WATERSHED MODELING SYSTEMS INITIATIVE	1,000,000	800,000

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET ESTIMATE	CONFERENCE ALLOWANCE
WATER TREATMENT TECHNOLOGY	1,700,000	1,360,000
WATER TECHNOLOGY/ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH	3,800,000	2,800,000
SUBTOTAL, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	8,321,000	6,531,000
TOTAL, CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION AND COLORADO RIVER BASIN SALINITY CONTROL PROJECTS	258,591,000	288,731,000
COLORADO RIVER STORAGE PROJECT		
UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN FUND AND PARTICIPATING PROJECTS		
COLORADO		
ANIMAS-LA PLATA PROJECT	4,879,000	10,000,000
DOLORES PARTICIPATING PROJECT	3,470,000	3,470,000
UTAH		
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT, BONNEVILLE UNIT	13,579,000	13,579,000
FISH AND WILDLIFE FACILITIES, AZ, CO, NM, UT, WY	1,920,000	1,920,000
TOTAL, COLORADO RIVER STORAGE PROJECT	23,848,000	28,969,000
COLORADO RIVER BASIN PROJECT		
CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT		
ARIZONA		
CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT, WATER DEVELOPMENT (LCRBDF)	92,725,000	94,225,000
CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT, SAFETY OF DAMS	29,411,000	29,411,000
CENTAL ARIZONA PROJECT, GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY	---	1,842,000
TOTAL, COLORADO RIVER BASIN PROJECT	122,136,000	125,478,000
ASSOCIATED ITEMS		
UNDISTRIBUTED REDUCTION BASED ON ANTICIPATED DELAYS	-28,632,000	-32,132,000
TOTAL, CONTRUCTION PROGRAM	375,943,000	411,046,000
LOAN PROGRAM		
ARIZONA		
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION - SCHUK TOAK DISTRICT	3,043,000	3,043,000
CALIFORNIA		
CASTROVILLE IRRIGATION WATER SUPPLY PROJECT	1,500,000	1,500,000
CHINO BASIN DESALINATION PROJECT	1,100,000	1,100,000
EASTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 3	2,200,000	2,200,000
SALINAS VALLEY WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY	1,100,000	1,100,000
TEMESCAL VALLEY PROJECT-ELSINORE VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATE	700,000	700,000
COLORADO		
UTE MOUNTAIN UTE	1,500,000	1,500,000
OREGON		
DOUGLAS COUNTY - MILLTOWN HILL	100,000	100,000
VARIOUS		
LOAN ADMINISTRATION	425,000	425,000
NEW LOAN PROGRAM ACTIVITY	5,000,000	---
TOTAL, LOAN PROGRAM	16,668,000	11,668,000

TITLE III

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

The summary tables at the end of this title set forth the conference agreement with respect to the individual appropriations, programs, and activities of the Department of Energy. Additional items of conference agreements are discussed below.

FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT LEVELS

The Department of Energy has announced a strategic alignment initiative which would reduce the number of Federal employees by 27 percent over five years. The Department has provided a summary of recommended employment levels and proposed reductions by organization for fiscal year 1996. The conferees expect the Department to make these proposed employment reductions in those areas where the conference agreement does not reduce employment levels below those requested by the Department. The Department is to report to the Committees on Appropriations the actual employment levels as of March 1996 compared to the fiscal year 1995 baseline and the Department's proposed employment levels.

SUPPORT SERVICE CONTRACTORS

The conferees are aware of the extensive use of support service contractors by the Department of Energy at headquarters and the field offices. In many instances these contractors are performing inherently governmental functions such as assisting in program management and program execution duties, representing program organizations at meetings inside and outside the Department, preparing briefing materials, newsletters, and budget justifications, and providing daily administrative and clerical support.

There are clearly instances where it is cost-effective to use support service contractors to support Federal programs. This would include functions such as custodial services, guard services, operation of emergency communications centers and mail rooms, and facility and grounds maintenance. In addition to these types of commercial services, there are situations where technical expertise is needed to augment Federal efforts. These technical services would include such tasks as automated data processing systems development for the Department's corporate financial, procurement, and personnel systems, systems review and reliability analyses, and economic and environmental analyses. These tasks are characterized by specific project schedules, milestones, and deliverables.

The conferees have no objection to continuing support service contracts which can be documented to be cost-effective and which provide specific technical expertise not available in the Federal work force at the Department. However, the Department has increasingly used support service contractors to augment the Federal work force for nonspecific functions. This may be done to circumvent Federal employment ceilings or funding constraints or because it is easier to hire an outside contractor than to manage properly the existing Federal work force.

After excluding those support service contracts which are documented to reflect the cost benefits of contracting for the service, and those contracts which provide specific technical expertise tied to a schedule and a deliverable, the conferees expect funding for all other support service contracts to decrease by 50 percent in fiscal year 1996. All other categories of support service contracts should be reduced by 15 percent in accordance with the Department's strategic alignment initiative. The Department is directed to submit semi-annual reports on the use of all support services contracts at headquarters and the field. By organization, appropriation, and program, this report should include the name of the contractor, fiscal year 1996 funding, number of employers, and a brief description of the work performed.

DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS

The Department does not budget for Federal employees in a consistent manner throughout the whole organization. Using existing budget justification materials, it is difficult to determine where each Department of energy employee is located and the costs associated with each. To alleviate these discrepancies, in the fiscal year 1997 budget request the Department is directed to include all salaries and related expenses in the program that manages the employee. In addition to salaries and benefits, the personnel cost for each employee should include all related costs such as space rental, utilities, materials and supplies, telecommunications, and building maintenance. The administrative services group will determine the amount of these costs which should be charged to each program organization to ensure consistency in budgeting.

Within each appropriation account, each organization should have one program direction line for all full-time equivalent employees (FTEs), both field and headquarters, and provide object class information for all expenses. No Federal employees are to be funded in program accounts. Any difference between the average cost of the fully loaded FTE between specific programs should be explained in the budget justification.

ENERGY SUPPLY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Amendment No. 22: Appropriates $2,727,407,000 for Energy Supply, Research and Development Activities instead of $2,576,700,000 (less $1,000,000) as proposed by the House and $2,793,324,000 as proposed by the Senate, and deletes language proposed by the Senate providing no more than $7,500,000 for termination of the Gas Turbine-Modular Helium Reactor program.

SOLAR AND RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAMS

Funding of $2,000,000 for the solar international program is to be allocated to nongovernmental organizations which are active in joint implementation activities to develop specific international energy projects.

Funding of $400,000 is provided to study the feasibility of piping treated effluent from Santa Rosa to the Geysers for injection.

The conferees have provided $55,300,000 for biofuels energy systems. An amount of $27,650,000 is allocated for the categories of biochemical and thermochemical conversion, of which $3,000,000 is for the Federal share of a 50/50 cost-shared biomass ethanol production plant in Gridley, California, and the amount also includes the request for capital equipment. With the remaining funds, the conferees support and fully fund the biomass power projects in Vermont and Hawaii, and have provided from the remainder of available funds $3,940,000 for the regional biomass program.

The conferees have not provided funding for the ocean thermal energy systems program, now technical assistance and other support for the Kotzebue, Alaska, project for a wind energy system.

Within the total funding provided for solar energy, the conferees have included $2,988,000, the same as the budget request, for the renewable energy production incentive (REPI) program. The conferees urge the Department to fully fund both tier 1 and tier 2 projects as outlined in its recently published regulations. REPI program funding shall be available only for so long as the tax credit for electricity produced from certain renewable sources or the energy investment credit for solar and geothermal property (authorized by sections 1914 and 1916 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, respectively) remain in effect.

Within funds available for hydrogen research, $250,000 shall be made available to an institution where expertise in electrochemical (fuel cells), thermochemical and photochemical reactions for hydrogen production may be synergistically studied and the application to gas storage and alternate vehicle technology may be integrated.

The conferees have provided $1,500,000 for the hydropower program which includes funding to support the cost-shared program to develop an advanced energy-efficient turbine which reduces environmental impacts on fish species.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

The conferees realize that sufficient funding has not been provided to complete all tasks as proposed in the Department's budget request for the advanced light water reactor program. Therefore, the conferees urge the Department to apply funds within the light water reactor program to cost-effectively complete essential activities.

Termination funding of $7,500,000, the same as the budget request, has been provided for the orderly close-out of the gas turbine-modular helium reactor program. An orderly close-out shall include only the summary documentation of existing technical data and information. All design, development, and test programs shall be terminated.

The conference agreement provides $25,000,000 for electrometallurgical research and development in the technology development program for Defense Environmental Restoration and Waste Management. As recommended by the National Academy of Sciences' assessment of the electrometallurgical approach for treating spent nuclear fuel, the conferees expect the Department to develop a plan to support the EBR–II demonstration using this technology. If this is successful, the Department should review the program for application to other types of spent fuel and waste management issues.

No funding for the Soviet-designed reactor safety program is included in the Energy Supply, Research and Development appropriation account. Funding for this activity has been included in the Other Defense Activities appropriation account.

ISOTOPES

The conferees agree to provide a total of $3,000,000—$1,000,000 in fiscal year 1996 in addition to $2,000,000 from funds appropriated for this purpose in fiscal year 1995—to continue development of the National Biomedical Tracer Facility (NBTF). This funding should be used to acquire three site specific conceptual designs from among the strongest submissions received during the project definition study. Additionally, the Department should assess all permanent or interim upgrade NBTF proposals, including any from national laboratories, according to a consistent set of evaluation criteria including the capacity to produce a wide range of isotopes for medical and research purposes; research, technology transfer, education and training capabilities; and overall cost effectiveness considering lifetime costs of the facility as well as public-private partnerships and cost-sharing by state and local partners.

The conferees support using up to $750,000 of available funds within this account for completion of the Hanford medical isotopes business planning and program development project.

ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND HEALTH

The Radiation Effects Research Foundation (RERF) is a private foundation co-funded by the governments of the United States and Japan to study the effects of radiation on the survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. Since 1946, the National Academy of Sciences has provided support and oversight of scientific research on the consequences of the acute radiation exposures suffered by the population of these two cities, pursuant to an international agreement that co-funds activities at a 50–50 cost share, but this work has been threatened by the dramatically declining value of the dollar versus the yen. The conferees direct the Administration to continue to work with the National Academy of Sciences to achieve additional cost savings in this program and with the Japanese government to review areas for cost savings to reflect U.S. budgetary constraints. The appropriate committees should be informed of any funding changes before they become effective.

The conferees are also interested in the assessment of the continuing effectiveness and value of this program that is being conducted by a scientific committee jointly appointed by the U.S. and Japanese governments, and expect the Department to review the continued funding for this activity and report to the appropriate Congressional committees prior to hearings on the fiscal year 1997 budget and upon completion of the international scientific committee's review.

ENERGY RESEARCH

Biological and environmental research

The conferees support the important work conducted at the Inhalation Toxicology Research Institute. The conferees further understand that the Institute is reviewing ways to reduce its operating costs to the Department of Energy and to increase access to its facilities by other Federal and non-Federal entities having research needs. The conferees support these efforts to reduce costs and to meet both Federal and non-Federal needs and requirements.

Any general reductions to this account should be allocated equitably across all program elements without terminating any programs unilaterally.

Fusion

The conferees have provided $244,144,000, an increase of $15,000,000 over the House recommendation, for the fusion energy program. This funding is to support a program in plasma science and fusion technology, and continue United States participation in the engineering design activities phase of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor project to which the United States is committed through fiscal year 1998. The conferees do not agree with the Senate language which recommended transferring computer work, termination, severance and separation costs to other activities within the Department, and transferring the heavy ion fusion program to defense activities.

With little prospect for increased funding for the fusion base program over the next several years, it will be necessary for the program to restructure its strategy, content and near-to-medium-term objectives. The restructured program should emphasize continued development of fusion science, increased attention to concept improvement and alternative approaches to fusion, and development and testing of the low-activation structural materials so important for fusion's attractiveness as an energy source.

The Department of Energy, with participation of the fusion community and the Fusion Energy Advisory Committee, is instructed to prepare a strategic plan to implement such a restructured program, to be completed by December 31, 1995. This plan should assume a constant level of effort in the base program for the next several years; as appropriate, it should be integrated with plans of the international fusion program; and it should address the institutional makeup of a domestic program consistent with the funding assumptions.

The conferees believe that, because of the stringent budget realities facing this Nation, the promise of fusion energy can only be realized through international collaboration. The high cost of fusion development points to the increasing importance of international cooperation as a means of designing, building, and financing major magnetic fusion facilities in the future. Because the United States has committed to such an approach, it is crucial that a restructuring of the fusion program maintain a strong domestic base and not undermine our credibility as a reliable international partner.

Basic energy sciences

The conferees make no recommendation with regard to the siting of the new spallation source project. The Department of Energy shall make that determination in a fair and unbiased manner. The conferees direct the Department of Energy to evaluate opportunities to upgrade existing reactors and spallation sources as cost-effective means of providing neutrons in the near term for the scientific community while the next generation source is developed. This evaluation shall be available prior to the Appropriations Committee's hearings on the Department's fiscal year 1997 budget submission.

For purposes for reprogrammings during fiscal year 1996, funding may be reallocated by the Department among all operating accounts in basic energy sciences other than program direction.

Other energy research activities

The conferees agree that to the extent nonprogram specific general plant projects and general plant equipment are required for the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, they are to be funded within the Basic Energy Science and Biological and Environmental Research programs, respectively.

The conference agreement provides $18,000,000 for the laboratory technology transfer program. Within this funding, up to $1,500,000 is available for severance costs for 17 current employees. The conferees recommend that the Department identify and complete the most promising cooperative research and development agreements during fiscal year 1996.

ENERGY SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

University science and education programs

The conferees have provided $20,000,000 for this portion of the Department's science and education activities. None of the funds in this account may be used for salaries and expenses other than up to $1,100,000 which is available for severance costs for the 27 employees currently managing this program.

In addition to this individual program, the Department of Energy spends will over $100,000,000 throughout all programs to support science and education activities. The conferees continue to support science and education activities funded directly by programs and which have a direct correlation to programmatic needs. The conferees do not agree to fund a separate bureaucracy set up to manage only a small portion of the science and education activities of the Department. In fiscal year 1996, these activities are to be managed by the Office of Energy Research as they were from 1977 to 1993. In that way, this science and education program will be closely coupled with the Department's research programs, and the number of employees needed to support the program will be significantly reduced.

The conference agreement does not contain specific funding directions for science and education activities, but urges the Department to consider the views express in the Senate report. The conferees also encourage the Secretary of Energy to enter into an agreement with a qualified minority women's model institution of excellence to support curriculum development, research, training and other activities related to energy research and environmental restoration and waste management.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

(NON–DEFENSE)

The conferees agree with the House report language on the Wayne, New Jersey project.

INDIAN ENERGY RESOURCES

From within available funds for the Energy Supply, Research and Development appropriation account, $8,600,000 is provided for Indian energy resources. The funding should be allocated to provide $6,100,000 for continued preconstruction activities for the Navajo transmission project, and $2,000,000 for the Haida Alaska Native Village Corporation's Reynolds Creek hydroelectric project. The conference agreement includes $500,000 for the Crow Energy Project, instead of $2,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The Department is encouraged to work through the Western Area Technology Center In Butte, Montana, to provide any and all assistance in making the Crow energy project a success.

Amendment No. 23: Deletes language proposed by the Senate providing that within available funds $56,000,000 may be available to continue operation of the Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor.

Amendment No. 24: Deletes language proposed by the Senate providing that within the amount for Indian Energy Resource projects, $2,000,000 may be made available to fund the Crow energy resources programs.

Amendment No. 25: Deletes language proposed by the House providing $44,772,000 to implement provisions of section 1211 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

Amendment No. 26: Deletes language proposed by the Senate allocating additional funds for renewable energy resources and reducing departmental administration funding.

URANIUM SUPPLY AND ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

The conference agreement adjusts the allocation of funding for implementation of the depleted uranium hexafluoride cylinders and maintenance program. These adjustments will accelerate cleaning and painting of corroded cylinders at the three gaseous diffusion plant sites and construction of a new cylinder storage yard. These activities have been accommodated by reallocating funding provided in the House and Senate recommendations.

GENERAL SCIENCE AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Amendment No. 27: Appropriates $981,000,000 for General Science and Research Activities instead of $991,000,000 as proposed by the House and $971,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL FUND

Amendment No. 28: Appropriates $151,600,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of $226,600,000 as proposed by the House and deletes language proposed by the Senate that authorizes construction of an interim storage facility for spent nuclear fuel.

The conferees agree on the importance of continuing the existing scientific work at Yucca Mountain to determine the ultimate feasibility and licensability of the permanent repository at that site. The conferees

direct the Department to refocus the repository program on completing the core scientific activities at Yucca Mountain. The Department should complete excavation of the necessary portions of the exploratory tunnel and the scientific tests needed to assess the performance of the repository. It should defer preparation and filing of a license application for the repository with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission until a later date. The Department's goal should be to collect the scientific information needed to determine the suitability of the Yucca Mountain site and to complete a conceptual design for the repository and waste package for later submission to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

Weapons activities

Amendment No. 29: Appropriates $3,460,314,000 for Weapons Activities instead of $3,273,014,000 as proposed by the House and $3,751,719,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides $1,078,403,000 for core stockpile stewardship activities which includes and additional $40,000,000 for the accelerated strategic computing initiative (ASCI). The conferees also support the enhanced surveillance and dual revalidation programs.

Funding of $37,400,000, the same as the budget request, is provided for project 96–D–111, the National Ignition Facility. Full funding for all inertial confinement fusion program participants is provided as requested in the Department's budget justification.

The conference agreement provides an increase of $106,000,000 over the House recommendation for stockpile management to provide for enhanced stockpile surveillance, advanced manufacturing, and core stockpile management activities. However, the conferees believe it is premature to initiate long-term capital improvements in advance of the outcome of the stockpile stewardship/management programmatic environmental impact statement process currently underway. The conferees have not provided specific site funding, but support fundamental initiatives in advanced manufacturing, and additional emphasis on advanced computerized manufacturing and dual revalidation techniques.

The conferees have provided $115,000,000 for program direction activities. The conferees support the liquefied gaseous spill test facility and the facility's modeling support center under the Department's emergency management program funded in the Other Defense Activities appropriation account.

The conference agreement includes the use of $209,744,000 in prior year balances, an increase of $123,400,000 over the budget request which included the use of $86,344,000.

DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Amendment No. 30: Appropriates $5,557,532,000 for Defense Environmental Restoration and Waste Management instead of $5,265,478,000 a proposed by the House and $5,989,750,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The tables accompanying this conference agreement reallocate funding for several construction projects as requested by the Department to reflect the most recent programmatic and site assumptions for fiscal year 1996 activities.

Budget reductions should be taken in those areas which will have the least impact on ongoing cleanup activities. The conferees seek to the extent possible to protect funding necessary to meet the cleanup milestones established in compliance agreements with other Federal agencies, states, and local agencies, by directing the cuts against support service contracts, excessive Headquarters and field oversight, large uncosted balances, and by reducing other Department administrative expenses such as travel.

The conferees direct that, to the maximum extent practicable, funding reductions be taken against Headquarters personnel and activities. Headquarters employees should be reviewing and auditing field and contractor activities and holding the contractors responsible for meeting performance goals and milestones, not micromanaging each step of the process from Headquarters through the financial plan process and activity data sheets. A critical review of Headquarters' approval processes for various activities would yield a wealth of non-value added administrative steps which serve primarily to delay, prolong, and diffuse responsibility for direct and timely cleanup activities. Thus, the conferees expect funding for Headquarters' organizations to be severely curtailed during execution of the fiscal year 1996 program.

The conferees also believe that legislative reforms in the Department's cleanup program are long overdue, and will work with the legislative committees to ensure that significant changes are made in the cleanup program.

The Department has indicated that the environmental management organization plans to hire an additional 315 Federal employees in fiscal year 1996. The conferees do not agree with this strategy. Every witness outside of the Department who testified on this program stated that one of the management problems was too many employees. While the conferees are sympathetic that the program may not have the correct mix of technical skills in the current work force, they are not amenable to the concept of hiring 10% more employees for this program in fiscal year 1996. Thus, the Department is directed not to exceed the current Federal employee ceiling and hire new employees only as current employees leave.

The conference agreement provides $1,635,973,000 for environmental restoration. An additional $60,000,000 has been provided to accelerate cleanup activities and reduce current landlord costs and outyear funding requirements. The conferees strongly support efforts at sites such as Fernald, Ohio, and Rocky Flats, Colorado, which have developed detailed plans to expedite cleanup actions and reduce costs to the taxpayer.

The conferees are in agreement with the Senate recommendation to accelerate certain activities at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory. Within the waste management account, funding is provided for preconstruction activities such as design and engineering work on additional capacity for dry storage of spent nuclear fuel and an advanced mixed waste treatment facility. The conference agreement also provides funding of $42,000,000 for project 96–D–406, the nuclear fuel canister storage building and stabilization facility in Richland, Washington.

The conferees agree with the concern expressed by the Senate that the Department is not providing sufficient attention and resources to longer term basic science research which needs to be done to ultimately reduce cleanup costs. The current technology development program continues to favor near-term applied research efforts while failing to utilize the existing basic research infrastructure within the Department and the Office of Energy Research. As a result of this, the conferees direct that at least $50,000,000 of the technology development funding provided to the environmental management program in fiscal year 1996 be managed by the Office of Energy Research and used to develop a program that takes advantage of laboratory and university expertise. This funding is to be used to stimulate the required basic research, development and demonstration efforts to seek new and innovative cleanup methods to replace current conventional approaches which are often costly and ineffective.

In the technology development program, $25,000,000 has been provided for electrometallurgical research and development. The conferees have also included sufficient funding for the Department to prepare a report on the potential of using pentaborane for environmental remediation or other uses, the estimated costs of the effort, and potential advantages and disadvantages of the proposal. The Department's activities in this area are to be confined to the preparation of this report.

The conferees expect the Department to direct more resources toward activities surrounding storage, treatment, and disposal of spent nuclear fuel currently stored at Department of Energy sites.

The conferees fully support the mission of the Hazardous Materials Training Center at the Hanford site in Richland, Washington, and direct the Department to adequately fund the requested operating budget from the compliance and coordination account.

The conferees understand the need for economic development funding to support local communities adversely impacted by Department of Energy programs and to transition communities which have lost jobs due to programmatic changes at facilities, but are concerned that cleanup funds are being used for economic development activities. With that understanding, the conferees have provided $82,500,000 in the worker and community transition program under other Defense Activities which was established and authorized to fund such activities, and expect all economic development activities to be funded from that program.

The conference agreement provides not more than $12,000,000 for public accountability activities in the analysis, education and risk management program. The Department is expected to review requests for this funding to reduce duplication of efforts by various groups and excessive costs. None of these funds may be used for reimbursement of travel expenses of individuals traveling to Washington, DC.

The conference agreement includes funding to maintain State health studies in South Carolina, Tennessee, and Colorado at the $7,300,000 level in fiscal year 1996. These funds are in addition to the $9,950,000 for dose reconstruction or other health studies including those conducted under a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Health and Human Services and DOE's Office of Environment, Safety and Health. Additionally, the conferees direct that all of these studies shall continue to be administered by the Office of Environment, Safety and Health.

The conference agreement supports the Hanford environmental dose reconstruction project and health information network at the budget request level, and continues the Hanford thyroid study at $1,700,000, the same as the fiscal year 1995 level.

The conferees are aware that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement prepared by the Department of Energy on the Proposed Nuclear Weapons Nonproliferation Policy Concerning Foreign Research Spent Nuclear Fuel includes as an option the importation of foreign spent nuclear fuel through civilian ports. The conferees are concerned that some of these ports may not have the security or the emergency management capabilities needed to safely handle weapons grade or highly irradiated nuclear material and that the designation of some of these ports as a port of entry would necessitate that the spent nuclear fuel be transported through

highly populated metropolitan areas. The Department of Energy should take into consideration a port's willingness to be designated as a port of entry for the foreign spent nuclear fuel as one of the determining factors in the final selection process and to the maximum extent feasible, the conferees direct the Department of Energy to utilize military ports or civilian ports which have expressed an interest in receiving the spent fuel.

The conference agreement includes the use of $667,240,000 of prior year balances, an increase of $390,298,000 over the budget request, which included the use of $276,942,000.

OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

Amendment No. 31: Appropriates $1,373,212,000 for Other Defense Activities instead of $1,323,841,000 as proposed by the House and $1,439,112,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees have provided $30,000,000 for the Soviet-designed reactor safety program, as proposed by the Senate, and $10,000,000 for the Industrial Partnering Program. The conference agreement also provides $3,600,000 to continue the Department's role in the North Korean spent fuel project.

NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS AND SECURITY

The conferees are deeply concerned about the recent direction in Executive Order 12958 to ''automatically declassify'' and publicly release documents containing National Security Information within five years whether or not the records have been reviewed. Automatic declassification creates a substantial and unnecessary risk that information, including information regarding U.S. nuclear weapons, will be inadvertently disclosed to potential proliferators. Clearly such disclosure fundamentally undermines U.S. nonproliferation efforts, and could effect grave damage to U.S. national security. The conferees believe that the automatic declassification of national security records that could contain Restricted Data constitutes a violation of the legal protections for Restricted Data mandated by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. Although the conferees recognize that the Order provides an exemption from automatic declassification for Restricted Data, the conferees do not see how such an exemption can be effectively implemented since the National Security Information records slated for automatic release have a high probability of containing some Restricted Data intermixed within the National Security Information. Thus, short of a Department of Energy review of all National Security Information records believed by the Department to have a probability of containing Restricted Data, there is no way to ensure the protection of Restricted Data materials consistent with the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act.

Given the potential impact to national security through the inappropriate release of Restricted Data, the conferees believe the rush to automatically declassify sensitive documents is not in the national interest. Therefore, the conferees strongly urge the President to review and revise Executive Order 12958 regarding Classified National Security Information, and exempt from automatic declassification all National Security Information files, including files of other agencies, earmarked by the Department of Energy as potentially containing Restricted Data.

FUNDING ADJUSTMENTS

The conferees direct the use of $70,000,000 of prior year balances from this account, an increase of $57,000,000 from the budget request of $13,000,000. The increase is to be taken against unobligated and uncosted balances remaining in the Materials Support program at the end of fiscal year 1995.

Amendment No. 32: Deletes language proposed by the Senate providing $4,952,000 for project 96–D–463, electrical and utility systems upgrade at the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant in Idaho. Funding for this project has been included in the Defense Environmental Restoration and Waste Management appropriation account.

DEFENSE NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL

Amendment No. 33: Appropriates $248,400,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of $198,400,000 as proposed by the House.

Since passage of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, as amended, the nuclear waste fund has incurred costs for activities related to disposal of high-level waste generated from the atomic energy defense activities of the Department of Energy. At the end of fiscal year 1994, the balance owed by the Federal Government to the nuclear waste fund was $664,000,000 (including principal and interest). Through fiscal year 1995, a total of $361,930,000 has been paid to the nuclear waste fund through the Defense Nuclear Waste Disposal appropriation account.

During fiscal year 1995, the defense contribution to the nuclear waste fund was reestimated to the current amount of $660,000,000. The recommendation of the conferees is to provide $248,400,000 in fiscal year 1996 which will reduce the deficit to $538,000,000 at the end of the fiscal year.

Amendment No. 34: Inserts language providing that $85,000,000 shall be available only for an interim storage facility and only upon the enactment of statutory authority instead of language proposed by the Senate clarifying the use of the funds appropriated in the Defense Nuclear Waste Disposal appropriation account.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

Amendment No. 35: Appropriates $366,697,000 for Departmental Administration instead of $362,250,000 as proposed by the House and $377,126,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 36: Applies revenues of $122,306,000 for use in the Departmental Administration account as proposed by the House instead of $137,306,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 37: Provides a net appropriation of $244,391,000 for a final year estimate of Departmental Administration expenditures instead of $239,944,000 as proposed by the House and $239,820,000 as proposed by the Senate.

While the conferees realize that this funding level for the Departmental Administration account will cause reductions in existing personnel at the Department of Energy, it should be noted that the Secretary of Energy has initiated a strategic alignment process which will also lead to downsizing of the Department by 27 percent over the next five years. The conference agreement assumes a 15-percent reduction in the number of employees during fiscal year 1996 from the fiscal year 1995 baseline. To the extent possible the additional reductions should be targeted to correspond with reductions in other programmatic areas in this bill. Solar and renewables, fusion, nuclear energy, technology transfer, and science and education programs are a few of the areas funded below fiscal year 1995. Support and administrative workload and staff focused on these areas should see a corresponding reduction as should offices for activities such as quality management and employee and contractor protection which have grown significantly in the last two years.

Reduced funding for this account was first proposed by the House of Representatives in June of this year, but the Department made no effort to prepare for the possibility that actual funding reductions would be implemented on October 1, 1995. Thus, the impact of these reductions exceeds that which may have occurred had the Department taken them seriously several months ago. Another example of this was the rescission of $20,000,000 of fiscal year 1995 funding which the Department chose to allocate solely to contractual services rather than personnel or programmatic areas. This was ultimately short-sighted and has amplified the impact of the fiscal year 1996 reduction.

SECRETARIAL TRAVEL

In response to concerns about the breadth and scope of Secretarial travel, the conferees issue directions and impose limitations on appropriated funds as follows:

1. Beginning in fiscal year 1997, the Department is instructed to provide sufficient detail in its budget justifications for the Office of the Secretary to provide for identification of resources budgeted for secretarial travel.

2. Costs to support travel of the Secretary, any special assistants funded through the Office of the Secretary, and any security detail accompanying the Secretary are to be absorbed within the line item for the Office of the Secretary.

3. The Department is instructed to notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of any internal reprogrammings which are executed to directly or indirectly support departmental travel, regardless of the amount.

4. No funds provided by this Act may be used to host or subsidize the travel of any non-Federal participants in secretarial missions.

5. The Department is instructed to provide semi-annual reports on secretarial travel to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. In addition to providing a full financial accounting of trips, these reports should identify: travel dates and destinations, all persons accompanying or advancing the Secretary, and the purpose and results of each trip.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Amendment No. 38: Appropriates $25,000,000 for the Office of the Department of Energy Inspector General as proposed by the Senate instead of $26,000,000 as proposed by the House. From within available funds, the Office of Contractor Employee Protection is to be funded in this account.

POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

Recent actions by the Bonneville Power Administration have led to concerns that the Bonneville Power Administration may not make its Treasury payment in fiscal year 1996. The conferees cannot state more strongly that failure by Bonneville to make the full annual payment to Treasury will seriously jeopardize its credibility with Congress and will lead to more involvement by Congress in the management and decision-making processes of the agency.

The conferees are also concerned that Bonneville's much touted cost cutting measures are more words than action. For example, Bonneville has indicated its intent to downsize, but plans to reduce its Federal work force by little more than eight percent over three years. That is less that annual attrition rates, and less that the Department of Energy has proposed for other program organizations.

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Amendment No. 39: Appropriates $131,290,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of $132,290,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement provides $131,290,000 for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Revenues are established at a rate equal to the amount provided for

program activities, resulting in a net appropriation of zero.

The conferees recognize that Commission workload with respect to the regulation of natural gas and oil is declining as those industries become more competitive and, therefore, concurs with the House and Senate Committees' recommendations to reduce staff in the natural gas and oil pipelines program. A 20-percent reduction over the next two years is recommended.

The conferees recognize the value in maintaining the current staffing level for the electric power program. This is necessary to respond to a significant increase in workload due to the Commission's efforts to establish a competitive wholesale bulk power market for electricity similar to what has been accomplished in the natural gas area.

To mitigate the impact of the recommended funding reduction, the conferees encourage the Commission to employ additional authority from prior years' unexpended balances, as needed.

The conferees direct the Commission to not approve the transfer of electric generating facilities at Scott Dam at Lake Pillsbury in Lake County, California, or Cape Horn Dam in Mendocino County, California, unless the Commission determines that such transfer will not adversely affect any existing water rights and will not substantially change flow levels in the Russian and Eel Rivers.

Amendment No. 40: Applies revenues of $131,290,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of $132,290,000 as proposed by the House.

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
ENERGY SUPPLY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT		
SOLAR AND RENEWABLE ENERGY		
Solar energy		
Solar building technology research	4,657	2,000
Photovoltaic energy systems	88,129	65,000
Solar thermal energy systems	33,943	25,000
Biofuels energy systems	80,380	55,300
Wind energy systems	49,820	32,500
International solar energy program	29,154	4,000
Solar technology transfer	17,758	4,300
National renewable energy laboratory	380	500
Construction		
General plant projects	120	---
96-E-100 FTLB renovation and expansion, Golden, CO	5,500	1,500
Subtotal, Construction	5,620	1,500
Subtotal, National renewable energy laboratory	6,000	2,000
Resource assessment	4,665	2,000
Solar program support	7,345	---
Program direction	9,460	---
Subtotal, Solar Energy	331,311	192,100
Review of uncosted balances	-4,888	-4,888
Total, Solar Energy	326,423	187,212
Geothermal		
Geothermal technology development	36,130	30,447
Program direction	1,000	---
Capital equipment	397	---
Review of uncosted balances	-555	-555
Total, Geothermal	36,972	29,892
Hydrogen research	7,334	14,500
Hydropower		
Small scale hydropower development	904	1,500
Program direction	90	---
Review of uncosted balances	-14	---
Total, Hydropower	980	1,500
Electric energy systems and storage		
Electric energy systems		
Electric field effects research	9,924	9,924
Reliability research	6,153	---
System and materials research	24,712	19,000
Program direction	850	---
Review of uncosted balances	-615	-615
Subtotal, Electric energy systems	41,024	28,309
Energy storage systems		
Battery storage	5,656	2,000
Program direction	350	---
Review of uncosted balances	-88	---
Subtotal, Energy storage systems	5,918	2,000
Total, Electric energy systems and storage	46,942	30,309
Policy and management	4,746	11,800
TOTAL, SOLAR AND RENEWABLE ENERGY	423,397	275,213

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
NUCLEAR ENERGY		
Nuclear energy R&D		
Light water reactor	49,339	40,000
Advanced radioisotope power system	48,512	48,512
Nuclear technology R&D	37,210	---
Program direction	12,093	8,000
Policy and management	9,841	5,000
Test reactor area hot cells	1,400	---
Oak Ridge landlord	15,380	14,400
Construction		
GPN-103 General plant projects	3,255	---
Subtotal, Oak Ridge landlord	18,635	14,400
Test reactor area landlord	1,370	2,000
Construction		
GP-N-102 General plant projects, Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, ID	730	---
95-E-201 Test reactor area fire and life safety improvements, Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, ID	1,900	1,900
Subtotal, Construction	2,630	1,900
Subtotal, Test reactor area landlord	4,000	3,900
Advanced test reactor fusion irradiation	2,303	2,303
University reactor fuel assistance and support	6,130	3,500
Total, Nuclear energy R&D	189,463	125,615
Termination costs	78,800	79,000
Construction		
GPN-102 General plant projects	1,000	---
95-E-207 Modifications to reactors, experimental breeder reactor - II sodium processing facility Argonne National Laboratory-West, ID	1,700	1,700
Subtotal, Construction	2,700	1,700
Total, Termination costs	81,500	80,700
Isotope support	25,303	24,658
Soviet designed reactor safety	78,543	---
Russian replacement power initiative	5,000	---
TOTAL, NUCLEAR ENERGY	379,809	230,973
CIVILIAN WASTE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT		
Spent fuel storage R&D	586	---
Program direction	110	---
TOTAL, CIVILIAN WASTE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	696	---
ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND HEALTH		
Environment, safety and health	147,443	114,933
Nuclear safety policy	17,180	13,500
TOTAL, ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND HEALTH	164,623	128,433

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
ENERGY RESEARCH		
Biological and environmental research		
Biological and environmental research R&D	354,546	349,891
Construction		
GP-E-120 General plant projects	4,450	---
94-E-337 Advanced light source structural biology support facility, LBL	2,600	2,600
94-E-338 Structural biology center, ANL	4,295	4,295
94-E-339 Human genome lab, LBL	5,700	5,700
91-EM-100 Environmental & molecular sciences laboratory, PNL, Richland, WA	50,000	50,000
Subtotal, Construction	67,045	62,595
Subtotal, Biological & environ. research R&D	421,591	412,486
BER program direction	7,060	7,000
Total, Biological and environmental research	428,651	419,486
Fusion energy	309,187	244,144
Construction		
GPE-900 General plant projects, var. locations	1,000	---
96-E-310 Elise project	3,200	---
94-E-200 Tokamak physics experiment, Princeton plasma physics laboratory	49,900	---
Subtotal, Construction	54,100	---
Total, Fusion energy	363,287	244,144
Basic energy sciences		
Materials sciences	345,606	367,400
Chemical sciences	180,161	198,400
Applied mathematical sciences	107,852	116,500
Engineering and geosciences	39,648	41,700
Advanced energy projects	11,915	12,300
Energy biosciences	29,307	30,200
Program direction	9,495	9,500
Capital equipment	56,973	---
Construction		
GPE-400 General plant projects	6,314	---
96-E-305 Accelerator and reactor improvements and modifications, various locations	12,883	10,475
89-R-402 6-7 GeV syn. radiation source, ANL	3,186	3,186
96-E-300 Combustion research facility, Phase II, SNL/L	2,000	2,000
Subtotal, Construction	24,383	15,661
Total, Basic energy sciences	805,340	791,661
Other energy research		
Energy research analyses	3,463	3,463
Laboratory technology transfer	58,776	18,000
Advisory and oversight	8,720	6,200
Policy and management	2,180	2,200

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
Multiprogram energy labs - facility support		
Multiprogram general purpose facilities	6,382	---
Construction		
GPE-801 General plant projects	8,740	---
95-E-301 Central heating plant rehabilitation, Phase I (ANL)	2,500	2,500
95-E-302 Applied science center, phase I (BNL)	3,270	3,270
95-E-303 Electrical safety rehab (PNL)	1,500	1,500
95-E-310 Multiprogram laboratory rehabilitation, phase I (PNL)	2,740	2,740
94-E-351 Fuel storage and transfer facility upgrade (BNL)	440	440
94-E-363 Roofing improvements (ORNL)	2,038	2,038
Subtotal, Construction	21,228	12,488
Subtotal, Multiprogram gen. purpose facilities	27,610	12,488
Environment, safety and health	8,657	6,656
Construction		
96-E-330 Building electrical service upgrade Phase I, Argonne National Laboratory Argonne, Illinois	1,200	---
96-E-331 Sanitary sewer restoration, Phase I, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, Berkeley, CA	2,400	---
96-E-332 Building 801, renovations Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York	800	---
96-E-333 Multiprogram energy laboratories upgrades, various locations	---	4,400
95-E-307 Fire Safety imp. III (ANL)	1,000	1,000
95-E-308 Sanitary system mods. II (BNL)	1,540	1,540
95-E-309 Loss prevention upgrades (BNL)	2,480	2,480
93-E-320 Fire and safety improvements, phase II (ANL)	2,411	2,411
93-E-323 Fire and safety systems upgrade phase I (LBL)	1,130	1,130
93-E-324 Hazardous materials safeguards, phase I (LBL)	1,288	1,288
Subtotal, Construction	14,249	14,249
Subtotal, Environment, safety and health	22,906	20,905
Inactive and surplus facilities	500	---
Subtotal, Multiprogram energy labs - fac. suppor	51,016	33,393
Total, Other energy research	124,155	63,256
TOTAL, ENERGY RESEARCH	1,721,433	1,518,547

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
ENERGY SUPPORT ACTIVITIES		
University and science education programs		
Laboratory cooperative science centers	29,576	13,000
University programs	17,377	7,000
University research instrumentation	5,647	---
Program direction	2,359	---
Total, University and science education programs	54,959	20,000
Technical information management program	14,220	11,000
Construction	1,500	1,000
Total, Technical information management program	15,720	12,000
Technology partnership	3,139	---
In-house energy management	15,664	---
Construction		
IHE - 500 Modifications for energy mgmt	13,125	---
Total, In-house energy management	28,789	---
TOTAL, ENERGY SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	102,607	32,000
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION & WASTE MGMT. (NON-DEFENSE)		
Corrective activities	1,065	---
Construction		
92-E-601 Melton Valley liquid low level waste collection and transfer system upgrade, ORNL	339	339
88-R-830 Liquid low level waste collection and transfer system upgrade, ORNL	4,000	4,000
Subtotal, Construction	4,339	4,339
Total, Corrective activities	5,404	4,339
Environmental restoration	411,532	366,400
Waste management	194,907	171,896
Construction		
GP-E-600 General plant projects	2,212	---
94-E-602 Bethel Valley federal facility agreement upgrades, ORNL	300	300
93-E-900 Long-term storage of TMI-2 fuel, INEL	4,048	4,048
91-E-600 Rehabilitation of waste management building 306, ANL	787	787
88-R-812 Hazardous waste handling facility, LBL	671	671
Subtotal, Construction	8,018	5,806
Total, Waste management	202,925	177,702
Nuclear materials and facilities stabilization	82,395	73,100
TOTAL, ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND WASTE MGMT	702,256	621,541
Subtotal, Energy supply, research and development	3,494,821	2,806,707

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
Use of prior year balances	-79,300	-79,300
General reduction, ESR&D	-10,000	---
Galvin task force reductions	-50,000	---
TOTAL, ENERGY SUPPLY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	3,355,521	2,727,407
URANIUM SUPPLY AND ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES		
Uranium program activities	91,944	83,500
Construction		
96-U-200 UF6 cylinders refurbishment facility, Paducah, Kentucky gaseous diffusion plants	5,800	---
96-U-201 depleted UF6 cylinder storage yards, Paducah, Kentucky gaseous diffusion plant	---	3,000
93-U-200 UF6 cylinders and storage yards, Paducah, KY and Portsmouth, OH gaseous diffusion plants	3,400	3,400
Subtotal, Construction	9,200	6,400
Subtotal, Uranium supply & enrichment activities	101,144	89,900
Revenues - Sales	-34,903	-34,903
Use of prior year balances	-25,703	-25,703
TOTAL, URANIUM SUPPLY AND ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES	40,538	29,294
URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING FUND		
Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund	288,807	278,807
GENERAL SCIENCE AND RESEARCH		
High energy physics		
Physics research	146,050	141,000
Facility operations	337,352	353,077
Construction		
GP-E-103 General plant projects, various locations	13,845	---
96-G-301 Accelerator improvement projects, various locations	9,800	---
94-G-304 B-Factory, SLAC	52,000	52,000
92-G-302 Fermilab main injector, Fermilab	52,000	52,000
Subtotal, Construction	127,645	104,000
Subtotal, Facility operations	464,997	457,077
High energy technology	66,864	68,923
Other capital equipment	3,925	---
Total, High energy physics	681,836	667,000
Nuclear physics	237,773	236,925
Construction		
GP-E-300 General plant projects, various locations	4,785	---

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
96-G-302 Accelerator improvements and modifications, various locations	4,975	2,575
91-G-300 Relativistic heavy ion collider, BNL	70,000	65,000
Subtotal, Construction	79,760	67,575
Other capital equipment	2,000	---
Total, Nuclear physics	319,533	304,500
General science program direction	10,330	9,500
TOTAL, GENERAL SCIENCE AND RESEARCH	1,011,699	981,000
ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES		
WEAPONS ACTIVITIES		
Stockpile stewardship		
Core stockpile stewardship	994,208	1,078,403
Construction		
GPD-101 General plant projects, various locations	12,500	---
96-D-102 Stockpile stewardship facilities revitalization, Phase VI, various locations	2,520	2,520
96-D-103 ATLAS, Los Alamos National laboratory	8,400	8,400
96-D-104 Process and environmental technology laboratory, SNL	1,800	1,800
96-D-105 Contained firing facility addition, LLNL	6,600	6,600
95-D-102 Chemistry and metallurgy research (CMR) upgrades project, LANL	9,940	9,940
94-D-102 Nuclear Weapons Research, development and testing facilities revitalization, Phase V, various locations	12,200	12,200
93-D-102 Nevada support facility, NV	15,650	15,650
90-D-102 Nuclear Weapons Research, Development and testing facilities revitalization, Phase III, various locations	6,200	6,200
88-D-106 Nuclear weapons research, development and testing facilities revitalization, Phase II, various locations	17,995	17,995
Subtotal, Construction	93,805	81,305
Subtotal, Core stockpile stewardship	1,088,013	1,159,708
Inertial fusion	203,267	203,267
Construction		
96-D-111 National ignition facility, TBD	37,400	37,400
Subtotal, Inertial fusion	240,667	240,667
Technology transfer/education		
Technology transfer	229,405	150,000
Education	20,000	10,000
Subtotal, Technology transfer/education	249,405	160,000
Marshall Island/Dose reconstruction	6,800	6,800
Total, Stockpile stewardship	1,584,885	1,567,175

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
Stockpile management	1,769,090	1,911,458
Construction		
Stockpile support facilities		
GPD-121 General plant projects, various loc.	10,000	---
Production base		
88-D-122 Facilities capability assurance program (FCAP), various locations	8,660	8,660
96-D-126 Tritium loading line modifications, Savannah River Site, SC	---	12,200
Subtotal, Production base	8,660	20,860
Environmental, safety and health		
96-D-122 Sewage treatment quality upgrade (STQU) Pantex plant	600	600
96-D-123 Retrofit HVAC and chillers, for Ozone protection Y-12 plant	3,100	3,100
95-D-122 Sanitary sewer upgrade, Y-12 plant	6,300	6,300
94-D-124 Hydrogen fluoride supply system, Y-12 plant	8,700	8,700
94-D-125 Upgrade life safety, Kansas City plant	5,500	5,500
94-D-127 Emergency notification system, Pantex plant	2,000	2,000
94-D-128 Environmental safety and health analytical laboratory, Pantex plant	4,000	4,000
93-D-122 Life safety upgrades, Y-12 plant	7,200	7,200
Subtotal, Environmental, safety and health	37,400	37,400
Safeguards and security		
88-D-123 Security enhancement, Pantex plant	13,400	13,400
Nuclear weapons incident response		
96-D-125 Washington measurement operations facility, Andrews Air Force Base, MD	900	900
Reconfiguration		
93-D-123 Non-nuclear reconfiguration, various locations	41,065	41,065
Subtotal, Construction	111,425	113,625
Total, Stockpile management	1,880,515	2,025,083
Program direction	135,311	115,000
Subtotal, Weapons activities	3,600,711	3,707,258
Use of prior year balances	-86,344	-209,744
Streamline DOE contractors (undistributed)	-25,000	-37,200
TOTAL, WEAPONS ACTIVITIES	3,489,367	3,460,314
DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND WASTE MGMT.		
Corrective activities		
Construction		
90-D-103 Environment, safety and health improvements, weapons R&D complex, LANL	3,406	3,406
Environmental restoration	1,570,174	1,635,973

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
Waste management	2,280,039	2,295,994
Construction		
GP-D-171 General plant projects,various locations	30,728	---
96-D-400 Replace industrial waste piping, Kansas City Plant, Kansas City, MO	200	---
96-D-401 Comprehensive Treatment & Management Plan immobilization of miscellaneous wastes, Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site, Golden, CO	1,400	---
96-D-402 Comprehensive Treatment & Management Plan building 374/774 sludge immobilization Golden, CO	1,500	---
96-D-403 Tank farm service upgrades, Savannah River, SC	3,315	---
96-D-405 T-Plant secondary containment & leak detection upgrades, Richland, WA	2,100	---
96-D-406 Spent nuclear fuels canister storage and stabilization facility, Richland, WA	26,000	42,000
96-D-407 Mixed waste low level waste treatment project, Rocky Flats	---	2,900
96-D-408 Waste mgmt upgrades, various locations	---	5,615
95-D-402 Install permanent electrical service WIPP, AL	4,314	4,314
95-D-405 Industrial landfill V and construction/ demolition landfill VII, Y-12 Plant, Oak Ridge,TN	4,600	4,600
95-D-406 Road 5-01 reconstruction, area 5, NV	1,023	1,023
95-D-407 219-S Secondary containment upgrade, Richland, WA	---	1,000
94-D-400 High explosive wastewater treatment system, LANL	4,445	4,445
94-D-402 Liquid waste treatment system, NTS	282	282
94-D-404 Melton Valley storage tank capacity increase, ORNL	11,000	11,000
94-D-407 Initial tank retrieval systems, Richland, WA	9,400	12,000
94-D-411 Solid waste operation complex Richland, WA	5,500	6,606
94-D-417 Intermediate-level and low-activity waste vaults, Savannah River, SC	2,704	---
93-D-178 Building 374 liquid waste treatment facility, Rocky Flats Plant, CO	3,900	3,900
93-D-181 Radioactive liquid waste line replacement, Richland, WA	---	5,000
93-D-182 Replacement of cross-site transfer system, Richland, WA	19,795	19,795
93-D-183 Multi-function waste remediation facility, Richland, WA	31,000	---
93-D-187 High level waste removal from filled waste tanks, Savannah River, SC	19,700	19,700
92-D-171 Mixed waste receiving and storage facility, LANL	1,105	1,105
92-D-188 Waste management ES&H, and compliance activities, various locations	1,100	1,100

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
90-D-172 Aging waste transfer line, Richland, WA..	2,000	2,000
90-D-177 RWMC transuranic (TRU) waste characterization and storage facility, ID.....	1,428	1,428
90-D-178 TSA retrieval enclosure, ID.....	2,606	2,606
89-D-173 Tank farm ventilation upgrade, Richland, WA.....	800	800
89-D-174 Replacement high level waste evaporator, Savannah River, SC.....	11,500	11,500
86-D-103 Decontamination and waste treatment facility, LLNL, Livermore, CA.....	8,885	8,885
83-D-148 Non-radioactive hazardous waste management, Savannah River, SC.....	1,000	1,000
Subtotal, Construction.....	213,330	174,604
Total, Waste management.....	2,493,369	2,470,598
Technology development.....	389,327	440,510
Transportation management.....	16,158	13,158
Nuclear materials and facilities stabilization.....	1,462,117	1,447,108
Construction		
GP-D-171 General plant projects, various locations.....	34,724	---
96-D-457 Thermal treatment system, Richland, WA...	---	1,000
96-D-458 Site drainage control, Mound Plant, Miamisburg, OH.....	885	885
96-D-461 Electrical distribution upgrade, Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, ID.....	1,539	1,539
96-D-462 Health physics instrument laboratory, Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, ID.....	1,126	---
96-D-463 Central facilities area (CFA) craft shop Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, ID.....	724	---
96-D-464 Electrical & utility systems upgrade, Idaho Chemical Processing Plant, Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, ID.....	4,952	4,952
96-D-465 200 Area sanitary sewer system, Richland, WA.....	1,800	---
96-D-468 Residue elimination project, Rocky Flats Plant, Golden, Co.....	---	33,100
96-D-470 Environmental monitoring laboratory, Savannah River Site, Aiken, SC.....	3,500	---
96-D-471 CFC HVAC/chiller retrofit, Savannah River Site, Aiken, SC.....	1,500	1,500
96-D-472 Plant engineering & Design, Savannah River Site, Aiken, SC.....	4,000	---
96-D-473 Health physics site support facility, Savannah River, South Carolina.....	2,000	---
95-D-155 Upgrade site road infrastructure, Savannah River, South Carolina.....	2,900	2,900
95-D-156 Radio trunking system, Savannah River,SC	6,000	6,000
95-D-454 324 Facility compliance/renovation, Richland, WA.....	3,500	3,500

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
95-D-456 Security facilities consolidation, Idaho Chemical Processing Plant, INEL, Idaho	8,382	8,382
94-D-122 Underground storage tanks, Rocky Flats Plant, CO	5,000	5,000
94-D-401 Emergency response facility, INEL, ID	5,074	5,074
94-D-412 300 area process sewer piping system upgrade, Richland, WA	1,000	1,000
94-D-415 Idaho National Engineering Laboratory medical facilities, INEL, ID	3,601	3,601
94-D-451 Infrastructure replacement, Rocky Flats Plant, CO	2,940	2,940
93-D-147 Domestic water system upgrade, Phase I & II, Savannah River, South Carolina	7,130	7,130
93-D-172 Idaho national engineering laboratory electrical upgrade, INEL, ID	124	---
92-D-123 Plant fire/security alarm system replacement, Rocky Flats Plant, Golden, CO	9,560	9,560
92-D-125 Master safeguards and security agreement/materials surveillance task force security upgrades, Rocky Flats Plant, CO	7,000	7,000
92-D-181 Idaho national engineering laboratory fire and life safety improvements, INEL, ID	6,883	6,883
91-D-127 Criticality alarm & plant annunciation utility replacement, Rocky Flats plant, Golden, CO	2,800	2,800
Subtotal, Construction	128,644	114,746
Total, Nuclear materials & fac. stabilization	1,590,761	1,561,854
Compliance and program coordination	66,053	31,251
Construction		
95-E-600 Hazardous materials training center, Richland, Washington	15,000	15,000
Total, Compliance and program coordination	81,053	46,251
Analysis, education and risk management	156,430	90,022
Subtotal, Defense environmental management	6,300,678	6,261,772
Savannah river pension refund	-37,000	-37,000
Use of prior year balances	-276,942	-667,240
TOTAL, DEFENSE ENVIRON. RESTORATION AND WASTE MGMT	5,986,736	5,557,532
OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES		
Other national security programs		
Verification and control technology		
Nonproliferation and verification, R&D	224,905	246,142
Arms control	160,933	160,964
Intelligence	42,110	42,336
Subtotal, Verification and control technology	427,948	449,442
Nuclear safeguards and security	86,774	83,395
Security investigations	32,871	20,000
Security evaluations	14,658	14,707
Nuclear safety	24,597	17,679

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
Worker and community transition	100,000	82,500
Fissile materials control and disposition	69,979	70,000
Emergency management	---	23,321
Total, Other national security programs	756,827	761,044
Naval reactors		
Naval reactors development	649,700	652,568
Construction		
GPN-101 General plant projects, various locations	6,600	6,600
95-D-200 Laboratory systems and hot cell upgrades, various locations	11,300	11,300
95-D-201 Advanced test reactor radioactive waste system upgrades, Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, ID	4,800	4,800
93-D-200 Engineering services facilities Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory, Niskayuna, NY	3,900	3,900
90-N-102 Expended core facility dry cell project, Naval Reactors Facility, ID	3,000	3,000
Subtotal, Construction	29,600	29,600
Total, Naval reactors	679,300	682,168
Subtotal, Other defense activities	1,436,127	1,443,212
Use of prior year balances	-13,000	-70,000
TOTAL, OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	1,423,127	1,373,212
DEFENSE NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL		
Defense nuclear waste disposal	198,053	248,400
TOTAL, ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	11,097,283	10,639,458
DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION		
Administrative operations		
Office of the Secretary - salaries and expenses	3,435	2,500
General management - personnel compensation and benefits	208,398	185,000
General management - other expenses	180,630	157,000
Program support		
Minority economic impact	3,415	2,900
Policy analysis and system studies	5,864	2,900
Consumer affairs	46	40
Public affairs	92	50
Environmental policy studies	7,700	4,000
Scientific and technical training	2,248	1,000
Subtotal, Program support	19,365	10,890
Total, Administrative operations	411,828	355,390
Cost of work for others	22,826	22,826
Subtotal, Departmental Administration	434,654	378,216
Use of unobligated balances and other adjustments	-11,519	-11,519
Total, Departmental administration (gross)	423,135	366,697
Miscellaneous revenues	-137,306	-122,306

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL		
Office of Inspector General	32,611	26,915
Use of prior year balances	-1,915	-1,915
TOTAL, OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL	30,696	25,000
POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS		
ALASKA POWER ADMINISTRATION		
Operation and maintenance	4,260	4,260
SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION		
Operation and maintenance		
Operating expenses	3,472	3,472
Purchase power and wheeling	26,416	26,430
Subtotal, Operation and maintenance	29,888	29,902
Use of prior year balances	-10,059	-10,059
TOTAL, SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION	19,829	19,843
SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION		
Operation and maintenance		
Operating expenses	20,897	20,897
Purchase power and wheeling	1,464	1,464
Construction	7,789	7,931
Subtotal, Operation and maintenance	30,150	30,292
Use of prior year balances	-514	-514
TOTAL, SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION	29,636	29,778
WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION		
Operation and maintenance		
Construction and rehabilitation	64,816	51,125
System operation and maintenance	123,358	125,255
Purchase power and wheeling	97,322	93,709
Utah mitigation and conservation	5,283	5,283
Subtotal, Operation and maintenance	290,779	275,372
Use of prior year balances	-8,020	-17,720
Transfer of authority from Department of Interior	(4,556)	(4,556)
TOTAL, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION	282,759	257,652
FALCON AND AMISTAD OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE FUND		
Operation and maintenance	1,000	1,000
TOTAL, POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS	337,484	312,533
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION		
Federal energy regulatory commission	151,567	146,290
Use of prior year balances (FERC)	-15,000	-15,000
FERC revenues	-136,567	-131,290
TOTAL, FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION	---	---
NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL FUND		
Discretionary funding	---	151,600

Department of Energy (in thousands)

	Budget Estimate	Conference
ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS		
Energy Supply, Research and Development	3,355,521	2,727,407
Uranium Supply and Enrichment Activities	75,441	64,197
Revenues	-34,903	-34,903
Total, Uranium supply and enrichment	40,538	29,294
Uranium enrichment D&D fund	288,807	278,807
General Science and Research Activities	1,011,699	981,000
Nuclear Waste Disposal Fund	---	151,600
Environmental Restoration and Waste Management		
Defense function	(5,986,736)	(5,557,532)
Non-defense function	(991,063)	(900,348)
Total, Environmental Restoration and Waste Mgmt	(6,977,799)	(6,457,880)
Atomic Energy Defense Activities		
Weapons Activities	3,489,367	3,460,314
Defense Environmental Restoration and Waste Mgmt	5,986,736	5,557,532
Other Defense Activities	1,423,127	1,373,212
Defense nuclear waste disposal	198,053	248,400
Total, Atomic Energy Defense Activities	11,097,283	10,639,458
Departmental Administration	423,135	366,697
Revenues	-137,306	-122,306
Total, Departmental administration	285,829	244,391
Office of the Inspector General	30,696	25,000
Power Marketing Administrations		
Alaska Power Administration	4,260	4,260
Southeastern Power Administration	19,829	19,843
Southwestern Power Administration	29,636	29,778
Western Area Power Administration	282,759	257,652
Falcon and Amistad Operating and Maintenance Fund	1,000	1,000
Total, Power Marketing Administrations	337,484	312,533
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	---	---
TOTAL, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS	16,447,857	15,389,490

TITLE IV

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

Amendment No. 41: Appropriates $170,000,000 instead of $142,000,000 as proposed by the House and $182,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Of the total amount appropriated, $57,355,000 is provided for area development, $3,645,000 is provided for salaries and expenses, and $109,000,000 is provided for the highway program.

The conferees direct that the Commission establish new area development allocation criteria which place greater emphasis on assistance to the more severely distressed counties.

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

Amendment No. 42: Appropriates $343,000 for Salaries and Expenses instead of $440,000 as proposed by the Senate and appropriates $428,000 as a contribution to the Delaware River Basin Commission instead of $478,000 as proposed by the Senate and deletes language related to the compensation of the United States Commissioner as proposed by the Senate. The House included no similar provision.

The conferees agree to provide final year funding for the Delaware River Basin Commission. Funding is provided to facilitate an orderly transition to financial self-sufficiency of the compact states and an orderly termination of the Office of the Federal Commissioner. Committees of authorizing jurisdiction will have an opportunity during fiscal year 1996 to address any new institutional arrangements or revisions to the Delaware River Basin Compact that are necessary or desirable due to the prospective termination of federal funding.

INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON THE POTOMAC RIVER BASIN

Amendment No. 43: Appropriates $511,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House included no similar provision.

The conferees agree to provide final year funding for the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin. Funding is provided to facilitate an orderly transition to financial self-sufficiency of the compact states. Committees of authorizing jurisdiction will have an opportunity during fiscal year 1996 to address any new institutional arrangements or revisions to the compact creating the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin that are necessary or desirable due to the prospective termination of Federal funding.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Amendment No. 44: Appropriates $468,300,000 as proposed by the House instead of $474,3000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 45: Derives $11,000,000 from the Nuclear Waste Fund as proposed by the House instead of $17,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 46: Provides for a net appropriation of $11,000,000 as proposed by the House instead of $17,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

Amendment No. 47: Appropriates $2,531,000 as proposed by the House instead of $2,664,000 as proposed by the Senate.

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

Amendment No. 48: Appropriates $318,000 for Salaries and Expenses instead of $280,000 as proposed by the Senate and appropriates $250,000 as a contribution to the Susquehanna River Basin Commission instead of $288,000 as proposed by the Senate and deletes language relating to the compensation of the United States Commissioner as proposed by the Senate. The House included no similar provision.

The conferees agree to provide final year funding for the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. Funding is provided to facilitate an orderly transition to financial self-sufficiency of the compact states and an orderly termination of the Office of the Federal Commissioner. Committees of authorizing jurisdiction will have an opportunity during fiscal year 1996 to address any new institutional arrangements or revisions to the Susquehanna River Basin Compact that are necessary or desirable due to the prospective termination of Federal funding.

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

Amendment No. 49: Appropriates $109,169,000 for the Tennessee Valley Authority instead of $103,339,000 as proposed by the House and $110,339,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The appropriation is to be distributed among TVA programs as follows: $71,169,000 for stewardship and land and water; $5,000,000 for Land Between the Lakes; $16,000,000 for economic development; and $17,000,000 for the environmental research center.

In conjunction with its efforts to reduce the need for future appropriations at Land Between the Lakes through reductions, savings and efficiencies, TVA may continue to use its flexibility to allocate up to an additional $1,000,000 from its Stewardship funds to LBL. This flexibility will allow TVA, if the need arises due to a lack of funds or other emergency and/or crisis situations, to allocate additional funding to promote the facilitation of LBL's transition to increased financial self-sufficiency.

Amendment No. 50: Includes language proposed by the Senate that requires the Tennessee Valley Authority to submit to Congress a plan for obtaining funding for the Environmental Research Center from other sources amended to extend the deadline for submission of such plan and to delete limitations on expenditures for the TVA Environmental Research Center.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Amendment No. 51: Deletes language proposed by the House repealing Sec. 505 of Public Law 102–377 which prohibits the use of funds to conduct studies relating to changes in pricing hydroelectric power by the six Federal public power authorities and Sec. 208 of Public Law 99–349 which prohibits the use of funds by the executive branch to solicit proposals, prepare studies, or draft proposals to transfer out of Federal ownership the Federal power marketing administrations located within the contiguous 48 states, but accepts House language repealing Sec. 510 of Public Law 101–514 which prohibits the use of funds by the executive branch to change the employment levels determined by the administrators of the Federal power marketing administrations to be necessary to carry out their responsibilities. The conferees agree that the statutory limitations do not prohibit the Legislative Branch from initiating or conducting studies or collecting information regarding the sale or transfer of the power marketing administrations to non-Federal ownership.

The conference agreement also inserts language which extends the due date for the report required to be submitted by Title 30 of Public Law 102–575, the Western Water Policy Review Act of 1992. This extension is required because of the delay by the Administration in establishing the Western Water Policy Review Advisory Commission. The Bureau of Reclamation may use up to $800,000 of available funds in support of the work of the Commission.

Amendment No. 52: Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate providing that no funds may be used for programs, projects, or activities not in compliance with applicable Federal law relating to risk assessment, protection of property rights, or unfunded mandates and inserts language which extends the authorization for the Trinity River Restoration Program of the Central Valley Project, California, for one year. The conferees are aware that the House Resources Committee currently has under consideration legislation to extend the authorization for this program. This temporary extension will permit work to continue on this important program pending action by the authorizing committee.

Amendment No. 53: Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate reducing the Nuclear Waste Disposal Fund by $1,000, and inserts language that directs the Secretary of the Interior to proceed without delay with construction of those facilities of the Animas-La Plata Project, Colorado and New Mexico, identified for construction in the Final Biological Opinion for the project dated October 25, 1991.

Amendment No. 54: Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate which provides that none of the funds available in the Act for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Upper Mississippi River—Illinios Waterway Navigation Study may be used to study any portion of the Mississippi River above Lock and Dam 14.

The conferees believe that the language contained in the Hospital-passed bill could restrict the ability of the Corps of Engineers to undertake a comprehensive study of the navigation needs on the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway and have, therefore, agreed to delete the language. The conferees do agree, however, with the intent of the language and direct that the Corps of Engineers not study any large-scale improvements on the Upper Mississippi River above Lock and Dam 14.

Amendment No. 55: Deletes language inserted by the Senate pertaining to the amount of fish and wildlife costs that the Bonneville Power Administration could incur, and inserts language amending Public Law 88–552 and the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act to permit the Bonneville Power Administration to sell excess Federal power outside the Pacific Northwest; requiring the Northwest Power and Conservation Planning Council to provide a report to Congress; authorizing the Corps of Engineers to procure goods through Bonneville using the authorities available to the Administrator; maintaining the residential exchange power program through fiscal year 1997; providing Bonneville Power Administration employees with a voluntary separation incentive up to $25,000; and authorizing these authorities to extend beyond the fiscal year.

The conferees are deeply concerned over the escalating and uncoordinated fish and wildlife costs imposed on the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and its customers due to Endangered Species Act compliance. The conferees are concerned that the current inability to control BPA's fish and wildlife costs may result in the shifting of costs—both directly and indirectly—to the Nation's taxpayers and to non-Federal interests on the Columbia and Snake River system. Such non-Federal interests include the region's electric ratepayers, agriculture, non-Federal hydroelectric projects owners, river users, reservoir users, water interests, and others. The conferees strongly urge BPA and the Administration to resist the temptation to shift fish and wildlife costs onto the Nation's taxpayers and these non-Federal interests.

The conferees understand that there is a nearly unanimous call from affected parties—user groups, and ratepayers—in the region of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana to start the review of the Pacific Northwest Power Planning and Conservation Act. The provisions of the Northwest Power Act that deserve careful consideration include, but are not limited to, containing the region's fish and wildlife costs, coordinating fish and wildlife expenditures, and granting the region the ability to make the decisions with respect to such costs. The conferees, therefore, urge a renewed review of the Northwest Power Act within the authorizing committees in the next session of Congress in an effort to answer these and other important issues confronting the region.

The conferees understand the Administration is taking steps to control fish and wildlife costs as an interim measure. In addition, the conferees direct the agencies involved to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement establishing an overall salmon recovery budget, and detailing the manner in which such budget will be implemented.

Sale of Excess Federal Power.—Excess power may be generated by routine power operations, or fish and wildlife operations, of either the Federal Columbia River Power System or other electric power plants from which Bonneville is contractually obligated to acquire electric power.

This section removes restrictions from power made excess to BPA contractual obligations by: 1) a customer's decision to remove load from Bonneville, 2) hydrosystem operations, or 3) purchases for the benefit of fish and wildlife. This gives BPA greater flexibility in marketing, to increase its revenue and its competitiveness.

The legislation applies the term ''excess power'' to this power. Currently, Bonneville's authorizing legislation severely limits Bonneville's flexibility to market such power, putting the agency at a marketing disadvantage and restricting potential revenues. Bonneville may sell excess power without, among other things, the regional preference call back provisions of 60 days for energy sales and 60 months for capacity sales, and without the Bonneville Project Act prohibition on resale of Federal power by private entities not in the business of selling power in the retail market. Surplus power which is surplus for reasons other than the reasons stated above will continue to be governed by existing marketing restrictions.

Bonneville is allowed greater flexibility to provide Pacific Northwest preference notice to regional customers for out-of-region sales. This flexibility may include shorter notice periods and less detailed information on in-program negotiations. Notice periods may be very short for short-term sales (for example, notice to accommodate hourly sales) and for transactions that must be negotiated quickly. BPA may also provide seasonal notices with price ranges requesting interested parties to contact BPA to purchase power. In all cases, prior to sales outside the Pacific Northwest, Bonneville would continue to offer power first to Northwest utilities and industries purchasing power from Bonneville. Bonneville would offer excess power first to regional customers under the same essential rate, terms and conditions as for the proposed out-of-region sale. The Administrator has discretion in making this determination given that the rate may depend on terms and conditions for one purchaser that would be inapplicable to another purchaser. The rate, as under current law, will continue to be the price that BPA applies to the proposed sale within the parameters of the applicable rate schedule and based on the terms and conditions of the sale.

This legislation poses no significant risk or cost to Bonneville's regional customers because the only power sold outside the region without the restrictions is power abandoned by regional customers and excess power generated or purchased for the benefit of fish and wildlife. No other amount of power can be sold outside the region without such restrictions. Regional customers will continue to receive first right to purchase excess power before it is sold outside the region.

Within 90 days, the Bonneville Power Administration, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Energy, shall deliver a report on the sale of excess Federal Power provision to the House Commerce Committee, House Resources Committee, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and the House and Senate Committies on Appropriations. This report will be one of the factors considered in the comprehensive review of the Bonneville Power Administration.

Residential Exchange.—Establishes the total amount of benefits available for residential and small farm consumers of utilities participating in the residential exchange program under section 5(c) of the Pacific Northwest Power Planning and Conservation Act for fiscal year 1997. All residential exchange benefits will continue to be passed through in their entirety to the eligible residential and small farm consumers of the respective utilities. The conferees recognize the authority of the Bonneville Power Administration to implement in lieu transactions, among other actions, which could effectively terminate the residential exchange after 2001. Consistent with the regional review, Bonneville and its customers should work together to gradually phase out the residential exchange program by October 1, 2001. This should result in total fiscal year 1997 benefits to these consumers being approximately equivalent to the benefits they received in fiscal year 1996.

In order to maintain a sound financial position, the conferees urge, to the extent practicable, BPA to take such actions as are necessary to assure the proposed rate for public utilities and direct services industries are not increased from the initial proposal. In a further effort to prevent load loss, the conferees urge Bonneville to pursue load commitments from its public utility customers at an appropriate level which assures Bonneville's continued financial viability and recognizes customers' desires for load diversification and to capture economies of scale by pooling their resources.

Amendment No. 56: Inserts a provision which would repeal section 7 of the Magnetic Fusion Engineering Act as proposed by the Senate, but does not repeal section 3131(c) of Public Law 101–510, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991, as proposed by the Senate because this was an erroneous citation.

Amendment No. 57: Deletes language proposed by the Senate expressing the sense of the Senate on the conference on S. 4, the Line Item Veto Act.

Amendment No. 58: Deletes language proposed by the Senate requiring reductions in energy costs of agency facilities.

Amendment No. 59: Inserts language proposed by the Senate regarding the regulation of water levels in Rainy Lake and Namakan Lake in Minnesota, and changes the section number.

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 1996 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparison to the fiscal year 1995 amount, the 1996 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 1966 follow:

New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1995	$20,042,999,000
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1996	20,562,044,000
House bill, fiscal year 1996	18,682,457,000
Senate bill, fiscal year 1996	20,169,152,000
Conference agreement, fiscal year 1996	19,336,311,000
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1995	−706,688,000
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1996	−1,225,733,000
House bill, fiscal year 1996	+653,854,000
Senate bill, fiscal year 1996	−832,841,000

JOHN T. MYERS,
HAROLD ROGERS,
JOE KNOLLENBERG,
FRANK RIGGS,
RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN,
JIM BUNN,
BOB LIVINGSTON,
TOM BEVILL,
VIC FAZIO,
JIM CHAPMAN,
Managers on the Part of the House.

PETE V. DOMENICI,
MARK O. HATFIELD,
THAD COCHRAN,
SLADE GORTON,
MITCH MCCONNELL,
ROBERT F. BENNETT,
CONRAD BURNS,
ROBERT C. BYRD,
FRITZ HOLLINGS,
HARRY REID,
BOB KERREY,
PATTY MURRAY,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1868

Mr. CALLAHAN submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H.R. 1868) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. 104–295)

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1868) ''making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes,'' having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its amendments numbered 1, 3, 6, 15, 21, 23, 25, 29, 30, 33, 36, 37, 39, 54, 59, 61, 71, 85, 88, 90, 91, 93, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 107, 108, 109, 112, 113, 117, 119, 120, 125, 127, 128, 129, 130, 134, 136, 137, 141, 143, 148, 153, 154, 157, 164, 166, 170, 172, 173, 174, 177, 178, 179, 180, 184, 185, 187, 188, 191, and 193.

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendments of the Senate numbered 4, 7, 13, 14, 17, 20, 26, 27, 38, 40, 41, 49, 50, 52, 56, 57, 58, 62, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 74, 75, 77, 81, 83, 84, 86, 87, 103, 104, 105, 110, 111, 114, 116, 118, 121, 122, 123, 124, 131, 133, 138, 139, 146, 149, 150, 151, 160, 161, 162, and 163, and agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 2:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 2, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$45,614,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 5:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 5, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$72,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 8:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 8, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows:

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHILD SURVIVAL AND DISEASE PROGRAMS

Of the funds appropriated in title II of this Act, and under the heading ''International Organizations and Programs'' in title IV of this Act, not less than $484,000,000 shall be made available for programs for child survival, assistance to combat tropical and other diseases, and related activities: Provided, That this amount shall be made available for such activities as (1) immunization programs, (2) oral rehydration programs, (3) health and nutrition programs, and related education programs, which address the needs of mothers and children, (4) water and sanitation programs, (5) assistance for displaced and orphaned children, (6) programs for the prevention, treatment, and control of, and research on, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, polio, malaria and other diseases, and (7) a contribution on a grant basis to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 9:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 9, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert:

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 10:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 10, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert:

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of sections 103 through 106 and chapter 10 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, title V of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–533) and the provisions of section 401 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1969, $1,675,000,000; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 11:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 11, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert: *That of the amount appropriated under this heading, up to $20,000,000 may be made available for the Inter-American Foundation and shall be apportioned directly to that agency: Provided further, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, up to $11,500,000 may be made available for the African Development Foundation and shall be apportioned directly to that agency: Provided further, That of the funds appropriated under title II of this Act that are administered by the Agency for International Development and made available for family planning assistance, not less than 65 percent shall be made available directly to the agency's central Office of Population and shall be programmed by that office for family planning activities: Provided further, That the President shall seek to ensure that funds made available under this heading for sub-Saharan Africa are in substantially the same proportion to the total amount appropriated and made available by this Act for development assistance as the proportion of funds made available for development assistance for sub-Saharan Africa was to the total amount appropriated for development assistance in Public Law 103–306: Provided further, That up to $25,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading may be made available for necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act: Provided further, That the President shall seek to ensure that the percentage of funds made available under this heading for the activities of private and voluntary organizations and cooperatives is at least equal to the percentage of funds made available pursuant to corresponding authorities in law for the activities of private and voluntary organizations and cooperatives in fiscal year 1995: Provided further,*

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 12:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 12, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert: *: Provided further, That for purposes of this or any other Act authorizing or appropriating funds for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs, the term ''motivate'', as it relates to family planning assistance, shall not be construed to prohibit the provision, consistent with local law, of information or counseling about all pregnancy options*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 16:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 16, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert: *: Provided further, That not less than $650,000 of the funds made available under this heading should be made available for support of the United States Telecommunications Training Institute*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 18:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 18, and agreed to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

CYPRUS

Of the funds appropriated under the headings ''Development Assistance'' and ''Economic Support Fund'', not less than $15,000,000 shall be made available for Cyprus to be used for scholarships, administrative support of the scholarship program, bicommunal projects, and measures aimed at reunification of the island and designed to reduce tensions and promote peace and cooperation between the two communities on Cyprus.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 19:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment to the Senate numbered 19, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

BURMA

Of the funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the provisions of chapter 8 of part I and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, not less than $2,380,000 shall be made available to support activities in Burma, along the Burma-Thailand border, and for activities of Burmese student groups and other organizations located outside Burma, for the purposes of fostering democracy in Burma, supporting the provision of medical supplies and other humanitarian assistance to Burmese located in Burma or displaced Burmese along the borders, and for other purposes: Provided, That of this amount, not less than $200,000 shall be made available to support newspapers, publications, and other media activities promoting democracy inside Burma: Provided further, That of this amount, not less than $380,000 shall be made available for crop substitution activities in cooperation with the Kachin people of Burma: Provided further, That funds made available under this heading may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law: Provided further, That provision of such funds shall be made available subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 22:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 22, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows:

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses for international disaster relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction assistance pursuant to section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, $181,000,000 to remain available until expended.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

Of the funds appropriated in title II of this Act, $40,000,000 should be available only for emergency humanitarian assistance to the former Yugoslavia, of which amount not less than $6,000,000 shall be available only for humanitarian assistance to Kosova.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 24:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 24, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert: *owed to the United States as a result of concessional loans made to eligible Latin American and Caribbean countries, pursuant to part IV of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $10,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 28:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 28, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert:

For the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of guaranteed loans authorized by sections 221 and 222 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $4,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 1997: Provided, That these funds are available to subsidize loan principal, 100 percent of which shall be guaranteed, pursuant to the authority of such sections. In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out guaranteed loan programs, $7,000,000, all of which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for Operating Expenses of the Agency for International Development: Provided further, That commitments to guarantee loans under this heading may be entered into notwithstanding the second and third sentences of section 222(a) and, with regard to programs for Eastern Europe and programs for the benefit of South Africans disadvantaged by apartheid, section 223(j) of the

Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be obligated except through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

Amendment numbered 31:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 31, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows : *Provided, That of this amount not more than $1,475,000 may be made available to pay for printing costs: Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act for programs administered by the Agency for International Development (AID) may be used to finance printing costs of any report or study (except feasibility, design, or evaluation reports or studies) in excess of $25,000 without the approval of the Administrator of the Agency or the Administrator's designee: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available for expenses necessary to relocate the Agency for International Development, or any part of that agency, to the building at the Federal Triangle in Washington, District of Columbia*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 32:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 32, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$30,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 1997*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 34:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 34, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$2,340,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 35:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 35, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert: *: Provided, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than $1,200,000,000 shall be available only for Israel, which sum shall be available on a grant basis as a cash transfer and shall be disbursed within thirty days of enactment of this Act or by October 31, 1995, whichever is later: Provided further, That not less than $815,000,000 shall be available only for Egypt, which sum shall be provided on a grant basis, and of which sum cash transfer assistance may be provided, with the understanding that Eygpt will undertake significant economic reforms which are additional to those which were undertaken in previous fiscal years, and of which not less than $200,000,000 shall be provided as Commodity Import Program assistance: Provided further, That the Egyptian pound equivalent of $85,000,000 generated from funds made available by this paragraph or generated from funds appropriated under this heading in prior appropriations Acts, may be made available to the United States pursuant to the United States-Egypt Economic, Technical and Related Assistance Agreements of 1978, for the following activities under such Agreements: the Egyptian pound equivalent of $50,000,000 may be made available to replenish the existing endowment for the American University in Cairo, and the Egyptian pound equivalent of $35,000,000 may be made available for projects and programs, including establishment of an endowment, which promote the preservation and restoration of Egyptian antiquities: Provided further, That in exercising the authority to provide cash transfer assistance for Israel and Egypt, the President shall ensure that the level of such assistance does not cause an adverse impact on the total level of non-military exports from the United States to each such country: Provided further, That it is the sense of the Congress that the recommended levels of assistance for Egypt and Israel are based in great measure upon their continued participation in the Camp David Accords and upon the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 42:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 42, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$641,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 43:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 43, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows: *, such as those violations included in the Helsinki Final Act: Provided, That such funds may be made available without regard to the restriction in this subsection if the President determines that to do so is in the national security interest of the United States: Provided further,*

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 44:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 44, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert: *: Provided, That this restriction does not apply to demilitarization or nonproliferation programs*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 45:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 45, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, and to read as follows: *: Provided, That grantees and contractors should, to the maximum extent possible, place in key staff positions specialists with prior on the ground expertise in the region of activity and fluency in one of the local languages*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 46:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 46, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows:

(j) In issuing new task orders entering into contracts, or making grants, with funds appropriated under this heading or in prior appropriations Acts, for projects or activities that have as one of their primary purposes the fostering of private sector development, the Coordinator for United States Assistance to the New Independent States and the implementing agency shall encourage the participation of and give significant weight to contractors and grantees who propose investing a significant amount of their own resources (including volunteer services and in-kind contributions) in such projects and activities.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 47:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 47, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

(k) Of the funds made available under this heading, not less than $225,000,000 shall be made available for Ukraine, with the understanding that Ukraine will undertake significant economic reforms which are additional to those which were undertaken in previous fiscal years, and of which not less than $50,000,000 (from this or any other Act) shall be made available to improve energy self-sufficient and improve safety at nuclear reactors, and of which $2,000,000 should be made available to conduct or implement an assessment of the energy distribution grid that provides recommendations leading to increased access to power by industrial, commercial and residential users, and of which not less than $22,000,000 shall be made available to support the development of small and medium enterprises, including independent broadcast and print media.

(l) Of the funds made available under this heading, $5,000,000 should be made available for a project to screen, diagnose, and treat victims of breast cancer associated with the 1985 incident at the Chernobyl reactor in Ukraine.

(m) Of the funds made available by this Act, not less than $85,000,000 shall be made available for Armenia.

(n) Of the funds made available by this or any other Act, $30,000,000 should be made available for Georgia.

(o)(1) Effective ninety days after the date of enactment of this Act, none of the funds appropriated under this heading may be made available for Russia unless the President determines and certifies in writing to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Russia has terminated implementation of arrangements to provide Iran with technical expertise, training, technology, or equipment necessary to develop a nuclear reactor or related nuclear research facilities or programs.

(2) Subparagraph (1) shall not apply if the President determines that making such funds available is important to the national security interest of the United States. Any such determination shall cease to be effective six months after being made unless the President determines that its continuation is important to the national security interest of the United States.

(p) Of the funds appropriated under this heading, $20,000,000 should be provided for hospital partnership programs, medical assistance to directly reduce the incidence of infectious diseases such as diphtheria or tuberculosis, and a program to reduce the adverse impact of contaminated drinking water.

(q) Of the funds appropriated under this heading and under the heading ''Assistance for Eastern Europe and the Baltic States'', not less than $12,600,000 shall be made available for law enforcement training and exchanges, and investigative and technical assistance activities related to international criminal activities.

(r) Support should be provided from funds appropriated under this heading for a ballot security project to promote public review by Russian citizens over the conduct of parliamentary and presidential elections in Russia: Provided, That the Secretary of State may waive this provision with regard to any election upon notification to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Russia has blocked implementation of a ballot security project.

(s) Of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than $50,000,000 should be provided to the Western NIS and Central Asian Enterprise Funds: Provided, That obligation of these funds shall be consistent with sound business practices.

(t) The President shall establish a Trans-Caucasus Enterprise Fund to encourage regional peace through economic cooperation: Provided, That the President shall seek other bilateral and multilateral investors in the Fund: Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading, not less than $15,000,000 shall be made available for a United States investment in the Trans-Caucasus Enterprise Fund.

(u) Funds appropriated under this heading or in prior appropriations Acts that are or have

been made available for an Enterprise Fund may be deposited by such Fund in interest-bearing accounts prior to the disbursement of such funds by the Fund for program purposes. The Fund may retain for such program proposes any interest earned on such deposits without returning such interest to the Treasury of the United States and without further appropriation by the Congress. Funds made available for Enterprise Funds shall be expended at the minimum rate necessary to make timely payment for projects and activities.

(v) Section 5421(d) (3) (B) of title 22, United States Code is amended by adding at the end thereof the following: '': Provided, That, as to Enterprise Funds established with respect to more than one host country, such Enterprise Fund may, in lieu of the appointment of citizens of the host countries to its Board of Directors, establish an advisory council for the host region comprised of citizens of each of the host countries or establish separate advisory councils for each of the host countries (hereinafter in this section referred to as the ''Advisory Councils''), with which the Enterprise Fund's policies and proposed activities and such host country citizens shall satisfy the experience and expertise requirements of this clause.''

(w) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, assistance may be provided for the Government of Azerbaijan for humanitarian purposes, if the President determines that humanitarian assistance provided in Azerbaijan through nongovernmental organizations is not adequately addressing the suffering of refugees and internally displaced persons.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 48:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 48, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows:

INDEPENDENT AGENCY

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 51:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 51, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$205,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 53:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 53, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$115,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 55:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 55, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert: *; salaries and expenses of personnel and dependents as authorized by the Foreign Service Act of 1980; allowances as authorized by sections 5921 through 5925 of title 5, United States Code*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 60:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 60, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$16,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 63:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 63, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows: *: Provided further, That funds appropriated under this heading for grant financed military education and training for Indonesia may only be available for expanded military education and training*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 64:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 64, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$3,208,390,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 65:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 65, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert: *: Provided, That of the funds appropriated by this paragraph not less than $1,800,000,000 shall be available for grants only for Israel, and not less than $1,300,000,000 shall be available for grants only for Egypt: Provided further, That the funds appropriated by this paragraph for Israel shall be disbursed within thirty days of enactment of this Act or by October 31, 1995, whichever is later: Provided further, That to the extent that the Government of Israel requests that funds be used for such purposes, grants made available for Israel by this paragraph shall, as agreed by Israel and the United States, be available for advanced weapons systems, of which not less than $475,000,000 shall be available for the procurement in Israel of defense articles and defense services, including research and development*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 72:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 72, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$23,250,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 73:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 73, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum named in said amendment, insert: *$70,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 76:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 76, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$35,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 78:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 78, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$700,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 79:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 79, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Retain the matter proposed by said amendment, amended as follows: in lieu of ''$67,550,000'', insert: *$60,900,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 80:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 80, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert: *$25,952,110, and for the United States share of the increase in the resources of the Fund for Special Operations, $10,000,000, to remain available until expended*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 82:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 82, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Retain the matter proposed by said amendment, amended as follows: in lieu of ''$70,000,000'', insert: *$53,750,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 89:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 89, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$285,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 92:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 92, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment, insert: *$30,000,000*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 94:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 94, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows: *: Provided further, That funds may be made available to the Korean Peninsula Energy Department Organization (KEDO) for administrative expenses and heavy fuel oil costs associated with the Agreed Framework: Provided further, That no funds may be provided for KEDO for funding for administrative expenses and heavy fuel oil costs beyond the total amount included for KEDO in the fiscal year 1996 congressional presentation: Provided further, That no funds may be made available under this Act to KEDO unless the President determines and certifies in writing to the Committees on Appropriations that (a) in accordance with section 1 of the Agreed Framework, KEDO has designated a Republic of Korea company, corporation or entity for the purpose of negotiating a prime contract to carry out construction of the light water reactors provided for in the Agreed Framework; and (b) the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is maintaining the freeze on its nuclear facilities as required in the Agreed Framework; and (c) the United States is taking steps to assure that progress is made on (1) the North-South dialogue, including efforts to reduce barriers to trade and investment, such as removing restrictions on travel, telecommunications services and financial transactions; (2) implementation of the January 1, 1992, Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula; Provided further, That a report on the specific efforts with regard to subsections (a), (b) and (c) of the preceding proviso shall be submitted by the President to the Committees on Appropriations six months after the date of enactment of this Act, and every six months thereafter*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 106:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 106, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert:

''Development Assistance''

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 126:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 126, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In the matter proposed to be inserted in said amendment, strike ''wholly paid for'' and insert: *wholly paid for from*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 132:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 132, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

(c) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The President may waive the application in whole or in part, of subsection (a) if the President certifies to the Congress that the President has determined that the waiver is necessary to meet emergency humanitarian needs or to achieve a negotiated settlement of the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina that is acceptable to the parties.

(d) EXPANDED AUTHORITY.—Section 660(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking ''or'';

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end thereof and inserting ''; or'';

(3) adding the following new paragraphs:

''(5) with respect to assistance, including training, relating to sanctions monitoring and enforcement;

''(6) with respect to assistance provided to reconstitute civilian police authority and capability in the post-conflict restoration of host nation infrastructure for the purposes of supporting a nation emerging from instability, and the provision of professional public safety training, to include training in internationally recognized standards of human rights, the rule of law, anti-corruption, and the promotion of civilian police roles that support democracy.''.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 135:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 135, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert: *tactically or strategically, with the Khmer Rouge in their military operations, or to the military of any country which the President determines is not taking steps to prevent a pattern or practice of commercial relations between its members and the Khmer Rouge*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 140:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 140, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows: , *Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 142:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 142, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows: : *Provided, That not to exceed $750,000 may be made available to carry out the provisions of section 316 of Public law 96–533*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 144:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 144, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Retain the matter proposed by said amendment, amended as follows: In lieu of ''October 23, 1993'' insert: *October 23, 1992*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 145:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 145, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows:

CLARIFICATION OF RESTRICTIONS

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 620E of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2375) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking the words ''No assistance'' and inserting the words ''No military assistance'';

(B) by striking the words ''in which assistance is to be furnished or military equipment or technology'' and inserting the words ''in which military assistance is to be furnished or military equipment or technology'';

(C) by striking the words ''the proposed United States assistance'' and inserting the words ''the proposed United States military assistance'';

(D) by inserting ''(1)'' immediately after ''(e)''; and

(E) by adding the following new paragraph:

''(2) The prohibitions in this section do not apply to any assistance or transfer provided for the purposes of:

''(A) International narcotics control (including Chapter 8 of Part I of this Act) or any provision of law available for providing assistance for counter narcotics purposes;

''(B) Facilitating military-to-military contact, training (including Chapter 5 of Part II of this Act) and humanitarian and civic assistance projects;

''(C) Peacekeeping and other multilateral operations (including Chapter 6 of Part II of this Act relating to peacekeeping) or any provision of law available for providing assistance for peacekeeping purposes, except that lethal military equipment provided under this subparagraph shall be provided on a lease or loan basis only and shall be returned upon completion of the operation for which it was provided;

''(D) Antiterrorism assistance (including Chapter 8 of Part II of this Act relating to antiterrorism assistance) or any provision of law available for antitorrism assistance purposes.

''(3) The restrictions of this subsection shall continue to apply to contracts for the delivery of F–16 aircraft to Pakistan.

''(4) Notwithstanding the restrictions contained in this subsection, military equipment, technology, or defense services, other than F–16 aircraft, may be transferred to Pakistan pursuant to contracts or cases entered into before October 1, 1990.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

''(f) STORAGE COSTS.—The President may release the Government of Pakistan of its contractual obligation to pay the United States Government for the storage costs of items purchased prior to October 1, 1990, but not delivered by the United States Government pursuant to subsection (e) and may reimburse the Government of Pakistan for any such amount paid, on such terms and conditions as the President may prescribe: Provided, That such payments have no budgetary impact.

''(g) INAPPLICABILITY OF RESTRICTIONS TO PREVIOUSLY OWNED ITEMS.—Section 620E(e) does not apply to broken, worn or unupgraded items or their equivalent which Pakistan paid for and took possession of prior to October 1, 1990 and which the Government of Pakistan sent to the Unite States for repair or upgrade. Such equipment or its equivalent may be returned to the Government of Pakistan: Provided, That the President determines and so certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that such equipment or equivalent neither constitutes nor has received any significant qualitative upgrade since being transferred to the United States and that its total value does not exceed $25,000,000.

''(h) BALLISTIC MISSILE SANCTIONS NOT AFFECTED.—Nothing contained herein shall affect sanctions for transfers of missile equipment or technology required under section 11B of the Export Administration Act of 1979 or section 73 of the Arms Export Control Act.''.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 147:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 147, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows:

SEC. 562. (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for assistance in support of any country when it is made known to the President that the government of such country prohibits or otherwise restricts, directly or indirectly, the transport or delivery of United States humanitarian assistance.

(b) EXCEPTION.—Funds may be made available with regard to the restrictions in subsection (a) if the President determines that to do so is in the national security interest of the United States.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 152:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 152, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—The requirement of subsection (a) to withhold assistance shall not apply with respect to—

(1) assistance to meet urgent humanitarian needs including disaster and refugee relief;

(2) democratic political reform and rule of law activities;

(3) the creation of private sector and nongovernmental organizations that are independent of government control;

(4) the development of a free market economic system; and

(5) assistance for the purposes described in the Cooperative Threat Reduction Act of 1993 (title XII of Public Law 103–160).

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 155:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 155, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows:

LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY

SEC. 568. Not more than $33,500,000 of the funds appropriated in this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' may be made available to the Government of Turkey.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 156:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 156, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

Restore the matter stricken by said amendment, amended to read as follows:

LIMITATION OF FUNDS FOR NORTH AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

SEC. 568A. None of the funds appropriated in this Act under the heading ''North American Development Bank'' and made available for the Community Adjustment and Investment Program shall be used for purposes other than those set out in the binational agreement establishing the Bank.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 158:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 158, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

SEC. 571. The Secretary of the Treasury may, to fulfill commitments of the United States, subscribe to and make payments for shares of the Asian Development Bank in connection with the fourth general capital increase of the Bank. The

amount authorized to be appropriated for paid-in shares of the Bank is limited to $66,614,647; the amount authorized to be appropriated for payment for callable shares of the Bank is limited to $3,264,178,021. The amount to be paid in respect of each subscription is authorized to be appropriated without fiscal year limitation. Any subscription by the United States to the capital stock of the Bank shall be effective only to such extent or in such amounts as are provided in advance inappropriations Acts.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

SEC. 572. In order to pay for the United States contribution to the tenth replenishment of the resources of the International Development Association authorized in section 526 of Public Law 103–87, there is authorized to be appropriated, without fiscal year limitation, $700,000,000 for payment by the Secretary of the Treasury.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 159:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 159, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

SPECIAL DEBT RELIEF FOR THE POOREST

SEC. 573. (a) AUTHORITY TO REDUCE DEBT.—The President may reduce amounts owed to the United States (or any agency of the United States) by an eligible country as a result of—

(1) guarantees issued under sections 221 and 222 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; or

(2) credits extended or guarantees issued under the Arms Export Control Act.

(b) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) The authority provided by subsection (a) may be exercised only to implement multilateral official debt relief and referendum agreements, commonly referred to as ''Paris Club Agreed Minutes''.

(2) The authority provided by subsection (a) may be exercised only in such amounts or to such extent as is provided in advance by appropriations Acts.

(3) The authority provided by subsection (a) may be exercised only with respect to countries with heavy debt burdens that are eligible to borrow from the International Development Association, but not from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, commonly referred to as ''IDA-only' countries.

(c) CONDITIONS.—The authority provided by subsection (a) may be exercised only with respect to a country whose government—

(1) does not have an excessive level of military expenditures;

(2) has not repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism;

(3) is not failing to cooperate on international narcotics control matters;

(4) (including its military or other security forces) does not engage in a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights; and

(5) is not ineligible for assistance because of the application of section 527 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, fiscal years 1994 and 1995.

(d) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—The authority provided by subsection (a) may be used only with regard to funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Debt Restructuring''.

(e) CERTAIN PROHIBITIONS INAPPLICABLE.—A reduction of debt pursuant to subsection (a) shall not be considered assistance for purposes of any provision of law limiting assistance to a country. The authority provided by subsection (a) may be exercised notwithstanding section 620(r) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

AUTHORITY TO ENGAGE IN DEBT BUYBACKS OR SALES

SEC. 574. (a) LOANS ELIGIBLE FOR SALE, REDUCTION, OR CANCELLATION.—

(1) AUTHORITY TO SELL, REDUCE, OR CANCEL CERTAIN LOANS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President may, in accordance with this section, sell to any eligible purchaser any concessional loan or portion thereof made before January 1, 1995, pursuant to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, to the government of any eligible country as defined in section 702(6) of that Act or on receipt of payment from an eligible purchaser, reduce or cancel such loan or portion thereof, only for the purpose of facilitating—

(A) debt-for-equity swaps, debt-for-development swaps, or debt-for-nature swaps; or

(B) a debt buyback by an eligible country of its own qualified debt, only if the eligible country uses an additional amount of the local currency of the eligible country, equal to not less than 40 percent of the price paid or such debt by such eligible country, or the difference between the price paid for such debt and the face value of such debt, to support activities that link conservation and sustainable use of natural resources with local community development, and child survival and other child development, in a manner consistent with section 707 through 710 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, if the sale, reduction, or cancellation would not contravene any term or condition of any prior agreement relating to such loan.

(2) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President shall, in accordance with this section, establish the terms and conditions under which loans may be sold, reduced, or canceled pursuant to this section.

(3) ADMINISTRATION.—The Facility, as defined in Section 702(8) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, shall notify the administrator of the agency primarily responsible for administering part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 of purchasers that the President has determined to be eligible, and shall direct such agency to carry out the sale, reduction, or cancellation of a loan pursuant to this section. Such agency shall make an adjustment in its accounts to reflect the sale, reduction, or cancellation.

(4) LIMITATION.—The authorities of this subsection shall be available only to the extent that appropriations for the cost of the modification, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, are made in advance.

(b) DEPOSIT OF PROCEEDS.—The proceeds from the sale, reduction, or cancellation of any loan sold, reduced, or canceled pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the United States Government account or accounts established for the repayment of such loan.

(c) ELIGIBLE PURCHASERS.—A loan may be sold pursuant to subsection (a)(1)(A) only to a purchaser who presents plans satisfactory to the President for using the loan for the purpose of engaging in debt-for-equity swaps, debt-for-development swaps, or debt-for-nature swaps.

(d) DEBTOR CONSULTATION.—Before the sale to any eligible purchaser, or any reduction or cancellation pursuant to this section, of any loan made to an eligible country, the President shall consult with the country concerning the amount of loans to be sold, reduced, or canceled and their uses for debt-for-equity swaps, debt-for-development swaps, or debt-for-nature swaps.

(e) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—The authority provided by subsection (a) may be used only with regard to funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Debt Restructuring''.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 165:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 165, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the section designation of said amendment, insert: *Sec. 575.*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 167:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 167, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

LIBERIA

SEC. 576. (a) Public Law 102–270 is amended—

(1) in subsection (b) by striking ''Notwithstanding section 620(q) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or any other similar provision, the'' and inserting ''The''; and

(2) in subsection (b)(2) by striking ''to implement the Yamoussoukro peace accord''.

(b) Funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for Liberia notwithstanding section 620(q) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and section 512 of this Act.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 168:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 168, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

ANNUAL REPORT ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GROWTH

SEC. 577. (a) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—The President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an annual report providing a concise overview of the prospects for economic and social growth on a broad, equitable, and sustainable basis in the countries receiving economic assistance under title II of this Act. For each country, the report shall discuss the laws, policies and practices of that country that most contribute to or detract from the achievement of this kind of growth. The report should address relevant macroeconomic, microeconomic, social, legal, environmental, and political factors and include criteria regarding wage and price controls, State ownership of production and distribution, State control of financial institutions, trade and foreign investment, capital and profit repatriation, tax and private property protection and a country's commitment to stimulate education, health and human development.

(b) COUNTRIES.—The countries referred to in subsection (a) are countries—

(1) for which in excess of $5,000,000 has been obligated during the previous fiscal year for assistance under sections 103 through 106, chapter 10 and 11 of part I, and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance of 1961, and under the Support for East European Democracy Act of 1989; or

(2) for which in excess of $1,000,000 has been obligated during the previous fiscal year by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

(c) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of State shall submit the report required by subsection (a) in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Administrator of the Agency for International Development, and the President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation. The report shall be submitted with the annual congressional presentation for appropriations.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 169:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 169, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the section designation of said amendment, insert: *Sec. 578.*; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 171:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 171, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

REPORTS REGARDING HONG KONG

SEC. 579. (a) Section 301 of the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 5731) is amended in the text above paragraph (1) by inserting ''March 31, 1996,'' after ''March 31, 1995,''.

(b) In light of the deficiencies in reports submitted to the Congress pursuant to section 301 of the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act (22 U.S.C. 5731), the Congress directs that the additional report required to be submitted under such section by subsection (a) of this section include detailed information on the status of, and other developments affecting, implementation of the Sino-British Joint Declaration on the Question of Hong Kong, including—

(1) the Basic Law and its consistency with the Joint Declaration;

(2) the openness and fairness of elections to the legislature;

(3) the openness and fairness of the election of the chief executive and the executive's accountability to the legislature;

(4) the treatment of political parties;

(5) the independence of the judiciary and its ability to exercise the power of final judgment over Hong Kong law; and

(6) the Bill of Rights.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 175:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 175, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

SEC. 580. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Act, $20,000,000 of the funds made available under the headings ''Development Assistance'' and/or ''Economic Support Fund'' may be transferred to, and merged with, the appropriations account entitled ''International Narcotics Control'' and may be available for the same purposes for which funds in such account are available.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 176:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 176, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

GUATEMALA

SEC. 581. (a) Funds provided in this Act may be made available for the Guatemalan military or security forces, and the restrictions on Guatemala under the headings ''International Military Education and Training'' and ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' shall not apply, only if the President determines and certifies to the Congress that the Guatemalan military is cooperating with efforts to resolve human rights abuses which elements of the Guatemalan military or security forces are alleged to have committed, ordered or attempted to thwart the investigation of.

(b) The prohibition contained in subsection (a) shall not apply to funds made available to implement a cease-fire or peace agreement.

(c) Any funds made available pursuant to subsections (a) or (b) shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(d) Any funds made available pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) for international military education and training may only be for expanded international military education and training.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 181:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 181, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

EXTENSION OF TIED AID CREDIT PROGRAM

SEC. 582. (a) Section 10(c)(2) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635i–3(c)(2) is amended by striking ''1995'' and inserting ''1997''.

(b) Section 10(e) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635i-3(e)) is amended by striking ''1993, 1994, and 1995'' and inserting ''1996 and 1997''.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 182:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 182, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

MORATORIUM ON USE OF ANTIPERSONNEL LANDMINES

SEC. 583. (a) UNITED STATES MORATORIUM.—For a period of one year beginning three years after the date of enactment of this Act, the United States shall not use antipersonnel landmines except along internationally recognized national borders or in demilitarized zones within a perimeter marked area that is monitored by military personnel and protected by adequate means to ensure the exclusion of civilians.

(b) DEFINITION AND EXEMPTIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

(1) ANTIPERSONNEL LANDMINE.—The term ''antipersonnel landmine'' means any munition placed under, on, or near the ground or other surface area, delivered by artillery, rocket, mortar, or similar means, or dropped from an aircraft and which is designed, constructed or adapted to be detonated or exploded by the presence, proximity, or contact of a person.

(2) EXEMPTIONS.—the term ''antipersonnel landmine'' does not include command detonated Claymore munitions.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 183:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 183, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

EXTENSION OF AU PAIR PROGRAMS

SEC. 584. Section 8 of the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Act of 1990 is amended in the last sentence by striking ''fiscal year 1995'' and inserting ''fiscal year 1996''.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 186:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 186, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

SANCTIONS AGAINST COUNTRIES HARBORING WAR CRIMINALS

SEC. 585. (a) BILATERAL ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or the Arms Export Control Act may not be provided for any country described in subsection (c).

(b) MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive directors of the international financial institutions to work in opposition to, and vote against, any extension by such institutions of financing or financial or technical assistance to any country described in subsection (c).

(c) SANCTIONED COUNTRIES.—A country described in this subsection is a country the government of which knowingly grants sanctuary to persons in its territory for the purpose of evading prosecution, where such persons—

(1) have been indicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, or any other international tribunal with similar standing under international law, or

(2) have been indicted for war crimes or crimes against humanity committed during the period beginning March 23, 1933 and ending on May 8, 1945 under the direction of, or in association with—

(A) the Nazi government of Germany;

(B) any government in any area occupied by the military forces of the Nazi government of Germany;

(C) any government which was established with the assistance or cooperation of the Nazi government; or

(D) any government which was an ally of the Nazi government of Germany.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 189:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 189, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE FOR HAITI

SEC. 586. (a) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act, may be provided to the Government of Haiti until the President reports to Congress that—

(1) the Government is conducting thorough investigations of extrajudicial and political killings; and

(2) the Government is cooperating with U.S. authorities in the investigations of political and extrajudicial killings.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to restrict the provision of humanitarian or electoral assistance.

(c) The President may waive the requirements of this section if he determines and certifies to the appropriate committees of Congress that it is in the national interest of the United States or necessary to assure the safe and timely withdrawal of American forces from Haiti.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 190:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 190, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the section designation of said amendment, insert: *SEC. 587.* ; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 192:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 192, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the section designation of said amendment, insert:

NATO PARTICIPATION

SEC. 588. REVISIONS TO PROGRAM TO FACILITATE TRANSITION TO NATO MEMBERSHIP.—

(a) ELIGIBLE COUNTIES.—Subsection (d) of section 203 of the NATO Participation Act of 1994 (title II of Public Law 103–447; 22 U.S.C. 1928 note) is amended to read as follows:

''(d) DESIGNATION OF ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES.—

''(1) INITIAL PRESIDENTIAL REVIEW AND DESIGNATION.—Within 60 days of the enactment of the NATO Participation Act Amendments of 1995, the President should evaluate the degree to which any country emerging from communist domination which has expressed its interest in joining NATO meets the criteria set forth in paragraph (3), and may designate one or more of these countries as eligible to receive assistance under the program established under subsection (a). The President shall, at the time of designation of any country pursuant to this paragraph, determine and report to the Committees on International Relations and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Foreign Relations and Appropriations of the Senate with respect to each country so designated that such country meets the criteria set forth in paragraph (3).

''(2) OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES EMERGING FROM COMMUNIST DOMINATION.—In addition to the countries designated pursuant to paragraph (1), the President may at any time designate other European countries emerging from communist domination as eligible to receive assistance under the program established under subsection (a). The President shall, at the time of designation of any country pursuant to this paragraph, determine and report to the Committees on International Relations and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the

Committees on Foreign Relations and Appropriations of the Senate with respect to each country so designated that such country meets the criteria set forth in paragraph (3).

''(3) CRITERIA.—The criteria referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) are, with respect to each country, that the country—

''(A) has made significant progress toward establishing—

''(i) shared values and interests;

''(ii) democratic governments;

''(iii) free market economies;

''(iv) civilian control of the military, of the police, and of intelligence service, so that these organizations do not pose a threat to democratic institutions, neighboring countries, or the security of NATO or the United States;

''(v) adherence to the rule of law and to the values, principles, and political commitments set forth in the Helsinki Final Act and other declarations by the members of the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe;

''(vi) commitment to further the principles of NATO and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area.

''(vii) commitment to protecting the rights of all their citizens and respecting the territorial integrity of their neighbors;

''(viii) commitment and ability to accept the obligations, responsibilities, and costs of NATO membership; and

''(ix) commitment and ability to implement infrastructure development activities they will facilitate participation in and support for NATO military activities;

''(B) is likely, within five years of such determination, to be in a position to further the principles of the North Atlantic Treaty and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area; and

''(C) is not ineligible to receive assistance under section 552 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1996, with respect to transfers of equipment to a country the government of which the Secretary of State has determined is a terrorist government for purposes of section 40(d) of the Arms Export Control Act.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subsections (b) and (c) of section 203 of such Act are amended by striking ''countries described in such subsection'' each of the two places it appears and inserting ''countries designated under subsection (d)''.

(B) Subsection (e) of section 203 of such Act is amended by inserting ''(22 U.S.C. 2394–1), and shall include with such notification a memorandum of justification with respect to the proposed designation'' before the period at the end.

(b) TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—Section 203(c) of such Act is amended by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraphs:

''(5) Assistance under chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (relating to the Economic Support Fund).

''(6) Funds appropriated under the ''Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund'' account.

''(7) Assistance under chapter 6 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (relating to peacekeeping operations and other programs).

''(8) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including any restrictions in sections 516 and 519 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, the President may direct the crating, packing, handling, and transportation of excess defense articles provided pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection without charge to the recipient of such articles.''

(c) EFFECT ON OTHER AUTHORITIES.—Section 203 of the NATO Participation Act of 1994 (Title II of Public Law 103–447, 22 U.S.C. 1928 note), is amended to add a new subsection (g) to read as follows:

''(g) EFFECT ON OTHER AUTHORITIES.—Nothing in this Act shall affect the eligibility of countries to participate under other provisions of law in programs described in this Act.''.

(d) ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 205 of the NATO Participation Act of 1994 (title II of Public Law 103–447; 22 U.S.C. 1928 note) is amended:

(1) by inserting ''ANNUAL'' in the section heading before the first word;

(2) by inserting ''annual'' after ''include in the'' in the matter preceding paragraph (1); and

(3) in paragraphs (1) and (2), by striking ''and other '' and all that follows through the period at the end in both instances inserting in lieu thereof ''and any other country designated by the President pursuant to section 203(d).''.

TITLE VI—MIDDLE EAST PEACE FACILITATION ACT OF 1995

SHORT TITLE

SEC. 601. This title may be cited as the ''Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1995''.

FINDINGS

SEC. 602. The Congress finds that—

(1) the Palestine Liberation Organization (hereafter the ''P.L.O.'') has recognized the State of Israel's right to exist in peace and security, accepted United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, committed itself to the peace process and peaceful coexistence with Israel, free from violence and all other acts which endanger peace and stability, and assumed responsibility over all P.L.O. elements and personnel in order to assure their compliance, prevent violations, and discipline violators;

(2) Israel has recognized the P.L.O. as the representative of the Palestinian people;

(3) Israel and the P.L.O. signed a Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements (hereafter the ''Declaration of Principles'') on September 13, 1993 at the White House;

(4) Israel and the P.L.O. signed an Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area (hereafter the ''Gaza-Jericho Agreement'') on May 4, 1994 which established a Palestinian Authority for the Gaza and Jericho areas;

(5) Israel and the P.L.O. signed an Agreement on Preparatory Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities (hereafter the ''Early Empowerment Agreement'') on August 29, 1994 which provided for the transfer to the Palestinian Authority of certain powers and responsibilities in the West Bank outside of the Jericho Area;

(6) under the terms of the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and Gaza (hereafter the ''Interim Agreement) signed on September 28, 1995, the Declaration of Principles, the Gaza-Jericho Agreement and the Early Empowerment Agreement, the powers and responsibilities of the Palestinian Authority are to be assumed by an elected Palestinian Council with jurisdiction in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in accordance with the Interim Agreement;

(7) permanent status negotiations relating to the West Bank and Gaza Strip are scheduled to begin by May 1996;

(8) the Congress has, since the conclusion of the Declaration of Principles and the P.L.O.'s renunciation of terrorism, provided authorities to the President to suspend certain statutory restrictions relating to the P.L.O., subject to Presidential certifications that the P.L.O. has continued to abide by commitments made in and in connection with or resulting from the good faith implementation of, the Declaration of Principles;

(9) the P.L.O. commitments relevant to Presidential certifications have included commitments to renounce and condemn terrorism, to submit to the Palestinian National Council for former approval the necessary changes to those articles of the Palestinian Covenant which call for Israel's destruction, and to prevent acts of terrorism and hostilities against Israel; and

(10) the United States is resolute in its determination to ensure that in providing assistance to Palestinians living under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority or elsewhere, the beneficiaries of such assistance shall be held to the same standard of financial accountability and management control as any other recipient of United States assistance.

SENSE OF CONGRESS

SEC. 603. It is the sense of the Congress that the P.L.O. must do far more to demonstrate an irrevocable denunciation of terrorism and ensure a peaceful settlement of the Middle East dispute, and in particular it must—

(1) submit to the Palestinian National Council for formal approval the necessary changes to those articles of the Palestinian National Covenant which call for Israel's destruction;

(2) make greater efforts to pre-empt acts of terror, discipline violators and contribute to stemming the violence that has resulted in the deaths of over 140 Israeli and United States citizens since the signing of the Declaration of Principles;

(3) prohibit participation in its activities and in the Palestinian Authority and its successors by any groups or individuals which continue to promote and commit acts of terrorism;

(4) cease all anti-Israel rhetoric, which potentially undermines the peace process;

(5) confiscate all unlicensed weapons;

(6) transfer and cooperate in transfer proceedings relating to any person accused by Israel to acts of terrorism; and

(7) respect civil liberties, human rights and democratic norms.

AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND CERTAIN PROVISIONS

SEC. 604. (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and for eighteen months thereafter, the President may suspend for a period of not more than 6 months at a time any provision of law specified in subsection (d). Any such suspension shall cease to be effective after 6 months, or at such earlier date as the President may specify.

(b) CONDITIONS.—

(1) CONSULTATIONS.—Prior to each exercise of the authority provided in subsection (a) or certification pursuant to subsection (c), the President shall consult with the relevant congressional committees. The President may not exercise that authority or make such certification until 30 days after a written policy justification is submitted to the relevant congressional committees.

(2) PRESIDENTIAL CERTIFICATION.—The President may exercise the authority provided in subsection (a) only if the President certifies to the relevant congressional committees each time he exercises such authority that—

(A) it is in the national interest of the United States to exercise such authority;

(B) the P.L.O., the Palestinian Authority, and successor entities are complying with all the commitments described in paragraph (4); and

(C) funds provided pursuant to the exercise of this authority and the authorities under section 583(a) of Public Law 103–236 and section 3(a) of Public Law 103–125 have been used for the purposes for which they were intended.

(3) REQUIREMENT FOR CONTINUING P.L.O. COMPLIANCE.—(A) The President shall ensure that P.L.O. performance is continuously monitored and if the President at any time determines that the P.L.O. has not continued to comply with all the commitments described in paragraph (4), he shall so notify the relevant congressional committees and any suspension under subsection (a) of a provision of law specified in subsection (d) shall cease to be effective.

(B) Beginning six months after the date of enactment of this Act, if the President on the basis of the continuous monitoring of the P.L.O.'s performance determines that the P.L.O. is not complying with the requirements described in subsection (c), he shall notify the relevant congressional committees and no assistance shall be provided pursuant to the exercise by the President of the authority provided by subsection (a) until such time as the President makes the certification provided for in subsection (c).

(4) P.L.O. COMMITMENTS DESCRIBED.—The commitments referred to in paragraphs (2)(B) and (3)(A) are the commitments made by the P.L.O.—

(A) in its letter of September 9, 1993, to the Prime Minister of Israel; in its letter of September 9, 1993, to the Foreign Minister of Norway to—

(i) recognize the right of the State of Israel to exist in peace and security;

(ii) accept United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338;

(iii) renounce the use of terrorism and other acts of violence;

(iv) assume responsibility over all P.L.O. elements and personnel in order to assure their compliance, prevent violations and discipline violators;

(v) call upon the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to take part in the steps leading to the normalization of life, rejecting violence and terrorism, and contributing to peace and stability; and

(vi) submit to the Palestinian National Council for formal approval the necessary changes to the Palestinian National Covenant eliminating calls for Israel's destruction, and

(B) in, and resulting from, the good faith implementation of the Declaration of Principles, including good faith implementation of subsequent agreements with Israel, with particular attention to the objective of preventing terrorism, as reflected in the provisions of the Interim Agreement concerning—

(i) prevention of acts of terrorism and legal measures against terrorists, including the arrest and prosecution of individuals suspected of perpetrating acts of violence and terror;

(ii) abstention from and prevention of incitement, including hostile propaganda;

(iii) operation of armed forces other than the Palestinian Police;

(iv) possession, manufacture, sale, acquisition or importation of weapons;

(v) employment of police who have been convicted of serious crimes or have been found to be actively involved in terrorist activities subsequent to their employment;

(vi) transfers to Israel of individuals suspected of, charged with, or convicted of an offense that falls within Israeli criminal jurisdiction;

(vii) cooperation with the government of Israel in criminal matters, including cooperation in the conduct of investigations; and

(viii) exercise of powers and responsibilities under the agreement with due regard to internationally accepted norms and principles of human rights and the rule of law.

(5) POLICY JUSTIFICATION.—As part of the President's written policy justification to be submitted to the relevant Congressional Committees pursuant to paragraph (1), the President will report on—

(A) the manner in which the P.L.O. has complied with the commitments specified in paragraph (4), including responses to individual acts of terrorism and violence, actions to discipline perpetrators of terror and violence, and actions to preempt acts of terror and violence;

(B) the extent to which the P.L.O. has fulfilled the requirements specified in subsection (c);

(C) actions that the P.L.O. has taken with regard to the Arab League boycott of Israel;

(D) the status and activities of the P.L.O. office in the United States;

(E) all United States assistance which benefits, directly or indirectly, the projects, programs, or activities of the Palestinian Authority in Gaza, Jericho, or any other area it may control, since September 13, 1993, including—

(i) the obligation and disbursal of such assistance, by project, activity, and date, as well as by prime contractor and all subcontractors;

(ii) the organizations or individuals responsible for the receipt and obligation of such assistance;

(iii) the intended beneficiaries of such assistance; and

(iv) the amount of international donor funds that benefit the P.L.O. or the Palestinian Authority in Gaza, Jericho, or any other area the P.L.O. or the Palestinian Authority may control, and to which the United States is a contributor; and

(F) statements by senior official of the P.L.O., the Palestinian Authority, and successor entities that question the right of Israel to exist or urge armed conflict with or terrorism against Israel or its citizens, including an assessment of the degree to which such statements reflect official policy of the P.L.O., the Palestinian Authority, or successor entities.

(c) REQUIREMENT FOR CONTINUED PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE.—Six months after the enactment of this Act, United States assistance shall not be provided pursuant to the exercise by the President of the authority provided by subsection (a), unless and until the President determines and so certifies to the Congress that—

(1) if the Palestinian Council has been elected and assumed its responsibilities, it has, within 2 months, effectively disavowed and thereby nullified the articles of the Palestine National Covenant which call for Israel's destruction, unless the necessary changes to the Covenant have already been approved by the Palestine National Council;

(2) the P.L.O., the Palestinian Authority, and successor entities have exercised their authority resolutely to establish the necessary enforcement institutions; including laws, police, and a judicial system, for apprehending, transferring, prosecuting, convicting, and imprisoning terrorists;

(3) the P.L.O., has limited participation in the Palestinian Authority and its successors to individuals and groups that neither engage in nor practice terrorism or violence in the implementation of their political goals;

(4) the P.L.O., the Palestinian Authority, and successor entities have not provided any financial or material assistance, or training to any group, whether or not affiliated with the P.L.O., to carry out actions inconsistent with the Declaration of Principles, particularly acts of terrorism against Israel;

(5) the P.L.O., the Palestinian Authority, or successor entities have cooperated in good faith with Israeli authorities in—

(A) the preemption of acts of terrorism;

(B) the apprehension, trial, and punishment of individuals who have planned or committed terrorist acts subject to the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority or any successor entity; and

(C) the apprehension of and transfer to Israeli authorities of individual suspected of, charged with, or convicted of, planning or committing terrorist acts subject to Israeli jurisdiction in accordance with the specific provisions of the Interim Agreement;

(6) the P.L.O., the Palestinian Authority, and successor entities have exercised their authority resolutely to enact and implement laws requiring the disarming of civilians not specifically licensed to possess or carry weapons;

(7) the P.L.O., the Palestinian Authority, and successor entities have not funded, either partially or wholly, or have ceased funding, either partially or wholly, any office, or other presence of the Palestinian Authority in Jerusalem unless established by specific agreement between Israel and the P.L.O., the Palestinian Authority, or successor entities;

(8) the P.L.O., the Palestinian Authority, and successor entities are cooperating fully with the Government of the United States on the provision of information on United States nationals known to have been held at any time by the P.L.O. or factions thereof; and

(9) the P.L.O., the Palestinian Authority, and successor entities have not, without the agreement of the Government of Israel, taken any steps that will change the status of Jerusalem or the West Bank and Gaza Strip, pending the outcome of the permanent status negotiations.

(d) PROVISIONS THAT MAY BE SUSPENDED.—The provisions that may be suspended under the authority of subsection (a) are the following:

(1) Section 307 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2227) as it applies with respect to the P.L.O. or entities associated with it.

(2) Section 114 of the Department of State Authorization Act, fiscal years 1984 and 1985 (22 U.S.C. 287e note) as it applies with respect to the P.L.O. or entities associated with it.

(3) Section 1003 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, fiscal years 1988 and 1989 (22 U.S.C. 5202).

(4) Section 37 of the Bretton Woods Agreement Act (22 U.S.C. 286W) as it applies on the granting to the P.L.O. of observer status or other official status at any meeting sponsored by or associated with the International Monetary Fund. As used in this paragraph, the term ''other official status'' does not include membership in the International Monetary Fund.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this title:

(1) RELEVANT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''relevant congressional committees'' mean—

(A) the Committee on International Relations, the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(2) UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE.—The term ''United States assistance'' means any form of grant, loan, loan guarantee, credit, insurance, in kind assistance, or any other form of assistance.

TRANSITION PROVISION

SEC. 605. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 583(a) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (Public Law 103–236) is amended by striking ''November 1, 1995'' and insert ''January 1, 1996''.

(b) CONSULTATION.—For purposes of any exercise of the authority provided in section 583(a) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (Public Law 103–236) prior to November 15, 1995, the written policy justification dated June 1, 1995, and submitted to the Congress in accordance with section 583(b)(1) of such Act, and the consultations associated with such policy justification, shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of section 583(b)(1) of such Act.

REPORTING REQUIREMENT

SEC. 606. Section 804(b) of the PLO Commitments Compliance Act of 1989 (title VIII of Public Law 101–246) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''section (3)(b)(1) of the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1994'' and inserting ''section 604(b)(1) of the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1995''; and

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking ''section (4)(a) of the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1994 (Oslo commitments)'' and inserting ''section 604(b)(4) of the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1995''.

And the Senate agreed to the same.

The committee of conference report in disagreement amendment numbered 115.

SONNY CALLAHAN,
JOHN EDWARD PORTER,
BOB LIVINGSTON,
JIM LIGHTFOOT,
FRANK R. WOLF,
RON PACKARD,
JOE KNOLLENBERG,
MICHAEL FORBES,
JIM BUNN,
CHARLES WILSON,
SIDNEY R. YATES,
NANCY PELOSI,
ESTEBAN E. TORRES,
DAVID OBEY.

Managers on the part of the House.

MITCH MCCONNELL,
ARLEN SPECTER,
CONNIE MACK,
JAMES M. JEFFORDS,
JUDD GREGG,
RICHARD SHELBY,
ROBERT F. BENNETT,
MARK O. HATFIELD,
PATRICK LEAHY,
DANIEL K. INOUYE,

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG,
TOM HARKIN,
BARBARA A. MIKULSKI,
PATTY MURRAY,
ROBERT C. BYRD.
Managers on the part of the Senate.

JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

The managers on the part of the House and the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1868) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, submit the following joint statement to the House and Senate in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon by the managers and recommended in the accompanying conference report:

TITLE I—EXPORT AND INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

SUBSIDY APPROPRIATION

Amendment No. 1: Appropriates $786,551,000 for the subsidy appropriation of the Export-Import Bank as proposed by the House instead of $795,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Deletes language proposed by the Senate relating to the proposed relocation of the Agency for International Development to the building at the Federal Triangle. This matter is addressed in amendment No. 31.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Amendment No. 2: Appropriates $45,614,000 for the administrative expenses of the Export-Import Bank instead of $45,228,000 as proposed by the House and $46,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

NONCREDIT ACCOUNT

Amendment No. 3: Deletes Senate limitation of $20,000 for official reception and representation expenses and restores House limitation of $35,000.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

NONCEDIT ACCOUNT

Amendment No. 4: Inserts Senate limitation of $26,000,000 for administrative expenses for the Overseas Private Investment Corporation instead of House limitation of $26,500,000.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Amendment No. 5: Appropriates $72,000,000 for the costs of direct and guaranteed loans instead of $69,500,000 as proposed by the House and $79,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Amendment No. 6: Deletes Senate language which allowed for the transfer of funds from the OPIC noncredit account in order to fund program activities. The House language provides for an appropriation from the general fund of the Treasury.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION

CONTRIBUTION TO THE ENTERPRISE FOR THE AMERICAS MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT FUND

Amendment No. 7: Deletes House language providing appropriations for the International Finance Corporations and for the Contribution to the Enterprise for the Americas Multilateral Investment Fund. These matters are addressed in amendments no. 79, 82, and 88.

TITLE II—BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CHILD SURVIVAL AND DISEASE PROGRAMS

Amendment No. 8: Inserts language providing that not less than $484,000,000 of the funds appropriated in title II, and in title IV under ''International Organizations and Programs'', shall be available for Child Survival and Disease Programs. The House had proposed an appropriation of $592,660,000 for a ''Children and Disease Programs Fund''. The Senate bill contained no provision on this matter.

The managers support the maintenance of child survival ($300,000,000), infectious disease programs, and funding for UNICEF ($100,000,000), as indicated in the House report. In addition to funding for child survival programs included in the earmark in the conference agreement, $30,000,000 would be available from ''International Disaster Assistance'' and $16,000,000 would be provided from ''Economic Support Fund'' for programs in Egypt.

The managers support the House and Senate report language regarding the need for targeted polio eradication efforts, and recommend that $20,000,000 be made available for purchase and delivery of polio vaccines. The managers urge that funding for HIV/AIDS be maintained at the current level.

The conferees believe that basic education programs are essential both to the well-being of the world's children and to achieving the long-term economic goals of economic growth and trade. In particular, girls' education has multiple benefits, including improved child survival and overall family health. The conferees define basic education to include early childhood and primary education. The conferees strongly believe that strong support for these programs should be maintained and that $108,000,000 should be maintained for children's basic education programs.

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Amendment No. 9: Inserts language designating a combined development assistance account ''Development Assistance'' instead of ''Development Assistance Fund'' as proposed by the House and ''Economic Assistance'' as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 10: Appropriates $1,675,000,000 for ''Development Assistance''. The House had proposed that funding for development assistance activities by appropriated in three accounts, ''Development Assistance Fund'', ''Children and Disease Programs Fund'' and ''Development Fund for Africa''. The Senate proposed that development assistance activities, certain other activities, and non-Camp David funding from ''Economic Support Fund'' be appropriated in an account entitled ''Economic Assistance''. The conference agreement includes development assistance activities, including support for the Inter-American Foundation and the African Development Foundation, in one account and returns non-Camp David funding to ''Economic Support Fund''.

Funds are recommended for the continued participation of AID in the International Cooperative Biodiversity Group program at a level as close to the current level as possible.

The conferees continue to support the University Development Linkages Program. In addition, the conferees endorse the House report language regarding a proposal to establish an electronic interconnection involving colleges and universities in Latin America.

The conferees urge that the Office of Energy, Environment and Technology at AID be funded at the current level and recommend that AID continue funding for Office of Energy, Environment and Technology activities that promote power sector privatization, innovative technologies, renewable energy, and energy efficiency. The conferees reaffirm support for programs that promote economic development, reduce environmental pollution, and enhance United States industrial leadership in these areas.

The managers suggest that AID maintain the current dollar level of support for agriculture and agricultural research, including but not limited to, $20,000,000 for the collaborative research support program. Also, because of the importance of livestock to the economies of developing countries and to women-run households, the conferees urge AID to support appropriate livestock research.

The conferees urge AID to give a high priority to programs that directly support sustainable economic growth in developing countries. In that regard, the managers urge that AID expand efforts to institutionalize community participation at the local level through core support for organizations that promote self-governance. In addition, organizations such as the Institute for Liberty and Democracy can help stimulate private sector-led growth by helping to apply to other settings the experiences in Peru in generating economic growth through land titling, removal of cumbersome regulations on business, and guaranteeing security of investment.

The managers support the AID Economic Growth Center's emphasis on economic and institutional reform. The managers encourage the Growth Center to identify the most serious domestic government barriers preventing AID recipients from achieving high levels of growth and recommend that AID propose appropriate free-market solutions.

The managers endorse the House report language regarding the need to maintain development assistance support for Latin America.

The managers support funding for management and training programs with ports in the developing world. The conferees urge AID and the State Department to work with U.S. ports and private port organizations, such as the International Port Development Council, Inc., to leverage the skills and expertise of U.S. seaport managers to improve port infrastructure overseas. Bilateral port cooperation will expand U.S. trade opportunities and improve the ability of developing countries to participate in the modern, global economy.

The conferees reaffirm their strong support for U.S. assistance programs that recognize the central role played by women in fostering economic development. The conferees urge AID to sustain support for the Office of Women in Development, including the continued provision of funds from the NIS assistance program.

Amendment No. 11: Inserts language providing that funds for the Inter-American Foundation and the African Development Foundation shall be made available (and apportioned directly to said foundations) from funds appropriated in ''Development Assistance''. Up to $20,000,000 may be made available for the Inter-American Foundation and up to $11,500,000 may be made available for the African Development Foundation. Senate language on the proportionality of funds made available through the account is deleted.

The conference agreement also provides that up to $25,000,000 may be made available to implement section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act, and that not less than 65 percent of the funds made available for family planning assistance shall be made available directly to the Agency for International Development's central Office of Population and

shall be programmed by that office for family planning activities. The Senate had proposed that not less than $350,000,000 be made available for the latter activities.

The conference agreement also includes Senate language regarding the relative funding levels for activities of private and voluntary organizations and cooperatives, but does not include Senate language requiring a reprogramming notification to waive such language. House language on this matter is addressed in amendment No. 21.

FAMILY PLANNING ASSISTANCE

Amendment No. 12: Inserts language that defines the term ''motivate'' for purposes of obligating funds available for family planning assistance. The conference agreement modifies Senate language by removing the words ''including abortion''. This change is not intended to narrow the scope of any of the pregnancy options included in last year's act. The House bill did not address this matter.

DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR AFRICA

Amendment No. 13: Deletes House language referring to the ''Development Fund for Africa''. The conference agreement does not include a separate appropriations account for this fund, and the reference is no longer necessary. This matter is further addressed in amendments no. 10, 11 and 17.

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Amendment No. 14: Inserts Senate language increasing the limitation on funds that may be transferred to ''International Organizations and Programs'' for a contribution to the International Fund for Agricultural Development from $15,000,000, as proposed by the House, to $30,000,000, as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 15: Deletes Senate language regarding a prohibition on funds for Zaire and an earmark for the International Fertilizer Development Center. The prohibition on funding for Zaire is addressed in amendment no. 36.

The managers support funding for the center as proposed in the Senate amendment.

UNITED STATES TELECOMMUNICATIONS TRAINING INSTITUTE

Amendment No. 16: Inserts language providing that not less than $650,000 should be provided for support of the United States Telecommunications Training Institute. The Senate language would have mandated funding at $800,000. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR AFRICA

Amendment No. 17: Deletes House language providing for a separate ''Development Fund for Africa'' account. Funding for this purpose, and a statutory reference to ''Development Fund for Africa'', has been included in ''Development Assistance'' in amendments no. 10 and 11.

The merger of bilateral development assistance funding into a single appropriations account is designed to allow the Administration the flexibility to respond to changing priorities with fewer resources. However, it does not indicate a lessening of interest in Africa; the managers expect that a major portion of the resources provided in the ''Development Assistance'' account will be committed to programs in sub-Saharan Africa, and have included bill language to require the President to seek to ensure that the amount of funds available for Africa for development assistance in fiscal year 1996 is in substantially the same proportion to the total amount available for development assistance as the funding provided in fiscal year 1995. Activities in Africa should be managed under the authorities of chapter 10 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

The managers anticipate that AID will continue the reforms undertaken under the Development Fund for Africa that focus its limited funds on a smaller number of countries where the governments are committed to development policies that will promote equitable and sustainable economic growth. Concurrently, the managers expect that Africa humanitarian resources will be managed in a way that promotes long-term development, as development resources are programmed to minimize short-term crises. The Greater Horn of Africa initiative is a good example of such an effort.

CYPRUS

Amendment No. 18: Inserts language earmarking $15,000,000 for Cyprus to be used only for scholarships, scholarship administrative costs, bicommunal projects, and measures aimed at reunification. The conference agreement is similar to Senate language, but allows for funds to be derived from both ''Development Assistance'' and ''Economic Support Fund'', and provides authority to use funds for administrative costs.

BURMA

Amendment No. 19: Inserts language providing that not less than $2,380,000 of the funds appropriated in ''Development Assistance'' and in ''Economic Support Fund'' will be available for programs in Burma. These funds would be used to strengthen democracy, support humanitarian assistance, and provide for support to a nongovernmental organization for a crop substitution project in Burma.

For the past two years, the conferees have urged the Administration to provide meaningful levels of assistance to refugees and exiles supporting the restoration of democracy in Burma. Although the Administration agreed in writing to obligate no less than $1,000,000 in such support for fiscal year 1995, the commitment to the Congress was not fulfilled.

The release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi represents a unique opportunity to support initiatives to implement the results of the 1990 elections and strengthen free market principles and practices. The conferees have designated not less than $2,380,000 to support students, organizations, and ethnic groups, including the Karen, Karenni, and Kachin dedicated to these goals. The conferees direct AID and the Department of State, in consultation with the Congress, to prepare a report sixty days after enactment of this Act on a plan for the expenditure of these resources.

PRIVATE AND VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS

Amendment No. 20: Inserts Senate language allowing the Administrator of AID to waive, on a case-by-case basis, the requirement that no funds may be made available to private and voluntary organizations which obtain less than 20 percent of total funding for international activities from sources other than the United States government. The managers agree such authority should only be used in emergency or extraordinary situations, and that the Administrator should report to the Committees on Appropriations each time the waiver is used.

Amendment No. 21: Restores House language stating that funds appropriated or otherwise made available under title II should be made available to private and voluntary organizations at a level which is equivalent to the level provided in fiscal year 1995. This matter is also addressed in amendment no. 11.

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Amendment No. 22: Appropriates $181,000,000 for disaster assistance instead of $200,000,000 as proposed by the House and $175,000,000 as proposed by the Senate in amendment no. 29.

The conference agreement also inserts Senate language (proposed in amendment no. 29) providing that $40,000,000 should be made available for emergency humanitarian assistance in the former Yugoslavia (of which not less than $6,000,000 shall be available only for Kosova) and modifies such language to allow these funds to come from any appropriations account within title II of this Act.

DEBT RESTRUCTURING

Amendment No. 23: Deletes Senate language earmarking funds for ''Debt restricting'' from ''Economic Assistance'', and restores House language providing for a direct appropriation of such funds.

Amendment No. 24: Appropriates $10,000,000 for ''Debt Restructuring'' instead of $7,000,000 as proposed by the House or earmarking such funds from ''Economic Assistance'' as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement also restores House language allowing for debt restructuring of loans owed to the United States as a result of concessional loans made to eligible Latin American and Caribbean countries. The managers endorse the House report language regarding the need to reduce the debt burden on countries participating in debt restructuring, and expect individual reports on the expected new debt that would be assumed by any country proposed for such restructuring including the rationale justifying such additional debt.

MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Amendment No. 25: Appropriates $1,500,000 for subsidy costs of micro and small enterprise development loans and $500,000 for administrative expenses as proposed by the House instead of earmarking such funds from ''Economic Assistance'' as proposed by the Senate.

Although the conferees have not designated a specific funding level for microenterprise lending programs, the conferees note a strong bipartisan commitment to these activities. The conferees support the program's emphasis on micro-loans for self-employment as a means to lift the poorest people from poverty. The conferees believe that these programs promote sustainable, market-based development at relatively little cost and deserve support substantially consistent with last year's level. The conferees urge AID, consistent with its Microenterprise Initiative, to allocate up to one-half of its microenterprise funds to poverty lending programs that provide loans of less than $300.

Amendment No. 26: Inserts Senate language allowing up to 70 percent of the principal amount of a micro loan to be guaranteed notwithstanding section 108 of the Foreign Assistance Act.

Amendment No. 27: Inserts Senate language making funds available for obligation until September 30, 1997.

HOUSING GUARANTY PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Amendment No. 28: Appropriates $4,000,000 for the subsidy cost of guaranteed loans. The House had proposed no funding for this purpose, and the Senate had proposed $8,000,000, to be derived from funds appropriated in ''Economic Assistance''. The conference agreement also includes $7,000,000 as proposed by the House for the administrative costs of the housing guaranty program, instead of earmarking such funds from ''Economic Assistance'' as proposed by the Senate.

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE AND ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

Amendment No. 29: Deletes Senate language providing an appropriation of $175,000,000 for ''International Disaster Assistance'' and requiring that $40,000,000 of such funds should be made available for

emergency humanitarian assistance to the former Yugoslavia. These matters are addressed in amendment no. 22.

Also, deletes Senate language clarifying restrictions on assistance to Pakistan. This matter is addressed in amendment no. 145.

OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Amendment No. 30: Appropriates $465,750,000 for operating expenses of the Agency for International Development as proposed by the House instead of $490,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees expect the Committees on Appropriations to be informed any time prior to the exercise of the authority to use up to $25,000,000, as provided for under amendment no. 11, for purposes of section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act.

Amendment No. 31: Inserts language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate that would limit to $1,475,000 the amount of funds available for printing costs, and limit to $25,000 the cost of any individual report without the approval of the Administrator.

The conference agreement also includes new language, similar to Senate language from amendment no. 1, that would prohibit the use of any funds in this Act to relocate the Agency for International Development to the Federal Triangle. The managers expect AID to assess the need for such a move, and to report to the Committees on Appropriations on future plans for a move, if warranted, at a lower cost and with lower rental payments. The prohibitive cost of the proposed relocation to the Federal Triangle building, including exorbitant rental costs, was the primary reason for the decision to prohibit the use of funds for the move.

OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Amendment No. 32: Appropriates $30,200,000 for the operating expenses of the Inspector General as proposed by the Senate instead of $35,200,000 as proposed by the House and makes such funds available for two fiscal years. The managers anticipate that the Inspector General will use deobligated prior year funds in order to maintain an adequate program level.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

Amendment No.33: Deletes Senate language inserting ''Middle East Fund'', and restores House language designating the account ''Economic Support Fund''.

Amendment No. 34: Appropriates $2,340,000,000 for ''Economic Support Fund'' instead of $2,300,000,000 as proposed by the House and $2,015,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 35: Inserts language earmarking $1,200,000,000 for Israel on a grant basis and $815,000,000 for Egypt on a grant basis of which not less than $200,000,000 shall be provided by Commodity Import Program assistance, provides that the President assure such assistance does not cause an adverse impact on the total level of non-military exports from the United States to Israel and Egypt, links aid to Egypt and Israel in great measure to their continued participation in the Camp David Accords, and authorizes the use of local currency for increasing the endowment of the American University in Cairo and for projects and programs which promote the preservation and restoration of Egyptian antiquities. This assistance, which utilizes only local currency generated by our foreign assistance program, is a ''no-cost'' way of fostering U.S. values in a region of the world that is vital to our national interests. This will be the third time Congress has approved a replenishment for the A.U.C. endowment, and the second time Congress has approved assistance for the preservation of Egyptian antiquities. The managers expect the administration to utilize this authority by providing at least the amounts detailed in the legislation. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

Amendment No. 36: Restores House language which prohibits assistance to Zaire.

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND

Amendment No. 37: Appropriates up to $19,600,000 for the International Fund for Ireland as proposed by the House. The Senate bill did not contain a provision on this matter.

The conferees strongly urge the International Fund for Ireland to take every step possible to ensure that all recipients of Fund support are promoting equality of opportunity and non-discrimination in employment.

The conferees note the formation of a distance learning consortium that includes six universities from the United States, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Republic, and suggest that an allocation be provided for support of this service to business and investment in Ireland.

ASSISTANCE FOR EASTERN EUROPE AND THE BALTIC STATES

Amendment No. 38: Inserts a subsection designation as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 39: Appropriates $324,000,000 for ''Assistance for Eastern Europe and the Baltic States'' as propose by the House instead of $335,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 40: Inserts a subsection designation as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 41: Inserts a subsection designation as proposed by the Senate.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE NEW INDEPENDENT STATES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION

Amendment No. 42: Appropriates $641,000,000 for assistance for the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union (NIS) instead of $580,000,000 as proposed by the House and $705,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees expect that not more than $195,000,000 of the total amount made available under this heading should be provided to Russia in 1996 in consideration of the fact that Russia has been allocated more than 60 percent of the funds obligated under this heading since fiscal year 1993. This matter is addressed in amendment no. 47.

Amendment No. 43: Inserts House language regarding a presidential national security waiver that was deleted by the Senate, and modifies a reference to the Helsinki Final Act.

Amendment No. 44: Deletes Senate language permitting funds to be used for defense conversion.

Amendment No. 45: Inserts language requiring that projects in the NIS should employ in key positions individuals with prior experience in the region and relevant language skills, instead of requiring that organizations previously functioning in the region be given priority in grants and contracts as proposed by the House.

Amendment No. 46: Inserts language directing that the Agency for International Development encourage and give significant weight to cost-sharing in its awards of grants and contracts to assist privatization activities within the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union. The House language mandated cost-sharing on a 1 to 1 basis. The conference agreement is not intended to disadvantage private and voluntary organization, but to encourage, to the extent feasible, use of their own resources when implementing private sector programs.

OMNIBUS II PRIVATIZATION PROJECT CONTRACT

The managers support the open competition for contracts under the Omnibus II Privatization Project that resulted in an appreciable number of base contract awards to new and/or small businesses. However, they note that the actual number of task orders awarded to small and new contractors in disappointingly small. The managers direct USAID to take immediate measures to ensure that all awardees receive a fair proportion of task order awards and a chance to perform. A level playing field must be implemented for the competition process as many small and new businesses find it impossible to successfully compete for task orders against large and established USAID contractors. The use of dollar goals and competitions limited to new and/or small firms should be utilized, if necessary, to expand access beyond the Washington D.C. region. The Assistant Administrator for Europe and the New Independent States, in consultation with the Coordinator for Assistance to the NIS, should report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on progress toward opening the task order process to small businesses and firms not currently under USAID contract, no later than February 15, 1996.

Amendment No. 47: Inserts language providing various directives regarding the allocation and use of funds appropriated for assistance to Ukraine, Russia, Armenia and other independent states of the former Soviet Union. The House bill contained no provisions on this matter other than those addressed in amendments no. 151, 152, and 160.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate with regard to retention of interest by enterprise funds and language allowing any enterprise fund established with respect to more than one country to establish advisory councils in lieu of the appointment of host country nationals to its board of director.

The language also includes Senate provisions that not less than $225,000,000 shall be made available for Ukraine, not less than $85,000,000 shall be made available for Armenia, and that not less than $15,000,000 shall be made available for a Trans-Caucasus Enterprise Fund.

Obligation of funds for Russia is made contingent on a determination by the President that the Government of Russia has terminated implementation of arrangements to provide Iran with certain goods and services related to nuclear programs in Iran. The managers also included a provision allowing the President to waive the provisions of the subsection on national security grounds. The House had no similar provision.

The managers strongly support a program of assistance to the New Independent States that reflects a shift in emphasis toward Ukraine, Armenia, Moldova, Georgia, the Kyrgyz Republic, and other states that the United States is encouraging to move toward free markets and democracy.

Recent progress by Armenia in carrying out economic reforms is noted by the managers. Because of concern about the impact of the continuing economic blockade and conflict in the region, the conferees have provided $85,000,000 for technical and humanitarian assistance requested by the Government of Armenia, including food, fuel, and medical supplies and services. The managers expect the projects and activities undertaken under this subsection to be in addition to the projects and activities included in the 1996 congressional justification documents.

The managers support funding for the Russian, Eurasian, and East European Research and Training Program (Title VIII) from both the NIS and Eastern Europe and Baltic assistance accounts. The program is intended

to assure that broad-based regional expertise is available to both policy managers and the academic community. To the maximum extent possible, funding for this program is recommended at the fiscal year 1995 level. The conference agreement also assumes continuation of other graduate fellowship, partnership, and training projects in the region, such as the Central and Eastern European Graduate fellowship program. Regional student exchange programs, in general, should be distributed equitably among high school, college, and graduate categories.

NIS NON-PROLIFERATION

The managers agree that the Soviet-Designed Reactor Safety Program and implementation of the Russian agreement to cease production of weapons-grade plutonium are essential elements of our foreign and nonproliferation policies. In administering the NIS assistance programs, the Coordinator and AID are urged to expeditiously transfer funds to other federal agencies that are engaged in implementing these non-proliferation programs.

UKRAINE

The managers have provided $225,000,000 for Ukraine, conditioned on additional progress with respect to economic reform. Of this amount, $50,000,000 has been provided to reduce uncertainties in Ukraine's energy supply that have severely impeded its economic recovery and renewed development. The conference agreement assumes that $30,000,000 is to be expended for technical assistance in the energy sector, including assistance to develop regulatory institutions for managing the purchase, licensing, and use of nuclear fuel. The managers urge that none of these funds be used to purchase or pay for oil, natural gas, or nuclear fuel.

Historically, Ukraine has been dependent upon Russia for the technical management of nuclear facilities. As a result, during the Chernobyl crisis, local technicians were not sufficiently skilled, nor prepared to take any action independent of guidance from Moscow. Ongoing concern about the adequacy of safety measures and equipment in Ukraine's nuclear plants has motivated the conferees to recommend that $20,000,000 be made available to meet a request from the Government of Ukraine for the purchase, installation, and training to operate new display and control systems that have the capability to monitor and shut down a facility before a crisis occurs.

The managers have also provided $22,000,000 to strengthen small and medium businesses. Learning from the experience of Russia, the conferees conclude that mass privatization efforts alone do not generate sufficient jobs and income during a period of radical economic and social transition. The managers also support continued assistance to strengthen independent print and broadcast media that appear capable of becoming financially self-sufficient. The availability of accurate, timely information during the current period of transition is key to maintaining support of necessary economic and political reforms.

The conferees continue to view with concern the decision of the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) to impose restrictive quotas on textile imports from Ukraine. Testimony earlier this year before the House Committee by the Coordinator of United States Assistance in the New Independent States suggested that every effort should be undertaken to encourage a market economy in Ukraine.

CRIME IN EASTERN EUROPE AND RUSSIA

The managers have provided not less than $12,600,000 for activities in support of training and investigations related to international crime in Central and Eastern Europe, Ukraine and Russia. This is a minimum amount, and the coordinators of aid to Eastern Europe and the NIS should make this a top priority in allocating funds if additional amounts are required.

Corruption and violent crimes have increased markedly over the past year in much of the region, with estimates of many thousands of criminal organizations that are rapidly expanding narcotics smuggling, banking and insurance fraud, extortion and kidnapping activities into Western Europe and the United States. The conferees are particularly concerned about an escalation in the number of reported incidents of smuggling of fissile and nuclear-related materials that could be used by international terrorists.

The managers also inserted a provision allowing the President, under certain limited conditions, to provide only humanitarian assistance for the Government of Azerbaijan for the exclusive use of refugees and displaced persons within Azerbaijan.

INDEPENDENT AGENCY

Amendment No. 48: Inserts language providing for the heading ''Independent Agency'' instead of ''Independent Agencies'' as proposed by the House. The Senate amendment deleted the heading.

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Amendment No. 49: Deletes House language providing an appropriation of $11,500,000 for the African Development Foundation. This matter is further addressed in amendments no. 10 and 11.

INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

Amendment No. 50: Deletes House language providing an appropriation of $20,000,000 for the Inter-American Foundation. This matter is further addressed in amendments no. 10 and 11.

PEACE CORPS

Amendment No. 51: Appropriates $205,000,000 for the Peace Corps instead of $210,000,000 as proposed by the House and $200,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The managers expect that the Peace Corps and the Trade and Development Agency will receive by transfer from funds appropriated for assistance for the NIS the cost of fiscal year 1996 activities and operations in the NIS.

Amendment No. 52: Inserts Senate language making funds for the Peace corps available until September 30, 1997.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL

Amendment No. 53: Appropriates $115,000,000 for ''International Narcotics Control'' instead of $113,000,000 as proposed by the House and $150,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Authority to transfer additional funds to this account is provided in amendment no. 175.

Amendment No. 54: Deletes language proposed by the Senate earmarking $1,800,000 for a Federal Bureau of Investigation Legal Attaché office in Cairo, Egypt, and $5,000,000 for the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Secret Service to establish and maintain offices in the Triborder area of Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay.

MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

Amendment No. 55: Inserts language allowing the use of funds appropriated under this heading to be used for salaries and expenses of personnel and dependents as authorized by the Foreign Service Act of 1980, and for allowances as authorized by sections 5921 through 5925 of title 5, United States Code. Deletes language proposed by the Senate that would have allowed funds to be used for salaries and expenses of personnel assigned to the Bureau charged with carrying out the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act.

The managers agree that funds for salaries and expenses should be made available for the same purposes as they were made available under this heading in fiscal year 1995, and should not be made available for other purposes.

Since 1991 the United States has provided humanitarian assistance for Tibetan refugees living in exile, and the conferees expect that such support be continued.

Amendment No. 56: Inserts Senate language making available not more than $12,000,000 for administrative expenses.

Amendment No. 57: Deletes House language limiting funds for salaries and expenses of personnel assigned to the Bureau charged with carrying out the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act.

Amendment No. 58: Inserts Senate language earmarking not less than $80,000,000 for refugees from the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe and other refugees resettling in Israel. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE

Amendment No. 59: Appropriates $5,000,000 for ''Refugee Resettlement Assistance'' as proposed by the House. The Senate bill did not contain a provision on this matter.

ANTI-TERRORISM ASSISTANCE

Amendment No. 60: Appropriates $16,000,000 for ''Anti-Terrorism Assistance'' instead of $17,000,000 as proposed by the House and $15,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

TITLE III—MILITARY ASSISTANCE FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Amendment No. 61: Appropriates $39,000,000 as proposed by the House instead of $19,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The Senate supported full funding for IMET in fiscal year 1996 but proposed $19,000,000 from this Act and $20,000,000 from the Department of Defense.

Amendment No. 62: Inserts Senate language adding Guatemala as a nation prohibited from receiving IMET funding. This matter is also addressed in amendments no. 63 and 176.

Amendment No. 63: Deletes language proposed by the House permitting expanded IMET training only for Guatemala and retains House language permitting expanded IMET training only for Indonesia. The managers have agreed to permit ''expanded'' IMET assistance for Indonesia because they believe that expanded IMET could address some of the human rights concerns associated with the Indonesian military. The conferees expect the IMET courses to focus on human rights, military justice, and civilian management and control of the armed forces, and the courses should include members of the Indonesian legislature and representatives from nongovernmental organizations.

FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

Amendment No. 64: Appropriates $3,208,390,000 instead of $3,211,279,000 as proposed by the House and $3,207,500,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 65: Inserts Senate language earmarking not less than $1,800,000,000 for grants only for Israel and not less than $1,300,000,000 for grants only for Egypt. Retains language in both House and Senate bills directing that funds appropriated for Israel shall be disbursed within thirty days of enactment of this Act or by October 31, 1995, whichever is later. Inserts language proposed in both House and Senate bills making funds available for advanced weapons systems of which not less than $475,000,000 shall be

available for procurement in Israel of defense articles and services, including research and development, and deletes Senate language making funds available for advanced fighter aircraft programs and up to $150,000,000 for research and development in the United States.

Amendment No. 66: Inserts Senate language providing that funds made available under this paragraph shall be nonrepayable notwithstanding any requirement in section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act, and that up to $20,000,000 may be transferred from funds made available for the NIS and SEED for the purpose of supporting the Warsaw Initiative Program.

CENTRAL EUROPE

The conferees note that Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and the Slovak Republic are all considering the replacement of many of their Air Forces' high performance aircraft. The managers urge the Administration to take steps to ensure that U.S.-produced aircraft can compete effectively for these sales. For this reason, the conferees urge the administration to support any possible sale of high performance U.S. fighter aircraft to these nations.

Amendment No. 67: Inserts Senate language, ''the following:'' in order to conform the common dollar amounts provided by the House and Senate for Greece and Turkey to language changes made by amendments No. 68 and 70.

Amendment No. 68: Insert the word ''only'' as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 69: Strikes House language to conform with amendments no. 68 and 70 as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 70: Inserts the word ''only'' as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 71: Deletes Senate language related to access by international organizations.

ALIZA MARCUS

The managers are concerned that Aliza Marcus, a Reuters journalist and U.S. citizen, is being tried in Turkey on charges of ''provoking racial hatred'' for reporting on the Turkish military's forced evaluation and destruction of villages in southeastern Turkey. The conferees recognize Turkey's legitimate right to combat terrorism, and expect that the government of Turkey will protect freedom of expression and information by interceding with the military-sponsored State Security Courts on behalf of Aliza Marcus.

Amendment No. 72: Inserts a limitation of $23,250,000 for expenses for administering military assistance instead of $24,000,000 as provided by the House and $22,500,000 as proposed by the Senate.

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

Amendment No. 73: Appropriates $70,000,000 for ''Peacekeeping Operations'', instead of $68,300,000 as proposed by the House and $72,033,000 as proposed by the Senate, and inserts language proposed by the Senate subjecting the obligation and expenditure of such funds to the regular notification procedures of the Committee on Appropriations.

TITLE IV—MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Amendment No. 74: Appropriates $28,189,963 for the paid-in capital stock of the World Bank as proposed by the Senate instead of $23,009,000 as proposed by the House.

Amendment No. 75: Inserts Senate language conditioning obligation of funds to purchase paid-in capital stock of the World Bank upon certification from the Secretary of the Treasury that the Bank has not approved any loans to Iran since October 1, 1994.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

Amendment No. 76: Appropriates $35,000,000 for the Global Environmental Facility of the World Bank instead of $30,000,000 as proposed by the House and $50,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Amendment No. 77: Permits subscription for callable capital portion of the United States share of increases in the capital stock of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development totaling $911,475,013 as proposed by the Senate instead of $743,900,000 as proposed by the House.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Amendment No. 78: Appropriates $700,000,000 for the International Development Association instead of $575,000,000 as proposed by the House and $775,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION

Amendment No. 79: Appropriates $60,900,000 for the International Finance Corporation instead of $67,550,000 as proposed by the House and the Senate.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Amendment No. 80: Appropriates $25,952,110 for the paid-in capital of the Inter-American Development Bank as proposed by the Senate instead of $25,950,000 as proposed by the House, and $10,000,000 for the Fund for Special Operations instead of $20,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House did not recommend funding for the Fund for Special Operations.

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Amendment No. 81: Permits subscription for callable capital portion of the United States share of increases in the capital stock of the Inter-American Development Bank totaling $1,523,767,142 as proposed by the Senate instead of $1,523,000,000 as proposed by the House.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE ENTERPRISE FOR THE AMERICAS MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT FUND

Amendment No. 82: Appropriates $53,750,000 for the United States contribution to the Multilateral Investment Fund instead of $70,000,000 as proposed by the House and Senate.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Amendment No. 83: Appropriates $13,221,596 for the paid-in capital of the Asian Development Bank as proposed by the Senate instead of $13,200,000 as proposed by the House.

LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Amendment No. 84: Permits subscription for callable capital portion of the United States share of increases in the capital stock of the Asian Development Bank totaling $647,858,204 as proposed by the Senate instead of $647,000,000 as proposed by the House.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

Amendment No. 85: Appropriates $100,000,000 for the Asian Development Fund as proposed by the House instead of $110,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Amendment No. 86: Appropriates $70,000,000 for the paid-in capital of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development as proposed by the Senate instead of $69,180,000 as proposed by the House.

LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Amendment No. 87: Permits subscriptions for the callable capital portion of the United States share of increases in the capital stock of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development totaling $163,333,333 as proposed by the Senate instead of $161,400,000 as proposed by the House.

NORTH AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Amendment No. 88: Appropriates $56,250,000 for paid-in capital of the North American Development Bank as proposed by the House instead of $25,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The language also permits subscription for the callable capital portion of the United States share of increases in the capital stock of the North American Development Bank totaling $318,750,000 as proposed by the House and the Senate. The appropriation for the Multilateral Investment Fund contained in the Senate amendment is addressed in amendment no. 82.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS

Amendment No. 89: Appropriates $285,000,000 for ''International Organizations and Programs'' instead of $155,000,000 as proposed by the House and $260,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within these funds, the managers expect that $100,000,000 will be made available for a grant to UNICEF.

The conferees recognize the vital role UNDP plays as the coordinating agency for United Nations activities in support of sustainable development worldwide.

Amendment No. 90: Deletes an earmark of $3,000,000 for the World Food Program that was proposed by the Senate. The conferees urge the Secretary of State to provide $3,000,000 for the World Food Program in fiscal year 1996, the same amount prior conferees have urged in the past two statements of managers. The conferees recognize that the World Food Program plays an essential role in providing food and other aid to the neediest people in the world, especially in conflict zones such as Bosnia and parts of sub-Saharan Africa.

Amendment No. 91: Deletes Senate language on the proportionality of reductions as applied to funding for the United Nations Development Program, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Environment Program, and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Amendment No. 92: Inserts a limitation of $30,000,000 on funds for the United Nations Population Fund, instead of $25,000,000 as proposed by the House and $35,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 93: Deletes Senate language earmarking not less than $1,000,000 for the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

Amendment No. 94: Inserts language providing that funds may be made available to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) for administrative expenses and heavy fuel oil costs associated with the Agreed Framework. No funds are available for KEDO funding for administrative expenses and heavy fuel oil costs beyond the total amount included for KEDO in the fiscal year 1996 congressional presentation. The conference agreement further provides that these funds may only be made available if the President determines and certifies in

writing to the Congress that certain specific actions have been undertaken in support of the Agreed Framework with North Korea. The managers agree that none of the funds in this bill that are made available for KEDO in fiscal year 1996 may be used to contribute to the lightwater nuclear reactors being provided to North Korea under the terms of the Agreed Framework. This matter is also addressed in amendment no. 164.

Amendment No. 95: Deletes Senate language earmarking $1,500,000 for the United Nations Fund for Victims of Torture. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

The conferees urge the Secretary of State to provide a total of $2,250,000 for the United Nations Fund for Victims of Torture and the United Nations Development Fund for Women in fiscal 1996.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

LIMITATION ON EXPENSES

Amendment No. 96: Restores House language providing a limitation of $5,000 on entertainment expenses for the Agency for International Development.

LIMITATION ON REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES

Amendment No. 97: Restores House language providing a limitation of $2,000 on entertainment expenses associated with ''Foreign Military Financing Program''.

Amendment No. 98: Deletes language proposed by the Senate limiting funds for entertainment expenses of the Inter-American Foundation.

Amendment No. 99: Restores House language providing a limitation of $2,000 on entertainment and representation expenses of the Inter-American Foundation.

Amendment No. 100: Restores House language providing a limitation of $4,000 on entertainment expenses of the Peace Corps.

Amendment No. 101: Deletes language proposed by the Senate limiting funds for entertainment expenses of the Trade and Development Agency.

Amendment No. 102: Restores House language providing a limitation of $2,000 on representation and entertainment expenses of the Trade and Development Agency.

DEOBLIGATION/REOBLIGATION AUTHORITY

Amendment No. 103: Inserts Senate language providing for a new subsection designation.

Amendment No. 104: Inserts Senate language which provides that fiscal year 1994 FMF obligated balances, if deobligated, will remain available during fiscal year 1995 for the same purposes, and further that this authority may not be used in fiscal year 1996.

COMMERCE AND TRADE

Amendment No. 105: Inserts Senate language regarding notifications on actions authorized by this section.

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Amendment No. 106: Inserts language subjecting ''Development Assistance'' to the notification requirements of this section. The House had proposed that such requirements be applied to ''Child Survival and Disease Programs Fund'', ''Development Assistance Fund'', and ''Development Fund for Africa''. The Senate had deleted these accounts from the notification requirements and had inserted a new account, ''Economic Assistance''. The notification requirements now conform to the account structure contained in the conference agreement.

Amendment No. 107: Restores House language which includes ''Economic Support Fund'' in the notification requirements of section 515.

Amendment No. 108: Restores House language which subjected ''Inter-American Foundation'' and ''African Development Foundation'' to the notification requirements of section 515.

Amendment No. 109: Deletes Senate language which added ''Middle East Fund'' to the notification requirements of section 515.

Amendment No. 110: Deletes House language which subjected ''United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund'' to the notification requirements of section 515.

Amendment No. 111: Inserts Senate language reducing to 10 percent the threshold triggering a notification for changes in the amount of funds to be obligated from the level justified to the Congress for any program, project, or activity. This modification conforms with the threshold currently contained in the Foreign Assistance Act.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND ASSISTANCE FOR ISRAEL

Amendment No. 112: Inserts the House language ''Support Fund'' which was deleted by the Senate.

Amendment No. 113: Deletes the Senate language ''economic assistance'' and reinserts the House language ''the Economic Support Fund'' which was deleted by the Senate.

PROHIBITION CONCERNING ABORTIONS AND INVOLUNTARY STERILIZATION

Amendment No. 114: Inserts Senate language striking ''Concerning Abortions'' from the heading of the section and inserting ''On Funding for Abortions''.

Amendment No. 115: Reported in disagreement.

SPECIAL NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Amendment No. 116: Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate making Indonesia subject to the special notification requirements of section 520.

Amendment No. 117: Restores language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate that would subject assistance to Russia to the special notification requirements of section 520.

Amendment No. 118: Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate that exempts Indonesia from the special notification requirements of section 520 for the purpose of obligating or expending funds for development assistance activities. This exemption is no longer necessary, since Indonesia is no longer subject to the special notification requirements of section 520.

CHILD SURVIVAL AND AIDS ACTIVITIES

Amendment No. 119: Deletes Senate language inserting the words ''Family Planning'' in the heading of this section.

PROHIBITION AGAINST DIRECT FUNDING TO CERTAIN COUNTRIES

Amendment No. 120: Deletes Senate language requiring the President to certify that withholding indirect funding for certain countries would be contrary to the national security interest of the United States prior to the obligation of funds. The conference agreement would require the certification to be made based on the national interest of the United States.

AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENT

Amendment No. 121: Inserts Senate language waiving the provisions of section 10 of Public Law 91–672 and section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 for funds appropriated by this Act. The House bill would have subjected the funds to the provisions of these sections.

SUPPORT FOR AUTHORIZATION PROCESS

The managers regret that they must recommend waiving the statutory authorization requirement for most programs in this bill in order to avoid passing what would be in effect a partial year appropriation.

The Committees on International Relations and Foreign Relations have gone to great lengths this year to end the decade-long stalemate over foreign aid authorizations. The majority of the managers have supported that effort and will continue to do so. Only through the enactment of an authorization bill for foreign aid will the Committees on Appropriations be able to benefit from formal legislative guidance as they apportion the spending allocations for programs under their jurisdiction.

Under the current situation, in which the House has passed an authorization for foreign assistance and the Senate is attempting to complete action on its counterpart measure under an agreement to limit time for further consideration, the managers have been asked by members of authorization committees to include in the conference report substantial legislation such as the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act and the NATO Participation Act, as well as extension of the au pair program. In addition, the managers have gone to some effort to conform spending levels to authorization levels passed by the House or reported in the Senate, taking into consideration that the two authorization bills contain differing ceilings in many accounts.

PROHIBITION ON BILATERAL ASSISTANCE TO TERRORIST COUNTRIES

Amendment No. 122: Inserts Senate language prohibiting bilateral assistance to terrorist countries.

COMMERCIAL LEASING OF DEFENSE ARTICLES

Amendment No. 123: Deletes an excess ''and''.

COMPETITIVE INSURANCE

Amendment No. 124: Inserts Senate language requiring the Agency for International Development to include a clause in all contracts, subcontracts, and solicitations, requiring that United States insurance companies have a fair opportunity to bid for insurance when such insurance is necessary or appropriate.

STINGERS IN THE PERSIAN GULF REGION

Amendment No. 125: Restores House language prohibiting the sale of Stingers to Persian Gulf nations.

LOCATION OF STOCKPILES

Amendment No. 126: Deletes House language and inserts Senate provisions which amend the Arms Export Control Act with respect to the competitive pricing of defense articles, make Israel eligible for future stockpile additions without further statutory authorization, authorize additional funds for South Korea and Thailand for each of fiscal years 1996 and 1997, and permit the President to designate additional countries for establishment of stockpiles without requiring further statutory authorization.

COMPLIANCE WITH UNITED STATES SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAQ

Amendment No. 127: Restores House language providing a subsection heading.

Amendment No. 128: Restores House language which allows the President to impose import sanctions against nations which have not prohibited the importation of products from and the export of products to Iraq, Serbia, or Montenegro.

POW/MIA MILITARY DRAWDOWN

Amendment No. 129: Deletes Senate language authorizing the appropriation of such sums as may be necessary to provide reimbursement for defense articles and services provided under this section.

PRIORITY DELIVERY OF EQUIPMENT

Amendment No. 130: Deletes Senate language requiring priority delivery of excess defense articles to NATO allies and major

non-NATO allies on the southern and southeastern flank of NATO.

AUTHORITY TO ASSIST BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

Amendment No. 131: Inserts Senate language authorizing the President to transfer to the government of Bosnia-Hercegovina, without reimbursement and subject to prior notification of the Committees on Appropriations, defense articles from the stocks of the Defense Department and defense services of the Department of Defense of an aggregate value not to exceed $100,000,000. The House bill contained a limitation of $50,000,000 on the value of such articles and services.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

Amendment No. 132: Inserts language allowing the President to waive the provisions of section 540A only for the purposes of meeting emergency humanitarian assistance or to achieve a negotiated settlement of the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina that is acceptable to the parties.

In addition, the conference agreement includes language proposed by the Senate expanding the authority of section 660(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act to allow police training with respect to sanctions monitoring and enforcement, and to reconstitute civilian police authority under certain circumstances. The conferees recognize that there may be instances when there is no practical alternative to utilizing U.S. military personnel to conduct short-term training of civilian police. The conferees intend that any such use of U.S. military personnel for police training should be on a limited, short-term basis.

SPECIAL AUTHORITIES

Amendment No. 133: Deletes Haiti from the list of countries and programs for which funds are made available notwithstanding any other provision of law, as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 134: Restores House language, stricken by the Senate, that would have deleted displaced Burmese from the list of countries and programs for which funds are made available notwithstanding any other provision of law.

Amendment No. 135: Inserts language which requires the President to terminate assistance to the military of any country or organization that he determines is cooperating, tactically or strategically, with the Khmer Rouge in their military operations, or to the military of which the President determines is not taking steps to prevent a pattern or practice of commercial relations with the Khmer Rouge. The conferees are concerned by reports that Thai military personnel are engaging in cooperative commercial relations with the Khmer Rouge in the export of timber and gems. The conferees believe that meaningful efforts should be made by the government of Thailand and the Thai military to halt this source of income for the Khmer Rouge.

ANTI-NARCOTICS ACTIVITIES

Amendment No. 136: Restores House language allowing funds appropriated in ''Economic Support Fund'' to be used for administration of justice programs in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Senate language would have stricken the reference to ''Economic Support Fund'' and replaced it with a reference to ''Economic Assistance''. The disposition of this amendment conforms with the conference agreement on the account structure for bilateral assistance.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE

Amendment No. 137: Deletes Senate language referring to titles I and II of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954.

EARMARKS

Amendment No. 138: Inserts Senate language governing the application of earmarks contained in the conference agreement. The House bill did not contain this language, since it contained no earmarks.

CEILINGS

Amendment No. 139: Inserts Senate language changing the heading to include the words ''and Earmarks''.

EXCESS DEFENSE ARTICLES

Amendment No. 140: Deletes House provision which requires that excess defense articles transferred to Jordan be subject to section 534 of this Act and inserts language making Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania eligible for receipt of lethal excess defense articles.

Amendment No. 141: Deletes Senate language which allows the President to transfer lethal excess defense articles to Estonia. This matter is addressed in amendment No. 140.

PROHIBITION ON PUBLICITY OR PROPAGANDA

Amendment No. 142: Inserts language limiting use of funds for development education to $750,000,000 instead of a funding prohibition as proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate.

EXPORT FINANCING TRANSFER AUTHORITIES

Amendment No. 143: Deletes Senate Language changing the reference for export financing agencies from title I to title IV. Title I of the bill contains the funding for export financing agencies.

LANDMINES

Amendment No. 144: Inserts Senate language which amends the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1993 to extend by one year the existing moratorium on transfers of antipersonnel landmines under the authorities of the Foreign Assistance Act and the Arms Export Control Act.

PAKISTAN

Amendment No. 145: Deletes House language requiring a GAO report, and inserts language which amends section 620E of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 regarding Pakistan as follows: allows the transfer of military equipment to Pakistan (other than F–16 aircraft) contracted for prior to October 1, 1990; provides that the restrictions in section 620E continue to apply to contracts for the delivery of F–16 aircraft; provides that the prohibitions in section 620E do not apply to assistance provided for counternarcotics purposes, military to military contact, IMET training, humanitarian and civic assistance, peacekeeping (except that lethal military equipment can only be leased or loaned), and antiterrorism activities; and provides further that the President may release Pakistan of storage costs for item purchased but not delivered and may reimburse Pakistan for such amounts paid provided that such payments have no budgetary impact.

The conferees believe that in light of this important administration policy initiative, the administration should provide to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than April 1, 1996, a report on conventional force reduction and non-proliferation in south Asia. This report should include an assessment of the strategic and conventional balance in the region, efforts taken by the United States to achieve regional agreement on nuclear non-proliferation and conventional force reductions, the role of United States aid in achieving these objectives, and progress being made by nations in the region in meeting U.S. non-proliferation objectives. This report should be unclassified to the extent possible, with a classified addendum if required.

The conferees also note that the State Department has determined that the Pressler amendment prohibition applies to government to government sales of military equipment while the commercial sale of military equipment is subject to especially rigorous case by case license review. The conferees believe that certain items which may promote border security and stability, such as border surveillance equipment, radar, and radar warning receivers should be reviewed, consistent with current law, in light of their contribution as confidence building measures contributing to security in border areas in the region.

RESTRICTIONS CONCERNING THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

Amendment No. 146: Inserts Senate language replacing the word ''subsection'' with the word ''restriction''.

LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES THAT RESTRICT THE TRANSPORT OR DELIVERY OF UNITED STATES HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Amendment No. 147: Restores House language stricken by the Senate which prohibits funds for any country if the government of such country prohibits or otherwise restricts, directly or indirectly, the transport or delivery of United States humanitarian assistance and further provides the President waiver authority if he determines it to be in the national security interest. This matter is addressed in amendment No. 174.

NON-OVERTIME DIFFERENTIAL PAY

Amendment No. 148: Deletes language proposed by the Senate that would allow a Foreign Service Officer who is a criminal investigator for the AID Office of Inspector General to receive non-overtime differential pay.

REFERENCES TO AUTHORIZATION ACTS

Amendment No. 149: Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate identifying the authorization sources for the ''Child Survival and Disease Programs Fund''. The conference agreement does not contain such an account.

PROHIBITION ON FUNDING FOR ABORTION

Amendment No. 150: Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate.

The managers on the part of the House agree to recede from their disagreement in a technical sense only. The substance of the House amendment will be addressed by the House managers during further consideration by the House of amendment no. 115, an amendment in disagreement.

WITHHOLDING OF ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES SUPPORTING NUCLEAR PLANT IN CUBA

Amendment No. 151: Inserts Senate language providing a subsection designation and heading for the first subsection.

Amendment No. 152: Inserts language providing for several exceptions to the withholding of funds to any country that supports the completion of the nuclear facility at Juragua, near Cienfuegos, Cuba. The exceptions include assistance to meet urgent humanitarian needs, including disaster assistance and refugee relief; democratic political reform and rule of law activities; the creation of private sector and nongovernmental organizations that are independent of government control; the development of a free market economic system; and assistance for the purposes described in the Cooperative Threat Reduction Act of 1993 (Nunn-Lugar). The conference agreement deletes subsection (c) of the Senate amendment, regarding definitions.

LIMITATION ON FUNDS FOR HAITI

Amendment No. 153: Restores House language stricken by the Senate prohibiting assistance for Haiti when it is made known to

the President that the Government of Haiti is controlled by a regime holding power through means other than the democratic elections scheduled for calendar year 1995 and held in substantial compliance with the requirements of the 1987 Constitution of Haiti.

PURCHASE OF AMERICAN MADE EQUIPMENT AND PRODUCTS

Amendment No. 154: Restores House language stricken by the Senate that expresses the Sense of the Congress that all equipment and products purchased with funds made available by this Act should be American-made. The language also requires that, to the greatest extent practicable, each entity receiving financial assistance or funding through this Act should be provided a notice describing the Sense of the Congress provision.

LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY

Amendment No. 155: Inserts a limitation of $33,500,000 for ESF for Turkey instead of the House limitation of $21,000,000.

LIMITATION OF FUNDS FOR THE NORTH AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Amendment No. 156: Inserts language limiting the use of community adjustment and investment programs of the North American Development Bank to those set out in the binational agreement under which the Bank was established. The Senate bill contained no provision on this matter.

The managers direct that funds appropriated for the North American Development Bank's Community Adjustment and Investment Program (CAIP) be limited to the purposes as defined in the binational agreement establishing the Bank, specifically adjustment assistance and investment relate to trade. The conferees expect CAIP funds to be restricted to communities or businesses that can clearly demonstrate adverse foreign trade-induced economic impact and that otherwise cannot secure financing from commercial lenders. It is further expected that projects in trade-impacted communities should focus on job creation, job retention, and retooling.

The managers do not recommend funding for the Bank in order for it to serve as a pass-through for existing federal programs. The managers oppose the use of CAIP funds for personnel or operating expenses of other federal entities participating in CAIP projects. The Committees on Appropriations will closely monitor compliance with these directives when considering fiscal year 1997 funding for the Bank.

To increase accountability, the managers recommend that the North American Development Bank make the final determination regarding both CAIP eligibility criteria and endorsement of projects for financing on a case-by-case basis.

LIMITATION ON FUNDS FOR BURMA

Amendment No. 157: Restores House language stricken by the Senate prohibiting funds in this Act from being used for international narcotics control or crop substitution assistance for the government of Burma. The Senate amendment would have allowed such assistance if the Secretary of State certified that it was fully consistent with United States human rights concerns in Burma and serve a vital United States national interest. The Senate amendment also extended to such assistance the reporting requirements of chapter 8 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Amendment No. 158: Inserts language to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to subscribe to the fourth general capital increase of the Asian Development Bank and authorizes appropriations of $66,614,647 over the multi-year period. Also, inserts a new section 572 providing the authority for the Secretary of the Treasury to make a contribution of $700,000,000 to the International Development Association. The amount is the same as the appropriation for IDA in amendment no. 78.

SPECIAL DEBT RELIEF FOR THE POOREST

Amendment No. 159: Inserts language proposed by the Senate authorizing the President to reduce debt provided to certain countries under the Foreign Assistance Act and the Arms Export Control Act. In addition, the conference agreement inserts language authorizing the President to engage in debt buybacks and sales, including debt-for-equity swaps, debt-for-development swaps, or debt-for-nature swaps. The inclusion of such language is consistent with the House language contained in the conference agreement on ''Debt Restructuring'' in amendment no. 24.

LIMITATION ON FUNDS FOR RUSSIA

Amendment No. 160: Strikes House language limiting the amount of fund under the heading ''Assistance for the New Independent States of the Former Soviet Union'' that may be made available for Russia as proposed by the Senate. The managers expect that not more than $195,000,000 of the total amount made available in this bill for the former Soviet Union should be provided to Russia in fiscal year 1996.

LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO MEXICO

Amendment No. 161: Deletes language contained in the House bill and stricken by the Senate limiting assistance to Mexico.

The managers expect the United States government to continue to urge the government of Mexico to take actions to reduce the amount of illegal drug entering the United States from Mexico, and to take effective law enforcement actions to deal with illegal drugs activities, especially illegal narcotics trafficking.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN ETHIOPIA

Amendment No. 162: Deletes House language requiring the State Department to closely monitor and take into account human rights progress in Ethiopia as it obligates fiscal year 1996 assistance for that country. The managers expect the Department of State to continue to be attentive to this important issue.

BASIC EDUCATION OF CHILDREN

Amendment No. 163: Deletes House language providing that not more than $108,000,000 from the AID ''Children and Disease Programs Fund'' may be used for basic education for children. The conference agreement does not contain such a fund.

KOREAN PENINSULA ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Amendment No. 164: Deletes Senate language. This matter is addressed in amendment no. 94.

DRAWDOWN AUTHORITY FOR JORDAN

Amendment No. 165: Inserts Senate language which provides that the President may direct the drawdown of up to $100,000,000 of defense articles, service and training from the Department of Defense for Jordan.

An important opportunity exists to promote the ongoing Arab-Israeli peace process which the administration can seize without the need for additional appropriated funds. Jordan's signing of a treaty of peace with Israel and its break with Iraq has now exposed Jordan to the risks of peace. Jordan's assumption of these burdens should be acknowledged by including Jordan with Israel and Egypt for the statutory designation of a major ''non-NATO'' ally. Further, the administration should honor this increased risk to Jordan's security brought about by its break with Iraq and accepting peace with Israel by carefully reviewing the Government of Jordan's request to acquire up to 80 Egyptian-American built M1A1 tanks to address its near-term security needs.

FEDERAL PROHIBITION OF FEMALE GENITAL MULTILATION

Amendment No. 166: Deletes Senate language amending chapter 7 of title 18, United States Code, imposing fines and criminal penalties on those who violate the provisions of the proposed amendment regarding female mutilation. The Senate amendment would have also required the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct information and education activities regarding female mutilation.

The managers urge the authorization committees of the Congress to review this issue as soon as possible, and to report legislation as appropriate.

LIBERIA

Amendment No. 167: Inserts language, amending Public Law 102–270, that would exempt Liberia from the provisions of section 620(q) of the Foreign Assistance Act and section 512 of this Act. The new language would exempt assistance to Liberia from provisions of these sections for funds appropriated in this Act. The Senate amendment would have provided a permanent exemption for Liberia from these sections, and also included language expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the peace process in Liberia. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

ANNUAL REPORT ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GROWTH

Amendment No. 168: Inserts language which requires the President to submit an annual report to the appropriate committees providing a concise overview of the prospects for economic and social growth on a broad, equitable and sustainable basis in countries receiving assistance under title II of this Act, to include criteria regarding wage and price controls, State ownership production and distribution, State control of financial institutions, trade and investment, capital and profit repatriation, tax and private property protections and a country's commitment to stimulate education, health and human development. The report shall be submitted with the Administration's annual congressional presentation for appropriations.

BUY AMERICA PROVISIONS FOR MAPPING & SURVEYING SERVICES

Amendment No. 169: Inserts Senate language requiring that, to the maximum extent possible, the funds provided in this Act shall be used to provide surveying and mapping related services through contracts entered into through competitive bidding to qualified United States contractors. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

ENERGY SAVINGS AT FEDERAL FACILITIES

Amendment No. 170: Deletes Senate language requiring agencies funded in this Act to achieve certain specified energy savings. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

REPORTS REGARDING HONG KONG

Amendment No. 171: Inserts language requiring a March 31, 1996 report on Hong Kong consistent with the provisions of the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, and includes Senate language regarding the content of said report. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

HONDURAS

Amendment No. 172: Deletes Senate language regarding Honduras.

The conferees note that during the 1980's, a secret Honduran army death squad known as Battalion 316 allegedly engaged in a campaign of systematically kidnapping, torturing and murdering suspected subversives. Victims included Honduran students, teachers, labor leaders, and journalists. Also, in 1993 there were reportedly 184 unsolved cases of persons who were allegedly ''disappeared'', and are presumed dead. The conferees urge the President to order the expedited declassification of any documents in the possession of the United States Government pertaining to persons who allegedly ''disappeared'' in Honduras, and promptly make such documents available to Honduran authorities who are seeking to determine the fate of these individuals.

REPORT ON RUSSIAN MILITARY OPERATIONS

Amendment No. 173: Deletes Senate language which requires the President to declassify and resubmit to the Congress no later than three months after the date of enactment a report on Russian military operations as required by section 528 of Public Law 103–236.

The conferees request that the Administration submit to Congress a declassified version of the report submitted pursuant to section 528 of P.L. 103–236. The conferees understand declassification will be to the maximum extent possible.

The report shall also provide an unclassified assessment of: (a) Russian compliance with the Russian-Moldovan agreement of October 24, 1994; (b) allegations of Russian involvement in the September 1994 coup attempt against the Azerbaijan government; (c) the Russian deployment of troops of the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Interior, or any other security agency to secure the borders of the New Independent States (NIS) of the former Soviet Union; (d) Russian efforts to integrate the security, defense and intelligence forces of the government of the NIS; and (e) compliance with the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe.

LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES THAT RESTRICT THE TRANSPORT OF DELIVERY OF UNITED STATES HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Amendment No. 174: Deletes Senate language which prohibits funds for any country if the government of such country prohibits or otherwise restricts, directly or indirectly, the transport or delivery of United States humanitarian assistance. This matter is addressed in amendment No. 147.

Amendment No. 175: Inserts language providing that up to $20,000,000 of the funds made available through ''Development Assistance'' or ''Economic Support Fund'' may be transferred to ''International Narcotics Control''. Senate language would have required such a transfer from funds made available to the Agency for International Development. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

GUATEMALA

Amendment No. 176: Deletes Senate language and inserts new language which allows the Guatemalan military to receive expanded IMET only, or FMF funds only if the President certifies that the Guatemalan military is cooperating with efforts to resolve human rights abuses. The prohibitions included in this section shall not apply to funds made available to implement a cease-fire or peace agreement. Any funds made available are subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations. This matter is addressed in amendment No. 63.

The conferees commend the Guatemalan President for his efforts to negotiate a peaceful settlement of the civil war in Guatemala and to improve respect for human rights and the rule of law. The conferees are disturbed by reports that members of the military and security forces continue to commit human rights abuses including several cases involving American citizens. The conferees have included a provision which conditions aid to the military and security forces on their cooperation in resolving human rights abuses which their members are alleged to have committed, ordered or attempted to thwart the investigation of. The conferees intend that the cases listed in the April 7, 1995 bipartisan letter to President Clinton by twelve members of the U.S. Senate, as well as the murder of U.S. Ambassador John Gordon Mein, should be among those of particular concern.

PERU AND NARCOTICS

Amendment No. 177: Deletes Senate language making a number of findings regarding actions by the government of Peru involving illegal drug activities, and expressing the sense of the Senate on the provision of military equipment to Peru for drug interdiction activities. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY

Amendment No. 178: Deletes Senate language earmarking $5,000,000 of ESF funds for Turkey to promote economic growth, cultural and ethnic tolerance, human rights activities, and non-governmental organizations in southeastern Turkey.

HONG KONG ELECTIONS

Amendment No. 179: Deletes Senate language making a number of findings regarding elections in Hong Kong, and expressing the sense of the Congress regarding various aspects of these elections. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THAILAND

Amendment No. 180: Deletes Senate sense of the Senate language regarding the Government of Thailand's relations with the Khmer Rouge.

EXTENSION OF TIED AID CREDIT PROGRAM

Amendment No. 181: Inserts Senate language extending through 1997 the authority of the Export-Import Bank to conduct tied aid credit programs. Deletes Senate language authorizing a demonstration project.

CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS REVIEW

Amendment No. 182: Inserts Senate language which requires that for a period of one year beginning three years after the date of enactment of this Act, the United States shall not use antipersonnel landmines except along internationally recognized national borders or in demilitarized zones within a perimeter marked area that is monitored by military personnel and protected by adequate means to ensure the exclusion of civilians. The managers agree that this issue must be closely monitored in the period leading up to the moratorium's implementation and that the case of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, must be carefully reviewed in light of the moratorium's application to this especially sensitive facility.

The conferees recognize the global crisis caused by unexploded landmines. According to the Department of State, there are an estimated 80,000,000 to 110,000,000 landmines deployed in 62 countries. As a result, the conferees urge the President to actively encourage other governments to join the U.S. in solving the global landmine problem by implementing moratoria on the use of antipersonnel landmines similar to the U.S. moratorium as a step toward the elimination of antipersonnel landmines.

The conferees recommend that the U.S. should not sell, license for export, or otherwise transfer defense articles and services to any foreign government which, as determined by the President, sells, exports or otherwise transfers antipersonnel landmines.

EXTENSION OF AU PAIR PROGRAMS

Amendment No. 183: Inserts language extending the authority for the Au Pair program of the U.S. Information Agency through fiscal year 1996. The Senate amendment would have extended such authority through fiscal year 1998. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENT

Amendment No. 184: Deletes Senate language regarding authorization requirements for funds provided in this Act. This matter is addressed in amendment no. 121.

CROATIAN-AMERICAN ENTERPRISE FUND

Amendment No. 185: Deletes Senate language authorizing the creation of a Croatian-American Enterprise Fund. The language would also have earmarked $12,000,000 for such fund from ''Assistance for Eastern Europe and the Baltic States''.

SANCTIONS AGAINST COUNTRIES HARBORING WAR CRIMINALS

Amendment No. 186: Inserts language that would not allow funds appropriated in this Act to be made available for the government of any country that is knowingly granting sanctuary to war criminals. Such criminals would include those indicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia or the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, or Nazi war criminals. The Senate language would have restricted bilateral and multilateral assistance provided in such fiscal year for any country which harbored war criminals. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

RUSSIAN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CFE TREATY AND PRIORITIES FOR MODIFYING EXISTING ARMS AGREEMENTS

Amendment No. 187: Deletes Senate language. The conferees consider compliance with the terms of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) an important priority in U.S. relations with the Russian Federation. The conferees believe the Treaty provides adequate means by which the Russian Federation can meet its military requirements for treaty limited equipment in the flank zones defined by Article V of the Treaty. The conferees strongly believe that efforts by the Government of Russia to modify CFE Treaty obligations, including those regarding movement or deployment of treaty limited equipment on the flanks, must be resolved through negotiations, not unilateral reinterpretation/

Amendment No. 188: This matter is dealt with in Amendment no. 192.

LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO HAITI

Amendment No. 189: Deletes Senate language and inserts language which prohibits the availability of funds for Haiti unless the President determines that the government of Haiti is conducting thorough investigations of political and extrajudicial killings and cooperating with U.S. authorities in the investigation of political and extrajudicial killings. The managers agree that nothing in subsection (a) shall be construed to restrict the provision of humanitarian or electoral assistance to Haiti. The President may waive the requirements of this section if he determines and certifies to the appropriate committees of Congress that it is the national interest of the United States or necessary to ensure the safe and timely withdrawal of American forces from Haiti.

LIMITATION ON FUNDS TO THE TERRITORY OF THE BOSNIA-CROAT FEDERATION

Amendment No. 190: Inserts Senate language limiting United States assistance to

Bosnia and Herzegovina (other than refugee and disaster assistance, and assistance for restoration of certain infrastructure) to the territory of the Bosnia-Croat Federation. The House bill contained no provision on this matter.

PLAN RECOMMENDING A STRATEGIC REORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Amendment No. 191: Deletes Senate language requiring a plan for a strategic reorganization of the United Nations.

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, the conferees concur with the Administration's stated intention to implement significant management and financial reforms. Accordingly the conferees request a report to be submitted in conjunction with the fiscal year 1997 budget request regarding reorganization of the United Nations. The report should include proposals to achieve (a) reductions in the number of agencies within the UN system including proposals to abolish, consolidate or restructure financing mechanisms for agencies with low priority; (b) the identification and strengthening of core agencies; (c) the increased cooperation and elimination of duplication between UN headquarters and offices in Geneva and the merger of technical cooperation functions of various UN agencies; (d) the consolidation of the UN emergency response mechanisms by merging functions in relevant agencies; and (e) improvements in the administrative and management capabilities of the Secretary General.

NATO PARTICIPATION ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1995

Amendment No. 192: Inserts language which amends the NATO Participation Act of 1994 and provides that the President should evaluate the degree to which any country emerging from communist domination which has expressed its interest in joining NATO meets certain specified criteria. The President may within 60 days designate one or more of these countries as eligible to receive assistance under the program established by the NATO Participation Act of 1994.

TITLE VI—MIDDLE EAST PEACE FACILITATION ACT OF 1995

Inserts additional language to the Senate proposed ''Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1995'' (which extends the authority of the President to waive certain provisions of law to facilitate the provision of U.S. assistance in support of the Middle East peace process). The House provisions increase accountability and provide additional detailed oversight over the provision of U.S. funds in support of the Middle East peace process, either directly or indirectly, to the P.L.O., the Palestinian Authority, and successor entities. The managers further agree to extend the President's authority to suspend certain provisions of law from twelve months to eighteen months.

The managers believe that the information provided pursuant to section 604(b)(5)(E) should be as extensive as possible and in accordance with AID's normal accounting practices. With respect to section 604(b)(5)(F), this section does not require a detailed listing of all statements of senior officials of the PLO, the Palestinian Authority and successor entities but rather an assessment of such statements, with attribution of those specific statements which best reflects the issues of concern described in this subparagraph. The managers also note that the reference to Jerusalem in section 604(c)(9) is not intended to suggest that the Palestinian Authority will operate in Jerusalem under the Interim Agreement; rather this section emphasizes the managers' concern that the PLO not purport to affect the status of Jerusalem.

TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS AGAINST BURMA, AND COUNTRIES ASSISTING BURMA, UNLESS BURMA OBSERVES HUMAN RIGHTS AND PERMITS POLITICAL FREEDOM

Amendment No. 193: Deletes Senate language imposing sanctions against Burma and countries assisting Burma.

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 1996 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 1995 amount, the 1996 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 1996 follow:

New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1995	$13,654,521,750
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority fiscal year 1996	14,773,904,666
House bill, fiscal year 1996	11,901,375,000
Senate bill, fiscal year 1996	12,413,914,000
Conference agreement, fiscal year 1996	12,103,536,669
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1995	−1,550,985,081
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1996	−2,670,367,997
House bill, fiscal year 1996	+202,161,669
Senate bill, fiscal year 1996	−310,377,331

SONNY CALLAHAN,
JOHN EDWARD PORTER,
BOB LIVINGSTON,
JIM LIGHTFOOT,
FRANK R. WOLF,
RON PACKARD,
JOE KNOLLENBERG,
MICHAEL FORBES,
JIM BUNN,
CHARLES WILSON,
SIDNEY R. YATES,
NANCY PELOSI,
ESTEBAN E. TORRES,
DAVID OBEY,
Managers on the part of the House.

MITCH MCCONNELL,
ARLEN SPECTER,
CONNIE MACK,
JAMES M. JEFFORDS,
JUDD GREGG,
RICHARD SHELBY,
ROBERT F. BENNETT,
MARK O. HATFIELD,
PATRICK LEAHY,
DANIEL K. INOUYE,
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG,
TOM HARKIN,
BARBARA A. MIKULSKI,
PATTY MURRAY,
ROBERT C. BYRD.
Managers on the part of the Senate.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. FURSE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SKAGGS, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. WISE, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. FURSE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. OWENS, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. LAFALCE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. RIGGS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. KIM, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. RADANOVICH, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. BUYER, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. HUNTER, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. SHAYS, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. TIAHRT, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. HORN, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. UPTON, for 5 minutes, on October 30.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to.

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. FURSE) and to include extraneous matter:)

Ms. HARMAN.
Mr. TOWNS.
Mr. LIPINSKI.
Mr. MENENDEZ.
Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts in two instances.
Mr. TORRES.
Mr. DURBIN.
Mrs. SCHROEDER.
Mr. RANGEL.
Mr. BONIOR.
Mr. SERRANO.
Mr. WARD.
Mr. FOGLIETTA in three instances.
Mr. LANTOS.
Mr. SANDERS.
Mr. STOKES.
Mr. SKAGGS.
Mr. MEEHAN.
Mr. ANDREWS.
Mr. EDWARDS.
Mr. PALLONE.
Mr. FILNER.
Ms. JACKSON-LEE.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. RIGGS) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. DELAY.
Mr. CRANE.
Mr. DAVIS.
Mr. QUINN.
Mr. WICKER.
Mr. GILMAN in two instances.
Mr. GALLEGLY.
Mr. DUNCAN.
Mr. GUNDERSON.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. RIGGS) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. PORTER.
Mr. STARK.
Mr. OWENS.
Mr. NEY in two instances.
Mr. GONZALEZ.
Mr. CARDIN.
Mr. FARR of California.
Mr. SERRANO.
Mr. WICKER.
Mr. SMITH of Michigan.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that

committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 716. An act to amend the Fishermen's Protective Act; and

H.R. 1026. An act to designate the United States Post Office building located at 201 East Pikes Peak Avenue in Colorado Springs, Colorado, as the ''Winfield Scott Stratton Post Office.''

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1322. An act to provide for the relocation of the United States Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, and for other purposes.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee did on this day present to the President, for his approval, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 402. An act to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and for other reasons.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, October 30, 1995, at 12:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1561. Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Federal Reserve System's report on State member bank compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program, pursuant to Public Law 103–325, section 529(a) (108 Stat. 2266); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1562. Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report to Congress on Russia's status as an adherent to the Missile Technology Control Regime [MTCR], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2797b–1; to the Committee on International Relations.

1563. Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting notification that the Department of Defense has completed delivery of defense articles, services, and training on the attached list to Ecuador, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2318(b)(2); to the Committee on International Relations.

1564. Auditor, District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of a report entitled, ''Review of the Public Service Commission Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 1994,'' pursuant to D.C. Code, section 47–117(d); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1565. Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the agency's annual report on drug and alcohol abuse prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation programs and services for Federal civilian employees covering fiscal year 1994, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 7363; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1566. Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit, transmitting an opinion of the court of appeals for the District of Columbia (94–7143 & 94–7144—*Washington Service Contractors Coalition, et al.* v. *D.C., et al.*); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1567. Director, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, transmitting the annual report on activities of the inspector general for fiscal year 1995, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) Sec. 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1568. Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit, transmitting an opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia (94–5088—*Atkins, et al.* v. *FEC*); to the Committee on House Oversight.

1569. Chair, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States, transmitting the annual report of its activities for calendar year 1994, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. app. 2008 and 22 U.S.C. 1622a; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1570. American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., transmitting the organization's report and financial audit for the period ending June 30, 1995, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 1101(63) and 1103; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. MYERS: Committee of Conference. Conference report on H.R. 1905. A bill making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes (Rept. 104–293). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WALSH: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 2546. A bill making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes (Rept. 104–294). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. CALLAHAN: Committee of Conference. Conference report on H.R. 1868. A bill making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes (Rept. 104–295). Ordered to be printed.

REPORTED BILL SEQUENTIALLY REFERRED

Under clause 5 of rule X, the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 994. The amendment recommended by the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight referred to the Committee on Commerce for a period not to exceed Nov. 3, 1995 for consideration of such provisions of the amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(e), rule X.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of rule X and clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. MCCOLLUM (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER):

H.R. 2538. A bill to make clerical and technical amendments to title 18, United States Code, and other provisions of law relating to crime and criminal justice; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SHUSTER (for himself, Mr. PETRI, Mr. RAHALL, and Ms. MOLINARI):

H.R. 2539. A bill to abolish the Interstate Commerce Commission, to amend subtitle IV of title 49, United States Code, to reform economic regulation of transportation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DELAY (for himself, Mr. FIELDS of Texas, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. EWING, Mr. STUMP, Mrs. CHENOWETH, Mr. FUNDERBURK, Mr. CRANE, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. ROHRABACHER, and Mr. HAYWORTH):

H.R. 2540. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to prohibit any member of the Armed Forces from being required to wear as part of the military uniform any indicia or insignia of the United Nations; to the Committee on National Security.

By Mr. GILLMAN:

H.R. 2541. A bill to establish an Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. ALLARD (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS):

H.R. 2542. A bill to consolidate conservation cost-share assistance programs of the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CHRYSLER:

H.R. 2543. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for tuition and fees for undergraduate and post-secondary vocational education; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Miss COLLINS of Michigan:

H.R. 2544. A bill to require the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics to conduct time use surveys of unremunerated work performed in the United States and to calculate the monetary value of such work; to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

By Ms. MCKINNEY:

H.R. 2545. A bill to provide that a State that uses a system of limited voting, cumulative voting, or preference voting may establish multimember congressional districts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WALSH:

H.R. 2546. A bill making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes.

By Mr. DUNCAN:

H.R. 2547. A bill to designate the U.S. courthouse located at 800 Market Street in Knoxville, TN, as the ''Howard H. Baker, Jr. United States Courthouse''; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DUNCAN (for himself, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. TORKILDSEN, Mr. COOLEY, and Mr. HANSEN):

H.R. 2548. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals to designate any portion of their income tax overpayments, and to make other contributions,

for the benefit of units of the National Park System; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. FARR:

H.R. 2549. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into contracts to assist the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, CA, to implement a basin management plan for the elimination of groundwater overdraft and seawater intrusion, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. HEFLEY (for himself, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. SOLOMON, Mr. COX, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. DREIER, Mr. BAKER of California, Mr. FUNDERBURK, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. METCALF, Mr. HERGER, Mr. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. STUMP, Mr. SAM JOHNSON, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. ROTH Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas, Mr. NEUMANN, Mr. BONILLA, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. DORNAN, Mr. CHABOT, Mrs. SEASTRAND, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. GEKAS, Mr. SANFORD, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. SALMON, Mrs. CHENOWETH, Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. PACKARD, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. MOORHEAD, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. KIM, Mr. RIGGS, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. BONO, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. UPTON, Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. BUYER, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. HORN, Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky, Ms. DUNN of Washington, Mr. CALVERT, and Mr. FORBES):

H.R. 2550. A bill to prohibit the use of funds appropriated to the Department of Defense from being used for the deployment on the ground of United States Armed Forces in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of any peacekeeping operation, or as part of any implementation force, unless such development is specifically authorized by law; to the Committee on National Security, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STARK (for himself, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. MOAKLEY, Mr. WALSH, Mr. KLECZKA, Ms. PELOSI, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. BROWN of California, Mr. FROST, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, and Mr. FRAZER):

H.R. 2551. A bill to establish a congressional commemorative medal for organ donors and their families; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi (for himself, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. BAKER of Louisiana, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. BORSKI, Mr. BROWDER, Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. COYNE, Mr. DAVIS, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. DE LA GARZA, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. EVERETT, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. FOGLIETTA, Mr. FROST, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. HAYES, Mr. HEFNER, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. MCDADE, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. MCNULTY, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MILLER of California, Mr. MONTGOMERY, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. MYERS of Indiana, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PARKER, Mr. PAYNE of Virginia, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROSE, Mr. SISISKY, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. STUMP, Mr. TANNER, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. THORNTON, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. VENTO, Mrs. VUCANOVICH, Mr. WICKER, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO, Mr. WILSON, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. HOYER):

H.R. 2552. A bill to transfer the Tatum Salt Dome property to the State of Mississippi to be designated by the State as the Jamie Whitten Wilderness Area; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. WOLF:

H.R. 2553. A bill to provide for pilot programs conducted by the Federal Prison Industries to test the feasibility of meeting the need for increased employment of Federal prisoners by producing items, for the private market, in conjunction with private United States firms, that would otherwise be produced by foreign labor; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GALLEGLY:

H. Con. Res. 111. Concurrent resolution authorizing the printing of a report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, prepared by the Congressional Task Force on Immigration Reform; to the Committee on House Oversight.

By Mr. KANJORSKI:

H. Res. 246. Resolution providing for the consideration of the bill H.R. 302, and amendments thereto, to ensure timely payment of Social Security and Medicare benefits, to protect the stability of financial markets, to preserve the credit rating of the U.S. Government, and for other purposes, by increasing the statutory limit on the public debt; to the Committee on Rules.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 1 of rule XXII.

Mr. SAXTON introduced a bill (H.R. 2554) to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade and on the Great Lakes and their tributary and connecting waters in trade with Canada for the vessel M/V *Marion C II:* which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 44: Mr. GEPHARDT, and Mr. FATTAH.

H.R. 63: Mr. BLUTE.

H.R. 65: Mr. WYDEN.

H.R. 127: Mr. MASCARA, Mr. WISE, and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA.

H.R. 394: Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. JONES, and Mr. BOUCHER.

H.R. 468: Mr. SAM JOHNSON.

H.R. 497: Mr. LARGENT, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. WHITE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. JOHNSTON of Florida, Ms. DUNN of Washington, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. HAYES, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. LIGHTFOOT, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. TRAFICANT, and Mr. GORDON.

H.R. 528: Mr. STUDDS, Mrs. VUCANOVICH, Mr. TORRES, and Mr. SANDERS.

H.R. 850: Mr. BACHUS.

H.R. 1021: Mr. MATSUI.

H.R. 1023: Mr. FORBES and Mr. HILLIARD.

H.R. 1090: Mr. SKEEN.

H.R. 1124: Mr. BONIOR.

H.R. 1133: Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, and Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 1202: Mr. HEINEMAN, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. BOEHLERT.

H.R. 1226: Mr. NORWOOD.

H.R. 1488: Mr. STEARNS, Mr. CREMEANS, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. MCINTOSH, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. GEKAS, and Mr. COOLEY.

H.R. 1493: Mr. ABERCROMBIE.

H.R. 1500: Mr. CLYBURN and Mr. REED.

H.R. 1619: Mr. BALDACCI, Ms. DANNER, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, and Mr. GRAHAM.

H.R. 1733: Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. FROST, and Mr. MCKEON.

H.R. 1749: Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 1796: Mr. PACKARD.

H.R. 1834: Mr. DORNAN and Mr. GOODLATTE.

H.R. 1846: Ms. DELAURO, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mrs. LOWEY.

H.R. 1856: Mr. BAKER of Louisiana, Mr. MARTINI, and Mr. BARR.

H.R. 1920: Ms. DANNER and Mr. BALDACCI.

H.R. 2009: Ms. PELOSI and Mr. OBERSTAR.

H.R. 2143: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 2178: Ms. MCKINNEY and Miss COLLINS of Michigan.

H.R. 2181: Mr. DEUTSCH, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. REED, and Mr. STUPAK.

H.R. 2190: Mr. ROTH, Mr. WICKER, and Ms. HARMAN.

H.R. 2211: Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. FILNER, Ms. RIVERS, and Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 2240: Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. WALSH, Mr. WILSON, and Mr. FLANAGAN.

H.R. 2326: Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA.

H.R. 2328: Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA.

H.R. 2407: Mr. PETE GEREN of Texas.

H.R. 2422: Mr. RICHARDSON.

H.R. 2433: Mr. HEFNER, Mr. FRAZER, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. WILSON, Mr. CLAY, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. GOSS, Ms. PELOSI, and Mr. CALVERT.

H.R. 2435: Mr. MINGE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 2443: Mr. FATTAH.

H.R. 2458: Mr. LANTOS, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. ROYCE.

H.R. 2470: Mr. EMERSON and Mr. STUMP.

H.R. 2474: Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. DANNER, Mr. EVANS, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, Mr. NUSSLE, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. GANSKE, Mr. KLUG, and Mr. MINGE.

H.R. 2483: Mr. KINGSTON and Mr. SOLOMON.

H.R. 2508: Ms. DANNER, Mr. STUPAK, and Mr. VOLKMER.

H.R. 2523: Mr. BLUTE and Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.J. Res. 87: Mr. HANCOCK.

H.J. Res. 89: Mr. NORWOOD.

H.J. Res. 114: Mr. SANDERS, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, and Mr. LIPINSKI.

H. Con. Res. 5: Mr. COOLEY.

H. Res. 39: Mr. BONIOR.

H. Res. 214: Mr. WAMP, Mr. HOLDEN, and Mr. DOGGETT.