

need to know the facts so that we can know who is governing this country and what they stand for.

If the little guy who keeps this Government going is stepped upon and abused like this, America will not be the same country. We must stand up for America and our ideals.

IN SUPPORT OF THE COALITION BUDGET

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

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I apologize to the staff, who I know I am keeping late. I hope what I say is worth hearing to the American people.

If you have been listening to the budget debate, you have heard Member after Member talk about reducing the deficit, and it is not so, folks, and the Congressional Budget Office has scored the plan put forward by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH] for next year, the only year that this Congress could really vote on, because we are only elected for 2 years at a time.

The truth of the matter is that the budget by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH], as introduced, would increase the annual operating deficit of this Nation from \$236 to \$270 billion, and hidden in there is the theft of about \$100 billion from the trust funds that people pay into when you pay your FICA taxes, your social security taxes. That is not a plan to balance the budget. You do not balance the budget by taking your first step backwards.

There is a plan to balance the budget. It was put together by a group of people, mostly conservative Democrats, but some of them are now Republicans. It is called the Coalition budget. When compared to the Kasich budget, it would save this Nation \$33 billion in the first 2 years and \$53 billion in the first 3 years, the years that really count, the years where you can presume Members of Congress who are now Members of Congress will be around to live by it to make sure it works rather than saying someone 7 years from now is going to do what this Congress would not do.

Unfortunately, Speaker GINGRICH has now twice ruled that the Members of this body cannot even vote on this measure. But there is something that can be done about it. There is a discharge petition where Members of this body, if 218 Members of this body will go down and sign it, then we can vote on the Coalition budget. We can get to a balanced budget quicker. We can do it with less pain and less borrowing, and to tell you the effect of the borrowing is every 2 minutes in this Nation we have to go out and borrow a million dollars just to pay the interest on the national debt, every 2 minutes, \$1 million in interest payments on the national debt.

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

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. I yield to the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. SKELTON. As a supporter of the Democratic Coalition conservation budget, there were an awful lot of people that did vote for it, and it is looking better and better every day.

I would like for you to explain what you touched on a moment ago about the larger deficit on the operating expenses, please.

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Well, again, the American people, and I do not think the press explains this very well, there are two things we are dealing with. No. 1 is the accumulated debt over many years, where the Nation spent more money than it collected in taxes. That is \$5 trillion. Until we will get to the balanced budget, every year they are spending more money than they are collecting in taxes, and that is the annual operating deficit. The annual operating deficit under the Kasich budget, as approved by the majority of the Republicans in the House, will borrow \$270 billion for this fiscal year.

Mr. SKELTON. In other words, it is going to cost the Americans more?

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. It will cost the Americans more. And they keep saying they have a 7-year plan to balance the budget, but the first step is a step backward, not a step toward balancing the budget, a step toward larger deficit.

Mr. SKELTON. The budget I voted for, the Democratic Coalition budget, does not do that? Is that correct?

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. The Coalition budget is a step in the right direction. It would not borrow as much. Both of them, unfortunately, borrow money for the first year. It borrows less money, and cumulatively it borrows less, \$50 billion less than the Republican plan.

TRIBUTE TO BRETT FAVRE

On a much lighter note, I am going to brag on a fine young man from the State of Mississippi, from a community that I doubt is even on the map, who last week was voted the most valuable player in the NFL, a young man by the name of Brett Favre, who is the most deserving of that of any American I can think of. His mom and dad are public school teachers back in south Mississippi. His dad was his high school football coach.

He went on and played for the University of Southern Mississippi. By sheer hard work and determination, he has been recognized as the finest football player in the United States of America. It could not happen to a nicer family. It could not happen to a nicer guy.

Congratulations, Brett Favre.

A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE ABOUT BALANCING THE BUDGET

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

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, in California time right now it is 7 o'clock, and I hope that many people from my district will turn on their TV and watch me tonight. I think people are tired of listening to all of this bashing each other about balancing the budget. I want to talk about some different perspective about this balancing the budget.

The Government waste, that is what I would like to talk about tonight, the waste and fraud is everywhere, Medicare, Medicaid; you are talking about waste and fraud. It is unbelievable. Food stamps, my golly, they are buying at a discount rate, turning around and selling it, buying drugs. It is total wasting, all kinds of fraud going on.

The EITC, that is supposed to help people who have children, dependents. Now what happens? They changed the law back in 1987. Now anybody can receive a cash payment from the Government, even prison inmates. Waste and fraud, just beyond control. Welfare, we all know that.

Housing, my golly, we have got housing projects put together by a Federal agency. It is unbelievable. All the housing is empty right now and defaulted. It is just unbelievable waste and fraud going on.

We have more than 9,000 Federal programs overlapping each other. Nobody knows who is doing what. Each time there is a problem, we allocate the money and set up another agency to take care of this certain sector of the people, and this is going on, I do not know how many years, last 40 years. "You have got the problem? Come and see us, we have got a program for you."

Let me give you one bizarre story I read this morning in the Washington Post, Washington Times, and U.S.A. Today about the Department of Energy. It is a frightening story which I would like to share with you tonight and with the people of California.

DOE, Department of Energy, was founded back in 1977 by Mr. Carter during this energy crisis. This is a temporary agency. Their job is to manage oil control, oil price control, and rationing; second responsibility is to find the energy alternative to oil, imported oil, because we are afraid that someday oil-producing nations will control us. That is all it is. It is a domestic issue. They have got to stay and do energy research and oil price control. That is what their job is.

Today they have got 20,000 employees. They should have been gone a long time ago, 20,000 employees. What are they doing? Seventy percent of their money goes into weapons testing. Can you imagine, weapons testing? That should be done by DOD, Defense Department. Only 16 percent of the money goes to R&D, development of energy. I mean, this is just really ridiculous.

But let me tell you a real horror story. The agency Secretary, supposed to be in charge of the entire Department of Energy, she spent 130 days