

Third, establishing that illegal immigrants do not qualify for any Federal or State welfare programs;

Fourth, prohibiting illegal immigrants from qualifying for taxpayer-provided health care services;

And finally, creating a new \$3.5 billion Federal fund to assist hospitals with the cost of emergency health care to illegal immigrants, with \$1.6 billion of that going to the State of California.

Mr. Speaker, it was wonderful that the president would stand here and talk about this issue, but he has been given the opportunity to address those concerns that not only the people in that State, where 54 electoral votes are held, but people around the country are concerned, and when he has been given that opportunity, he has chosen to bring out his veto pen and in fact slap the face of those who have been focusing on this issue.

He opposed proposition 187 in California, which passed by an overwhelming landslide, people saying that the State of California should not be responsible for what is clearly a Federal issue. So it saddens me that while I am pleased that the statement was made, that the record of President Clinton on the issue of illegal immigration and the record of past congresses in the control of his party is that people have chosen to ignore this. In the past year, we have successfully stepped up to the plate to deal with it, and unfortunately, the President has chosen to veto it.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the letter of January 24, 1996, to which I referred:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER,
Washington, DC, January 24, 1996.

Task Force on California.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I was greatly encouraged by your decision to include addressing illegal immigration as a national priority in Tuesday's State of the Union Address. However, in this light, I was dismayed by your veto record that has killed historic congressional proposals to combat illegal immigration and lift the burden of illegal immigration from states like California. These proposals include:

Providing \$500 million to reimburse states for the cost of incarcerating illegal immigrant felons in state prisons, tripling prior year funding and relieving California taxpayers of a \$300 million burden;

Increasing funding for INS border control efforts by \$300 million to add 1,000 border patrol agents and 400 inspectors;

Establishing that illegal immigrants do not qualify for any federal or state welfare programs;

Prohibiting illegal immigrants from qualifying for taxpayer-provided health care services; and

Creating a new \$3.5 billion federal fund to assist hospitals with the cost of emergency health care to illegal immigrants, with \$1.6 billion targeted to California.

While I was disappointed in 1994 when you chose to oppose California's Proposition 187, which was overwhelmingly supported by California citizens, it has been more disheartening to see vetoed the California delegation's efforts to implement federal policies to meet the goals of Proposition 187. I look forward to working with you to see each of

these measures, as well as comprehensive immigration reform, enacted this year.

Sincerely,

DAVID DREIER,
Chairman.

EDUCATION

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, there's more than meets the eye when we hear the Republicans talking about their plans to keep the Government running through the rest of the year.

Their latest plan is to introduce a new temporary spending bill each month to keep the Government running.

That plan might not appear too bad at first to the public but when the American people take a closer look they'll quickly see that this month-by-month approach will leave our schools and teachers with the two main ingredients for disaster—too little time and too little money!

Right now is the time of year when schools—elementary schools, high schools, and colleges—begin to plan for the next school year which, in case my friends on the other side of the aisle have forgotten, begins in September.

Schools can't wait until the new fiscal year to hire teachers, buy books and computers, and repair damaged buildings.

If we don't pass a year-long appropriation, elementary and secondary schools won't know how many teachers they can afford to hire. They won't be able to plan special programs. Students at postsecondary schools could be hurt even more by the Republican strategy. If Congress does not set the maximum amount for Pell grants, colleges and universities won't be able to figure how much financial aid their eligible students will get.

Even worse, students won't know if they will receive the financial aid they need to go to college.

That's not how we should be treating our Nation's students.

But, on top of robbing our schools and students of crucial planning time, the new majority month-to-month approach to governing is going to rob them of crucial funding.

Let me make it clear. If the Gingrich Republicans continue to fund education at the level in the continuing resolution that is set to expire this week, education will be cut by a total of \$3.1 billion below last year.

And that, my friends, will be the largest cut to education in the history of this country.

You have to wonder what they are thinking on the other side of the aisle. At a time when numerous polls show that improving the quality of public education is the top priority for Americans, the Gingrich Republicans are planning to cut funding for education more than it has ever been cut before.

The Gingrich Republicans' sneaky assault on education, however, shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone because the new majority has already passed some of the most antieducation legislation I have ever seen.

Just take a look at the education budget for 1996 which the House has already approved.

This terrible bill cuts: Head Start, Chapter One, Safe and Drug-free Schools, School-to-Work, and vocational and adult education.

In all, it cuts education by 13 percent in 1 year alone—13 percent.

But that's nothing compared to what they want to do to our education system over the next 7 years.

The new majority's 7-year budget plan would deny Head Start to 180,000 children by 2002.

It eliminates Goals 2000, which helps schools meet higher national standards and increase parental involvement.

It kills Americorps, which has provided thousands of Americans with college tuition assistance in exchange for community service.

And, it cuts in half the President's program aimed at helping schools bring technology into the classroom.

Under their budget, my State of California alone will lose, among other things, \$1 billion for the School Lunch Program, and over 181,000 Californians will be denied participation in the cost-effective Direct Student Loan Program.

My friends, that's the wrong direction, and that's not the way we are supposed to be taking care of our children.

Mr. Speaker, we can balance the budget, but it does not have to be on the back of our children and their education.

As the President talked about in his speech last night, we can continue to move this Nation forward without leaving those who depend on Government the most—our children and their education—behind.

Let's stop playing politics with our Nation's schools and students. They need time to plan, and they need adequate funding to meet the growing needs of our students.

I urge my colleagues to pass a clean continuing resolution immediately that ensures that our schools can do their jobs, so that our children are prepared for the challenges of the next century.

□ 1700

LEARNING FROM OUR HISTORY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. DORNAN] is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, while my good friend from Arkansas is in the chair, I plan not to bore you, sir, but to educate you. You are already pretty darn educated, and I love your State; and I have told you more than once,