

take care of their kids with a \$21 billion program of government getting into the baby-sitting business; expanded welfare programs were there; infusing \$18 billion into the International Monetary Fund, the IMF; the budget created or expanded \$39 billion worth of new or expanded entitlement programs. Social Security was definitely not put first.

In the budget was roughly \$102 billion of increased taxes, another \$23 billion of increased fees, which one could almost consider taxes because eventually they are going to be passed on to the consumer. My question to Mr. Raines was, would he consider taking whatever increased revenues was projected and not spending it on these new expanded "make government bigger and more powerful" programs and put all that surplus into Social Security? And he reacted that, no, they thought they had the correct balance.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that we should change the definition of what a balanced budget is. We are hoodwinking the American people in pretending there is a balanced budget, because there is not. If you look in this book of part of the budget, the historical tables, on page 111, we talk about what happens to the national debt of this country, the Federal debt of this country. The Federal debt in this budget is going up between \$100 billion and \$200 billion every year for the next 5 years. I personally think that a reasonable definition for a balanced budget is when we stop increasing the national debt.

And the justification is, and it is not just the President, it has been Congress, too, that says, look, we are defining a balanced budget as everything that comes into budget. But everybody should understand what government is doing is overtaxing workers today because there is more money coming in in the Social Security tax than is needed to pay out immediately for benefits. And the Federal Government is taking that money, not only spending it for other social programs but they are taking that money and considering it is balancing the budget.

That should not be the way, Mr. Speaker. We need to start being more honest with the American people. In this budget we should be looking at how we reduce the overall size of government and not, as suggested in this government, in this budget, that we have another \$102 billion of taxes, or a total of \$129 billion of taxes if you include the fee increases that are going to be put on the American people. We should not increase those taxes to expand government.

We should put Social Security first. I agree with the President. Let us not expand government at a time that we have these huge challenges of saving Social Security and saving Medicare.

SCHOOL OVERCROWDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentle-

woman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, many of you know that my major legislative focus this past year has been to alleviate California's and the Nation's overcrowded schools. I have introduced a bill, the Expand & Rebuild America's Schools Act, to ensure that schools with high growth rates have a Federal incentive to pass local bond initiatives to help build new schools and new classrooms.

To highlight this legislation, I held a forum this past month in my hometown of Anaheim, California, a forum on school overcrowding, and it was attended by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), our Democratic leader, and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD). She herself is a former teacher in California.

We held it and we had witnesses to talk to us about how they are affected by the overcrowding crisis. Students and teachers, administrators, education experts from my district, Sacramento and Washington, D.C. gave valuable testimony that shed light on what is going right, what is wrong, and what has to be done to help our kids.

And, yes, I did hear a 6th grade student talk about how she no longer has playground space because portable classrooms were needed to be placed on the school's blacktop; or the teacher's frustration who said she was using a coat closet as a workroom; or even the knowledge that I have of having returned to my elementary school there in Anaheim and to see the janitor's mop room now being used as a classroom for special education children. And I know that we need to solve this problem of school overcrowding.

The forum produced many good ideas about what must be done locally and in our State to build more schools, but what remains clear is through this we still need Federal help. I applaud the President for stepping up to the plate and offering two major bond programs to encourage renovation of schools and new school construction. His bond program could be, in my view, more focused on alleviating the crowding of our most impacted schools, and I look forward to working with the administration to ensure that some exception or preference can be given to schools suffering from both high growth rates and little space. For example, the elementary schools in Anaheim were built for 500 students, yet each of them has almost 1100 students attending. And, of course, they are now on year-round schedule.

My legislation, which offers a similar bond financing program, is a good example of getting local people to take on the responsibility of financing their schools with an incentive that if they do this, we will help them, not by creating more Federal bureaucracy or a new spending program, but by offering interest free rates on bonds because the Federal Government will provide a tax

credit to the lenders in the amount of the interest. Therefore, these local agencies will only have to repay the principal. Only schools which are highly impacted by overcrowding can qualify for these bonds.

School overcrowding is not only just a problem in Orange County or in California, but States such as Nevada and Arizona, Florida, and Pennsylvania are experiencing the same challenges. If my colleagues would like additional information about the forum and the information we have received there, please contact me. And I hope that we can work together to ensure that our children can get all the space that they need.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2:00 p.m.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2:00 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOODLATTE) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

We admit, O gracious God, that we strive to know Your love, but we realize in our hearts that we miss the mark; we confess that we seek to do Your will in our lives, but we know in our hearts that we often fail; we acknowledge that we aspire to obey Your commandments, but in our hearts we can follow a selfish path. O God of Gods and Creator of all the world, breath into us a new spirit of faith and hope and love that we will be the people You would have us be and do those good works that honor You and serve people in their need. In Your name, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. NORWOOD 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.