

what they call it. They call it an increase. Let me explain why that is an increase in spending, even though spending went down from \$272 billion to \$264 billion.

The President only requested \$255 billion. So when we spent \$264 billion, they called that an increase over what the President requested even though it was a decrease. And if listeners are not confused yet, I will give more numbers. But the facts are it gets twisted when one tries to listen to people in this community.

The bottom line in the CATS budget, defense spending is frozen in real dollars. That is to say, it is allowed to increase at the rate of inflation, and this is the only budget on the Hill that actually allows for inflationary increase in defense spending.

There are people out there that bought \$75 hammers and \$200 toilet seats. We ought to can those people. We ought to fire those people today. The people responsible for the waste in the military ought to be booted out and booted out right now.

But that does not mean that because of those few we should place our men and women in uniform in jeopardy, and that is what has been going on out here. They have been demagoguing it based on the few people who are making the horrible mistakes and wasting the defense dollars, and the result is that our young men and women in uniform are being put in jeopardy.

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, with that let me yield back the balance of our time and urge all of my colleagues to vote "yes" on the CATS budget and support the elimination of the marriage penalty.

COMMEMORATING THE 130TH ANNIVERSARY OF NAVAJO TREATY OF 1868

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. REDMOND) is recognized for 10 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. REDMOND. Mr. Speaker, 1998 is a very significant year in the history of the Navajo Nation. It is the 130th anniversary of the signing of the treaty between the Navajo people and the United States Government.

In honor of this 130th anniversary, this week I will be reading segments of the treaty until it has been read in full and people in America know what the treaty contains and what the agreement is between the government of the United States and the Navajo people. The treaty begins like this:

Andrew Johnson, President of the United States of America, ALL AND SINGULAR TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

Whereas a Treaty was made in Fort Sumner, in the Territory of New Mexico, on the first day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, by and between Lieutenant General W.T. Sherman and Samuel F. Tappan, Commissioners,

on behalf of the United States of America, and Barboncito, Armijo, and other Chiefs and Headmen of the Navajo tribes of Indians, on the part of said Indians, and duly authorized thereto by them, which Treaty is in the words and figures following, to wit:

Articles of a Treaty and agreement made and entered into at Fort Sumner, New Mexico, on the first day of June, 1868, by and between the United States, represented by its Commissioners, Lieutenant General W.T. Sherman and Colonel Samuel F. Tappan, of the one part, and the Navajo Nation or tribes of Indians, represented by their Chiefs and Headmen, duly authorized and empowered to act for the whole people of said Nation or tribe, (the names of said Chiefs and Headmen being hereto subscribed,) of the other part, witness:

Article I. From this day forward all war between the parties to this agreement shall for ever cease. The government of the United States desires peace, and its honor is thereby pledged to keep it. The Indians desire peace, and they now pledge their honor to keep it.

If bad men among the whites, or among other people subject to the authority of the United States, shall commit any wrong upon the person or property of the Indians, the United States will, upon proof made to the agent and forwarded to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs at Washington city, proceed at once to cause the offender to be arrested and punished according to the laws of the United States, and also to reimburse the injured persons for the loss sustained.

If bad men among the Indians shall commit a wrong or depredation upon the person or property of any one, white, black, or Indian, subject to the authority of the United States and at peace therewith, the Navajo tribe agree that they will, on proof made to their agent, and on notice by him, deliver up the wrongdoer to the United States, to be tried and punished according to its laws; and in case they willfully refuse to do so, the person injured shall be reimbursed for his loss for the annuities or other moneys due or to become due them under this Treaty, or any others that may be made with the United States. And the President may prescribe such rules and regulations for ascertains damages under this article as in his judgment may be proper; but no such damage shall be adjusted and paid until examined and passed upon by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and no one sustaining loss whilst violating, or because of his violating, the provisions of this treaty or the laws of the United States shall be reimbursed therefore.

Article II. The United States agrees that the following district of country, to wit: bounded on the north by the 37th degree of north latitude, south by an east and west line passing through the site of old Fort Defiance, in Canon Bonito, east of the parallel of longitude which, if prolonged south, would pass through old Fort Lyon, or the Ojo-de-oso, Bear Spring, and west by a parallel of longitude about 109 degrees and 30 minutes west of Greenwich, provided it embraces the outlet of Canon-de-Chilly, which canon is to be all included in this reservation, shall be, and the same is hereby, set apart for the use and occupation of the Navajo tribe of Indians, and for such other friendly tribes or individual Indians as from time to time they may be willing, with the consent of the United States, to admit among them; and the United States agrees that no persons except those herein authorized to do so, and except such officers, soldiers, agents, and employees of the government, or of the Indians, as may be authorized to enter upon Indian reservations in discharge of duties imposed by law, or the orders of the President, shall ever be permitted to pass over, settle upon,

or reside in, the territory described in this article.

Article III. The United States agrees to cause to be built at some point within said reservation, where timber and water may be convenient, the following buildings: a warehouse, to cost not exceeding twenty-five hundred dollars; an agency building for the residence of the agent, not to cost exceeding three thousand dollars; a carpenter shop and blacksmith shop, not to cost exceeding one thousand dollars each; and a school-house and chapel, so soon as sufficient number of children can be induced to attend school, which shall not cost to exceed five thousand dollars.

Article IV. The United States agrees that the agent for the Navajos shall make his home at the agency building; that he shall reside among them and shall keep an office at all times for the purpose of prompt and diligent inquiry into such matters of complaint by or against the Indians as may be presented for investigation, as also for the faithful discharge of other duties enjoined by law. In all cases of depredation on person or property shall cause the evidence to be taken in writing and forwarded, together with his finding, to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, whose decision shall be binding on the parties to this treaty.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Chair for allowing me this time to read once again the Treaty between the Navajo Nation and the United States Government, the Treaty of 1868, Articles I, II, and III. We will continue to read on a sequential basis the rest of the articles of this Treaty, but the purpose of this is to celebrate the 130th anniversary of peace between the Navajo people and the people of the United States.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 2604, THE RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND CHARITABLE DONATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, first I would like to thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for her kindness. I realize how important an issue we have to discuss in just a few minutes, and I wanted to add my support and respect for the importance of legislation that we just discussed here on the House floor just a short while ago.

One in particular, H.R. 2604, the Religious Liberty and Charitable Donation Act, particularly comes to mind as we are poised for some other discussions dealing with the First Amendment and, as well, religious liberty.

This bill is a bill that must and should have been passed, for it recognizes and respects the freedom of religion, and it was captured in the words of Judge Alphonzo Taft, father of President Howard Taft:

The ideal of our people as to religious freedom is absolute equality under the law of all religious opinions and sects . . . the government is neutral and while protecting all, it prefers none and disparages none.

This legislation protects donations to charities and to one's religious institution in the form of tithe or offering,

and separates it in protecting it from bankruptcy laws. I think it is crucial, as we move toward reforming or trying to do a better job in the bankruptcy arena, that we clearly emphasize the sanctity of the separation of church and State and the ability of an individual, an individual American, to give money to the religion of their choice.

As a proponent of freedom, I can say without reservation that this bill cuts to the heart of what our Constitution and our country are all about. It is so very important that we make sure that commercial public bankruptcy laws do not interfere with anyone who desires to indicate their choice of religion and their charity, particularly if that person is a debtor.

So, Mr. Speaker, I support this particular legislation and welcome its passage. If the person is a chapter 13 participant, they could be barred from tithing to their local church if their creditors object to the addition of this gift to their restructuring plan. By this legislation, we assure that will not occur. I believe this is a vote for religious freedom and opportunity.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I also would like to make sure and to emphasize my support for the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Act of 1998, H.R. 3433. There could not be a better bill recognizing the value of people with disabilities.

This bill allows the rejoining to the workforce of over 8 million people with disabilities who are currently collecting money from Social Security income or Social Security disability insurance. More than 30,000 of those people live in Harris County in the State of Texas.

I believe that the majority of the people with disabilities want to work, but under the current law, vocational counseling for people receiving SSI or SSDI can only be done by State-run vocational rehabilitation agencies who are only able to serve about 10 percent of disabled people.

This bill allows nonprofit and private organizations to help these people find meaningful and productive work. I think this certainly adds to the ability of getting individuals who want to stand up for themselves, who do not want to be discriminated against, who want to show people they can be independent, but at the same time helping them to move from dependence, along with many in the welfare arena, to independence.

□ 1915

This bill saves money for taxpayers. I do not think it precludes our public agencies from being involved, but it is extremely important that we allow more and more people with disabilities to find their way into the work force as they so choose.

ON THE CENSUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCKEON). Under the Speaker's an-

nounced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, we are here today because we believe that a fair and accurate census is fundamental to the democratic principles on which our country was founded. We are here today because those principles are being threatened as never before. We have vowed to fight that threat to the very end.

There are some in this Congress who seek to manipulate the census process to assure that the errors that have been made in the past continue. There is nothing that they will not do to achieve their ends. They began 2 years ago by saying that sampling is unscientific. When that did not work, they said that modern scientific methods are unconstitutional. When that did not work, they began to attack the plan for the 2000 census as too complicated. I suspect that the next tactic will be to attack the Census Bureau's ability to take the census. Their goal is to make sure that the errors of 1990 are repeated in the 2000 census, because they believe those errors are to their political advantage.

Yesterday, the President of the United States was at a forum in Houston, Texas; and he called on the opponents of an accurate census to recognize that the census is about people, not about politics. This forum was held in Texas, Houston, Texas, in the district of my colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN), who is here, and he will share with us more information that the President gave at this forum and will put a human face on his constituents, on people who are running programs, planning services, planning the roads, sociologists, professors, an entire forum of many people who could speak from a personal point of view of why an accurate census is important to our country.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN).

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

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from New York who journeyed to Houston yesterday and experienced our 98 degree temperature to discuss the census at a roundtable discussion with the President of the United States and people from my district, in fact, from all over Houston. Our colleague, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) was also there and here tonight.

It was estimated that the 1990 census undercounted 8.4 million people. Another 4.4 million people were actually counted twice. This undercount greatly reduces the Federal funding sent to a locality, particularly if one has an area like my State, where the undercount could be dramatic, whether it be California, Texas, Arizona, Florida.

It has been estimated that Texas, because of the undercount in 1990, lost \$1

billion in Federal funds. That \$1 billion is not just social welfare, as a lot of people think of it.

First, it is education funding, Title I funding that has a baseline in the census and an update every 2 years, health care. Veterans benefits is based on an accurate census and the number of veterans and the number of people in a given community. Highway construct funding is based on census. So that is why it is so important to have an accurate count.

An accurate count for Title I funding is so important because of the effort that is the Federal program to help children who are the most in need. And we need to have an accurate count. And, again, our Congress changed the law to have an update every 2 years in 1994, but we still have to have a baseline that is correct.

It is necessary to forecast information on accuracy for Social Security and Medicare. So without an accurate count, we are hurting, not only as a Nation but also individually, our communities.

Census Bureau officials have said that Houston was one of the most affected by the last census count. Over 66,000 people in the City of Houston were undercounted or uncounted. It estimates that, in 1990, Census missed 4.4 percent of the African American population, 5.5 percent of the Hispanic population, 2.3 percent of Asians and Pacific Islanders. It is a shame that our census is missing these people and these people are not being counted.

A fair count is necessary to ensure that all people in our country are represented and that they have a voice. A fair and accurate count is vital for information that is used by everyone, from the Department of Education to a small business marketing a new product.

Yesterday, again, President Clinton visited the congressional district I am honored to represent to discuss the need for an accurate count. He met with everyday people, not only people in the audience who were there, but he conducted a panel discussion by people who rely on census data in their everyday life.

Here is what some of the participants said:

Gilbert Moreno, who is the executive director of the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans, said that the census must accurately chart the growth of Hispanics in America. Over the next 50 years, Hispanics and Asians will provide almost half of the country's growth; and the accuracy of these statistics is crucial. And yet in the last census they were one of the two groups that were the most undercounted in our country.

Dr. Mary Kendrick, director of the City of Houston Health Department, said accurate census data is critical to the public health. She noted census data on child poverty helps determine nutrition programs and children's health programs in the City of Houston as well as around the country.