

the other side to talk about a very important individual back in my district.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an outstanding educator and leader within Central Kentucky, a man who has dedicated his life not only to improving education, but making sure students strive to do the very best they possibly can. He is a principal who has touched and improved the lives of so many throughout his years of dedicated service to our community.

Recently, the Kentucky Education Commissioner recognized this outstanding principal, Mr. Virgil Covington, as being one of 172 selected to receive the National Educators Award from the Milken Foundation. Next summer, Mr. Covington will join other recipients in California for a week-long conference, but today he receives praises and congratulations from the school system, community, parents and children that he has strived so hard to serve over the years.

It is obvious that he has worked to produce positive change, while making sure that no one is left behind within his middle school.

Today I join my community in recognizing an outstanding principal who has made a significant contribution to the education of our children. I find it most fitting that he receive this prestigious award.

BUDGET DEAL IS A DO-NOTHING BILL

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the Republican budget deal is a do-nothing bill, nothing for Social Security, nothing for Medicare. It hurts every family. The Republican budget bill does nothing to extend the life of Social Security, even by one single day. It fails to provide one penny for Medicare prescription drug benefits. The only thing it does do is hurt every family, every American family, every family, in a very real way.

When it comes to Social Security and Medicare, the Republican budget deal is not right, it is not fair, it is not just; it is dead wrong.

ELIMINATE GOVERNMENT WASTE TO SAVE SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, this is what it is all about today. We are making a choice: Government waste, or Social Security. This is what it is all about.

My friends on the other side of the aisle for 30 years raided the Social Security trust fund and ran up massive deficits. We are putting a stop to that practice, because we want to stop the raid on Social Security, and we think it is about time.

Let me ask this question: Is there anyone who honestly believes that there is not 1 percent waste, fraud and abuse in the Federal Government? Folks back home in the south side of Chicago and the south suburbs believe there is a lot more than just 1 percent of the Federal Government budget going to waste.

We think it is time to eliminate it. That is what it is all about today. We are going to vote today to cut government waste in order to protect the Social Security trust fund.

Now, there is an alternative. As you know, the Bill Clinton Democratic budget calls for a \$238 billion tax increase as an alternative to cutting government waste.

Let us stop the raid on Social Security. Let us cut government waste. We have that opportunity today.

BUDGET GIMMICKS AT THE EXPENSE OF AMERICA'S HEALTH

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I say to my colleague from Illinois, if you are interested in government waste, cut out the boondoggles in your bills, including in the districts of your leadership. These bills do nothing for Social Security, they do nothing for Medicare, and they will hurt every family.

They also engage in budgeting by deceit. They say they have not raided Social Security, but they have, by \$17 billion. Now they are engaging in deceit by delay.

Here is the headline in the Post: "Hill negotiators," that means Republicans, "agree to delay part of NIH research budget." Here is what NIH says: "These delays would hurt or could seriously hamper research efforts. To accommodate this delay, NIH would have to delay funding of over 8,000 new research grants until the final days of FY 2000, research for cancer, research for heart disease, research on diabetes."

Republican budget gimmicks at the expense of America's health.

JOIN BIPARTISAN EFFORT TO SAVE SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I think we should all be pleased that President Clinton has finally come around to the Republican view that we should not spend a penny of Social Security on other programs. Since the President had initially wanted to spend billions of Social Security surplus on some of his big government programs, I think this is real progress.

However, I am concerned that instead of helping us cut spending to reach that goal, the President wants to increase excise taxes on working Amer-

icans. Mr. Speaker, the American people are taxed enough. It is through their hard work that the budget is now balanced. We have a budget surplus. There is no reason for us to raise taxes one penny on lower and middle income Americans to pay for bigger government. That would be wrong.

So I urge my Democrat colleagues to drop their plan to raise taxes on working Americans and join us in a bipartisan effort to save Social Security.

BUDGET GIMMICKS TO HURT ALL AMERICANS

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

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today we see the full budget from the Republicans. We can see the USS Mississippi, that the Navy does not want, sailing into the harbor, and we say we want to cut government waste. The Navy does not want that ship.

What we really have, and the gentleman from Michigan raised it, are gimmicks in this budget that are going to hurt every single American. This does nothing for Medicare, it does nothing for Social Security. What it says to the National Institutes of Health is, we are going to give you more, but we are not going to give you one single penny of that money until next year on the 28th of September.

Now, for the average American, imagine if your boss said I am going to give you a big increase in your pay, but you do not get any of it until next year on the 28th of September. How would you live while you waited for that to happen?

Anybody who is worried about a member of their family who has diabetes, HIV, cancer, Alzheimer's disease, if you are waiting for the National Institutes of Health to come up with a way to help those people, these guys have said, wait for a year. Hold your breath.

This is a bad bill.

REGARDING THE ASSASSINATION OF THE ARMENIAN PRIME MINISTER AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN YEREVAN, ARMENIA

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

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great heaviness in my heart. I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to Armenian Prime Minister Vazgen Sargissian, Armenian Speaker Karen Demirchian, and the six other Armenian government officials gunned down yesterday in cold blood in the Capital City of Yerevan.

I first met the late prime minister last month when I visited Yerevan. We had a candid and penetrating conversation. He was so cordial that he later asked me to cancel my evening schedule to join him for dinner.

Just three weeks ago we met again here in Washington and he extended the same invitation for his next visit. I deeply regret that will never occur.

Armenia is the oldest Christian nation in the world. Her commitment to freedom and democracy is in no small part due to the efforts of the late prime minister and his fallen colleagues.

This morning the turmoil in Armenia has ended. Armenians will again go on today living in freedom, and dedicated to building a stronger nation for their children. The terrorists are in the hands of law enforcement and the rule of law will prevail.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the service of these eight Armenian patriots and their families on this very sad day.

VOTE NO ON A BAD BUDGET BILL

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

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, today is the last day for the 13 appropriations bills. Unfortunately, the bill that will be on the floor today did not come to the House floor. The most important bill for America's families came from committee, and not to the floor so that we could debate it.

This budget in its entirety does not extend the life of Social Security for one day. This budget does not offer prescription drug coverage for seniors who need it. This budget hurts American families.

If you have a child and you were thinking that you were going to get them in Head Start, one of the most successful programs we have, the Head Start budget will be cut. You may not be able to have your child there.

If you are a senior and you depend on Meals on Wheels, a very successful program where some seniors have this one hot meal every day, your Meals on Wheels will be cut with this budget.

Nursing homes, who take care of the seniors who have made it possible for all of us to be here today, will be cut.

Bad bill. Vote no.

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS FOR ARMENIA

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

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, in August I went on a surgical mission to Armenia. Our surgical mission was treated with great hospitality by our hosts and we were able to join with Armenian doctors and do teaching and help take care of patients. So it was with shock that I saw on TV the shooting that occurred in the Armenian legislature.

I would remind our colleagues that it was in about 1954 that we had a shooting in this very room, and when you have violence in the midst of democracy, it sends a chill down all of our backs.

I pray for the families of those who were slain, and I sincerely hope that peace will return to Armenia and that they will be able to go about the business of democracy and improving their country.

SUPPORT H.R. 762, LUPUS RESEARCH AND CARE AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1999

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

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask this House and this Congress to pay attention to this very important plea I am making this morning.

This is Lupus Awareness Month. People all over this country are not quite aware of the danger of this auto-immune disease called lupus. It kills more people than AIDS and several other infectious diseases. It is time we woke up to lupus. It is a killer. It is a killer of young women in their child bearing years. It is acrippler of men as well as women, but more so women.

I am asking support throughout this country for my bill on lupus. It is the Care Act of 1999. Remember, lupus has a significant impact on women in child bearing years, so your wives, daughters and sisters will be affected by this terrible disease. Charles Kurault died of this disease recently. It is a killer, it breaks your back. I want Members to help me with this bill and try to get it scheduled in this Congress. It has been up for 3 years. It is time that lupus is recognized.

SUPPORT LABOR-HHS APPROPRIATIONS BILL

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, today we will pass the Labor-HHS appropriations bill, which contains many good things. It also contains a 1 percent across-the-board cut, which I support, because we have to do that unless we want to dip into the Social Security funds for other purposes.

But this bill also contains \$1.4 billion for a program that I hope at least some people will begin to question. It is one of the most wasteful programs in the entire Federal Government, and yet, because it theoretically is for children, nobody will question it.

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That is the Job Corps program. Today we are spending over \$26,000 per year per Job Corps student. We could take each one of those students and give them a \$1,000 month allowance, send them to some expensive private school, and still save some.

The GAO says hardly any of those students are ending up in jobs for which they were trained. That program is benefiting only the bureaucrats and

the fat cat government contractors. Mr. Speaker, we need to question that program. It is harming children by taking money away from their parents to send instead to bureaucrats and fat cat government contractors.

THE BRONX AND NEW YORK CITY ARE VERY PROUD OF THE NEW YORK YANKEES

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am going to put on this hat, although it is not the traditional blue and white.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHAW). I would have to interrupt the gentleman. The House rules prohibit the wearing of hats.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I will not put on the hat, I will just hold the hat. Even though it is not the traditional blue and white Yankee colors, these are some of the fancy hats they sell on 161st Street in the Bronx outside Yankee Stadium.

I speak then on behalf of myself and my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO). We are both from the Bronx. We always joke, the Yankee Stadium is in his district, and some of the parking lots outside of Yankee Stadium are in my district; when the Yankees hit a home run out of the park, the ball lands in my district.

I was born in the Bronx, lived in the Bronx, was raised in the Bronx, grew up within walking distance of Yankee Stadium. Today the Bronx is really proud of the Bronx Bombers, of the New York Yankees, who once again are the world champions in baseball. They are truly the team of the nineties, the dynasty of the nineties.

As we enter the new millenium, the Yankees are the world champions. The Bronx is very, very proud of the Yankees, and indeed, all of New York City is very, very proud of the Yankees. We look forward to a great ticker tape parade up Broadway with the Yankees. We look forward to continued successes in the future.

Go, Yankees. They have made us all proud: Joe Torre, George Steinbrenner and all the Yankees. New York, New York.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a