

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, March 29, 2004.

Hon. DENNIS J. HASTERT,
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a civil subpoena for documents issued by the Superior Court of California, Riverside County.

After consulting with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

ESTELLE JONES,

Director, Officer of Personnel and Benefits.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

TALE OF TWO BUDGETS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, the House is on the verge of passing a \$2.3 trillion budget with a \$521 billion deficit, showing that it is impossible to finance three wars with three tax cuts and come up with a different result outside of a \$521 billion hole in the budget.

This budget repeats the same mistakes that have resulted in a jobless economy and a wage recession in America. It continues the status quo of the administration's economic policies that have resulted in nearly 3 million Americans losing their jobs, 43 million Americans without health care, of which 33 million Americans work but have no health care, and 2 million Americans who used to be part of the middle-class and now are in the level of poverty, and wages are frozen, and \$1 trillion worth of corporate assets and individual net worth have been called into bankruptcies.

What do you do when have you this type of economic results? You think you would change your economic policies. No. This budget puts your foot on the accelerator, expecting a different result but repeating the same economic mismanagement.

During the 2000 election, President Bush said he was opposed to nation-building. Who knew it was America he was talking about? This budget and the President's economic vision is really a tale of two budgets: one for America, and one for Iraq.

We have spent well over \$100 billion of the taxpayers' money on Iraq's occupation. But here in America, we have gotten shortchanged. What do I mean by that?

In Iraq, we are offering universal health care and free job training. In

America, 44 million Americans are without health care; and nearly 8.2 million Americans are without jobs.

In the area of health care, 2,200 Iraqis are receiving and health professionals are receiving training, 8,000 volunteers are receiving medical training; and in America, under the President's budget, the health training funds cut by 64 percent.

One hundred and fifty health clinics and hospitals have been rebuilt to serve 3 million Iraqis, providing 100 percent prenatal and infant coverage. In America, under the President's budget, community health care clinics have been cut by 91 percent. Maternal and child health care, Healthy Start, family planning, all frozen.

Veterans, \$60 million is spent to retrain Iraqi veterans; and our veterans budget has been gutted by \$257 million. Veterans health care has been cut to where every veterans organization has opposed the President's budget and the budget passed here by the Republicans.

In the area of education, we have rebuilt 2,300 schools in Iraq. We have underfunded No Child Left Behind by \$8 billion.

Iraqi universities are getting \$20 million for higher ed partnerships. In America, we have cut Perkins loans; and Pell Grants have been frozen for the last 3 years.

Police. \$500 million is spent on the Iraqi police training, but the community police program in the United States has been cut by \$659 million.

In the area of housing, \$470 million is spent on Iraqi housing, yet \$791 million is cut from section 8 housing vouchers.

In the area of environment, we are paying for \$3.6 billion in water and sewer treatment facilities in Iraq. Here in America, in the President's budget, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, which deals with all our clean water and drinking water for Americans, has been cut by \$500 million.

Ports infrastructure. The Port of Umm Qasar was completely rebuilt, and yet the Army Corps of Engineers cannot afford U.S. port security upgrades since their budget has been cut by 63 percent.

As President Bush seeks reelection, he can say he kept his commitment against nation-building. The problem is the target was America.

This is a tale of two budgets, one for America and one for Iraq; two priorities, one for America and one for Iraq; two sets of values, one for America, one for Iraq; and two sets of books, one for Iraq, one for America.

I have no problem investing in Iraq's future, but that future cannot be a more promising future than the one we promise here for our own children. Compared to how Americans view their futures, we cannot deny Americans the same dreams of affordable health care, education, police on the street, a safe place to live and job training.

America will no longer be the most generous nation in the world if the future they promise their children is one

that is less promising than one we are talking about overseas.

Now if your economic results here at home were nearly 3 million Americans have lost their jobs, nearly \$3 trillion has been added to the Nation's deficit in 3 years of budget, you would think you would change your economic policies. No. So what we will do is put our foot on the accelerator and press forward try and expect a different result, having tried 3 years in a row and producing the same result. We need a change and a new direction of the budget values and America's future.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

MEDICARE MODERNIZATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I am here tonight to talk about the Medicare Modernization Act, the reform bill that was passed by this body back in December.

I think the first question to ask is, who remembers what they were driving in 1960 or perhaps what a parent was driving in 1960? One of the most popular cars at that time was a Rambler; and if one thinks about the options available and the safety features in that car, we would really be amazed at how far we have come. There were no seat belts. There were no air bags. There were no GPS systems. There was just a lot different with vehicular travel back then.

And I think it is a wonderful analogy to think about when we are talking about health care in this country. Because Medicare in its inception in the 1960s really has changed very little over the years; and what we have is a situation where our seniors are faced with the same type of options, the same menu of services that they have had over the last 40 years. That is why we needed to pass the Medicare reform bill, and that we did.

The bill provides, I think, seniors with access to choices in health care, with easier access to health care, and it also provides immediate relief for the rising need for access in prescription drugs.

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Under the Medicare Modernization Act, seniors have a choice. First of all, when we are talking about the prescription drug program, that program is completely voluntary.

It is voluntary, and seniors in my district, some of whom have existing coverage, will not have to participate in the program. It is not a one-size-fits-