

more, and yet that is what they proposed.

Indeed, they have cut last week's school lunches, and now we are about to see them attempt to cut on the big brothers and the big sisters of those same children when they cut student loans.

Fortunately and finally last week over 100 House Republicans questioned whether providing a tax break for those at the \$200,000 level made any sense. It does not. This move represented a half step, but that is better than the kind of lockstep that we have seen of late.

IT IS TIME TO SET TERM LIMITS

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I do not see how anyone could have watched the debate over welfare reform last week and not come away in favor of term limits.

Even though just about everybody agrees that the current welfare system is a mess, in fact, an abysmal failure, we saw last week the architects of the present welfare system stream to this floor to denounce attempts at reform. Sure, they couched their opposition in politically correct terms. They have learned how to do that around here.

We do need change, they admit, just not this change. The very people who fought the hardest against welfare reform were the same Members who for decades have voted to fund and expand the welfare monstrosity.

Some folks seem to be a little too proud of their handiwork and a little too close to the bureaucracies they have built.

Mr. Speaker, last week we set term limits on welfare recipients. Now we ought to set term limits on the group that created the welfare mess in this country in the first place.

GOP HAS SUPERMAJORITY ON TERM LIMITS

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, make no bones about it, the fate of term limits rests squarely on the shoulders of the Democrats in Congress.

More than 80 percent of Republican Members support and will vote for term limits.

That's more than a majority. That is more than a supermajority. Why that might even be more than a superduper majority.

All we need is the support of just one-half of the Democrats.

Not even a majority, just 50 percent.

No one can say that Republicans have not listened to the American people who overwhelmingly support term limits.

Mr. Speaker, I ask just half my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to listen to the American people.

To them I would say, stop the arrogance of Washington. Vote "yes" on term limits.

□ 1430

TERM LIMITS: BOUND BY THE VOICE OF MY CONSTITUENTS

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

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, a few years ago when the great debate began back in our constituencies about the possibility of term limitations, I debated that very same subject with various groups in our district. I took the position then, which I felt was justified, that term limits were a province of the voters, who every 2 years could exert their judgment and determine whether or not the term of that particular officeholder should be ended.

Well, the debate went on and on and finally I decided to resolve the question by having an item in my annual questionnaire as to how our people felt about term limitations. By a count of 70 or more in that grandiose count that we made of opinion in our district, people were in favor of term limitations.

So as we begin the dateline here today on the debate on term limitations, I am bound by the voice of my people and I will vote in favor of term limitations. And no matter what the outcome, they will determine, in November of 1996, whether my term should expire.

SELLING BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION IS A BAD IDEA

(Mr. COOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform my colleagues that selling the Bonneville Power Administration is a bad idea for now.

If we are looking for someone to buy BPA, the only buyer I know, foolish enough to take on an investment like this, is Uncle Sam himself. In fact, if we did find such a buyer, they would probably have a deed to the Brooklyn Bridge.

Here are just five of the reasons that make Bonneville a bad candidate for privatization. First, there will be incredible costs associated with the Endangered Species Act requirements.

Second, nuclear plant investments have gone bad, creating more costs to cut profit margins.

Third, this year alone, it is recommended that BPA spend \$500 million on fish and wildlife mitigation costs.

Fourth, you cannot sell what is not yours. Numerous counties and cities have vested interests in the facilities and transmission equipment.

Finally, there are treaty considerations with Canada that will profoundly complicate matters.

Clearly, while privatization sounds good for the taxpayer, there is a right way and wrong way to go about it. Now is not the time for BPA.

TERM LIMITS: A CITIZEN LEGISLATURE

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

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, today in this body we begin a historic debate. Not since 1776 when the Framers of the Constitution first discussed the concept of a citizen legislature has the concept of limited terms been debated by those chosen to represent their respective States.

It was during that historic debate that the gentleman from Virginia, George Mason, stated that:

Elected representatives should be subject to periodical rotation. For nothing so strongly impels a man to regard the interest of his constituents as the certainty of returning to the general mass of the people from whence he was taken and where he must participate in their burdens.

It is with that in mind that I challenge you, my colleagues, with remembering that 22 States have already enacted term limits for their elected Members.

I urge you to support term limits and return this elected body to a citizen legislature.

THANKS FOR ENDING WELFARE AS WE KNOW IT

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

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I must admit to being a little depressed when I left here last week.

With calls of "Shame, Shame, Republican, Shame," still ringing in my ears, I wondered: Was I really mean-spirited? Did our welfare plan deserve the name-calling and the references to Nazi Germany?

I was heartened, though, when I boarded the plane at National and the flight attendant did not tell me to sit down and shut up; further encouraged when the dog did not bite me and the kids were happy to see me; happier still when the folks back home—those who get up every morning at 5:30, carry a lunch box, pay their taxes, and obey the law—called to say thanks for ending welfare as we know it.

But it was not until Sunday morning, when I got the paper out of the tube and saw this cartoon, that my spirits truly soared and I was able to separate rhetoric from reality.

My thanks to cartoonist Kelley from the San Diego Union-Tribune. In this picture, Tom has five apples and Ed has one. Tom gives three of his apples to