

year in order to defeat the amendment. They are the sole obstacle to delivering a balanced budget to the American people.

We call on the President to show leadership and do the right thing for our children and grandchildren. If the President really believes that big Government and wasteful Washington spending are a thing of the past, he shouldn't be afraid to legally require a balanced Washington budget.

#### CHILDREN DID NOT RUN UP THE DEBT

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

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I really thank the wonderful citizens around America who came this weekend to stand for children. We have heard some speeches this morning about how the best thing we can do for children is not run up a debt. That is absolutely right. We should not run up a debt. But let us also remind people that children did not run up the debt that is already there.

Mr. Speaker, we should not try to balance the debt on the backs of children, because children are going to be the ones that inherit this debt and are going to have to pay it off. The things that we desperately need for children are to make sure that they have the educational skills that they can get out and compete globally in the 21st century and make enough money so they can pay this off and get this country going the right way.

So to cut student loans, to cut aid to education, to cut after-school programs and summer programs, to cut math and science programs are all terribly shortsighted. Those who cause the debt should pay for the debt, not the children.

#### FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE FUNDS AND REGULATORY RELIEF ACT OF 1996

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

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, this Member introduced the Federal Deposit Insurance Funds and Regulatory Relief Act of 1996, which constitutes a comprehensive plan to: First, fully capitalize the Savings Association insurance fund; second, guarantee payment of interest on Financing Corporation bonds; third, merge the bank and thrift charters; fourth, merge the bank insurance fund and the Savings Association insurance fund into a new deposit insurance fund; and fifth, provide solid regulatory relief to all financial institutions.

Mr. Speaker, this Member will be circulating a "Dear Colleague" letter explaining the provisions in the bill and he invites his colleagues to join in co-sponsoring this comprehensive legislation.

#### FIGHT THE ATTACK ON AGRICULTURE

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

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee's bill is a slap in the face to rural America. Last week the subcommittee approved a bill that would provide \$581 million less in budget authority for agriculture programs for fiscal year 1997.

The subcommittee's bill demonstrates the blatant lack of understanding many in Congress have for the 1996 farm bill and for America's farmers.

The Agriculture Committee worked for more than a year on a farm bill that would meet the needs of farmers, and our obligations in balancing the budget. We created a program of fixed, but declining payments to transition farmers from dependence on the government, to market-based production. The subcommittee's bill invalidates the farm bill and these contracts.

Today, I'm speaking especially to all of my colleagues from rural districts. Let's drop this partisanship. As aggies we must work together to fight, once again, this attack on agriculture.

#### THE WARNING BY DR. BILLY GRAHAM

(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, a few weeks ago, Dr. Billy Graham received a well-deserved Congressional Medal of Honor here in the Capitol.

In his acceptance speech, he said that our Nation had "confused liberty with license" and that we are now "a society poised on the brink of self-destruction."

I am a little more optimistic than Dr. Graham, but unfortunately, almost no one would say that he had no reason or justification for his statements.

Let me quickly note three recent incidents which would cause Dr. Graham further concern.

First, a Federal judge ruled yesterday that a rural Mississippi school had violated the Constitution by allowing prayers over the intercom and classes about the Bible.

Second, the top legal adviser for the Governor of Florida said a school prayer bill was illegal because "we are officially now mandated to be a country with no formal recognition of God."

Third, a Maryland school superintendent revoked an invitation to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas because he happens to be both black and conservative.

Another high official in Prince George's County, where this occurred, called it "the epitome of intolerance and bigotry."

These things would not have happened in this country just a few years ago.

We should think very seriously about the warning by Dr. Billy Graham.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken on Wednesday, June 5, 1996.

#### AUTHORIZATION OF MAJOR FACILITY PROJECTS AND MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY LEASES FOR DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, FISCAL YEAR 1997

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3376) to authorize major medical facility projects and major medical facility leases for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 1997, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### TITLE I—CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATION

##### SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECTS.

(a) AMBULATORY CARE ADDITION PROJECTS.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may carry out the following ambulatory care addition major medical facility projects, with each project to be carried out in the amount specified for that project:

(1) Addition of ambulatory care facilities for mental health enhancements at the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Dallas, Texas, \$19,900,000.

(2) Addition of ambulatory care facilities at the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Brockton, Massachusetts, \$13,500,000.

(3) Addition of ambulatory care facilities for outpatient improvements at the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Shreveport, Louisiana, \$25,000,000.

(4) Addition of ambulatory care facilities at the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Lyons, New Jersey, \$21,100,000.

(5) Addition of ambulatory care facilities at the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Tomah, Wisconsin, \$12,700,000.

(6) Addition of ambulatory care facilities at the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Asheville, North Carolina, in the amount of \$28,800,000.

(7) Addition of ambulatory care facilities at the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Temple, Texas, in the amount of \$9,800,000.

(8) Addition of ambulatory care facilities at the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Tucson, Arizona, in the amount of \$35,500,000.

(b) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may carry out the following environmental improvement major medical facility projects, with each project to be carried out in the amount specified for that project:

(1) Environmental improvements for the renovation of nursing home facilities at the