

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, is it appropriate to deal specifically with Members of the other body by name in making or casting aspersions on the motives?

Mr. VOLKMER. He is not a Member of the other body.

Mr. LINDER. TRENT LOTT is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members should not so refer to specific Members of the other body by name. The gentleman will proceed in order.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I will strike the name and say the junior senator from Mississippi. Everyone knows it is the same person.

□ 1030

Everyone knows it is the same person. What I would say is, very simply, if we look at this budget with regard to toxic waste cleanups, welfare reform, weak on work but tough on kids, bigger deficits, not smaller, raising the deficit, limiting direct student loans, tax increases on working families, limiting guarantees for health care for low-income women and children and seniors in nursing homes, hundreds of rural hospitals cut, doctors to overcharge seniors for Medicare, and the list goes on and on, it is an extreme budget. It is a wrong budget. We will defeat it.

ONLY WAY TO BALANCED BUDGET IS DECREASED FEDERAL SPENDING

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

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, it is the same old story, same old line. We have heard about cuts, cuts, cuts, for so long. Only in this town does an increase in spending come to a cut.

Never before in the history of Webster's Dictionary has the term "cut" been defined as an increase. The Republican plan, a budget to protect and preserve Medicare, provides for an increase in spending. I challenge any one of my colleagues to stand up and say that is not true. If they do, they are entitled to the \$1 million that we promised a year ago. But they will not do that.

Mr. Speaker, our budget that we are going to be talking about in the next couple of days does get to balance in the year 2002. Our budget has lower deficits than the President's budget in every single year. That is extremely important, because what that does is get it to balance. That is the only way we are going to get there is to decrease Federal spending.

MEDICARE TOO IMPORTANT TO BE TREATED LIKE AN UGLY STEPCHILD

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

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, tampering with Medicare not only impacts our seniors, it also affects our entire health care system. When we boast about having the greatest health care system in the world, it is due in no small measure to the research and financial infrastructure that Medicare provides.

For this reason, Mr. Speaker, any reductions in Medicare should be carefully considered and put back into the system, not used to pay for tax cuts and star wars.

Desperate, however, to provide tax breaks to their wealthy campaign contributors, Republican leaders have cooked up a plan to cut \$168 billion from Medicare, although only \$90 billion is needed to extend the Medicare trust fund. The GOP insists on cutting an extra \$78 billion that will eventually end up in the pockets of junk-bond dealers, corporate CEO's and insurance companies.

Mr. Speaker, Medicare is too important to be treated like an ugly stepchild by Uncle NEWT.

REPUBLICANS SHOULD WORK WITH DEMOCRATS TO PROTECT MEDICARE FOR AMERICA'S SENIOR CITIZENS

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

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, it is budget time again. Once again, I hear my extreme radical Republican colleagues, under the gentleman from Georgia, NEWT GINGRICH, and Bob Dole telling the American public they are going to save Medicare. How are they going to do that? They are going to do that by cutting it by \$168 billion, by forcing senior citizens to pay more for health care, by gutting rural health care, and by closing hospitals. This budget cuts funding for hospitals by 19 percent. How are my radical Republican colleagues going to save Medicare if they close hundreds of hospitals?

Mr. Speaker, according to the Missouri Hospital Association, this would not be a mere reduction in the rate of increase, but a dangerous and devastating cut in payment. Rather than receiving an increased level of payment for services that are more intensive and increasingly costly to deliver, hospitals will be paid less in each of the next 6 years than they are paid this year. Many of the rural hospitals in my district will be devastated by these cuts and forced to close their doors. How does this improve health care for American senior citizens?

REPUBLICAN CUTS IN MEDICARE AND MEDICAID AND TAX BREAKS INCREASE THE DEFICIT

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is the same old thing that we went through last year: Here comes the budget again, and the Republicans are slashing Medicare and Medicaid to pay for tax breaks for the wealthy. The amazing thing about it is that they are doing it this year and actually increasing the deficit. The deficit goes up from a current projection of \$130 billion for fiscal year 1996 to \$153 billion for fiscal year 1997, so not only are they trying to destroy the Medicare and Medicaid Program, they are also going against their alleged promise that they are going to reduce the deficit in order to do it.

Do Members know where this money is going? All these cuts are going into a giant slush fund. One of my colleagues said before, they are not using the Medicare and Medicaid money in order to pay for tax breaks. In fact, they are, because the cuts go into a slush fund. That slush fund will be used later during the budget process in order to provide those tax breaks for the wealthy. It is the same old story again. The Republicans do not care about the average person. They are just trying to help their rich friends.

SUPPORT URGED FOR RESOLUTION AGAINST CHURCH BURNINGS

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

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, it is time for this body to speak with the voice of reason. It is time for this body to speak with the voice of leadership. It is time for people of reason to speak out against the church bombings, and certainly this House should make it abundantly clear that it is unacceptable, in a Nation of civil liberties, that we would find a house of worship to be a target for arson. It is certainly unacceptable in this House that we would not speak out to say that civilized people do not find that places of worship, places of sacred faith, should be desecrated.

I urge my colleagues, all who are persons of reason, persons who respect faith, to sign my resolution condemning the violent acts and the burning of churches in the African-American communities, or churches of any races, churches of any faiths. Speak out against that. Be resolved in knowing what America is about.

PERMISSION FOR SUNDRY COMMITTEES AND THEIR SUBCOMMITTEES TO SIT TODAY DURING 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following committees and their subcommittees be permitted to sit today while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole House under the 5-minute rule: The Committee on Banking and Financial Services; the Committee on Commerce; the Committee on Economic

and Educational Opportunities; the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight; the Committee on International Relations; the Committee on the Judiciary; the Committee on National Security; the Committee on Resources; the Committee on Science; the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; the Committee on Veterans' Affairs; and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

It is my understanding that the minority has been consulted and that there is no objection to this request.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 332, nays 76, answered "present" 1, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 229]

YEAS—332

Ackerman	Campbell	Edwards
Allard	Canady	Ehlers
Andrews	Cardin	Ehrlich
Archer	Castle	Eshoo
Army	Chabot	Evans
Bachus	Chambliss	Ewing
Baesler	Chenoweth	Farr
Baker (CA)	Christensen	Fattah
Baker (LA)	Clayton	Fawell
Baldacci	Clement	Fields (LA)
Ballenger	Clinger	Fields (TX)
Barcia	Coble	Flake
Barr	Coburn	Foglietta
Barrett (NE)	Collins (GA)	Foley
Barrett (WI)	Combest	Forbes
Bartlett	Condit	Ford
Barton	Cooley	Fowler
Beilenson	Cox	Frank (MA)
Bentsen	Coyne	Franks (CT)
Bereuter	Cramer	Franks (NJ)
Berman	Crapo	Frisa
Bevill	Creameans	Frost
Bilbray	Cubin	Furse
Bilirakis	Cummings	Gallegly
Bliley	Cunningham	Ganske
Blumenauer	Danner	Gejdenson
Blute	Davis	Gekas
Boehlert	Deal	Gilchrest
Boehner	DeLauro	Gilman
Bonilla	DeLay	Gonzalez
Bono	Dellums	Goodlatte
Boucher	Deutsch	Goodling
Brewster	Diaz-Balart	Gordon
Browder	Dickey	Goss
Brown (OH)	Dicks	Graham
Brownback	Dingell	Green (TX)
Bryant (TN)	Dixon	Greene (UT)
Bryant (TX)	Doggett	Greenwood
Bunning	Dooley	Gunderson
Burr	Doolittle	Hall (OH)
Burton	Doyle	Hamilton
Buyer	Dreier	Hancock
Callahan	Duncan	Hansen
Camp	Dunn	Hastert

Hastings (WA)	McKeon	Salmon
Hayes	McNulty	Sanders
Hayworth	Meehan	Sanford
Hefner	Metcalf	Sawyer
Heger	Mica	Saxton
Hobson	Millender-	Scarborough
Hoekstra	McDonald	Schaefer
Hoke	Miller (CA)	Schumer
Holden	Miller (FL)	Seastrand
Horn	Minge	Sensenbrenner
Hostettler	Mink	Serrano
Houghton	Moakley	Shadeggs
Hoyer	Molinari	Shaw
Hunter	Mollohan	Shays
Hyde	Montgomery	Shuster
Istook	Moorhead	Sisisky
Jackson (IL)	Moran	Skaggs
Johnson (CT)	Morella	Skeen
Johnson (SD)	Murtha	Skelton
Johnson, Sam	Myers	Slaughter
Johnston	Myrick	Smith (NJ)
Jones	Nadler	Smith (TX)
Kanjorski	Neal	Smith (WA)
Kaptur	Nethercutt	Solomon
Kasich	Neumann	Souder
Kelly	Ney	Spence
Kennedy (MA)	Norwood	Spratt
Kennedy (RI)	Nussle	Stark
Kennelly	Obey	Stearns
Kildee	Ortiz	Stokes
Kim	Orton	Studds
King	Owens	Stump
Kingston	Oxley	Stupak
Kleczka	Packard	Talent
Klink	Parker	Tanner
Klug	Pastor	Tate
Knollenberg	Paxon	Tauzin
Kolbe	Payne (VA)	Taylor (NC)
LaHood	Pelosi	Tejeda
Largent	Peterson (FL)	Thomas
LaTourette	Peterson (MN)	Thornberry
Laughlin	Petri	Thornton
Lazio	Pomeroy	Thurman
Leach	Porter	Tiahrt
Lewis (CA)	Portman	Torres
Lewis (KY)	Poshard	Torricelli
Lightfoot	Pryce	Traficant
Linder	Quillen	Upton
Livingston	Quinn	Vento
LoBiondo	Radanovich	Vucanovich
Lofgren	Rahall	Walker
Lowe	Ramstad	Walsh
Lucas	Rangel	Wamp
Luther	Reed	Ward
Maloney	Regula	Watt (NC)
Manton	Richardson	Waxman
Manzullo	Riggs	Weldon (FL)
Markey	Rivers	Weldon (PA)
Martinez	Roberts	White
Mascara	Roemer	Whitfield
Matsui	Rogers	Williams
McCollum	Rohrabacher	Wise
McCreery	Ros-Lehtinen	Wolf
McHale	Rose	Woolsey
McHugh	Roth	Wynn
McInnis	Roukema	Young (FL)
McIntosh	Roybal-Allard	Zeliff

NAYS—76

Abercrombie	Geren	Meyers
Becerra	Gibbons	Oberstar
Bishop	Gutierrez	Olver
Bonior	Gutknecht	Pallone
Borski	Hastings (FL)	Pickett
Brown (CA)	Hefley	Pombo
Brown (FL)	Heineman	Rush
Bunn	Hilleary	Sabo
Chrysler	Hilliard	Schroeder
Clay	Hinchey	Scott
Coleman	Hutchinson	Smith (MI)
Collins (IL)	Jackson-Lee	Stenholm
Collins (MI)	(TX)	Stockman
Costello	Jacobs	Taylor (MS)
Crane	Jefferson	Thompson
DeFazio	Johnson, E.B.	Torkildsen
Durbin	LaFalce	Towns
Engel	Latham	Visclosky
English	Levin	Volkmer
Ensign	Lewis (GA)	Waters
Fazio	Lipinski	Watts (OK)
Filner	McCarthy	Weller
Flanagan	McDermott	Wicker
Fox	McKinney	Yates
Funderburk	Meek	Zimmer
Gephardt	Menendez	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Harman

NOT VOTING—25

Bass	Everett	McDade
Bateman	Frelinghuysen	Payne (NJ)
Calvert	Gillmor	Royce
Chapman	Hall (TX)	Schiff
Clyburn	Inglis	Velazquez
Conyers	Lantos	Wilson
de la Garza	Lincoln	Young (AK)
Dornan	Longley	
Emerson	Martini	

□ 1057

So the Journal was approved. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, because my flight from California was delayed yesterday, I was unable to be present to vote on several rollcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted "present" on rollcall 225, approval of the journal.

I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 226, the motion to instruct House conferees to H.R. 3103, the bill to improve the portability and continuity of health insurance coverage.

I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 227, Mr. FRANK's amendment to prohibit IMET funds for Indonesia.

And I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 228, final passage of the foreign operations appropriations bill for fiscal 1997.

SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE DISPOSE OF REMAINING COMMODITIES IN DISASTER RESERVE

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture be discharged from further consideration of the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 63) to express the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Agriculture should dispose of all remaining commodities in the disaster reserve maintained under the Agricultural Act of 1970 to relieve the distress of livestock producers whose ability to maintain livestock is adversely affected by disaster conditions existing in certain areas of the United States, such as prolonged drought or flooding, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAZIO of New York). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

□ 1100

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I will not object, and I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. BARRETT] for an explanation of the Senate concurrent resolution.

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, this is more or less a house-keeping chore, albeit a very important one. Senate Concurrent Resolution 63 is the Senate version of House Concurrent Resolution 181, which passed the