According to the most recent information that we have from the Census Bureau, only about a third of children under the age of 5 are in some form of paid day care while the mother works outside the home. Is it really fair to only give tax relief to that one-third of American families? What can we do to help the other two-thirds of families? Let's not forget about them.

The American family is under great financial pressure today. And a lot of that pressure is due to the burden of taxes. Who is being hit the hardest? Families with children. These last 50 years have meant a huge increase in the tax burden being placed on these Americans. In 1948, for example, a mom and dad with four kids only paid a mere 3 percent of their family income to the federal government in direct taxes. But last year, that figure had jumped dramatically. In fact, that same family had to pay almost a quarter of its income to Uncle Sam! (When you include state, local and indirect taxes, that 1997 figure leaps to about 38 percent.) This is ridiculous. And something has to be done about it. Why are we penalizing people for getting married and having children? And why, as we talk about child care proposals, are we penalizing those who are sacrificing even more by staying at home or having relatives take care of their kids?

And that's why I stand here to give my support to the Equitable Child Care Resolution, H. Con. Res. 202. I urge my Colleagues to take this step to ensure that all families will be treated fairly as we continues these discussions about day care.

USING SPACE TO ENSURE U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY

HON. DANA ROHRABACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 1998

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, on January 15 of this year, a highly respected defense think-tank, the Center for Security Policy, held a high-level roundtable focusing on the need for American space dominance to promote U.S. national security in the next millennium. Key speakers included former Defense Secretaries Caspar Weinberger and James Schlesinger, who were joined by five retired four-star flag officers and a range of senior military officials and civilian analysts.

There was a general consensus at the conference that President Clinton's recent line-item veto of three Congressionally-sponsored programs to create advanced space technology for U.S. national security—the KEASAT, Clementine 2, and military spaceplane—was misguided, inappropriate, and unacceptable because it put U.S. national security at unnecessary risk.

The roundtable dealt with a range of issues related to space and built its theme around the growing importance that space plays in ensuring U.S. national security. Secretary Weinberger began the discussion by placing space in the broader context of U.S. national security when he noted, ''since the first ballistic missile rose from the pads, space has had military uses by ourselves, by others, and by those friendly to us and those not friendly to us.'' In reference to the Clinton administration's recent vetoes, the Secretary went on to argue, ''we cannot put the country at risk by deliberate attempts to block us from the use of space or to block any attempts to develop systems that could be helpful to use in space.'' General Edward ''Shy'' Meyer, who served as Army Chief of Staff under President Carter noted that our force structure depends on space for key advantages. Admiral Wesley McDonald, former Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, stated, ''I can't impress you enough as to how dependent on use of space the Navy is.'' Retired Air Force General Mike Loh, who led the Air Combat Command, stressed how ''very dependent they [the military services] have become on space assets. It is almost frightening when you then turn around and look at how little we have allowed for the protection and the space superiority of those assets. As I look back over the last couple of years, we have become more and more dependent on [space] and we want to become dependent on it because, for those functions, space is a more efficient medium than the way we did it before. It is less costly in the long run, and it is better. I am all for it, provided we can maintain space superiority.'' In addition, conferees considered matters of procurement and policy, discussing the increasing pace of change in the commercial space markets and the impact that the proliferation of civilian space technologies will have on U.S. national security.

I want to commend the Center for holding the roundtable and encourage my colleagues to review the summary of the Roundtable's proceedings available from the Center for Security Policy at 1250 24th Street, NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20037 and on the Center's home page, ''www.security-policy.org.''

TITLE X PARENTAL NOTIFICATION ACT OF 1998

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 1998

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, Good morning. I stand before you today to plead the case of a young girl and her parents from Crystal Lake, Illinois, whose lives were changed forever by an intrusive, overbearing federal government.

She was 13 years old when her 37-year-old teacher began having sex with her. A few months into the affair, the teacher—tired of using condoms—brought her to a place where he knew the young girl could get birth control products without anyone finding out: the county health department. This teacher knew that federal Title X rules prohibited clinics from notifying parents when issuing birth control drugs to minors.

When the young girl arrived at the health department, the clinic nurse gave her a shot of a powerful birth control drug that would last three months. This hormonal drug, Depo-Provera, poses severe side effects including excessive bleeding and bone loss. In fact, the ACLU protested its use in chemically castrating male sex offenders in California because of the ''cruel and unusual punishment'' the side effects constitute to the criminals. But yet, it is safe and appropriate for little girls. And its use is widespread. In Illinois alone, health clinics injected Depo-Provera into the veins of young girls more than 6,500 times over a two-year period, despite the minimal testing of the drug on adolescents.

The little girl from Crystal Lake received at least two more shots of Depo-Provera from the county health clinic. And her teacher continued molesting her—all behind her parents' backs. The crime was finally uncovered 18 months later when the girl broke down and told her parents. The teacher was arrested and sentenced to 10 years in prison. The young girl spent five days a week in therapy and is recovering from effects of anorexia nervosa.

I told this little girl's story to the United States Congress last year when Congressman ISTOOK and I were trying to attach a parental notification amendment to the Title X program. I spoke of how her pain continued because the federal government had rules in place which shielded the teacher's crime. I spoke of how irate and helpless her parents felt when they learned that the federal government had cut them out of the discussion of their young daughter's sexuality. But in the end, parents lost again. The House's 220–201 vote for a toothless, alternative bill killed the Istook-Manzullo amendment and sent another message that parents are irrelevant in our society.

Shortly after our loss last September, I vowed to continue this battle to bring sanity and parental responsibility to this flawed program. And today, I come before you to announce that I have introduced two free-standing bills to give parents more protection and knowledge when their children seek birth control drugs from federally funded clinics.

The ''Title X Parental Notification Act of 1998'' would require clinics receiving Title X money to notify parents or legal guardians before providing minors with prescriptive birth control products, including birth control pills, IUDs, Norplant and Depo-Provera. The clinic would have to give actual written notice to parents or guardians at least five days before issuing the drugs to the girls. In addition, the bill would require the clinics to follow any state mandated criminal reporting requirements for signs of child abuse, child molestation, sexual abuse, rape or incest in their clients.

The second bill, known as the ''Title X Child Abuse, Rape, Molestation and Incest Reporting Act,'' deals solely with the provision requiring Title X clinics to follow any state reporting requirements.

Any clinic that violates the provisions in either of the bills would lose its Title X funding.

The general argument for providing young girls with birth control products behind their parents' backs is cloaked in double standards. On one hand, we make laws to protect children from the dangers of drugs, alcohol and tobacco. But then we open them to the dangers of AIDS and other diseases by giving them the tools to have sex. We make laws requiring children to get their parents' permission for an aspirin at school, an earring or a tattoo. But then we give them confidential injections of powerful birth control drugs that carry tremendous side effects. We make laws saying parents are legally responsible for their childrens' actions until the children become adults. But then we rip parents from the equation when it comes to something as critical and potentially dangerous as sexuality. This doesn't make sense.

In addition to notifying parents, clinic workers must get more vigilant in protecting our