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No. 23

## House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. NUSSLE].

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
February 6, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable JIM NUSSLE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 1995, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member except the majority and minority leaders limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

### LINE-ITEM VETO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTLER] for 2 minutes.

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today for a number of reasons. It is my hope and expectation that later this evening, this Chamber will pass H.R. 2 and give the President a much overdue line-item veto. I commend my colleagues for this effort and look forward to casting my vote in support of this very useful tool as it will be a good first step in eliminating unnecessary Federal spending and put a bit of balance into the Federal budget process. However, I think the words

that I should most emphasize here would be "first step." Giving the President the power and authority to rescind spending that is viewed as wasteful or excessive is only the first step in the long and arduous journey toward fiscal responsibility. However, given the fact that President's Clinton's budget, which was just released today, contains an annual budget deficit of over \$190 billion for the next 5 years, Congress is obviously going to have to take the lead in instilling some kind of fiscal control in the Federal budget process.

Line-item veto or no-line-item veto, from the looks of the red ink in this President's budget, it is readily apparent that if anything is going to be done about this country's fiscal crisis, it is going to be done by us. And at the risk of sounding cynical or pessimistic, we have not even begun to make the difficult decisions that we will undoubtedly have to make to put the Federal budget process and Federal spending back on the path toward fiscal health. It is because I am ready, even anxious, to make these decisions that I decided to run for Congress last year at this time. I looked around me, at what was happening to the priorities our Federal Government had established when doling out Federal tax dollars, my tax dollars, and I became concerned, actually frightened, and I thought about the future of my children. I began to seriously worry about the burden that trillions of dollars in debt will place on my children and on the children of all Americans. Each year, lawmakers seem to ignore what is fiscally sound economic advice from their constituents and endlessly deficit spend the hard working citizens' tax dollars. And every year that this happens, the financial security of our children, and our children's children is jeopardized. I am no longer willing to take this kind of chance with the future of our country. Today we celebrate the birthday of

former President Ronald Reagan, a man whose commitment to fiscal responsibility was acknowledged and respected far and wide. Today I celebrate the birthday of another gentleman who taught me about fiscal accountability. My father turns 72 today, and it is from him that I learned about the duty, responsibility, and obligation for family that I try to incorporate into my life every day. It is because of this overwhelming sense of commitment to my family that I stand before you today. As we undertake this enormous task in front of us, I urge us not to lose sight of the fact that it will be our children that will actually suffer from our lack of dedication to true fiscal responsibility.

### WELFARE REFORM AND INCREASING THE MINIMUM WAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentlewoman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, as the prior gentleman in the well was talking about, this is a week where we are really going to be focusing on the budget. But I think there is an awful lot of other issues as we all sit down as Americans around the budget table and try and figure out how we get our budget under control.

The first thing that strikes me is that tomorrow night, February 7, there is going to be a dinner in this town, and they are going to charge \$50,000 a plate for the Speaker. That is an awful lot of money.

While that dinner is going on, many of us are trying to increase the minimum wage. But let us think about how many minimum wage people are going to be at that dinner. I do not think

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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