

billion over 5 years. Family-based nutrition programs would be cut by \$680 million in 1996 and \$4.6 billion over 5 years.

The Republicans say their plan frees up more money for food by making the programs less bureaucratic. This is preposterous. The Republicans' proposal would actually make the programs more bureaucratic by creating 50 new bureaucracies to administer 50 new programs. This will only increase administrative costs for the States, and ultimately mean less food for children. The fact is the Republicans would not be cutting Federal bureaucracy, they would simply be cutting Federal funding.

I am especially concerned about the impact this block grant proposal would have on the School Lunch Program—a program that serves free and reduced priced lunches to over 104,000 children in my home State of Connecticut every day.

I met today with two special people who run a program in my district called Boys Village. This program provides community-based and day treatment services for at-risk children. Every day, Boys Village feeds breakfast and lunch to all the children enrolled in its program. To help do this, they receive \$30,000 a year from the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs.

The budget for this remarkably successful program is small. If funding for its nutrition programs was substantially reduced, or eliminated, which is possible under the Republicans' proposal, Boys Village would have to make some tough choices.

Those are not pleasant choices, Mr. Speaker. And they're choices that all School Meal Programs will be forced to make. They will have to either eliminate meals, increase prices, or reduce the quality and quantity of the well-balanced, nutritious meals that kids currently receive.

Newt Gingrich, who spoke so highly of the Boys Town of yesteryear, should wake up and see what the Boys Villages of tomorrow will be like if he has his way. They will not feature the smiling faces of the movie version. It will be more like the Dickens' version, with hungry children holding out their tin cups and begging for more.

Child Nutrition Programs in this country will be a pale imitation of what they are today. Enrollment will decrease, nutritional standards will diminish, and the health of our children will suffer.

It is a vision of hungry kids who are not healthy, alert, and ready to learn—all this so the Republicans can pay for tax breaks for the wealthy. This Republican scheme must be stopped. I urge my colleagues to keep up the fight.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. DELAURO. I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Would you just comment on the fact that most of the time when we think about changing things, we want to correct them; do you see anything wrong with the school lunch and the WIC program? Is there fraud or something we know that is going on that it is not effective? Why are we changing the school lunch program? Is there some reason that would help us understand? Are we improving it? Why are we changing it?

Ms. DELAURO. My colleague has put her finger really on the crux of this issue. I say do not listen to all of us tonight, listen to us, but talk to the people in our districts who run these programs. These are successful programs. They work. They are living up to the objectives that they were created for, and it is foolish for us to unravel these very fine programs and create difficult problems for our youngsters and, quite frankly, for our economy in the future.

And once again, I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

REPUBLICAN SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM INCREASES FUNDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the school lunch program under the Republican majority proposal will actually increase the current \$4.5 billion budgeted to \$4.7 billion for fiscal year 1996.

The other side of the aisle would have you believe the school lunch program will be eliminated. This is pure fiction.

Republicans propose to actually increase by 4.5 percent more on school lunches in 1996 and 4 percent for each year thereafter for the next 5 years.

They key to delivering more to our local schools is accomplished by eliminating the Federal bureaucrats and their involvement, and directly sending aid to the States for our local students. Through this block grant, the weight of the unnecessary Federal paperwork will be eliminated.

Now, the Federal Government—

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. I will when I complete my statement.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will not yield at this time.

Mr. POMEROY. The full 5-minute statement or the sentence?

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Now, the Federal Government, Mr. Speaker, wastes 15 percent of the school nutrition money—

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time is controlled by the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, point of clarification, I am not sure when the gentleman is going to yield to me for my question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman controls the time, and he has declined to yield.

Mr. POMEROY. Does the gentleman yield? He said he would yield.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to continue my speech.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman controls the time.

Mr. POMEROY. The gentleman did not yield.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it wastes 15 percent—

Mr. Speaker, do I have the floor?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania controls the time.

Mr. POMEROY. Does the gentleman yield?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has repeatedly stated that.

Mr. POMEROY. He said he would yield.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. I did not say that. I said I would yield at the end of my speech.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman controls the time and has refused to yield.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Now, the Federal Government wastes 15 percent of the school nutrition funds for administrative costs alone, and under the majority Republican proposal, more children will be fed, and only the bureaucrats of Washington, DC, will be the ones disappointed.

The successes of our school lunch program at Penn Dale Middle School in Lansdale, Montgomery County, was observed by me firsthand on Monday.

Motivated students are involved in planning menus, dedicated faculty are working closely with home economics classes, and most of all, Dorothy Irvin, as our food service coordinator, is doing an outstanding job working with principal Donald Venema to make the program work.

They have understood that what we have discussed here is more money for the school district, more money for the program.

In summation, Mr. Speaker, we believe the key to the school lunch program and the proposal we have before the Congress now will have more dollars spent on direct services for children and less on the administrative paperwork that helps no one, and I believe, Mr. Speaker, it is in the best interests of everyone.

CHILDHOOD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, Americans want streamlined and efficient government, but they also expect Congress to be fair and responsible.

They did not ask us to achieve these goals at all costs, especially if it means