

we would take the power away from the Federal Government.

Ladies and gentlemen, the power in this country is the power within the people's lands, not a Federal Government. In these 59 days we have made great strides in improving the quality of life in this Nation. Our crime bill, for example, will give local law enforcement the power to attack crime only as they know how. The National Security Restoration Act will ensure that no American soldier in the service of this Nation will die at the whim of an Egyptian bureaucrat.

We have passed legislation to bring the massive regulatory bureaucracy under control, and thank God. We have released the American people from the mindless bureaucrats that inflict billions and billions of dollars of unnecessary burden on the American economy, large business, small business and all.

In passing these acts we have kept our promise to the American people. We have put in more hours, held more hearings, cast more votes than any previous Congress had to this point in recent history. We have shown this Nation, with the work that we have done, that the U.S. House of Representatives can be an effective legislature.

We have shown the American people that Government can get the important business of this Nation accomplished. And we are going to accomplish still more in the next 41 days.

In the next 41 days we will reform the legal system to make our system more responsible and reduce the dragging effect that frivolous lawsuits have on this Nation. We are going to pass term limits to make legislators value public service over professional politics. We will take steps to treat seniors equitably with the Senior Citizens Equity Act, and yes, we will make reforms of our morally bankrupt welfare system.

And we will continue to hear the guardians of the old order whine and cry as we dismantle the system that they created over 40 years. We will continue to hear Democrats tell the American people how the Federal Government always knows best, as they did in the unfunded mandates debate.

We will continue to hear the Democrats say that local officials cannot be trusted to do the right thing, as they did in the crime bill debate. We will continue to hear the Democrats fight to save the power of the Federal bureaucrats, as they did in the regulatory reform debate.

It is offensive to me to sit here and listen day in and day out as they trumpet the capabilities of the bureaucracy to make our life better, as they clamor for the necessity of a bureaucracy that lives in our daily lives from the minute we get up to the minute we go to bed.

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The hardworking folks back at home know better. The Federal Government has never been the cure-all the Democrats would like for you to think. The Federal Government is more often than

not a nightmare waiting to happen to the hardworking people of this Nation.

The American people know better, and that is why the Democrats are in the minority today.

Ah, but now, Mr. Speaker, they have finally found a way to disguise this bankrupt argument that the Federal Government knows best. They have found a way to disguise their love of the Federal bureaucracy. We are now beginning to hear arguments that Republicans are out to starve the American children. Mr. Speaker, this is utter and complete nonsense.

I was on this floor last night for 1 hour listening to one lie right after the other about our nutrition programs, lies told by people who know better. If the American people knew how much the Democrats are willing to distort the truth to save the bureaucracy, they would be absolutely outraged. Yes, we are combining many nutritional programs into block grants; yes, we are sending the moneys back to the States where the teachers and the dietitians and the superintendents know best.

But, no, we are not sending less, we are sending more. We are increasing the funding because it involves children. But if you listen to the other side, you do not get the truth. Mr. Speaker, it is exasperating to have to put up with the rhetoric the other side hurls at us. I voted in committee to increase the funding for child nutrition programs, to increase the funding child nutrition programs are getting. Yet people are calling my office worried that we are gutting these programs. Why? We are not. Where do they read such things? Where do they hear such things? It is not happening.

We are increasing funding and eliminating the wasteful Federal bureaucracy to help get more money to the States, more money for food, not for bureaucrats. The charge that we are cutting funding is patently false. Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, Americans should consider why Democrats have sought to distort reality to protect Federal bureaucrats. Could it be, Mr. Speaker, for financial reasons? Could it be because Democrats receive millions and millions of dollars in campaign funding from bureaucrats? Could it be because these contributions to Democrats outnumber contributions to Republicans by a margin of 9 to 1?

Could it be that Democrats have a vested interest in protecting Federal bureaucrats?

Mr. Speaker, I would simply ask that the American people look at the facts. It is a fact that we are putting more money into child nutrition, it is a fact that our bill dismantles part of the Federal bureaucracy and it is a fact that Democrats receive significant campaign contributions from Federal bureaucrats.

All I ask is that the American people consider the facts.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress will continue to do what is best for America, this 104th Congress will. We will con-

tinue to keep the promises we made to make this Nation a better place, even in the face of distorted arguments made by the other side.

Mr. Speaker, if the Democrats really cared about children, they would stop fighting to save the bureaucracy and engage in an honest discussion about how to improve our welfare system.

For the good of this Nation, I surely hope they will join us in doing what is right for America.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BROWDER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HOYER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWDER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. OWENS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. SCARBOROUGH) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SCARBOROUGH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SAXTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ARCHER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MORELLA, for 5 minutes on March 8.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, today and on March 7.

Mr. SOLOMON, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DICKS, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BROWDER) and to include extraneous matter:)

Ms. MCKINNEY.

Mr. FARR.

Mr. FOGLIETTA.

Mr. VENTO.

Mr. WARD.

Mr. TRAFICANT.

Ms. ESHOO in 11 instances.

Mr. COLEMAN.

Mr. UNDERWOOD.

Mr. MCDERMOTT.

Mr. OBERSTAR.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.

Mr. ACKERMAN.

Ms. MCCARTHY.

Mr. RAHALL.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. SCARBOROUGH) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

Mr. PORTMAN.