

in the 104th Congress is now so lopsided that it is becoming a form of legalized corruption. Let us please stop the madness now.

THE NEW SALT II

(Mrs. SEASTRAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, it is time for a nuclear moratorium, a moratorium on the thermo-nuclear rhetoric spouted by the Democratic White House and those who continue to defend the failed welfare state and skyrocketing deficits.

We talk of transforming the poor. They hold up children. We want to end subsidized illegitimacy. They hold up children. We talk about giving more flexibility to the States. And they hold up children.

Mr. Speaker, have they no shame? Children cannot and should not be used as political shields. We have the moral obligation to our children to reduce the deficit and reform welfare. It is because we care about saving the future for our children and grandchildren, and it is because we know that our children do matter that we are taking on the difficult tasks of cutting the Federal bureaucracy. We are willing to make the difficult decisions.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to sign the new SALT II treaty. S. Stop the rhetoric. A. Assume responsibility. L. Limit the bureaucracy. T. Tackle the problem. The nuclear rhetoric must end.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET CUTS

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

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, hearing about salt, I can only think of child nutrition. I can only think of our School Lunch Programs. I can only think about what we have heard from the people who are supporting and who are committed to one thing and one thing only, and, that is, this Republican contract.

They hate it when we stand up here, those of us who are fighting for our working families, and remind them that a cut is a cut if it does not meet the need. The need is what the goal is here, the need of our children to have a hot meal at school because that may be the only place they get it.

If you raise by 4.5 percent the money that is being spent, that is still not an increase if the need has gone up by more. If you cap that increase at 4.5 percent and the need does in fact go up by more, you are taking food from the mouths of our children. That is not what the voters have sent us here to do.

TAYLOR-DICKS EMERGENCY TIMBER SALVAGE AMENDMENT

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

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, much of our national forests in the West are sick and dying. Drought, disease, insects, and fire are killing our forest in epidemic proportions. Some forests are already 60 and 70 percent dead. We must restore the health of our forests before it is too late. The best way to do this is to remove the source of sickness as soon as possible. Insects and disease cannot kill living trees if we remove the infested trees from the forest. Dead brittle trees cannot become the kindling for wildfire if we extract them from overstocked timber stands. Mr. Speaker, if we really want to preserve our forests, then we must act now. The Taylor-Dicks emergency timber salvage amendment to the supplemental appropriations bill before the House this week will curb the death cycle in our forest. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this crucially important amendment.

REPUBLICAN RESCISSIONS PACKAGE

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

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, the Republican Contract With America is not with middle class America. It is a contract to help well-to-do and corporate America. The middle-class hard-working people of this country are going to be paying for Republican tax cuts for the wealthy.

Here are the facts. Republicans will cut funding for every American who wants to choose educational television programs. Republicans will cut funding for veterans, for medical equipment that vets need even though more veterans need medical help. Republicans will cut funding for students by cutting drug-free schools, summer jobs for youth, academic scholarships, a total of \$1.7 billion in education cuts.

Mr. Speaker, it is virtually certain that none of these cuts will go for deficit reduction.

Mr. Speaker, instead the savings will go to finance a capital gains tax cut, 76 percent that will go to people with incomes of \$100,000 or more.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a contract with middle-class America.

REPUBLICANS CARE ABOUT CHILDREN

(Mr. RIGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, we just heard more baloney. The principal tax cut in the Contract With America is a \$500 per child tax credit. If that is a tax break for the rich, then our friends on

the other side of the aisle are sadly misinformed.

They can continue the scare tactics, the distortions, the out-and-out hysteria. It is time we told the truth. Republicans care about children and our numbers prove it.

We are growing School Lunch Programs by 4.5 percent per year for the next 5 years. By the year 2000, we will be spending \$1 billion more on the School-Based Nutrition Program than today.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Republicans care about children and our numbers prove it. The American public should ask who the Democrats care about when they oppose a 4.5-percent spending increase for school lunches and \$1 billion more by the year 2000.

Do they care about a School Lunch Program that is closer to home? Do they care about our children and their future or do they care about some Federal bureaucrats?

THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA AND THE CONSTITUTION

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

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans have a Contract With America. Unfortunately, they do not seem to care whether it violates this contract with America, the Constitution of the United States.

This contract with America, the Constitution, took another hit last week. They called it tort reform but what they did was federalize all the legal standards, and that, my friends, is contrary to the commerce clause and the 10th amendment to the Constitution.

Let's strike out another provision in the Constitution, punch it out again, punch it out again, my Republican colleagues. Your Constitution is going down the drain. Punch it out again.

MARCH MADNESS

(Mr. HOKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOKE. It is the commerce clause, the commerce clause is the part of the Constitution that gives the mandate to the Congress to do what we did last week.

Mr. Speaker, March madness usually refers to that time of year when all college basketball fans glue themselves to the television and become transformed into screaming, raving hoops fanatics. However, this year March madness has taken on a few new connotations.

March madness could refer to the wild distortions that the bitter defenders of big Government the liberal Democrats, are spreading about the Republican welfare plan. March madness could refer to the scare tactics and the false hysteria Democrats have ignited among the poor children in America

telling them that they will starve under the Republican majority. Finally March madness could refer to the fact that yet another member of President Clinton's Cabinet has become involved in yet another ethics investigation.

Mr. Speaker, what madness is next?

CUTTING CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

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

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, activities occurring in the 104th Congress this week make very clear the warped priorities and bad economics of the Republican's contract on America. The warped priorities are evident in the programs subject to deep and painful spending cuts: school lunches, day-care nutrition, drug-free schools, and several other programs representing an important investment in our next generation. In short, help for our kids that our kids need.

And for what are these cuts being made? Being made to finance a tax package to be voted on in the Committee on Ways and Means, a package that represents the more you make, the more you are going to get. In fact, this tax package makes it clear the breaks are going to be even more lucrative in the future. Consider it the gift that keeps on giving for America's most privileged and powerful.

So there it is. Cuts in programs for our kids to fund tax breaks for the most privileged. The contract for America is bad news for this country because it is bad news for our kids.

FCC SPECTRUM AUCTIONS

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

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to today applaud yesterday's spectrum auction conducted by the Federal Communications Commission. The broadband auction for personal communications services resulted in bids of more than \$7 billion, that is 7 with a "B", billion dollars, exceeding all previous estimates.

Pioneer preference licenses to companies using new innovative technologies resulted in bids of over \$700 million. As many as 300,000 new jobs will be created as a result of these auctions.

They have been more than successful than I ever dreamed when I first introduced this concept a few years ago in that auction revenues now will approach an impressive \$9 billion. This is \$9 billion that will go to the Treasury. Rarely do we see an idea whose time has not only come but has produced the kind of revenue to the taxpayers that this particular provision has.

Our full Committee on Commerce tomorrow will consider legislation to extend the FCC's auction authority by the year 2000. We plan to continue in that vein.

REPUBLICANS ARE NOT CUTTING SCHOOL LUNCHES

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I see where several of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle are up to their same old class warfare tricks. The gentleman from Michigan, the distinguished minority whip, said that Republicans are giving working Americans the cold shoulder. Well, the Democrats' class warfare will not wash with the American people.

Republicans are not out to cut school lunches. Actually our program will increase school lunches to the children of our country. We do not intend to cut the School Lunch Program. Our proposal will actually increase school lunches.

We offer incentives. Our proposals offer better opportunities. The Democrats offer the same old class warfare rhetoric with more taxing and more spending.

I urge the American people to look carefully at what we the Republicans are attempting to do, which is provide more school lunches for our school children.

□ 1430

TAKE FROM OUR FAMILIES AND GIVE TO THE BUREAUCRATS

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

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, we are seeing a new version of Robin Hood displayed by the Democrats this week. They want to "take as much as possible from hard working families and give to the bureaucrats in Washington, DC."

Minority Leader GEPHARDT even called the Republican proposal to give a \$500 per child tax credit to families "an appalling display of Republican indifference to working people." This tax credit will benefit approximately 50 million families—90 percent of whom earn less than \$75,000 a year. Yet the minority party claims this is bad for working families.

Whose family would be worse off today with an additional \$1,000 to help make ends meet? Whose family would be worse off with \$1,000 to start a college education fund for their children? Whose family would be worse off with more of their own hard-earned money?

Mr. Speaker, it is time we start cutting bureaucracy here in Washington, DC, and returning control and money to American families. Despite what the minority party claims, the \$500 per child tax credit is good for all working families and I urge my colleagues to support it.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHAYS). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 5 p.m. today.

ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT AMENDMENTS

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 402) to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 402

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RATIFICATION OF CERTAIN CASWELL AND MONTANA CREEK NATIVE ASSOCIATIONS CONVEYANCES.

The conveyance of approximately 11,520 acres to Montana Creek Native Association, Inc., and the conveyance of approximately 11,520 acres to Caswell Native Association, Inc., by Cook Inlet Region, Inc. in fulfillment of the agreement of February 3, 1976, and subsequent letter agreement of March 26, 1982, among the three parties are hereby adopted and ratified as a matter of Federal law. These conveyances shall be deemed to be conveyances pursuant to section 14(h)(2) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1613(h)(2)). The group corporations for Montana Creek and Caswell are hereby declared to have received their full entitlement and shall not be entitled to the receipt of any additional lands under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The ratification of these conveyances shall not have any other effect upon section 14(h) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1613(h)) or upon the duties and obligations of the United States to any Alaska Native Corporation. This ratification shall not be the basis for any claim to land or money by Caswell or Montana Creek group corporations or any other Alaska Native Corporation against the State of Alaska, the United States, or Cook Inlet Region, Incorporated.

SEC. 2. MINING CLAIMS AFTER LANDS CONVEYED TO ALASKA REGIONAL CORPORATION.

Section 22(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1621(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(3) This section shall apply to lands conveyed by interim conveyance or patent to a regional corporation pursuant to this Act which are made subject to a mining claim or claims located under the general mining laws, including lands conveyed prior to enactment of this paragraph. Effective upon the date of the enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary, acting through the Bureau of Land Management and in a manner consistent with section 14(g) of this Act, shall transfer to the regional corporation administration of all mining claims determined to be entirely within lands conveyed to that corporation. Any person holding such mining claim or claims shall meet such requirements of the general mining laws and section