The facts are simple. Under the latest formula, 17 States get less money than the Ways and Means Committee approved; 32 States are winners. The losers are: Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Guam, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Texas, Virgin Islands, and West Virginia.

For the record, every time the Republicans changed the formula, four States got less. They are: Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, and West Virginia. Eight States were winners every time. They are: District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Nevada, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, and Virginia.

And the important point for the American people to understand is this: All of these changes happened without 1 minute of public discussion. So much for government in the sunshine. I guess the Republican majority thinks secret closed-door meetings are OK—so long as they are the ones having the meetings and making the deals. The American people deserve better.

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CALVERT), having assumed the chair), Mr. LINDER, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill, (H.R. 4) to restore the American family, reduce illegitimacy, control welfare spending and reduce welfare dependence, had come to no resolution thereon.

## REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 26 AND H.R. 209

Mr. CHRYSLER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 26 and H.R. 209.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

## PUTTING AMERICA'S CHILDREN AT RISK

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I submit to my distinguished colleagues in this chamber that the lives and well-being of some 21.6 million of our nation's children are at risk if we are to allow the proposed welfare reform bill to pass.

I do not believe there has ever been any disagreement on both sides of the aisle of the need to reform our welfare programs. But to do so with such haste as if there is no tomorrow, or that because the Contract With America must be signed, sealed and nailed to the cross within the 100-day period—literally begs the question of why all the rush? Thank God for the U.S. Senate.

Some of my friends across the aisle have repeatedly said the best way to administer these welfare programs is to let the States do it. And without question some States have been very successful at getting people off the welfare rolls, and give them productive jobs and add more meaning to their lives.

The problem, Mr. Speaker, is that not all States operate with the same efficiency, and I can just imagine that with 50 different bureaucracies, with 50 different sets of laws and regulations, with 50 different state court rulings, with 50 different budgetary priorities—will result in what I suspect will be utter chaos and confusion—and if I'm correct Mr. Speaker, when you block-grant a federal program to a state, that state does not necessarily have to spend the funds for what Congress had intended—and if that is the case, Mr. Speaker, my heart goes out to those 21.6 million children that are not going to receive the full benefits of such federal programs.

Let us reform our welfare system, Mr. Speaker, but let us do it like we are flying like eagles, and not run around doing so like a bunch of turkeys.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD newspaper editorials on this subject, as follows:

### WHAT SPECIAL INTEREST?

(By Bob Herbert)

MARCH 22, 1995, NY TIMES.—On Sunday more than 1,000 people, many of them children, rallied outside the Capitol in Washington to protest cuts in the school lunch program, which is just one of many excessive and cruel budget proposals the Republican majority in Congress is trying to hammer into law.

The theme of the rally was ''Pick on Someone Your Own Size,'' which was another way of saying that the G.O.P. bully boys might consider spreading the budget-cutting pain around, rather than continuing their obscene offensive against the young, the poor, the crippled, the weak and the helpless.

The Republican reaction to the rally was interesting. Amazing even. Spokesmen for the party denounced the protest organizers as exploiters of children and defenders of special interests. Exploiters of children! What an accusation from a party that is trying to throw poor children off the welfare rolls; a party that would eliminate Federal nutritional standards for school meals; a party that would cut benefits for handicapped children; a party that would reduce protection for abused and neglected children, even though reported cases of abuse and neglect tripled between 1980 and 1992.

Please, a reality check.

And ''defenders of special interests''? A Republican in the era of Newt can say that with a straight face? On Monday, Richard L. Berke wrote in The Times:

''Indeed, many Republicans are seeking to punish groups that did not support them in the past to insure that they are never again abandoned. While Democrats have never been timid about hitting up lobbyists, Republicans are going even further, to the point of dictating whom business groups should hire.''

The cold truth is that the Republicans currently in Congress are raising the phenomenon of special interests to dangerous new heights. The lead paragraph on a Washington Post article on March 12 said:

''The day before the Republicans formally took control of Congress, Rep. Tom DeLay strolled to a meeting in the rear conference room of his spacious new leadership suite on the first floor of the Capitol. The dapper Texas Congressman, soon to be sworn in as House majority whip, saw before him a group of lobbyists representing some of the biggest companies in America, assembled on mismatched chairs amid packing boxes, a huge, unplugged copying machine and constantly ringing telephones.''

The eager lobbyists had wasted no time in taking up Mr. DeLay's offer to collaborate in the drafting of legislation that would scrap Federal safety and environmental rules that big business felt were too tough. When the bill and the debate moved to the House floor, the Post story said, ''lobbyists hovered nearby, tapping out talking points on a laptop computer for delivery to Republican floor leaders.''

The mind boggles at the very idea of a Gingrich Republican criticizing anyone as a captive of special interests. Republicans in the era of Newt aggressively hunt down special interests and demand to be taken captive. If, of course, those interests have lots of money.

And when it comes time to make sacrifices to bring the Federal deficit under control, those interests are spared. No pain inflicted there. The Republican zeal for budget cuts comes to an abrupt halt in the face of the real special interests. The so-called Contract With America is actually a contract with big business. Keep in mind the lobbyists writing legislation in Tom DeLay's office. They weren't representatives of the American people, poor or middle class. They represented the real beneficiaries of the contract.

According to the National Center for Children in Poverty, 24 percent of all American children under the age of 6 are poor. Under the twisted values of the new Republican majority, these children become like wounded swimmers in shark-infested waters. Their very vulnerability is a signal that they should be attacked.

James Weill, general counsel of the Children's Defense League, said, ''They are taking that part of the American population that is in the deepest trouble to begin with, the group with the highest poverty, the greatest vulnerability, and because they are so politically powerless they are attacking them the most. That, to me, is the worst aspect of what they are doing.''

### HOUSE TAKES UP LEGISLATION TO DISMANTLE SOCIAL PROGRAMS

(By Robert Pear)

WASHINGTON, March 21.—The House of Representatives today took up sweeping legislation that would dismantle many elements of the social welfare systems put in place by the Federal Government over the last 60 years.

There was little suspense about the outcome; Republicans predicted that the bill would be approved late this week on a party-line vote.

''Based on the hysterical cries of those who seek to defend the failed welfare state, you would have thought Republicans were eliminating welfare in its entirety,'' rather than just slowing its growth, said Representative Bill Archer, the Texas Republican who is chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. Archer, declaring that ''the Republican welfare revolution is at hand,'' said the Republican bill sought ''the broadest overhaul of welfare ever proposed.''

For their part, Democrats acknowledged that their substitute measure had little chance of passage but predicted that they would make political gains in the debate by attacking the Republicans as cruel to children. Representative John Lewis, Democrat of Georgia, for instance, infuriated the Republicans when he said their ''onslaught'' on children, poor people and the disabled was reminiscent of crimes committed in Nazi Germany.