

Mr. LONGLEY. Mr. Speaker, the bitter defenders of the old order have spent a lot of time complaining, even whining, about the legislation in our Contract With America. But they seem to have forgotten that since January 4, our legislation has continuously received bipartisan support—in fact, the average vote for contract legislation in the House has been 332 to 96. On an average, over 100 Democrats have voted “yes” on the Contract With America.

Mr. Speaker, I have faith that the American people are going to look past all the distortions and rhetoric and see that the Republican majority has kept the promises we made, and we will continue to work hard to change Washington—to make the Federal Government smaller, less costly, less intrusive, and more efficient for the American people. It truly is a new day here in Washington, DC.

IS THEIR CONTRACT GOOD FOR AMERICA? NO

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, I think the Republicans indeed do deserve recognition. They said they would bring the contract to the floor of this House and attempt to pass it, and indeed they did, and I think that the Democrats and Americans have to recognize them for that. But the real question for all Americans is:

“What’s in the contract? What did they pass?”

Mr. Speaker, I think much of what was in the contract is, by definition, extremism. For example, one element to the contract which passed this House with Republican votes allows the Government to break down our doors, search our homes without a search warrant. One element of the contract allows illegal immigrants who commit crimes in this country and are convicted of a felony not to go to prison in America, but to be sent back home to their own country, presumably so they can reenter illegally here.

Mr. Speaker, last night we passed another element of the contract which takes America back to trickle-down economics, a pittance for middle-income people, huge tax breaks for the wealthy.

Did they pass the contract?

Yes.

Is the contract good for America?

No, it is extremism.

CONTRACT AND TAXES

(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, yesterday the Republican Party passed the last hurdle in the Contract With America by passing our tax reduction package.

We provide families a \$500 per child tax credit, we slash the capital gains tax rate, repeal the Clinton tax increase on Social Security benefits, double an investment deduction for small businesses, provide a tax credit to families who adopt children, and create the American dream savings account to encourage saving.

In the last 92 days we kept our word with the American people. We changed Washington and we have worked hard to preserve the American Dream for America’s children. The contract is only the first step, however, toward moving power and money out of Washington and returning it to the people. Henry Ford said that, “What’s right about America is that although we have a mess of problems, we have great capacity—intellectual and resources—to do something about them.”

I am proud to say that this new Congress is changing America and helping to restore its greatness.

REPUBLICAN EXTREMISTS HAVE GONE TOO FAR

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the last 2 weeks have seen the most disturbing developments of the Republican Contract on America, the worst example of Republican extremists simply going too far. Thirty-five million dollars in tax breaks for Australian-born Rupert Murdoch, \$3.6 billion for American billionaires that have renounced their citizenship, \$3.6 billion in tax cuts, tax cuts for people making \$200,000 a year and calling them middle class taxpayers, and the elimination of a major corporate tax, all at the same time while cutting school lunches for America’s school children, while cutting student loans for America’s middle class families, while cutting the Summer Jobs Program.

Let me make sure I understand this. We have Rupert Murdoch, a billionaire from Australia, becoming an American citizen so he can buy Fox network, buy a big book publishing house and negotiate book deals with American politicians. Then we have a bunch of American billionaires renouncing their U.S. citizenship so they can get a tax break.

Mr. Speaker, in the last 3 months Republican extremists have gone too far.

H.R. 1258 TO ENHANCE SMALL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

Mr. FLAKE. Last week, Mr. Speaker, I introduced legislation to enhance funding opportunities to America’s small businesses. H.R. 1258, the Small Business Capital Access Act of 1995, is designed to raise the lending cap from \$500,000 to \$750,000 for the Small Business Administration’s [SBA] 7(a) Loan

Program. H.R. 1258, with significant support from lending institutions, accomplishes the goal of raising the lending limits of the program without further Federal expenditure.

Mr. Speaker, raising the lending limits of the 7(a) Program, the Federal Government is demonstrating its commitment to fostering small business growth by enabling them to more easily overcome startup impediments. These impediments are often a result of undercapitalization. The \$250,000 increase is accomplished without greater financial exposure to the taxpayer. This is made possible by lowering the Federal subsidy to lenders who participate in the SBA program and reprogramming those funds to guarantee a significant portion of those higher-capped loans. The SBA currently extends a 2.74-percent subsidy for 7(a) loans in fiscal year 1995. My proposal lowers the subsidy to 1.65-percent, thereby allowing more funds to actually guarantee 7(a) loans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to please join with me in supporting H.R. 1258 so we can rebuild America through the small business sector.

LAST NIGHT’S TAX-CUT BILL CUTS \$5 BILLION FROM CRIME TRUST FUND

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

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, even though I am a Democrat, I must say congratulations to my friends, the Republicans on this side of the aisle, for passing a Contract on America. They showed a lot of discipline in doing so, I say, “Congratulations,” but, being a former police officer, as I was for 13 years, I say, “I admire the discipline you showed on the contract, but please use that discipline when you now try to pay for your contract.”

As my colleagues know, the tax cut bill that was passed last night, in there they took \$5 billion from the crime trust fund to start paying for these cuts. That \$30 billion in the crime trust fund is going to pay for more prisons, is going to pay for local grants back to our districts.

I say to my colleagues, “You’ve already reneged on your first promise. You’ve cut \$5 billion out of the crime trust fund to start paying for this new tax bill that you put forth, so what I ask you to do in your disciplined ways is quit spending the same money over, and over, and over again. Don’t go back to your good old days of spend, spend, spend without the money being there.”

So, again, congratulations, but let us be cautious on how we are spending that money three times over.

ABOUT LAST NIGHT

(Mr. LEWIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, NEWT GINGRICH put the crown jewel on his contract last night. And if you earn over \$200,000 a year, it is a crown jewel indeed. But if you earn \$20,000 or \$30,000 or \$40,000 a year, you were sold fool's gold—costume jewelery.

Under the Republican plan passed under the cover of darkness, if you earn \$200,000 a year you will get a tax break of over \$11,000. Those earning over \$350,000 will get \$20,000—more than some working families earn in a year.

But if you earn \$20,000 or \$30,000 you will get a meager \$25 a month. You can see why NEWT GINGRICH calls this plan a jewel—it is precious to the rich.

The Republicans say they can cut taxes without increasing the deficit. We tried that once before in the 1980's. We are still trying to dig, our way out of the huge record deficits it created.

Mr. Speaker, the Republicans are robbing poor Peter to pay Paul. The American people know better. For shame, Mr. Speaker, for shame.

THE BEST TIME TO CUT TAXES

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

Mr. HANCOCK. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, we keep talking about what we tried in 1980-81 to cut taxes. Only difference is we got a Republican Congress now that is going to cut the spending, too, so that will take care of that.

As my colleagues know, the argument over the last several days has been that there is not a good time to cut taxes. Every place we hear this is not a good time to cut taxes. We got full employment, practically full employment, we have got the production facilities in the United States operating at capacity; now is not a good time to cut taxes.

I am going to ask the question of the other side of the aisle over here, "When is a good time to cut taxes?"

Mr. Speaker, I say to my colleagues, "Now you can't cut taxes when the economy is down; that is true, as my colleagues know, because we got to pump it up, we have got to take tax money and generate the economy." So they are also saying that it is not a good time to cut taxes when the economy is doing well. So my question is:

"When is a good time to cut taxes?"

I can tell my colleagues when it is. Down in southwest Missouri, down in the hill country, we used to be a major apple producing area. At that time the question was when was the best time to prune the trees. I tell my colleagues, "The best time to prune the trees is when you got a sharp knife. The best time to cut taxes is whenever you can get it done."

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

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

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed that the Senate has not restored the Summer Youth Employment Program in the rescissions package. The rescissions package zeroed out the Summer Youth Employment Program, a very vitally needed program across the Nation in both rural and urban communities. Thirty-two thousand youngsters, teenagers, were employed last summer in the New York City Summer Youth Program.

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I am disappointed in the Senate, but I am shocked at the rumor I hear that the President will support this package and not veto it. If the President does not veto this package, it is an abandonment of the youth in our cities. We are going to restore money for national service. At the same time, you are going to leave the zero out for the Summer Youth Employment Program. That is unfair to any national service components that are going to go into our cities. To go into our cities and not have the youth there employed when they get there, they are going to find a hostile environment, I assure you.

I appeal to the President. He should demand the restoration of the Summer Youth Employment Program or veto the bill. Please do not abandoned the poorest teenagers in America.

TAX CUT IS A MIDDLE INCOME, WORKING AMERICAN, JOB CREATION PROGRAM

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, over the past several weeks through this debate on taxes we have been listening to little more than class warfare, the "us versus them" mentality, pitting one segment of society against another. When one looks closely at what we call the crown jewel, there should be a realization that those people who are in the upper 10 percent of wage earners in this country actually shoulder 60 percent of the Federal tax burden. We also should recognize that the tax cut that is going to take place is much greater for those earning between \$30,000 and \$75,000 a year. It is actually 4.4 percent. Those who are earning over \$200,000 a year get only a 2.9-percent cut. And the \$500 per child tax credit, 90 percent of that will be going to families with incomes of less than \$100,000 a year.

We need to realize that this is a program for middle income, working families, and it has some incentives to create more job opportunities for those who are struggling to find greater opportunity. Remember, 4.7 million Americans are completely taken off

the tax rolls because of that \$500 per child tax credit.

APOLOGY DUE AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

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

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago this year Senator DANIEL INOUE was fighting to liberate Italy from Nazi oppression. He lost his arm and almost his life, as did many other American soldiers of Japanese ancestry.

What a savage irony it is that Senator INOUE and other veterans of the 442d and the 100th Battalions have to listen to the kind of mockery that was displayed on the 50th anniversary of the defeat of nazism by Senator ALFONSE D'AMATO.

I trust that Senator D'AMATO will display some sense of shame. I would like to believe it was an anomaly, that it was something that was spontaneous and not well thought out. I would like to think that Senator D'AMATO would have the common courtesy, as well as a sense of shame, to let Senator INOUE and all Americans of Japanese ancestry know that he apologizes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina). The Chair would remind Members that references to the other body and individuals in the other body should be avoided.

INTRODUCTION OF BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR ACT OF 1995

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

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I am joining my colleagues, Mr. BLUTE, Mr. PATRICK KENNEDY and Mr. REED, in introducing a bill that would revise the boundaries and extend the life of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

This region, which is the birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution, was established by Congress as a national heritage area in 1986 and has proven to be a successful Federal investment. This legislation will build upon the outstanding record of historic preservation and tourism development that the Blackstone Valley has enjoyed during the past 10 years.

Expanding the boundaries of the corridor to include Worcester, MA, New England's second largest city, and four other communities will enhance the opportunities for the Corridor Commission to solicit funds from private