

protectionist. Our markets are wide open, but so should theirs be.

However, I have one admonition. As we put tariffs on certain Japanese products in an effort to force their markets open, our own manufacturers ought not to take advantage by raising their own prices. We need to have a united front here in America, and no one group, not the automobile owners or anyone else, should take advantage of that.

As long as they do not raise their prices, market share for them will increase, the Japanese will feel the heat, and maybe for the first time in a long time, free trade will be on both sides of the Pacific Ocean.

#### DESPITE THE RHETORIC, A CUT IN MEDICARE IS STILL A CUT

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority is almost a month late in meeting the statutory deadline for passing a House budget resolution, but finally they've decided to prepare a budget that is even uglier than we thought. If the Republican majority wanted to balance the budget, they could do that today if we cut Medicare, Social Security, and COLA's, but no, their budget is going to cut it 5 or 7 years from now. Medicare faces cuts in excess of \$256 billion.

It is true. Despite the public outcry not to cut Social Security or Medicare, Republicans are united in a plan that will directly cut Medicare to pay for a tax cut. They also intend to cut the COLA for Social Security recipients by readjusting the formula. The worst part is that Republicans are telling us they are not cutting, they are simply slowing the growth.

They can call it what they want, but if someone is 65 in 1998 and they do not have Medicare, that is a cut. This bill is a cut for that person who is now 62 and needs Medicare 3 years from now, so it is a cut. I do not think we need to play with words. I think the Republican majority needs to be honest with the American people: that in order to balance the budget and pay for tax cuts for the rich they stand united in their effort to cut Medicare.

#### THE BOTTOM LINE WITH MEDICARE: FIX IT OR LOSE IT

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

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, for the last decade I have represented a district that has as many senior citizens in it as any other district save one or two in the country. I think it is totally unfair to our older Americans to pretend there is no problem with Medicare and try to say that the Republican

Party is out to make cuts in Medicare to give the rich people a tax cut. It is simply not true.

Under our plan, Medicare increases from \$4,700 a participant to over \$6,000. As a matter of fact, it is \$6,300 per participant. That is not a cut.

The bottom line with Medicare is, and their party needs to figure this out, fix it or lose it, because the President himself says it will be bankrupt in 7 years.

#### MEDICARE CUTS PROPOSED BY REPUBLICANS WILL RESULT IN FEWER SERVICES TO AMERICANS

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, let me point out that the Republicans are talking about saving and improving Medicare by cutting it. We just cannot believe that. If we talk about cuts to Medicare as well as Medicaid, it is going to have a direct impact on senior citizens, in the case of Medicare, and a direct impact on poor people with regard to Medicaid.

There are only certain choices that exist when Medicare is cut. First of all, we will have higher copayments. Seniors will have to pay more money out of their own pocket, or they will have increased deductibles before they get benefits. Again, they will have to pay out of their own pocket.

The other option is that the reimbursement rate to hospitals or doctors will go down. That means a lot of doctors or even hospitals will not accept Medicare patients. A lot of seniors in New Jersey now know they cannot find doctors who will accept Medicare or even Medicaid.

The other option is that the hospitals simply reduce the quality of services, or do not provide the services that they normally do because they are not getting the money through a reduced reimbursement rate. There is a direct impact on hospitals, on the provisions of how medical care and health care is provided to senior citizens. There is no way around that if we make the cuts that are being proposed by the Republicans.

#### CLEAN WATER LEGISLATION WILL HARM AMERICA'S WETLANDS, STORMWATER PERMITTING PROCESS, AND COASTAL WATERS

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

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, today the House of Representatives will take up the most serious public health environmental legislation considered yet in this historic 104th Congress. The proponents of the measure have labeled it

good environmental legislation. That is a violation of the truth in advertising law.

The fact of the matter is the legislation we will consider today would decimate our Nation's wetlands, would end the stormwater permitting process, would do serious damage to our coastal waters.

We have worked, those of us identified with the Saxton-Boehlert alternative, with the National Governors Association, with the Coastal States Organization, with public health groups, with environmental organizations all over the country, to say that we can be responsible in dealing with clean water in America.

Those who are concerned about this subject are urged to call their elected representatives to let them know that they want clean water, and the time for meaningful action is now.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WICKER) laid before the House the following communications from the Honorable VIC FAZIO, chairman of the Democratic Caucus:

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS,  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 10, 1995.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,  
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to inform you that Representative Nathan Deal is no longer a member of the Democratic Caucus.  
Sincerely,

VIC FAZIO,  
Chairman.

#### VACATING ELECTION OF MEMBER TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communications from the Honorable NEWT GINGRICH, Speaker of the House of Representatives:

THE SPEAKER,  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 10, 1995.

Hon. DON YOUNG,  
Chairman, Committee on Resources, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is to advise you that Representative Nathan Deal's election to the Committee on Resources has been automatically vacated pursuant to clause 6(b) of rule X, effective today.

Sincerely,  
NEWT GINGRICH.

THE SPEAKER,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 10, 1995.

Hon. BUD SHUSTER,  
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is to advise you that Representative Nathan Deal's election to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has been automatically vacated