

have had to depend on aggressive water quality standards, challenging the water company in court when health is endangered by substandard water quality. This right to appeal is predicated on the existence of strong enforcement water quality standards. Standards that H.R. 961 would roll back to erase 23 years of progress.

In addition, the Sixth Congressional District of New York borders on Jamaica Bay, a fragile area of marshland and islands that is widely used for fishing and recreation. Jamaica Bay is regularly contaminated by raw sewage and toxins that result from combined sewer overflow problems and storm water. And we are not alone, a 1992 study showed that 14 large cities, including New York City, Atlanta, and Minneapolis have deposited more than 165 billion gallons of raw sewage and pollution into surface waters each year. For my constituents, H.R. 961 seriously impedes any attempt to control this problem by postponing action to correct problems with combined sewer systems for at least 15 years. While we wait, the health concerns about fishing grow. Jamaica Bay cannot wait until year 2010 for this problem to be addressed. Can the waters in my colleagues district wait? Oppose H.R. 961.

REPUBLICANS BALANCE THE BUDGET

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

Mr. TATE. Mr. Speaker, the time to balance the budget is now. It is time to end 40 long years of reckless spending.

The Republicans yesterday passed an historic budget. We believe it is wrong to burden a child born today with \$187,150 in taxes in their lifetime just to balance the budget. We think it is wrong to do nothing and let Medicare go by the wayside. We believe it is right to cut waste, to cut duplication. We believe we have a moral imperative to balance the budget.

But where is the Democrat plan? There is no plan, folks. That is the problem.

We believe you should have a plan. And I was taught as a young boy, if I do not agree with something or I think it is wrong, I should have a better plan. There should be a better way to do things.

Their idea is to say, you are cutting kids. Well, there you go again. We have a plan. We have a plan to save our children's future, to protect Medicare and to get us back on the road to fiscal responsibility. That is exactly what the Republicans plan on doing. We are going to join with the American people in doing so.

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THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA: A DISASTER FOR MIDDLE-INCOME AND WORKING PEOPLE

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

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, at a time when the gap between the rich and the poor is growing wider, I am not impressed by the Republican plan which provides huge tax breaks for the wealthiest people in this country and the largest corporations, and cuts back savagely on a wide variety of programs meant for low-income and middle-income people.

When thousands and thousands of senior citizens in the State of Vermont today are finding it very hard to pay their health care bills, I am not impressed by a Contract With America which savagely cuts back on Medicare and Medicaid. When millions of middle class families today cannot afford to send their kids to college because of the high cost of higher education, I am not impressed by a Contract With America which cuts back terribly on loans that millions of young people will need in order to get to college. The Contract With America works for the rich. It is a disaster for middle-income and working people.

WATER CROSSES STATE LINES

(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, I was disappointed yesterday that the substitute for the Clean Water Act was not passed on the House floor, but I think that during the course of the debate one very important fact was brought out.

Several speakers said and pointed out that the problem with clean water, or the problem with water in general, is that it follows, it crosses State lines. In other words, when we are dealing with the various amendments to the Clean Water Act today, we have to keep in mind that each State cannot be responsible totally for the water within its jurisdiction, because it has an impact on other States. That is why I think it was very important yesterday that we were able to pass the amendment on coastal nonpoint source pollution, because it means that one State will not be able to have a lesser standard or a lesser management program than another State and negatively impact that State.

The same philosophy has to go before us today when we are dealing with the other amendments, whether it is ocean discharge and waivers for secondary treatment, or it is beach water testing. All these things should be voted on and looked at in the context of the fact

that water crosses State lines. Whatever one State does is going to have an impact on another State.

WHERE IS THE CUT?

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

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, where is the cut?

House Democrats have come to the floor, claiming that Republicans are cutting Medicare.

But I have to ask my colleagues, where is the cut?

If you look at this simple chart, you will see that Republicans are not cutting Medicare at all. In fact, we are increasing Medicare spending per person from \$4,700 to \$6,300.

So, where is the cut?

In a liberal Democrat's mind, whenever you slow the growth of spending, whenever you weed out waste and fraud, whenever you give a bureaucrat his walking papers, that is a cut.

But to the American taxpayers, these are not cuts. To senior citizens, these are not cuts. To people possessed of common sense, these are not cuts.

These are reforms that preserve, protect and improve Medicare far into the next century.

Mr. Speaker, I have to ask my colleagues, where is the cut?

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT A BALANCED BUDGET, NOT EXCUSES

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, for weeks now, liberal Democrats have taken to this floor to decry, accuse, condemn, denounce, declaim, vilify, incriminate, fulminate, remonstrate, deprecate, and attack any plan to balance our budget. For some reason, they see no need to balance our budget. We have to make changes.

Despite all the carping from the other side, our friends on this side offer no alternatives. They offer no solutions. They offer no plan.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Republican majority introduced a plan to balance our budget in 7 years. There is no longer any excuse not to balance the budget. We have exhausted all the old methods. All of the old big government ideas have been tried and found wanting and found lacking, for the liberals to come to this floor with their hot air about class warfare is nothing short of irresponsible.

The American people are tired of excuses. They want this Congress to balance the budget. Republicans will do this, with or without the carping and crying of the liberal Democrats.