

spending either kept the same or cut, but they do not want it increased. In the Republican plan, one star wars account, yes, we are still funding star wars, was actually increased 111 percent over last year's level. That is nearly \$400 million more than the administration requested. Mr. Speaker, I think this is wrong and I would submit that the American people might think this is a wrong use of their money.

Now, it is true that we have made enormous cuts. But I would like to talk about what those cuts are, and keeping in mind that those cuts are at the same time we are increasing Pentagon spending, while some of the cuts have been direct attacks on our children and our country's future. The Republicans have approved cuts that would deny Head Start, the most successful program, everybody agrees on that, deny it to 180,000 children nationwide by the year 2002. In addition, Pell grants, Pell grants that help our young people get to college, they will be denied to 360,000 students in 1996. In fact, in my district, 3,000 students in Oregon will not have a chance to go to college because of these cuts. Then they are also attacking the environment.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell you some of the cuts in the environment. There is an elimination of all funding for listing of endangered and threatened species. These are species on which the fishing industry depends. We need support for these endangered species, but we are cutting all of the funding. There is a 40-percent reduction in solar and renewable energy, a 33-percent reduction in the EPA budget, including a \$765 million cut in clean water funding. There is a 17-percent cut in all of the Environmental Protection Agency enforcement.

Well, what about the cuts to seniors? I talked about the \$270 billion cut in Medicare. We have eliminated the low-income energy assistance program. This new Congress has cut senior nutrition programs by \$24 million. The older worker programs, \$46 million in cuts. All at the same time that we are increasing the Pentagon, we are cutting from children, from the environment, and from seniors.

Mr. Speaker, I would wonder, and I would wonder if the American people would agree, that to cut away at these security protections, the security of good education, safer streets, healthy children and seniors, a safe and healthy environment, is the right priority. Is that the priority that we believe in this country? I would say it is the wrong priority.

Mr. Speaker, it is also important to realize that all of these cuts will not reduce the deficit, because the Republicans have a budget which increases Pentagon spending, gives a tax break to the privileged few, so we are taking all of the cuts out of children, the environment, seniors, and we are not even reducing the deficit.

Shame—I think it is a shame—when we have such very skewed economic priorities. I would say that they are not, in my view, the priorities of my constituents. I hope that we will look for sane, commonsense economic priorities.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT ON MEDICARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I do want to say one thing to the gentleman from the opposite party. On Pell grants, the Labor-HHS bill increases Pell grants to the highest level that it has ever been increased to, and so perhaps we could provide some information to her constituents on that, or her office, so she can get it to those 3,000 students. But Pell grants are going up higher than ever before. Head Start is also funded at a very high level. It is increased 128 percent over 6 years. Ryan White's funding has actually increased. Special education funding is funded at \$3 billion, \$230 million more than President Clinton proposed.

Perhaps it is just a matter of not agreeing with what the educational priorities are. But I think that clearly, this bill does put a very high priority on education. We may not agree with all of the education programs that the Democratic Party does, but this bill is extremely proeducation, and I hope that the members of the opposite party will look at that, and maybe join in the process of balancing the budget, which I think is very important for us to do on a bipartisan level.

Maybe I am just out of it; maybe I do not know the ways of Washington, but I do think that it is very easy to sit there and say well, I would not have cut that, I would not have cut that. I mean, where is your balanced budget? I mean, do not nickel and dime things that you do not like unless you are going to come with a total package of where your balanced budget is.

Now, Mr. Speaker, if I could get those charts, I would like a little bit about the trustees' report on Medicare. This is one that Mr. HOKE has used. This time, it is not time to hide our heads in the sand on Medicare. The trustees clearly said, the Clinton-appointed trustees of the Medicare plan, said that Medicare is going broke by the year 2001. This is the plan, there is a report on it, we can get members of the public a report on the trustees' plan.

The trustees were appointed by President Clinton. Here is a Secretary of the Treasury Robert Rubin, Secretary of Labor, Robert Reich, Secretary of Human Services, Donna Shalala. They have said that Medicare is going broke. President Clinton said in his June 11 appearance in New Hampshire that it is going broke. NEWT

GINGRICH has said it on the same platform. So it is appropriate that we, on a bipartisan basis, deal with the reality, that it is going broke.

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. KINGSTON. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. HOKE. This is the report that we are talking about, right?

Mr. KINGSTON. That is the April 3, 1995 report.

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, this is a summary of the report by the trustees. It is like an annual report to the American people on the Medicare trust fund, Social Security trust fund and other trust funds, but Medicare trust fund. The President said it is going broke, the Speaker has said it is going broke.

Mr. KINGSTON. And the President's appointees.

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, would the gentleman explain to me then why the minority leader on Meet the Press Sunday morning said, this is a hoax? The Republicans are saying, because the report says the fund will have solvency problems in the year 2002, there is an emergency. This is a hoax. Where is the hoax? I do not understand. Is this a sham? Were they making this up?

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, this is the first I have heard of it. President Clinton has come forward and said that this is going broke. It is not a Democrat-Republican thing. Now, it may be in the Congress that certain Members of Congress prefer the old tactic. You know, when in doubt, run to the sand.

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I do not want to delay the gentleman's special order, but I think the American people deserve to read this report themselves and make their own decision. I would urge every American to call 202-225-3121, ask your Representative at 202-225-3121, to send you, mail you a copy of this report. It is the annual report of the Medicare trustees to the president of the United States.

Mr. KINGSTON. Well, thank you for that. Here is the actual dollar figures. But just the bottom line, more will be going out than is coming in. On an NBC Nightline report the numbers were that the average couple's contribution to Medicare, \$69,000. The average amount going out per couple is \$186,000. So you do not have to be a mathematician to know that we have a problem. It is going broke. Let us accept that.

Now, let us in a bipartisan fashion fix it. Let us fix it in a fair way. Let us do it so that it is not just on the backs of the senior citizens, and let us do not do it on the backs of the future generations. Let us do it across the board. We need to simplify it. We need to save it, we need to strengthen it. There are a lot of options that are out there for us.

Mr. Speaker, just a couple of the things that we can do. No. 1, offer a choice, the same choice that you and I as Members of Congress have, the same choice that our friends have.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Hawaii [Mrs. MINK] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. MINK of Hawaii addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HOKE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my friend from Georgia, Mr. KINGSTON.

Mr. KINGSTON. Let me just conclude with what some of the options are that we are looking at, because I think it is important that our seniors know that we want to have reform plans that will simplify and strengthen Medicare, and yet give them all of the choices that they deserve, and one of them would be to keep the current Medicare plan that they are under. The other one is a coordinated benefit plan.

Mr. Speaker, another possible option is an employer association Medicare plan, because currently if someone is 65, they are forced off the private sector insurance, but they may want to keep it, and they may want to stay on their employer's plan. We want to give seniors that option.

Then there is the medical savings account, which would give seniors the right to save money and pocket the difference at the end of the year on what they save on their own health care costs. We, under these plans, are projecting a spending increase of about \$1,900 per person, going roughly from \$4,816 per person to \$6,734 over this time period to the year 2002, a 7-year time period.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a Medicare cut. We keep hearing from the hide-their-head-in-the-sand Members of Congress that we are trying to cut Medicare. This is not a cut. Now I know Washington DC math does funny tricks, but this is not a cut.

So to conclude, we want to simplify Medicare, we want to say that we want to strengthen it. I am confident that we can do it, and I am glad to say that it will be on a bipartisan basis, because there are a lot of Members of both parties who are stepping forward to make the tough decisions and do what is right for our American citizens.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I yield for just a moment. Actually I want to talk about something else, but very quickly.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, just taking a very brief time, in looking at this chart there, I have seen this chart several times, but we know health insurance is rising faster.

Mr. HOKE. Reclaiming my time—

Ms. KAPTUR. The 7 years you are talking about—

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, regular order.

Ms. KAPTUR. You are talking about over \$8,100 a year, so I would disagree with the gentleman.

Mr. KINGSTON. I thank my friend.

Mr. HOKE. I am reclaiming my time.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I can answer it in 30 seconds if the gentleman will let me. Please, the lady is right, medical inflation on Medicare is going up 10.15 percent a year, but regular insurance inflation is at about 4 percent, and in the private sector, some corporations are actually having a 1-percent decrease. So what we are going to do, trying to do through all of these options, is slow down the rate of that increase so we can get—

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, we are going to slow it down to about 6.5 percent per year, and we believe, there is every reason to believe, that we as Americans looking forward are going to be able to do that, we are going to be able to save Medicare, strengthen it, improve it, and simplify it all at once.

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For some reason, and I know that we have been feeling very bipartisan tonight, it just irritates me that the minority leader would call this report a hoax, or at least say that we are trying to create a hoax. I am not sure exactly what he meant. Every American should read this. Call (202) 225-3151, ask your Representative for a copy.

Mr. Chairman, I want to move on to something having to do with the Department of Energy. As the chairman of the Committee on the Budget's national security task force, I have been examining the Department of Energy's defense activities. I introduced H.R. 1628, creating the Nuclear Programs Agency, which would be responsible for nuclear weapons activity and environmental cleanup for former DOE defense-related facilities.

As a result of that study and responsibility that I was given on the Committee on the Budget, I discovered that Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary directed the transfer of \$400,000 from defense activities to the Office on Nonproliferation and National Security to pay for her security when she is traveling.

Of particular concern is the \$241,000, which was transferred from the materiel support program, responsible for the production, surveillance, and safeguarding of special nuclear materials including tritium. Tritium is a gas that is critical to the ignition of thermonuclear warheads.

Secretary O'Leary has recently ordered the 23 DOE program offices, the Office of Congressional Affairs, the Office of Public Affairs, the general counsel's office, others, to pay the advance costs of at least two invitational delegation members, each, for a trade mission that is going to take place leaving on August 18 for 6 days to South Africa.

According to an internal DOE memo, the estimated cost per person is \$9,570,

and that does not include an additional \$500 for transport to Washington. The per diem cost of \$930 for 6 days was figured—has my time expired? Is that what that means?

This is very disappointing, Mr. Speaker. I will seek time later, perhaps the gentlewoman from Ohio will give me some time in exchange for the time I gave her.

TITLE X FUNDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. FARR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the majority party zeroing out funding for title X, which is our Nation's critical Family Planning Program.

The title X Family Planning Program was created in 1970, with broad bipartisan support, as part of the Public Health Service Act. It was enacted and signed into law by then-President Richard Nixon, creating for the first time a comprehensive Federal program devoted entirely to the provision of family planning services on a national basis.

Mr. Speaker, in his message on population growth and the American future, Nixon declared that "No American woman should be denied access to family planning assistance because of her economic condition. I believe, therefore," he continued, "that we should establish as a national goal the provision of family planning services to all who want, but cannot afford them."

Today, title X continues to be the glue that holds the national family planning service delivery system together, largely determining both its structure through its nationwide network of clinics and the substance of its services that are provided to low-income and moderate-income women and teenagers. In 1990, alone, 5.3 million family planning clients were served by clinics administered by title X-supported agencies.

Mr. Speaker, there has been a lot of misconception about the use of these title X funds. The far right claim that title X money is somehow used to pay for abortions. Nothing could be further from the truth. Since its inception in 1970, the title X statute has prohibited the use of the program's funds for abortions as a method of family planning.

In addition, congressional investigations during the 1980's found that all title X-funded clinics were operating in full compliance with the law. Of the more than 4,000 title X-funded clinics nationwide, approximately 80 provide abortions, all with other than title X funds, without exception. In fact, more than 50 percent of these clinics are in hospitals.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell my colleagues about title X and what it does.