

It is estimated that between 15 and 40 percent of women are victims of rape or attempted rape during their lifetime. Policies that force rape and incest survivors to continue a resulting pregnancy will cause additional suffering for women who much already overcome poverty and sexual violence.

By an overwhelming margin of 84 percent, the public supports Government funding for abortion in cases of rape, according to a Time/CNN poll.

This bill also nullifies the requirement that medical residency programs must provide training in abortion techniques unless the individual or institution has a moral objection to it. And, it bans Federal funds from being used for embryo research which leading scientists and endocrinologists tell us may hold the key to curing such diseases as diabetes and Alzheimers.

Mr. Chairman, this Congress is out of step on issues of women's reproductive health care. I urge my colleagues to stand up for women and vote against this very bad bill.

Support Kolbe-LoweY admendment.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2127) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Chairman, we are all interested in lowering our national debt and eliminating the Nation's deficit. Appropriations Committee members and staff have worked hard on this legislation and I thank them for their effort. Achieving the goal of balancing the budget will mean we must make tough choices in the weeks, months, and years ahead.

There are provisions in this bill that I do not like. In education, it is shortsighted to cut 55 percent of the funding from the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Pro-

gram, Title I, and bilingual education. I oppose eliminating the LIHEAP Program, and strongly oppose the reduction in job training at this time of dramatic and rapid changes in policies. There are cuts in the Older Americans Act that I believe are equally unwise and harmful, and finally provisions that belong in authorizing legislation, where issues can be considered in hearings and Members can have ample time to review information and have consistent discussions before voting on changes in policy.

At this time, my anguish over the terrible consequences of \$200 billion deficits on average for the next 10 years overrides my concern that certain programs have been cut too drastically in this bill. To balance our revenues and obligations by 2002 or shortly thereafter, cuts in every sector of Federal spending will have to be made, but pace, balance, and fairness are necessary.

As you all well know, the Federal budget process is terribly cumbersome and this legislation has a long way to go in the legislative process. As it moves through the Senate and Conference Committee, I am confident that many of the bill's shortcomings will be addressed and I look forward to supporting the conference report next month. In regard to compensation for essential cuts, our children will inherit a diminished national debt and a fiscally strong nation, capable of funding strong essential services and creating good paying jobs.