

sector the cost-of-living increase in medicine is only going up 3½ to 4 percent, but in the Government sector Medicare is going up 10½ percent. We have to fix it.

I think a short history lesson is in order. Last November the American people staged a revolt. With one election the people changed its Government. The liberal philosophy of more and more government had been totally rejected. The people voted for less government, less taxes and regulation, and firm leadership from Congress. During the first 100 days House Republicans enacted the Contract With America in which we clearly stated that government had to take a back seat to common sense. Congress went on record for lower taxes, serious welfare reform, and a real balance budget.

Mr. Speaker, the next few weeks will be the fruition of that contract. We on this side of the aisle clearly heard the voices of the people on November 8. Republicans have the political courage to address the Medicare crisis. We will keep our promises to rein in Federal spending, we will eliminate the failed welfare state, and we are going to cut capital gains tax to create more jobs. In other words, the Republicans will give the American people what they want, limited government and more individual responsibility.

MEDISCARE

(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 Clinton administration trustees have come out with a report that clearly states that Medicare is going broke, and that is a fact. That is why the Republicans have worked hard, get this, to increase the amount of money that we are spending on Medicare. If someone is on Medicare today, they will receive \$4,800 on average per beneficiary. Under our plan someone will receive \$6,700 if they are on Medicare per beneficiary. That is an increase.

But now the special-interest groups have targeted me as spending \$85,000 worth of television advertising in my district misrepresenting the truth, talking about cuts, talking about what I call Mediscare and scaring seniors, and that is despicable. But the calls to my office, over 90 percent of the calls, are saying to me, "RANDY, stay the course. Don't give up."

Well, the Republicans will not give up on Medicare. We will not give up on seniors. It is too bad the liberals have given up on the seniors of the United States.

THE DEMOCRATS ARE NOT EVEN TRYING

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, one of the things that has not been mentioned on the floor today is that the Democrats do not have a plan to deal with the Medicare crisis. The President's Commission on Medicare said that Medicare is going to go bankrupt in 7 years and they do not have a plan.

Now our plan will handle the crisis, increase Medicare spending, but not at the rate of growth we have had. Medicare has been growing at up to 16 percent a year, and that is intolerable. We cannot sustain that kind of growth rate.

So the bottom line is we are going to fix the Medicare problem. We are going to make sure that Medicare is there for seniors in the future. The Democrats do not have a plan. We are working on a plan right now. It is fiscally responsible. There is going to be more benefits, over the long term 40-percent growth in Medicare benefits for the next 7 years, but we are going to cut the rate of growth so we can balance the Medicare budget without having it having to go bankrupt, and that is one of the things that I think my colleagues on the other side of the aisle ought to pay attention to. We have a plan, we are working on it, we are going to solve it. They are not even trying.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DICKEY). Pursuant to House Resolution 216 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 1655.

□ 1043

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1655) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the U.S. Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes, with Mr. BURTON of Indiana in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. COMBEST] will be recognized for 30 minutes, and the gentleman from Washington [Mr. DICKS] will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas [Mr. COMBEST].

□ 1045

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, at the outset, I would like to compliment the Committee's

ranking Democrat, NORM DICKS, for his highly constructive role in the formulation of this legislation. He is a bona fide expert in many aspects of national security and intelligence, particularly in advanced technologies, and his influence is evident in many of our Committee's positions. I also would like to thank the other Democratic members of the Committee who have also joined in a spirit of nonpartisanship to craft this legislation. I also thank my fellow Republican Members who have worked hard in putting this bill together. In particular, I appreciate the fine work of JERRY LEWIS and BOB DORNAN, our subcommittee chairmen. Finally, the staff on both sides of the aisle deserve our thanks. They are a dedicated, talented group. This legislation is the product of a lot of work, intensive deliberation, and cooperation. The Committee held 11 full committee budget hearings, over 20 Member briefings, and over 200 staff briefings related to the budget. As a result, it is an act that our Committee reported out unanimously and in which we can all take no small measure of pride.

H.R. 1655 authorizes the funds for fiscal year 1996 for all of the intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the U.S. Government. The National Security Act requires that spending for intelligence be specifically authorized.

The intelligence budget has three major components—the national foreign intelligence program, known as the NFIP, the tactical intelligence and related activities program, known as TIARA, and—for the first time this year—a third program, the joint military intelligence program, known as JMIP.

NFIP funds activities providing intelligence to national policymakers and includes programs administered by such agencies as the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency and the Defense Intelligence Agency.

TARA, or tactical intelligence activities, reside exclusively in the Department of Defense. They consist, in large part, of numerous reconnaissance and target acquisition programs that are a functional part of the basic military force structure and provide direct information in support of military operations. Additionally, this year we have for the first time categorized some activities under the newly created joint military intelligence program, which provides military intelligence principally to defensewide or theater-level consumers.

This categorization of the intelligence budget into national, defense and tactical military intelligence programs facilitates our understanding of the diverse uses of intelligence. Additionally, it should increase the accountability and managerial control of intelligence programs.

From even the above thumbnail sketch of intelligence activities, it is obvious that, although our committee