

Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996.”

This bill does not meet the priorities and needs of our Nation and people. It would undermine our ability to fight the war on crime; decimate technology programs that are critical to building a strong U.S. economy; and weaken our leadership in the world by drastically cutting funding for international organizations, peacekeeping, and other international affairs activities.

First, the bill represents an unacceptable retreat in our fight against crime and drugs. It eliminates my COPS initiative (Community Oriented Policing Services) to put 100,000 more police officers on the street. Already, this initiative has put thousands of police on the street, working hand-in-hand with their communities to fight crime. The block grant that H.R. 2076 would offer instead would not guarantee a single new police officer. That's not what the American people want, and I won't accept it. As I have said, I will not sign any version of this bill that does not fund the COPS initiative as a free-standing, discretionary grant program, as authorized.

The bill also eliminates my “drug courts” initiative. And it unwisely abandons crime prevention efforts such as the Ounce of Prevention Council and the Community Relations Service. I am also disappointed that the funding levels in the bill fall short of my request for the Drug Enforcement Administration, and OCDEF (Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force). This is no time to let down our guard in the fight against drugs.

Second, the bill constitutes a short-sighted assault on the Commerce Department's technology programs that work effectively with business to expand our economy, help Americans compete in the global marketplace, and create high quality jobs. As we approach a new, technology-driven century, it makes no sense to eliminate an industry-driven, highly competitive, cost-shared initiative like our Advanced Technology Program (ATP), which fosters technology development, promotes industrial alliances, and creates jobs. Nor does it make sense to sharply cut funding for measures that will help assure our long-term growth and competitiveness—such as our National Information Infrastructure grants program, which helps connect schools, hospitals, and libraries to the information superhighway; the GLOBE program, which promotes the study of science and the environment in our schools; the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, which helps small manufacturers meet the hi-tech demands of the new marketplace; Defense Conversion; or the Technology Administration. And I oppose the bill's harmful cuts for the Census Bureau and for economic and statistical analysis.

Third, I am deeply concerned that this bill would undermine our global leadership and impair our ability to protect and defend important U.S. in-

terests around the world—both by making unwise cuts in funding for international organizations and peacekeeping activities, and by cutting programs of the State Department, the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the United States Information Agency. These cuts would impair our ability to support important activities such as the nonproliferation of weapons, the promotion of human rights, and the control of infectious disease like the Ebola virus. Moreover, sections of the bill include inappropriate restrictive language, including language limiting the conduct of U.S. diplomatic relations with Vietnam, that I believe infringe on Presidential prerogatives. And I cannot accept the provision that would cut off all funding for these agencies on April 1, 1996, unless the State Department Authorization Act and related legislation had been signed into law.

Fourth, the bill includes three additional provisions that I cannot accept.

It cripples the capacity of the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) to fulfill its historic mission of serving people in need—slashing its overall funding, sharply limiting the administrative funds LSC needs to conduct its business, and imposing excessive restrictions on LSC's operations. LSC should be allowed to carry on its work in an appropriate manner, both in its basic programs and in special initiatives like the migrant legal services program.

Section 103 of the bill would prohibit the use of funds for performing abortions, except in cases involving rape or danger to the life of the mother. The Justice Department has advised that there is a substantial risk that this provision would be held unconstitutional as applied to female prison inmates.

The bill also includes an ill-considered legislative rider that would impose a moratorium on future listings under the Endangered Species Act by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other agencies. That rider not only would make bad policy, it also has no place in this bill.

Finally, I would urge the Congress to continue the Associate Attorney General's office.

For these reasons and others my Administration has conveyed to the Congress in earlier communications, I cannot accept this bill. H.R. 2076 does not reflect my priorities or the values of the American people. I urge the Congress to send me an appropriations bill that truly serves this Nation and its people.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 19, 1995.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The objections of the President will be spread at large upon the Journal, and the message and the bill will be printed as a House document.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, consideration of the veto message is postponed until tomorrow, December 20, 1995.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE REPORT SHOWS BALANCED BUDGET WILL IMPROVE FAMILY INCOME

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

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, just a few minutes ago the Speaker of the House and the President concluded a meeting on which we hope there was substantial progress on negotiations toward a balanced budget.

I take this opportunity this evening to speak of a Joint Economic Committee report which shows clearly that there is a marked effect on family income and on the economic status of a family because of our movement which will eventually conclude in a balanced budget.

First, Mr. Speaker, it is important to point out, and this is extra from the report that I want to talk about today, that the individual share of the national debt that we have collectively accrued for each of the 280 million people who live in this country is about \$18,000. That is right, for every man, woman, and child who is a citizen of the United States of America, the individual share of the national debt amounts to just about \$18,000.

To bring that close to home, to let us see clearly what it means to each person, obviously, off in the abstract someplace there is a problem because there is an \$18,000 debt, but it is kind of out of sight until we understand that when we pay our income tax bill each year there is interest that must be paid on that \$18,000 debt.

If I went down to the bank to borrow \$18,000 and the person at the bank said, “OK, Mr. SAXTON, we will lend you the \$18,000, but you need to know that you have to pay interest on it,” the interest on that \$18,000 note that I would take out would amount to somewhere, if it were a 7-percent note or thereabouts, it would amount to about \$1,060 a year that I would have to pay on that \$18,000 loan that I took out at the bank.

That is precisely what happens with the \$18,000 that we each owe the Federal Government. When we pay our Federal income taxes each year, on average, about \$1,060 goes to pay the interest on our \$18,000 share of the national debt. Of course, for an average family of four, that gets a little expensive, because \$1,060 times four comes out to about \$4,240 a year. So there is a definite economic impact on each and every individual and on each and every family.

Further, the Joint Economic Committee Report, which Members have