

Federal Government which has different philosophical thinking and priorities. I just do not understand why we do not respect our Federal worker more.

Some of us have traveled in other countries; we have read about other countries, we have dealt with other countries, and we know that their federal governments, their government workers are not respected to the extent they should be because they have not been treated correctly. They work at a lower rate of pay, they do not get the respect that they deserve over the years, and as a result, they do not function like our Federal Government has always functioned and its workers.

Our workers are proud of what they do, they go to work in the morning, they do a full day's work, they go home at night, they are with their families and they are very, very good citizens. They should not be put in the vise of this budget resolution.

Tomorrow we should have a continuing resolution on this floor and on the Senate floor, and our Government should go on.

Then I hear people saying, well, what is happening about the budget; and it is said, you know, that there is a group that does not want the budget, the new freshman class, they are saying, no, you cannot have this particular budget unless it has what we want in it. you cannot do it that way.

First I heard a young man down here talking tonight and he was talking about the President of the United States, the President, another President, a former President saying, "The buck stops here." We did have a former President that said that. But they are not letting the buck stop here with this President.

Yesterday we had the President of the Senate, Mr. DOLE, and the speaker of the House, Mr. GINGRICH, go to the White House. All of the television cameras were on, and the two gentleman walked in and sat down with the President and they began some discussion; they came out, and it looked like we were going to have some progress, and we all felt so good.

Yet today we hear that, no, the 73 freshmen are not exactly satisfied with what happened there.

Well, you cannot have it both ways. You cannot have it: "The buck stops here," and the: "We want to all be involved." The negotiations, any negotiations, breaking it down to a smaller group with only the leaders. In Dayton, they sent the Presidents of those countries and they sat down at the table and they figured out what was going on. They could not bring all of the countries with them.

So what I am saying is why do we not all step out of the way and decide what is happening and come back and vote on it. Let us let the leaders lead.

PRESIDENT SHOULD GET SERIOUS ABOUT BALANCED BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Michigan [Mr. CHRYSLER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CHRYSLER. Mr. Speaker, 31 days ago, President Clinton committed to balancing the budget in a signed contract with Congress that stated: "The President and the Congress shall enact legislation in the first session of the 104th Congress to achieve a balanced budget not later than fiscal year 2002 as estimated by the Congressional Budget Office * * *." Since that time, however, it has become more apparent that this President has no intention of living up to the agreement.

Last October, the 104th Congress passed a balanced budget, one that finally reforms the Nation's welfare system, provides pro-family and pro-jobs tax relief, and saves Medicare from bankruptcy. For 26 years our Federal Government has continued deficit spending, crippling the Nation with a national debt of nearly \$5 trillion and jeopardizing the future prosperity of our Nation. This is our last, best hope to do the right thing for the future of our children and grandchildren.

The President claimed he could not agree to our budget and used his Constitutional authority to veto it. This is his right, but in exercising his power to veto he has a moral obligation to present the American people with an honest alternative.

After 4 weeks we are still waiting for him to present us with a budget that balances in accordance with the terms agreed to last month.

Instead of a comprehensive budget proposal, we have received press releases and rhetoric. Instead of negotiating in good faith to seek an agreeable compromise, the President and his allies produced and aired commercials bashing our proposal even before sitting down at the negotiating table. The President talks about compromise but in reality has only engaged in confrontation and demagoguery.

Last Friday, President Clinton submitted yet another budget that comes no where close to balance in 7 years according to the honest, nonpartisan CBO. In 2002, when our budget would produce a surplus, his plan remains at least \$75 billion short. This is the same "we'll get to it some day" mentality that has overshadowed this issue for decades and left us in the current deficit mess we have today.

When put to a vote before this House, the President's budget did not get one single vote—not one Republican vote, not one Democratic vote.

The day before the vote on the President's budget, the House voted overwhelmingly, by a vote of 351 to 40, to reaffirm our commitment to a 7-year balanced budget as determined by the Congressional Budget Office signed by December 31, 1995.

Taken together, that should be a clear signal to the President to get serious about a balanced budget.

Today, however, we get another sign that the President still has not gotten serious. Today the President once again broke his word and broke off negotiations, continuing the partial shutdown of the Federal Government.

I, for one, will not support another continuing resolution until the President lives up to the agreement he made law.

In 1992, President Clinton campaigned on a balanced budget, ending welfare as we know it, and providing tax relief for America's middle class working families—our proposal simply follows through on what this President could not. We have kept our word to the American people and attempted to negotiate in good faith for an agreement both sides could live with. Has the President? Strip away the rhetoric and there is little evidence he truly wants a balanced budget.

NO LINKAGE BETWEEN CR AND BALANCED BUDGET

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, let us make no mistake about this. It is the Republicans who are shutting down the Government. Clearly and simply, the Republicans, by refusing to vote for a continuing resolution to keep the Government open, are shutting down the Government. They have the majority of votes here and in the Senate, they could easily keep the Government open by voting for a clean continuing resolution with no strings attached, no blackmail attached, and the Government would open and 250,000 Federal workers would go back to work, and then we could negotiate a budget.

But no, they will not do that, because they are trying to link the two issues together; they are saying they will vote for no continuing resolution until there is a 7-year balanced budget.

Now, I want everybody to understand that there is no linkage to keeping the Government open with a continuing resolution and a balanced budget. The Republicans are the ones who are linking it. The reason we are in trouble in the first place is because they did not do their job.

October 1, 1995 was the start of the new fiscal year, and there are 13 appropriations bills which the Republicans were supposed to have sent to the President of the United States, and by that time they had sent only 3 So it is their fault that the Government could not continue and that the Government had to shut down; and the only way you can keep the Government open under those circumstances, when the majority party does not do its job by sending the appropriations bills to the President, is by passing a continuing resolution. They are refusing to do that.

All of this talk and rhetoric about balancing the budget in 7 years is a separate issue from the continuing resolution and from the Government shutdown. The President of the United