

all violent crime. If this trend continues, we will have a 31 percent increase in juvenile offenders by the year 2010.

H.R. 3 addresses this. It tries to make our school yards and our streets safer from juvenile offenders. I hope that my colleagues will support me in supporting it.

#### FAIRNESS IN HIGHWAY FUNDING

(Mr. CLEMENT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the transportation bill, better known as the ISTEA bill. It is a bill which has brought unprecedented flexibility and authority to local governments and provided our communities with valuable means of intermodal transportation. But there is one problem with the transportation bill: the highway funding formula.

Since the passage of ISTEA in 1991, Tennessee has received a mere 79 cents on the dollar for every dollar contributed to the Federal Highway Trust Fund by State motor fuel users. This formula, based on outdated historic percentages from the years prior to 1991, perpetuates the strength of Northeastern States and does not follow the growth trends of the Sunbelt States like Tennessee.

This nonsense must end this year and a new transportation bill must guarantee a more equitable minimum allocation to all 50 States. Tennessee is the Volunteer State, but we will no longer volunteer unjustly our funds to States with less growth and more roads and rail. Let us bring about equity and fairness to all 50 States and do it this year.

#### SAFE SCHOOLS

(Mrs. KELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, as Members probably know by now, this week is Teacher Appreciation Week, and we are very grateful for all of them. As a former teacher, I have learned from experience that the best way we can truly appreciate teachers and their students is to make certain that they are provided with the safest possible learning environment.

This week in Congress we are going to begin to work on legislation to ensure safe classrooms by removing violent juveniles. We are going to work to accomplish this by reforming our juvenile justice system.

But this will only be the first step in a series we are going to take in this Congress to reduce crime in our schools and in our communities. The next step will be through strong prevention programs when we move to reauthorize the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Act this summer.

We need safe classrooms for teachers and for students. We can accomplish this through our focus on both the

areas of prevention and punishment. I ask for all of my colleagues to join me in support of safer schools when we pass both the Juvenile Crime Control Act and reauthorize the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Act.

#### CONDOMS SUBJECT TO MILITARY SCRUTINY

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, even though the Pentagon is cutting costs and talented officers are being forced out, the Pentagon spent \$90,000 last year to study condom preference and the failure rates of condoms in the military.

If that is not enough to kill your rabbit, the Pentagon still does not know if a Patriot missile can stop the Silk-worm, but they know for sure which condom can save the Republic. What is next, Mr. Speaker, a \$100,000 study to find out if soldiers prefer boxer shorts over briefs? If women in the military prefer Maidenform over Wonder Bra?

Beam me up. I say with this study the Pentagon has reached the apex of their condominium. There is no budget crisis in the District of Columbia. There is a common sense crisis in the District of Columbia.

I yield back the balance of any heretofore untested condoms still subject to military scrutiny.

#### NUCLEAR WASTE BILL

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the nuclear waste bill currently before the House is a bill that will destroy the environment and endanger the lives of our constituents. In a letter to my office, Deputy Secretary of Energy Charles B. Curtis stated the following: "If S. 104 and its companion bill, H.R. 1270, were presented to the President in its current form, the President would veto the bill." Mr. Curtis goes on to say: "This bill would provide no practical opportunity to designate an alternative to Yucca Mountain as an interim storage site because it does not provide enough time to designate, license and construct a facility at another site by the year 2002."

The situation is very clear. This bill could potentially devastate our districts, the environment in our districts, and will be vetoed by the President. Is it really worth voting to destroy the environment in order to bail out the nuclear power companies on a bill that has no chance of becoming law?

#### FUNDING FOR WIC

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Appropriations has rejected the Clinton administration request for WIC funding. What a surprise.

The WIC Program is one of the most successful Federal programs that has ever been created. The WIC Program reduces the incidence of low-birth-weight babies, infant mortality and anemia. This is a program that serves some of the most at-risk infants in the country, many of whom are Latino or Afro-American babies.

The Republicans say we do not need to spend that money on these needy children. Instead, the Republicans tell us we need a capital gains tax cut which will put billions of dollars in the pockets of their rich friends. This is crazy. First they try to cut school lunches to hungry children. Now they literally want to take milk away from hungry infants. For shame.

#### SUPPORT HIGHWAY TRUST FUND FAIRNESS ACT

(Mr. SANFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, ISTEA will be reauthorized this year. ISTEA sets the funding formula by which gas taxes are spread across our country, and I think with it will come the chance to make a real stand for the simple theme of fairness.

Fairness is the most fundamental of all American precepts. It is the idea on which the Revolutionary War was built. It was the idea behind the Boston Tea Party. It was the idea behind the civil rights movement. Yet right now with our gas tax formula, we have a formula that leaves South Carolina losing \$50 million a year, California losing over \$200 million a year, Florida losing over \$200 million a year, while a handful of States up in the Northeast receive disproportionate amounts of money. That is not fair.

The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LARGENT), the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. CLEMENT), and myself have a Highway Trust Fund Fairness Act which would address this inequity. There are a number of other proposals to address this inequity. The point that I think we all need to remember is that it needs to be addressed and it needs to be fixed.

#### FAIRNESS IN BALANCED BUDGET PROCESS

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

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I regard it as an outrage that more and more pressure is being placed on the Bureau of Labor Statistics to change their approach of determining how the Consumer Price Index, the CPI, is being determined, with the goal of lowering it. Frankly, this is nothing more than a cheap, back-door way of balancing the budget on the backs of the