

So I join you today as a servant of my constituents to fulfill this vision for all of America. It is an honor to serve with you.

□ 1230

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain fifteen 1-minutes on each side.

FLOOD INSURANCE CRUCIAL FOR HURRICANE SEASON

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

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, first of all, welcome to Mr. REDMOND.

This Member rises to urge his colleagues from hurricane-prone areas to remind their constituents and news columns and news releases that hurricane season is quickly approaching and, the key point, that now is the time to review their flood insurance policies to ensure adequate coverage.

As of March 1, 1995, the national flood insurance program very appropriately, under congressional direction, imposes a 30-day waiting period between the time the premium is paid and the time the policy takes effect. This important change was made to encourage at-risk individuals to maintain adequate coverage at all times rather than waiting to purchase coverage only when danger is imminent.

Constituents must take proper care of their investment by purchasing adequate flood insurance coverage at least 30 days prior to a disaster. Without taking this simple step, they have no standing to ask the other policyholders or the taxpayers to bail them out if their investment is lost due to unexpected flooding.

This is fair warning that we should pass on to our constituents. If Members need more information, contact FEMA.

IN HONOR OF THE GREEN BAY PACKERS AND THEIR SUPER BOWL VICTORY

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Super Bowl champions, the Green Bay Packers, who are in the Nation's Capital today as we prepare in this Chamber to debate a balanced budget agreement, the first in a long time; another long road to success will be celebrated here at the White House this afternoon as the champions of the football world meet the champions of the free world.

From Lambeau to Lombardi to Holmgren, from Bart Starr to Brett Favre, it has been 29 years since the Green Bay champions, the Super Bowl champions, the Packers, have once again returned the Lombardi trophy to its home, Green Bay, WI.

Behind this great tradition of winning are the fans, affectionately known as the Cheeseheads. They are in fact the owners of the Green Bay Packers. They have raised money to keep the team in the community, built a new stadium, sold out Lambeau Field for every game since the Packer's first Super Bowl victory.

May the grand tradition of the Super Bowl Green Bay Packers continue. I ask my colleagues to salute the Green Bay Packers, America's original "America's Team."

BUDGET AGREEMENT INTERNET ADDRESS

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I would like those who would like the Internet address to get out a pen and paper. I will give that to my colleagues.

The Internet address for the budget agreement is <http://hillsource.house.gov/budget.html>. Documents dealing with the budget agreement are on the Internet, so all Americans can see how it came about, what is in it. The home page is labeled a balanced budget for America's future. This will allow the people at the same time as the Washington insiders to have the information.

Again, the Internet address is <http://hillsource.house.gov/budget.html>.

SUPPORT THE SHUSTER-OBERSTAR AMENDMENT

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

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Shuster-Oberstar-Petri-Rahall amendment to today's budget resolution.

Without a world-class highway and transit system, the United States simply cannot hope to compete in our increasingly global economy. The Pacific rim nations and Europe are spending trillions of dollars on national infrastructure for a very simple reason: It makes good economic sense. We must do the same here at home.

The tremendous needs of transportation and infrastructure in my home State of Massachusetts and across this Nation depend on adequate Federal investment. The budget agreement as it now stands falls woefully short of allowing us to merely maintain our aging highway and transit system, let alone making greatly needed repairs.

The Shuster-Oberstar amendment is a sensible, bipartisan effort to increase transportation funding to minimum acceptable levels, offset by a minuscule across-the-board reduction in all parts of the budget except entitlements.

I am strongly committed to balancing the Federal budget, but balancing the budget is all about choices.

The President speaks eloquently about building a bridge to the 21st cen-

tury, but that bridge is in desperate need of repair. I ask my colleagues to be bold, to be daring and to invest in our Nation's economic security and our future.

Vote "yes" on the Shuster-Oberstar amendment.

HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS SAVE LIVES

(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, 42,000 Americans were killed in automobile accidents in 1995 and 1996, an increase of 2,500 fatalities since 1992.

The Federal Highway Administration says that road design and conditions contributed to 30 percent of those fatalities, which means that approximately 12,000 lives could have been saved by investing in better roads.

Highway improvements save lives. Eighty percent of all travel occurs on the Nation's highways, which means investing in better and safer roads is the single most dramatic step we can take in protecting the lives of our Nation's motorists.

The millions of dollars paid into the highway trust fund each year from our motorists is done with the expectation that it will be used not only to maintain but to improve the safety of the Nation's highways. This is not being done. Using the monies entrusted to us by the people for their intended purpose, the Shuster-Oberstar-Petri-Rahall amendment gives us the opportunity to fulfill our obligation to provide the safest roads possible for every man, woman, and child traveling on them.

In the name of safer roads, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting the Shuster-Oberstar-Petri-Rahall amendment on the budget resolution.

NO MFN FOR CHINA

(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, the White House supports MFN for China. The United Nations supports MFN for China. The Council on Foreign Relations and the Trilateral Commission, they support MFN for China; and naturally, China more than anyone else supports MFN for China.

It seems everyone supports MFN for China except American workers, and I think their reason is right on target. America's trade policy sucks. We are not going to have a job left, folks.

I would just like to say in closing out here that while we are budgeting our limited assets together, China keeps laughing all the way to the bank with a huge surplus.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker, dot com.