

the year 2002 and put additional financial burdens on physicians and hospitals. I fear that such deep cuts could do serious damage to the quality of health care provided to seniors and I hope that we can work together here in the House to ensure that these cuts are done as responsibly as possible.

In addition, there are many wasteful Government programs that were not included in the agreement that could save billions of taxpayer dollars and lessen the cuts to important programs like Medicare.

For example, mining laws are still governed by a law written in 1872, which gives away billions of dollars in mineral rights on taxpayer land for almost nothing. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that updating this law would save \$1.5 billion over 5 years and protect the environment. We also continue to subsidize the building of roads in our national forests and to sell taxpayer-owned timber at below market rates, at a cost of \$300 million annually. Subsidies for the cotton and sugar programs cost taxpayers billions each year.

I also have questions about the Pentagon's budget. While I am a strong supporter of our armed services, we must subject the Pentagon's \$263 billion annual budget to the same scrutiny at the rest of the Federal Government.

As with any major piece of Federal legislation that covers such a broad range of issues, there is a lot to like and dislike about the proposed budget agreement. But we must not succumb to the temptation to abandon the process because there may be particular provisions with which we disagree.

I believe that we must return a measure of civility to our public discourse. We mustn't fall into the abyss that the last Congress found itself in. Only by speaking with one another in a civil and honorable fashion can we hope to accomplish what the people of all our districts have sent us here to do.

Republicans and Democrats will not work in a bipartisan fashion on every issue, nor do I believe that they should. While there are distinct differences between our two parties, these disagreements should be seen as an illustration of the strength of our democracy. But we cannot let these differences stand in the way of making compromises that move our country forward, and Congress should not return to the frustrating and unproductive days of the recent past.

This budget resolution breaks the choke hold of partisan rancor that has been squeezing civility from our political life. This agreement is clear evidence that only by working together in a bipartisan fashion can we bring about solutions to very complex issues.

I urge my colleagues to support this budget resolution.

TRIBUTE TO THE
STEPHANOPOULOS FAMILY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a family that has demonstrated an unflinching commitment to community service. Tonight, the annual Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter [NCS] will honor the Stephanopoulos family at a Greek festival benefit in Manhattan.

Rev. Dr. Robert Stephanopoulos, a priest of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America for 38 years, has been dean of the Creek Orthodox Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity since 1982. He is renowned ecumenist, theologian, lecturer, and pastor and has developed innovative social outreach programs in the greater Catholic community.

Nikki Stephanopoulos has dedicated much of her life to volunteer service. As a founding member of NCS, she has served on its board for 10 years; she is also the news and information officer of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.

Father Robert and Niki's children are just as dedicated to social causes as their parents. Anastasia spent a year in Santiago, Chile, as a housemother for orphans and assisting in the administration of a school for children under the aegis of a Orthodox convent. Anastasia is now a nun at Convent of St. May Magdalene, situated in the slope of the Mount of Olives in the Garden of Gethsemane.

George, former senior advisor to President Clinton, is now a professor at Columbia University, an ABC news analyst and a Newsweek contributing columnist. He has spent two 6 week period working at refugee camps in the Sudan. Since his undergraduate days at Columbia University, George has participated in the Big Brother Program and other philanthropic efforts in New York and Washington.

Margarite is an active member of Sts. Constantine and Helen Cathedral in Cleveland, OH, where she served for many years on the board of trustees and for 5 years, chaired their 3-day Greek festival which attracted thousands of visitors every year. Margarite recently became the office manager for an orthopedic surgeon at Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan.

Andrew, who is currently vice president/A&R for the Track Factory, was very involved in the Rock The Vote campaign during the first Clinton campaign. During the campaign, he assisted in providing music for college events; following the election, he attended the signing of the motor-voter bill at the White House.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise with me in this tribute to the Stephanopoulos family. The Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter, whose benefit theme is "One Caring Family Can Make A Difference," has chosen an exemplary family to illustrate how one family can have an extraordinary impact on the lives of people in need. Thank you.

SPORTSMEN'S BILL OF RIGHTS

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 1997

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Sportsmen's Bill of Rights. I am joined today by Representatives JOHN TANNER (TN), DON YOUNG (AK), SAXBY CHAMBLISS (GA), COLLIN PETERSON (MN), BOB SMITH (OR), RICHARD POMBO (CA), VIRGIL GOODE (VA), RICK HILL (MT), JAMES BARCIA (MI), and CHRIS JOHN (LA).

THE SPORTSMEN'S BILL OF RIGHTS

The Sportsmen's Bill of Rights is intended to provide a clear policy for Federal agencies to follow in their administration and management of our Federal public lands. This policy is for

Federal agencies, within the limits of the statutes that they administer, to allow access to the Federal public lands under their jurisdiction for the purpose of fishing and hunting. The policy also requires that in the administration of their authorities, the Federal agencies act so as to improve and enhance the quality of fishing and hunting opportunities on the Federal public lands.

The bill contains several exceptions and exclusions to take into account emergency situations, national security concerns, public safety, and accepted management practices. In particular, the bill cannot be used to force the opening of national parks and monuments administered by the National Park Service to fishing or hunting. Nor can it be used to force Federal agencies to change management mandates and priorities established by statute. Its intent is to guide the Federal land managing agencies in those areas where the basic authorizing legislation for management of a particular unit leaves room for discretion and judgment by the agency.

The policy established by this bill is driven by the recognition of the important role fishing and hunting play in America. Both are recreational activities for millions of Americans. They are also the driving forces in fish and wildlife conservation. With the growing urbanization that our country has gone through in the 20th century, Americans have separated from our connection with and understanding of the fishing and hunting activities of our great pioneers and settlers. But fishing and hunting are important recreational activities for almost 75 million people. Sportsmen spend more than \$48 billion every year on their outdoor recreation, supporting more than 1.3 million U.S. jobs. In addition, the enthusiasm of anglers and hunters for preserving their outdoor heritage was tapped 60 years ago to create a system for wildlife conservation recognized worldwide for its success at bringing back many species that were decimated during the 19th century.

Over 60 million Americans go fishing each year. Fishing activities range from the excitement of opening day in lakes and trout streams to the regular jaunts of parent and child to their favorite fishing hole, where they can relax and get away from the pace of modern life. Hunting is done by 14 million Americans, who take to the woods in the autumn to put venison in the larder or call the elusive turkey gobbler in the spring. For the individual, fishing and hunting bring out the qualities of independence and self-reliance that were so important to our forefathers. In their modern versions, fishing and hunting also require participants to be law-abiding and ethical good citizens of their communities. These are important values to retain and to inoculate in our children.

To a great extent, fishing and hunting are pursued by so many people because of their outdoors aspects. Since most people live in an urban or suburban environment, a visit to the woods, the fields or fishing streams is an important contact with the land. Fishing and hunting carries this contact a step further than other outdoor activities, because in addition to knowing how to get along in the outdoors, fisherman and hunters must have a knowledge of the fish and wildlife they pursue and their place in the environment. Together, the love of the outdoors and the understanding of