

to thank the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPRATT], my leader, for his good work in the conference, the conference report that as a Democrat I am proud to stand here today and support, although I agree with many of my colleagues that we should have had more time to study the language as written. But this legislation really contains many Democratic priorities. To begin with, it balances the budget without a constitutional amendment and continues the direction made and begun in 1993 by that very, very difficult budget vote.

□ 1530

But that is only the beginning. The bill also includes the largest investment in our Nation's history since Medicaid, \$24 billion. This funding will help States provide health coverage for millions of uninsured children, and I really hope I can believe what I heard, that this coverage will be as good as State and Federal workers have.

Furthermore, the legislation restores Federal aid for thousands of legal immigrants and provides \$3 billion to help people make that transition so important from welfare to work.

These and other changes make good on the pledge that many of us made, led by the President, to fix the problems in the recent welfare bill, and I thank the gentleman from Florida [Mr. SHAW] for his hard work in this area.

And, finally, the bill will enhance Medicare's coverage for preventive care including, annual mammograms. The legislation also does spend \$1.5 billion to help more low income Medicare beneficiaries pay for that all important part B premium.

I also want to applaud the majority for agreeing with Democrats to drop earlier provisions on reducing employment protections for welfare workers and on reducing State supplemented SSI payments for 2.8 million elderly.

Mr. Speaker, the bill balances the budget while protecting democratic principles. This is a goal that many of us have been fighting for for a long time. I urge support for this conference report.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, a long battle began in 1989 when a fairly young Member of this House, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. KASICH], offered an amendment to balance the Federal budget to get our country's financial house in order. There were 30 Members who supported him in that long march. In 1990, 106 Members supported him. In 1991, 114 Members supported him. He did not offer an amendment in 1992, but in 1993, 135 Members supported JOHN KASICH in his effort to get our country's financial house in order. In 1994, 165 Members supported him in his effort to get our country's financial house in order, and then with the election of 1994 we had the dynamic class of 73 Republican freshmen who came in and helped this man and helped this Congress get our

country's financial house in order. In 1995, 235 Members voted to get our country's financial house in order, and the President vetoed that effort. In 1996, 216 voted for that, and the President vetoed it.

Today we are at a historic point. We are at a point where this Democrat President and this Republican Congress have come together to get our country's financial house in order and balance the Federal budget.

The President wanted more spending in certain areas, and this Republican Congress wanted tax cuts and changes to entitlements to slow the runaway costs of entitlements. This has been an effort of both sides, and this is an effort that needs to be supported.

CALL OF THE HOUSE

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I move a call of the House.

A call of the House was ordered.

The call was taken by electronic device, and the following Members responded to their names:

[Roll No. 344]

Abercrombie	Clement	Fowler
Ackerman	Clyburn	Fox
Aderholt	Coble	Franks (NJ)
Allen	Coburn	Frelinghuysen
Andrews	Collins	Furse
Arney	Combest	Galleghy
Bachus	Condit	Ganske
Baesler	Conyers	Gejdenson
Baker	Cook	Gibbons
Baldacci	Cooksey	Gilchrest
Ballenger	Costello	Gillmor
Barcia	Cox	Gilman
Barr	Coyne	Goode
Barrett (NE)	Cramer	Goodlatte
Barrett (WI)	Crane	Goodling
Bartlett	Crapo	Gordon
Barton	Cubin	Goss
Bass	Cummings	Graham
Bateman	Cunningham	Granger
Becerra	Danner	Green
Bentsen	Davis (FL)	Greenwood
Bereuter	Davis (IL)	Gutierrez
Berman	Davis (VA)	Gutknecht
Berry	Deal	Hall (OH)
Bilbray	DeFazio	Hall (TX)
Bilirakis	DeGette	Hamilton
Bishop	Delahunt	Hansen
Blagojevich	DeLauro	Harman
Bliley	DeLay	Hastert
Blumenauer	Dellums	Hastings (FL)
Blunt	Deutsch	Hastings (WA)
Boehlert	Dickey	Hayworth
Boehner	Dicks	Hefley
Bonilla	Dingell	Hefner
Borski	Dixon	Henger
Boswell	Doggett	Hill
Boyd	Doolittle	Hilleary
Brady	Doyle	Hilliard
Brown (CA)	Dreier	Hinchey
Brown (FL)	Duncan	Hinojosa
Brown (OH)	Dunn	Hobson
Bryant	Edwards	Hoekstra
Bunning	Ehlers	Holden
Burr	Ehrlich	Hooley
Burton	Emerson	Horn
Buyer	Engel	Hostettler
Callahan	English	Houghton
Calvert	Ensign	Hoyer
Camp	Eshoo	Hulshof
Campbell	Etheridge	Hunter
Canady	Evans	Hutchinson
Cannon	Everett	Hyde
Capps	Ewing	Inglis
Cardin	Farr	Istook
Carson	Fattah	Jackson (IL)
Castle	Fazio	Jackson-Lee
Chabot	Filner	(TX)
Chambliss	Flake	Jefferson
Chenoweth	Foglietta	Jenkins
Christensen	Foley	John
Clay	Ford	Johnson (CT)

Johnson (WI)	Molinari	Schaffer, Bob
Johnson, E. B.	Mollohan	Schumer
Jones	Moran (KS)	Scott
Kanjorski	Moran (VA)	Sensenbrenner
Kaptur	Morella	Serrano
Kasich	Murtha	Sessions
Kelly	Myrick	Shadegg
Kennedy (MA)	Nadler	Shaw
Kennedy (RI)	Neal	Shays
Kennelly	Nethercutt	Sherman
Kildee	Neumann	Shimkus
Kilpatrick	Ney	Sisisky
Kim	Northup	Skaggs
Kind (WI)	Norwood	Skeen
King (NY)	Nussle	Skelton
Kingston	Oberstar	Slaughter
Klecza	Obey	Smith (MI)
Klink	Olver	Smith (NJ)
Klug	Ortiz	Smith (OR)
Knollenberg	Oxley	Smith (TX)
Kolbe	Packard	Smith, Adam
Kucinich	Pallone	Smith, Linda
LaFalce	Pappas	Snowbarger
LaHood	Parker	Snyder
Lampson	Pascrell	Solomon
Lantos	Pastor	Spence
Largent	Paul	Spratt
Latham	Paxon	Stabenow
LaTourette	Payne	Stearns
Lazio	Pease	Stenholm
Leach	Pelosi	Stokes
Levin	Peterson (MN)	Strickland
Lewis (CA)	Peterson (PA)	Stump
Lewis (GA)	Petri	Stupak
Lewis (KY)	Pickering	Sununu
Linder	Pickett	Talent
Lipinski	Pitts	Tanner
Livingston	Pombo	Tauscher
LoBiondo	Pomeroy	Tauzin
Lofgren	Porter	Taylor (MS)
Lowey	Portman	Taylor (NC)
Lucas	Poshard	Thomas
Luther	Price (NC)	Thompson
Maloney (CT)	Pryce (OH)	Thornberry
Maloney (NY)	Quinn	Thune
Manton	Radanovich	Thurman
Markey	Rahall	Tiahrt
Martinez	Ramstad	Torres
Mascara	Rangel	Towns
Matsui	Redmond	Trafficant
McCarthy (MO)	Regula	Turner
McCarthy (NY)	Reyes	Upton
McCollum	Riggs	Velazquez
McCrery	Riley	Vento
McDade	Rivers	Visclosky
McDermott	Rodriguez	Walsh
McGovern	Roemer	Wamp
McHale	Rogan	Waters
McHugh	Rogers	Watkins
McInnis	Rohrabacher	Watt (NC)
McIntosh	Ros-Lehtinen	Watts (OK)
McIntyre	Rothman	Weldon
McKeon	Roukema	Weldon (PA)
McKinney	Roybal-Allard	Weller
McNulty	Royce	Wexler
Meehan	Rush	Weygand
Meek	Ryun	White
Menendez	Sabo	Whitfield
Metcalf	Salmon	Wicker
Mica	Sanchez	Wise
Millender-	Sanders	Wolf
McDonald	Sandlin	Woolsey
Miller (CA)	Sanford	Wynn
Miller (FL)	Sawyer	Yates
Minge	Saxton	Young (FL)
Mink	Scarborough	
Moakley	Schaefer, Dan	

□ 1555

The SPEAKER. On this rollcall, 410 Members have recorded their presence by electronic device, a quorum.

Under the rule, further proceedings under the call are dispensed with.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2015, BALANCED BUDGET ACT OF 1997

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. SHAYS].

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. STEARNS], a member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for the