

- (A) offsetting any tax decrease; and  
 (B) offsetting any spending increase.

Mr. HOLLINGS. This is a short, one-paragraph bill. It says that Congress cannot use any of these surpluses and trust funds for any tax cut or any spending increase where we have caps.

Maybe, Mr. President, they will get the money from the tobacco settlement. I don't know where they will get the money from.

You are looking at a Senator who voted against spending increases and against tax cuts last year in order to try to bring about fiscal responsibility. We enjoy a good economy, Mr. President. And we want to stay the course. But let us practice truth in budgeting, and let us mean it. I have provided all the facts and figures here.

There is a chart that everybody in America ought to see: the gross Federal debt. In the past year, 1997, we ran a deficit not of \$22 billion but of \$188 billion. The Congressional Budget Office projects an actual deficit of \$170 billion. And, Mr. President, in 1999, the deficit will increase from \$170 billion to \$200 billion. Why? Because rather than heading in the right direction, Congress and the President last year increased spending and cut out revenues. Under current policy, the deficit will continue to soar, right on up and away to \$205 billion by the year 2000.

So everybody ought to understand that Congress and the White House can make all the wonderful talks they like; and everyone can say, "Well, the President wants to use those funds for spending, and I want to use it for tax cuts." That suits me, whatever you all want to do, but let us have truth in budgeting and let us not use any of the trust funds as an offset.

The bills I introduce today will achieve both of these goals; they will ensure an honest budget and protect Social Security and other trust funds.

I thank the distinguished Chair and yield the floor.

Mr. BUMPERS addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. BUMPERS. Mr. President, what is the parliamentary situation?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business has just concluded.

#### EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BUMPERS. I ask unanimous consent, Mr. President, that I be permitted to proceed in morning business for no more than 15 minutes in order to introduce a bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRUTH IN BUDGETING

Mr. BUMPERS. Mr. President, prior to introducing my bill, let me just lend my support to the remarks just made by the Senator from South Carolina. He and the Senator from North Dakota, Senator DORGAN, have made

speech after speech after speech on the floor of this body about how we do not have truth in budgeting. We do not have a balanced budget. We are not even close to a balanced budget and are not going to be for some time to come. And the idea of people talking about tax cuts or using the budget surplus, which does not exist, to using that surplus to cut taxes or to increase spending is an absolute absurdity.

I think this year, 1998, we are anticipating a \$100 billion surplus in Social Security. So I lend my support to what the President said the other night. And I lend my support to what the Senator from South Carolina just said.

(The remarks of Mr. BUMPERS pertaining to the introduction of S. 1586 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THOMAS). The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for up to 20 minutes as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### HONORING CONGRESSMAN LOUIS STOKES

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise this afternoon to commemorate an important event in the history of my State, the State of Ohio, and also the history of this Congress. Over the just-concluded recess, my good friend, Congressman LOU STOKES, announced he will retire at the end of this Congress. LOU STOKES will retire after 30 years representing the people of his Cleveland area district.

Mr. President, when I first entered the House of Representatives in 1983, LOU STOKES had already been there for 14 years—14 years building friendships and developing a reputation as a powerful and effective leader.

LOU STOKES is a leader. Mr. President, he is more than that. LOU STOKES is a good man. One of my own favorite memories of LOU STOKES, and frankly it is one of my memories that I will carry with me all my life and my career in politics, was the very moving speech that Congressman LOU STOKES made when he and I served together on the Iran-Contra Committee. Mr. President, this was a contentious time. Congressman STOKES and I did not always agree on everything about these hearings or about the facts of that series of events that led to the Iran-Contra hearings. But there was a moment during the hearings when LOU STOKES spoke from the heart and he really let us know what kind of a person he is, sort of what makes him tick. We really had an insight into the soul of this very good man.

In his remarks he expressed heartfelt love of this great country of ours. Let me quote a portion of what Congressman LOU STOKES said at that time:

I wore the uniform of this country in World War II in a segregated Army. I wore it

as proudly as you did, even though our Government required black and white soldiers in the same Army to live, sleep, eat, and travel separate and apart while fighting and dying for our country.

But because of the rule of law today's servicemen in America suffer no such indignity. . . . My mother, a widow, raised two boys. She had an eighth grade education. She was a domestic worker who scrubbed floors. One son became the first black mayor of a major American city. The other sits here today as chairman of a House Intelligence Committee. Only in America, only in America, Colonel North, only in America.

Mr. President, LOUIS STOKES said these words at a time of great tension in our country and in the Congress. In doing so, he gave voice to what Abraham Lincoln called the better angels of our nature.

That, Mr. President, is really who LOUIS STOKES is, a truly honorable man who represents the finest aspects of the American spirit. Congressman STOKES rose from poverty to become a great American statesman. He was Ohio's first African American member of the U.S. Congress. He was the first African American ever named to the House Appropriations Committee.

First, first, first, again and again and again, Mr. President. Where a path had not been carved out before, LOUIS STOKES took the lead and blazed a trail by himself. He was chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, he was chairman of the House Ethics Committee, he was chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, he was chairman of the historic House committee that investigated the assassinations of President Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He was chairman and is currently ranking member of the appropriations subcommittee on VA-HUD overseeing \$87 billion of our Federal budget.

For the last 5 years he has been the dean of our State's congressional delegation.

Mr. President, I am proud to have served for so long with this truly great American, here in the Senate for the last 3 years, as well as the 8 years we served together in the U.S. House of Representatives. So today, Mr. President, I join the people of Ohio in thanking Congressman LOU STOKES for all he has done to move our State and our country forward.

LOUIS STOKES's hometown newspaper, the Cleveland Plain Dealer, says that he is "A man who, through word and deed, created a legacy of exemplary public service. . . . After his long years of distinguished service, Congress won't be the same without him."

Mr. President, how true that is.

So to our friend, LOU STOKES; his wife, Jay; his children, Shelley, Angela, Louis, Lorene; and his grandchildren, who I know he cherishes so much, Brett, Eric, Grant, Kelley, Kimberley, Alexandra, and Nicolette, thank you very much. Thank you for sharing him with us. We wish you, Congressman STOKES, and your children and your grandchildren and the rest of

your family all the best for a wonderful future.

#### HONORING SENATOR JOHN GLENN

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I will take a moment this afternoon to say a few words about another truly historic announcement that occurred during the recess. On behalf of the people of the State of Ohio and all of our colleagues in the U.S. Senate, let me say how truly proud we are of our distinguished friend and colleague, Senator JOHN GLENN. By now, everyone in America knows that in October at the age of 77, Senator JOHN GLENN will return to space as a member of the crew of the space shuttle Discovery.

Mr. President, very few people show the kind of courage shown throughout his lifetime by JOHN GLENN, courage that Senator GLENN showed when he flew 149—149—heroic combat missions as a Marine pilot in World War II and then in the Korean war facing death from enemy fighters and antiaircraft fire. Because of all the enemy fire that JOHN GLENN braved, we are told his buddies called him the “Mig-Mad Marine,” and I guess they had a few other names for him, as well.

Mr. President, it comes as no surprise to those of us who know him that our friend, JOHN GLENN, is that kind of a rare person. One reporter commented that when he was a young man he was thrilled by then Colonel GLENN's orbits around the Earth and yelled out, “Go, Colonel GLENN, go.” Well, Mr. President, I had pretty much the same experience, as millions of Americans did. My experience occurred when I was in high school, my wife Fran and I were in high school in Yellow Springs High School and the day that JOHN GLENN orbited the Earth and made that historic flight I happened to be in Mr. Ed Wingard's science class in Yellow Springs High School. We all listened on the radio to the progress of this truly historic flight. For those who were not born at that time or cannot remember it, it is hard to describe the atmosphere in this country. It is hard to explain how literally this country came to a stop, when people gathered around TVs and gathered around radios for that period of time as he went around the Earth and made those three orbits.

In fact, just about anyone around back then can tell you how important that achievement was for the American people, and they can tell you where they were and what they were doing at that moment. We, as a Nation at that time, Mr. President, were shaken, we had been shaken when the Russians beat us into space with the Sputnik, Sputnik satellite, earlier in 1957 and then in April of 1961 they sent Yuri Gagarin into orbit, the first man in space. The same week as that flight the U.S. was rocked by the tragedy and failure of the Bay of Pigs invasion in Cuba.

In short, Mr. President, America was reeling, and that is one of the reasons why our hearts were lifted so very

much by JOHN GLENN's daring exploit. That, Mr. President, was a great day to be an American. I hear a lot of that enthusiasm today after the announcement that Senator GLENN will be going back into space. I think that one of his last public services as a Member of the U.S. Senate may be one of the most valuable achievements of his long and very distinguished career because JOHN GLENN has a rare, truly incredible opportunity to educate the rest of us, to educate the American people about the value of America's adventure in space. Who better, Mr. President, than JOHN GLENN to speak to Americans about this great American achievement? Who better to explain to us the importance of NASA, the importance of space exploration? And who among us, except JOHN GLENN, has that historical perspective and can explain it in terms that average Americans can understand? JOHN GLENN has a unique ability to tell this great story. He has that ability because he has lived it.

Mr. President, I think this space mission is already starting to fire up the imagination of the American people about the wonders of discovery. It can remind us again that we as Americans have a tradition of national greatness and that the pursuit of national greatness remains our continued breathtaking challenge. So, Colonel—Senator—the hearts of all Ohioans and the hearts of your colleagues in the Senate, and indeed all Americans, will be with you on your historic mission. Our hearts will also be with your great family and with your heroic wife Annie. As President Clinton said the other night, godspeed, JOHN GLENN.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, what is the business before the Senate?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. We are still in morning business.

Mr. GRAMS. Thank you very much.

#### TAXPAYERS ON THE HOOK: THE NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE COUNTDOWN

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today because after 16 years of denials, delays, and indifference on the part of the U.S. Department of Energy, the American taxpayers are about to find themselves saddled with the liability for our nation's nuclear waste.

It is a liability they do not deserve, and one they most certainly cannot afford. Unfortunately, the President failed to warn them on Tuesday night during his State of the Union address that many of the achievements he acknowledged are at risk—threatened by

a federal government failure so massive that it may take the taxpayers years, even decades, to burrow out from underneath it.

What could be so potentially devastating? The failure of the U.S. Department of Energy to begin accepting the nation's spent commercial nuclear fuel.

And, Mr. President, the taxpayers will inherit the responsibility for that failure just three days from now.

At midnight on January 31, 1998, the DOE is required by law to begin accepting spent nuclear fuel from sites across the nation.

The clock was set in motion 16 years ago, upon enactment of the “Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982.”

Since then, utility ratepayers have been required to pay the federal government more than 13 billion of their hard-earned dollars in exchange for the promise that the DOE would develop and build a centralized repository for the safe and efficient storage of spent nuclear fuel.

But that's yet another government promise that won't be kept.

Today, 16 years later—with 7 billion of those ratepayer dollars already spent—the waste is piling up.

Nobody at the DOE wants it—nobody at the DOE is prepared to claim it—and because there's no place to put it, nobody at the DOE would be ready to take it by the January 31st deadline anyway. That's just three days from now.

At the same time energy consumers are pouring billions into the waste fund, ratepayers and utilities are continuing to pay for on-site storage at more than 70 commercial nuclear plants throughout the country.

In other words, ratepayers are being forced to pay twice for nuclear waste storage—all because the Department of Energy has failed to meet its legal obligations to the American people.

Sadly, these costs pale in comparison to the true catastrophe the DOE has in store for the taxpayers beginning just three days from now.

The United States Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit, in a ruling issued on November 14, said that not only is the DOE authorized to begin accepting waste on January 31, but also able to fulfill its contractual obligations to remove it.

By failing to do so, the court ruled, the DOE makes the federal government liable for any damages resulting from even the smallest delay in performance.

And we all know who foots government's bills.

By failing to take possession of the nation's nuclear waste just three days from now, the DOE will in essence make the American taxpayer responsible for those damages.

According to the Nuclear Energy Institute, the estimated cost of storing spent nuclear fuel at power plants across the nation through 2020 is \$56 billion, with the federal government—the taxpayers—liable for every dollar.