

The gentleman from Pennsylvania made the point earlier about the fact that there is all this new spending: 39 new entitlement programs. We cannot create a program in this city and ever hope, even though its purpose ceases to exist, to get rid of it if the time ever comes.

So I think before we embark on this road of new Federal spending, new government, new Washington programs, which is clearly the direction that the President wanted to go when he came out with his budget, and I did not count it up, but a billion dollars a minute is a pretty astonishing rate of government growth, but that is what the State of the Union address was all about, creating new Washington bureaucracy and new Washington spending.

And I think that is a very dangerous road to start down, given the fact that any time we create entitlement programs in this city, they are there to stay.

I think that he is assuming a whole lot of things about the performance of this economy that we really do not know about. I think we would be much better served to the extent that we have addressed long-term issues like Social Security, like Medicare, having done that, that any dollars that are left, we ought to give them back to the taxpayers whose dollars they are in the first place and really ought to have first claim.

So I think you make an important point when you talk about all the various programs over time that have been created, never been evaluated. Before we head down that road again, I think the American public would be better served if we talk in a very fundamental way about ensuring that we do not create new Washington spending. I think that is an important point that we probably all agree on.

Mr. BLUNT. If the gentleman will yield, I think that is exactly right. I think what happens is, if you do have sunset provisions, every agency not only is aware that it is going to have to come up for review, but every assignment it is given is going to have to come up for review, and that just does not happen now.

We have lots of programs on the books that are not funded, are underfunded, or just out there waiting for that moment when they can come back in and grab some more money. Nobody ever challenges those things. I think that one of the great reviews we could do would be to do that.

I think one of our freshman colleagues, the gentleman from Texas (KEVIN BRADY) has legislation he is working on that would really put sunset provisions in as an automatic part of any new program that goes into effect, any new agency that goes into effect. Then of course we ought to go back and attach those same provisions to old agencies.

I think what happens in Colorado and other States that have this is the de-

partments themselves pretty quickly come back to the legislature and say, when they see something that is going to be a problem for them, when it comes time to defend it, when it comes time for them to be reauthorized, they say in advance, you know, we think this is really not working out like we thought it would. We think you ought to eliminate this, because we do not want to come back 2 years from now and explain why we have not been able to make it work. I think that is one of the things we could do to begin to get this government under control.

Also the other thing that has been mentioned so often tonight that we have taken great advantage of over the last 3 years has been the States themselves. How many times tonight in our discussion have we talked about, whether it is welfare programs or education programs, how much benefit we are getting by letting the 50 States be 50 laboratories for change?

There are great results happening in State after State after State where we have allowed them leeway in areas like welfare that they have not had before. The Governor of Wisconsin just the other day, as was pointed out, wrote the last welfare check. There are not going to be any more of those checks issued in that State. It has made a dramatic difference in the way they approach this problem.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. I guess a concluding remark for me is one of the first things I said tonight. I think we really have 3 years to back out of the trust funds. If we do not stop borrowing from the trust funds the next 3 years, we probably will not have an economy that will allow us to do that. I think we have a limited time to stop borrowing from them. I think the pressure ought to be on.

I do not think we have to whack and cut with a cleaver. I think we just have to be a little bit frugal like we are with our own money, just a little bit frugal here in Washington. We can stop borrowing from the trust funds, and we can make sure Social Security and Medicare are strong and that our children do not have the debt that we are going to leave them if we do not do it.

Mr. SCHAFFER of Colorado. Our time has expired this evening. I appreciate the Speaker and his indulgence and for presiding tonight. By the way, Republican freshmen have an hour scheduled again next week on Wednesday, so I hope everybody will join us here again. We will continue our discussions about how we can move authority out of Washington back to the States and back to the policymakers and leaders who are closest to the people and know most about how to lead this great country.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. LUTHER of Minnesota (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, March 4, on account of family illness.

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for after 3 p.m. today and the balance of the week on account of a family emergency.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. LIPINSKI, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.  
Ms. WATERS, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. MINGE, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. NETHERCUTT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. NETHERCUTT, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. CAMPBELL, for 5 minutes, on March 5.  
Mrs. MORELLA, for 5 minutes, on March 5.

#### EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. HAMILTON.  
Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.  
Mr. PALLONE.  
Mr. DINGELL.  
Mr. JOHN.  
Mr. STARK.  
Mr. FORD.  
Mr. BENTSEN.  
Mr. WISE.  
Mr. PASCRELL.  
Mr. SANDLIN.  
Ms. NORTON.  
Mr. KIND.  
Ms. DELAURO.  
Mrs. LOWEY.  
Mr. FROST.  
Mr. TOWNS.  
Mr. VISCLOSKEY.  
Mr. SCHUMER.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. NETHERCUTT) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mrs. MORELLA.  
Mr. FORBES.  
Mr. KING.  
Mr. DAVIS of Virginia.  
Mr. WOLF.  
Mr. PACKARD.  
Mr. GILMAN.  
Mr. GALLEGLY.  
Mr. ROHRBACHER.  
Mr. PORTER.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. RANGEL.  
Mr. MCGOVERN.  
Mr. CLYBURN.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida.  
Mr. TIAHRT.  
Mr. BARR of Georgia.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado.  
Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, March 5, 1998, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,  
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

7686. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Walnuts Grown in California; Decreased Assessment Rate [Docket No. FV97-984-1 FIR] received February 27, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7687. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting his requests for FY 1998 supplemental appropriations and FY 1999 budget amendments to address emergency funding needs related to the situation in Bosnia and in Southwest Asia as well as to natural disasters in the United States; and to designate these requests as emergency requirements pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1107; (H. Doc. No. 105-220); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

7688. A letter from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the report to Congress for Department of Defense purchases from foreign entities in fiscal year 1997, pursuant to Public Law 104-201, section 827 (110 Stat. 2611); to the Committee on National Security.

7689. A letter from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report that the Department has not authorized any category of merchandise to be sold in, at, or by commissary stores, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2486(b)(11); to the Committee on National Security.

7690. A letter from the Director, Selective Service System, transmitting a report on the operation of the system for fiscal year 1997, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. app. 460(g); to the Committee on National Security.

7691. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting the semiannual report on tied aid credits, pursuant to Public Law 99-472, section 19 (100 Stat. 1207); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

7692. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the 1997 annual report on the Loan Repayment Program for Research Generally, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2541-1(i); to the Committee on Commerce.

7693. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Extralabel Animal Drug Use; Fluoroquinolones and Glycopeptides; Order of Prohibition [Docket No. 97N-0172] received March 3, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7694. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-271, "Suspension of Liquor Licenses Amendment Act of 1998" received March 2, 1998, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

7695. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-272, "Make a Difference Selection Committee Establishment Act of 1998" received March 2, 1998, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

7696. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-273, "Natural and Artificial Gas Gross Receipts Tax Amendment of 1998" received March 2, 1998, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

7697. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-276, "Commercial Mobile Telecommunication Service Tax Clarification Amendment Act of 1998" received March 2, 1998, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

7698. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-268, "Unemployment Compensation Tax Stabilization Second Temporary Amendment Act of 1998" received March 2, 1998, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

7699. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-270, "Testing of District Government Drivers of Commercial Motor Vehicles for Alcohol and Controlled Substances Temporary Amendment Act of 1998" received March 2, 1998, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

7700. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-278, "Equal Opportunity For Local, Small, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Temporary Act of 1998" received March 2, 1998, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

7701. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 12-277, "Mortgage Lender and Broker Act of 1996 Temporary Amendment Act of 1998" received March 2, 1998, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

7702. A letter from the Director, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, transmitting the 1996 annual report in compliance with the Inspector General Act Amendments of 1988, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. section 8G(h)(2); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

7703. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Reserve System, transmitting a report of activities under the Freedom of Information Act for the calendar year 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(d); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

7704. A letter from the Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, transmitting a report of activities under the Freedom of Information Act for the calendar year 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(d); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

7705. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Trade and Development Agency, transmitting a report of activities under the Freedom of Information Act for the calendar year 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(d); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

7706. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Offshore Component of Pollock in the Aleutian Islands Subarea [Docket No. 971208296-7296-01; I.D. 022098B] received March 2, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

7707. A letter from the Director, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Financial Assistance for Research and Development Projects to Strengthen and Develop the U.S. Fishing Industry [Docket No. 960223046-8030-03; I.D. 012398C] (RIN: 0648-ZA09) received March 2, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

7708. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Closure [Docket No. 970930235-8028-02; I.D. 022498A] received March 2, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

7709. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Amendment 8 [Docket No. 970606131-8033-02; I.D. 041497C] (RIN: 0648-AG25) received March 2, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

7710. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inshore Component Pollock in the Bering Sea Subarea [Docket No. 971208296-7296-01; I.D. 022598C] received March 2, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

7711. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking of Ringed Seals Incidental to On-Ice Seismic Activity [Docket No. 970725179-8017-03; I.D. 071497A] (RIN: 0648-AK33) received March 3, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

7712. A letter from the Independent Counsel, Office of Independent Counsel, transmitting the third annual report, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 598(a)(2); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7713. A letter from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting the Fifteenth Annual Report of Accomplishments Under the Airport Improvement Program for the Fiscal Year 1996, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. app. 2203(b)(2); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7714. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Model F28 Mark 0100 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 97-NM-264-AD; Amendment 39-10169; AD 97-19-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 27, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7715. A letter from the Acting Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Indirect