

Balanced Budget Amendment, I was deeply disappointed when the President and his Congress allies blocked such an essential reform.

Robert Myers, former Chief Actuary and Deputy Commissioner for the Social Security Administration has stated that, "Regaining control of our fiscal affairs is the most important step we can take to protect the soundness of the Social Security trust funds. I urge the Congress to make that goal a reality."

Mr. Speaker, we can make a balanced budget a reality. We can save Social Security. I pledge today that I will introduce a Balanced Budget Amendment next Congress and will do all I can to see that it passes. For our seniors, ourselves, and our children, it is imperative that we gain control of our budget and ensure the safety and solvency of the Social Security program.

Moreover, with fiscal responsibility, I believe we can provide another much-needed service to our seniors—tax relief. The Senior Coalition has developed a straightforward six-point tax relief plan. It is as follows:

Repeal the earnings limit on Social Security; repeal the 1993 tax increase on Social Security benefits; reduce capital gains tax from 20% to 15%; eliminate the Federal inheritance tax, or "death tax," and make health insurance 100% deductible for small business.

Much of this common-sense plan was incorporated in the tax relief bill which passed in the House of Representatives on September 26 this year. Known as the Taxpayer Relief Act, the Republican tax cut plan will return to Americans 10 percent of the surplus in the form of tax cuts, while reserving the remaining 90 percent of the surplus to save Social Security. As a cosponsor of legislation to reduce taxes on Social Security, capital gains, marriage, and inheritance, I was pleased to support this proposal. Given the importance of this bill to seniors, I was surprised and saddened by the President's veto threat.

Mr. Speaker, isn't it time Congress listen to America's seniors? The groups I heard from this week have some great ideas. While Republicans have made strides toward tax relief and fiscal responsibility, I know we can do more. We must. Next year, I plan to use these ideas and introduce a Balanced Budget Act and a taxpayer relief bill. I urge my colleagues to listen to their elders and join me in this pursuit.

DESIGNATION OF THE NORTH/  
SOUTH CENTER IN HONOR OF  
DANTE B. FASCELL

**HON. NORMAN D. DICKS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 20, 1998*

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to support the passage of H.R. 4757 in the House of Representatives, which recognizes the many contributions made by our former colleague, Dante B. Fascell.

This legislation names the University of Miami's North-South Center after Chairman Fascell, and I believe it is a tribute that is well-deserved and long overdue. Having served with Dante for 16 years, I know that Chairman Fascell was the driving force behind the creation of the North-South Center, which has been working for more than fourteen years to im-

prove relations between the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean. I think it only proper that the building he helped to erect at his alma mater, the University of Miami, should bear his name.

Few members who have served during my tenure in the House have possessed the understanding and appreciation for the nuances of foreign policy as Dante Fascell did. His memorable leadership of the Foreign Affairs Committee here in Congress is his legacy, particularly his strong views on U.S. policy toward Latin America and his deep concern for international human rights. And thus it is fitting that the North/South Center will carry his name into the future, permanently recognizing the many contributions he has made.

When he retired in 1992, Florida lost one of its finest Representatives, and the House lost one of its greatest statesmen. I wanted to take this opportunity today, now that the House has acted on the bill H.R. 4757, to express my appreciation to all of my colleagues who joined this effort.

HONORING MONSIGNOR JEROME  
BOXLEITNER

**HON. BRUCE F. VENTO**

OF MINNEAPOLIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 20, 1998*

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend the work of an inspirational leader from my district, Msgr. Jerome Boxleitner. Msgr. Boxleitner, the executive director of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, has recently announce his plans to retire after 35 years of social work and 21 years as the Catholic Charities founding leader.

I've been pleased to work with Msgr. Boxleitner on key issues such as homeless shelters, hunger, and the social services which are so essential in meeting the needs of the vulnerable in our community. His professionalism and personal effort has made a wonderful and enormous difference.

Msgr. Boxleitner worked tirelessly to build Catholic Charities, an institution which aids a variety of disadvantaged people, from the homeless to troubled children. It is now the largest private provider of human services in the Twin Cities, with 75 programs in 30 locations which are staffed by 600 employees and 12,000 volunteers.

Msgr. Boxleitner rightly emphasizes the importance of taking the time to recognize each person served by Catholic Charities as an individual, rather than categorizing them as just one of many in need of help. Literally thousands of people have benefited from Msgr. Boxleitner compassion, selfless service and leadership.

I have included, for my colleague's review, article which appeared in *The Catholic Spirit*, the weekly newsletter of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. This article outlines Msgr. Boxleitner's achievements and contributions to our community.

Msgr. Boxleitner is a truly great example of those who make the Twin Cities a wonderful place to live. We are all richer for his friendship, example, and service that he has so generously given to our community. It is with heartfelt thanks and gratitude that I wish him

the best of health and a well deserved retirement.

[From the *Catholic Spirit*, Oct. 16, 1998]

THE GOSPEL, ACCORDING TO MSGR.  
BOXLEITNER, IS WITH POOR

Msgr. J. Jerome Boxleitner said that working with the needy was where he found satisfaction both as an occupation and in his priesthood.

"It was fulfilling for me—I think that's where the Gospel is, working with the poor," said Msgr. Boxleitner, who is stepping down as executive director of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis after 35 years of social work and 21 years as Catholic Charities' founding leader.

On Oct. 13, Archbishop Harry J. Flynn announced Msgr. Boxleitner's retirement, effective Dec. 31.

Father Larry Snyder, Catholic Charities associate director, will succeed him on Jan. 1, 1999.

A priest of the archdiocese for 42 years, Msgr. Boxleitner was a parish priest for five years before pursuing graduate studies in social work at Catholic University of America in Washington.

He earned a master's degree in 1963 and became director of Catholic Welfare Services of Minneapolis. He led the consolidation of four Catholic social service agencies, creating Catholic Charities in 1977.

Under his leadership Catholic Charities grew to an organization of more than 600 employees and more than 12,000 volunteers.

Today, Catholic Charities serves men, women and children in the 12 counties of the archdiocese through more than 75 programs in 33 locations. During the past year, Catholic Charities provided emergency services to 91,175 persons and provided social services to 70,761 persons.

"It's a good agency, and it's got a good reputation." Msgr. Boxleitner said when asked what he takes the greatest pride in from his years with Catholic Charities.

"What I like most is that the staff, the board and the volunteers see the poor as peers not as objects of pity.

"Sure, there is some of the thought that there but for the grace of God go I, but the people of Catholic Charities have great respect for the people that we serve," he said.

In announcing that Msgr. Boxleitner would become director emeritus of Catholic Charities, Archbishop Flynn said the 67-year-old priest would continue to be an advocate in the community for several issues that he has championed throughout his career.

"Msgr. Boxleitner opens our eyes and our hearts to the poor," the archbishop said. "He knows the importance of helping people to self-sufficiency while never minimizing their immediate needs."

In March, Gov. Arne Carlson presented Msgr. Boxleitner with a certificate of commendation from the State of Minnesota for outstanding service.

"Msgr. Boxleitner truly epitomizes all that is good in life," Gov. Carlson said.

"He is the embodiment of what religion is: love, compassion and selfless service to mankind. And he tops it all off with a delightful sense of humor."

Earlier in his career Msgr. Boxleitner was Minnesota Corrections Person of the Year as chaplain at the state prison in Lino Lakes, a ministry he still continues.

From 1983-85 he chaired the national Catholic Charities USA. That group's current president, Jesuit Father Fred Kammer, pointed to him as a national leader concerned with the common good.

"Msgr. Boxleitner's prophetic voice calling us to implement the social dimension of the Gospel has won the respect of his peers," Father Kammer said. "He built a strong local

agency. He also made great contributions on the national level."

The priest, who will continue to lie where he has for years at Catholic Charities' St. Joseph's Home for Children in south Minneapolis, most recently has been instrumental in developing a plan for residential academies to serve at-risk youth.

Archdiocesan Catholic Charities board chair Karen Rauenhorst said, "Msgr. Boxleitner has not only served the poor of our community but has touched the lives of so many. I have been deeply impacted by his commitment to living as Christ did in service to the widows and orphans in our midst."

---

## ENERGY CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM BLILEY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, the House now considers S. 417, a bill to extend certain conservation and export promotion programs authorized under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, the Energy Conservation and Production Act, and the National Energy Conservation Policy Act.

I want to begin by observing this legislation enjoys broad support. The gentleman from Colorado, Mr. SCHAEFER, the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Power of the Committee on Commerce, crafted this legislation closely with the minority, and the bill is co-sponsored by Mr. HALL, the Subcommittee Ranking Member. The bill was approved by the Committee on Commerce by voice vote and passed the House under suspension on September 28. Not one Member spoke against the bill when it was considered by the House. I understand the Department of Energy supports the legislation, as do many energy efficiency organizations. I commend Mr. SCHAEFER for working so closely with the minority and the Department of Energy on this legislation.

I support the bill. In particular, I support language crafted by the gentlemen from Colorado that expands the use of energy savings performance contracts, permitting Federal judicial and legislative agencies—in addition to executive branch agencies—to enter into these contracts. That will cut the energy bill of the Federal government and save taxpayers money. The Government Printing Office alone estimates that use of energy savings performance contracts will cut their energy costs by \$500,000 per year.

I want to commend the Department for its aggressive support for energy savings performance contracts. Recently, the Department announced it had awarded contracts to seven energy savings companies to begin capital improvements at Federal buildings in 20 States. The energy savings performance contracts entered into by DOE to date have the potential of cutting the energy bill of the Federal government—and saving taxpayers—\$3 billion.

I urge support for S. 417.

## SENSE OF THE HOUSE REGARDING MURDER OF MATTHEW SHEPARD

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution. It is appropriate that the House should honor Matthew Shepard in his death, and condemn the heinous crime which took his life.

But I also rise to say that this resolution is not enough. The event that has brought us together in mourning was not only a murder. It was certainly not only a robbery. It was an attempt by two people to send a message to an entire community.

The alleged perpetrators of this crime made no efforts to hide their actions. Mr. Shepard's dying body was not buried in a ditch. He was not hidden. He was not disguised. He was left to die, hung on a fence in an ostentatious bid for discovery. The message Mr. Shepard's attackers intended to send is clear. Their message was that lesbian and gay people should not feel welcome anywhere, a message that lesbian and gay Americans everywhere should fear for their safety. This message is the wrong message in a democratic society.

As Americans we have a moral responsibility to send our own message back. A message that despite our divisions, we all hold inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. A message that we, as a country and as a community, condemn not only this murder, but all crimes perpetrated against our fellow Americans for their race, religion, gender, disability or sexual orientation.

We have an opportunity to send this message by passing the Hate Crimes Prevention Act before we adjourn the 105th Congress. We must not drag our feet any longer. I urge my colleagues to pass the resolution condemning Matthew Shepard's murder, and I also urge them to pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act now. Let's send the clearest possible message that American values are the values of tolerance, non-violence, and equality.

---

## SPEAKER'S RALLY FOR THE 105TH CONGRESS

**HON. NEWT GINGRICH**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 21, 1998*

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, the 105th Congress has achieved numerous victories for the American people. Among many other things, we have balanced the budget for the first time in decades, kept funding in the control of local officials for their schools, passed strong anti-drug legislation, increased funding for the military, and passed tax cuts so American families can keep their hard-earned money. I submit the following speech for further consideration of the accomplishments of the 105th Congress.

RALLY FOR THE 105TH CONGRESS, OCTOBER 20,  
1998

(By Hon. Newt Gingrich)

Mr. GINGRICH. It's truly disorienting and I commend the other speakers. They got up

here and looked out over a sea of eager young faces and to see Bill Young and Bill Thomas in the middle of them is one of the more disorienting moments of this entire Congress. (Laughter.)

The thought of the two of you as interns is almost beyond comprehension. And we can't get them up here. They both deserve a lot of credit. Bill Young worked very hard on the defense effort that we put in this year. And Bill Thomas, an achillean effort working with Mike Bilirakis and Bill Archer and with Tom Bliley managed to get home health care included at the very last minute.

And a very important home health care (off-mike). I'm delighted both of you are back here. (Applause.)

I want to drive home three messages and then illustrate them for a minute because I think it's important that we recognize that politics at its best is an educational experience. Despite the 30 second commercials and the some times mindless talk shows, the fact is that the way a country grows over time is by engaging in the political process.

And there are three lessons at the end of this year I think. The first is that this is an American victory. And I kept getting phone calls from reporters and the president who was in the Rose Garden claiming credit for the budget, and I wanted to set up a fight. I wanted to say well, don't you want to claim credit? And I said, you know, Republicans in the Congress deserve five percent of the credit for balancing the budget. The president under our Constitution had to sign the agreement and he deserves five percent of the credit. And 90 percent of the credit for balancing the budget belongs to working, tax paying Americans who sent the money to Washington. And that's what ought to be. (Applause.)

Well if you think about it, the things we've tried to do for the last few years are the overwhelming sentiment of the overwhelming majority of Americans. Welfare reform according to "The New York Times" the week before it was finally signed into law after two vetoes, 92 percent of the American people supported it. Virtually every Democrat, virtually every Republican, virtually every Independent. It was an American victory that we were simply the vehicle of the American people in getting their will through to a Washington, DC that didn't want to believe in the people.

The question of balancing the budget, every poll for 30 years has shown that whether you're a Democrat, a Republican or an Independent, you thought balancing the budget mattered. The Republican party through the Contract with America became the vehicle for the American people's will and we moved from a three trillion, one hundred billion dollar projected deficit over 11 years when we were sworn in as a majority in January of 1995 to a one trillion, 650 billion dollar surplus over the same period now that we've had three-and-a-half years to get a job done. (Applause.)

But those lower interest rates that Heather described are a victory for every young American who's going to college. The lower interest rates that Vito Fossella described earlier are a victory for every small business, every family farm, every person who buys a home. All Americans are better off. When you balance the budget, lower interest rates and have lower taxes because you don't have to tax this entire generation to pay the interest on three trillion dollars in debt. So that's an American victory.

Strengthening our defenses for the first time since 1985 is an American victory because every American should care about the young men and women who have the courage and the patriotism to put on our uniform and we did the right thing in the vote we're