

the possibility of a backlash, I assume. Otherwise, why did they hide their actions from public view? President Bush said that all Americans would receive tax relief, but that was not the case. This sort of double-talk is not the way to run a country, not the way to run this country.

This double-talk also reflects the misplaced priorities that the Republicans and their leadership have for this country. What they are telling us is that it is important to have a dividend tax break for people who live well, extremely well. What they are also telling us is that it is not important to help those people who are struggling to find adequate housing, enough food, or a decent job.

Of course, children, unfortunately, are hit the hardest. These children come from families where the parents work hard and play by the rules. They deserve the same tax credit that other parents will receive, and they, of course, need much more. Their families do not have the advantages that others have.

In a jobs depression like President Bush has put us in, the loss of the \$400 tax credit is really rubbing salt into their wounds. 8.1 million taxpayers will receive no relief under the Republican tax cuts, and 1.6 million of these taxpayers are Hispanic. 8.1 million represents 44 times the number of taxpayers who have incomes exceeding \$1 million, yet the President and the Republicans have gone out of their way to help the wealthy.

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In fact, those people with incomes over \$1 million will receive an average tax cut of \$93,500 in 2003. In terms of the child tax credit, one-half of all African-American families will not get the full tax credit and one-quarter will receive no tax credit.

For Hispanic families, 40 percent will not get the full tax credit, while one-fifth of Hispanic families will receive no child tax credit at all.

What message does this send to minorities? Of course, the Republicans have a checkered history of offending minorities, so perhaps this behavior is to be expected. But interestingly enough, the Republicans' actions on the child tax credit also offend military families. According to the Washington Post, as many as 200,000 military families were excluded from the increased child tax credit by the actions of the last few weeks.

This is just downright wrong. We should move immediately to pass legislation to restore the child tax credit and we should do it now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. COLLINS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. EMANUEL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

MISREPRESENTED JOBS AND GROWTH PACKAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to discuss some of the recent misrepresentations of the Jobs and Growth Package, a package that this Congress passed before the Memorial Day recess.

Last night I had the opportunity to listen to many of our friends on the other side characterize the tax cuts as misdirected and targeted to the wrong people.

According to the Joint Economic Committee, this tax bill provides the largest percentage reductions in the income taxes of low and middle income Americans, thereby shifting the tax burden upward. The Jobs and Growth Tax Act exempts another 3 million workers entirely from Federal tax liability. And low income families in particular benefit from this economic and growth tax package relief through a number of provisions.

First, there is the acceleration of the expansion of the 10 percent rate bracket which means that workers can earn more before they get moved into the 15 and 25 percent tax brackets, elimination of the marriage penalty, and the acceleration of the President's 2001 tax cut provisions to increase the child tax credit to \$1,000.

Accelerating the expansion of the child tax credit will provide 26 million families with an average tax cut of over \$600. This could mean a great deal to a family of 4 working to make ends meet each year. Even families who do not owe taxes may benefit from the increase in the child credit to \$1,000 because of the current refundable feature of the credits.

So some ask, Who benefits from this credit? Well, what about 44 million children who will benefit?

So, Mr. Speaker, do not be fooled when certain groups do not explain the whole story. Some low income Americans are not included in this credit because their family income is low, but they qualify for other, more beneficial anti-poverty programs. And let us not forget that that group of low income taxpayers received significant benefit from the tax cuts that passed in this Congress in 2001, and they continue to benefit from that legislation today.

The fact is, Mr. Speaker, we cannot continue to punish those who work hard, take risks and are subsequently successful. We need their success for the economy to recover. The country needs the jobs their success will generate.

I remember a few weeks ago when the folks on the other side of the aisle op-

posed a tax cut of any kind during the debate on the economic stimulus bill. Well, Mr. Speaker, the time has come for them to figure out where they stand.

TAX CUT HURTS LOW INCOME CHILDREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, when the President and the Republican party made a decision that they would not extend the financial benefits of the increase in the child tax credit to all families, they essentially made a decision that they would leave out millions of young children who live in families who earn between \$10,000 and \$26,000 a year.

What they said was somehow those families and those children were not worth as much as the rest of children and families in this country. Thirty years ago we made a decision to have a child tax credit to help families with the cost of raising their children, to ease the burdens of raising their children, educating them, providing health care, and it was extended to all Americans with children.

Over time we have increased that child tax credit, and this year a decision was made that we would increase that child tax credit by \$400 for each child, and those checks would go out this summer. But, tragically, in a back room, in the late night, in negotiating the bill under the leadership of Vice President CHENEY, the Republicans made a decision that low income working families would not get that child tax credit for their children. They will not get that \$400 per child increase this summer.

Erin Doyel of Vallejo, California in the district in which I represent and her daughter, Adrienne, will not get that tax cut. Erin is going to work every day and earning \$12,675 as a financial administrative assistant. Erin is doing everything that this Federal Government told her to do: To get off of welfare, to take responsibility for her child and to get a job. And she has been doing it and she is doing it well.

But as we can see here, Erin and her daughter Adrienne, Erin is asking the question, What about my kid? Why is not my kid worth the same tax credit as the other children? Because I only make \$12,000 a year?

She needs this help for her family. She needs this benefit for her family so that she can provide the education, she can provide the wherewithal to hold her family together. She knows how much she needs it. She says they made a big mistake when they left her daughter out of the tax cut. She needs this money to help her pay the rent, to pay for her car, to pay for her job expenses.

That is what she would do with that money. She would immediately put it