

the United States trade representative should immediately impose retaliatory trade sanctions against Japan.

While I do not wish for the U.S. and Japan to enter into a drawn out trade dispute, the reality is that Japan cannot have it both ways, and they must be required to uphold their agreement. The United States works to promote free trade agreements throughout the world, and it is important for our trading partners to honor the current agreements and international standards; and without those assurances, support for trade agreements will clearly erode.

Recently, I was joined by over a hundred Members of Congress in writing President Bush asking him to make restoring this market of U.S. beef to Japan his highest economic priority in his discussions with the Japanese Prime Minister. I support our government's efforts to reopen our beef exports to Japan; but, again, Japan continues to unjustifiably delay the process.

Last month I testified before the House Committee on Ways and Means and urged the committee to bring this resolution to the floor and show Japan the serious nature of this trade issue. I appreciate very much the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) for holding the hearing and for allowing me to testify.

Many members of that committee during the hearing agreed that this action needs to be taken to address this issue.

Mr. Speaker, Japan cannot have it both ways. They cannot benefit from exports to the U.S. while denying our imports such as beef with no scientific evidence to support their actions. Congressional patience has been exhausted. It is time that House Resolution 137 be brought to the floor and a clear message be delivered to Japan. Let us allow the will of the House to be heard. Patience is a virtue no longer.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

BUILDING A STRONG AMERICA

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. Mr. Speaker, since the year 2000 this Congress has racked up more than \$3 trillion in new debt. How did that happen? They tried to do what no other President has tried to do and no other Congress, to fund two wars with four tax cuts.

This Congress has served as an ATM to special interests, showering them with billions in tax breaks and hand-outs. Suddenly our Republican friends have become born-again budget hawks. In fact, tomorrow we may have to vote on a resolution to slash more than \$50 billion from education, health care, nutritional investments important to millions of Americans and families and their future. All for what? So we can fund \$70 billion in tax cuts just for the wealthy Americans.

That is what this budget package is, \$70 billion in tax cuts. At the same time that these so-called new-born fiscal conservatives are complaining about the deficit, they are going to push through yet another round of tax cuts on top, close to \$20 billion added to our deficit.

I ask my colleagues, are these the choices the American people asked us to do? To date, the American taxpayer has funded \$445 billion in the effort in Iraq, \$20 billion going to rebuild Iraq. We have built and renovated 110 primary health care centers in Iraq, vaccinated 3.2 million Iraqi children; all the while here in the United States the Republican budget has cut \$10 billion from Medicaid. We have also cut community health care clinics.

In Iraq we have rehabilitated 2,700 schools, trained 36,000 secondary education school teachers. What is their budget doing for America? They cut \$806 million from America's public schools, Leave No Child Behind. They have also proposed nearly \$9 billion in cuts to college student aid. We funded nearly 3,100 community development projects in Iraq alone. Yet the President's budget is cutting the community development grants here for the United States by \$250 million.

The Corps of Engineers in the United States has been cut by over \$300 million. Yet we built a new light rail system in Iraq. We have also rebuilt their dam with a levee in it. All the while their budget cuts from America's future and American families' future while literally loading up close to \$445 billion for the effort in Iraq, of which \$20 billion goes to rebuilding their schools, their health care, their nutritional programs, things that we are cutting from the United States and from American families.

Every President going to war has thought about America's future. During the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln thought of the Land Grant College system. President Roosevelt in the middle of the World War II thought of the G.I. Bill. President Eisenhower at the tail end of the Korean War built the interstate highway system for the United

States. During the height of the Cold War and Vietnam War, President Kennedy envisioned a man on the Moon.

What does this President propose? Eliminating Amtrak, cutting \$9 billion from student aid, and cutting veterans benefits. Why? Because he has tried to do something that no other President has thought of doing, which is to cut taxes in the middle of two wars. Where has it left America? \$3 trillion in debt, cuts in our future for American families.

Now Americans are faced not only with these cuts in its investments. Gas prices are nearly \$3 a gallon, home heating costs are up by 50 percent this winter, inflation has increased at the fastest rate in 15 years, hundreds and thousands have lost everything in the gulf coast, and our brave men and women are fighting and dying in Iraq with no end in sight.

Yet what are we proposing to America? Cuts in their educational investments, cuts in health care investments, cuts in nutritional investments. All the while we are making those same types of investments in Iraq. That is not the choice the American people want.

I have no problem if we are going to make a commitment to Iraq and Iraq's future and the future of their children. I have a problem when we are not going to leave America stronger, but weaker, at the end of that effort, and we are not willing to make that same investment in American children's future.

We cannot afford those types of choices. Those are the false choices. All the while what we are trying to do is wall off and protect tax cuts for the wealthiest 1 percent, people making \$300,000 a year, while the rest of America gets cuts in Amtrak, student aid, nutritional programs, veterans get cut from their health care benefits. That is not what the American people think of as an investment in their future. It is clearly not the one you are willing to make in Iraq where we now have a \$445 billion bill due to the American people. It will get close to \$600 billion before it is all over. The American people are going to be asked to pay for it.

How are they going to pay for it? With cuts in their education college loans, cuts in their communities' health care clinics, cuts in Medicaid, cuts in Medicare, cuts in their programs that have guaranteed them a middle-class future. We should find ways to balance the budget, but we should not do it on the backs of our children.

The American people expect their leaders to make the right choices. Mr. Speaker, it is time Congress changes its tune. We can do better. Building a strong America begins by building a good America here at home.

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