

his staff, Eric Ueland and Libby Jarvis; Minority Leader TOM DASCHLE, and his staff, Joan Huffer; Senator RICK SANTORUM and his staff, Randy Brandt; Senator CHRISTOPHER DODD and his staff, Grace Reef; and Megan Hauck, who contributed as a advisor to Senator DON NICKLES, as well as working at the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Legislation and the White House.

Throughout much of the process, Members and staff were indebted to the expertise of the Director of the Office of Family Assistance at the Administration of Children and Families, Andrew Bush and the Assistant Secretary for Human Service Policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Don Winstead.

The Congress simply could not do our work, were it not for the incredibly talented and hardworking individuals serving in the congressional support agencies. We owe a substantial debt of gratitude for the work done by Gene Falk, Melinda Gish, and Carmen Solomon Fears at the Congressional Research Service; Shelia Dacey at the Congressional Budget Office; and Ruth Ernst at the Office of the Legislative Council.

As ranking member and then chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, I was well served by policy leads, Hope Cooper and Becky Shipp; health policy director, Mark Hayes; deputy staff director, Ted Totman; and staff director for the Finance Committee, Kolan Davis.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO WENDY WASSERSTEIN

• Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, on Monday, January 30, our country lost, all too prematurely, Wendy Wasserstein, a daughter of New York and one of our Nation's great playwrights and essayists.

Wendy Wasserstein grew up in Brooklyn and Manhattan and was educated at Mount Holyoke College, the City College of New York, and Yale University School of Drama. She is best known for her 1989 Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning play, "The Heidi Chronicles" and Tony-nominated play, "The Sisters Rosensweig". She wrote most recently, "Third", a play that opened in October at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. Her first novel, "Elements of Style", will be coming out in April.

Throughout Wendy Wasserstein's career, she wrote with wit and an acute sensitivity to the challenges facing women negotiating the social changes of the last 40 years. She had the courage to dig deeply into her own experiences to write thoughtfully and compassionately about women, New York, and her Jewish roots.

Wendy Wasserstein is best known for her work in the theater and literary

world, but she cared deeply about progressive politics, advocacy for the arts, and worked to create richer opportunities for women in the theater. Having grown up attending theater and ballet performances on a weekly basis with her family, she also believed that all children should have the opportunity to be exposed to the arts. She gave back to the city that shaped her as an artist by making the theater accessible to New York's inner-city students through a program she instigated which is now called Open Doors. Through this program, she mentored students at the Young Women's Leadership School, a college prep public school in Harlem. She wrote of the program, " * * * if a city is fortunate enough to house an entire theater district, shouldn't access to the stage life within it be what makes coming of age in New York different from any other American city?"

On a personal level, she was described by her friend, New York Times editorial page editor Gail Collins, as: " * * * a charter member of the company of nice women, a river of accommodating humanity that flows through Manhattan just as it flows through Des Moines and Oneonta, N.Y., organizing library fund-raisers, running day care centers, ordering prescriptions for elderly parents, buying all the birthday presents and giving career counseling to the nephew of a very remote acquaintance who is trying to decide between making it big on Broadway and dentistry."

We can only imagine what future gifts to the theater, journalism, literature and her community Wendy Wasserstein might have made. I am grateful for having known her, and I extend my condolences to her young daughter Lucy Jane and to the entire Wasserstein family. We have lost someone who loved New York with a big, big heart, and New York and our Nation loved her back. •

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

BUDGET OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007—PM 36

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message

from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975 as modified by the order of April 11, 1986; to the Committees on the Budget; and Appropriations.

America's economy is growing at a healthy pace, and more Americans are working than ever. In the face of a series of challenges, including most recently devastating natural disasters, Americans have stood firm, and America's economy has demonstrated its strength and resilience time and again.

My Administration has focused the Nation's resources on our highest priority: protecting our citizens and our homeland. Working with Congress, we have given our men and women on the frontlines in the War on Terror the funding they need to defeat the enemy and detect, disrupt, and dismantle terrorist plots and operations. We continue to help emerging democracies in Afghanistan and Iraq stand on their own. As the Afghan and Iraqi peoples assume greater responsibility for their own security and for defeating the terrorists, our troops will come home with the honor they have earned.

My Administration has responded to major economic challenges by following this vital principle: The American economy grows when people are allowed to keep more of what they earn, to save and spend as they see fit. The results are clear.

Since May 2003, when I signed into law major tax relief, America has added more than four and a half million new jobs. Productivity is high, disposable income is up, household wealth is at record levels, consumer confidence has climbed, small businesses are expanding, and more Americans own their homes than at any time in our Nation's history.

Our economy is the envy of the industrialized world. To build and maintain our competitive edge, my Administration has a broad agenda to promote America's long-term economic strength. We are opening new markets to American-made goods and services through trade agreements. We are proposing reforms to prevent needless litigation and burdensome regulations. Through major reforms of our public schools, we are preparing our children to compete and succeed in the global economy. And my Budget includes an American Competitiveness Initiative that targets funding to advance technology, better prepare American children in math and science, develop and train a high-tech workforce, and further strengthen the environment for private-sector innovation and entrepreneurship.

In our efforts to keep our economy strong and competitive, we will resist calls to raise taxes on America's workers, families, and businesses. Unless we act to make tax relief permanent, income tax rates eventually will rise, the marriage penalty will climb, the child

tax credit will be cut, savers and investors will be hit with higher taxes, and the death tax will come back to life.

With a growing economy, tax receipts are on the rise, helping to bring down the deficit in 2005. To stay on track to meet my goal of cutting the deficit in half by 2009, we must maintain our pro-growth policies and insist on spending restraint.

Last year, I proposed to hold overall discretionary spending growth below the rate of inflation—and Congress delivered on that goal. Last year, I proposed that we focus our resources on defense and homeland security and cut elsewhere—and Congress delivered on that goal. And also last year, my Budget proposed major cuts in or eliminations of 154 programs that were not getting results and not fulfilling essential priorities. Thanks to the work of Congress, we delivered savings to the taxpayer of \$6.5 billion on 89 of my Administration's recommendations.

The 2007 Budget builds on these efforts. Again, I am proposing to hold overall discretionary spending below the rate of inflation and to cut spending in non-security discretionary programs below 2006 levels. My Administration has identified 141 programs that should be terminated or significantly reduced in size. To help bring greater accountability and transparency to the budget process, my Budget proposes reforms so that firm spending limits are put in place, and public funds are used for the best purposes with the broadest benefits.

The 2007 Budget also continues our efforts to improve performance and make sure the taxpayers get the most for their money. My Administration expects to be held accountable for significantly improving the way the Government works. In every program, and in every agency, we are measuring success not by good intentions or by dollars spent, but rather by results achieved.

In the long term, the biggest challenge to our Nation's fiscal health comes from unsustainable growth in entitlement spending. Entitlement programs such as Social Security and Medicare are growing faster than our ability to pay for them, faster than the economy, faster than the rate of inflation, and faster than the population. As more baby boomers retire and collect their benefits, our deficits are projected to grow. There will be fewer people paying into the system, and more retirees collecting benefits. These unfunded liabilities will put an increasing burden on our children and our grandchildren. We do not need to cut these programs, but we do need to slow their growth. We can solve this problem and still meet our Nation's commitment to the elderly, disabled, and poor.

Acting on my recommendations, both houses of Congress have taken an important first step, passing legislation that would produce \$40 billion in savings from mandatory programs and entitlement reforms—the first such sav-

ings in nearly a decade. My Budget builds on this progress by proposing \$65 billion more in savings in entitlement programs.

My Budget also includes proposals to address the longer-term challenge arising from unsustainable growth in Medicare, while ensuring modern health care for our seniors. In addition, I will continue to call on Congress to enact comprehensive reform of Social Security for future generations, so that we return the system to firm financial footing, protect the benefits of today's retirees and near-retirees, provide the opportunity for today's young workers to build a secure nest egg they can call their own, and assure our children and grandchildren a retirement benefit that is as good as is available today.

As this Budget shows, we have set clear priorities that meet the most pressing needs of the American people while addressing the long-term challenges that lie ahead. The 2007 Budget will ensure that future generations of Americans have the opportunity to live in a Nation that is more prosperous and more secure. With this Budget, we are protecting our highest ideals and building a brighter future for all.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 6, 2006.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 2005, the Secretary of the Senate, on February 3, 2006, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 4519. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend funding for the operation of State high risk health insurance pools.

H.R. 4659. An act to amend the USA PATRIOT Act to extend the sunset of certain provisions of such Act.

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 2005, the enrolled bills were signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS) during the adjournment of the Senate, on February 3, 2006.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-254. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan relative to providing the states with authority to regulate the flow and importation of solid waste from outside the country; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 43

Whereas, For the past seven years, the amount of solid waste coming into Michigan for disposal has increased from 5.6 million cubic yards to over 15 million cubic yards

each year. Carefully planned landfill space, intended to be used for solid waste generated in Michigan, is being quickly filled by waste from other states and Canada. Michigan has enacted several laws to control the solid waste stream coming into the state in an attempt to protect our environment, water, and public health; and

Whereas, The United States Supreme Court limited the state's ability to further restrict out-of-state waste when it ruled in *Fort Gratiot Sanitary Landfill v. Michigan Department of Natural Resources* that the states do not have authority to regulate or ban the importation of solid waste. The court further ruled that Congress can provide states with such authority by enacting appropriate legislation; and

Whereas, United States Representative Mike Rogers has introduced legislation, H.R. 593, to allow Michigan and other states to control the flow of solid waste coming from other countries into their states. Specifically, H.R. 593 would allow Michigan to enact legislation banning or restricting the disposal of Canadian waste in Michigan landfills. Although supported by members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, bills on this topic introduced in prior congressional sessions did not pass the House of Representatives; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact H.R. 593 to provide the states with authority to regulate the flow and importation of solid waste from outside the country; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-255. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan relative to implementing the Action Plan to Restore and Protect the Great Lakes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 34

Whereas, Over 40 percent of the Great Lakes are under Michigan's jurisdiction and the Great Lakes contain 95 percent of North America's fresh surface water; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes affect all aspects of life in Michigan and are inextricably linked to Michigan's history, culture, and economy. The Great Lakes have for thousands of years supported native communities' culture and way of life; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes fuel Michigan's tourism and recreation industry. Recreational fishing alone adds \$1.4 billion annually to the state's economy; and

Whereas, The state of Michigan has historically been a leader in protecting the Great Lakes, including efforts to regulate ballast water discharges that could harbor invasive species and to eliminate the disposal of dangerous contaminants in the Great Lakes; and

Whereas, Despite Michigan's efforts, the Great Lakes are ailing from a multitude of stressors, including aquatic invasive species, toxic contamination of river and lake sediments, partially or inadequately treated sewage discharges, pollution from nonpoint sources, and coastal habitat loss. Combined, these stressors will have long-lasting effects on the Great Lakes, Michigan's economy, and our way of life; and

Whereas, There has been an unprecedented collaborative effort on the part of 1,500 people representing federal, state, and local governments, Native American tribes, non-governmental entities, and private citizens