

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS

Mr. ARCURI, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-35) on the resolution (H. Res. 229) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

OUT-OF-CONTROL SPENDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity to be able to speak this afternoon to the American people about something that has been on all of their minds for the last 5 months, and that is spending, the out-of-control spending that they see occurring here in their Nation's Capital. And they are worried. They are worried, Madam Speaker, about what they are seeing.

And there is an old adage that we have heard as a precursor to a joke. Since we have been children, we have heard the adage that asks a simple question: What comes first, the chicken or the egg? And we ask that question in public policy: What comes first, spending or taxes? And clearly, spending is the precursor to taxes. And what we have seen the Obama administration and the Democrats who currently control both the House and the Senate embrace is a new initiative never seen before in the history of our country, a level of spending that is unprecedented.

Joining me now in this hour that we have to speak to the American people is one of our new freshmen. His name is Mr. JASON CHAFFETZ. And he hails from Utah's Third Congressional District. We are very excited to have him join us and to have him speak now to this body and to the American people on spending and what that means for our economy. Mr. CHAFFETZ, I yield.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. I thank the gentlewoman. It is a pleasure and honor to serve in the United States Congress. I'm a freshman here. I didn't create this problem, but I am here to help clean it up. I argued for a long time that the Republican spending was far too egregious, that we were spending far too much money and continued to propel ourselves into debt that was unsustainable and unacceptable in my opinion.

It is funny, though, that as I hear the Democrats argue that while there was all this out-of-control spending when the Republicans were in charge, that somehow that has changed, that somehow deficit spending has changed. It

has not. It is partly what got us into this problem.

We, on an average day, have added \$2.8 billion to our national debt since January of 2007. That doesn't count the stimulus. That doesn't count the bailout. That doesn't count any of these nearly \$2 trillion, trillion, of additional spending that we have seen this Congress all too often just quickly go off and give away.

We cannot run this government on a credit card. Our families can't do that. My family can't do that. The American people can't do that. This Federal Government has got to stop doing that. We don't have a revenue problem in this country for our Federal Government. We do have a spending problem. We have a huge spending problem.

I remember when I was in college, not too long ago, but it was a while ago, and I had my monthly stipend for the month. And at about week 3, I ran out of money. And I thought I will just call mom and dad and they will just send me the money. So I called up and talked to my mom. And she said, no, I'm sorry, you're going to have to figure it out. And my dad, whom I really didn't want to call, said, you had your allowance, you have got to learn to live within it. It is one of the most valuable lessons that I ever learned. I learned more about Top Ramen noodles than anyone in this country in that week. And it was a good thing. It was a healthy thing. It made me reprioritize what was important. And it made me think through what was a priority in my life, that I couldn't just go on the credit card and continue to spend more money.

The primary reason I ran for the United States Congress is because I care about the future and because we are on a trajectory that is unsustainable. Until we return to those core principles of fiscal discipline, limited government, accountability and a strong national defense, we will continue to suffer as a Nation. And right at the top, right at the top of that list is fiscal discipline. Because there are things, there are roles and responsibilities that our government has to execute on. And we can all point to failures. We can all point to successes. But fundamentally, the spending in this Congress, the spending that is proposed by the Obama administration, is simply unacceptable.

We cannot be all things to all people. And my concern is that the rhetoric is not matching the reality. I sat right here at in this Chamber, row 7, thrilled and honored to watch the President of the United States address the joint session of Congress. He asked in that session that we present appropriation bills free of earmarks. And yet the very next day, it hadn't even been 24 hours, the House of Representatives passed a bill with more than 8,500 earmarks. I'm proud to say I voted "no" on that. There was a presentation that said that they wanted more openness, that we wanted more transparency, that we

were going to get 5 days to review a bill online, that the American people would get to see what is in these bills, and that we as a body here in the House of Representatives would have 48 hours, 48 hours, to be able to see what is in a bill before we voted on it. It unanimously passed this body in a resolution. And yet just over 12 hours later, we got the single largest spending bill in the history of the United States. It was more than 1,000 pages. We had just over 12 hours.

That is not openness. That is not transparency. And the consequence is this out-of-control spending. It was \$1 trillion, a number so big it is not even fathomable. And now we look and we hear people say, well, 95 percent of Americans are not going to pay one dime more in taxes. That is not true. It is not true. American people, I hope you digest this, it is not true.

The so-called carbon tax, or the cap-and-trade, is a tax that will be paid by 100 percent of Americans, 100 percent of Americans. If you consume or use any form of energy, you're going to have to pay this tax. Now, I want to take care of the environment. I care about the environment. But this is simply not the time and the way to do it. And if you look at this chart here, what is sickening to me and our future is what is going to happen with our debt. Based on the President's presentation, based on the spending plan that he has put together, based on the President's budget, we are going to double, double, our national debt to \$20 trillion. Somebody has to pay that. It is the American people that are going to pay that, my kids and their grandkids. We have got to cut the size and scope of government. We cannot be all things to all people.

Somehow, some way, we have got to find a way to be disciplined enough to say, enough is enough. Let's prioritize those things that are most important that we have to do to protect and take care of the American people. But we cannot continue this out-of-control spending.

Just over 10 years ago, our Federal budget was \$1.5 trillion. Now we are over \$3 trillion on our way to \$4 trillion. And that doesn't count the bailouts, the stimulus and the others who are already beating the drum saying, we need more. No, you don't. We need to cut spending and cut back the size and scope of government, because in my opinion this government right now is spending too much, the administration is taxing too much, and this administration is absolutely borrowing too much money.

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Mrs. BACHMANN. I thank Representative CHAFFETZ from Utah's Third Congressional District, and what an honor to serve with you. What an honor to know that we have freshmen who have learned the true lessons of life, that you live on Ramon noodles rather than get money from mom and