

13 years the National Football Conference dominated the American Conference in the Super Bowl and they said the American Football Conference could not do it. Four previous times the thundering herd from the Mile High City had charged up to the summit only to come down with a thud, and some said it could not be done. When they lost the last three games of the season, many said they were finished, another year of disappointment. Again, it could not be done. Wild card teams do not get to the big game, they sure do not win it.

Well, the experts said they cannot do it. But I say to my colleagues, these that said it could not be done were wrong. They did it. The Broncos are world champions. I guess it could be done after all.

#### IRS REFORM

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the IRS has finally confessed. A spokesman admitted, and I quote: "IRS seizure practices are unfair." He further said that the IRS is now starting a new program. Check this out: Under this new program, the IRS district director must approve all seizures. Unbelievable. The IRS district director is now the sole judge, jury and executioner of our property. Beam me up. I now know why the IRS actually could look in the mirror and believe they are consumer friendly.

Mr. Speaker, they believe all taxpayers are nothing more than a bunch of masochists. Support my legislation that will require judicial consent and approval before the IRS can grab our assets. I yield back the balance of any money we have left.

#### STYLE VERSUS SUBSTANCE

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, last night the President gave a great speech, but the issue is not the style of the speech, it is the substance of what the President said.

Two years ago the President said in the State of the Union speech, the era of big government is over, but last night the President outlined new programs that will cost us \$40 billion in new spending each year. That is completely different from what he has said in the past. It is clear the President is for bigger government and higher deficits, while we here in the House have successfully worked for smaller government and lower taxes.

Now, there are many areas that we can work together on: Reforming education, saving Social Security and Medicare, fighting crime and drug abuse, reforming the IRS, and we can

do all of these things without breaking our pledge to balance the Federal budget and reduce our Federal debt. But the new Federal programs with greater bureaucracy and more spending will take us off the mark of a balanced Federal budget.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that we can work together to our common goals that we can reach.

#### BOLD AGENDA FOR 1998

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, the Democrats are back and ready to work. Last night the President laid out a bold agenda for the coming year. I might remind my colleagues this is the first President since 1969 to appear before a joint session of this House and come here with a balanced budget, and within that balanced budget talked about issues, things that we need to work on that in fact can help working middle class families in this country. Expand Medicare, allow health care coverage for those who are near retirement who might need it and might not be able to get it. They pay into it. Ensure high quality health care with a consumer Bill of Rights. Reform managed care, making quality child care more accessible and affordable, raise the minimum wage, and yes, preserve Social Security.

What does the Republican leadership have on their legislative agenda? Nothing. What important votes are they going to take to help the lives of middle class families? None. They are sending us home for the next two or three weeks. What is the Republican leadership going to give the American public? Nothing, zero, zip.

Mr. Speaker, let us get engaged in the President's bold agenda.

#### ACHIEVING AMERICA'S GOALS

(Mr. BLUNT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, last night in the State of the Union message the President set some good goals for America. He talked about a balanced budget, he talked about saving Social Security. He committed himself further to welfare reform; he is for education reform, he is against drugs, he is even for some family tax cuts.

The question is not about whether these are the goals we want for America, but how to achieve those goals.

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For instance, the President said that a family of four that makes less than \$35,000 should not pay any Federal income tax if they have high child care costs. Well, I agree. A family of four that makes less than \$35,000 should not pay any Federal income tax. But it

should not matter whether they have child care costs or not—\$35,000 for a family of four is \$35,000.

Mr. Speaker, we ought to work for those American families, and we ought to work for better solutions for American families.

#### LET US PUT SOCIAL SECURITY FIRST

(Mr. ROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, the problems that faced America 2 weeks ago are still the same problems that we face today. Despite what has occurred in the last week, Congress still has the obligation to move the country forward.

Last year, in a remarkable show of bipartisan effort, the Congress gave back to Americans \$94 billion in tax cuts and education benefits. Now that we have balanced the budget and given America its well-deserved tax cut, we must take care of today's seniors and the seniors of tomorrow by saving Social Security.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot allow seniors who have put into the system for their whole lives to fall into poverty just because they decided to retire; and we must never ask them to choose between food, health care, and their home. They deserve security and dignity. They paid for it.

So let us join together across party lines, as we did for the balanced budget and for the tax cuts, by heeding President Clinton's call. Let us put Social Security first.

#### IT IS A NEW YEAR AND A GOOD TIME TO CUT TAXES

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, it is important that we not let any distraction going on here in Washington get in the way of our responsibility to provide tax reduction and tax reform to the American people. With Federal taxes now approaching 20 percent of the Gross National Product, the highest peacetime figure in American history, and a runaway tax collecting bureaucracy that strikes fear in the hearts of every hard-working taxpayer, this Congress, notwithstanding the usual White House roadblocks, must move forward with tax cuts, tax simplification and tax fairness now. If the President chooses to oppose our efforts, let him explain his opposition to the American people.

Mr. Speaker, a lot of things have changed for the better since fiscal conservatives replaced tax-and-spend liberals in the House majority here in Washington: welfare finally reformed, a balanced budget actually in sight, family tax relief on the way. But more relief is due the American people. We need to move with dispatch. The American taxpayers deserve no less.

## WHAT AMERICAN FAMILIES NEED

(Mr. MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, last night the President laid out a blueprint that addresses the needs of America's family in his strong State of the Union address. He laid out a blueprint to start protecting Social Security and make sure that it is on financial safe footing in the 21st century.

He laid out a plan for managed care reform that for the first time will make sure that those individuals who are receiving medical care through managed care are, in fact, getting the medical care that they need and that they deserve, given their ailments and not that which is decided by bookkeepers and CEOs and shareholders who have nothing to do with the delivery of medical care, those very same people who are overriding the judgment of doctors who ask that their patients be taken care of in one manner and the managed care organizations decide that they will not do that. That is what America's families need.

He also addressed the need for expanded child care so that American families can continue to participate in the economic system of this country and support their families and know that their children are safe, know that their children are receiving child development and afterschool programs for these same children.

Mr. Speaker, this is what America's families need. It is what the President addressed.

## SUPPORT FOR RENAMING NATIONAL AIRPORT SHOULD BE BIPARTISAN

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we saw a demonstration on the differences between the Republican and the Democrat parties.

We had, last night, the President of the United States as our guest in this Chamber. The President was received warmly by Republicans. They clapped, they were very polite, no snickering when he talked about responsibility and personal stuff like that. We were cordial, and we did not mention anything about "you know who."

Now, the same day, the Republicans pushed forward naming the National Airport after Ronald Reagan. He was our leader. We are very proud of him. He was not a perfect president. He did stand tough against the Soviet Union. He created jobs and brought down inflation and did a lot of good things. He won a clean reelection. We are proud of our president.

But, Mr. Speaker, every single one of the Democrats on the Committee on

Transportation and Infrastructure, on a simply partisan basis, voted against naming the National Airport after Ronald Reagan. And yet did we turn around last night and show what we felt? No, we were very gentlemanly and did the right thing.

I would ask our Democrat counterparts to consider their conduct, because if they want to play partisanship, it is a lot more interesting to talk about this administration than Ronald Reagan's.

## STANDING WITH THE PRESIDENT FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, last night the message of the President of the United States was a very strong message. It was a visionary message full of vision and promise for America.

Last night, the American people heard from America's President. He offered for the first time in 30 years a balanced budget. He spoke about the sacred privileges of the patient-physician relationship and demanded that intrusive, hard-knuckled accountants and others who want to look at the numbers do not interfere with good health care in America.

He talked to mothers and fathers who needed child care to raise their children right. He talked about rebuilding our crumbling schools and making a commitment to work with local governments and jurisdictions. And, yes, he emphasized that there is something valuable to every American having affordable housing.

Mr. Speaker, I heard one of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle define the President's program last night in speaking to the public as "left leaning." If that is left leaning, I do not want to be right. I want to stand with the American President and the American people and make their lives better for the 21st century.

## CONGRESS SHOULD HONOR RONALD REAGAN

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, it will be a fitting tribute when this Congress recognizes the achievements of former President Ronald Reagan by renaming Washington, D.C.'s National Airport in his honor.

Let us recall the challenges our Nation faced when President Reagan took office: an economic crisis, a demoralized and weak military at home. Our allies abroad mistrusted us. The Cold War raged as country after country was falling under the yoke of the Communist Soviet Union. Americans were losing our unique confidence and optimism about the future.

President Reagan conquered all of these challenges. In the process he restored the majesty, the dignity, the moral authority, and our respect for the office of the presidency.

President Ronald Reagan's principled leadership looms even larger today. Let our country honor him and the values he upheld.

## ENOUGH IS ENOUGH IN CALIFORNIA'S 46TH DISTRICT CONTESTED ELECTION

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call for an end to the contested election in the 46th District of California. Enough is enough.

It is unfortunate that our second session is starting out much the same as our first session did. Members of the Republican leadership are publicly making unsubstantiated assertions about illegal voting in the 46th District and about the involvement of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ).

The facts, however, tell a different story. The facts are that the grand jury investigating this matter for 13 months found no credible evidence on which to base a criminal prosecution, not one, although Hermandad was called a criminal organization in this House on this floor. No conspiracy to commit voter fraud was found. The Orange County District Attorney had a thorough and fair investigation. It yielded no indictments.

The facts are that the Committee on House Oversight asked Secretary Jones to investigate a list. He gave us that list back and he said that he could not vouch for any list because he did not know how it was put together. Let us end this sad event in our Congress' history.

## AFTER FIVE YEARS, AMERICANS SHOULD REMEMBER THE PLIGHT OF PANAMANIAN KIDNAP VICTIMS

(Mr. HUTCHINSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday marks the 5-year anniversary of the kidnapping of three American missionaries in South America. On January 31, 1993, armed bandits descended upon the Panamanian village of Pucuro and kidnapped Dave Mankins, Mark Rich, and Rick Tenenoff in the presence of their wives and in the presence of their children.

The gunmen demanded \$1 million in return for the lives of these men, a demand that could not and should not be met.

Mr. Speaker, it has been 5 years since these women have seen their husbands, 5 years since these children have spent