

women to take an active role in fighting this deadly disease through regular self-examinations, annual mammograms, and breast biopsies when a lump is detected. When it is detected early, women can conquer breast cancer.

I ask my colleagues to support this vitally important resolution.

ON KOSOVO

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

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, recent reports of atrocities against Kosovo civilians by Serb security forces are certainly appalling. It is further evidence of President Milosevic's criminality in repressing ethnic Albanians.

It is entirely understandable why many people would therefore support military intervention by the United Nations or by NATO with U.S. leadership. But it is very important to realize that such military action, if it were to occur with U.S. forces, needs to be a decision taken by the Congress, not by the President.

Air strikes within the borders of Yugoslavia in order to stop attacks by Serbian forces against civilians in an area that the United States recognizes as sovereign Yugoslav territory simply could not be construed as "defensive" within the inherent authority of the President as Commander in Chief. Rather, they would be offensive in nature, involving the invasion of the air space of a nation which has not attacked the United States.

That is the sort of action which falls within the exclusive powers of the Congress under the United States Constitution.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Lewis Carroll writes the following:

When I use a word, Humpty Dumpty said, in a rather scornful tone, it means just what I choose it to mean, neither more nor less.

The question is, said Alice, whether you can make words mean so many different things.

Mr. Speaker, the Humpty Dumpty's of our political landscape use words to mean what they want them to mean. Yet the fact remains, words have very specific meanings, meanings that no common person would dispute. Alone means alone; is means is; sex means sex. No matter what mental gymnastics someone goes through. Words have meanings. When someone uses words in a court of law to mean things that they do not actually mean, that is called lying under oath. That is wrong. It is dishonorable and worthy of a congressional inquiry.

MORE ON KOSOVO

(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, once again genocide has reared its ugly head. Serbian President Milosevic is brutally exterminating ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. Women, children, even the elderly are being slaughtered. After all this, France says, and I quote, "We must send a strong message."

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. The last I heard, NATO did not work for the Western Union. It is time for NATO to do their job. It is time for France to step up once in a while. It is time for Europe to help us out, and it is time for independence in Kosovo.

One last thing, Mr. Speaker. Milosevic must be stopped. It is about time for France to do their job, too.

TAX CUTS

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, what do liberals, in the bottom of their hearts, think about tax cuts?

Well, you do not have to speculate any more because the liberals these days, from the President on down, are saying out loud exactly what they think about tax cuts. They call tax cuts an election year gimmick.

Last year the President called the people in Virginia who supported a tax cut selfish, selfish for daring to suggest that people should be able to keep more of their own money. The truth is, liberals really do believe that tax cuts are nothing more than an election year gimmick. It is simply inconceivable to the liberal mind-set that the Republicans believe as a matter of principle that the government takes too much of your money and then wastes too much of what it takes.

Allowing the people to keep more of what already belongs to them is a gimmick to liberals. To Republicans, it is a fundamental freedom issue. To people who work very hard to build a life for themselves and their family, to pursue the American dream, this must be a surprising bit of news indeed.

HMO REFORM

(Ms. SANCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the Republican Congress to step up to the plate and to pass real managed care reform. We need to fix the health insurance system to give patients the protections that they need.

After one year of ignoring the President's call for a strong, enforceable bipartisan Patients Bill of Rights, the Republican House leadership has done nothing more than pass a bill that treats cancer with Band-Aids.

We ignore at our own risk what the American people demand, and they demand health care reform. They do not want their health plan to abandon them when they need it the most.

Speaker GINGRICH once promised to let Medicare wither on the vine. This year he is going to let the Patients Bill of Rights wither on the vine. I ask, will he also let Social Security wither on the vine?

The leadership has the ability to pass legislation that protects Americans in the few days that we have left before adjournment. Will they act on behalf of millions of Americans? It is time to stop playing politics and pass HMO reform now.

BUDGET SURPLUS

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, Will Rogers once said that you have to be an optimist to be a Democrat and you have got to be a humorist to stay one.

Yesterday the President must have thought that he was using humor when he said that the creation of the surplus is due to the fiscal restraint and leadership of his administration. I believe the only thing that the President left out of his speech was a line from the Wizard of Oz, Toto, "I do not think we are in Kansas anymore," because this make-believe yellow brick road theory that his administration is responsible for the surplus is nothing but simple pure comedy.

I think of myself as a person who recognizes and appreciates humor. I certainly did not mind laughing at the President's stand-up comedy routine yesterday. But we have thrown back the curtain and we have seen that the voice behind the curtain is a very same voice whose only budget proposal projected a \$241 billion deficit for this year.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to get back to reality. It is the Republican Congress and Republican leadership that deserves the credit for this surplus. It was their commitment in 1995 to get this country on the right track back toward fiscal responsibility and fiscal stability.

WOMEN'S CONTRACEPTION

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, a bunch of fellows from this body are running around the Treasury, Postal conference committee trying to get into the contraception business, women's contraception business, that is. But women's contraception is nobody's business but theirs. Yet there is stealth action in this House to overturn a bill that passed both houses, that contraception be treated like other prescriptions in

Federal health plans. Passed unanimously in the Senate, passed twice in the House, we must not tolerate Soviet-style reversals of noncontroversial provisions.

I am outraged at a substitute that would allow only the diaphragm to be required in plans. Women need options. Some do not work. Some make us sick. There is no more sensitive issue for women than contraception. The bipartisan Women's Caucus supports the Lowey provision, and so do the majority of the House, the majority of the Senate and the majority of the American people.

ON TAX CUTS

(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, Americans pay on the average about 40 percent of their total household income in taxes. In 1996, recognizing this, the Republican leadership pushed for a middle class tax cut, despite the President's and most of the Democrats' objections that people who want to pay less taxes are just selfish.

Well, we are back at it again, another middle class tax cut. It has already passed the House. Marriage tax relief, ending the marriage tax penalty, relief for farmers and tax relief for the death tax penalty.

And what are the Democrats and the President saying? They are saying this is going to adversely affect Social Security. Well, what does the Director of the Congressional Budget Office say? That the tax plan has no effect on Social Security. This is a Democrat chart so the word "effect" is misspelled. But then, again, we knew Democrats would be reading this and we wanted to share the information with them so we had to put it in their language.

But the fact is, the point is right. The tax cut does not affect Social Security. Just how much is this? In the total budget scheme, Mr. Speaker, of \$9.6 trillion, it is barely a slither of a slither of \$80 billion in middle class tax relief over a 5-year period of time.

TAX RELIEF

(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, people in America understand that they need tax relief. They understand that it is only fair, as we begin to balance the budget, that they get to keep part of the money they are sending to Washington. We see these two charts here that clearly point out that the amount of tax relief has no impact on Social Security.

They cannot imagine why we would possibly let the marriage penalty stay in the tax code one year longer, let alone forever. They cannot imagine

why we would not do everything necessary to go ahead and make health insurance automatically deductible for small business people, once we have decided that needs to be done, rather than to wait 6 or 7 years in the future.

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They cannot imagine why, out of \$1.6 trillion in surplus, that \$80 billion of that cannot go to tax relief and go to tax relief right now.

TAXPAYER PROTECTION ACT

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

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, in my district in Western Pennsylvania people are concerned with real pocketbook issues, like having the money to send their kids to college. The Taxpayer Protection Act, which we passed last week, provides much needed tax relief for working families and middle class taxpayers by building on our previous accomplishments.

Last year, this Republican Congress provided tax exempt status to qualified state prepaid tuition account programs. These programs will allow families to buy college credits at today's prices and bank them for the future, avoiding tuition inflation and making college costs more manageable for many families on tight budgets.

The Republican tax bill goes one step further than last year's bill by leveling the playing field and awarding the same preferential tax treatment to private prepaid programs.

Mr. Speaker, the Taxpayer Relief Act helps students achieve their dream of a college education and, through it, the American dream. This is good legislation that lifts some of the tax burden on the middle class and gives them the opportunity to save for their children's college education.

THERE IS NO SURPLUS

(Mrs. LINDA SMITH of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LINDA SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give a reality check. The President claims the government has a surplus. All Americans need to know that this just is not true. There is no surplus.

The President was going to borrow \$100 billion from Social Security to pay for his proposed current level of spending, but our good economy means now he will only borrow \$35 billion. Now, the \$65 billion difference that the Republicans said must be left in the Social Security Trust Fund is what the President now claims is a surplus. It is not a surplus. It is payroll taxes that the government collects to pay for Social Security checks each month.

We need to save Social Security, not spend it. That is why I voted against

the tax plan, not an easy vote, because it borrows still from Social Security. Believe me, I do support tax cuts, but we need to do it without compromising Social Security.

Now, we may have a true surplus by next year. Then we can make sure that Social Security will be there when people need it. Then we can have tax cuts, too. That is my goal, Mr. Speaker.

CENSUS SAMPLING

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

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, from day 1, this administration has conducted affairs of state more like King George than George Washington. Its ethic has been summed up in the book title by Clinton hit-man James Carvel: "We're Right and You're Wrong."

Now, in the latest census sampling wrinkle, the Clinton people show they are willing to ignore Federal Court rulings in pursuit of their agenda. Two separate decisions have declared it illegal to sample the population for the purposes of congressional reapportionment. Yet administration officials continue to forge ahead anyway with plans to sample in the next census, spending millions on a discredited idea at a time when preparations for the 2000 Census are at a very critical stage.

It is almost as if the Clinton Commerce Department wants the next census to fail so that the political pressure for their sampling agenda will be even greater in 2010.

Mr. Speaker, it is past time for the President to begin enforcing the laws, even those he does not like.

PRESIDENT SHOULD NOT GO TO WAR WITHOUT CONSENT OF CONGRESS

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

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, a letter is presently being circulated that has been authored by my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SKAGGS), and myself. I would ask for my colleagues' attention to it, please, if they could sign it.

The letter is addressed to the President of the United States and it vindicates the most important obligation that we have, and that is in the area of warmaking. The Constitution says that we do not go to war unless the representatives of the people, in this House and in the other body, vote for it. It does not give the President the right to go to war on his own.

My colleagues, we are about to go to war. We are about to go to war in Kosovo. If it is the right thing, so be it. The President should make the case it is the right thing here in the people's House. Have us approve it or not. But