

America balance the budget on minimum wage jobs?

It is getting so bad the Department of Labor listed some new professions for Americans.

How about his: Gizzard skin remover. How about a corn cob pipe assembler? How about a brassiere cup molder cutter? That is right. If you want to hear the big one, everybody is going to school for this: How about a pantyhose crotch closer? That is right. That is a listed job.

Just think, if these jobs do not go overseas, they may even be able to move up the ladder and become a pantyhose crotch closer supervisor.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. Congress has got to look at the trade deficit. You just cannot look at budget deficits and Congress don't know what they're doing in my opinion at this point.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker.

#### THE PRESIDENT SHOULD KEEP HIS WORD

(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, there is some bad information around that Congress is going to shut down the Government. That is not true. It is not even true that the Republicans are going to shut down the Government.

It is the President. The President signed a binding agreement with Congress last month to pass a 7-year CBO-scored balanced budget in the first session of the 104th Congress. After vetoing the budget last week, the President has failed to meet his commitment. His budget does not balance.

Mr. Speaker, the President has it within his ability to keep the Government open. All he has to do is keep his promises. President Clinton should keep his word, do as he agreed and sign an honest balanced budget.

The Government is not shutting down because of the Republicans or Congress. The Government is shutting down because President Clinton will not honor his commitment to give the American people a balanced budget.

#### ETHICS REFORM ACT OF 1995

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

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to establish an independent Commission on Congressional Ethics. It is obvious to me as I am sure it is to you and the American people that it is time to change the way ethics complaints are handled in this House. It is time to put an end to personal friendships such as has been displayed by the current chairman, and to put an end to associations with an organization that needs to be investigated as is the case with most majority members of the Ethics Com-

mittee. The committee has acted in the case of the Speaker, but quite frankly in my opinion is too little and way too late. The independent counsel's hands should not have been tied. We cannot remove this cloud that hangs over the Capitol until a complete, independent, unfettered investigation is completed. My bill will ensure that in the future friendships between the committee and the accused will not be a part of the process. My bill calls for a commission of five former or senior Federal judges. Two would be picked by the Speaker, two by the minority leader and the fifth by the four selected. This commission would take over all duties of the current Ethics Committee. I ask my colleagues to join with me and return fairness to the ethics process. Cosponsor the Ethics Reform Act of 1995.

#### ALLEGED MISUSE OF ETHICS CHARGES

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

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I just walked into the Chamber and heard the preceding speaker and he prompted me to recall that week after week, month after month, the Democrats have been trooping here on the floor and up to the press gallery to make personal charges against the Speaker of the House.

Mr. Speaker, I for one am sick and tired of these attacks because they are frivolous solely for political advantage. These Members apparently have got nothing better to do than personally attack the Speaker of the House.

I think that every Member here ought to take note of the possibility that the ethics rules of this House of Representatives are being misused for political gain. They may be warned that ethics charges may be filed in the next year against any Member who misuses the ethics rules of this House and brings disrepute on the House of Representatives for political purposes.

#### PARLIMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LONGLEY). The gentleman will state it.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, under the new gift ban and under the rules on limitation on outside income, is it permissible for me to collect the \$1 million I am entitled to by demonstrating that the Republicans are cutting Medicare?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is not stating a parliamentary inquiry.

#### ETHICS SHOULD APPLY TO ALL MEMBERS

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, there is an ad in Roll Call offering the million dollars for anyone who can demonstrate the Republicans are cutting Medicare, and I suggest there are almost 200 Democrats here who are entitled to share in that million dollars.

But I would like to respond to the last speaker on this whole issue of ethics, because of course that \$1 million pales by comparison to the \$4.5 million that was at stake with reference to the Speaker's book deal.

All this talk of partisanship, look at the nonpartisan conclusion of the House Ethics Committee, that the book deal was so bad we need a new rule with regard to books and royalties.

What is the response of the Republican leadership? Speaker GINGRICH says we need to delay it.

The chairman of the House Committee on Rules says the Ethics Committee, Republican and Democrats, and I quote, "ought to be horse whipped" if they think he is obligated to accept a new proposal to limit book royalties.

I would suggest there is bipartisan support for ethics but opine that it apply to the Speaker, also.

#### PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want to know whether it is proper for another Member to come and stand in the well while a Member is speaking.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members should not interrupt Members in the course of their presentations.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. I thank the Speaker.

#### TIME TO BALANCE THE BUDGET

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, it was very interesting to hear my good friend from Texas get up and rant and rail against this fact. This is not a parliamentary inquiry, but this is a point of fact:

If anyone in the minority, if anyone in America can show us how going from \$4,800 this year per beneficiary for Medicare to \$7,100 in the year 2002 is a cut, come collect the check. Because the fact is the figures do not lie. Simple math tells the truth. And simple justice compels us to say to my good friend from Texas, and indeed to the American people that we should join hands and balance this budget because our children and the American people deserve no less.

Sure you can try to change the subject, but it does not change the agenda for America's future. It is time to make a difference, put this partisanship aside and build a constructive future as we confront the next century.