

the House of Representatives still honors that 60-year-old commitment to Social Security and that the House of Representatives intends to make sure that this 60-year-old commitment is honored.

I urge my colleagues to join with me and ANDY JACOBS and support this resolution.

ONLY A GOOD EDUCATION BRINGS SUCCESS TO AMERICA'S POOREST CHILDREN

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

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, I come from a very low-income area of this country, but it has an obsession with education. We have seen the education of our children, the migrant children, the children of the poor. It could not have been done without the assistance of the Federal Government.

When I came here 30 years ago, the issue was should the Federal Government be involved or not in education. The answer was yes, and I can show Members the difference. There are now doctors, lawyers, engineers, with Spanish surnames that would have never been, relying solely on the income from the local school districts or from the State.

I did not come here to dismantle the educational system of the United States. I came to enhance it. We have enhanced it. I am concerned now that there is a move to dismantle it. It should not be done. We keep hearing about not putting a burden on our children and our grandchildren. The best thing we can do for our children and grandchildren is to give them an education. If we dismantle the Federal part, we would have done wrong to future generations.

THE ISTOOK-MCINTOSH AMENDMENT WILL HALT TAXPAYERS' MONEY GOING TO POLITICAL ADVOCACY GROUPS

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

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, one of the most egregious wrongs imposed on taxpayers during the past 40 years has been a policy which gives tax money to various lobby groups that advocate special programs for particular groups. The Istook-McIntosh Federal grant reform amendment to the Labor Appropriation bill would put a halt to taxpayers' money going to support political advocacy groups they may not want to support.

Thomas Jefferson said it best when he said, "To compel a man to furnish funds for the propagation of ideas he disbelieves and abhors is sinful and tyrannical." The Government should not use taxpayers' money to strengthen special interest groups which do not re-

fect the views of most Americans. This is wrong, and I urge support of the Istook-McIntosh Federal grant reform amendment to the Labor-Education appropriation bill.

SACRIFICES FROM ALL AMERICANS MAKE POSSIBLE UNFAIR SUBSIDIES TO SPECIAL INTERESTS

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, a little more than 1 week ago Members of this House came to this floor and voted in favor of continuing agriculture subsidies to farmers making over \$100,000 in off-farm income and they voted to continue millions of dollars in market promotion subsidies for companies like McDonald's and Pillsbury.

Yet this week, many of these same Members will come to the floor to speak and vote in favor of \$4.5 billion in cuts to education programs like student aid and safe and drug free schools. How will they justify it? They will say, "we must make sacrifices to balance the budget", "for our children" they will say, "for our children".

But McDonald's will continue to receive \$1.2 million in market subsidies and a farmer making over \$100,000 annually in off-farm income will get a \$500-per-child tax break for his two children and continue to receive farm payments from the Federal Government. Apparently only your child and mine need to make sacrifices, not farmers nor big business.

GENERATIONAL EQUITY: SAVING MEDICARE AND BALANCING THE BUDGET

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to read from Bill Bennett's Book of Virtues a poem entitled "The Bridge Builders" by Will Allen Dromgoole. The poem speaks of generational equity.

An old man, going a lone highway,
Came, at evening, cold and gray,
To a chasm, vast, and deep, and wide,
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim;
The sullen stream had no fears for him;
But he turned, when safe on the other side,
And built a bridge to span the tide.
"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim, near,
"You are wasting strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day;
You never again must pass this way;
You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide—
Why build you the bridge at the eventide?"
The builder lifted his old gray head;
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
"There followeth after me today
A youth, whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm, that has been naught to me,

To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."

Mr. Speaker, we owe it to our seniors to save Medicare. But, we owe it to our children to balance our budget.

MEDICARE TRUSTEES' REPORT DOES NOT RECOMMEND RAIDING MEDICARE FUNDS TO PAY FOR TAX BREAKS FOR THE WEALTHY

(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, I have here a copy of the Medicare trustees report. They make it very clear that unless changes are made, Medicare will be insolvent. They also make a series of recommendations of minor extensions of current law that will make it solvent to the year 2010.

What the Medicare trustees do not recommend in this report is raiding the Medicare account to give tax breaks to the wealthy. The Medicare trustees do not recommend, as the Republicans plan to do, to take \$270 billion out of Medicare and give it to the wealthiest people in this country. What the Medicare trustees recommend is that we reform the Medicare system to extend its life, not raid the system to give a hand-out to the wealthiest people in this country.

However, that is what the Republican plan is; not fixing Medicare, not reforming Medicare, but raiding Medicare, using the trustees' report as cover so that they can pass on a tax cut to the wealthiest people in this country. We are fully prepared to reform Medicare. We are not prepared to raid Medicare.

THE HOUSE NEEDS MORE TIME TO CONSIDER VITAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, tonight at about 9 p.m. we are going to begin consideration of the telecommunications bill. It is a very important piece of legislation. It affects everybody in the United States, and will for years to come. We have been working on this piece of legislation for at least 10 years, I am told, and yet somebody has decided it must be out before we leave here the first of August.

This bill passed by an overwhelming majority when it came out of committee, a bipartisan majority, and has been taken and rewritten in a back room by a handful of people, and we are going to begin debate on it tonight. Usually when something this important is rushed through in the dark of night, it is because someone does not want us to know what the real ramifications are. This is no way to do the people's business.

HR1555