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Our Rules Committee has an important job to do in ensuring that this debate we begin today does not diminish the American people’s right to have a voice in the decisions that are made. We must ensure that all the legitimate options are reviewed to produce the most responsible budget blueprint. Those of us in the minority must do all we can to challenge the President’s proposed budgetary cuts, which are responsible, to ensure that we do not cut too much from the crucial social and economic programs that are vital for our future. Our role is to make sure that the government is working for the people, not just for the few.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BERLIDENTHOFF. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Township).

Mr. Township. Mr. Speaker, we are here now in chapter II.

Members of Congress have been official trustees presiding over the greatest reorganization of any bankrupt entity in world history, the U.S. Government. We are setting forth hopefully a blueprint for our future. There are some who say it is a corona’s report that will lead to our demise.

I am going to support the rule. I am not sure yet if I will support this budget. I want to hear an awful lot more. I am not a member of the committee, and I am not going to vote for things I do not understand or do not like. But let there be no mistake. After 12 years of Ronald Reagan and George Bush, we are standing here.

Let me say this to the minority party. Even though I think that Ronald Reagan got it, there was not a Republican majority in both houses, as well as we have been the Republicans, and we have the program.

The main assumption was very simple. We must pay our bills. The money is in the pockets of the American people, and, when they spend this money, our gross national product is going to rise so greatly that even though we reduced your tax liability on a per capita basis, we will balance the budget, quoting Ronald Reagan, in four years. It is going to continue to be the duty of our Congress to make sure that this happens.

Mr. Speaker, let us give this new administration a chance. Democrats gave Ronald Reagan a chance.

But let me give one word of caution here today. America, already has faced wars, let us be honest about it. We already have gender wars, let us be honest about it. We already have age wars, let us be honest about it. One thing this Congress had better not get involved in and get trapped into is a class war. In America, if you can not earn all that you can, there is something wrong and there is no more a spirit of free enterprise.

I want to say this to the Members. We may talk about taxing the rich, but the rich people have already taken their companies and their jobs out of America. Be careful that the rich people do not take their money out of America, because the average person already raises our kids, deficit of our families, educates our kids, feeds our kids, provides for our kids, and the government is doing a very good job of it. I think mom and dad would be better utilized there once again.

So I am going to listen to the debate. I do not know if I will vote for this budget.

Finally, I do not know if the budget makes one damn bit of difference, because we waste it all the time and I do not think we have ever followed it. I think we have an excellent chairman who worked hard. If we want to have a budget, we should follow it. If not, we once again as Members of Congress, waste our time and the people’s time.

Let me say this. I am not for voting any more taxes on the backs of the American people, because I believe the tax of 1930 put us in the way, and I am very concerned about the tax package being discussed in this Congress.

I am one Democrat who believes we should stimulate the private sector. We have already had more government jobs than factory jobs, and I think that is an indictment of our Congress.

One basic tenet to this Constitution is life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and there can be no liberty without money in America, without job.

I would like to see the mother of all debates center around the question of happiness, and there can be no happiness, or pursuit of happiness, in America, without job.

Mr. GOSS, Mr. Speaker. I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Gingrich), the distinguished courageous leader.

Mr. Gingrich. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to speak, and I appreciate my friend, the gentleman from Florida, yielding me this time.

Let me say first of all, the American people apparently today and tomorrow are going to see a very, very sad spectacle of the Democratic leadership attempting to pass rules that are restrictive, as narrow as tight, to deprive Members on both sides of any opportunity for other legitimate amendments. I think it is sad. I think it is a disgrace. I think it is the opposite of what this House is all about. It is the opposite of openness. It is the opposite of allowing all the citizenry to participate in a debate.

Second, people are going to see a chasm between a $3 billion, unpaid for, deficit increase for pork barrel with