

Mr. Speaker, there is a certain humor in the Bush attacks on Senator Kerry's budget plans. The Bush administration, after all, has the most reckless fiscal management in our Nation's history. It has produced the largest deficit, after turning the largest budget surplus that they inherited into a sea of red ink.

His prescription drug Medicare program hid the true cost even from Republicans in Congress. His proposal to privatize Social Security, all independent observers indicate, will cost at least \$2 trillion.

While he wastes money on missile defense, he is shortchanging homeland security, all the while proposing more tax cuts for people who do not need them while ignoring the needs of those who do. No wonder he wants to talk about John Kerry's fiscal proposals. His record is indefensible.