

the Advanced Technology Program, that helps manufacturers improve their energy efficiency.

The Republican-led Congress did not agree to allow that amendment. We also missed an opportunity to expand and improve MEP itself. We should have used that bill to dramatically increase funding so that we can help U.S. manufacturing. Congress chose not to.

My home State of Ohio has lost one in six, one-sixth of its manufacturing jobs since 2001. An improved MEP could have made the difference for many small businesses who must fight every day to survive, but the Republican leadership used the partisan Rules Committee to block even attempts at amendments.

The problem, Mr. Speaker, is this Congress, this country, this government, has no manufacturing policy, no policy to retain manufacturing, no policy to expand manufacturing in this country. America's trade deficit the year I ran for Congress in 1992 for the first time was \$38 billion. The trade deficit last year was \$618 billion. From a \$38 billion trade deficit, that means we have bought \$38 billion more than we had sold back in 1992, to a \$618 billion trade deficit today. That is a result of huge outsourcing of jobs and a major loss of U.S. manufacturing jobs.

Our trade deficit with China was \$162 billion, with China alone last year. The United States has become the world's largest debtor Nation, adding \$2.5 trillion to our national debt in 2002 alone.

Countries like Japan and China are quickly gaining control over our economy as they buy up more and more of our debt. These failed trade and fiscal policies have hit manufacturers in our country hard.

So Congress today had an opportunity, a lost opportunity, with the Manufacturing Extension Program. We failed in the opportunity to pass Crane-Rangel, a bill that would reward manufacturers that stay in the United States and manufacture here. Instead, this Congress continues to give tax breaks and incentives to those large corporations that outsource, that go offshore and produce their jobs there.

We passed an alternative that gave billions of dollars to these multinational corporations. Mr. Speaker, this Congress has been a Congress of lost opportunity for American manufacturing. We should change the direction of our trade policy. We should change the direction of our tax policy.

We should help these manufacturers in the United States, those small companies of 50, 100, and 200 employees that have really built our industrial base and built the middle class of this country. We can do much better than this.

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

FUND ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION PROGRAMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, this month marks the 16th annual observance of National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month. As we celebrate Recovery Month, it is time for Congress to knock down the barriers to treatment and recovery for 26 million Americans suffering the ravages of alcohol and drug addiction.

Mr. Speaker, it is a national disgrace that 270,000 Americans were denied treatment last year. It is a national tragedy that 150,000 of our fellow Americans died last year as a direct result of chemical addiction. It is a national crisis that the costs of addiction amount to \$400 billion a year in increased health care costs, criminal justice costs, social service costs, and other related costs.

And think of the costs that cannot be measured in dollars and cents: the costs of human suffering, broken families, shattered dreams and destroyed lives. But there is hope. Treatment for alcohol and drug addiction works and recovery happens.

Mr. Speaker, as a grateful recovering alcoholic of 24 years myself, I am living proof that treatment does work and that recovery is real. The problem is too many people do not have the access to treatment that I have.

That is why Congress must pass the Treat America Act that I have authored with my good friend, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY), H.R. 1258.

This treatment parity legislation will give Americans suffering from addiction greater access to treatment by prohibiting health insurers from placing discriminatory restrictions on treatment.

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Discriminatory barriers, by the way, that do not exist for any other disease.

Chemical dependency treatment parity is not only the right thing to do, it is also the cost-effective thing to do. Study after study has shown the average premium increase due to full premium parity is less than one-half of 1 percent. So in other words, for the price of a cup of coffee per day, we could treat 16 million alcoholics and addicts who are presently in health plans and being discriminated against. We also need to provide greater access to treatment for the 10 million alcoholics and drug addicts in the Medicaid program.

Mr. Speaker, the American Medical Association, the AMA, categorized addiction as a disease in 1956. Now, 50

years later, it is long overdue for Congress to treat the illness of addiction as the progressive and fatal disease it is. It is time to end the discrimination against people who need treatment for chemical addiction. It is time for Congress to deal with our Nation's number one public health problem.

It is time for Congress and the President to pass chemical addiction treatment parity. With 26 million Americans still suffering, we cannot afford to wait. With some 300,000 Americans being denied treatment this year, we cannot afford to wait. With 150,000 people dying last year as the direct result of addiction, we cannot afford to wait.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me and the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY) and thousands of other recovering people in recommitting our efforts to pass treatment parity. Also, we need to recognize the addiction counselors and treatment professionals throughout our great country who have dedicated their lives to helping people recover. They are America's unsung heroes.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, let us celebrate "Recovery Month" by honoring the millions of Americans who are experiencing the promise and possibility of recovery, and let us never forget that 26 million Americans are still in need of our help.

FINDING OFFSETS FOR KATRINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOHMERT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, the cleanup effort along the gulf coast is now fully underway. The floodwaters of New Orleans have receded. We are shifting our focus to rebuilding and restoring lives as we all watch as another hurricane is on its way, and obviously put this work on hold as we again once again not only evacuate that part of the coast but also parts of Texas.

Congress has allocated more than \$60 billion in disaster relief. It was the right thing to do, but with some estimates as high as \$200 billion, some here are questioning whether or not we can afford rebuilding given our fiscal situation.

I would like to remind some of my colleagues that a number of us mentioned that we may get into a situation where we could have a crisis and we should be able to handle as a country the condition and economic condition, and we already have over \$7 trillion of debt. In the last 5 years this Congress has added nearly \$2 trillion to America's debt. China and Japan have become our bankers. And now we are in dire straits where we cannot help Americans unless we write \$200 billion in hot checks.

This Congress is becoming known as the Congress of hot checks. That is all we do. We got a problem, we write hot checks around here. Now the truth is,