

Just stop spending. No more TARP, no more stimulus, no cap-and-trade tax on small business, no tax on charitable donations, no energy tax on working Americans. Surely, no more burying our children in debt while we spend, tax, and borrow our way into oblivion.

I ask the Democrats in this administration to put the checkbook down.

MYTH: MOST INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE DON'T HAVE IT BECAUSE THEY DON'T WANT IT

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

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Another health care myth—and we've heard it all before: opponents of health care reform claim that, of the 45 million uninsured, many don't have health care insurance because they just don't want it. So no need to reform the health insurance system—everybody who wants it already has it.

So who are these people who just don't want health care insurance? Well, according to a 2008 Kaiser study, 68 percent of the Nation's uninsured were under 200 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines—or making under \$44,000 a year for a family of four. Of those, 37 percent were actually living in poverty—making under \$22,000 a year.

These are families that cannot afford health insurance. For a family living at the poverty line, health insurance could cost them up to half of their income.

Sure, there are some amongst the uninsured who simply choose to pay their own way. But there are many more who are employed, who are playing by the rules, who want health care insurance but just can't cut out those frivolous things like food and clothes to pay the premium.

RESPONSIBILITY

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

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness: that is what the American Dream is all about. It's been the American entrepreneur, it's the American family, it's the individual who starts and wants to build their own business that's going to drive this country and this economy forward. It's not Big Government that's going to get us out of this. It's going to be the American family and the American entrepreneur.

I look at the President's budget, what the Democrats are proposing and, quite frankly, it spends too much, it taxes too much, and it borrows too much. We will literally double the debt in this country that will be paid at some point by our kids and our grandkids.

We have an opportunity to reject the overspending; we have an opportunity

to reject the idea that we are going to continue to run this government on a credit card. That's why I urge my colleagues to look very strongly at this budget and just say "no."

We can no longer afford to continue to spend the way Washington, DC, spends. We need to operate this country in a fiscally disciplined manner. That's why I encourage my colleagues to look strongly at the Republican alternative, because in that budget you will see responsibility.

STRUGGLE AGAINST VIOLENT EXTREMISM

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

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, a couple of recent Washington Post headlines deserve mentioning on the House floor. The first was on March 16, where the Red Cross Confirmed that the United States Violated International Laws Against Torture.

Last Sunday's article points out that that torture policy applied to an individual by the name of Abu Zubaida sent our government officials on any number of false leads. It produced no reliable information. It turns out that that suspect, Abu Zubaida, wasn't even an official member of al Qaeda. He told our professional interrogators what he knew to be true, until—under pressure from the Cheney White House to torture him—he sent our government on any number of false leads. As usual, people being tortured tell you what they know that you want to hear in order to stop the torture.

The point for the Congress to act on is that if we are ever going to prevail in our struggle against violent extremism, we need to stand up for America's defining principles of equal justice under the law. We have to hold those people accountable who pressured and enabled American government officials to perform actions that were counterproductive to our national security, that were illegal, and were immoral, and thus were anti-American. Only through such judicial accountability can we regain the moral high ground and once again lead the world by practicing what our founders preached.

COVER THE UNINSURED WEEK

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

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the rising number of uninsured in America. Right now, nearly 50 million Americans have no health insurance. That is nearly one in six. One in six.

These aren't just numbers on a page. This has real effects on the rest of us, because when millions of Americans who have no health insurance get sick enough, they end up in the emergency

room of the nearest hospital. But the care they get there costs six times as much as preventive care—and is far less effective.

Those of us who pay the full cost of our health care end up picking up the tab for the care we provide the uninsured in the emergency room. That's just one reason we as a Nation pay far more for health care than we get back in return. In fact, on average, every American spends about \$900 each year to pay the cost of treating the uninsured badly. That is pure waste.

There are some good signs coming out of the current health care debate. Congress and this President have already extended health coverage to an additional 4 million children this year by enacting a bipartisan expansion of the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

We waited too long to address this problem. We've paid a huge price by not confronting it sooner. I look forward to working with the President and my colleagues on commonsense solutions that will extend coverage to all Americans.

HOUSING CRISIS IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY

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

Mr. CARDOZA. I rise today to remind my colleagues that the housing crisis continues to devastate across this country. My constituents in Merced, California, near my hometown of Atwater, are suffering from 19.9 percent unemployment, the highest rate of foreclosures in the Nation, and a 70 percent loss of their home equity over the last 3 years.

They have seen their community banks fail and their businesses on Main Street close their doors for good. Simply put, the Central Valley is experiencing an economic tsunami that will leave the Central Valley struggling for many years.

That is why I'm working on legislation to devise an Economic Disaster Area designation—so places like my district, whose communities have been disproportionately affected by the country's recession, can receive additional Federal funding they need to keep from falling off the maps.

I'm asking my colleagues to support me in my efforts to create this Economic Disaster Area designation and to help my constituents and the entire Central Valley recover from this economic downturn.

WE ARE GOING TO RECOVER

(Ms. CASTOR of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, the economic recovery plan signed by President Obama is saving and creating jobs all across the country. It was just signed into law 6 weeks