

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

ago, but millions of jobs are being created, including in my community in Tampa, Florida.

Monday, in the Tampa Bay area, we announced that we are going to draw down over \$3.5 million for our community health centers to hire new doctors, nurses, and medical professionals that will be able to serve more patients in an affordable way. This is happening all across our country.

In addition, we expect additional dollars to put folks back to work constructing community health centers across this country in just a matter of weeks.

The economic recovery plan is working. We are going to recover and America will be stronger than ever before.

□ 1030

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1664

(Mrs. DAHLKEMPER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the hard-working families of my district in the State of Pennsylvania who have been hit especially hard by the economic downturn. Across my district, paychecks just don't seem to stretch as far to buy groceries and to pay the utility bills. Many have had to take a pay cut simply to keep their job.

Madam Speaker, my constituents are struggling just to make ends meet, and they are sick and tired of seeing their hard-earned tax dollars go to pay the excessive bonuses at companies like AIG. However, I have good news for those who want to put an end to this shameless practice. Today, my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have an opportunity to support my amendment to H.R. 1664.

The purpose of my amendment is to close any loopholes and to make it crystal clear that excessive taxpayer-funded bonuses are absolutely not allowed, regardless of when the executive worked at the company. Let me repeat that. It does not matter when the executive was employed at the company, it does not matter what the official name of the bonus is called; all excessive bonuses at taxpayer expense are prohibited.

Madam Speaker, I came to Congress to represent my constituents on Main Street, not the corporate executives on Wall Street. That is why I voted against the Wall Street bailout, and that is why I am offering my amendment today, to protect taxpayer dollars and hold Wall Street executives accountable.

THE RESTORATION BUDGET

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today we will begin an historic opportunity to address the budget

of this country, which I call the restoration budget.

There may be a number of perspectives from the White House, from this Congress, both House and Senate. But I am delighted that many of us have organized to support basic principles of reducing the deficit. The congressional progressive budget does it at 58 percent. Or, focusing on enhancing the opportunities of health for all; or, providing additional stimulus money of \$300 billion; looking at the issues of global warming and energy independence; and fully funding elementary and secondary education, ideas that permeate throughout the various discussions and budgets that you will see here today, particularly as we in the majority lead.

Our principles are equality for all, putting the economy back on its feet, and putting the economic engine back in the hands of America, educating them, extinguishing poverty. I am very proud that we will have the opportunity to serve America.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. CON. RES. 85, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 305 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 305

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 85) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2009 and 2011 through 2014. The first reading of the concurrent resolution shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the concurrent resolution are waived. General debate shall not exceed four hours, with three hours confined to the congressional budget equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget and one hour on the subject of economic goals and policies equally divided and controlled by Representative Maloney of New York and Representative Brady of Texas or their designees. After general debate the Committee of the Whole shall rise without motion. No further consideration of the concurrent resolution shall be in order except pursuant to a subsequent order of the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCGOVERN. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legis-

lative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous materials into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H. Res. 305 provides for general debate on H. Con. Res. 85, the budget resolution for fiscal year 2010. Madam Speaker, I am honored to stand here today to introduce the fiscal year 2010 House budget resolution.

I want to thank my friend, the Budget Committee Chairman JOHN SPRATT, for all of his incredible work on this budget. He is smart, he is fair, and no one cares more about these issues.

I also want to thank our ranking member, PAUL RYAN. Even though I often disagree with him, I admire his intellect and his dedication to his principles. I thought we had a spirited, substantive debate in the Budget Committee, and I am sure we will have more of the same here on the House floor.

I also would like to thank the staff of the Budget Committee, Democrat and Republican, for their tireless effort and their commitment to public service.

Madam Speaker, the budget before us today represents a clean break from the past. For the last 8 years, President Bush flat out mismanaged the Federal budget. How? By enacting huge tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans that led to skyrocketing deficits, by spending hundreds of billions of dollars on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan without paying for them, and by refusing to invest in the American people.

In November, the American people said "enough," and they voted for change. They voted for new direction. And that is what this budget is all about. We are not only turning the page on the last 8 years, we are writing a whole new book, and our budget cuts the deficit by more than half by 2013. It cuts taxes for middle-income families by \$1.5 trillion. It creates jobs by investing in health care, clean energy, and education.

Now, let me briefly outline those three areas: Fiscal discipline, middle-class tax cuts, and investments in the American people.

As I said, our budget will cut the deficit by more than half in 2013. In order to get us back on a fiscally sustainable path, the budget provides a realistic assessment of our fiscal outlook.

Unlike the Bush administration, we actually budget for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan instead of hiding them under, quote, emergency spending categories. We budget for natural disasters that inevitably will occur.

Our budget cuts taxes for 95 percent of Americans. Let me repeat that, Madam Speaker, because we are going to hear a lot of rhetoric from the other side about taxes. The Democratic budget, the Obama budget cuts taxes for 95 percent of Americans. It provides immediate relief from the alternative