

jobs by propelling these new technologies with the alternative energies and fuels of the future. We can improve the national security of the United States by breaking the addiction to oil. That will only come when the economics work out for the competing technologies. Currently the incumbent technology—gasoline, in the case of transportation fuel—has these negative externalities that aren't recognized. If they were recognized, if they were attached to the price of that product, the national security risks we are running, the environmental problems that it causes, the small particulates—even if you don't buy the climate change argument, the small particulates are quantifiable and real—if you attach all those negative externalities to that product, suddenly the marketplace could deliver competing technologies; and the fuels of the future could take off and could lead us to these jobs of the future and to clean up the air.

Madam Speaker, this is a fabulous opportunity. It starts with stopping the current cap-and-trade proposal. And then we come together, Republicans and Democrats, to find a better solution. I think we can find it in a revenue-neutral tax swap that makes free enterprise able to lead us into the fuels of the future.

HONORING FIRST SERGEANT JOHN BLAIR

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

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor an American hero and a patriot who gave his life in defense of our Nation while serving with the Georgia National Guard in Afghanistan.

First Sergeant John Blair from Calhoun, Georgia, in my 11th Congressional District, was killed in action on June 20, 2009, just this past Saturday, when a rocket-propelled grenade struck his vehicle during an hour-and-a-half-long firefight with enemy forces after the convoy, which he was leading, was ambushed. Eyewitness accounts from soldiers serving alongside Sergeant Blair credit his actions with saving the lives of many of his fellow soldiers during the ambush. And as a credit to his leadership, his men kept their cool and they did their jobs, even after their commanding officer fell.

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Blair has been described as a true leader, Madam Speaker, both for the American troops who served with him, as well as the 1st Brigade of the Afghan National Army's 203rd Corps who he was in charge of mentoring.

I want to quote a couple of lines that were written about Sergeant Blair in the military publication, "Stars and Stripes": "Blair was their leader. He was tough, unrelenting. He cursed and reprimanded and gained not just their

respect, but their fondness during the months of training for their deployment in Afghanistan. He could be harsh, but was fair and imparted to his men a sense of their potential."

Other soldiers have echoed these comments, describing how Blair pushed them beyond their comfort levels to be their best and was even like a father figure for many of them.

Madam Speaker, Sergeant Blair carried these same characteristics to his service as a Gordon County sheriff's deputy and a Drug Task Force officer for many years in Calhoun, Georgia. In addition to his great service to our Nation and his community, John Blair was also a dedicated family man who was looking forward to spending quality time with his grandson when he returned home. What an amazing example of courage, selflessness and a love of country that Sergeant Blair provided, not only for his young grandson but, Madam Speaker, for all of us.

My prayers go out to his family. My deepest gratitude goes out to First Sergeant Blair for his selfless sacrifice for our Nation. I ask all Members to join me in honoring the distinguished memory of First Sergeant John Blair.

CAP AND TRADE ALL OUR JOBS TO CHINA

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

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, I come tonight a little stunned. Quite frankly, I didn't think the energy bill, the cap-and-trade bill, would actually ever reach a point where it would come before the House and for that matter the Senate. When we are in the unemployment state that we are in right now in America, it seems rather ridiculous to be bringing bills that would put so many hardworking people out of work.

The cap-and-trade bill, or as many of us call it, the cap-and-tax bill, are what a manufacturing district like mine would call a "cap and trade our jobs to China bill." We are just reeling right now. Honestly, to talk about my district for a second, I have eight counties. The mean of unemployment in those counties is 15 percent. Two of the counties, Elkhart and LaGrange, are at 19 percent. Let me tell you about my best county. My best county, Allen County, my home, anchored by Fort Wayne with a little under 300,000 people, has an unemployment rate of approaching 11 percent. We have one of the biggest pick-up plants in the world that produces the Silverado and the Sierra. So I have been fighting hard to make sure that they are not knocked out of business. Our largest property tax payer, the GM plant is the second largest, is a mall that is part General Growth Properties. That is in chapter 11.

One of our large employers is a financial company that has 1,900 jobs, and

they have applied for TARP funds. We are struggling with auto parts. The Fort Wayne Foundry, over 100 years in business, has just closed three plants because they are a major GM and Chrysler supplier and couldn't make it through the shut-downs after 100 years.

Now we are being asked to tax them through their energy. Now let me talk a little bit about how we get our energy in Indiana. We are 85 percent coal. We are 15 percent nuclear. The Heritage study showing impact by congressional district says that my congressional district is the number one damaged district.

The new figures from the National Association of Manufacturers this week show that my district is the number one manufacturing district. It is unusual. If you came to northeast Indiana, and I represent basically Fort Wayne up to South Bend going along the Michigan line and the Ohio line, if you came to my district, you would drive through an area where you would see lots of water, rivers, 100 lakes in Kosciusko County, 100 lakes in Steuben County. And in between that water is beautiful, green farmland. We aren't dry and parched like much of America. We have a very green area that gives us water, which is essential to most manufacturing. You can't build major manufacturing facilities where there isn't adequate water. And people still farm. We don't have the great big corporate farms. We have many small farms. Because one person from each family, sometimes even multi-families on a small farm, will be working at different auto parts plants, plastic parts plants and RV plants scattered throughout my district, thousands and thousands and thousands. They are at a direct threat.

Let me talk a little bit more about our energy. I have been to the alternative energy labs in Colorado, at Sandia Labs in New Mexico, and at the major places where we look at alternative energy. Indiana cannot get wind power. We don't have a way to get to 20 percent or such high figures in the traditional alternative energy. Some of my friends I have known for many years are putting in one of the biggest wind farms. It is the second most windy area in the State of Indiana. It is going to be miles and miles. We will be lucky to get to four percent if we build every windmill you can build in the State of Indiana. In solar, we don't get as much sun as Arizona and Nevada. We are pushing solar energy as hard as we can. One of my good friends has a new solar company working with the Germans that can get better solar power at homes.

But let's get this straight. I have two Steel Dynamics plants, the most efficient steel process in the United States, five Nucor plants and Valbruna Steel. SDI, in one of their plants, takes as much energy as the City of Fort Wayne with nearly 250,000 to 300,000 people in it and everything therein. You cannot power a steel plant with