

Mr. SPACE. I thank the gentlelady for bringing up such an important subject, and that subject is one of national security. There are a lot of different components that go into what makes us strong as a country. Certainly the size of our Army, the money and the resources we allocate to military defense are very important. But perhaps there is no greater ingredient to our national security than developing right here at home within our borders energy independence. We have as a nation waited far too long to aggressively address this issue.

I think many of the painful votes, if you will, many of the divisive issues, many of the arguments that we have on this floor of this great House are happening right now because we have as a nation waited far too long to address the issue of energy independence.

The gentlelady and I are both old enough to remember what it was like in this country back in the early 1970s when OPEC first formed its embargo on oil. It was like a slap in the face to our country. Suddenly, and without warning, we found ourselves almost wholly dependent upon not just other nations, but other nations who meant to do us harm, for something so fundamentally important as our energy needs.

As we look back today to 35 years ago, almost 40 years ago, we think of this: What if, what if we would have done the right thing and aggressively pursued energy independence? What if we would have approached that issue like this Nation has with other issues in the past, the Manhattan Project, the Apollo project, where failure was not an option? What if we had done that?

I will tell you, we would not be having the debate, we would not be having the struggles, we would not be having the problems with our foreign relations. We would not be having nearly the problems we are experiencing today with our economy if we had done the right thing.

Now is the time to act. This project fits perfectly with what should be all of our priorities, and that is an aim toward energy independence.

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Mrs. SCHMIDT. I totally agree with my good colleague and friend from Ohio. The time is now. I remember the seventies. I remember standing in line—because I was the even day, and my friends were the odd day—to get gasoline. We can't do that again. You and I have seen the price of gasoline last summer be twice the price that it is this summer. Thank heavens it's lower, but we can't afford the opportunity for them to put the squeeze on us and on our economy. While this isn't going to remove our dependence on foreign oil, this project is going to remove our dependence on using oil for things that we don't need to use it for.

That's why we need a total comprehensive energy policy. It has to include nuclear, and we have to have not just the technology but the stuff that

it takes to make that technology happen. All I can say is, this project, the American Centrifuge Plant, is producing the uranium enrichment that we need; and if we don't allow this project to go forward, in 5 years you and I are going to be standing here screaming at the well because we're going to be beholden to France or England or another country for this uranium enrichment that we so sorely need right now.

I am so thankful that you are joining me in this fight. I don't know what we can do besides calling the Department of Energy, maybe asking our friends to call the Department of Energy, maybe asking our friends to call the President. I don't know what else you and I can do. But I'm going to fight until we can fight no more, and then I am going to continue on.

Mr. SPACE. In yielding back to the gentlelady, my friend and colleague from Ohio, I would submit that we have taken one very important step in moving in that direction, and that is by ridding ourselves of our partisan bonds and working together in a common cause. You and I both know that oftentimes we do not agree on the issues, but this is one where we can find common ground. Let this be not just the beginning of a rectification of a wrong in southern Ohio with respect to USEC plants, but the beginning of a new relationship, a new day in American politics where Democrats and Republicans work together in solving not Democratic problems, not Republican problems, but American problems.

Mrs. SCHMIDT. I thank the gentleman. I just want to say, Mr. Speaker, that I believe we can work across the aisle. I have seen us work across the aisle on other issues. This one is a very, very important issue. I am not going to belabor this point too much longer, but only to say that if we don't act now and ask the Department of Energy to reverse its course, this isn't just something that's going to put a further blight on my district, my good colleague Mr. SPACE's district and the rest of Appalachia and Ohio, but this is going to really put a cloud across our economic security, our national security and our Nation. The Department of Energy can go back. They can look at the technical data, which they didn't do when they issued their decision. They can go back and look at what they're asking USEC to cough up and recognize what USEC has already put on the table. They can go back and understand that the President made this promise to our Governor on September 2. They can go back, and they can do the right thing because it's not just the right thing for my community, Mr. SPACE's community or Ohio. It's not just the right thing because our President made a pledge to our Governor. It's the right thing for our Nation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

OMISSION FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2009, AT PAGE H8269

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H. RES. 648

Mr. KAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my cosponsorship of H. Res. 648.

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

There was no objection.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. TITUS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GRAYSON, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, for 5 minutes, today and July 30.

Mr. FORBES, for 5 minutes, July 30.

Mr. OLSON, for 5 minutes, today and July 30.

(The following Member (at his request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BILBRAY, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION REFERRED

A joint resolution of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S.J. Res. 19. Joint resolution granting the consent and approval of Congress to amendments made by the State of Maryland, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the District of Columbia to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Regulation Compact; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.