

Over the past few weeks, I've been meeting with small business owners, like Joe Lorentz of Myles Lorentz Trucking Company in Mankato, Minnesota. Community leaders, like Owatonna Mayor Tom Kuntz, Waseca Mayor Roy Srp, and New Ulm Mayor Joel Albrecht, and all of them have delivered a very simple message: We must end too big to fail by ensuring large financial firms are allowed to fail without burdening the taxpayer. We must protect Main Street businesses and consumers from the negative effects of greed run amuck. And we must not penalize Main Street institutions that work, community banks, credit unions and auto dealerships.

So on behalf of Main Street Minnesota, I urge my colleagues to send us a tough bill that restores transparency and accountability to America.

FISCAL YEAR 2010 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL AND FISCAL YEAR 2011 BUDGET

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

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better from their elected leaders. Vital funds to protect our troops are being held hostage, and serious proposals to deal with our soaring national debt aren't even being discussed in this body.

The brave men and women fighting our enemies overseas have been waiting for Congress to approve an emergency funding bill critical to their operations since February. Over 4 months later, still nothing. Only broken promises and missed opportunities for bipartisanship. Not only has the majority party repeatedly failed to deliver funds for our troops in harm's way, they've bypassed regular order to tack on billions more in unnecessary deficit spending. No committee deliberations, no markups, no offer of amendments, and no input from the minority. It's a national disgrace.

I urge the Congress to act to support our troops.

SMALL BUSINESS LENDING FUND ACT

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

Mr. BACA. This week, the Chamber will consider H.R. 5297, the Small Business Lending Fund Act. This bill will create a small business loan fund and provide capital to American small businesses. This bill also includes a boost to State lending programs, providing \$2 billion in funding to new and existing programs across the country.

Small businesses are the backbone of the American economy and create two out of three jobs in this country. Our economy has begun to show signs of growth and recovery, and our largest

financial institutions are stabilized, but it's time to assist local and community banks that provide the bulk of the capital to small businesses.

Job creation needs to be the number one priority forward, and legislation like this will help accomplish our goals and restore the public faith in our economy.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 5297 when it comes before us.

WE MUST HAVE A BUDGET RESOLUTION

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

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, it's now official. We're now a full 2 months behind the congressional deadline with no budget resolution in sight. In the past, this would be just another failure by the majority to meet a technical responsibility. But this year is different.

This administration's enormous government spending increases have driven our annual budget shortfall to \$1.4 trillion. That's the deficit. We're spending \$1.4 trillion more than we're bringing in. The accumulation of all our past budget deficits, the national debt, last month rocketed past \$13 trillion, and media reports last week predicted that it would balloon over \$15 trillion by 2015.

And how do we finance this debt? When American families and businesses find themselves short of cash, they cut their spending. When the Federal Government finds itself with a record deficit, we borrow money. From whom? The Chinese, the Japanese, from the Saudis, and we pay interest on that debt, hundreds of billions of dollars each year.

We can do better. We must do better. We must have a budget resolution. We must cut spending.

MONEY IN THE STIMULUS BILL WENT TO THE RIGHT PEOPLE

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

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I ran for Congress 4 years ago because I had watched the Republicans use the power that they had accrued here to turn our government over to their friends in the oil industry and the insurance industry, the drug industry and the banking industry, and so I wonder what kind of stimulus bill they would have written last year were they still in charge.

It would have been very different than the one that's on the ground today in Connecticut, one that has put funds in a small solar company in Bethel, Connecticut, Apollo Solar, creating jobs in renewable energy; a stimulus bill that just opened up a new early Head Start program in Danbury, Connecticut, employing 20 people im-

mediately and creating a lot of job opportunities for the parents who now have child care. It would have been very different than the bill that gave millions and millions in tax credits to middle- and lower-income individuals in Connecticut that have allowed them to go out and start to create a retail resurgence.

The stimulus bill would have been done very differently under the Republicans. Democrats in charge, the money went to the right people.

KYRGYZSTAN

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, this week, violence flared up in Kyrgyzstan, prompting tens of thousands of Uzbeks to flee their homes and places of birth to seek refuge in neighboring countries. Innocent people, including women, children and the elderly, are suffering with over 100 killed.

Just 2 months ago, the people deposed the authoritarian President Bakiyev, who promptly fled to Belarus and the protection of the Lukashenko government. Approval of a new constitution and general elections were proceeding smoothly until the recent violence, which was prompted by forces supportive of the deposed president and other lawless elements.

Even with the present chaos, the interim Kurdish government is insisting that the date of elections will remain unchanged. For many years, I've worked with the nations along the old Silk Road in central Asia, and it pains me to see the Kyrgyz fleeing violence in their homeland.

The U.S. wants to keep our Air Force base in Kyrgyzstan, but we have shown little interest in helping the people of this nation build a republic that respects human rights free of corruption. Even China and Russia are lending their support with humanitarian aid flights. We need the State Department and President Obama to offer the support of America to a nation struggling to create democracy and freedom to strengthen their independence and sovereignty.

Without action on the part of the U.S., violence will continue, and then more than just a military base will be lost.

DON'T LET AN OIL SPILL RUIN YOUR VACATION

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

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as co-chair of the Congressional Tourism Caucus to remind this Nation that we should not let an oil spill ruin our vacation. Disasters drive people away from wherever there is a disastrous incident. In the Gulf States, local tourism is suffering from it. It's suffering

from the greatest oil spill in American history.

Mr. President, when you address the Nation tonight, I hope you will urge them to visit the Gulf States to shore up the local economy and have BP pay for that tourism promotion. I urge you to have the coastal State Governors support a regional tourism plan for the Gulf States for this summer, for now, immediately.

A disaster of this proportion is a disaster of national significance. It's time that we as a Nation respond by spending our money and our time in those communities most affected. God bless America. Let's promote tourism.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair requests that Members observe decorum by addressing comments through the Chair.

THE BUDGET

(Mrs. LUMMIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, when you and I and the American people want to start a business and we want to borrow money to do it, we go to a bank, and we have to present a business plan with income projections and where we are going to get the money to pay the debt we're requesting back.

When my State of Wyoming is doing a budget, it projects its revenue, and every month we see how much money we have collected pursuant to those projections. And if we don't have enough money, we cut our budget.

In Washington, we don't even have a budget. For the first time since 1974, this House does not have a budget, isn't going to pass one. That's irresponsible. That's not leadership.

Mr. SPRATT was right: If you can't budget, you can't govern. And this is a perfect example, Mr. Speaker.

WE HAVE TO HOLD BP ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, a week ago I was in Chalmette, Louisiana, for a field hearing on the BP Deepwater Horizon oil disaster. We heard compelling testimony from people whose lives have been devastated, including two of the widows who lost their husbands on that explosion on the rig. We also flew out over the site of that disaster, and as they opened up the rear hatch on the plane, you could see the burn-off from the relief wells being drilled, and you could smell the overpowering stench of oil coming off the water.

Well, our friends on the other side like to take a position that government should be hands off when it comes to business development, and BP is teaching us that we can't afford to let businesses misrepresent to this country what they're planning to do the way BP did when they knew that there was a 99 percent chance of a blowout during the 40-year period of this lease and still got a waiver from any deep, intensive environmental impact analysis before that well was explored.

We have to hold this company accountable for the American people, the American taxpayers.

They created this problem. This is what happens when we stay hands off and don't keep people accountable for their conduct.

SPENDING IS OUT OF CONTROL

(Mrs. SCHMIDT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, spending is out of control. In April, the U.S. Government ran a record monthly deficit of \$82.7 billion. That's almost \$83 billion in just one month.

Unfortunately, the Democratic majority has done nothing to reduce spending. Overall, spending has only gone up since they've been in power. Perhaps the most outrageous thing is that the majority is not even trying to pass a budget, which would give us a framework to rein in runaway spending.

Budgeting is the most basic duty of government. Yet here we are 2 months beyond the deadline to produce a Federal budget, and it doesn't appear this House will produce one. This will be the first time since 1974 we haven't produced a budget. Failing to consider a budget doesn't make the problems go away. It simply provides more proof that the current leadership in Congress has no plans for dealing with the debt and deficits that continue to rise.

We cannot keep laying the current financial burdens on our children and our grandchildren. They can't afford it, and we can't afford it. Let's pass a budget. Reduce spending, rein in, and get ourselves back in control.

□ 1230

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEVASTATING FLOODS OF 2008

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

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago, Iowa experienced the worst natural disaster in our State's history as a result of the great flood of 2008. We have made amazing progress, but 2 years later there is still damage in small and large communities like Oakville, Columbus Junction, Palo, Cedar Rapids, and Iowa City. Many

homeowners are struggling to recover still, and many small businesses have been unable to access relief programs because of red tape, all this on top of an economic downturn. Government-wide, we need to cut down on red tape and approve efficiency. I think we can all agree with that. With disaster relief, this is even more important because effective assistance is absolutely critical to communities' ability to recover.

Communities are also trying to mitigate future flooding through a variety of structural and nonstructural means. I will continue to work with city leaders, homeowners, and businesses to ensure that we reduce inefficiency and the chances of another devastating flood like the one we experienced in Iowa 2 years ago.

PARTIAL DRILLING IN LOUISIANA

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

Mr. CAO. Mr. Speaker, the oil disaster in the Gulf of Mexico has caused great economic impact to my district. Hundreds of businesses have closed and thousands of people are out of work. The moratorium imposed by the administration potentially can also cost Louisiana thousands of jobs, yet there is a very simple solution to allow the administration the time that it needs to review the safety and to implement procedures for the deep oil industry and at the same time preserve the jobs in Louisiana: Allow the oil companies to do partial drilling; allow them to drill, but do not allow them to tap into the reservoir.

Modern technology allows companies to know exactly where the oil is. What this partial drilling does is preserve the jobs in Louisiana during a time when we need the amount of revenue that the State needs to sustain its economy to help the people to bring about the livelihood.

RECORD-BREAKING DEFICITS MEAN CONGRESS SHOULD PASS A BUDGET

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, someone once said, If you can't budget, you can't govern. Those words came from my distinguished colleague from South Carolina, the current chairman of the Budget Committee. He uttered them in 2006 as ranking member of the committee. The question is, What does that mean for this Congress?

Today, we face a budget deficit five times larger than the one that Congress faced in 2006 of \$1.4 trillion, and here we are 2 months past the budget deadline and there is no budget. Unprecedented spending, unprecedented debt, and no budget.

It is only 8 months into the current fiscal year and the Federal Government has racked up close to \$1 trillion