

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