And we think, oh, it was a good week. We had less than 400,000 new sign-ups to unemployment. And people run off the other end and they expire and they’re no longer eligible, and so that number went from around 15 million unemployed down to around 14 million unemployed or a little more.

That’s not the number that we should be most concerned about. It is a number. We should add the 14 million that meet the definition for unemployment to the number of Americans that are of working age not in the workforce. Yes, they may be in school. A lot of us worked our way through school. And I started before that age of 16.

And then you go from 20 up on 25 or so, there’s another chunk. Work your way on up. Americans of working age not in the workforce. A letter I then came to this Congress not that long ago were 69 million. Then it became 80 million. And about 2% months ago the number, for the first time in the history of this country, the number of Americans of working age not in the workforce and was exceeded 100 million Americans—100 million. Think what you could do with the labor of 100 million Americans.

And while that’s going on, now we have, what is our number, 11, 12 or more million illegals in America? I actually think it’s 20 million or more, but they keep tamping that number down. They keep coming across the border, and the number got lower instead of greater by some analysis.

But we know this: about seven out of every 12 illegals here in this country work. That’s marginally a little greater than the number of Americans that are working. And that seven out of 12 that are there are part of around 8 million, 7 million to 8 million documented. I’ll say study-analyzed consensus numbers, 7 to 8 million illegals in America that were working. Now, if they all woke up tomorrow in their home country, that conceivably creates 8 million new jobs.

We know they weren’t coming into this country illegally, you wouldn’t need so many people to guard the border either, and they could do something productive rather than something that’s not contributing economically to this country in the fashion that produces goods and services.

So there’s 8 million jobs there. But there are many other jobs out there for the people that will go out there and start a business, go ask for a job, compete in this marketplace. And every one of the 100 million Americans who are not working that puts in 1 hour’s work even a week contributes to the gross domestic product of the United States of America.

People who are not working, not producing, are not contributing, unless of course they’ve got investments that are returning, and then I’ll give them some credit for some investment.

But 100 million. Think if you were on a boat or a ship, and let’s say you had 300 people on that boat or ship, and you had to have some trimming the sails, some pulling the oars, some swabbing the decks, the galley, some cooking, cleaning, housekeeping and somebody up there taking care of the captain.

And what if you had 100 out of those 300 people that said, I’m going to sit here in steerage. Bring me my food, clean up my mess. That’s the scope of what America is faced with today.

I’d put the people on the oars. I’d put them up there trimming the sails and swabbing the decks, and we will sail a lot smoother, we’ll be a lot stronger country, and we’ll feel better about ourselves. This dignity of work is there for every man and woman that takes that job on.

And I challenge us all: let’s step up, take the freedom we have left. Let’s grasp for more of that liberty. Let’s grasp more of that freedom, and let’s put some of these 100 million people to work so they can contribute to their gross domestic product.

The rest of the world will respect us more. We’ll be stronger economically. We’ll have more prudent people that are contributing to the ideas in this Congress, and we will get to a balanced budget, and we will start to pay down this national debt, and we will enforce and respect the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I would go on for another half hour articulating some of the other pillars of American exceptionalism, but I recognize there is a limit to your patience, but my time.

I appreciate your attention, and I would yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. DAVIS (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for November 29 and November 30 on account of official travel.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn. The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o’clock and 40 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, December 1, 2011, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

4039. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to United Arab Emirates pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

4040. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; North Dakota; Revisions to the Air Pollution Control Program (FRL-9485-3) received November 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

4041. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Massachusetts; Revisions to the Air Pollution Control Rules (EPA-R08-OAR-2009-0556; FRL-9486-2) received November 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

4042. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Final Revisions to Nitrogen Oxides Budget Trading Program (EPA-R03-OAR-2011-0773; FRL-9487-6) received November 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4043. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; North Dakota; Revisions to the Air Pollution Control Rules (EPA-R08-OAR-2009-0556; FRL-9486-2) received November 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4044. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Texas; Regulations for Control of Air Pollution by Permits for New Construction or Modification (EPA-R06-OAR-2011-0629; FRL-9486-2) received November 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4045. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District and Imperial County Air Pollution Control District (EPA-R09-OAR-2011-0356; FRL-9479-3) received November 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4046. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency’s final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Lower Colorado River Valley Air Quality Management District (EPA-R08-OAR-2011-0357; FRL-9479-3) received November 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.
PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

H.R. 3522. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an income tax credit for the costs of certain infertility treatments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ROGERS of Michigan (for himself, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. UPTON, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. LAULOVEN, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. BOREN, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. NUNES, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. WESTMORLAND, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. HECK, Mr. DICKS, Mr. MCCaul, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. CALVERLY, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. TERRY, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Tennessee, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. BASS, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. MCCaul, Mr. NEWTSON, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. COOK, Mr. HULTGREN for himself, Mr. BOREN, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. DOLD, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. LANCE, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. MANZUOLO, and Mr. SCHOCK):

H.R. 3527. A bill to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to provide that any state that allows a subordinated lien on a purchase money mortgage or other lien to be in default shall be subject to variable rate mortgage practices regulations promulgated under the Home Ownership and Equity Protection Act of 2008, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

H.R. 3528. A bill to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to provide that any state that allows a subordinated lien on a purchase money mortgage or other lien to be in default shall be subject to variable rate mortgage practices regulations promulgated under the Home Ownership and Equity Protection Act of 2008, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT (for himself and Mr. PERLMUTTER):

H.R. 3530. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to issue up to 16 U.S. Stat. 2711), to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.


4061. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the annual report under the Federal Managers’ Financial Integrity Act for FY 2011 to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4062. A letter from the Director, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the 2011 Annual Report for the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, pursuant to 30 U.S.C. 1211(f), 1207(g), and 1205, to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4063. A letter from the Deputy Director, Department of Justice, transmitting notification that the Department has decided not to seek further review of the decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in the case United States v. Luis Mario Barajas-Alvarado, No. 10-00134 (9th Cir.), to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4065. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the 2010 Annual Report for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, pursuant to 30 U.S.C. 1216(b), (233), and (238) of Title 15, to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4066. A letter from the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, transmitting the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction (SIGIR) October 2011 Quarterly Report, jointly to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Armed Services.


4069. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 11-49, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4070. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 11-48, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4071. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on Oversight Information Excluding to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4072. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting consistent with the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-243), the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2003 (Pub. L. 108-119), and in order to keep the Congress fully informed, a report prepared by the Department of State for the June 28, 2005 hearing before the Committee, including matters relating to post-liberation Iraq under Section 7 of the Iraq Liberation Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-338); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.


