the remainder of her duty on another ship.

As if the horrifying assault and subsequent mistreatment of Petty Officer De Roche is not heartbreaking enough, her predators didn’t get the punishment they deserved. In fact, something very different instead of instead of martailing the predators, her command decided to handle the rapes with so-called nonjudicial punishments. The punishment required the rapists to admit their crimes—so they admitted them. They got 6 months docked pay and a reduced rank for only one of the rapists. Both of the rapists were permitted to remain on active duty. When command informed Petty Officer De Roche of the outcome, they also advised her to “accept the situation” and refrain from speaking out against the lack of punishment or accountability.

Petty Officer De Roche’s story, like many others, highlights a system that is unimaginable to so many of us and a system that is so clearly broken. In the military, a base commander has complete authority and discretion over how a degrading and violent assault under his command is handled. The commander can issue virtually any punishment for any reason. If they don’t want a black mark on their record or their friends were accused or if they simply don’t know the correct way of dealing with a case, they can issue just a simple slap on the wrist.

My bill, H.R. 3435, the Sexual Assault Prevention Act, the STOP Act, takes this issue just a simple slap on the wrist. The commander can issue virtually any punishment for any reason. If they don’t want a black mark on their record or their friends were accused or if they simply don’t know the correct way of dealing with a case, they can issue just a simple slap on the wrist.

Pledge of Allegiance

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. QUIGLEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REVEREND ROGER SCHOOLCRAFT

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK) is recognized for 1 minute.

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, today it is my privilege to introduce Reverend Roger Schoolcraft of Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Reverend Schoolcraft retired from the ministry in 2008 after nearly 40 years in the ministry, serving congregations in Iowa, Nebraska and, most recently, in northwest Arkansas, where he led St. John’s Lutheran Church in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Reverend Schoolcraft was called to the ministry in 1953 after accepting an invitation from a friend to attend a Sunday school class at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Rochester, Michigan. Mr. Speaker, Reverend Schoolcraft’s service extends well beyond the walls of the church. He served as campus pastor of the Lutheran Student Center at the University of Arkansas. He was a circuit counselor for 11 years and was assistant dean and dean for two national campus missionary institutes. Locally, he was president of Cooperative Emergency Outreach, secretary-treasurer of the Fayetteville Ministerial Alliance, and treasurer for the Council of Religious Organizations.

Reverend Schoolcraft is married to Deborah Steen Schoolcraft; and they have two children, Andrea and Aaron. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I want to thank Reverend Schoolcraft for his long-standing devotion to the ministry, the churches he has served, and his fellow man.

Support the Payroll Tax Extension

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

Mr. POLIS. A huge tax increase is looming unless this House takes action immediately. Unless this House takes action in the next few weeks, a typical American household earning $50,000, $60,000 a year will see a tax increase of $1,000 a year on payroll taxes—yes, Madam Speaker, a $1,000 tax increase for middle class families, many of whom have not seen any raises or increases for several years due to the recession.

People who are struggling to support their families will see a $1,000 tax increase if this body does not act in the next several weeks. This is a tax increase that most families haven’t budgeted for and haven’t prepared for. They
SIXTEEN DAYS AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, Sehar, a Pakistani woman in an arranged marriage, was constantly raped and abused by her husband. He accused her of becoming a doctor only to attract men. He blamed her for the miscarriage that she had, and he constantly beat her. He was angry when she gave birth to two girls rather than to two boys, and he was an abuser of the girls and his wife.

Sehar and her daughters were able to escape to the United States to find safety. She will not go back to Pakistan because her former husband’s family says they will kill her.

Violence against women, unfortunately, is too common of a plight for women throughout the world. My grandmother used to tell me that you never hurt somebody you claim you love. As the leader of the free world, it is critical that the United States promote this simple truth throughout this country and other countries:

Every person has the right to a life free of violence.

I want to thank the gentile lady from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) for bringing this to the attention of the Members of Congress as we reflect on this fact during these 16 days against gender violence.

And that’s just the way it is.

THE DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT, AN AFFRONT TO AMERICA’S VALUES

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, in 1996 Congress passed the so-called Defense of Marriage Act, or DOMA. It was then, as it still is today, an affront to our country’s values—the values we hold true as established in the Declaration of Independence, those of life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, and of equality and fairness for all.

On October 7 of this year, I held a field forum in Chicago, along with my colleague JAN SCHAKOWSKY, to hear from legal experts and gay and lesbian couples about the real-world harm caused by DOMA. The findings were startling. I ask that the clerk enter all of their testimony into the RECORD to formally document this collection of unfairness and inequity, burdens that are imposed on normal Americans who are just trying to live normal lives.

It is incomprehensible that today we are still dealing with such injustice. Congress created this injustice, and Congress should correct it. Let the RECORD reflect these sentiments.

LET’S REIN IN THE REGULATORS

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Madam Speaker, $1.75 trillion annually—America’s job creators are buried under the regulatory burden of about $1.75 trillion annually.

The cost of the regulatory burden from new regulations just this year is $67.4 billion, which is larger than the entire State budget of Illinois, my home State. Studies and polls have shown us time and again that the regulations are a hidden form of taxation; and just as our Tax Code is in need of reform, so is our regulatory system.

That’s why I’m proud to support the REINS Act. This common sense bill will require that Congress approve every new major regulation proposed by the executive branch in order to ensure that Congress, not unelected bureaucrats, retain control and accountability for the impact of government on the American people.

Unless Congress acts decisively, this unchecked regulatory state will only grow bigger and make things more complicated. Let’s pass the REINS Act, and let’s give our job creators the certainty they need to grow, expand, and put Americans back to work.

IMPLICATIONS OF GOVERNMENT’S ADDING ADDITIONAL RED TAPE AND ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS

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

Mr. DOLD. Madam Speaker, as a small business owner, I understand firsthand the implications of the government adding additional red tape and additional regulations. One clear example of this is the Dodd-Frank bill.

The Dodd-Frank bill was supposed to impose clear rules and regulations on the financial industry so that another economic disaster could be averted. However, this single piece of legislation has imposed $77 billion in new red tape into the marketplace. The bill imposes literally hundreds of new rules and regulations, most of which haven’t even been written yet. As a result, businesses are not growing and they’re not creating jobs, and this is in large part because they don’t understand what tomorrow will bring.

I did have an opportunity to talk to a smaller bank back in my district that said, We’re not growing, with the exception of adding people into our compliance department to cross the T’s and dot the I’s, but not a single person was hired in order to try to get additional liquidity into the marketplace and help small businesses.

Rather than pile on rule after rule, we should implement smart regulations that truly protect consumers. The last thing we want is another financial disaster, so we should examine the implications of the rules and regulations and ensure that the right regulations are in place and get America back to work.

THE NEED TO PASS PAYROLL TAX CUT

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

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, the majority has held 891 votes in this Chamber and we still see no plan for job creation.

To make matters worse, my colleagues across the aisle have now focused their efforts on opposing a tax break for the middle class. They are opposing the extension of the Federal tax holiday enacted earlier this year that gave virtually all working Americans a much needed tax cut, reducing taxes for over 160 million American workers.

Economic uncertainty both here in the U.S. and abroad makes this a dangerous time to eliminate an important tax cut that is saving American families an average of $1,000 a year. Failing