years of being a Multi Award Winning Sales Executive, in two industries ... in working over 40 years without interruption I have been collecting unemployment benefits for two years. I'm told to tell you how many resumes and contacts I've made, competing with men and women in their 20's, 30's, 40's.

This has taken a huge toll on my life as you can imagine ... my condo is for sale and I'm being audited by the IRS ... my health has deteriorated and I didn't have health insurance for the past two years.

For too many Americans, unemployment benefits are the difference between having a roof over their head, or sleeping on the street; having food to feed their kids, or skipping dinner; seeing a doctor, or living with chronic illness.

As a great nation, we have an obligation to provide a lifeline to these fellow citizens. It is incumbent on us a decent society.

I have cosponsored legislation to extend unemployment insurance through the end of 2012. I have also cosponsored legislation to help the so-called "99-ers," by extending the length of federal benefits by an additional 14 weeks, to 113 weeks total.

But Congress must do more. My constituents need more than a safety net. They need jobs.

According to a recent report by the Washington Post, this Republican House is on track to be the least productive first session in 20 years. In a full year, Republicans have yet to pass a single bill to create a single job.

The Republicans' refusal to take up measures to help restart our economy—like President Obama's American Jobs Act—is all the more reason that we must extend these essential unemployment benefits. I urge my colleagues to stand up for the unemployed Americans who are facing catastrophe through no fault of their own and vote now to extend this critical lifeline.

	1920

AMERICANS DESERVE BETTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MACK) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. MACK. Mr. Speaker, I think there are a lot of people back home who are watching this debate unfold, and more importantly, are watching the Congress and the administration. And, you know, I think a lot of people at home thinking about these issues. They're saying we the people are outraged at this administration and this Congress, and they should be.

The White House and their liberal allies in Congress and the media go on a nonstop bashing of a group of Americans who are productive and hardworking. Class warfare is as despicable as any other type of stereotyping, and putting citizen against citizen for political gain is outrageous and it's wrong.

Listen to this. The people are told that a tax cut is a tax increase or a tax increase isn't really a tax increase because there are savings that can be made elsewhere. That doesn't even make sense. Only in Washington can someone say we have to pay for a tax cut. Think about that. What we're saying is, what Washington is saying is, we have to pay for a tax cut. Well, whose money is it? Government doesn't make money. It's the people's money. Yet somehow up here in Washington we keep saying we have to pay for a tax increase. It's that hardworking family that has earned that money. It is not Washington's money.

And people, frankly, I think are disgusted with the notion that somehow the paradigm in Washington is we have to pay for a tax cut. It's their money. Something is very wrong here, and this body is part of the problem.

Let's put out the facts: facts, not spin. Government money doesn't exist. That's a fact. It's the people's money.

Here's another fact. If there are projects that can be cut, they should be cut. They shouldn't be traded like futures in the stock market. If we believe that we ought to extend the payroll tax cut extension, let's extend it. Let's stop playing games about moving money around from one program to another or keeping a bucket of projects on hold, with promises that we can save to cut at a time to bargain for something else.

It's time that we get serious, and the American people are saying they've had enough. They've had enough of what they're seeing here in Washington.

Let me say this one more time. Pitting American against American is unfair, American and outrageous and deserves the condemnation of each and every one of us in this Congress. This is not the America we know and love. We the people deserve better.

I yield back the balance of my time.

HONORING NAVAJO CODE TALKERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. REED). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, thank you for joining me this evening to talk about a very special group of veterans, the Navajo Code Talkers. Tonight, my colleagues and I are going to share their stories and highlight the amazing accomplishments of this group of warriors. Their contribution to the Allied effort during World War II is widely credited with winning the Battle of Iwo Jima and making major gains in the Pacific.

During the early months of World War II, Japanese intelligence experts broke every code the U.S. forces devised. The Japanese were able to decode and intercept communications with its allies. To combat this, increasingly complex codes were initiated that sometimes took hours at a time simply to decipher one message. Guadalcanal