

## DISCLOSE ACT

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, it's clear that my Republican colleagues cherish the many tax loopholes that funnel billions to oil companies, outsourcers, and operators bent on repealing Wall Street reform. That's why they've killed the DISCLOSE Act, which would close loopholes used by special interests to secretly spend unlimited sums of corporate cash in our elections.

As terrible as Citizens United was, it did not include a right to buy elections anonymously. No, it is the Republican Congress that protects the identities of those writing these multimillion-dollar checks. They want a battle of bank accounts, Madam Speaker, because they know that they can't win a battle of ideas. They can't run on deregulating Wall Street when America's financial security is still at risk. They can't run on cutting taxes for billionaires when they block every effort to create middle class jobs. And they can't run on cut, cap, and balance when the only thing that they cut is our seniors' health care.

If my Republican colleagues believe they are worthy of competing in the great battle of ideas that is our democracy, they should put their mouths where their money is and pass the DISCLOSE Act.

## STOP RAISING TAXES ON SMALL BUSINESSES

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

Mr. SCALISE. This past Friday the 13th, President Obama was out on the campaign trail, as he seems to be all the time, and he actually had the nerve to say:

If you've got a business, you didn't build it. Somebody else made it happen.

That statement shows not only the contempt, but the arrogance, that this President has towards our small business owners and the people that are working hard out there in a tough economy and, in many cases, working hard in spite of the many rules and regulations coming out of this Obama administration that's making it even harder for them to create jobs and is one of the biggest reasons that we've seen so many jobs outsourced by this President, who could be called the Outsourcer in Chief for all of the millions of jobs that have left this country to go to other countries in the last 3½ years.

There was a report that just came out yesterday by the National Federation of Independent Businesses that showed the President's newest tax proposal to raise taxes on small business owners will cost 700,000 jobs. That's

Friday the 13th for every small business owner out there trying to get the economy back on and trying to keep their businesses afloat. That's over 10,000 jobs lost just in Louisiana. This needs to stop. We need to stop raising taxes on business owners.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

□ 1230

## THE BUYING OF AMERICA

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

Ms. HANABUSA. Madam Speaker, when the Supreme Court decided Citizens United, it opened the floodgates to special interests. This country is faced, for the first time, with a small number influencing our elections, something that we've never experienced before. Let us all remember that it is our elections and our right to vote which makes us the great nation that we are. It is what people have gone to war for and died for.

But now we're seeing the buying of America. We have been told that about 600 super PACs have raised over \$240 million, and they've already spent over \$113 million on our elections. We do know that the Republican donors are famous brothers, and they, with their friends, have spent about \$400 million in the upcoming election. And we also know that there's a Republican donor casino owner who has already spent \$71 million to affect our elections.

We can't prohibit the spending, but we can require transparency so that the public knows who is spending this money. This is the DISCLOSE Act. But, Madam Speaker, Republicans have stopped the vote on the DISCLOSE Act. The Democrats have signed the discharge petition to bring it up to vote. We must bring it up to vote, Madam Speaker. We must show the people that America is not for sale.

## THE FARM BILL

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

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, despite our economic challenges, agriculture is one of the bright spots in our economy. Last week, the House Agriculture Committee, in an overwhelming bipartisan fashion, sent a simple message: We need a farm bill now.

We have challenges in American agriculture to be sure, such as dairy price

fluctuations, the current drought affecting crops nationwide, and creating a level playing field for farmers to compete in foreign markets. This bill isn't perfect, but there's a great deal of consensus in it. Our farmers need certainty, and only a farm bill can give them that.

There are 11 days left for the House to vote on a farm bill before the August recess. The American people are tired of Congress bickering just to keep the lights on. This legislation has bipartisan support in the committee and in the United States Senate.

Madam Speaker, if the leadership of this House is serious about providing certainty and promoting economic growth, they will bring this legislation to the floor for a vote now.

The farm bill has traditionally been a bipartisan effort. Let's keep it that way.

## THE DISCLOSE ACT

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, twice this week, Senate Republicans blocked a vote on the DISCLOSE Act, which would shine a much-needed light on the dark corners of secret, anonymous political spending. The bill stands on a simple idea: Voters have a right to know who is trying to influence their votes.

This year alone, more than 600 super PACs have spent \$133 million on outside ads—most of which have been negative and, many, dishonest. It's much easier to lie about a candidate when you're anonymous—and when you can't be held accountable.

The American people see the damage being done. More than three-quarters of voters believe financial campaign reform is a key national issue, and the vast majority of Americans oppose the Citizens United decision, which opened the floodgates for outside spending and dishonesty in elections. But even in the Citizens United decision, the Supreme Court anticipated that Congress would require disclosure as a critical means of providing transparency in campaigns.

Madam Speaker, the voters have a right to judge the credibility of campaign ads, and they can't do that without disclosure of those who are paying for them.

## AMERICA FOR SALE

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

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I regret to say that America is for sale and the White House will go to the highest bidder. Seventeen people have given \$1 million to the biggest conservative PACs in this country, and those contributions represent more than one-half what those PACs have received.

Who are these 17 people? Well, the median age is 66, the median wealth is