

he seems to consider to be slackers. No, I'm talking about 47 as in the number of days left before the election, in the context of the fact that we have 1 more day that we will be in session. The most basic and fundamental responsibilities our constituents sent us to Washington to address are being left totally unresolved. Never have I seen a House of Representatives so unproductive and so dysfunctional, and I served during the so-called "Gingrich Revolution."

The fact is that today the House Republican leadership and too many of its rank-and-file Members seem to think that economic stimulus, which is vitally needed in this economy, is a dirty word, and that the Federal Government is some kind of alien enterprise. Their approach is to do nothing, and that's what we've done for the last 2 years—nothing.

RECOGNIZING LYNNE YOSHIKO NAKASONE

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

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lynne Yoshiko Nakasone of Honolulu, Hawaii.

The National Endowment for the Arts has named Sensei Nakasone a 2012 National Heritage Fellow for her contributions to the folk and traditional arts. This prestigious lifetime achievement award honors Sensei Nakasone's lifetime commitment to Okinawan classical dance—which is also referred to as Ryukyū dance—and embodies her accomplishments by identifying her as one of our country's living treasures.

It was at the young age of 6 that Sensei Nakasone began to master this technique of dance. Sensei Nakasone is originally from Naha, Okinawa, but has resided in Hawaii since her marriage to her loving husband, Clarence, in 1955. In 1956, Sensei Nakasone founded the Hoge Ryu Hana Nizi no Kai Nakasone Dance Academy in Honolulu, and for over five decades has been teaching, performing, and choreographing creative dances. Her performing skills are legendary, but it is her aloha spirit that endures the test of time and her passion, knowledge, and kindness that have touched countless individuals over the years.

There is no doubt in my mind that Sensei Nakasone is deserving of this award, for she has dedicated her life towards preserving the Okinawan culture while positively impacting others and contributing to the diversity and uniqueness of our culture in the United States of America.

FISCAL CLIFF

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, last week the San Diego Chamber of Commerce sent its largest ever delega-

tion of community and business leaders to Washington. They came because they know Washington can help them spur the economy, innovate, and employ local workers if we can all get on the same page.

What grand request did they have for this Congress to help make progress happen? Well, just that we do our job: that we roll up our sleeves, work together across party lines, and find a sensible, not an arbitrary, balance of cuts and spending.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, this country is facing some hard choices, and, yes, there is division in this Chamber, but we do not need to add to the serious challenges facing American businesses and families by sitting on the sidelines watching a completely manmade disaster explode upon our economy.

Let's work together to come to decisions now. The American economy should not be facing a fiscal cliff; it should be receiving a fiscal roadmap. By actually doing our jobs, we can make the jobs of our hardworking constituents a little easier.

Our job is not done, Mr. Speaker. Cancel the congressional recess.

CELEBRATING NEW MEXICO'S CENTENNIAL

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

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in celebrating New Mexico's centennial. We are proud to introduce a resolution honoring the 100 years since New Mexico became a State on January 6, 1912.

Home to some of the earliest human settlements in North America, New Mexicans have spent this year celebrating our State's remarkable history, our tremendous cultural diversity, and our meaningful contributions to the Nation and the world. From the fertile Rio Grande Valley, to the vast Chihuahuan Desert, to the peaks of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, New Mexico's natural beauty is unsurpassed. From Pope to Jeff Bezos, from Nancy Lopez to Brian Urlacher, from Georgia O'Keefe to Rudolfo Anaya, from Dennis Chavez to Dolores Huerta, and from countless other New Mexicans, our impact on America's past, present, and future cannot be overstated.

As we continue to celebrate our centennial year, I join with all New Mexicans in honoring our unique heritage and our bright future.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues from across the aisle like to talk a lot about personal responsibility, but their decision to adjourn Congress for nearly 2 months shows how little they actually understand the concept.

Congress is facing serious deadlines right now, and we should be dealing with the problems the American people sent us here to solve. Instead, Republican leadership has decided that we should go home without doing any of it and taking with us one of the worst report cards in American history.

For more than a year now, Republicans have ignored a plan to create 2.6 million new jobs and protect another 1.6 million existing jobs. They won't even bring it to the floor for a vote. Right now we could bring to the floor and send to the President's desk a bill that would protect tax cuts for 98 percent of the American people and 97 percent of small businesses, but instead we're going home.

Republicans seem content to take our country off the fiscal cliff, which will hobble our economy, raise taxes on millions of working families, and once again shift the responsibility of our deficit to those who can least afford it.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans can't preach personal responsibility if they're not willing to accept it themselves.

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HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, from September 15 to October 15, we honor the heritage and many contributions of the Latino community nationwide.

The story of Hispanic Americans is truly an American story. In America, if you work hard, play by the rules and dream big, there is no limit to what you can achieve. From the hard work of immigrants and their children, to the arts and education, to nearly 1 million Latino veterans who have proudly served in uniform, Hispanics have played a vital role in shaping our Nation.

While we have made great contributions, there is still more work to be done to address issues that affect the communities, such as health care disparities and improving high school graduation rates.

We all do not share the same roots, but we all share the same goals, in giving the next generation of Americans the opportunities to achieve the American Dream. That American Dream is part and parcel of what we celebrate and honor during the Hispanic Heritage Month.

REMOVAL OF REPRESENTATIVE MCNERNEY AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 5864

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove Representative MCNERNEY of California as a cosponsor of H.R. 5864, the Invasive Fish and Wildlife Prevention Act.