

As he prepares for retirement, I commend Dr. Rosenberg for his vision, innovation, and commitment to offering students an affordable, state-of-the-art education that has and will benefit the State of Nevada and the Nation.

THE POLITICS OF THE POSSIBLE

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

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, today, let's show the American people the politics of the possible. Let's focus on what we agree on, not what we disagree on. Let's find common ground. We can accomplish this by extending the middle class tax cuts immediately. Let's have the people's House break this ridiculous stalemate. Let families across the Nation go into the holiday season with certainty.

Everyone here agrees taxes should not go up on middle class families. Democrats and Republicans can come together to make that happen. By extending the tax cuts, every American will get a tax break on the first \$250,000 of income. Let me repeat that 100 percent of Americans will receive a tax break on \$250,000 of income.

It also extends the child tax credit, makes it easier for small businesses to invest, makes it affordable to go to college, and fixes the alternative minimum tax.

If we fail to act in the next 10 days, middle class families could see their income taxes go up by \$2,000. No one wants it, and the economy doesn't need it. The Senate has already passed a bill; the President said he would sign it today. It can be done now.

Please stand up, sign the discharge petition, and make a difference for the American public.

KEVIN KLINE

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce the American people to Kevin Kline.

Kevin is a friend and a popular DJ back home on the 93Q Morning Zoo. But Kevin is more than a voice on the radio. He is the man of the year according to the Fort Bend Focus Magazine. He earned that honor because of the Snowdrop Foundation, an organization he and his wife, Trish, created to help children fighting life-threatening cancer.

Kevin's inspiration was a remarkable young lady, Chelsey Campbell. Chelsey lost her battle with cancer on December 9, 2006. She was 16 years old. Kevin was a pallbearer at her funeral. Kevin is always looking for an outlet to tell Chelsey's story and keep her memory alive.

If Kevin were here, I'd thank him for sharing Chelsey's story with me so I

could enshrine her life forever in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States of America. Because of Kevin, we all look forward to meeting Chelsey in heaven.

□ 1210

MIDDLE CLASS TAX CUTS

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

Mr. LEVIN. This discharge petition frames the issue immediately before us: will Republicans take America over the cliff, and the middle class tax cuts with them, in order to protect tax breaks for the very wealthy. And will they take the economy with them over the cliff?

The fiscal cliff confronting us threatens an economic mess, half of which could be resolved in one fell swoop—by passing the middle class tax cuts. The Senate has already acted. The President is waiting to sign it. Republicans should join with Democrats and give 98 percent of Americans and 97 percent of small businesses the certainty that they won't face a tax increase on January 1.

Colleagues, Republicans as well as Democrats, sign now—the signal that America needs.

THE PRESIDENT IS NOT TAKING THE FISCAL CLIFF SERIOUSLY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, Speaker BOEHNER sent a letter to the President in response to his unreasonable proposal suggesting how Congress can avert the fiscal cliff. Shortly after the election, the House Republican leadership presented the President with a balanced framework by coupling spending cuts and reforms.

The Speaker's letter to the President also states, "Regrettably, the proposal outlined on behalf of your administration contains very little in the way of common ground. The proposal calls for \$1.6 trillion in new tax revenue—twice the amount you supported during the campaign."

House Republicans understand the necessity of finding a reasonable solution. We have made it very clear that we are willing to work with the Senate leadership to find middle ground legislation. It is my hope the President will begin taking these negotiations seriously and will work with the House Republicans to find a balanced approach to this challenge.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

THE WHITE HOUSE MUST PRODUCE ITS LEGAL JUSTIFICATION FOR DRONE STRIKES

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Before Congress adjourns, this House will vote on my resolution of inquiry about the U.S.' use of drones.

The vote will not be about the thousands of deaths of innocent civilians caused by drones, though that's important. It won't be about whether the drones are creating more terrorism. It won't be about whether the killing of American citizens without due process guaranteed by the Constitution. It won't be about whether our ongoing use of drones constitutes violations of the Constitution and violations of international law.

The vote will, however, be about something fundamental.

We will determine whether or not Congress has the power to require the administration to release their still secret legal justification to use drones. In matters of the Constitution, in matters of war, "trust us" is neither sufficient legally, constitutionally, nor is it morally acceptable.

I urge Members of the House to reclaim Congress' constitutional imperative by supporting H. Res. 819, the resolution of inquiry demanding the White House produce its legal justification for drone strikes.

SERVING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. There should be one powerful driving force for all of us—and that is to serve the American people.

The least we can do before December 31, 2012, is to provide the middle class of America—the working men and women of America, those who every day get up at 6 a.m., at 4 a.m., and work night shifts—a tax break. I am proud to commit to giving Americans making incomes of \$250,000 and below a tax break, and I stand here today proudly in having signed the petition.

Let me say what else we can do very quickly.

As a cochair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, we have passed a bipartisan bill on the intervention in and prevention of bullying. Everywhere you go, you're hearing about the dastardly conditions of our children who are going to school across America.

To our Members of the United States Congress, let's pass that legislation before we leave here, and let's go into 2013 with America recognizing that the Congress understands that the safety and security of our children in the schools of America are vital. That's the least we can do—to protect the children of America. Pass the Bullying