

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, 2 years ago today the people of Bahrain took to the streets in peaceful protest. They called for democratic freedoms and an end to human rights abuses. The Government of Bahrain responded with violence. It attacked protesters, killing more than 30, and imprisoned and tortured thousands of others. Even doctors who treated protesters were arrested, tortured, and prosecuted.

Two years later, the situation has not improved. In fact, it may be getting worse. More protesters have died, hundreds of political prisoners remain in jail, and authorities responsible for the use of torture remain free.

Despite an active public relations campaign, the Government of Bahrain is not—and I repeat, is not—making a good-faith effort to meet the legitimate demands of its people.

The Obama administration needs to change course with Bahrain and begin implementing a policy that holds Bahrain accountable and promotes democratic freedoms so that we are not here again saying these same things on the third anniversary of the protests.

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#### THE SEQUESTER

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Sequester. Well, that's inside-the-Beltway jargon. It means stupid, indiscriminate, across-the-board budget cuts. Cut things that are valuable—Coast Guard Rescue—and cut things that are obsolete and unneeded—registration for a draft that doesn't exist—the same percent.

Now, the Republicans are pointing fingers, but I think the finger's going to get pointed right back at them. They're calling it the "Obamaquaster"? Come on now, you've got to be kidding.

Don't they remember their tax pledge to Grover Norquist that has ever forever bound them to starving the Federal Government of revenue? Now look where that got us, when they threatened to default on the debt. It got us the sequester. They refused to compromise and forced us into another self-made arbitrary crisis.

No, it's not an "Obamaquaster"; it's a "GroverNorquaster."

#### ATTACK ON CAMP LIBERTY

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, as the sun was rising in the Iraqi desert, three dozen mortars rained down on Camp Liberty. Camp Liberty is where innocent Iranian exiles, including women and children, live. This unprovoked attack left six people dead and dozens wounded.

Now, who was responsible? Was it the Iraqis, the Iranians? Looks to me like

both governments should be held accountable. These dissidents stand for an Iran free of the extreme mullahs and the tyrant Ahmadinejad.

Over 3,000 unarmed freedom fighters currently live at Camp Liberty and remain in imminent danger. The Iraqi Government has proven on more than one occasion it is unwilling to protect Iranian dissidents in Iraq.

The United Nations has the responsibility to ensure these people are moved to safer locations and even other countries. Not one more life should be stolen by those who protect the oppressive Iranian regime and the little fellow from the desert, Ahmadinejad.

And that's just the way it is.

#### RACE TO THE TOP GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR UNION CITY SCHOOLS

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. I rise today to congratulate the New Haven Unified School District in Union City in the 15th Congressional District for being named one of 16 nationwide winners in the U.S. Department of Education's Race to the Top grant program. The district will receive over \$29 million in funding, which will provide training and equipment to support the outstanding students, teachers, and staff of New Haven Unified.

This is a tremendous achievement, and I am proud of the school's superintendent, Kari McVeigh, and school board members Linda Canlas, Jonas Dino, Michael Ritchie, Sarabjit Cheema, and Michelle Matthews, who had the good sense and worked hard to apply for this competitive grant. I know the 13,000 students from New Haven Unified will benefit from the technology and educational improvements in their schools.

In Union City, this critical funding will help to expand after-school programs, student support, and access to health care for the most vulnerable students, and will provide teachers with the training and techniques needed to improve our classrooms.

I am proud to represent New Haven Unified, Union City, students, educators, and administrators, and look forward to hearing of their many successes.

#### IT'S TIME TO GET THIS ECONOMY MOVING AGAIN

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Madam Speaker, this week, President Obama outlined his vision for America: job-killing tax hikes, a job-killing national energy tax, job-killing wage controls, and job-killing stimulus spending.

Equally telling were the items that the President did not mention. He of-

fered no plan to pay off our \$16 trillion of debt, no plan to replace the sequester cuts to national defense that he proposed, no plan to save our broken social safety nets, and no plan to restore the confidence of Americans in the real economy.

President Obama believes that every problem can be solved with big government and another tax hike. President Clinton once declared that the era of big government is over. Not this President. President Obama believes more government is the solution to all of our problems.

It's time to get this economy moving again, and my colleagues in the House are ready to work toward real solutions that encourage job growth, empower individuals, and break Washington's spending habits.

#### SEQUESTRATION

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

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, if we face yet another fiscal cliff in 2 weeks, it is imperative that this Chamber produces a real solution to ward off a financial disaster that could deeply impact the American people.

The idea behind sequestration was to create a worst-case scenario that was so severe that it would force both sides to work together and find a balanced approach to passing a realistic budget reducing our deficits.

Instead of setting the stage for yet another battle to be resolved in the 11th hour, we should be focused on creating jobs and growing our economy. If sequestration goes forward, programs and services that millions of Americans rely on, like Head Start, supplemental nutrition programs like the WIC program, and even FEMA, would be decimated by drastic cuts in our funding.

Additionally, sequestration would slash critical support to police who keep our streets safe, our air traffic controllers who manage our skies, and food inspectors who ensure the food that we eat is safe.

Instead of jeopardizing critical services to our citizens, we need to begin to work on an approach that will avoid sequestration while sensibly reducing our deficit.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. BEN CLAYBURGH

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

Mr. CRAMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the legacy of a treasured North Dakotan who touched the lives of his wonderful family and all who knew him. Dr. Ben Clayburgh left this world for a better place on January 21, my birthday.

Ben earned many titles during his life. He was a surgeon, a U.S. Army private, a professor, and a passionate political leader. But above all, he was a