

ground for Democrats and Republicans to make some progress toward solving this shutdown.

The President's and Senate's refusal to work with us to reopen the government has consequences well beyond Washington. If they won't contribute to a bipartisan solution to stop the pain, we'll continue to take the lead to fix problems for the American people.

GOP SHUTDOWN

(Ms. MCCOLLUM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, well, here we are, the day my Republican colleagues have warned about for years, the day after ObamaCare. So what happened? Did the sky fall? Did insurance markets crash? No, of course not. Instead, health care marketplaces across the Nation went live. Millions of Americans logged on to learn about affordable health care plans. They gathered information to make decisions about what plan best meets their health care needs.

Yes, some glitches need to be fixed, and we knew that would happen, but yesterday was not the end of the world. It was the beginning. It was the first step.

The Tea Party, 46 times they attempted to shut down the Affordable Care Act. They stopped no one from being able to make good decisions on health care plans.

So I urge my colleagues, common-sense Republicans and Democrats can still come together to stop this reckless GOP—the Grand Ole Party—from shutting down our government. Let's pass a clean CR.

FORT BRAGG SUFFERING DUE TO PRESIDENT'S INACTION ON LAW

(Mrs. ELLMERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct honor and privilege to represent Fort Bragg in my district; and I found out yesterday evening that, despite passing funding to keep our military paid and to keep our military civilians paid, there have been over 7,000 Fort Bragg civilian employees furloughed. Now, I find this very interesting there again because the President signed this very bill into law Monday, and here we have a situation where I have needless—needless—suffering happening in my district.

I have a letter from Chairman BUCK MCKEON, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, to the Department of Defense on clarification of this, that I would like to read:

The text does not limit the provision of pay to civilians who were previously categorized by the administration as “excepted” or “essential” for the purposes of Department of Defense operations in the event of a government shutdown.

We passed H.R. 3210, the Pay Our Military Act, sponsored by my colleague from Colorado (Mr. COFFMAN).

MAJORITY CR AND WOMEN'S HEALTH

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, not only has the majority chosen to shut down vital government functions that all Americans depend on, but they have specifically and unabashedly targeted women.

Some of my colleagues are willing to gamble with the livelihoods of millions of public servants simply to ensure that women do not have access to affordable contraception and preventative health care. They are willing to sabotage our government to prevent prenatal checkups and cancer screenings. They would risk our economic recovery to make sure that women will pay more for health care than men.

The government shutdown has already taken a toll on women and children by slashing funding for vital nutritional and clinical services. We cannot allow this shutdown to be used to strip away all of the gains the ACA made for women's health. Do they really want pregnancy to be a preexisting condition again? And are they willing to shut the place down to stop women from being able to pay for health care?

Enough, Mr. Speaker. Bring on a clean funding bill, open the government, and let it pass for all of our sakes.

REPUBLICAN MAJORITY HAS ABDICATED THEIR RESPONSIBILITY

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority has abdicated their responsibility. Make no mistake: a small faction of the Republican Party is holding our economy hostage to get their way.

Just 36 hours into this shutdown and the American people are already feeling the consequences. Hundreds of thousands of Federal workers across the country are being furloughed without pay. Soon, women who rely on WIC will begin losing benefits. Our national parks are closed. Important biomedical research and environmental work is being delayed.

Make no mistake: this could all end today. If leadership would allow a sim-

ple up-or-down vote on the Senate-passed CR, this would all be over.

But this has never been about budgeting. This is about a single-minded obsession with repealing a law Congress passed, the Supreme Court upheld, and that was reaffirmed by the American people in the last Presidential election.

That fight is over. Even with the government closed yesterday, health exchanges were open and uninsured Americans began purchasing coverage.

PASS SENATE CR TODAY

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, the path to ending this shutdown right now is clear: bring up the clean Senate-passed CR for a vote. That would end this manufactured, self-inflicted crisis immediately.

These piecemeal attempts at deflection offered by my friends on the other side of the aisle are wretched governance.

Compromise is built into our Constitution, and the Senate-passed CR is itself a compromise. It accepts the annual spending level of \$986 billion, roughly \$70 billion less than what the Senate endorsed in its budget plan earlier this year.

Again, this manufactured crisis could end right now by voting on the clean Senate continuing resolution today.

According to Moody's, a shutdown that lasts even 3 or 4 days will cost the economy approximately 0.2 percentage points of the annual GDP growth in the fourth quarter. And the consequences only get worse, as the shutdown continues, on our economy. This completely avoidable contraction is the opposite of policies we need to create jobs and strengthen and grow our economy.

We need to pass a clean CR today.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1340

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YODER) at 1 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.