

we need guidance. We don't want to shut this government down, and certainly we don't want to play politics—at least many of us—with our constituents' services.

Sadly, we've seen too many pictures of that in recent days with the memorials and monuments being chained off. That's wrong.

This morning, my staff and I came across a document from the executive office of the President's Office of Management and Budget with a Q&A dealing with planning for agency operations during a potential lapse of appropriations:

Question: What if the cost of shutting down a Web site exceeds the cost of maintaining services?

Answer: The determination of which services continue during an appropriations lapse is not affected by whether the costs of shutdown exceed the costs of maintaining services.

Mr. Speaker, that gives me concern. Indeed, the sites that we've checked on like the National Park Service, NASA, E-Verify, and the Department of Agriculture have been shut down for political purposes. That needs to stop.

#### PUT POLITICS ASIDE

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

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, 43,000 El Pasoans are Federal employees. This is the fifth highest concentration of Federal employees in the Nation. Many of them work at Fort Bliss. Others are Border Patrol agents or customs officers at the busiest ports of entry in the country. All of them are facing uncertainty because they're being furloughed or working without pay.

I have spoken to many of them over the past week, including Army officers who are worried about what this shutdown is doing to the morale of the soldiers they command and veterans employed at William Beaumont Army Medical Center who cannot go to work to care for our wounded warriors.

A woman whose husband must go to work, but doesn't know when he will get paid provided this advice to us:

Do your job, just as my husband has to do his.

Mr. Speaker, the solution to this crisis is right before us. Bring the Senate-passed government funding bill to the floor. It will pass this House, and the government will be open tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, please put politics aside and do what is right.

#### REMOVE THE EXEMPTION FOR CONGRESS

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

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I've been wondering exactly why on Tuesday morning the Senate and the President let the government shut down, started barricading monuments from our

World War II veterans, and stopped the treatment of children of cancer at the NIH, all because they rejected our offer to fund the government and end the special congressional exemption under ObamaCare.

Mr. Speaker, late yesterday afternoon, I got the answer. We all got an email about the President's decision on how this exemption is going to work.

Mr. Speaker, we all have to go and get the gold policy. Yes, Mr. Speaker. Not the bronze, not the silver, but the gold policy from the exchange. That's the only one we can get. You see, bronze and silver is only good enough for everyone else in the country. For Members of Congress and Members of the Senate and their staff, it's gold or nothing. That's why this fight has been for a clean CR. No one wants to remove that exemption.

Mr. Speaker, remove the exemption for Congress and their staff.

#### VOTE ON THE CLEAN CR

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

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, you win. You shut down the Federal Government. But now what? Do you know why you did it? You started with defunding ObamaCare. Then it went to delaying funding for a year and conscience clause added in, and then you went to repealing the medical device tax, and then it went to delaying the individual mandate for a year and making sure government does not contribute to our staffs' medical insurance. By the way, you did that twice. Now there's no mention of ObamaCare and its cherry-picking what parts of government will open.

I ask you again, why did you do this? I am confused, Mr. Speaker. But what about the people whose lives you have been playing with? You can't tell them why you're doing this.

End this brinksmanship and show leadership. Allow the House to vote on the clean CR.

#### PROTECTING RIGHTS OF AMERICANS

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

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the real issue here today is about the rights of the American people. Individual American citizens should have the same rights to the same exemptions as powerful corporations have been given, and Members of Congress should comply with the same laws as everyone else, whether it be ObamaCare or any other law of this country. And that, Mr. Speaker, is all that we've asked for.

If the President would simply agree to give the people of this country the same relief that he has given powerful corporations, we wouldn't be shut down right now.

House Republicans will continue our efforts to pass bills that reflect the American people's priorities and their rights, and keep the government running. We hope that President Obama and HARRY REID will negotiate in good faith and join Republicans in our efforts to keep the government funded and protect the rights of the American citizens.

#### REMEMBERING DR. MACK KING CARTER

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, my heart is heavy because of the death of one of my dearest friends in Florida, Dr. Mack King Carter, the pastor emeritus of Mount Olive Baptist Church. He was an extraordinary theologian, teacher, missionary, and an exemplary servant of God. His wife, Pat, and the family know that heaven has been "deliciously" improved.

Mack was a preacher's preacher. I mourn with his many relatives and friends and the Mount Olive family.

One of his favorite words was "delicious." Our lives have been deliciously enhanced because of the profound Christian teachings of a son of Ocala, Florida, Dr. Mack King Carter. We talked politics a lot, and he would remind me always of the admonitions of Leviticus and Ecclesiastics.

I would remind this "shutdown" place that we have a responsibility to the least of us in this society.

#### COME TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE

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

Mr. HURT. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased that the House has acted once again to fund critical operations of the Federal Government.

Last night, we adopted legislation that would provide funding for the National Institutes of Health and for reopening monuments like our World War II Memorial. The NIH provides critical funding for work ranging from the treatment of traumatic brain injuries suffered by our soldiers to cancer therapy for our children. NIH is the largest source of Federal research funding for the important work in these areas at the University of Virginia, located in Virginia's Fifth District.

This critical funding should not lapse because the Senate majority leader refuses to come to the conference table to work out a reasonable spending agreement for the Federal Government.

This critical funding should not lapse because the Senate majority leader insists on protecting health care waivers for Washington special interests while leaving Virginia families in the cold.

The critical funding should not lapse because the Senate majority leader insists on protecting special health care