

Florida has invested millions in our ports in preparation for the expansion of the Panama Canal, and this bill before us today is a complement to Florida's investment in world-class maritime infrastructure. Without this bill, Florida and, indeed, our Nation, as a whole, are at risk of losing jobs to nearby foreign ports and their ready or soon-to-be ready deep draft harbors.

Simply put, this bipartisan water resources bill will create good American jobs and will grow local economies. Let's pass it, Mr. Speaker.

□ 1215

JOBS

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, last week, Congress finally took action to end a painful, unnecessary government shutdown that cost our economy \$24 billion, forced hundreds of thousands of Federal workers to stay home, and brought us to the brink of defaulting on the full faith and credit of the United States.

While the hardworking men and women I serve in Rhode Island's First District are relieved that Congress finally did its job, they want all of us to get back to work on addressing the urgent challenges facing our Nation—creating jobs, strengthening the economy, fixing our broken immigration system, repairing our crumbling infrastructure, and finding responsible ways to reduce the Federal debt.

Like all Americans, Rhode Islanders want their elected officials to get beyond the political battles of the moment and work together on implementing effective policies and innovative solutions that will put our country on the right track and get Americans back to work.

Over the past several years, the House has voted over and over again on bills that would repeal ObamaCare, restrict reproductive freedom for women, weaken critical environmental standards, and limit collective bargaining rights for workers, even though there is no chance these divisive proposals would ever be signed into law. It is time now to get things done.

Each of us should commit to abandoning the partisan rhetoric and working as colleagues to overcome the challenges facing our country and those we have the privilege to represent here in the Congress.

OBAMACARE AFFECTING GEORGIANS

(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, now that ObamaCare has had 23 days of what has been a disastrous rollout and hundreds of thousands of

Americans are getting health insurance cancellation notices, I want to give you a couple of examples of what is happening in Georgia.

In our State, the news is not good. One constituent tells me:

Not only are premiums higher, but we have to pay more out of pocket. We will end up spending about \$500 to \$600 a year on durable medical supplies that have always been covered 100 percent. That does not help the middle class.

Another shared the news that he recently learned from his employer:

My premiums are going up over \$1,200 a year, my deductible is going up by over \$1,000 a year, and my out-of-pocket maximum will move from \$3,500 to \$6,500.

That is more than a house payment for many Georgians, Mr. Speaker.

These are hardworking, middle class families in my district who were promised by the President that if they like their insurance, they could keep their current health plans. Now these plans are more expensive and my constituents have less coverage. This is unacceptable, Mr. Speaker.

Contrary to the President's promises, ObamaCare is driving up costs, threatening jobs, and kicking Georgians out of the plans they like and were promised they could keep.

REMEMBERING FORMER CONGRESSMAN MAJOR OWENS

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, this week, New York City lost a Brooklyn original and our Nation lost a tireless champion for the powerless.

Representative Major Owens' district included parts of my current district, and I can attest firsthand that he was beloved throughout Brooklyn.

A librarian before entering politics, service to community was simply part of who he was—and that is reflected by his accomplishments. His work led to the creation of the YouthBuild initiative at HUD, which, to this day, creates opportunity for thousands of disadvantaged youth through construction in low-income communities.

Major will also be remembered for his work on the Americans with Disabilities Act. Always a voice for the voiceless, he shepherded that historic bill to enactment, creating a more just society for millions of Americans.

He is, perhaps, the only Member of Congress known for composing rap lyrics. Performing at open mic sessions, he spoke to the issues of our time, addressing peace, war, poverty, and social justice through the power of hip-hop.

Mr. Speaker, those of us in New York and Brooklyn today mourn the loss of a neighbor, while our Nation honors the passing of its public servant.

I hope all my colleagues join me in paying tribute to and remembering our friend and former colleague, Major Owens.

OPEN ACCESS WEEK

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of greater accessibility to taxpayer-funded research.

This week is Open Access Week in America, and I am proud to be a lead cosponsor of the Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act, better known as FASTR.

Access to scientific research maximizes research investments and improves the quality of science while assuring transparency and efficient use of tax dollars. Simply put, taxpayers should not have to pay for taxpayer-funded research over and over again.

Policies like FASTR have been a tremendous success already at the National Institutes of Health, and some of the best research institutions in America, like my alma mater, the University of Kansas, have helped lead the charge by instituting open access policies of their own.

Now it is time to make open access the law of the land for all publicly funded research. I urge my colleagues to make a real impact on the quality of science and lifesaving research conducted in America, and urge them to cosponsor and support the Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act.

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, an opportunity to stand with the millions of victims who have suffered in silent fear in their own homes.

Approximately three women are killed each day as a result of domestic violence, according to the National Network to End Domestic Violence. While our country has made enormous strides in combating domestic violence, gaps in Federal law leave millions vulnerable. In this Nation, one in six women will find themselves a victim of stalking in their lifetime. Many of these encounters turn violent and, tragically, women are hurt or killed by their stalkers because of a glaring loophole in Federal law.

Under current law, convicted stalkers of "intimate partners" are prohibited from possessing firearms, but women who have had no romantic relationship with their stalker are left unprotected.

I have introduced the Protecting Victims of Stalking Act, legislation that would address this glaring loophole and prevent stalkers under restraining orders from purchasing firearms. I hope you will join me in this effort to reaffirm our commitment to protecting the victims of domestic violence.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE LANDSBERRY

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

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, Mike Landsberry, a math teacher at Sparks Middle School, passed away just about 50 hours ago. He was 45 years old, an Alabama native, high school athlete, coach, husband, brother, dad, marine, Nevada Air Guard senior master sergeant, and a friend.

Mike Landsberry observed the horror of an active shooter at his school Monday morning, and simply moved without hesitation, instinctively, into harm's way to protect others. In so doing, Mike made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the end to his students, his school, and his community.

Coach, you humble us all with your warrior spirit and compassion. They will be your lasting legacy. Thank you for your service, and may you rest in peace.

HONORING STEPHEN ADUBATO, SR.

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

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stephen Adubato, Sr., the founder of the North Ward Center and an inspiring figure of the Newark, New Jersey, community. To recognize Mr. Adubato's achievements and contributions, a statue of him reading to two young children will be placed on the main campus of the North Ward Center.

Mr. Adubato began his career in education and as a teacher in Newark, and went on to develop the North Ward Center in 1970, a group of five institutions designed to provide educational, cultural, and meaningful social services to low- and moderate-income families in the area.

From its humble beginnings as a small preschool, the center now includes an adult medical daycare, business training center, as well as the Robert Treat Academy, a charter school that has received national recognition and the honor of being named a Blue Ribbon School.

Since the founding of the center, Stephen Adubato, Sr., has continually worked to improve the quality of life for everyone in the community, from young to senior citizens. Mr. Adubato has been honored by numerous organizations and institutions, such as Kean University and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, for his contributions and dedication to education.

Today, I recognize the accomplishments of Stephen Adubato, Sr., and thank him for his continued dedication to the residents of Newark, particularly the North Ward.

WATER RESOURCES REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2013

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the legislation to be considered on the floor this afternoon, H.R. 3080, the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2013.

Mr. Speaker, my amendment, ruled in order and to be considered en bloc, addresses an issue very important to my district in northeast Indiana, as well as other similarly situated districts around the country.

I am proud to represent Fort Wayne, Indiana's second-largest city, which has more than 10 miles of levees that protect residents and businesses. In response to recent Army Corps of Engineers guidelines requiring levee revegetation, local governments across the country affected by this policy have made their voices heard. Unfortunately, this unnecessary policy will cost taxpayers in my district millions of dollars.

My amendment saves the city of Fort Wayne \$25 million and makes levee safety the highest priority while allowing the Army Corps of Engineers to fully examine the guidelines study authorized in the underlying bill.

I thank Chairman SHUSTER for his assistance and look forward to further pursuing solutions to this issue.

POWER OF THE PURSE

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

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, later today, the WRRDA bill will come before this body. I intend to vote against it. The reason is that there are 23 earmarks in it. I support all of those projects, but I don't have an earmark in it—and I want one.

I am not one of those people who is going to pretend to the public, as many of us have, that earmarks cost the budget any more money than they do. They do not. We go around and talk about the "bridge to nowhere." There is a bridge. It is called the Gravina Island Bridge.

The worse thing about this is that, constitutionally, we have the power of the purse. We have given it to the administration. So they put 23 projects out here and said, Well, they used to be earmarks. That is like cutting off the tail of an alligator and putting some little ears on him and saying, It used to be a dog.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is wrong. The public needs to understand that this earmark business is damaging the Constitution because it is our job to spend the purse.

WATER RESOURCES REFORM AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2013

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

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to encourage my colleagues to support today's jobs bill, the Water Resources Reform and Development Act, because it is not an earmark. It authorizes—not appropriates—money for 23 projects identified by the Corps of Engineers as important. They are important for a number of reasons, not the least of which is their primary purpose is the movement of goods and services into the global marketplace, which creates wealth and jobs for Americans.

Further, it authorizes projects that are important to flood protection in flood-prone areas like the Red River Valley of the North, in my area. In addition to that, the real reforms that are impressive are things like it de-authorizes old projects to the tune of \$12 billion worth. Furthermore, it gives more leverage and flexibility for the use of non-Federal funds, which is, I think, the very thing that the taxpayers of this State are looking for—the type of flexibility that allows local governments and local communities to do the right thing for themselves.

OXI DAY

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, nearly 73 years ago, as countries across Europe were falling to Hitler's forces, an emissary from Mussolini arrived in Athens to demand the Greeks surrender and allow the Axis forces to occupy that country. In response, the Greeks courageously replied, "oxi," or "no."

The Axis forces quickly descended on Greece, but they failed to anticipate the courage of the Hellenic people, who led a passionate resistance in defense of their freedom and their beloved country. On the island of Crete, for example, with only broomsticks and plowshares as weapons, women and children held the Germans at bay for 10 days, breaking the back of the assault.

The story of this bravery has largely been overlooked in the history books, but the Greek refusal to surrender proved to be one of the most decisive moments in the war. As Winston Churchill said:

If there had not been the virtue and courage of the Greeks, we do not know what the outcome of World War II would have been.

On August 28, Greeks around the world celebrate Oxi Day to honor the great legacy of the Greek people and share with the world the story of their bravery. I commend them and say, "Happy Oxi Day."

□ 1230

THE OBAMACARE WEB SITE—
BROKEN AND CAN'T BE FIXED

(Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the