

yet that the Obama policies won't accomplish anything, all while working to undermine their effectiveness. We will then vote on H.R. 8, a fossil fuel giveaway that will do nothing to combat climate change, but only accelerate the problem.

The best solution to the climate threat is not these foolish votes and obstructionism, but an action that has the potential to resolve other controversial issues while addressing our major climate challenges.

It is past time for the Federal Government to enact a revenue-neutral fee on carbon emissions. This would not be an excuse to expand government spending and new programs, but instead simplify and solve current problems in a cost-effective manner.

Consider for a moment that high on the list of problems, in addition to climate change, is that almost everyone thinks we should fix our broken corporate Tax Code, avoiding the looming Social Security deficit, and streamlining the patchwork of uneven energy subsidy provisions.

A revenue-neutral carbon tax is a proven market mechanism to reduce the devastating carbon pollution. We could sweep away expensive and often conflicting clean energy subsidies and replace them with something much more effective.

We could use the carbon revenues not for new programs, but to eliminate the looming 25 percent cut in Social Security, acting quickly while a solution is more affordable and less disruptive to the lives of our seniors.

At the same time, we could adjust the Social Security tax downward to protect middle and lower income people from impacts of the fee, and we could boost small business, shielding them from part of the cost and lowering the payroll tax they pay, making it cheaper for them to employ people.

Finally, a portion of the revenues could be used to buy down the world's highest corporate tax rate that the United States currently has, which distorts business decisions and places us at a competitive disadvantage with other developed countries.

Think about it. We could solve the existential climate threat, make the tax system simpler, more fair, and effective, avoid the looming Social Security crisis, and shield individuals and small business from the undue impact from the carbon fee, while making our businesses more competitive. That is about as close as can you get to a non-partisan, nonideological, grand-slam policy home run.

Instead of policies of division and denial, it is time for us to come together to support a revenue-neutral carbon tax to solve multiple problems and meet our obligations to our children and grandchildren.

HONORING WILLIAM BOSTIC JR.  
AND DOUGLAS CLAYTON FARGO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from

West Virginia (Mr. MOONEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lives of two outstanding Americans who passed away in October. Both men were part of the Greatest Generation and served our country honorably during the Second World War.

William Bostic Jr., also known as Bill, passed away on October 30. He was a native of West Virginia, born in Renick in 1922, lived most of his life in Ravenswood in the Second Congressional District, and was the son of William Bostic Sr. and Nancy Lou Dale Bostic.

In 1943, he was called to serve his country, and serve it well he did. Bill served in the Pacific Theater, where he was injured in the line of duty.

On February 8, 1945, Corporal Bostic was serving as a member of an artillery liaison party when the enemy began attacking with rocket, artillery, and mortars in support of demolition units. Bill, with complete disregard for his own safety, left his foxhole and crawled to a point where he could better communicate with the supporting artillery.

After establishing communications, he was struck by enemy mortar fragments and, though seriously wounded, refused to leave his post until the enemy attack had been repulsed. His utter disregard for his own personal welfare and his devotion to duty assisted materially in the adjustment of artillery fire that broke up the enemy attack.

For this act of gallantry, Bill was awarded the Silver Star. During his 11 years of service to our country, he also earned six Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart, and a Good Conduct ribbon, just to name a few.

Bill is survived by his wife of 65 years, Pauline Bostic. She still lives in Jackson County, West Virginia. He will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery.

Mr. Douglas Clayton Fargo, Doug, is another true American hero who passed away.

Doug lived in Charles Town, West Virginia, for over 25 years. After graduating from high school, Doug enlisted with the U.S. Army and served from 1944 to 1946. He fought in nine major battles and was quickly elevated in rank from a private to a sergeant as he served under the great General George Patton. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Combat Infantry Badge for his services.

In 1951, he was recalled to Active Duty and served another 2 years in the Korean war, where he received his field commission as a lieutenant. He led 11 combat patrols and was awarded a second Bronze Star and a second Combat Infantry Badge, as well as 18 other ribbons and decorations.

After his retirement, he remained active in the community and stayed involved with a number of veterans organizations, including the Korean War Veterans Association, Forty and Eight,

Kiwanis, and Military Officers Association of America.

Doug was preceded in death by his first wife, Maria Laura Mae Fargo, and his second wife, Eileen Fargo, as well as the last love of his life, Eunice Steed. Additionally, Mr. Fargo lost his grandson, Adam Joseph Fargo, on July 22, 2006, when he was killed in action while fighting in Iraq.

Doug will also be buried in the Arlington National Cemetery.

Bill and Doug were fantastic men who served their country and their communities with honor.

#### PARIS CLIMATE TALKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, this week, more than 40,000 negotiators from 196 governments have descended on the French capital for the Paris climate summit. This summit provides the world with a critical opportunity to take a significant step toward creating an ambitious and effective global framework for addressing climate change.

Climate change is no longer a problem for future generations. It is our problem, and we must act now. Paris gives us that opportunity.

The science demonstrating the reality of climate change advances by the day. In fact, 14 of the 15 warmest years on record have occurred since the year 2000, and 2015 is on track to be the warmest year of all.

No country, no matter how large or small, wealthy or poor, is immune to the detrimental effects we will face if we do not address this global climate crisis.

The good news is that there has been quite a bit of global action over the past few months leading up to the Paris summit. Nearly 180 countries, covering more than 95 percent of the global greenhouse gas emissions, have pledged to take steps to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

A U.N. report shows that the pledges submitted so far represent a substantial step in global action that will significantly curtail the world's carbon trajectory.

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If those pledges are implemented, global warming would slow to roughly 3 degrees by 2100. While this isn't enough to meet U.N. targets, it is better than the 4- to 5-degree increase if nothing were done.

With such a significant and impactful opportunity in front of us, many eyes are on the U.S. What will we do? How will we act?

As the world's largest economy and the second largest emitter of carbon dioxide, we cannot stand by and do nothing. Thanks to President Obama, we have made real progress in advancing our goals of reducing emissions and improving our air quality.