

I would like to inform the majority leader, as he probably knows privately, that we have great concerns on this side of the aisle about a bill of the magnitude that is being discussed and the impact it will have on our deficit, on discretionary spending, and on our opportunity to pass major needed—and a bipartisan expectation of doing—tax reform so our tax system is simpler, fairer, is producing the revenue that we need, but it is also making sure the American people understand and can be provided a much simpler system for them to have to respond to.

If the majority leader wants to make any remarks on that, I yield to the gentleman. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2015, TO TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that, when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Tuesday, December 15, 2015, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

ADMINISTRATION'S ATTACK ON GUN RIGHTS

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

Mr. RATCLIFFE. Mr. Speaker, the horrific attacks in San Bernardino underscore the pressing need to defeat ISIS and radical Islamic extremism. But instead of trying to fix his failed policies, which contributed to the very rise of ISIS in the first place, the President is instead attempting to divert and distract the American people by leveraging this tragedy to announce his plans to issue an executive order on gun control.

Just yesterday the White House called the San Bernardino attack an incident of gun violence. Mr. Speaker, it was terrorism, and I refuse to let this President use acts of terrorism as a means to try another end run around this Congress.

Earlier this year I stood up against the administration's attempted ammunition ban and I was successful in getting that unconstitutional policy rescinded.

So today I am again standing up against this latest attack on our constitutional gun rights in this country because, if this administration refuses to take terrorism seriously, then the American people will need their Second Amendment rights more than ever before.

CLIMATE DAMAGE WIPES OUT LIVELIHOODS

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

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, while many around the world are watching the climate talks in Paris, some of my constituents along the San Francisco Peninsula are watching the Pacific Ocean. That is because an unusually warm climate and water has led to a record toxic algae bloom that contaminates the crabs. Our critical Dungeness crab fishery is closed, and our fishermen are suffering.

One Half Moon Bay fisherman said: "If you had asked me 6 months ago about crab, I would've told you we're going to feed our families, we're going to send our kids to college. And I'm not talking just the junior college. If they want to go to Princeton, crab can make this happen with my work ethic. This situation is a new one. This was like getting the legs pulled out from under you."

So if my Republican colleagues are wondering if climate damage is real or if it is affecting real people, I encourage them to see the docked fishing boats and the landlocked crab pots in my district. Climate damage is wiping out people's livelihoods. We cannot let this become the new normal.

CBO REPORT ON WORK REDUCTION FROM AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to detail a report from the Congressional Budget Office that was released this month, which says the Affordable Care Act will lead to a reduction in work hours equivalent to 2 million jobs over the next decade.

The key reason for the work reduction, according to the CBO, is healthcare subsidies which are tied to income, which will raise effective tax rates for Americans and will create a disincentive for people who are seeking promotions or new, higher paying jobs.

The report also points to tax increases and penalties as a reason for the work reduction, including the employer mandate, which imposes penalties on those companies with more than 50 employees that do not provide insurance.

The House and the Senate recently passed legislation that would repeal key parts of the Affordable Care Act, including the employer mandate. Unfortunately, President Obama has pledged to veto it.

We can't allow these job losses to become a reality. This is why I will continue to work with my colleagues to make commonsense changes that will improve our Nation's healthcare sys-

tem and will revitalize economic growth and jobs.

MAJOR CAMERON GALLAGHER

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

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the service of Major Cameron Gallagher.

I first met Cameron in 2013, when he was serving as a military fellow in my office, advising me on a range of defense and foreign policy issues. For the past 2 years, Cameron has worked in the Army's Office of the Chief Legislative Liaison, where he has continued to be a trusted adviser to me and to other Members of the House. Cameron's service will now take him and his family to Fort Carson, Colorado, where he will serve as a battalion executive officer in the 4th Combat Aviation Brigade.

Cameron truly represents the very best our Armed Forces and our Nation have to offer. Intelligent and dedicated, Cameron is such an optimist that he sent me trash talk emails for days in the lead-up to last year's Stanford-Army football game. Stanford won 35-0, but that is not really the point.

Cameron, we will miss having you here in Congress. We wish you, C.C., and Henry all the best in your new assignment. And don't forget the Schiff Hotel California policy. You can check out anytime you like, but you can never leave.

MINING SCHOOLS ENHANCEMENT ACT

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

Mr. HARDY. Mr. Speaker, we need more mining engineers. Approximately 70 percent of the mining industry's technical leaders will reach retirement age over the next 10 to 15 years.

In our mining engineering programs, almost all current faculty members will need to be replaced by the coming decade.

At our Federal agencies, there is already a dangerous lack of employees with the necessary technical expertise to carry out their essential duties, such as permitting and inspections.

Mr. Speaker, this is irresponsible, and it can have catastrophic consequences like we saw with the Gold King Mine disaster.

In order to sustain our Nation's mining schools, we need to ensure that vital Federal funding is made available for faculty to conduct more research and to better educate the next generation of mineral scientists and engineers.

It can be done by using the existing funding streams under SMCR.A. My bill, H.R. 3734, the Mining Schools Enhancement Act, will accomplish this goal.