

IF YOU DON'T WANT A TAX CUT, MAIL IT BACK TO THE IRS

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

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, some folks in Washington are upset because we just passed the largest tax cut in American history. They think this money is Washington's money and that politicians and bureaucrats should decide how to spend it.

I could not disagree more. You and I know that this money belongs to the American people, came right out of their wallets.

Under our new law, we put hard-working families first by helping them cope with the cost of raising children by doubling the child tax credit. We also help small businesses by cutting their taxes so that they can compete with foreign companies and create jobs right here in America.

Well, for those folks who don't think they need an extra \$1,500 or so, or who think politicians and bureaucrats can spend their money better, I have a solution: go ahead and drop your new refund check in the mail. Send it to the IRS. They will be glad to take your money.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Children's Health Insurance Program that so many of our vulnerable young people depend on for their healthcare coverage. Across the country, 8 million young people use CHIP, more than 300,000 people in Illinois alone. But their coverage and, consequently, their health and future are now in jeopardy because this House has failed to reauthorize the program for the first time in 20 years. Yesterday marked 100 days since the authorization lapsed.

Before the new year, Congress temporarily extended limited funding, but the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is already warning that some States won't have funding to make it through the month of January.

It is beyond shameful that this House can pass trillions of dollars in tax breaks for those with the most security but not see its way to provide health insurance for the children most in need.

This is a vital program. This is a popular program. This is a program that traditionally enjoys bipartisan support. There is no reason to continue to extend the uncertainty.

I urge my colleagues to act and reauthorize the CHIP program as soon as possible to offer much-needed stability to families and their children depending on this coverage.

CELEBRATING LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today, on Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, to commend law enforcement officers throughout our Nation who answer the call to serve their communities.

Law enforcement officers face increasingly difficult circumstances while working to serve and protect the public. It is a dangerous job, and often it is a thankless job.

Our officers put on their uniform each day knowing that they can be in harm's way at any moment. They answer the call in times of distress. They follow the rules, and they wear the badges proudly.

This day is designated annually, on January 9, to show support to our law enforcement leaders in every community, including the Capitol Police, who are with us here today.

Madam Speaker, we must remember that our officers are mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, husbands and wives. They are human, and they, arguably, have one of the most difficult jobs in America.

So today, and each day, let's honor our brothers and sisters in blue. Let's thank them for the important work that they do to keep us all safe.

LET'S KEEP THE GOVERNMENT OPEN

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

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, the Republican majority spent the entire year of 2017 in this House essentially stacking the deck for the most powerful interests in this country. That tax bill, you look at it closely, it grants massive benefits to people at the very top of the economy, at the cost of over \$1 trillion in debt that our children and grandchildren will have to pay back.

Now, with just 10 days to go before another potential government shutdown, and a shutdown which would cost our economy billions of dollars, we still have not gotten a budget. Despite the fact that Republicans control the House, they control the Senate, they control the White House, and they have consolidated power, they can't keep the government open for more than a few weeks at a time.

The way we have to do this is to work together across the aisle. We are willing, but we can't be brought into the conversation 15 minutes before the government is going to be shut down; and we ought to deal with the big priorities that we were sent here to deal with, where we agree.

We agree on CHIP, at least the majority of the House does. Bring it to the floor for a vote.

We agree on DACA. A majority would vote for a Dreams bill. Let's just work on the things we can agree on and leave the partisan fights to those areas where we really disagree. This is long overdue.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

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

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today again to call on my colleagues to quickly pass a 5-year extension of the Children's Health Insurance Program. Around 85,000 Iowa children rely on CHIP for their health. If we don't act, families and children will suffer.

This is not a Republican issue or a Democrat issue, and we must pass a solution together. Families should not be worried about losing coverage for their children.

And the fact that this Congress cannot muster the ability to pass a long-term extension of CHIP is confounding, to say the least.

We must quickly set aside any political games, come to the table, and work together to pass a long-term CHIP funding bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to set aside any political games or partisan brinksmanship and come together and fully fund CHIP. The health of our children is at stake.

□ 1215

REMEMBERING SISTER CATHERINE PINKERTON

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Catherine Pinkerton, who journeyed from us during this past Christmas season in Cleveland. She had attained the age of 96.

Sister Catherine was a Roman Catholic Sisters of St. Joseph order for 78 years. She rose to serve as president of her congregation, and she was also selected to lead the national Leadership Conference of Women Religious and was awarded its Outstanding Leadership Award in 2006.

She worked as the founder of NETWORK, the social justice lobby, urging Congress to care for the needy and the sick, and she became a tireless advocate in these Halls of Congress for justice, especially for the poor and oppressed. One of her greatest victories was pushing for the passage of the Children's Health Insurance Program, which insures 9 million of America's children.

In 2008, Sister Catherine was invited to deliver the benediction at the Democratic National Convention, and she urged Americans to "call forth and affirm as leaders of this Nation, persons

of vision, courage, and solid values, clearly focused not only on what is but, rather, open to the challenge of discerning and welcoming what is yet to be."

Sister Catherine, your sacrificial life was extraordinary, and you were countercultural. You will be missed. May your passionate words and deeds guide us to care for our fellow human beings. The American people are grateful for your lifetime of service.

I will later include in the RECORD a eulogy and tribute to Sister Catherine by Sister Christine Schenk, who spoke at her memorial service and whose first sentence about her reads: "Catherine's life was all about bringing glad tidings to the poor and letting the oppressed go free. She was so powerfully passionate and so dedicated to her mission of justice, who can doubt that the spirit had indeed anointed her for this work?"

CONGRATULATING PANAMA CITY BEACH FIRE CHIEF JOHN DALY ON RETIREMENT

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

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Panama City Beach Fire Chief John Daly on his retirement.

Chief Daly served the people of Panama City Beach for 33 years and willingly took up the responsibility to run into the fire, putting his life on the line to save others countless times.

When he began his career with Panama City Beach Fire and Rescue in 1985, there were only seven career firefighters. Today that number has grown to 35 as our city has grown and thrived. John was promoted to chief in 2002 and has remained an outstanding leader ever since. He considers the firefighters under his watch to be family, and he knows that they will continue to do great things under the leadership of the new fire chief, Larry Couch.

Madam Speaker, please join me in saying thank you to Chief Daly, his wife, Joan, and their daughters for their years of service and sacrifice, and wish them luck as they enjoy a new chapter in life.

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY AND HONORING THE LIFE OF DEPUTY DANIEL MCCARTNEY

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

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, before I came to Congress, I spent 33 years as a cop. Today is National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, a day to honor our dedicated law enforcement officers who selflessly put their lives on the line each and every day to protect our families. We not only honor

those who protect and serve us today, but we also remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Sadly, yesterday, in my community, we experienced the death, the murder, of another police officer. His name was Deputy Daniel McCartney of the Pierce County Sheriff's Department, shot and killed while responding to a burglary call. This brave man was also a Navy veteran and leaves behind a wife and three sons—4 years old, 6 years old, and 9 years old—without a father.

I ask you to join me today in praying for his family and for his colleagues in the Pierce County Sheriff's Department.

Every day, law enforcement officers are asked to stand tall in the face of danger. I know.

To paraphrase a quote from Sheriff Pastor yesterday after the death of his fallen officer, he said: Deputy McCartney ran toward trouble, ran to protect. He is a man who served with the heart of a servant, with spirit, with strength and compassion.

Please join me today in thanking our law enforcement officers across this Nation for their dedicated service.

MEDIA POSITIVE NEWS

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, the media's daily barrage of negative stories have undermined the public's confidence in their reporting. The media continues to ignore positive stories about the President's effective policies.

If the media were not so biased against the President, more of the American people would know the following:

The 4.1 percent unemployment rate for the entire country is the lowest it has been in 17 years;

Latino and African-American unemployment numbers are the lowest in decades;

The stock market has broken numerous records, adding significant value to Americans' investment and retirement accounts;

The economy is growing at 3.3 percent, the fastest in years;

Consumer confidence is at a 17-year high.

The liberal media should report the facts, even if they make the President look good.

RECOGNIZING LITTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today on this National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day to recognize this year's Little Rock Police Department recruit class and their efforts to

fill dozens of sworn officer vacancies within the department.

Little Rock's police force has suffered a loss in numbers over the past few years, currently with 84 sworn officer vacancies. According to department data, this fall's recruit class is tied for the largest number of starting recruits since 1993.

Earlier this year, City Manager Bruce Moore announced that officers would work mandatory overtime due to the vacancies. So I thank City Manager Moore, Chief Buckner, and Mayor Mark Stodola for their leadership and efforts to address these vacancies and return this department to full strength.

I respect and appreciate the important work of our police throughout the Nation who are charged with the critical work of protecting us in our States and communities.

I wish this recruit class the very best of luck as they pursue their goal of joining the Little Rock Police Department and ensuring the safety of our citizens, our neighborhoods, and our property.

CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

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

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to claim that climate change is real, that it is manmade, and that we have a responsibility to act bravely and constructively to minimize the damage it does to humanity and to the fauna and flora of our planet.

The reality of our warming atmosphere, oceans, and continents has been established in thousands of peer-reviewed articles. This is scientific fact accepted by the governments of peoples of almost every nation in the world.

But science is always evolving, and scientists continue to work diligently to discover the facts, the processes, and the implications for all of us. Mostly, what we learn is sad and destructive.

Last Thursday, the peer-reviewed academic journal *Science* published a new study that concludes the frequency of coral bleaching has increased so much that reefs cannot recover between severe episodes.

We need to focus on just the facts of climate change and then be wise enough and bold enough to act. Every Member of Congress must bear the burden of this responsibility.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF FIREFIGHTER LIEUTENANT MATT LETOURNEAU

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

Mr. MEEHAN. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the memory of Philadelphia firefighter Lieutenant Matt LeTourneau, who is also a long-time member of the Springfield Fire Company in Delaware County, Pennsylvania.