

among thousands of people in the Houston area feeling the impact of the government shutdown.

Edith has not worked her federal job in downtown Houston since the shutdown 25 days ago.

Making matters worse, she and dozens of others in Houston are unable to seek temporary private sector work because such jobs require permission, and the people who process those requests have been furloughed.

Edith has begun selling her personal possessions to make ends meet, but she said another couple of weeks of no work would be crushing.

There are so many other issues that we could tackle with the money Trump wants to spend on the wall.

With an increase of \$265 million the Department of Justice could hire 2,000 new police officers and make steps towards making many communities a safer place.

With an increase of \$99 million the Office of National Drug Control Policy could support community-level efforts to address substance abuse programs in nearly 730 additional communities.

With an increase of \$200 million the Economic Development Administration could create or preserve 31,000 jobs for our hard-working Americans.

With an additional \$20 million Small Business Administration grants could support dozens more Women's Business and Veterans Outreach Centers providing business training, counseling and outreach to 47,000 additional U.S. veterans and women

These are the changes that American citizens deserve.

Madam Speaker, it is critical that the President ends this government shutdown and end the unwarranted suffering of American families across the nation.

#### GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN'S IMPACT ON NATIONAL SECURITY

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

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, over the past 34 days, we have heard that this shutdown is about security. Well, I am a former undercover CIA officer, so let's talk about security.

There is nothing secure about FBI agents working without pay. There is nothing secure about them closing down investigations and losing their informants, their counterterrorism informants.

There is nothing secure about TSA employees who keep us safe in the airspace working without pay.

There is nothing secure about our Customs and Border Patrol agents, who work along the very border we are discussing, working without pay.

There is nothing secure about our air traffic controllers working 10 hours a day to keep our airplanes safe in the air.

There is nothing secure about our diplomats, who work in war zones and around the world to keep this country safe, working without pay.

There is nothing secure about the 42,000 dedicated members of the U.S.

Coast Guard working without pay as they defend our shores.

The public servants who work every single day to protect the lives of their fellow American citizens deserve better. I know this because I used to be one of them.

This shutdown is a disgrace. It is hurting our national security. We must end it now so that Americans can sleep safely at night; Federal workers can receive the paychecks they have earned; and our country's military, economic, and diplomatic strength can be preserved before it is too late.

#### GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to share the story of Laurie Wall, a Las Vegas resident, a mother of three, and a Federal employee denied a paycheck because of this government shutdown.

Like many of Nevada's Federal employees, Laurie is still reporting to work every single day, doing her job on behalf of the American people. But because she is not getting paid, Laurie also has to add trips to the local food bank to pick up needed food and diapers for her family.

Because of this shutdown, 3,520 Nevada-based Federal employees are being denied a paycheck; 30,000 southern Nevadans are at risk of homelessness because of reduced housing assistance; and 34,000 people in my district could lose their nutritional assistance.

The House has already voted 11 times to reopen the government. It is long past time that the Senate does the same and stops holding Nevadans like Laurie Wall hostage.

#### OPEN UP THE GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, here we are in the fifth week of this shutdown.

I want to talk about two stories.

One is Tyler. He is a resident of Golden, Colorado. I have known his family a long time. He has two small children. He says: Two weeks ago, I received a certificate from the United States of America thanking me for working for the air traffic controllers for 10 years. The same day, I got a check for zero dollars.

Then I want to talk about a young woman who works for the EPA. She has two children with disabilities. She is a patriot. She has a chemistry degree. She could work in a million different places. She wanted to work for us, for the United States of America, to serve the public, to give back to the United States. But now she has to question, with two young kids with disabilities, whether she can do this any-

more. She expected us to be reliable as employers, and we are not.

We are better than this, Mr. President. Open up the government.

□ 1630

#### END THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, every day I hear from constituents about how this manufactured crisis is hurting them and hurting their families. MITCH MCCONNELL's and President Trump's refusal to reopen government has consequences for real people.

A Marine veteran from Bay City, Michigan, won't receive his monthly housing allowance this week that he needs to pay his rent and make his car payment. His words to me were this: "I never thought the President would be putting us veterans that he says he loves so much in harm's way just to get money for his harebrained immigration solution."

That is from a United States veteran who served this country and is now being treated by the President of the United States as a pawn in a political game to get something that he is not willing to submit to the legislative process.

Shame on this President. Shame on him. Open this government. Do it now.

#### END THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the good people of the Fifth District of Pennsylvania, who are helping their neighbors, the Federal workers, contractors, and families who have been so grievously impacted by the government shutdown.

As the human and financial toll of this senseless shutdown has spread, we have seen locals step up and help those who are struggling without pay. What a contrast with this administration where Cabinet members said today that they didn't understand why an unpaid worker might have to resort to a food bank to feed his family.

Unlike this administration and the Senate majority leader, our neighbors have recognized the true impact of the shutdown and are doing something about it. We have seen youth groups, and fire departments, and local organizations organize food drives. Nonprofits are collecting donations and organizing food pantries so Federal workers can feed their families.

I urge the President and the Senate majority leader to put people before politics. People are not bargaining chips. The shutdown needs to end now.