

Let me grab another slide. We will put these up in our office. Remember, this sort of presentation is for those who really care about digging in to the actual math of policy. So often, what we end up doing on the floor is political theater and folklore.

If you look at some of these lines—and I know this is a long time ago—but if you and I were to step back to 1967 and look at the data for males, we had 97 percent of working-age males in the labor force. Today, if we did that same thing, I think we are at about 88. It falls, 87, 88.

One of the big things that helped us grow the economy is female participation in the economy. But we need to find a way to get this back up. We are just talking a few points, but those few points of a few more million stepping back into the labor market have substantial economic impact.

I want to talk about a story from Arizona. I have had this discussion with a couple of my Democratic friends. Within that, we have talked about incarceration rates and some of the other things that end up becoming impairments for young males to be in the labor force.

In Arizona right now, we have such a shortage of skilled trades—electricians and carpenters—that a number of the businesses in Arizona—actually, I approached our Governor, Governor Ducey, and said: Help us. We are willing to take our own money and go into Arizona correctional facilities and do a training program that is, when someone is going to be on parole in just a few months, we will train them, and we will guarantee that we will hire them. It doesn't mean a guarantee that they will keep them.

So last year, we brought this young man out from Arizona. We brought him to the Ways and Means Committee. He sat down in this beautiful room. The Ways and Means Committee room, it is just very big and very ornate. He didn't look like our typical witness, with a number of piercings and a number of tattoos around the neck. He looked up when it was his turn to tell his story, and he hesitated for a moment and started with: I am a three-time convicted felon.

He went on to tell his story of how he was an addict and the other times he had gotten out of prison, he had relapsed. He had lost his family. He had lost everything. He had lost contact with his child.

He was a few months from his opportunity to go on probation and leave the correctional facility, and he saw this flyer that said: We are doing training for electricians. We guarantee we will hire you—it doesn't mean we are going to keep you—if you pass this very basic course.

He said: Why not?

He took this electrician course while in prison, while it was paid for by private industry because the job market is so tight they are willing to take risks on all sorts of populations to get them back into the work environment.

He graduated. He started at just a little over minimum wage. A year later, he was making, I think, \$23-something an hour. He said he hadn't relapsed because he is working too much. He said he is back with his family. He gets to see his child. There are these incredibly human stories.

If we are in a society right now that is almost at full employment for those looking for employment, how do we reach out to those whom our society gave up on or who gave up on themselves? How do we as policymakers design those incentives, design the social entitlement programs, and design our society where we want everyone to have this opportunity within our communities and our society?

It was one of the most touching and amazing hearings, because when you looked at those of us sitting up on the dais, there were actually tears hearing his story and realizing there is hope, that this economic vitality provides opportunity and hope.

We turn it into a political football because it is not our side that wants to get credit, or their side wants to get credit. We need to get beyond that, because if we don't get this math right, my 3-year-old little girl won't have the same type of future I have had.

There is a path to make this work and continue to have an economy, a nation, that grows and provides opportunities. Understand, when the United States grows, the world benefits.

But we have those five pillars. Is this body capable of stepping up and doing things that are complex without a simple solution?

Madam Speaker, I so desperately hope so. With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. DEFAZIO (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of inclement weather.

Mr. KATKO (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today until March 1, 2019 on account of a death in the family.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 38 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, February 27, 2019, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

225. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and En-

ergy Efficiency, Office of Electricity, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Administrative Updates to Personnel References (RIN: 1901-AB49) received February 21, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

226. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Waxes and Waxy Substances, Rice Bran, Oxidized; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2018-0032; FRL-9987-83] received February 22, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

227. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final authorization — Georgia: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [EPA-R04-RCRA-2018-0255; FRL-9989-93-Region 4] received February 22, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

228. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Nonattainment New Source Review Requirements for 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard [EPA-R03-OAR-2017-0735; FRL-9989-99-Region 3] received February 22, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

229. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Texas; Reasonably Available Control Technology [EPA-R06-OAR-2018-0675; FRL-9989-61-Region 6] received February 22, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

230. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; New Mexico; Approval of Revised Statutes; Error Correction [EPA-R06-OAR-2015-0850; FRL-9989-09-Region 6] received February 22, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

231. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Abamectin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2018-0037; FRL-9987-32] received February 22, 2018, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

232. A letter from the Director, Office of the White House Liaison, Department of Education, transmitting a notification of a nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

233. A letter from the Director, Office of the White House Liaison, Department of Education, transmitting a notification of a nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

234. A letter from the Director, Office of the White House Liaison, Department of Education, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.