

CARES Act, which was passed by this body, undoubtedly one of the most successful was the PPP, the Paycheck Protection Program, which literally helped thousands of small businesses and over 50 million jobs be saved during the COVID pandemic.

The PPP was also successful because it partnered with the private sector, utilizing local banks to disburse the PPP loans. Often these banks already had existing relationships with the small businesses in their communities. These existing relationships between banks and small businesses were invaluable in getting these funds out onto the street in record speed—again, saving thousands of businesses and millions of jobs. In my district alone, PPP saved over 50,000 jobs.

It is due to the success of the PPP and the significant need for additional PPP funds for small businesses around the Nation that I rise in support of H.R. 8265, sponsored by Representative CHABOT.

This is a very commonsense piece of legislation. You see, Mr. Speaker, there are approximately \$130 billion in unspent PPP funds. This bill simply enables the Small Business Administration to do another round of PPP awards. There is still incredible demand and need for this program. So this is not an allocation of additional money.

As both sides debate a much larger and more complicated new stimulus package, I think this bill is a great first step. It is a program that has shown itself to be incredibly effective in saving jobs and small businesses. There is most definitely more demand for PPP funds for the small businesses and local nonprofits. The model of awarding the funds has shown itself to be excellent. Finally, it doesn't require an additional appropriation.

Mr. Speaker, our small businesses are fighting for their survival, and millions of jobs hang in the balance. We can do this. This money is there, and the program works.

UPDATING AMERICA'S ENERGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. O'HALLERAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 4447, the Clean Economy Jobs and Innovation Act. I am proud that that bill was used as a shell for this legislation.

This legislative package is the work of over 40 critical pieces of energy and environment legislation from the House. Many of the bills included in this package are bipartisan, and I would like to thank our leadership, committee chairs, and Members on both sides of the aisle for contributing to this effort.

This bill will take meaningful steps to update our energy infrastructure, create new jobs, and take important steps to address climate change in our country.

The last major Federal effort to address our changing energy landscape occurred in 2007. The urgency of the climate crisis and energy infrastructure crisis cannot be overstated.

As the proud Representative of Arizona's First Congressional District, and as seen throughout the Western United States and our Nation, communities are facing the effects of climate change every day. From larger, deadlier forest fires to crippling droughts, Arizonans know the real-life implications of our changing planet.

This is why today's bill is so important. It addresses the growing climate crisis and revitalizes our sagging energy economy. It creates much-needed job growth across our Nation. It is a win-win-win.

As Members of Congress, we must work in a bipartisan manner to identify commonsense policy solutions to these critical issues and help hard-working families find a just transition as our energy economy continues to evolve.

The legislative package we are voting on today does more than just update our Nation's energy infrastructure. It creates tens of thousands of new, good-paying energy jobs that support a family and will be created through the new programs, initiatives, and Federal projects created within this bill to accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies.

We make meaningful investments in research and development programs to unlock the energy technologies of tomorrow, limit our carbon footprint, and preserve the environment for future generations to enjoy and prosper. We need to continue to identify legislative initiatives like the Clean Economy Jobs and Innovation Act that will work on a large scale to create new jobs in growing industries.

I am humbled to see two bills I introduced, the Expanding Access to Sustainable Energy Act, and the Tribal Power Act, be included in today's critical legislative package. And I am proud to stand today in favor of the Clean Economy Jobs and Innovation Act.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting to pass this important legislation.

HONORING MY WIFE, SHANNON, AND THE GREAT AMERICAN MEDICAL SYSTEM

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my wife, Shannon, because this is the 21st anniversary of her last chemotherapy treatment after being diagnosed and treated for colon cancer in 1999.

This is a day that we will all remember. It is the day of success, much different from the day of her diagnosis just a little over 6 months before that.

We were a young couple with a 2-year-old daughter and didn't know what the future held. But because of the great American medical system and the research that was done out here at places like the NIH for years before my wife was diagnosed, she was able to get the surgery and the treatment she needed to now celebrate this anniversary.

On that last day, when that poisonous chemotherapy stopped having to enter her veins, little did we know we would be blessed with two more children, twin boys, just a short time later. They were born less than a year from then.

While our daughter is now 23 and our sons are 20, this is an opportunity to talk about the greatness of America's healthcare system and the greatness of the ingenuity within our healthcare system in this country.

What is frustrating to me, Mr. Speaker, is that sometimes I hear my colleagues on the other side of the aisle talk about how we on this side of the aisle want to get rid of preexisting conditions coverage. Every time I hear that, it hurts because I have seen what my wife went through. I live, she lives, and our family lives with her preexisting coverage every day.

Let's stop playing politics with healthcare. Let's celebrate what America is all about and how we help heal the world. Let's do it today, the day that I get to honor the love of my life, my wife, Shannon.

Shannon, I can't thank you enough for who you are. I can't thank you enough for your courage. And I am so blessed to be able to call you my wife.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 11 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 28 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1100

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YARMUTH) at 11 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Lord, Father of us all, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

At a time when so many are worried about business survival, rent payment, and unemployment benefits, impel those in our government who are charged with promoting the general welfare to come together to negotiate solutions benefitting all Americans in need.

Pour forth Your spirit of wisdom, patience, and good will upon all the Members of Congress during these troubling