

If we are truly going to restore that "vital trust" we must demand and expect accountability. We have to tell the American people the truth.

The American people know what happens when you borrow too much. They know what happens when you spend too much. And they're worried. They should be. And so am I.

Over the past 12 years our Federal budget has doubled and we are now more than \$10 trillion in debt, with long term obligations close to \$100 trillion. We are a Nation in debt. We have record numbers of individuals filing for bankruptcy.

Where is the self-restraint, the personal pride, the honor that is our heritage?

We haven't even passed the majority of the appropriations bills for Fiscal Year 2009. We are operating our government on an extension. Yet, the first priority of this Congress is to pass an emergency stimulus bill.

Last week, all the House Republicans and some brave Democrats voted against this so-called stimulus. I was and am fundamentally opposed because it does not solve the underlying challenges eroding our economy. We all want our economy to thrive, but the bill currently in debate in the United States Senate does not make the fundamental changes we deserve and we need.

The so-called stimulus was sold as a jobs bill. Tell me, how do the following expenditures drive our economy forward? \$50 million for the National Endowment of the Arts, \$150 million for the Smithsonian, \$400 million for global warming research, another \$2.4 billion for carbon capture demonstration projects, \$600 million for the Federal Government to buy automobiles, \$650 million on the top of the billions already doled out to pay for digital TV conversion coupons, \$1 billion for the follow up for the 2010 census. And the list goes on.

We need a game changer. Massive spending bills do not represent change because it is merely more of the same. Setting aside money we don't have to pay for projects we can't afford is not change.

The economic crisis we face provides a historic opportunity for us to show America that we get it.

When I speak with business interests in my State, I hear the same request over and over, and it doesn't matter if it's a small business or a big business. From the sole proprietor who owns a graphics shop, to the trucker I spoke with that has 12 employees, to the medical device company that employs nearly 1,000 people in my district, the call is unanimous. They want us to demonstrate accountability. They want us to live within our means. They want us to quit borrowing from our enemies and taxing generations that are yet unborn.

This country needs a game changer. Let us understand the consequences, and let us live within our means.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

A TIME OUT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on his first day in office, I sent a letter to President Barack Obama calling for an international cease fire or "time out."

Like many of my colleagues, I have serious concerns about our Nation and its ongoing participation in armed conflicts. Right now, our men and women in uniform are engaged in bloody struggles in Iraq, and Afghanistan, and other troops are based throughout six continents. I fear that our influence around the globe is felt more by our military presence than diplomatically, economically or socially. That, in turn, leads to a negative and hostile view of the United States, its policies and its people.

Mr. Speaker, last November, people overwhelmingly supported then Candidate Obama because of his message of change and hope for a new America and a new era in foreign policy. I was especially encouraged by his statement. He said, "To renew American leadership in the world, I will strengthen our common security by investing in our common humanity. Our global engagement cannot be defined by what we are against. It must be guided by a clear sense of what we stand for. We have a significant stake in ensuring that those who live in fear and want today can live with dignity and opportunity tomorrow."

Mr. Speaker, while we have the most highly skilled military in the world, it is easily recognized that the world's conflicts will not be solved at the barrel of a gun. Instead, they will be resolved through serious discussion, hard work, reconciliation and diplomacy, all methods this administration has endorsed. Our partnership with the United Nations and our international partners will be invaluable in this process.

We must review our diplomatic and military stance and give strong consideration to redeploying our troops from Iraq and Afghanistan, reducing the size of our military and, in its place, change our outdated international policy to reflect a message of change, a message of hope.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, our Nation and the world at large would be greatly served by a worldwide cease fire, a "time out" to work out a rededication to diplomacy in the form of negotiation, reconciliation, humanitarian assistance and dialogue. The sooner this could be accomplished, the sooner we can move towards a conflict-

free world, a world that all of our children can go to sleep feeling safe and wake up knowing they will be safe for another 24 hours.

I was pleased to see that former Senator George McGovern has joined me in calling a time out. Actually he called it on his own, but we did it at exactly the same time. In the Washington Post this weekend, or last weekend, Senator McGovern wrote, and I quote him, "Like you, Mr. President, I don't oppose all wars. I risked my life in World War II to protect our country against genuine danger."

He continued, "But it is the vivid memory of my fellow airmen being shot out of the sky on all sides of me in a war that I believe we had to fight that makes me cautious about sending our youth into needless conflicts that weaken us at home and abroad, and may even us weaken us in the eyes of God."

Mr. Speaker, today I urge our President and our Nation to seriously consider our actions and our policies that come at the end of a gun or the launching of a missile.

I am encouraged greatly, however, by the leadership of this new administration. Under its guidance we will live up to our international commitments and we will be judged by what we build, not by what we destroy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CONGRATULATING THE TEXAS FARM BUREAU ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my warmest congratulations to the Texas Farm Bureau on its 75th anniversary. The bureau's legacy of service, advocacy and partnership has brought out the best in Texas agriculture and helped to preserve the rural way of life that we so deeply cherish in my district.

The people who make up the Farm Bureau have an unparalleled history of making a difference in their local communities. They have helped to make family businesses across Texas more efficient and resilient by sharing the best practices available, providing important services to members that make the most out of their often limited resources. And perhaps most importantly, by giving farmers and ranchers a unified voice, they have guaranteed that they will always have a role in the democratic process.

Though the hours are long and the work is sometimes difficult, the work

done by the Farm Bureau is irreplaceable. For the past 75 years it has helped millions of Texans better provide for themselves, their communities and their country.

Finally, I would also like to offer a special word of gratitude to the past and present leadership of the Texas Farm Bureau. Their ongoing vision for rural Texas is a testament to what can be accomplished when neighbors help one another.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to represent some of the many men and women of the Texas Farm Bureau. On behalf of my constituents, I would like to thank them all for truly being the voice of Texas agriculture, and wish them many more years of continued service.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO HANK AARON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise on a very, very joyous and celebratory occasion, an occasion to wish happy birthday to an extraordinary person, a great American, and a leading world citizen, and that is home run king Hank Aaron.

For on February 5th of this month, Hank Aaron will celebrate his 75th birthday, and I am sure all of us in this Congress and across America and around the world would love to take this opportunity to say, "Happy birthday, Hank."

Hank Aaron was born in 1934 in the midst of the Depression in Mobile, Alabama. In that same year, a gentleman by the name of Babe Ruth swatted his last home run for the New York Yankees. Who would have thought that this young, black kid in Mobile, Alabama in 1934 would one day beat the record that many said never would be broken?

Then World War II comes along; Pearl Harbor is bombed. While Hank Aaron's father is in the shipyards of Mobile, Alabama, fixing up the boats and the ships to help win World War II, Hank Aaron is playing his very first ball game as a 7 year old in Mobile, Alabama.

Then 1947 comes around, and Jackie Robinson comes on the scene, and Jackie Robinson breaks the color barrier, and creates a great gleam and hope and inspiration in the heart of this young 13-year-old kid, Hank Aaron, to think that, one day, I can play Major League Baseball because Jackie Robinson is with the Brooklyn Dodgers.

He grows up in 1951, and at the tender age of 17, this young man signs a contract, Hank Aaron. His mother packs his suitcase and sends him off to play in the Negro league for the Indianapolis Clowns. What an historic and extraordinary life.

Two years later, three years later in 1954, when the Supreme Court brings down that great decision in the Kansas Board of Education to integrate the schools and to start America on the movement to where we have seen this crowning achievement this year to elect the first black President, Hank Aaron signs with the Milwaukee Braves.

In 1957, he has shown such skill, such tenacity to be one of the leading players, star players, in all of Major League Baseball in just 4 short years, and he leads the Milwaukee Braves to their first and only world championship, and he gets the crown as the Most Valuable Player in the 1957 World Series.

Then in 1966, the South beckons. We want a major league team. The South is in the major leagues. Atlanta beckons. Mayor Ivan Allen makes a trip to Milwaukee, not to talk to the mayor, not to talk to the general manager or to the owner but to go knock on the door and to sit in the living room of Hank Aaron in 1965 and say, "We are building a stadium, but we need a team."

Hank Aaron says, "Let's go south, boys," and history was made, and the South becomes a part of Major League Baseball because of this great American, Hank Aaron, in 1966.

In 1974, the night is April 8, and then we flash back to that year 1934 and remember the great bambino strikes his final home run the year Hank Aaron is born. 714, they said, would never be broken, but on that night on April 8, 1974, Hank Aaron shatters Babe Ruth's record and hits 715. It is the shot heard around the world and the accolades. A great achievement. One of the greatest sports achievements in history.

In 1976, he hits 755.

All America join me in saying, "Happy birthday, Hank Aaron, on your 75th birthday."

IN THESE DIRE ECONOMIC TIMES, MICHIGAN IS LISTENING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MCCOTTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCOTTER. In these dire economic times, Mr. Speaker, I try to remind my colleagues that, when Washington is talking, Michigan is listening because, again, we are living your nightmare now.

Last week, the House passed what I believe to be a \$1 trillion fiscal obscenity at taxpayers' expense and at the expense of the unemployed's hope, but you need not take my word for it because, again, Michigan was listening, and when I had the chance to talk to a gentleman named Greg from Milford, this is what he said about the supposed stimulus bill.

Greg said, "I worked for a company that just lost 700 jobs nationwide, and the stimulus package just amazes me, that Congress is trying to push this thing through—the \$600 million and ev-

erything going on, things that are not going to stimulate the economy. I have enough money to last a month."

At this point, Greg's voice started to break.

"Try telling your kids at the dinner table that you just lost your job. It is devastating when you tell your daughter you cannot even buy her a school yearbook because you just do not have the money. You have got money that you were going to spend on something just to let your kids celebrate something that you did, and now that is going to go to the grocery store because you cannot do otherwise or you are going to try to pay your house bill," and again, Greg paused.

"When we are sending money overseas to pay for abortions for people who are not even in this country, we are not supporting our own people. They need to change it. I am just one person. They do not listen. If we can have everybody call them and just say, 'We have got to do something different. We cannot throw this money in the garbage. What can we do?'"

That was Greg's view of a bill that was intended to help him and his struggling family. When Greg was listening to what Washington was saying as it passed the, quote/unquote, stimulus bill, he heard about billions for national parks, about the hundreds of millions for artists, about the smoking secession programs, and about the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. When this bill was explained back down in Michigan, here is what Greg heard.

He heard that, if you are a hiker who is artistic, who is trying to quit smoking and who is trying to avoid STDs, the House Democrats' bill was for you. If you were in a manufacturing State and you had just lost your job and you were worried about your family, like Greg, you fared far more poorly.

I just want Greg to know that we are listening out here, that when the \$1 trillion stimulus bill that will not help him came to the House floor, the entire House Republican minority and 11 Intrepid Democrats said no. They recognized that this would not help him, that it would not help his family and that it would not help any American family that is struggling in straits such as his.

That is why House Republicans responded to President Obama's proposal for bipartisanship early on and produced a package that would have created twice the jobs at half the cost, and this is why we will continue to work in as bipartisan a fashion as is allowed in this Chamber to do what is right for Greg and for his family and for all American families in these very dire times.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear