

are created. These jobs go not just to scientists but to research assistants, electricians, technicians and construction workers.

We need to provide a comprehensive set of jobs in this package so that our new roads and bridges built with the funds lead to research facilities and high tech start-up companies that will provide the foundation for the economy of the 21st century.

The ideal project is one that keeps on giving, and that is exactly what scientific research projects do. In his inaugural address, President Obama said, "We will restore science to its rightful place." The legislation we have been considering places science in an important place in short-term job creation and long-term economic growth.

HONORING THE WOMEN OF TOMORROW MENTOR AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to commend a wonderful organization in my congressional district, the Women of Tomorrow Mentor and Scholarship Program. Founded in 1997 by veteran TV journalist, Jennifer Valoppi, and Telemundo President Don Browne, the program has been a pioneer institution for inspiring at-risk young women to achieve their fullest potential through education and job training.

The participants of the Women of Tomorrow program receive mentoring and guidance from highly accomplished professional women in our community. These women share their experiences and techniques for achieving academic and professional success, and their efforts bear fruit, as the high school graduation rate of Women of Tomorrow participants is 90 percent, well over the national average.

Thanks to the Women of Tomorrow organization, under the leadership of its executive director, Bianca Erickson, countless at-risk teenagers are given the encouragement to dream big for the future. Nearly all of the program's high school graduates pursue a college education.

I am grateful to all the individuals who have dedicated their time to this tremendous organization, and I ask that the names of the board of directors be inserted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD: Dr. Diane Walder, Marisa Toccin, Donna Feldman, Jamie Byington, Judge Judith Kreeger, Betty Amos, Katherine Fernandez-Rundle, Don Browne and Jennifer Valoppi.

THE GOVERNMENT'S TRIPLE BOGEY

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, we are being told by the administra-

tion that unless America plays this stimulus package game, "the country may never recover." Once again the politics of fear and intimidation are on Capitol Hill.

If we open up this \$835 billion package and look inside, we see all types of goodies for special interest groups that is nothing more than government waste.

There are millions in the package for grant money for neighborhood electrical vehicles that go to government workers. Here's one of these \$7,500 vehicles right here. It looks like a golf cart to me. Why should the taxpayer be forced to buy these contraptions?

Does anyone really think this will help the economy?

Well, the taxpayers are yelling "fore" while being left out in the rough, and Congress keeps adding strokes to the scorecard.

This bill is supposed to get the economy back on the fairway, but it's just one bogey after another.

Want to stimulate the economy? Let Americans keep more of their own money.

No golf carts for government workers. The government is millions of strokes over par by playing this stimulus game.

And that's just the way it is.

WHAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW

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

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, the American people should know the \$800 billion stimulus bill is not the only spending bill coming. In 2 weeks, we will consider a \$410 billion omnibus with 4,000 earmarks in it, followed by a \$100 billion supplemental. Americans should know that these three spending bills will trigger a need to borrow \$2.6 trillion in just the next few months. That's five times more than the United States has ever borrowed.

Each taxpayer now owes \$56,000 on this debt, and after these bills pass, you will owe \$76,000 each. The cost of this debt will rip the cost of a college education from each family.

Last week I was the first Member of Congress to bother even to visit the Bureau of Debt. They will attempt to borrow \$2.6 trillion over the next few months to try to pay for these three spending bills.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, America faces an unambiguously dramatic economic downturn. And Americans are hurting in this very difficult economic time.

But Republicans in the House are still waiting for an opportunity to

bring our ideas for economic recovery to the table. So far we've been shut out of negotiations. For instance, Republicans have proposed real assistance for the unemployed by slashing Federal taxes on unemployment benefits, but our suggestions for economic recovery have been ignored.

The result? A bill that does little to stimulate the economy and lots to stimulate the Federal Government and our national debt.

We must pass a bill that helps struggling workers get back on their feet, and that encourages entrepreneurs, the real engines for job creation, to take risks again.

Madam Speaker, we cannot borrow and spend our way back to prosperity.

SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO STIMULATE OUR ECONOMY

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

Mr. SHUSTER. President Obama said that something must be done to stimulate our economy, and I wholeheartedly agree. Unfortunately, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle must have thought President Obama said spend \$1 trillion of our children's and grandchildren's money on programs that drive up the national debt and do little to stimulate the economy.

The fact is, little of the dollars spent in the Democratic stimulus actually creates jobs. But for every \$1 billion we spend on infrastructure, 30,000 jobs are created; however, the Democrat stimulus package has less than 10 percent that they are spending on a proven job creator.

Instead of accepting a bill that is long on waste and short on substance, House Republicans have an alternative that provides lasting long-term tax breaks to help hardworking families, home buyers and small businesses through these difficult times.

Basic economics teaches us that high Federal spending will dramatically increase inflation.

Madam Speaker, the American people do not need Congress to add to their list of economic problems. We must address the true problems at hand and fix our economic crisis, not quench the Democrats' thirst for more big government.

The Republican approach will work to pull our economy out of this recession. It's time to put politics aside and put Americans first. It's time to adopt the Republican alternative.

DEFICIT SPENDING

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, last night I sat here for much of an hour listening to Democratic colleagues across the aisle decrying how terrible deficit spending was. And the tax cuts brought us record revenue into the U.S.

Treasury. That wasn't the problem. The problem was that we were deficit spending. And that's a large reason why the Democrats won the majority in November of 2006, to cut out deficit spending.

So, after hearing my friends across the aisle last night talking about how bad deficit spending was, I went back, and as I thought about it last night, it could mean only one thing. Our Democratic colleagues, including the majority leader that spoke so eloquently last night here, are going to vote with us against this deficit monstrosity because parents, most parents, would do anything to make the life of their children better. But not here in Congress. We've got a bill that is going to allow us to live better at the expense of our children, and we should not do this to future generations if we care.

IT'S CRITICAL THAT CONGRESS ACT QUICKLY AND RESPONSIBLY

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

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, with employment hitting unprecedented highs, it is critical that Congress act quickly and responsibly to turn the economy around. Unfortunately, many of my Democratic colleagues continue to play partisan politics with our children's and our grandchildren's future. Apparently the backers of the stimulus bill believe that any government spending can be justified as an economic stimulus. The result in both this Chamber and the Senate is a bill larded with spending on Democratic policy priorities that will not impact the economy for years, if at all.

Republicans have put forth a real solution, one that provides targeted tax relief to hardworking Americans, and provides economic relief to allow businesses to invest in themselves and rebuild our economy.

As the President has said, the decisions we make now will have long-term consequences on our future and future generations. At the very least, we owe those future generations a thoughtful debate and objective economic justifications for our actions.

PEOPLE ARE WORRIED BACK HOME

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

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, last weekend I was home, and folks back home are worried. They're worried about what this Congress is doing. They're worried about their futures, they're worried about their kids, they're worried about their jobs.

One of the things when I was talking to a lot of the folks at home over the weekend was, first of all, they said what happened to that \$700 billion that

you all passed last year for the financial bailout? And they're worried about what's going to be going on right now with this \$838 billion that we've seen come out of the Senate. And, of course, that's not the correct figure because after you figure in your interest, you're over \$1 trillion.

And when you talk about that \$1 trillion, you know right now we owe \$3 trillion to foreign governments, with as of 2 months ago the Chinese owning \$682 billion of our debt. We watch this keep rising and rising, and the people want to know what's the future going to hold for them; where are the jobs going to be.

Well, the Republicans have offered a plan, especially one in which Ohio, under our plan, would create 246,000 jobs, compared to the 142,000 jobs offered under the current stimulus package.

I think that this Congress should examine what this Congress should be doing, making sure that we spend our dollars wisely.

□ 1415

WHERE WERE THE MEDIA . . . ?

(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, sometimes media bias is most evident by the news that reporters choose not to cover.

For example, where were the media when the Congressional Budget Office announced last week that the economic stimulus package would reduce the long-term potential output of the economy? Almost every national media outlet ignored the CBO's negative report.

Where were the media when the White House announced last week that it would seize oversight of the Census Bureau and, thus, be able to politicize the nonpartisan census?

Where were the media when President Obama decided that an internal investigation by his own attorney was sufficient to clear his staff of any inappropriate dealings with the former Governor of Illinois?

Madam Speaker, can you imagine what the media would have done if a Republican President were involved?

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs:

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 9, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI, This letter is to inform you that I will be taking a leave of absence from my position on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs (HCFA); however,

I reserve my right to retain my seniority on HCFA during my service on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or my Chief of Staff, Shana Chandler, with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully yours,

ADAM SMITH,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

MOTION TO GO TO CONFERENCE ON H.R. 1, AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1 of rule XXII and by direction of the Committee on Appropriations, I move to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 1) making supplemental appropriations for job preservation and creation, infrastructure investment, energy efficiency and science, assistance to the unemployed, and State and local fiscal stabilization, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield 30 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS). All time yielded during consideration of the motion is for debate only.

Madam Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute.

I think the need for this action is obvious. The country is in trouble economically. We need to put an economic recovery package in place just as soon as possible. Going to conference is the next step to making that happen, and I would urge support for the motion.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

It was less than 2 weeks ago that we debated the House version of the economic stimulus package. When we began this process, I was hopeful that the House and the Senate would heed the President's call for bipartisanship. Madam Speaker, clearly, that has not occurred. The House and Senate have now cleared their respective versions of the same legislation. To date, eleven Democrats have opposed the stimulus package in the House, and only three Republicans—that is three Republicans—have supported it in the Senate.

The manner in which this package was developed is the clearest demonstration to date that, while the President expresses his sincere interest in bipartisan collaboration, his own leadership in the House stubbornly clings to a top-down approach to governing. That top-down approach to governing that has dominated our politics