

a demand for vulnerable, undocumented workers.

I urge my colleagues not to let politics cloud a real solution. The only answer is comprehensive immigration reform.

ANTICIPATING THE JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, tonight, when President Obama speaks to a joint session of Congress, I will be on the aisle to greet him, as I have for the past 20 years. It's always my honor and privilege to shake the hand of the President of the United States. And it's really electrifying. But I think tonight, Mr. Speaker, the anticipation is even more electrifying than usual. Our new President, who has done such a wonderful job in bringing us hope, is going to come tonight to speak with the Congress and tell us his plans. I hope and I know that under his administration, we will fix health care and have it universal for everyone.

We know, and under his administration, we will look at our energy policy and wean ourselves off of foreign oil so that America can truly be energy independent.

We need to get our fiscal House in order, and the President's going to address that as well.

So as we anticipate his speech, Mr. Speaker, I want to say to the President of the United States, that I am willing and want to work with him hand-in-hand, hope we can do it on a bipartisan basis, and I look forward to his words tonight.

NO PATIENT LEFT BEHIND

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

Mr. KAGEN. Mr. Speaker, we're going to be listening this evening to President Obama, and one of his featured subjects will be health care. What we don't need in the United States is socialized medicine. We don't need more government control of our personal lives.

What we do need is access to affordable health care for everyone. And to guarantee access to affordable care for every citizen, we need to enact the essential elements of health care, which are, first, that there shall be no discrimination against any citizen due to any pre-existing condition.

Second, there should be open disclosure of all prices, so we know the price of a pill before we swallow it.

And, third, we need to secure the same discounts for all citizens so we all pay the same price for the same service or product.

We can also create the largest risk pools possible to leverage down prices

for all of us. Imagine this: We are only one law away from guaranteeing access to affordable care for everyone everywhere in these United States.

REPUBLICAN ALTERNATIVE RECOVERY PLAN

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

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, House Republicans refused, to a person, to support the economic course that President Obama's recovery plan offered.

The Republican proposal is made up almost entirely of tax cuts for the wealthy and strips virtually all of the job-creation investments that was necessary to transform our economy for the future. Their alternative plan had no funds for American infrastructure needs, no investment in energy efficiency, and no protection for health care, no money for police officers and teachers and no food assistance for struggling families, and offered no chance for America to come out of this recession stronger and more able to compete economically.

Mr. Speaker, when are House Republicans going to realize that you can fool some of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time?

□ 1230

PROSPERITY AHEAD FOR ALL AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, what an exciting and wonderfully forward day that we have today when we will be addressed by the Commander in Chief regarding the state of the Nation. All I can think about is we have planted the seeds of the economic stimulus package, a plan that should help no matter who you are and where you are in the nooks and crannies of this Nation, how this Commander in Chief will tell us of the prosperity ahead, of the brighter days ahead. I look forward to that kind of leadership, for, when you are in troubling times, you plant the seeds to make it better.

Our instruction to America is that no area should be left out. The rural poor should not be left out. The urban centers should not be left out. As we are watching the States, we are seeing that some of them are making decisions that do not impact all of the people. We are going to call them to be able to be held accountable because this money is not for their own personal piggy banks.

Let me also say, Mr. Speaker, that I was gratified that the chairman of the Homeland Security Committee allowed me to travel to Guantanamo Bay yes-

terday. It is, in fact, a place where our soldiers are working very hard, but it is also a place where we can find another location. We are studying the issue, but I think it is possible to close Guantanamo Bay.

A PROPOSED TAX HOLIDAY

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I have proposed a tax holiday plan. The bill has been filed. I think the first one was laid over here on the Clerk's desk as soon as we were sworn in. It would allow the American people to keep their own income for 2 months. It would allow them to keep their withholding.

When I brought it up to President Obama, he seemed intrigued by the idea. He said, "Ah, you need to talk to Larry Summers about it."

Larry Summers said, "Sure, I'll talk to you."

Well, he didn't take my calls, but nonetheless, I was really gratified Saturday to hear the President say he was going to put people's money, their withholdings, in their paychecks so they wouldn't have to wait for a rebate check. I said, "Wow, fantastic. He's going to help the American people."

The average household was going to get to keep about \$1,000 a month under the proposal. It was going to be great. It was going to help people buy cars. Yet, as it turns out, he said it's \$65 a month. Boy, that's like throwing somebody who's drowning a toothpick and saying, "Grab hold and hang on and we'll help you." Let's get them their real money back.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

HONORING PAUL NEWMAN

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 18) honoring the life, achievements, and contributions of Paul Newman.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 18

Whereas Paul Newman, a great American actor, film director, entrepreneur, humanitarian, and automobile racing enthusiast, passed away on September 26, 2008;

Whereas Paul Newman was born on January 26, 1925, in Shaker Heights, Ohio;