

ton, or I should say on the carbon dioxide per ton, and then it goes out \$10 a year. So you are absolutely correct; everything you purchase is going to cost more. The exact opposite thing you should be doing in an economic downturn is even consider raising taxes because you have taken more capital out of the market.

Right now small businesses are having to compete with the government for capital. It is difficult to do. The banks, the regulators, are having more stringent rules on banks, so it is much more difficult for them to get this capital. In fact, there is no question in my mind that it is delaying our recovery.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, certainly there are some things that could be done that wouldn't cost anything, just along the lines of what you proposed to your local businesses where you saw problems in your local area as mayor, but there is something called mark to market, and there is good opportunity there. We talked about that last year, but we just couldn't get Treasury and the people there to take a good look at this whole situation. The rules needed to be dealt with.

We are joined by a good friend, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), who has joined us before on the floor. He is articulate, very much up to speed on these topics, and it is a treat to yield time to Congressman SCALISE.

Mr. SCALISE. I appreciate my friend from Missouri yielding me time, and you are talking about what is happening today here in Congress, and all across America because as people are tightening their belts and dealing with these tough economic times in their own way, in responsible ways, it seems like Washington, this is the only place where they seem to be going on a wild spending spree, spending money that we don't have on programs that actually are causing more problems, actually hurting our economy.

If you look at these proposals, especially this tax increase, and you just showed the proposal, the taxes both on small businesses, actually the engine of our economy, small businesses over \$600 billion in taxes proposed on our small businesses, and they create 70 percent of our jobs.

But what is more frightening to Americans all across the country is they realize this cap-and-trade proposal, it is a term that really means energy tax. It is a \$640 billion tax on energy. People who actually use energy in their homes, if you are turning on your lights, you are going to be paying more in taxes, to the tune, the estimate that we got from the Congressional Budget Office, they estimate that this proposal in the President's budget, moving through right now, something that we can stop, but in this proposal, it actually increases individual American tax bills, the bills on their utilities, by \$1,300 a year.

Imagine that, in tough economic times like we are dealing with today, if

you actually want to use your air conditioner during a hot summer, \$1,300.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, you just got my attention. I had seen some numbers, but are you saying that the average family in America, what is this cap-and-trade tax going to be? It is going to increase your electric bill on the electric side?

Mr. SCALISE. Unfortunately, that is exactly what their proposal does. The Congressional Budget Office estimates, and in fact the President's own budget director, Mr. Orszag, has been saying that this will actually increase utility bills for ratepayers across the country.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, on top of everything else, you're saying we have another thousand bucks a family in this deal?

Mr. SCALISE. Not just a thousand, \$1,300 a year in electricity tax increases that people would be paying on their electric bill every year. This isn't a one-time thing.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, that is not even talking about what you are going to do to further bury small business, who are the very people we want to create our jobs.

I see that we are joined by a highly respected congressman, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE). I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. PENCE. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank my good friend for his strong leadership on this issue on the floor of the Congress.

After months of runaway spending here in Washington, D.C., on bailouts and on a so-called stimulus bill, and now the majority is beginning to talk about another stimulus bill and no doubt more bailouts, in the midst of all of that, the incoming administration has presented its budget, more than \$3 trillion in spending and higher taxes.

I come to the floor today to congratulate the gentleman and my colleagues for their strong statements today. But the American people deserve to know the President's budget spends too much, taxes too much, and borrows too much.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, Mr. PENCE, you said it so simply. What is that again?

Mr. PENCE. The President's budget spends too much, it taxes too much, and it borrows too much; and Republicans in Congress have a better solution.

In the coming weeks, the American people will hear from this floor, hear on the airwaves of America, and see in print a careful exposition of each of these points: about the extraordinary spending, the extraordinary increase in taxes that have just been described, taxes that will impact in the energy tax every household in America, every business in America.

Mr. AKIN. Wait a minute, reclaiming my time, maybe my memory is foggy. I thought I recalled the President saying he wasn't going to tax anybody making less than \$250,000, and I kind of almost went back to sleep. I said that's

not me, I'm not going to worry about it. Now you're upsetting me.

Mr. PENCE. The gentleman points to the President's comments made here on this floor, that only Americans with joint filings over \$250,000 a year would experience higher marginal rates under his plan. But that leaves out two thoughts. Number one is that more than half of the American people that file tax returns in excess of \$250,000 a year are actually small business owners filing as individuals. Raising taxes on small business owners in a recession is a prescription for economic decline. But there is another tax increase, and that is the energy tax increase the gentleman was just referring to.

For the average American household, the energy tax increase could impact several thousand dollars per year on every homeowner, every renter, every small business. It will fall under the category of cap and trade and climate change, but the American people need to be prepared to count the cost as the President moves his budget forward. Higher energy taxes, higher taxes on small businesses, and higher taxes on contributions to charities.

By one independent estimate, American charities and nonprofits, including educational institutions, religious institutions, charities that serve the underserved community, some estimates indicate that the President's tax increase could cost charities in this country \$16 billion per year.

The President's budget spends too much, taxes too much, and borrows too much. Republicans have a better solution. We will be bringing those arguments and that solution to the American people in the weeks ahead.

Mr. AKIN. Reclaiming my time, the budget that we are talking about spends too much, it taxes too much, and it borrows too much. That ought to be pretty close to the title of our discussion here.

I really appreciate the good thinking and the high level of education. We have doctors here on the floor today. Congressman AUSTRIA from Ohio, we appreciate you joining us. And Congressman PENCE, a solid, conservative, commonsense kind of guy, coming from the heartland of Indiana. And Dr. ROE, this is the first you have joined us, and I am so thankful for your perspective and leadership. You are a medical doctor, and you also literally ran a small government. You have tried and you know what works. That is obvious from your comments today. Congressman SCALISE from Louisiana is a regular, and we are so thankful for you.

Spends too much, taxes too much, and borrows too much.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1262, WATER QUALITY INVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

Ms. MATSUI (during the Special Order of Mr. AKIN), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-36) on the

resolution (H. Res. 235) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1262) to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize appropriations for State water pollution control revolving funds, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-24)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the Federal Register for publication, stating that the Iran emergency declared on March 15, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2009.

The crisis between the United States and Iran resulting from the actions and policies of the Government of Iran that led to the declaration of a national emergency on March 15, 1995, has not been resolved. The actions and policies of the Government of Iran are contrary to the interests of the United States in the region and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to Iran and maintain in force comprehensive sanctions against Iran to respond to this threat.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 11, 2009.

□ 1730

STEM CELL RESEARCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. FUDGE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I am very grateful to be here for this hour. And I hope some of my colleagues will join me on a very important discussion about embryonic stem cell research and the huge alternative—"the" alternative—adult stem cells, that have proven beyond any reasonable doubt that it is not only ethical, but it works.

Madam Speaker, at a time when highly significant—even historic—breakthroughs in adult stem cell research have become almost daily occurrences, and almost to the point of being mundane, President Obama has chosen to turn back the clock and, beginning just 3 days ago, will force taxpayers to subsidize the unethical over the ethical, the unworkable over what works, and hype and hyperbole over hope.

Human embryo destroying stem cell research is not only unethical, unworkable, and unreliable, it is now demonstrably unnecessary. Assertions that leftover embryos are better off dead so that their stem cells can be derived is dehumanizing, and it cheapens human life.

There is no such thing as a leftover human life. Ask the snowflake children, Madam Speaker, ask their parents. Snowflake children are those cryogenically frozen embryos who were adopted while still frozen. This past Monday, I had the privilege of being with several of those children. They look just like any other kid, any other child. And those kids could have been subjected to embryo-destroying research or they could have been poured down the drain. But thankfully, the donors, the biological parents, decided that they are better off alive and flourishing. And these kids, like so many of the other snowflake children that I have met in the past, were just like any other child.

Life is a continuum, Madam Speaker. It does not begin at the moment of birth. It starts at the moment of fertilization and continues unabated, unless interfered with, until natural death. Birth is an event that happens to your life and to mine, it is not the beginning of life.

Madam Speaker, a recent spectacular breakthrough in the noncontroversial adult stem cell research and clinical applications to effectuate cures or the mitigation of disease or disability have been well documented. For several years, significant progress has been achieved with adult stem cells derived from nonembryonic sources, including umbilical cord blood, bone marrow, brain, amniotic fluid, skin, and even fat cells. Patients with a myriad of diseases, including leukemia, type 1 diabetes, multiple sclerosis, lupus, sickle cell anemia, and dozens of other diseases have significantly benefited from adult stem cell transfers.

In 2005, Madam Speaker, I wrote a law, the Stem Cell Research and Transplantation Act of 2005. It was legislation that created a national program of bone marrow and cord blood, umbilical cord blood—or that blood that is found in the placenta—that is teeming with stem cells of high value that can be coaxed into becoming pluripotent, capable of becoming anything in the human body.

We know for a fact that cord blood stem cells can mitigate, and in some cases even cure—and there have been

several—those suffering from sickle cell anemia. One out of every 500 African Americans, unfortunately, have sickle cell anemia. And cord blood transfers have the capacity and the capability to effectuate cures or the mitigation of that disease. And we have several examples.

I remember when the bill was stuck—first here, and then on the Senate side. We were able to bring people, including Dr. Julius Erving, to a press conference to appeal to the House and Senate leadership to bring that legislation forward simply because it would save lives, but it was being held hostage by the hype and the hyperbole of embryonic stem cell research, which has not cured anyone. The legislation passed the House. Finally, it was dislodged from the Senate and became law. And now we have a nationwide network overseen by HRSA, under the Department of Health and Human Services, to grow our capacity—the number of specimens of cord blood stem cells—to type it, freeze it, use best practices, and promote cures.

Now, the greatest of all breakthroughs—the greatest, in my opinion, and in the opinion of many eminent scientists—is what is known as induced pluripotent stem cells. And I say to my colleagues, and I say to anyone who may be listening on C-SPAN, iPS cells, induced pluripotent stem cells, are the future and the greatest hope for cures. They are embryo-like, but they are not embryos. There is no killing of an embryo to derive the stem cells.

On November 20, 2007, Japanese scientist, Dr. Shinya Yamanaka, and Wisconsin researcher, Dr. James Thomson, shocked the scientific community by independently announcing their ability to derive induced pluripotent stem cells by reprogramming regular skin cells. And unlike embryonic stem cells that kill the donor, are highly unstable, have a propensity to morph into tumors, and are likely to be rejected by the patient unless strong antirejection medicines are administered, induced pluripotent stem cells, iPS cells, have none of those deficiencies, and again, are emerging as the future, the greatest hope of regenerative medicine.

Mr. Obama is way behind the times. Making Americans pay for embryo-destroying stem cell research is not change we can believe in—far from it—it is politics.

A decade ago, the false hope of embryo-destroying research made it difficult to oppose, no doubt. There was a lot of hype, a lot of hot air—much of it well meaning, perhaps—but it was very misleading. That is no longer the case. So the question arises; why persist in the dehumanizing of nascent human life when better alternatives exist, alternatives that work on both ethics grounds and efficacy grounds? Non-embryonic stem cell research is the present and it is the future of regenerative medicine, and the only responsible way forward.