

But when you see your paycheck, you get a paycheck and you realize that your dollar gets—in a year gets worth 10 percent less, and the next year 10 percent less again, and just like interest compounds, so does inflation.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Pretty soon your money is worth half.

Mr. CARTER. So if it would have cost you \$1 to buy this clip when you first started, it will end up costing you \$2 to buy that clip—it's the same clip—because inflation is running away.

Mrs. BACHMANN. And your dollar is worth half of what you thought it was worth.

Mr. CARTER. President Obama promised the people at Caterpillar that if the stimulus bill passed, they would start hiring soon. The reality is they started laying off again because it wasn't the solution to the problem.

I have got another friend that's here to join us, Mr. WESTMORELAND from the great State of Georgia, and I am going to yield him so much time as he may wish to consume.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Thank you to the gentleman from Texas for yielding and for having this hour.

I think if I was going to grade President Obama on the first 100 days, that I would have to give him an "A" in public perception.

Mr. CARTER. Amen.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. I think he is a great orator. I think he does a great job of reading a speech, and he has—his message, and he's still been on the campaign trail, has made the public's perception think that we are getting somewhere. But the gentleman from Texas makes an excellent point. I thought he said it would not rise above 7.5 percent.

I would also have to give him an "A" on blame shifting. And the gentleman from Texas mentioned that, too, that this seems to be all of our problems—all of our problems seem to be from the prior administration and the prior Congresses when the Republicans were in the majority.

Now, I am here to confess that I was only here one term while we were—the Republicans were in the majority and we spent too much money. And we did. And we were at fault. And the American people said, "No, we're going to stop this train. We're going to make a change." And Republicans, we got what we deserved, but the American people did not get what they deserved.

In this last election, they were promised change, and we have had quite a bit of change. And Judge, the gentleman from Texas, I know you have talked about quite a bit of that, but we need to go forward.

And I have learned something in the past 3 or 4 months that bipartisanship means doing what the Democratic leadership in this House wants you to do. It doesn't mean getting different opinions or different proposals put into the legislation. In fact, I would have to say that this Congress has been one of the most closed Congresses in the history

of this country, as far as bipartisanship.

So, the public perception is an "A." He has sold his agenda in a way that the public has bought it, and one of those parts has been the bipartisanship. But the people that can create the real bipartisanship in the atmosphere of working together is Speaker PELOSI and Leader REID. And the gentleman from Texas knows we have not seen that. We have, in fact, been closed out of the process. So that's not a reality.

The reality is, as my colleague from Georgia mentioned, yesterday was debt day. After yesterday, we go forward spending our children and our grandchildren's money. We're putting everything we're doing on a credit card. I sat here for 2 years in this Congress and I listened to the minority, the Democrats then, complain about deficit spending, about going into debt, on and on and on. Yet today, that seems to be okay. That seems to be the way of this country: We're just going to put it on a credit card. If we don't have enough credit, then we will print the money.

But I want to thank the gentleman from Texas for doing this and for bringing about a report card, I guess, on what the first 100 days has been about in this administration. I hope the next 100 days will be better. I wish this President great success. I wish this country great success.

But I believe in order to achieve that success, we're going to have to get away from the blame shifting. We're going to have to get away from the public perception. We're going to have to get away from selling the snake oil that's sold here, and we're going to have to get down to working together, listening to ideas, and being able to come together and give every Member of this body, the people's House, an opportunity to put forth their ideas into making this a better country that we live in.

So I want to thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding that time and for his willingness to come down and to bring this forth to the American people.

Mr. CARTER. I thank you. Those were wonderful comments.

You know, when you were talking about bipartisanship, I wanted to point out to you that you had it exactly right. It seems that bipartisanship means "do what we say." You know, the worst demonstration of wanting to be bipartisan occurred in February when it was announced that the 2010 census would be moved out of the Department of Commerce and into the White House to politicize the accounting of the American public.

Now, why would I worry about that? Well, because we, Members of Congress, are the branch of this government that is represented by a number of people. We have a number of people that we represent. And we divide the population of this country by a number that is expected to be somewhere around

800,000–850,000 people, I understand it, after the next census. And then that decides how many congressmen and -women we get from each State.

This has always been done by independent people as nonpartisan as possible because the count matters. And so say you're moving it out of the department that it has been in and into the White House, there is nothing bipartisan about that. Absolutely nothing. The center of the universe of one party is the White House.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS

Mr. PERLMUTTER (during the Special Order of Mr. CARTER) from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-87) on the resolution (H. Res. 365) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

THE WORK OF THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FUDGE. Good evening, Mr. Speaker.

I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert supplementary materials on the topic of my Special Order this evening.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus, the CBC, is proud to anchor this hour. Currently, the CBC is chaired by the Honorable BARBARA LEE from the 9th Congressional District from California. My name is Congresswoman MARCIA FUDGE, representing the 11th Congressional District of Ohio.

CBC members are advocates for the human family, nationally and internationally, and have played a significant role as a local and regional activist. We continue to work diligently to be the conscience of the Congress. But understand, all politics are local. Therefore, we provide dedicated and focused service to citizens of the congressional districts we serve.

The vision of the founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus, to