

cost of their household budget, and they're preparing to do that in name of environmental priority and climate change legislation at precisely the time that American working families, small business owners, and family farmers can least afford it.

So I commend the gentleman from Utah. I commend him for his extraordinary and visionary leadership on issues involving energy. But I pledge this: That as chairman of the House Republican Conference, as one of those tasked with the American Energy Solutions Group on which my colleagues have the privilege of serving, we are going to make the fight in the weeks ahead against this national energy tax and, to the gentleman's point, we're going to offer a Republican alternative in the American Energy Act that will lessen our dependence on foreign oil, make a commitment to wind and solar and nuclear energy, make a commitment to new, cleaner technologies, more fuel efficiency. But it will not include a national energy tax that will drive this economy further down during these difficult days.

I yield back.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I appreciate the gentleman from Indiana giving us what I think is not necessarily bright news, but good news to realize that the cap-and-tax approach or the cap-and-trade policy is not the only one that's out there. There are other options.

The gentleman from Louisiana and I have joined with Senator VITTER on what is called the No Cost Stimulus Bill that solves this problem in a different approach. The Republican Study Committee and the Western Caucus have joined with H.R. 2300, which solves this problem with an alternative approach that provides American energy and American jobs without the harmful side effects.

I just went this afternoon to the National Center for Policy Analysis. They presented 10—they call it 10 cool global warming policies—but 10 specific ideas or concepts, many of them that we have incorporated in some of those other bills that would help our situation without having to impose a tax that hurts the poorest of our people.

Now I am pleased to yield to my good friend from Texas, someone who is, I think, the most fascinating speaker I have a chance to listen to, the last few minutes that we have on this particular issue at this time tonight to try and summarize once again that where we're going, hopefully we can avoid the pitfalls, and there are other options than what we have simply seen placed before us so far.

I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. I appreciate your yielding. I don't think there's anybody who brings more clarity to the issues of energy than my friend from Utah, Mr. BISHOP. I sure do appreciate the clarity he brings.

But when we talk about this cap-and-tax-away-jobs bill that's apparently

going to be coming rather quickly upon us, you need to look at the reasons being given as to why we have to have this cap-and-tax-away-jobs bill, why we have got to get rid of more jobs, cost more Americans more money when they don't have it. And we're told it's because of the carbon dioxide out there and that it's creating global warming.

Well, have you noticed we're not calling it global warming anymore? Now we're calling it climate change. And you wonder why have they started calling it climate change. Well, you start looking at some of the scientific data that's coming out and they're realizing, you know what, this planet may be cooling instead of warming. It may be starting on a cooling cycle instead of warming.

So, since we have millions and millions and millions of dollars being made by scaring people about global warming, in case it is cooling, maybe we better change the name to climate change. That way we're going to keep the money coming in either way, because we're scaring people.

It's climate change, no matter which way it's going—warming, cooling. In fact, I saw an article that indicated, you know what, we have been saying that carbon dioxide is trapping the heat and warming the planet, but we may be wrong about that. It may be that the carbon dioxide is creating a shield and causing the Sun's rays to bounce off and, therefore, cooling the planet.

That way, they can have it either way. If it's warming the planet, then it's catastrophe and we need to pass all kinds of laws to tax people, put business out of the U.S., and go to other countries. And if it's cooling, we will have it that way, too. Keep the money flowing in.

In our Natural Resources Committee, we have talked about the polar bears. I have seen that deeply touching commercial where this mama bear with the cub, it looks like they're dying out there. Maybe they are. But what we have heard in our committee is that 20 years ago we know for sure there were less than 12,000 polar bears. And we know today, for sure, there are at least 25,000 polar bears in the world. They have more than doubled in 20 years.

But somebody is making a lot of money by telling people the polar bears are all dying, so give us money, take away American jobs, send them around the planet, and we will be better for it. Well, they will because they're going to have bigger houses. And I don't begrudge Al Gore having that wonderful house and using all that energy, but he just shouldn't make the middle class of America pay more for their energy and cause the loss of their jobs in the name of helping the planet. It doesn't help anybody but him and people like him that are out there scaring folks.

We have talked about the jobs that would be created in ANWR. You open ANWR, a million new jobs across America. You open the Outer Conti-

mental Shelf to drilling, another 1.1 million or 2 million jobs in America. The President can finally keep his promise; instead of losing more jobs, we'd have more jobs coming into America instead of going out.

That's why we don't need a cap-and-tax-away-jobs in America. We need to produce more of our own. And I mean everything. We're talking about wind. We're talking solar.

I have a bill for a prize for somebody that comes up with a way to store electrical energy in megawatt form for more than 30 days. Solar could be our answer to the future. But for right now, it's carbon-based energy. And it will keep jobs in America, bring them back.

But, for goodness sake, let's don't hurt the middle class in America any more than they're already being hurt.

I appreciate so much my friend from Utah. And with that, I will yield back to him.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I appreciate the gentleman from Texas. It is one of those things that we live in a new iPod generation in which in all our lives we are given options and choices. In this particular area, it is not the time for the government to now establish who wins, who loses, what is our only path.

We still have to provide our people with options so that they can live and expand their lives the way they deem best. That's the important part here.

I want to emphasize there are options out there on the table that the Republican Party is presenting. Those options need to be heard and explored because they lead us to a proper goal and an easier pattern.

With that, we yield back the balance of whatever time is left.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 626, FEDERAL EMPLOYEES PAID PARENTAL LEAVE ACT OF 2009

Mr. ARCURI (during the Special Order of Mr. BISHOP of Utah), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-133) on the resolution (H. Res. 501) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 626) to provide that 4 of the 12 weeks of parental leave made available to a Federal employee shall be paid leave, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

HEALTH CARE IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KISSELL). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. We are going to take the next 45 minutes to an hour, myself, Mr. KAGEN, Mr. LANGEVIN, and a few others that will likely join us over the course of the