

exports by implementing the three free trade agreements that we've already negotiated. That way, we show that America keeps its commitments. And we need to lower the corporate tax rate so that our U.S. companies can compete against foreign competitors.

These are commonsense policies that will lead to U.S. competitiveness, job growth, and economic growth.

BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO DAY

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on April 21, 1836, 174 years ago today, Texas forces led by General Sam Houston dealt a decisive blow to General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna and his oppressive government.

Several weeks after signing the Texas Declaration of Independence in March of 1836, roughly 900 members of the Texan army overpowered a much larger Mexican Army in a surprise attack. Some 700 Mexican soldiers were killed and 730 captured, while nine Texans died.

The Texas army quickly and silently moved toward Santa Anna's camp. They were able to get very close because General Santa Anna was still pleased with his victory at the Alamo and failed to post men to watch the Texans' actions. At close range, the "Twin Sisters" drawn by rawhide thongs, were wheeled into position to begin unloading shells at the napping Mexican Army. The cannons were gifts from the people of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Texas soldiers followed the bombardment and yelled and shouted "Remember the Alamo" and "Remember Goliad" stopping only a few yards from the Mexican soldiers to open fire in a surprise attack.

The Mexican soldiers were better trained than their Texas opponents. They were caught off guard. It was a bold attack in broad daylight.

Texas General Sam Houston, former Member of this Congress from Tennessee, future President of the Republic of Texas, future U.S. Senator and Governor of Texas, had two horses shot out from under him and was shot and his ankle was shattered.

Santa Anna was captured that day and held prisoner and signed peace treaties to give Texas independence.

The battle is memorialized along the San Jacinto River with a monument in our district in La Porte, Texas. A panel on the side of the monument states: "Measured by its results, San Jacinto was one of the decisive battles of the world. The freedom of Texas from Mexico won here led to annexation and to the Mexican War, resulting in the acquisition by the United States of the States of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, California, Utah and parts of Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas and Oklahoma. Almost one-third of the present area of the American Nation, nearly

one million square miles, changed sovereignty.'

That's what we're commemorating today.

NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE

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

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of the National Day of Silence. April 16 was the 14th year we've commemorated the National Day of Silence, a time when students across the country remain silent for the whole day to draw attention to discrimination toward their LGBT peers.

Every day students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered, as well as those who are perceived to be LGBT, are subjected to harassment, bullying, intimidation and violence. These actions are incredibly harmful to students, and they also damage our educational system.

In addition to supporting the National Day of Silence, I'm also proud to be cosponsor of H.R. 4530, the Student Nondiscrimination Act. This act is necessary because bullying and discrimination are the norm for so many LGBT young people. These youth face unique challenges in their physical and mental health. Last weekend a group of constituents hosted a Queer Youth Health Summit in Santa Cruz, California.

This group also works to identify mental and physical health needs and promote safe and healthy lifestyles for queer and questioning youth in the region. It's unfortunate a summit like this is necessary, but I commend these students for responding so compassionately.

Though many lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender advocates and their straight allies were silent last Friday, we in Congress should never be. Our job is to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

BRAZILIAN COTTON ISSUE

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

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, April 6, 2010, marks the date that our farm subsidies—these are programs that, on a good day, are out of step with reality—took an unprecedented leap into the absurd. On that day the administration hatched an agreement on Brazil trade litigation that includes the U.S. paying Brazil \$143.7 million a year for "technical assistance and capacity building." Because our subsidies violate WTO rules, we're now paying millions to subsidize Brazilian agriculture.

Let's think about that for a minute. Our subsidies for U.S. farmers are out of step with the WTO. So what do we do in response? We subsidize our trade partners elsewhere in the world. So your tax dollars are not only going to pay subsidies for U.S. agriculture, but

now to pay subsidies for our trade partners in other countries.

We have got to stop this, Mr. Speaker. It's Congress' responsibility to reform our cotton program and our agriculture subsidies.

WALL STREET REFORM

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

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of Wall Street reform. With 8 million jobs lost at the hands of Wall Street tycoons recklessly gambling on the financial futures of our constituents, enough is enough.

This Democratic Caucus has made great progress in pulling our economy back from the brink of disaster, yet the hard work remains. It's my hope that we, in a bipartisan manner, can see that reforming Wall Street is not a political issue. It is an issue that will shape the financial security of all Americans and prevent future economic disasters.

When we enact this bill, it will end bailouts by helping ensure that taxpayers never again are on the hook for Wall Street's risky decisions. It will protect families' retirement funds, college savings, home and business financial futures from unnecessary risks, protect consumers from predatory lending abuses, fine print and industry gimmicks. It will inject transparency and accountability into the financial system which has run amuck.

Mr. Speaker, I say to opponents of this bill, enough is enough. It's time to vote in favor of Main Street all across this great country and against the Wall Street that has run roughshod over the future of too many American families.

WE MUST REIN IN WALL STREET BANKS

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago our Nation suffered one of the greatest economic meltdowns in history when the financial markets nearly collapsed and sent the country into the deepest recession in a generation, one that my State of Nevada is still working to pull itself out of.

The hardworking people of southern Nevada have paid a steep price for the greed and dangerous under-regulation of Wall Street that created a foreclosure crisis resulting in far too many families losing their homes. Seniors lost their retirement nest eggs, and parents lost their savings to pay for their children to go to college.

It's time to ensure that the proper safeguards are in place so that we can prevent a crisis of this magnitude in the future. We must rein in Wall Street