



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 156

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2010

No. 66

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SERRANO).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

May 5, 2010.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOSÉ E. SERRANO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rabbi Dov Hillel Klein, Tannenbaum Chabad House, Evanston, Illinois, offered the following prayer:

In the Jewish tradition, one begins an invocation with words of inspiration. I have received inspiration from many individuals, but the person I am thinking of today is America's number one dad, Bill Cosby.

Several years ago, Bill Cosby spoke at Northwestern University's commencement. He said he was the first person in his family to attend the university. But he came to realize that just going to college does not necessarily make you all that smart, and just by going to college surely does not mean you have all the answers.

He came home after his first day of college and his grandmother asked, "Billy, what did you study?" Cosby replied that in his philosophy class they debated whether or not a half a cup of water was half empty or half full. His grandmother, who did not have a college education or even a high school diploma, responded immediately, "That's so simple. If you are drinking, the glass is half empty, but if you are pouring, the glass is half full."

I thought to myself, if you are drinking means that everything is for me;

my entire focus is just on myself, and because of my arrogance, my selfishness and my self-centeredness, I am half empty. I wind up keeping everyone else out. But if I am pouring, pouring for others, sharing and giving to others, then I am half full, because I am letting others into my life.

God, please continue to bless us so we are able to pour and let others into our lives.

We thank God today for enabling us to serve this great country and being able to make a difference not only in our lives, not only in the lives of our family and friends, but for allowing us to make a difference in the lives of countless numbers of Americans and people throughout the world.

We ask God to continue to give us the insight, the courage, and the humility to serve the people of the United States. God, please bless all the Members of Congress and their families, and most of all, God bless America.

God, who makes peace in the heavens and on Earth, let us indeed have a year of peace, and let us all say Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Pledge of Allegiance will be led by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING RABBI DOV HILLEL KLEIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, Rabbi, I think this is probably the first time that Bill Cosby has been part of the morning prayer. Certainly it is the first time his grandmother has been part of the prayer.

It is with great pride that I rise to welcome Rabbi Dov Hillel Klein to our Nation's Capital as guest chaplain.

Rabbi Klein works in my hometown of Evanston, Illinois, where he is a widely respected member of the community as the district director of Lubavitch Chabad.

Rabbi Klein has had a profound impact on Chabad, not only in Evanston, but throughout the United States. He was one of the pioneers in creating Chabad on university campuses in the United States when he brought his ministry to the students at Northwestern University. Because of his continued efforts, today Chabad is on 140 campuses throughout the United States.

Rabbi Klein also serves an invaluable role in our community as one of the founders and now senior chaplain for the Evanston Police Department, where he accompanies officers in squad cars on patrol and is called upon for crisis intervention. In fact, his work with law enforcement officers around town has earned him the nickname, "Rabbi Cop."

For all that he has done for our community, I am honored to welcome Rabbi Klein and his sons, Avramy and Levi, who are in the gallery to Congress and to thank him for his wonderful work.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H3127

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

**URGING MEMBERS TO COSPONSOR
THE GREEN JOBS ACT**

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

Ms. SCHWARTZ. I rise today to announce new legislation that will incentivize development and production of the next generation of biofuels.

As Congress seeks ways to grow jobs, reduce our alliance on foreign oil, and develop cost-effective renewable energy sources, the cellulosic biofuel industry has enormous potential to help meet this demand, create green jobs, and bring economic benefits to rural and urban communities across our Nation.

American companies can be at the forefront of producing the next generation of renewable biofuels developed from biomass as alternatives to fossil fuels. Enactment of my proposal, the Green Jobs Act, will accelerate construction of bio-refineries and encourage the domestic production of biofuels, bio-based chemicals and other bio-based products. It will reduce our reliance on foreign oil, reduce carbon emissions, and create thousands of good jobs here at home.

There is no better time than today to make smart investments in America's renewable green economy. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Green Jobs Act.

EXTEND THE R&D TAX CREDIT

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Congress should be considering job creation policies to get America's economy rolling once again. A proven method has been the research and development tax credit to stay competitive in the global marketplace and to keep high value research and development jobs.

This tax credit is only available for certain qualified research performed in the United States, and 70 percent or more of the benefits will go straight to the salaries of workers performing U.S.-based research. In South Carolina alone, more than 600 firms participate in research and development activity, spending more than \$1.3 billion a year.

If Congress will increase the rate from 14 percent to 20 percent, we can promote more R&D jobs in the United States and ensure that South Carolina and America remain competitive for research-intensive companies. The United States now ranks 17th in the world when compared to incentives for

private sector research, and I urge Congress to offer more support.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

**TIME FOR COMPREHENSIVE
IMMIGRATION REFORM**

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

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, in my district, a 45-year-old mentally disabled legal immigrant, Guillermo Gomez-Sanchez, was unjustly detained by ICE for 4 years. This tragedy is further evidence that we need comprehensive immigration reform now.

Over the weekend, I marched with 2,000 individuals in San Bernardino, California, to oppose Arizona's law, SB 1070, and support the passage of comprehensive immigration reform. This unconstitutional law is inspired by racism and will lead to racial profiling of Hispanics and people of color.

The Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police opposes this law because they know it will hurt community relations and waste valuable resources. This hateful law also has a negative impact in schools and will lead to increased bullying of Hispanic children.

I urge Americans to boycott the State of Arizona and show their opposition to the misguided Arizona law by wearing these red, yellow, and blue bracelets.

Republicans and Democrats must work together to enact comprehensive immigration reform for human rights, respect, and having our families work together and work toward securing our borders.

**NEW YORK TIMES OBLIVIOUS TO
IMMIGRATION PROBLEM**

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when it comes to the subject of immigration, The New York Times is fast losing its credibility.

A New York Times editorial says the new Arizona immigration law turns all the State's citizens into criminal suspects. Of course, that is an unbelievable exaggeration.

The New York Times says the law requires police officers to question anyone who looks like an illegal immigrant. Actually, it doesn't require anyone to do anything except obey the law.

The New York Times says that Arizona should welcome and assimilate all newcomers, making no distinction between illegal and legal immigrants.

Maybe from a New York City skyscraper it is hard to see the border violence, the human smuggling, the drug trafficking, the lost jobs and the crowded schools, much of it caused by those who break our immigration laws.

**COMMENDING MOUNT CARMEL
SCHOOL, NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS**

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

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, the National High School Mock Trial Competition is the premier national law-related academic tournament for high school students. Mock trial programs are designed to give students an inside perspective on our legal system, providing them with an understanding of the mechanism through which society chooses to resolve many of its disputes.

Participation in a performance-based, hands-on program of this nature provides students with a practical knowledge about how our legal system operates and who the major players are in that system. Mock trial programs help develop young citizens who can sustain and build our Nation by making a reasoned and informed commitment to democracy.

Students of Mount Carmel High School have earned the right to represent the Northern Mariana Islands in this year's national competition in Philadelphia. They will compete with teams from around the country.

Mount Carmel students have a tradition of excellence in oratory. The school represented the Northern Mariana Islands in the National We the People program 2 years in a row. Mr. Ryan Ortizo, one of the members of this year's competition in Philadelphia, just won first place in the CNMI Attorney General's Cup competition.

One has to admire and be proud of the dedication of the students and the commitment of the teaching staff at Mount Carmel School for instilling the passion for debate and public speaking year after year.

SHOOTOUT IN ARIZONA

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Deputy Louie Puroll was in his patrol vehicle last Friday afternoon in Pinal County, Arizona, patrolling the border, but he was 75 miles north of the border. There is not much Border Patrol activity there because it is so far north, but there is plenty of drug smuggling going on.

Deputy Puroll spotted backpacks full of drugs and suspicious activity. He radioed for backup and began to track the group. A drug cartel paramilitary squad opened fire on him with automatic weapons. He was shot in the side by an AK-47. This is the first time one of these squads has shot a lawman that far north, just 50 miles from Phoenix. The shootout lasted 10 minutes. The wounded deputy called for help on his cell phone, and it took an hour to find him.

The drug cartels, Mr. Speaker, are now shooting their way across our border. Until we put armed National

Guard troops at the border to stop these violent narco-terrorists, we risk the lives of our lawmen that are outmanned, outgunned and outfinanced.

And that's just the way it is.

□ 1015

CLEAN ENERGY JOBS/HOME STAR

(Mr. MURPHY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Home Star program. The Home Star program will give us the tools we need to move towards energy independence while strengthening our economy and the middle class. This program encourages energy efficiency improvements during a period when people are strapped for cash. These new improvements will save money in the long run, while creating clean energy jobs and reducing our dependence on foreign oil in the short term.

The key to this program is it incentivizes purchases that otherwise wouldn't be made. This is exactly the way we want to go about stimulating growth in our economy. In my home State of New York, approximately 76 percent of the homes were built before 1970. As a result, we pay a lot more for our energy needs to heat and cool our homes.

I am proud to support the Home Star program to help homeowners make improvements that will save them money and create new green energy jobs.

CMS NOMINEE

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I'm very concerned about the President's new nominee for the CMS, Dr. Donald Berwick. In my opinion, Dr. Berwick's positions on health care represent a step toward more government control of the doctor-patient relationship. Dr. Berwick opposes efforts to make patients more cost sensitive, stating that such measures have "no rationale in science, ethics, or evidence." But there is plenty of evidence that consumers behave differently when the costs of a product are made clear.

Dr. Berwick praised the British commission responsible for rationing care as "extremely effective and a conscientious, valuable, and knowledge-building system." This is the same system that routinely denies care in the name of cost savings and has led to dramatically lower cancer survival rates than the U.S.

Americans don't want a system of poor service and long waiting periods, but that's what we might expect under a CMS administrator who has been knighted for his service to the British National Health Service.

FLOODING IN TENNESSEE

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

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, last weekend the people of Nashville and middle Tennessee suffered the worst losses from flooding in many, many decades along the Cumberland, Harpeth, and other rivers and streams. Even homes far from any body of water suffered as much as 4 and 5 feet of water in their basements. Thousands and thousands of Tennessee families and businesses are facing staggering losses, both personal and financial.

Tourist landmarks like the Opryland Hotel and the Grand Ole Opry itself have suffered terrible losses, but the show is still going on in other locations. Fortunately, just last night the President declared our area an official disaster area, so Federal help is on its way. But the really good news is the good local people of middle Tennessee are banding together and volunteering in unprecedented numbers. Charities are coming forth.

I have never been so proud to live in the Volunteer State.

GULF OIL SPILL

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

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico they claim is going to be the largest ecological disaster in the history of the country. Over 3 million barrels of oil have already leaked into the Gulf, 200,000 gallons a day. They say they might not have a fix for another 30 days.

Numerous experts have talked to me because I am concerned, I am from counties that have beautiful beaches, Sarasota, Manatee Counties, that this couldn't happen, they had the technology, it's not possible, but yet here we are today.

I can tell you that we need to focus all our resources, there is plenty of blame to go around, in stopping this now, not another 30 days. This will impact all of Florida, a lot of region.

I stand here to do everything I can with everybody else to make sure we plug the hole today. Also we need to continue to fight in Florida against drilling off our beaches.

HONORING THE LIFE, SERVICE, AND SACRIFICE OF MAPLEWOOD, MINNESOTA, POLICE OFFICER JOSEPH BERGERON

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and service of Maplewood Police Sergeant Joseph Bergeron, who will be laid to rest tomorrow at St. John's Cemetery in Little Canada, Minnesota.

Last Saturday morning Sergeant Bergeron was killed in the line of duty while responding to a carjacking. On behalf of all Minnesotans, I extend our prayers and our deepest sympathies to Sergeant Bergeron's wife Gail, and his twin daughters, Alexandra and Samantha, all extended family, and friends. Sergeant Bergeron gave his life while working to keep us safe, and his heroic sacrifice shall always be honored and remembered.

To the officials and residents of Maplewood, especially the members of the police department, I extend my condolences at this time of great pain and loss. The City of Maplewood is an outstanding and resilient community. The loss of a devoted police officer is a tragedy felt by every resident.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to recognize St. Paul Police Officer David Longbehn, who was seriously injured while apprehending the suspect in the death of Sergeant Bergeron. I commend Sergeant Longbehn for his courageous service, and wish him a full and speedy recovery; and for all our men and women who wear a police uniform, a safe watch today.

GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. As a constitutional conservative I'm outraged by the unbridled, unchecked, unaccountable, and out-of-control government championed by the Democrats. The Wall Street rescue, the bailouts of Fannie and Freddie, the auto industry, cap-and-tax energy bill, the government takeover of health care, and court-martialing Navy SEALs while giving terrorists rights. Enough already.

The complete lack of respect for the liberties espoused by our Founding Fathers has got to stop. That's why I am proud to announce my participation in a new group, the Tenth Amendment Task Force. The sole purpose of the caucus is to rekindle the truth and foundation of freedom, like promoting personal liberties and responsibilities, championing freedom and free enterprise, restoring States' rights, and reining in government spending.

It's time to roll back big government and rejuvenate respect for the Constitution. Americans are just fed up and want to tell the government, "Get off my back."

REGULATORY REFORM

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because Wall Street reform needs to happen today. Lehman Brothers and AIG collapsed over a year-and-a-half ago, but our regulators still lack the basic power to enforce consumer financial protections and prevent future

taxpayer bailouts of large financial firms.

Wall Street reform will safeguard against the deceptive financial products that destabilized the entire economy and caused the crisis. Wall Street reform will establish an orderly process to shut down large failing financial firms like AIG or Lehman Brothers at no cost to taxpayers. Wall Street reform will protect investors from fraudulent investments like Madoff's \$65 billion Ponzi scheme. Wall Street reform will ensure that consumers aren't steered to bad, unaffordable mortgages when they qualify for good ones.

We need Wall Street reform now to ensure we never repeat the events of the financial crisis.

STOP BAILOUTS

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

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, the American people are frustrated. They don't think that bailouts, government spending, and debt will ever stop. My colleagues across the aisle just don't seem to get it. They say they want to stop bailouts and make sure that the breakdown in our financial system doesn't ever happen again. But financial reform that perpetuates bailouts and limits the choices of individuals is not going to do that.

They're hoping the taxpayers won't take time to understand what the financial regulatory bills actually do. Small businesses will be hurt. Community banks will have to restrict credit. We'll only punish Main Street and slow down job growth. The proposal that passed the House and is pending in the Senate is just more big government takeover of all aspects of our financial systems and less empowerment where we need it the most.

More than 2.7 million jobs have been lost since the President signed his so-called stimulus plan. Month after month the American people still want to know, "Mr. President, where are those jobs?" Rather than creating a permanent bailout, picking winners and losers, we need real financial reform that supports Main Street.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

BORDER SECURITY

(Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, Arizonans are dealing with the consequences of Washington's failed border policies, and the dangers

are growing worse as cartel violence increasingly threatens our communities.

Friday's attack on a Pinal County sheriff's deputy is just the latest example. Our law enforcement is doing the best they can, but border security is a national problem. It is time for the Federal Government to start fulfilling its responsibilities. Washington needs a comprehensive strategy to tighten security and they need to provide the resources to execute the plan.

I introduced legislation to put more boots on the ground along the border, and I firmly believe that any long-term solution must include greatly expanding the Border Patrol. The Federal Government should move forward and enlist thousands of additional agents.

Since that process will take time, I call on Washington to immediately deploy the National Guard to the border. This is a necessary step for the short-term. The risks to Arizonans are too great to allow the inaction to continue.

COSPONSOR H.R. 5177

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

Mr. REHBERG. For thousands of Montana small businesses, Earth Day was just one more example of how out of touch Washington bureaucrats can be. The EPA chose Earth Day as the deadline for its new rule, the lead rule. Every contractor in Montana needed to take a training course from an EPA-certified instructor in order to work on any older building that contained lead. The trouble is Montana only has one teacher for all of our 147,000 square miles, and the EPA gave us less than 1 year to do it.

Everyone wants to make sure that lead is handled safely. But at a time when contractors are hurting from an economic downturn, we don't need to add Federal bungling to the list of challenges.

I introduced H.R. 5177 to extend the EPA deadline and give these small businesses room to breathe. Please join me in cosponsoring this bill. Our contractors are already suffering without the EPA coming after them.

IN SUPPORT OF SISTER-CITY RELATIONSHIPS

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

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, we all know that the earthquake which struck Haiti in January was the worst cataclysm to hit the island nation in over two centuries. What you may not know, and what I would like to recognize today, is the role that sister-city relationships have played and continue to play in the efforts to provide relief to the people of Haiti.

Sister-city relationships, which today involve nearly 700 American towns and cities, are critical to the

often unheralded role of international cooperation and collaboration with our people.

A resolution I introduced today calls upon the continuation and expansion of sister-city relationships as exemplified by the partnership between the City of Bridgeport, led by the city council, and the City of Petion-Ville.

For the people of Haiti and all those who seek understanding and peace between nations, I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking sister cities and helping support them in any way we can.

CONGRATULATING PROFESSOR DAVID KRUEGER FOR 50 YEARS AT ARKANSAS TECH UNIVER- SITY

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

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Professor David Krueger, who after 50 years of teaching at Arkansas Tech University gave his final lecture earlier this week.

Professor Krueger's love of teaching turned into a lifetime of work. What is so great about his commitment to education and his students is that through all of those years he maintained the passion for teaching, earning the Professor of the Year award four times, in addition to being the first recipient of the Arkansas Tech University Faculty Award of Excellence in teaching in 1996.

I commend Professor Krueger for his enthusiasm and dedication for educating our youth, and wish him success as he ends his amazing career, which earned him countless honors and touched even more lives.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring an educator whose accomplishments and devotion to Arkansas Tech University will be missed, but never forgotten.

Congratulations and best of luck to Professor Krueger.

PASS A CLEAN ENERGY BILL

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, 40 years ago the Cuyahoga River in Ohio caught fire, and Congress got the message and passed a suite of clean waters bills that cleaned up our waters. Now, with this 5,000-barrel, maybe-plus, oil spill in the Gulf, Congress and the U.S. Senate particularly needs to get the message and pass a clean energy bill that will reduce our addiction, reduce our dependence on oil from any source. We are fully capable of doing this.

This fall, because of a bill we have already passed, the Johnson Controls company will open up a lithium ion battery production facility in Holland, Michigan, to power electric cars. I

drove the Chevy Volt and look forward to driving the Ford Focus, an all-electric car.

We can reduce our dependence on oil if the U.S. Senate will get the message, get off the dime, and pass a clean energy bill like we have in the House to reduce our dependence on oil and reduce the threat of these horrendous oil spills.

□ 1030

INTRODUCING H.R. 5126, "HELPING SAVE AMERICANS' HEALTH CARE CHOICES ACT"

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, last week, I introduced H.R. 5126, the Helping Save Americans' Health Care Choices Act.

This important legislation restores the popular Health Savings Accounts and Flexible Spending Accounts, which are diminished through taxation and restrictions under ObamaCare.

Millions of Americans rely on HSAs to cover deductibles, insurance copayments, over-the-counter medications, and a plethora of other medical expenses. Furthermore, it is an excellent tool to cut health care costs while ObamaCare, itself, provides no such tools. I find it extremely ironic that the name of the current law, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, betrays the fact that it drives up costs for patients and for their employers.

If you truly support health care affordability, I ask all of you to support H.R. 5126, which restores this valuable tool that saves costs.

DEMOCRATS' JOB CREATION

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

Mr. BOCCIERI. Mr. Speaker, can you believe it? The United States House of Representatives under Democrat majorities have delivered the largest tax reductions in America's history to middle class families. That's right. Ninety-five percent of American workers got a tax cut in the stimulus bill. The stimulus bill acted as a backstop against further job loss, and it helped create some jobs along the way, like what is happening in my district.

Ameridial, in Canton, is adding hundreds of jobs. LuK USA, which makes drive trains for the automotive industry, invested \$18 million with a \$2 million tax abatement that was handed out through some of our recovery efforts, and now they're adding another \$60 million investment in expansion. Tekfor just added another \$31 million in expansion. These are real signs of economic life and prosperity right in the heartland of Ohio.

Let me remind my conservative friends on the other side, amidst the

constant drumbeat that we hear from conservative talk radio, that this is the record, that this is the record of job losses and that this is the record of job recovery that we have seen under this administration and under this leadership.

EXTEND SECTION 45G, THE SHORT LINE RAILROAD TAX CREDIT

(Mr. LEE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LEE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express the need for an extension to the section 45G short line railroad tax credit which expired at the end of 2009. The expiration of this tax credit means that railroads, such as Rochester & Southern in my district, have had to curtail much needed maintenance to their infrastructure. The expiration of this tax credit affects nearly 500 lines across the country.

Originally enacted in 2004, section 45G ensures that the lighter density freight lines can invest enough in their infrastructure to stay connected to the national rail networks. With the discontinuation of this tax credit, railroads such as Rochester & Southern will be unable to do effective long-term capital planning.

Having run a business myself, I know how difficult it can be for a company to plan and to invest when continued uncertainty exists in how their expenses will be offset. That's why we need to pass an extension of the section 45G tax credit now, so we can put people back to work and so we can provide stability for both the workers and the companies which manage the nearly 500 short line rails across this country.

DISASTER IN THE GULF

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the very first thing I want to do is to express my condolences to the 11 persons who were killed on the oil rig in the gulf.

We are faced in this Nation, certainly in the gulf and along the Atlantic coast region, with the potential for a disaster of epic proportions, but the time now is not for us to get involved in blaming someone but, rather, in doing the things that are necessary to cap this gusher and to accelerate attention to clean energy.

Yesterday, Commandant Thad Allen, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke, EPA Secretary Lisa Jackson, and persons from NOAA gave me the assurance, which I hope to convey to my constituents and to those of us who are concerned, that they are doing everything humanly possible to stop this disaster and that they will, assuredly, continue to do the same.

RESILIENCE AND DETERMINATION

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

Mr. CAO. Mr. Speaker, for the past several weeks, the eyes of the world have been directed to the oil spill in the gulf coast. People have been watching, hoping, and wondering:

How many lives will it claim? How many thousands of barrels of oil will it leak? How many years will it set back our efforts to rebuild our delicate coastal wetlands? How many livelihoods of fishermen and longshoremen will it destroy?

The Federal Government's response this time, fortunately, has been swift. As I told Secretaries Napolitano and Salazar as we flew over the affected area this weekend, we are grateful for the care, concern, and compassion they are showing the gulf coast.

Yet we in Congress must also perform our role by being vigilant and by focusing on providing immediate assistance with the containment—with cleanup initiatives that will ensure the accountability of those at fault and with the acceleration of Louisiana's oil and gas revenue-sharing, which, without legislative changes, will not allow Louisiana to receive money to rebuild our coastal wetlands until 2017.

Louisiana has taken up the call to address the country's energy needs. It is time this country heeds the call of Louisiana for the money to restore our coast.

NATIONAL TEACHER WEEK

(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, today, I join with people across the country to celebrate National Teacher Week, which recognizes the exemplary and important work that teachers do in classrooms every day.

Research has shown that a good teacher is one of the most important factors in a student's academic success, so it is only appropriate that we take time during National Teacher Week to say "thank you" to these heroes who positively affect so many lives.

We must also support teachers during these tough economic times by investing in education. I was proud to support the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which saved more than 1,000 jobs for teachers in southern Nevada, and the Jobs for Main Street Act, which passed the House and included a \$23 billion jobs for education fund.

With hundreds of thousands of teachers across the country facing potential pink slips because of budget crises at the local and State levels, I urge my colleagues in both Houses to work quickly to support education by saving vital teaching jobs throughout the country.

ANSWERS AND ACTION TO THE TRAGEDY IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico is an ongoing tragedy, and the American people deserve action to protect our gulf, and they deserve answers.

The American people deserve to know what happened on April 20, and Congress should investigate it thoroughly. The American people deserve to know why the administration was slow to respond, why the necessary equipment was not immediately on hand in the area, and why the President did not fully deploy Cabinet-level Federal officials until he spoke at the White House on April 28.

Lastly, the American people deserve answers for a pathway toward energy independence. There would be those in this country who would exploit this ongoing disaster to deny the American people more access to American oil, but the American people know better. The pathway toward energy independence is an environmentally responsible expansion of domestic drilling for oil and natural gas. It is more wind and solar and nuclear and more conservation.

Republicans are determined to give the American people the answers about what happened on April 20 and about the slow Federal response, and Republicans are determined to give the American people answers and a pathway toward energy independence that uses all of the above.

THE NEED FOR COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to live up to a challenge that has been put before us by the people of our country, by the people of Arizona, and by the people of my State. That is the challenge to replace our broken immigration system with one that works.

As I've traveled across my district, I haven't found a single constituent on the left or on the right who is happy with the state of immigration today in this country. There are over 10 million immigrants in this country who are working illegally, who are frequently undermining wages for working families, and who are taking away jobs from Americans.

We need to pass comprehensive immigration reform to ensure that this number doesn't grow to 15 or 20 million and so, in fact, we have no one who resides in this country illegally. We will require registration and will make sure that people follow the law. We will restore the rule of law to this Nation.

I am a proud cosponsor of the House comprehensive immigration reform bill, which will accomplish that. I call upon my colleagues in the Senate to introduce a bill based on the 25-page outline that they released last week, which would ensure, once and for all, that we will hear the voice of the American people come together to solve our immigration problem.

SUPPORTING A LOCAL JOBS BILL

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, right now, our unemployment rate in the United States hovers around 10 percent. It's a little bit lower than that, but when you think about all of the people who are unemployed in some sectors, it is twice that. In some parts of our country, it is much more than that.

The fact is that we need a jobs bill, a real jobs bill that will put Americans to work. I propose that we support a local jobs bill that will help provide not only jobs for working Americans but will also provide vitally needed services to our cities. All over America, we have districts that are looking at laying off teachers and that are looking at laying off firefighters, police officers, and public works officials. We need these vital services to keep our cities moving properly.

Local officials around this country know that the Federal Government should be responding to these difficult shortfalls and cuts that are resulting in service cuts all over this Nation. We have work that needs to be done, and we have people who are ready to do it. It is time for Congress to step forward with a real local jobs bill.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DRIEHAUS). Pursuant to Executive Order 12131, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the President's Export Council:

Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ, California;
Mr. WU, Oregon;
Mr. SCHAUER, Michigan.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on the Judiciary:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 5, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House, The Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER, I am writing to notify you of my resignation from the House Judiciary Committee, effective May 5, 2010. It was an honor to serve you and Chairman Conyers on this prestigious committee.

I look forward to continuing to serve on the Appropriations Committee and the Select Intelligence Oversight Panel in the 111th Congress.

Sincerely,
DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

HAITI ECONOMIC LIFT PROGRAM ACT OF 2010

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5160) to extend the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, to provide customs support services to Haiti, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5160

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Haiti Economic Lift Program Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) On January 12, 2010, Haiti was hit by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake, the worst earthquake to affect Haiti in recorded history. Aftershocks from the earthquake, measuring up to 6.0 on the Richter scale, continued for days afterwards.

(2) The earthquake has devastated Haiti's infrastructure, including homes, offices, factories, roads, ports, communications, and other facilities. The loss of life attributable to the earthquake was massive.

(3) Even before the earthquake, Haiti was the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, ranking 149 out of 182 countries according to the United Nation's Human Development Index.

(4) In recent years, however, the Government and people of Haiti had taken important steps forward to promote economic growth and development, including making strides towards establishing a competitive apparel sector.

(5) United States trade preference programs, including the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (as amended by the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act of 2006, and the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act of 2008), which extend duty-free tariff treatment to certain apparel produced in Haiti, have made an important contribution to Haiti's economic development efforts.

(6) However, the Haitian apparel sector has been hard hit by the January 12, 2010, earthquake. A number of apparel factories based

in and around Port-au-Prince have been heavily damaged, including the collapse of one major apparel factory that had employed nearly 4,000 workers.

(7) The Port-au-Prince seaport that had served the apparel trade has been badly damaged. And extensive damage to roads has made it difficult to transport apparel to the Dominican Republic for shipment from ports in that country.

(8) According to estimates by the Department of Commerce, imports of apparel articles from Haiti to the United States in 2010 have decreased by 43 percent as compared to the same period in 2009.

(9) The earthquake has increased significantly the costs and uncertainty of doing business in Haiti. A strong and unequivocal commitment from the United States is needed to help Haiti offset these costs and preserve the gains made under United States trade preference programs, and to encourage buyers and investors to stand with Haiti through this crisis.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF CARIBBEAN BASIN ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACT.

The Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 213(b)—
 (A) in paragraph (2)(A)—
 (i) in clause (iii)—
 (I) in subclause (II)(cc), by striking “September 30, 2010” and inserting “September 30, 2020”; and

(II) in subclause (IV)(dd), by striking “September 30, 2010” and inserting “September 30, 2020”; and

(ii) in clause (iv)(II), by striking “8” and inserting “18”; and

(B) in paragraph (5)(D)(i), by striking “September 30, 2010” and inserting “September 30, 2020”; and

(2) in section 213A(h), by striking “September 30, 2018” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

SEC. 4. APPAREL AND OTHER ARTICLES SUBJECT TO CERTAIN ASSEMBLY RULES.

(a) CERTAIN OTHER APPAREL ARTICLES.—Section 213A(b)(3) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(F) CERTAIN OTHER APPAREL ARTICLES.—
 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Any of the apparel articles described in clause (ii) that is wholly assembled, or knit-to-shape, in Haiti from any combination of fabrics, fabric components, components knit-to-shape, or yarns and is imported directly from Haiti or the Dominican Republic shall enter the United States free of duty, without regard to the source of the fabric, fabric components, components knit-to-shape, or yarns from which the article is made.

“(ii) ARTICLES DESCRIBED.—Apparel articles described in this clause are apparel articles in the following category numbers that fall within the following statistical reporting numbers of the HTS (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this subparagraph):

| “Category Number | HTS Statistical Reporting Number |
|------------------|--|
| 334 | 6101.90.9010 6112.11.0010 6103.22.0010 6113.00.9015 |

| | | |
|-----|--|--|
| 335 | 6104.22.0010 6104.29.2010 6112.11.0020 | 6101.90.9030 6103.23.0036 6103.29.1010 6112.12.0010 6112.19.1010 6112.20.1010 6112.20.1030 6113.00.9025 |
| 336 | 6104.49.9010 | |
| 338 | 6103.22.0050 6105.90.8010 6112.11.0030 | |
| 339 | 6104.22.0060 6104.29.2049 6106.90.2510 6106.90.3010 6110.20.1031 6110.20.1033 6112.11.0040 | 635 6102.30.0500 6102.90.9015 6104.23.0026 6104.29.1010 6104.29.2014 6104.39.2030 6112.12.0020 6112.19.1020 6112.20.1020 6112.20.1040 6113.00.9030 |
| 342 | 6104.22.0030 6104.29.2022 6104.52.0010 6104.52.0020 6104.59.8010 | |
| 350 | 6107.91.0040 6107.91.0090 | 636 6104.49.9030 6104.44.2020 |
| 351 | 6107.21.0010 6107.21.0020 6107.91.0030 6108.31.0010 6108.31.0020 | 638 6103.23.0075 6103.29.1050 6105.90.8030 6110.30.1050 6110.30.2051 6110.30.2053 6112.12.0030 6112.19.1030 |
| 433 | 6103.23.0007 6103.29.0520 6103.31.0000 6103.33.1000 6103.39.8020 | 639 6104.23.0036 6104.29.1050 6104.29.2055 6106.90.2530 6106.90.3030 6110.30.1060 6110.30.2061 6110.30.2063 6112.12.0040 6112.19.1040 |
| 434 | 6101.30.1500 6101.90.0500 6101.90.9020 6103.23.0005 6103.29.0510 | |
| 435 | 6102.30.1000 6102.90.9010 6104.23.0010 6104.29.0510 6104.29.2012 6104.33.1000 6104.39.2020 | 651 6107.22.0010 6107.22.0015 6107.22.0025 6107.99.1030 6108.32.0015 |
| 438 | 6103.23.0025 6103.29.0550 6104.23.0020 6104.29.0560 6104.29.2051 6105.90.1000 6105.90.8020 6106.20.1020 6106.90.1010 6106.90.1020 6106.90.2520 6106.90.3020 6110.11.0070 6110.12.2070 6110.12.2080 6110.19.0070 6110.19.0080 6110.30.1550 6110.30.1560 | “(iii) CATEGORY DEFINED.—In this subparagraph, the term ‘category’ has the meaning given that term in paragraph (2A)(E) of this subsection.”. (b) MADE-UP TEXTILE ARTICLES.—Section 213A(b)(3) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)(3)), as amended by subsection (a), is further amended by adding at the end the following: “(G) MADE-UP TEXTILE ARTICLES.— “(i) IN GENERAL.—Any of the made-up textile articles described in clauses (ii) and (iii) that is wholly assembled, or knit-to-shape, in Haiti from any combination of fabrics, fabric components, components knit-to-shape, or yarns and is imported directly from Haiti or the Dominican Republic shall enter the United States free of duty, without regard to the source of the fabric, fabric components, components knit-to-shape, or yarns from which the article is made. “(ii) ARTICLES DESCRIBED.—Made-up textile articles described in this clause are articles in the following category numbers that fall within the following statistical reporting numbers of the HTS (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this subparagraph): |
| 633 | 6103.23.0037 6103.29.1015 6103.33.2000 6103.39.1000 6103.39.8030 | |
| 634 | 6101.30.1000 | |

| “Category Number | HTS Statistical Reporting Number | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|-----|--------------|-----------------|--|
| | | | 6305.32.0050 | 6203.19.9020 .. | 6203.42.4016 ... 6203.49.8020 |
| | | | 6305.32.0060 | 6203.22.3020 .. | 6203.42.4026 ... 6210.40.9033 |
| | | | 6305.39.0000 | 6203.22.3030 .. | 6203.42.4036 ... 6211.20.1520 |
| | | | 6406.10.9040 | 6203.42.4003 .. | 6203.42.4046 ... 6211.20.3810 |
| | | | 6308.00.0020 | 6203.42.4006 .. | 6203.42.4051 ... 6211.32.0040 |
| 363 | 6302.60.0020 | | | | |
| | 6302.91.0015 | | | | |
| | 6302.91.0035 | | | | |
| | 6307.90.8940 | | | | |
| | | 899 | 6304.11.3000 | | “(II) CATEGORY 348.—Apparel articles in category 348 that fall within the following statistical reporting numbers of the HTS (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this paragraph): |
| | | | 6304.19.3060 | | “6204.12.0030 .. 6204.62.4011 ... 6204.69.9010 |
| | | | 6304.91.0070 | | 6204.19.8030 .. 6204.62.4021 ... 6210.50.9060 |
| | | | 6304.99.3500 | | 6204.22.3040 .. 6204.62.4031 ... 6211.20.1550 |
| | | | 6304.99.6040 | | 6204.22.3050 .. 6204.62.4041 ... 6211.20.6810 |
| | | | 5601.29.0090 | | 6204.29.4034 .. 6204.62.4051 ... 6211.42.0030 |
| | | | 6301.90.0030 | | 6204.62.3000 .. 6204.62.4056 ... 6217.90.9050 |
| | | | 6305.90.0000 | | 6204.62.4003 .. 6204.62.4066 ... |
| | | | 6406.10.9060 | | 6204.62.4006 6204.69.6010 ... |
| 369 | 6304.91.0020 | | | | “(III) CATEGORY 647.—Apparel articles in category 647 that fall within the following statistical reporting numbers of the HTS (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this paragraph): |
| | 6304.92.0000 | | | | “6203.23.0060 .. 6203.43.4020 ... 6203.49.8030 |
| | 6302.60.0010 | | | | 6203.23.0070 6203.43.4030 ... 6210.40.5031 |
| | 6302.60.0030 | | | | 6203.29.2030 6203.43.4040 ... 6210.40.5039 |
| | 6302.91.0005 | | | | 6203.29.2035 6203.49.1500 ... 6211.20.1525 |
| | 6302.91.0050 | | | | 6203.43.2500 6203.49.2015 ... 6211.20.3820 |
| | 6307.90.8910 | | | | 6203.43.3510 6203.49.2030 ... 6211.33.0030 |
| | 6307.90.8945 | | | | 6203.43.3590 6203.49.2045 ... |
| | 5701.90.2020 | | | | 6203.43.4010 .. 6203.49.2060 ... |
| | 5702.39.2010 | | | | “(IV) CATEGORY 648.—Apparel articles in category 648 that fall within the following statistical reporting numbers of the HTS (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this paragraph): |
| | 5702.50.5600 | | | | “6204.23.0040 .. 6204.63.3510 ... 6204.69.6030 |
| | 5702.99.0500 | | | | 6204.23.0045 .. 6204.63.3530 ... 6204.69.9030 |
| | 5702.99.1500 | | | | 6204.29.2020 .. 6204.63.3532 ... 6210.50.5031 |
| | 5705.00.2020 | | | | 6204.29.2025 .. 6204.63.3540 ... 6210.50.5039 |
| | 5807.10.0510 | | | | 6204.29.4038 .. 6204.69.2510 ... 6211.20.1555 |
| | 5807.90.0510 | | | | 6204.63.2000 .. 6204.69.2530 ... 6211.20.6820 |
| | 6307.90.3010 | | | | 6204.63.3010 .. 6204.69.2540 ... 6211.43.0040 |
| | 6301.30.0010 | | | | 6204.63.3090 .. 6204.69.2560 ... 6217.90.9060 |
| | 6305.20.0000 | | | | “(C) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN KNIT ARTICLES.— |
| | 6307.10.1020 | | | | “(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of apparel articles described in clause (ii), subparagraph (A) shall be applied by substituting ‘85,000,000’ for ‘200,000,000’. |
| | 6307.10.1090 | | | | “(ii) APPAREL ARTICLES DESCRIBED.—Apparel articles described in this clause are apparel articles described in paragraph (2)(B)(i) that fall within the following statistical reporting numbers of the HTS (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this paragraph), other than shirts with plackets and pointed collars: |
| | 6406.10.7700 | | | | “6105.10.0010 .. 6109.10.0040 ... 6110.30.3053 |
| | 9404.90.1000 | | | | 6109.10.0018 .. 6109.10.0045 ... 6110.30.3059 |
| | 9404.90.9505 | | | | 6109.10.0027 .. 6110.20.2079 ... |
| | 6301.30.0020 | | | | “(D) VERIFICATION WITH RESPECT TO TRANSSHIPMENT FOR CERTAIN APPAREL ARTICLES.— |
| | 6302.91.0045 | | | | “(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than April 1, July 1, October 1, and January 1 of each year, the Commissioner responsible for U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall verify that apparel articles imported into the United States under this paragraph are not being unlawfully transshipped (within the meaning of subsection (f)) into the United States. |
| | | | | | “(ii) REPORT TO PRESIDENT.—If the Commissioner determines pursuant to clause (i) that apparel articles imported into the United States under this paragraph are being unlawfully transshipped into the United States, the Commissioner shall report that determination to the President. |
| 465 | 5701.10.9000 | | | | |
| | 5702.50.2000 | | | | |
| | 5702.50.4000 | | | | |
| | 5702.91.3000 | | | | |
| | 5702.91.4000 | | | | |
| | 5703.10.2000 | | | | |
| | 5703.10.8000 | | | | |
| | 5704.10.0010 | | | | |
| | 5705.00.2005 | | | | |
| | 5705.00.2015 | | | | |
| | 5702.31.1000 | | | | |
| | 5702.31.2000 | | | | |
| 469 | 6304.19.3040 | | | | |
| | 6304.91.0050 | | | | |
| | 6304.99.1500 | | | | |
| | 6304.99.6010 | | | | |
| | 5601.29.0020 | | | | |
| | 6302.39.0010 | | | | |
| | 6406.10.9020 | | | | |
| 665 | 5701.90.1030 | | | | |
| | 5701.90.2030 | | | | |
| | 5702.32.1000 | | | | |
| | 5702.32.2000 | | | | |
| | 5702.42.2090 | | | | |
| | 5702.50.5200 | | | | |
| | 5702.92.1000 | | | | |
| | 5702.92.9000 | | | | |
| | 5703.20.1000 | | | | |
| | 5703.30.2000 | | | | |
| | 5703.30.8030 | | | | |
| | 5703.30.8080 | | | | |
| | 5704.10.0090 | | | | |
| | 5705.00.2030 | | | | |
| | 5703.20.2010 | | | | |
| | 5703.20.2090 | | | | |
| 666 | 6304.11.2000 | | | | |
| | 6304.91.0040 | | | | |
| | 6304.93.0000 | | | | |
| | 6304.99.6020 | | | | |
| | 6301.40.0010 | | | | |
| | 6301.40.0020 | | | | |
| | 6301.90.0010 | | | | |
| 669 | 5601.10.2000 | | | | |
| | 5601.22.0090 | | | | |
| | 5807.10.0520 | | | | |
| | 5807.90.0520 | | | | |
| | 6307.90.3020 | | | | |
| | 6305.32.0010 | | | | |
| | 6305.32.0020 | | | | |
| | | | | | “6203.19.1020 .. 6203.42.4011 ... 6203.42.4061 |

“(iii) OTHER ARTICLES DESCRIBED.—Made-up textile articles described in this clause are articles that fall within statistical reporting number 6406.10.9090 of the HTS (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this subparagraph).

“(iv) CATEGORY DEFINED.—In this subparagraph, the term ‘category’ has the meaning given that term in paragraph (2A)(E) of this subsection.”.

SEC. 5. MODIFICATION OF TARIFF PREFERENCE LEVELS; VERIFICATION WITH RESPECT TO TRANSSHIPMENT FOR CERTAIN APPAREL ARTICLES.

Section 213A(b) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(ii)—

(i) by striking “The preferential treatment” and inserting “Except as provided in paragraph (2A), the preferential treatment”; and

(ii) by striking “9” and inserting “11”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)(iii)—

(i) by striking “The preferential treatment” and inserting “Except as provided in paragraph (2A), the preferential treatment”; and

(ii) by striking “9” and inserting “11”; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(2A) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN WOVEN ARTICLES AND CERTAIN KNIT ARTICLES ENTERED DURING FISCAL YEAR 2010 AND SUCCEEDING 1-YEAR PERIODS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C) and subject to subparagraph (D), if 52,000,000 square meter equivalents of apparel articles described in paragraph (2)(A)(i) or (2)(B)(i) enter the United States during the 1-year period beginning October 1, 2009, or any of the succeeding 1-year periods, the President shall extend the preferential treatment described in paragraph (2)(A)(i) or (2)(B)(i) (as the case may be) to not more than 200,000,000 square meter equivalents of apparel articles described in paragraph (2)(A)(i) or (2)(B)(i) (as the case may be) during that 1-year period, and shall publish notice of the extension in the Federal Register.

“(B) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN WOVEN ARTICLES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of apparel articles described in clause (ii), subparagraph (A) shall be applied by substituting ‘70,000,000’ for ‘200,000,000’.

“(ii) APPAREL ARTICLES DESCRIBED.—Apparel articles described in this clause are apparel articles described in paragraph (2)(A)(i) that are the following:

“(I) CATEGORY 347.—Apparel articles in category 347 that fall within the following statistical reporting numbers of the HTS (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this paragraph):

“(iii) AUTHORITY TO REDUCE QUANTITATIVE LIMITATION.—If, in any 1-year period with respect to which the President extends preferential treatment as described in this paragraph, the Commissioner reports to the President pursuant to clause (i) regarding unlawful transshipments, the President—

“(I) may modify the quantitative limitation under this paragraph as the President considers appropriate to account for such transshipments; and

“(II) if the President modifies the limitation under subclause (I), shall publish notice of the modification in the Federal Register.

“(E) CATEGORY DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term ‘category’ means the number assigned under the U.S. Textile and Apparel Category System of the Office of Textiles and Apparel of the Department of Commerce, as listed in the HTS under the applicable heading or subheading (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this paragraph).”.

SEC. 6. EARNED IMPORT ALLOWANCE RULE.

Section 213A(b)(4)(B)(ii)(I) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)(4)(B)(ii)(I)) is amended by striking “three” and inserting “two”.

SEC. 7. EXTENSION OF VALUE-ADDED RULE.

Section 213A of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a), as amended by this Act, is further amended—

“During:

Table with 2 columns: description of period and corresponding percentage. Row 1: the initial applicable 1-year period 1 percent. Row 2: each of the succeeding 11 1-year periods 1.25 percent.”;

and (iii) in the flush text, by striking “the last day of the fifth applicable 1-year period” and inserting “December 19, 2018”.

SEC. 8. WIRE HARNESES.

Section 213A(c) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703A(c)) is amended by striking “5-year period” and inserting “10-year period”.

SEC. 9. CUSTOMS SUPPORT SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) RAPID RESPONSE TEAM.—The Commissioner responsible for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (in this section referred to as the “Commissioner”) shall, in consultation with the United States Coast Guard, the Drug Enforcement Agency, and other Federal agencies, as appropriate, seek to send a rapid response team to Haiti—

(A) to assess the short-term and long-term technical, capacity-building, and training needs of the authorities of the Government of Haiti responsible for customs services; and

(B) to provide immediate assistance, as warranted, particularly with respect to—

(i) reestablishing full capacity for commercial port operations at the seaport at Port-au-Prince;

(ii) facilitating trade between the United States and Haiti under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as amended by this Act;

(iii) preventing unlawful transshipment of goods through Haiti to the United States; and

(iv) otherwise strengthening cooperation between the customs authorities of the United States, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic with respect to trade facilitation and economic development, customs compliance and law enforcement, and efforts to combat unlawful trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 75 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) INITIAL APPLICABLE 1-YEAR PERIOD.—The term ‘initial applicable 1-year period’ means the 1-year period beginning on December 20, 2006.”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “an applicable 1-year period” and inserting “the initial applicable 1-year period and any 1-year period thereafter”;

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in clause (i)—

(I) by striking “any applicable 1-year period” and inserting “the initial applicable 1-year period and any 1-year period thereafter”;

(II) by striking “the applicable 1-year period” and inserting “that 1-year period”;

(ii) in clause (iv)(II)—

(I) in the subclause heading, by striking “APPLICABLE”;

(II) by striking “In each of the second, third, fourth, and fifth applicable 1-year periods” and inserting “In any 1-year period after the initial applicable 1-year period”; and

(III) by striking “applicable 1-year period” each place it appears and inserting “1-year period”;

(iii) in clause (v)(I)—

(I) in item (aa), by striking “, the second applicable 1-year period, and the third appli-

able 1-year period” and inserting “and the succeeding 8 1-year periods”;

(II) in item (bb), by striking “the fourth applicable 1-year period” and inserting “the 1-year period beginning on December 20, 2015, and the 1-year period beginning on December 20, 2016”;

(III) in item (cc), by striking “the fifth applicable 1-year period” and inserting “the 1-year period beginning on December 20, 2017”;

(iv) in clause (vi)—

(I) in subclause (II)—

(aa) by striking “any applicable 1-year period” and inserting “the initial applicable 1-year period or any 1-year period thereafter”;

(bb) by striking “applicable 1-year period” each place it appears and inserting “1-year period”;

(II) in subclause (III)—

(aa) in item (aa), by striking “an applica-

ble 1-year period” and inserting “the initial applicable 1-year period or any 1-year period thereafter”;

(bb) by striking “applicable 1-year period” each place it appears and inserting “1-year period”;

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by striking “applicable 1-year periods” and inserting “1-year periods”;

(ii) by striking the table and inserting the following:

“the corresponding percentage is:

1 percent.

1.25 percent.”;

and

(B) \$750,000 for each of the fiscal years 2011 through 2020 for the purpose of maintaining the support team authorized by subsection (b).

(2) SUPPLEMENT AND NOT SUPPLANT.—The amounts authorized to be appropriated by paragraph (1) shall supplement and not supplant any other funds authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Homeland Security.

SEC. 10. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) REGIONAL COOPERATION.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States Trade Representative should seek to enter into consultations with representatives of countries with which the United States has a trading relationship for the purpose of encouraging those countries to establish bilateral trade preference programs with respect to textile and apparel articles produced in Haiti.

(b) TRANSSHIPMENT.—It is the sense of Congress that the Commissioner responsible for U.S. Customs and Border Protection should, in consultation with the United States Trade Representative and the Secretary of Commerce, seek to enter into consultations with representatives of countries with which the United States has a trading relationship for the purpose of preventing the unlawful transshipment of textile and apparel articles from those countries through Haiti.

SEC. 11. CUSTOMS USER FEES.

Section 13031(j)(3) of the Consolidated Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(j)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “May 14, 2018” and inserting “November 10, 2018”;

and

(2) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “June 7, 2018” and inserting “August 17, 2018”.

SEC. 12. TIME FOR PAYMENT OF CORPORATE ESTIMATED TAXES.

(a) SHIFT FROM 2015 TO 2014.—The percentage under paragraph (1) of section 202(b) of the Corporate Estimated Tax Shift Act of

“(iii) AUTHORITY TO REDUCE QUANTITATIVE LIMITATION.—If, in any 1-year period with respect to which the President extends preferential treatment as described in this paragraph, the Commissioner reports to the President pursuant to clause (i) regarding unlawful transshipments, the President—

“(I) may modify the quantitative limitation under this paragraph as the President considers appropriate to account for such transshipments; and

“(II) if the President modifies the limitation under subclause (I), shall publish notice of the modification in the Federal Register.

“(E) CATEGORY DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term ‘category’ means the number assigned under the U.S. Textile and Apparel Category System of the Office of Textiles and Apparel of the Department of Commerce, as listed in the HTS under the applicable heading or subheading (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this paragraph).”.

SEC. 6. EARNED IMPORT ALLOWANCE RULE.

Section 213A(b)(4)(B)(ii)(I) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)(4)(B)(ii)(I)) is amended by striking “three” and inserting “two”.

SEC. 7. EXTENSION OF VALUE-ADDED RULE.

Section 213A of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a), as amended by this Act, is further amended—

“During:

Table with 2 columns: description of period and corresponding percentage. Row 1: the initial applicable 1-year period 1 percent. Row 2: each of the succeeding 11 1-year periods 1.25 percent.”;

and (iii) in the flush text, by striking “the last day of the fifth applicable 1-year period” and inserting “December 19, 2018”.

SEC. 8. WIRE HARNESES.

Section 213A(c) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703A(c)) is amended by striking “5-year period” and inserting “10-year period”.

SEC. 9. CUSTOMS SUPPORT SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) RAPID RESPONSE TEAM.—The Commissioner responsible for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (in this section referred to as the “Commissioner”) shall, in consultation with the United States Coast Guard, the Drug Enforcement Agency, and other Federal agencies, as appropriate, seek to send a rapid response team to Haiti—

(A) to assess the short-term and long-term technical, capacity-building, and training needs of the authorities of the Government of Haiti responsible for customs services; and

(B) to provide immediate assistance, as warranted, particularly with respect to—

(i) reestablishing full capacity for commercial port operations at the seaport at Port-au-Prince;

(ii) facilitating trade between the United States and Haiti under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as amended by this Act;

(iii) preventing unlawful transshipment of goods through Haiti to the United States; and

(iv) otherwise strengthening cooperation between the customs authorities of the United States, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic with respect to trade facilitation and economic development, customs compliance and law enforcement, and efforts to combat unlawful trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 75 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and

(B) \$750,000 for each of the fiscal years 2011 through 2020 for the purpose of maintaining the support team authorized by subsection (b).

SEC. 10. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) REGIONAL COOPERATION.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States Trade Representative should seek to enter into consultations with representatives of countries with which the United States has a trading relationship for the purpose of encouraging those countries to establish bilateral trade preference programs with respect to textile and apparel articles produced in Haiti.

(b) TRANSSHIPMENT.—It is the sense of Congress that the Commissioner responsible for U.S. Customs and Border Protection should, in consultation with the United States Trade Representative and the Secretary of Commerce, seek to enter into consultations with representatives of countries with which the United States has a trading relationship for the purpose of preventing the unlawful transshipment of textile and apparel articles from those countries through Haiti.

SEC. 11. CUSTOMS USER FEES.

Section 13031(j)(3) of the Consolidated Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(j)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “May 14, 2018” and inserting “November 10, 2018”;

and

(2) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “June 7, 2018” and inserting “August 17, 2018”.

SEC. 12. TIME FOR PAYMENT OF CORPORATE ESTIMATED TAXES.

(a) SHIFT FROM 2015 TO 2014.—The percentage under paragraph (1) of section 202(b) of the Corporate Estimated Tax Shift Act of

2009 in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act is increased by 0.75 percentage points.

(b) SHIFT FROM 2016 TO 2015.—The percentage under paragraph (2) of section 561 of the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act is increased by 0.75 percentage points.

SEC. 13. BUDGET COMPLIANCE.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, first, I want to yield myself 30 seconds and then yield more time if I might.

I first want to yield to the lead sponsor of this bill, Mr. RANGEL. Our colleague, CHARLES RANGEL, has devoted his life to fighting for underdogs wherever they are in this country and beyond, and he has devoted so much time to the people of Haiti.

He is the lead sponsor, and it is my privilege—and I think all of us join in this—to yield such time as he shall consume to the gentleman from New York, CHARLES RANGEL.

Mr. RANGEL. Thank you, Chairman LEVIN, and it is good to be here with my friend DAVE CAMP.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good day for Americans, especially for those of us in the United States Congress.

As we listen to the partisanship as it relates to the capture of terrorists, as we listen to the partisanship as it relates to oil spills, and as we listen to the partisanship as it relates to trying to repair our economic work on Wall Street, it just seems to me, if we all took a deep breath, we would recognize that, as a people, we are more than Republicans and Democrats—we are Americans. We do recognize that. When there is a crisis, the whole world looks to us, not just for goods and services, but for leadership and compassion.

There is an unlimited number of people whom we could thank for coming to the floor today. One has to be DAVE CAMP. You don't have to say what the problem is. When you ask, “What can we do to help?” it is just a question of

Members and staff coming together, seeing what they can do to be of some assistance to the people who have tried so hard to rebuild their country, their families, and, indeed, their government.

□ 1045

When we had initially the HOPE legislation, there was some opposition because what did it mean? It meant that a country that had a very bad infrastructure, poor education, lack of opportunities in employment was able to get their act together, to hope, to dream, to bring their families together, and to produce textiles. And America said, Hey, we will work with you on tariffs. We will open up our doors to your goods and services. And further than that, we think it's such a good deal that our President, our Secretary of State, our Secretary of Commerce, our Ambassador of Trade will encourage other people to invest in Haiti so that one day she can share a prominent spot in terms of democratic countries that believe in hard work.

And then what happened? Just when production was doubling, she was struck by an earthquake. Haitians still went to the factories hoping and dreaming. Many were killed. And, of course, people made economic decisions that Haiti wasn't the place to invest a lot of money.

But again the world responded, former President Clinton, investors, in saying what little can we do? What small thing can we do? And we got to work, and staff I want to publicly thank found out ways. All we said is we've got to do more. We have to do more. And more was done by this bill in our committee. Under the leadership of SANDY LEVIN, Republicans, Democrats got together to do what? To do more to give hope to these people who had more than their share of economic despair.

This is the poorest country that we have in the hemisphere, but with our help, our leadership, our encouragement to investors, have Haitians know that, sure, this has been a tremendous setback with the earthquake, but America will once again provide the leadership to make certain that people don't give up, don't give in, and certainly don't give out.

So I thank once again SANDY LEVIN, who is always there when people, no matter what country is in trouble, you can depend on his leadership, and I personally and politically appreciate it.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank the distinguished gentleman from New York for his comments and also for his effort and leadership on this legislation, as well as my colleague from Michigan.

I want to echo these comments and also place in the RECORD a letter that we each received from both President Clinton and President Bush supporting this effort today.

I rise in support of this legislation. The images of the devastation caused by the January earthquake that ravaged Haiti and its people were difficult for all of us to watch. And while those stories may no longer be splashed across the evening news, we know the Haitians continue to need help in rebuilding.

The legislation before us today is the example of how the process should work. Bipartisan, bicameral cooperation, and working closely with all stakeholders has allowed us to craft a bill that provides meaningful assistance to Haiti. These benefits will encourage the long-term investment in Haiti that Haiti desperately needs for its economic recovery and future stability. I am convinced that the bill will promote trade and investment in the region and create a strong hemispheric partnership with U.S. interests.

This legislation builds on the short-term assistance that Congress provided earlier this year to accelerate the tax benefits for charitable donations to the Haiti relief effort. And I am pleased to have participated in both of these bipartisan efforts.

This legislation also supports U.S. textile manufacturers and their workers by providing a long-term extension of the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act. The CBTPA program provides strong incentives to our trading partners throughout the region to use fabric and inputs produced in the United States, supporting American exports and American jobs. That is why this legislation is supported by the American textile industry. And I have a letter from the American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition that I will insert into the RECORD supporting this legislation.

The success of this bill also demonstrates the benefits of tailoring our preference programs to the needs of a specific country or region. Congress is able to provide these expanded benefits to Haiti because they are customized to its specific needs and limit any negative impact on the U.S. textile industry. The careful balance of interests this legislation represents is unique to Haiti and wouldn't be possible if we tried to expand it to all of our preference programs in a one-size-fits-all approach.

I hope we can build on this bipartisan success and continue this policy of economic integration by working together to find a path that will enable Congress to bring pending trade agreements with Colombia and Panama to the floor for a successful vote. Like the legislation before us today, these agreements will promote economic development both here at home and for our trading partners as well.

AMERICAN MANUFACTURING
TRADE ACTION COALITION, NATIONAL
COUNCIL OF TEXTILE ORGANIZATIONS,
April 26, 2010.

Hon. SANDER M. LEVIN,
*Acting Chairman, Committee on Ways and
Means, House of Representatives, Wash-
ington, DC.*

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
*Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and
Means, House of Representatives, Wash-
ington, DC.*

DEAR ACTING CHAIRMAN LEVIN AND RANKING
MEMBER CAMP: As representatives of the
United States textile industry, we are writing
in regard to the Haiti Economic Lift Pro-
gram Act of 2010, a bill to provide enhanced
market access for apparel products manufac-
tured in Haiti.

After lengthy negotiations with your
staffs, we are pleased that we were able to
reach an acceptable compromise on this im-
portant legislation. While the bill provides
Haiti with a path forward for long-term eco-
nomic recovery in the wake of its dev-
astating earthquake, it also takes into ac-
count various sensitivities from the perspec-
tive of the U.S. textile industry.

For example, the bill grants significant in-
creases in duty free treatment through a sys-
tem of Tariff Preference Levels (TPLs) but
also institutes sub-limits on highly sensitive
products that can be exported under the
TPLs. The sub-limits were a key priority for
the domestic industry and will prevent over
concentration of exports in one or two key
areas that could be particularly damaging to
U.S. producers. In addition, the bill extends
the current Caribbean Basin Trade Partner-
ship Act (CBTPA) through 2020. This exten-
sion will help to provide long-term certainty
for a program that is of significant value for
U.S. and Western Hemispheric trading part-
ners.

Obviously, we take very seriously the im-
pact that additional duty free imports may
have on U.S. producers and workers as well
as our Western Hemispheric customers. Not-
ing those concerns, we also recognize that
the devastating circumstances in Haiti pro-
duced an exceptional case that motivated
Congress to develop a quick response and
have worked with the Committee to develop
a package that strikes an acceptable bal-
ance. We must stress, however, that this
package does not set a precedent for any fu-
ture trade preference legislation.

For all these reasons, we are encouraging
our Congressional members that represent
the nearly 500,000 U.S. textile and apparel
workers to approve this legislation in an ex-
pedient manner under suspension of the
rules in the House and by unanimous consent
in the Senate.

Sincerely,

AUGUSTINE D. TANTILLO,
*Executive Director,
American Manufac-
turing Trade Coali-
tion (AMTAC).*

CASS M. JOHNSON,
*President, National
Council of Textile
Organizations
(NCTO).*

CLINTON BUSH HAITI FUND,
April 13, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington,
DC.*

Hon. STENY HOYER,
*Majority Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

Hon. SANDER LEVIN,
*Acting Chairman, House Committee on Ways
and Means, Washington, DC.*

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
*Republican Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
*Ranking Member, House Committee on Ways
and Means, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER, LEADER HOYER,
LEADER BOEHNER, MR. LEVIN, AND MR. CAMP:
We write to you today about Haiti: As we
build upon our shared commitment to pro-
vide more Haitians with the tools they seek
to lift themselves from poverty and reduce
their dependence on international aid, we be-
lieve the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity
through Partnership Encouragement (HOPE)
Act can be amended in two specific ways to
encourage greater growth in Haiti, with posi-
tive impacts for the United States.

On March 22, we visited Haiti and met with
citizens from all sectors of society. While
there remains an urgent need for food, water,
shelter, and sanitation, Haitian leaders and
communities are looking to the future in
hopes of developing the modern nation they
have long imagined and deserved. We know
that Haitian households are eager to return
to work, and we are confident that the tex-
tile industry can offer significant opportuni-
ties for future job creation.

As you know, the existing HOPE program
has had a significant impact on this indus-
try. From 2006-2009, HOPE enabled the ex-
pansion of apparel manufacturing and the
growth of the sector's employment from
12,000 to more than 25,000 workers. HOPE II
subsequently assisted the apparel industry in
attracting business and in reopening dor-
mant manufacturing operations. These re-
sults have been encouraging, but there is
much more we can do. The nation's apparel
sector once employed more than 100,000
workers, and we should work toward stabi-
lizing and further empowering this industry.

We suggest two immediate modifications
to HOPE that have the potential to help cre-
ate tens of thousands more jobs in Haiti.
First, we recommend increasing the HOPE
trade preference level (TPL) quotas for knit
and woven fabrics to 250 million square
meter equivalents each. Second, we suggest
extending the duration of the legislation
from 8 to 15 years.

These amendments can generate tangible
results. During our recent visit, we learned
that three major Korean apparel manufac-
turers are exploring investments in Haiti,
each capable of employing 10,000-30,000 Hai-
tian workers. This investment could double
the employment levels in the Haitian appa-
rel sector. Furthermore, because the
project would also require new industrial
space and infrastructure, it would create
thousands of construction jobs in Haiti. Ulti-
mately, countless more jobs would be pro-
duced by the small- and medium-sized enter-
prises necessary for supporting the needs of
these new workforces.

Unfortunately, the Korean manufacturers
are reluctant to invest in Haiti. A single Ko-
rean firm could consume the current TPL of
70 million. In effect, none of the firms will
commit if they believe their investment
could be jeopardized by potential competi-
tion for TPL allocations in the future. Fur-
thermore, the firms will not consider work-
ing in Haiti if their investments could be
jeopardized by the expiration of the HOPE

program before they are able to recover their
investment.

These amendments would not increase the
total amount of clothing imported by the
United States. Instead, the modifications
would shift the composition of the imports
and increase the proportion coming from
Haiti. In fact, over time, greater production
capacity in Haiti would likely provide a new
and nearby market for American cotton
farmers, thereby uplifting incomes in the
United States.

We firmly believe that amendments to the
HOPE program would offer a win-win situa-
tion for both the Haitians and the U.S. com-
munity. We encourage you to build on the
hemispheric leadership of the United States
since the earthquake. With your support, we
can expand economic opportunity both in
Haiti and here in America.

We would be pleased to provide any addi-
tional information.

Sincerely,

BILL CLINTON.
GEORGE W. BUSH.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of
my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is now
my privilege to yield 2 minutes to my
colleague on Ways and Means, the gen-
tleman from Massachusetts (Mr.
NEAL).

Mr. NEAL. I want to thank the chair-
man for yielding this time.

Mr. Speaker, we have had an oppor-
tunity over the course of the last many
months to witness the unprecedented
goodness and kindness of the American
people. Time and again in rising above
the petty differences that frequently
keep us in dispute within this institu-
tion, we have asked no question of po-
litical party or affiliation. We have
watched former Presidents of the
United States who sharply might dis-
agree on a host of issues to lead an ef-
fort to help the people of Haiti to get
through this difficult time caused by
the consequences of this devastating
earthquake.

But throughout all of these meas-
ures, you're struck by de Tocqueville's
notion of what set America apart from
the rest of the world. And de
Tocqueville, as you know, in finding it
challenging to describe what it was
that differentiated America from the
rest of the world, he simply described
it as a "habit of the heart." And today
I think this institution with this pro-
posal that's in front of us embraces
again that American notion of the de-
cency of habits of our heart.

This Haiti-HELP Act provides crucial
additional trade preferences to help out
our Haitian friends to rebuild their
economy and lives in the wake of this
devastating earthquake.

I want to particularly commend the
trade staff and industry for quickly
collaborating on this legislation, which
also provides important protections for
sensitive domestic products while im-
proving existing preference provisions.
It also provides a long-term extension
for the Caribbean Basin and HOPE pro-
grams that are key boosters to the Car-
ibbean-U.S. relationship.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation deserves
our full support, and I look forward to
improving the economic and cultural
ties with Haiti in the years ahead.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY).

Mr. MCHENRY. I want to thank the ranking member, Mr. CAMP, for his leadership on the Ways and Means Committee and for yielding time this morning.

Well, as we well know, we've seen the devastation of the earthquake in Haiti, the loss of life, the suffering. It's tragic, and certainly the American people rally to the Haitian people.

But what we have before us today is not just about Haiti; it's about jobs in the United States. And, unfortunately, there's a provision here within the bill that will hurt jobs here in the United States. This legislation will allow for duty-free access to yarns and fabrics produced in other Third World countries, and Haiti will simply be more of a location for transshipment than other nations.

Bad trade deals like this one have devastated my district in western North Carolina and devastated manufacturing in the United States. Counties in my district have unemployment rates of up to 16 percent, some that my colleagues here can relate to in their regions of the country, but certainly devastating in western North Carolina. And it's a time when our people need jobs. Our families are hurting. And this bill is simply giving away some of those jobs. In a time when we should help small businesses, this is hurting them, specifically in my district.

In the past, Haiti has had tremendous success producing apparel using U.S. yarns and fabrics. We should be strengthening that partnership, not turning Haiti into a stopping-off point for more transshipment of goods from Asia and around the globe. Our government should represent its people and the best interests of its people. Unfortunately, this Congress is not, this leadership is not, and unfortunately, this bill with this provision is not. Charity is one thing, but giving away our jobs is a completely different matter.

With that, I would oppose this bill.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the very distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), who has been so actively involved in this legislation and related efforts.

Ms. LEE of California. Let me first thank Chairman LEVIN for your support for Haiti and for your leadership on this issue and so many issues.

The Haiti Economic Lift Program, or HELP, Act of 2010 is critical in Haiti's recovery and reconstruction. And let me thank Chairman RANGEL, as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, for your vision in crafting this legislation. As one of the founders of the Congressional Black Caucus, you have been a longtime leader on issues related to Haiti. Chairman RANGEL has been a strong ally of the Haitian people throughout his career, and we want to once again thank you for your con-

sistent work on behalf of the CBC and on behalf of the entire Congress.

The CBC does have a very long history of working with Haiti, the Haitian people, and the Haitian American communities. And many of us have traveled to the country several times. I was there just over a month ago and saw firsthand the extent of the devastation and the challenges of moving forward. And many people asked about this bill.

During the current crisis, the CBC has and will continue to work closely with the Obama administration, our Speaker, Chairman LEVIN, and our NGOs to provide whatever assistance we can to provide for support, relief, reconstruction, and recovery efforts.

I would also like to thank Chairman LEVIN and also Ranking Member CAMP for their bipartisan work in bringing this bill to the floor today and for their commitment to supporting the people of Haiti as they rebuild their lives and their nation. This is not a partisan issue, and I am glad to see the commitment to the Haitian people within this Congress.

That commitment, as many of us know, cannot and it should not be limited to foreign aid. Emergency assistance is vital to any humanitarian operation. However, it cannot form the sole backbone of a long-term recovery strategy for promoting reconstruction and development. It is about many, many initiatives, including debt relief, which another member of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS so valiantly—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield the gentlewoman 1 additional minute.

Ms. LEE of California. Thank you.

Such strategies must take a whole-of-government approach to foster homegrown economic growth. That is exactly what the HELP Act aims to do. It expands upon the successes of existing trade preferences to spur investment and empower the private sector to take the mantle of rebuilding along with the government. The trade preferences provided in this legislation are certainly not a cure-all, but they offer powerful incentives to spur significant job creation, one of the surest ways to promote development and to reduce poverty.

So I call on all of my colleagues to join Chairman LEVIN, Chairman RANGEL, and Ranking Member CAMP to support this measure and to express our steadfast solidarity once again and our continued partnership with the resilient people of Haiti.

Thank you again. Thanks for the time.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to say a few words about the nature of this legislation.

I want to start off by saluting the bipartisanship in this House. I want to

salute the work of our staffs, working with USTR.

□ 1100

I would like also—and I think others would join me—in saluting Presidents Clinton and Bush, who have devoted their energy and their time to the needs of the people of Haiti, expressing on behalf of all of us that there is a mutuality in terms of the response to the horrible, horrible events in the earthquake. I also want to salute industry and the labor movement.

We have tried in these last months with our leadership to begin to craft a new trade policy—a trade policy that takes into account the needs of this country to try to make sure that trade is two-way; to try to make sure that it is mutually beneficial; and to be very sensitive to the impact of trade agreements on American industry and American workers. We very much took that into account as we designed this legislation—and it succeeded. It has that mutuality. That's why the two main textile organizations in this country who have a deep stake in the continued health of this industry in this country sent, as Mr. CAMP indicated, a letter to him and to me in support of this legislation. I just want to read a few lines so it's clear, and I quote from this letter from AMTAC and NCTO: "After lengthy negotiations with your staffs, we are pleased that we were able to reach an acceptable compromise on this legislation. While the bill provides Haiti with a path forward for long-term economic recovery in the wake of its devastating earthquake, it also takes into account various sensitivities from the perspective of the U.S. textile industry. For these reasons, we are encouraging our congressional members that represent the nearly 500,000 U.S. textile and apparel workers to approve this legislation in an expeditious manner under suspension of the rules in the House and by unanimous consent in the Senate."

I would also like to salute the workers and also the American labor movement. In the original legislation—and it's very much continued in this legislation—we have been very sensitive to the needs for Haiti to abide by the international rights of workers. In 2009, the ILO established a monitoring program required under the HOPE II legislation. It was certified by USTR. Under the program, the ILO has a country director and staff in Haiti committed to conducting unannounced factory level inspections as to whether factories are meeting core labor standards—these are international basic standards—issuing biannual public reports naming factories that are not in compliance, and helping the factories remedy any problems. The ILO has conducted its first round of factory inspections. It had already done so at the time of the January 12 earthquake and was set to issue its first report on April 21. However, the collapse of the U.N. headquarters in which the ILO was located

and the subsequent evacuation of ILO personnel in Haiti disrupted the process. All ILO personnel are now back in Haiti and expect to produce the first public report regarding factory conditions shortly. So we have taken into account the needs here and tried to find ways to respond to the needs in Haiti—and I think we have succeeded.

And so I close with this. I think all of us want to salute the people of Haiti. The earthquake was unprecedented. The damage was hard to imagine. The sacrifices being made by the people of Haiti under these circumstances are really hard to describe. This is an effort in a mutual way for us to respond. We did this carefully. We did it also with a sense of purpose. I urge all of us to unite to support this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that there is and has been strong, bipartisan support for this legislation. This legislation certainly deserves that support. I do want to note that I think it's important as we move forward that we not seek to establish a trade framework or a trade policy framework that requires standards for other countries that could exceed our own U.S. law and that this legislation in that respect not be a precedent for other preferences as we move forward.

This legislation, I think, is important. It will help a devastated country through investment and begin to create more economic activity. I urge my colleagues to build on this success from this legislation; to work together in a bipartisan fashion; to take the steps necessary to further the economic benefits that come from increasing U.S. exports to our partners not only in this hemisphere but other hemispheres as well by bringing the pending trade agreements with Colombia and Panama to the floor for a successful vote.

With that, I urge a "yes" on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I will close very, very briefly.

There needs to be a general framework for trade policy, and we have been working to spell that out. A trade policy, as we expand trade, as we must, does so in ways that are mutually beneficial; that expand the benefits of trade. Within that framework, each trade agreement must stand on its own feet—and this trade bill does exactly that. It responds to needs. It does so in a way that takes into account the very crucial needs within Haiti and also the needs of American industry and workers. It achieves not a compromise, really, but a balance—the kind of balance that should be a hallmark of our approach to trade. I very much urge that we support this bill. It's excellent both in its letter and in its spirit.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on January 12, 2010, Haiti experienced one of the worst earthquakes in their history. I believe that our

trade policy can play a key role in rehabilitating the Haitian economy. As such, I rise in support of my friend Congressman CHARLES RANGEL's timely legislation, The Haiti Economic Lift Program, HELP, Act of 2010, which will extend trade preference programs, expand market access for Haitian goods, and ensure fundamental worker labor rights for Haitian workers.

Expanding trade with Haiti is an important step in creating economic stability and sustainability. The HELP Act will enhance and strengthen our trading relationship, where 78.2 percent of Haitian exports are directed to the United States, by extending trade preference programs such as the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act and the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act through September 30, 2020. Both laws are credited with increasing Haitian apparel exports to the United States from \$420 million to over \$512 million and creating impressive economic growth from 2007 to 2009.

It is imperative we help foster burgeoning industries within Haiti that will ultimately attract investment and provide jobs during and after their reconstruction efforts. The HELP Act expands the list of products that can be shipped duty-free. It has been noted that new jobs in Haiti creates multiplier effects which supports families and others who are in need.

Mr. Speaker, as a long supporter of worker rights, I am pleased that today's legislation will continue the International Labor Organization's labor monitoring program to ensure that fundamental core labor rights of their workers are followed by factories benefiting from the HELP Act.

The United States and its citizens, which have had a long tradition of helping allies in their time of need, have given unprecedented amounts of foreign aid and donations to the people of Haiti in the weeks after the earthquake. Today's legislation extends the reach of this aid by increasing trade between the countries, which will ultimately provide jobs and a better future for Haitians. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5160 introduced in the House of Representatives by my friend and colleague, Representative RANGEL. H.R. 5160 is an important piece of legislation to extend the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act to provide custom support for the Haitian apparel sector.

On January 12, 2010, Haiti, one of the poorest countries in the world and the poorest in the western hemisphere, was hit by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake. The earthquake killed thousands of people leaving Haiti's capital partially destroyed. Homes, offices, factories, roads, ports, communications, and other facilities were reduced to ruins. As a result, millions of people have lost their livelihood.

Prior to the earthquake, the Haitian government was implementing a number of measures to promote economic growth and the growing apparel sector was a promising success story. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, however, this sector was devastated by the earthquake.

Through its preference trade programs, including those under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act and the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act of 2008, "HOPE II Act", the United States has been an important contrib-

utor to Haiti's economic development initiatives by providing duty-free tariff treatment to certain apparel produced in Haiti.

In this time of great need for Haiti, I am proud to support H.R. 5160 which would extend duty free treatment to any apparel entering the United States directly imported from Haiti and the Dominican Republic. This measure would dramatically assist Haiti in rebuilding their economy.

I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation to show Haitians' the United States' strong commitment to their recovery, development and prosperity.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5160, the Haitian Economic Lift Program Act. This bill will provide real economic benefits to Haiti to help it recover from the devastating earthquake on January 12 that claimed so many lives and shattered the already struggling Haitian economy.

The bill also provides trade benefits to Haiti and other Caribbean nations through a long-term extension of the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, a program that also supports the American textile industry.

I am firm believer that expanded trade can produce sustainable economic development and create jobs.

By providing increased duty-free access to the U.S. market, the bill creates the investment incentives desperately needed in Haiti to keep existing apparel production in the country and encourage even more development in the future. These investments will create badly needed jobs and encourage stability in local communities.

The long-term extension of the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act will continue important incentives that have attracted apparel producers to Haiti and throughout the region to use fabric and other inputs produced in the United States. The U.S. exports generated by these incentives will support American jobs. This is why the long-term extension of the Caribbean Basin Act has been such a priority for the U.S. textile industry.

In addition to these important economic benefits, this legislation demonstrates America's commitment to the region. It has long been America's policy to strengthen economic ties through trade and investment with other countries in the Western Hemisphere.

President Reagan followed that policy by starting the Caribbean Basin Initiative, which forms the foundation of the programs we are extending today.

Presidents and Congressional leaders on both sides of the aisle continued this policy by enacting NAFTA, the Andean Trade Partnership Act, the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, CAFTA, HOPE, the Peru Trade Agreement, and now the legislation before us today. I hope we can add to this progress and create the means to bring the pending agreements with Colombia and Panama to a successful vote.

In addition, this legislation shows again that Congress can and will adjust and expand U.S. trade preference programs as necessary to ensure that they are working properly and providing the maximum benefits possible.

Mr. Speaker, this bill really does get it right: it provides real economic development assistance to Haiti; it supports U.S. jobs; and it demonstrates that carefully balanced, regionally focused U.S. trade preference programs can bring our trading partners, development

experts, and U.S. manufacturers together to support pro-trade legislation. For these reasons, I urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, as an original cosponsor of H.R. 5160, I rise in support of this bipartisan legislation and urge its immediate enactment to support the ongoing recovery efforts in Haiti.

In January, a massive earthquake struck the country of Haiti, killing hundreds of thousands of people and displacing millions more. The quake devastated the country's infrastructure which continues to make the delivery of humanitarian assistance difficult. It is well known that Haiti is the poorest, least developed country in the Western Hemisphere and that the vast majority of Haitians earn less than \$2 a day. Helping Haiti permanently recover from this crisis while also strengthening an already struggling Haitian economy will require more than humanitarian assistance—the Haitian people will need jobs. The bill we consider today is an effort to aid job promotion in the country's important textile industry.

This measure extends the trade benefits Haiti enjoys under the Caribbean Basin Trade Promotion Act and increases Haitian admission quotas on apparel destined for U.S. markets. This effort, when combined with the Haiti Debt Relief Act which passed in March, should help relieve some of the economic burden on the Haitian people and give them the freedom and the tools they need to begin rebuilding their nation.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5160, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR PROMPT RESPONSE TO ATTEMPTED TERRORIST ATTACK IN TIMES SQUARE

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1320) expressing support for the vigilance and prompt response of the citizens of New York City, the New York Police Department, the New York Police Department Bomb Squad, the Fire Department of New York, other first responders, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Bridgeport Police Department, Detective Bureau, Patrol Division, and other law enforcement agencies in Connecticut to the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square on May 1, 2010, their exceptional professionalism and investigative work following the at-

tempted attack, and their consistent commitment to preparedness for and collective response to terrorism, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1320

Whereas on Saturday, May 1, 2010, an individual drove a vehicle loaded with explosive materials to Times Square in New York City and attempted to detonate a car bomb;

Whereas on the same day, two alert citizens, Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson, notified the New York Police Department about a suspicious vehicle that was parked on 45th Street in Times Square;

Whereas on the same day, New York City Police Officer Wayne Rhatigan, while patrolling on horse, responded to the reports of a suspicious vehicle and acted swiftly with his colleagues in the New York Police Department and the Fire Department of New York to thwart the detonation of the car bomb;

Whereas New York City first responders safely evacuated hundreds of people from Times Square and responded in a prompt and effective manner, as the result of extensive terrorism preparedness efforts that are supported, in part, by the Department of Homeland Security; and

Whereas in response to the Times Square incident, the Transportation Security Administration has enhanced ongoing efforts to increase security on various transportation modes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the actions of Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson for promptly alerting appropriate authorities about the suspicious vehicle in Times Square on May 1, 2010;

(2) urges all Americans to remain vigilant about potential terrorist or suspicious activity within their own communities and report such activity to the appropriate authorities;

(3) recognizes the New York City Police Department, in particular Police Officer Wayne Rhatigan of Mounted Unit Troop B, the Fire Department of New York, the New York Police Department Bomb Squad, led by Lieutenant Mark Torre and other first responders, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Bridgeport Police Department, Detective Bureau, Patrol Division, and other law enforcement agencies in Connecticut for their consistent commitment to preparedness for and collective response to terrorism;

(4) recognizes the exceptional professionalism and investigative work by the New York Police Department, the New York Police Department Bomb Squad, the Fire Department of New York, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Bridgeport Police Department, Detective Bureau, Patrol Division, and other law enforcement agencies in Connecticut in apprehending a suspect only 53 hours following the attempted bombing; and

(5) urges all Federal agencies to continue to work with State, local, and tribal partners to bolster preparedness for and prevention of terrorism.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PASCRELL. I rise in support of this resolution, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution with my very good friend from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) honoring and expressing support for the vigilance and prompt response of the citizens and the law enforcement agencies in New York and Connecticut as well as all the Federal authorities and agencies to the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square on May 1, 2010, their exceptional professionalism and investigative work following the attempted attack, and their consistent commitment to preparedness for and collective response to terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, I have long said that real homeland security starts on our streets, not in the halls of Washington, D.C. That's never been a truer statement than today. This shows yet again why we need to support our local first responders—police, fire, EMTs. Another example. They were first to respond before any Federal agencies got involved. That's how it usually always is, be it a manmade catastrophe or a natural catastrophe. These are the individuals who are the first on the scene long before those Federal authorities show up. These are the people who are the eyes and ears of our national security.

Fifty-three hours and seventeen minutes. This is what it took, Mr. Speaker, for the Federal law enforcement agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security, to identify and find and apprehend Faisal Shahzad, the prime suspect for this attempted act of terror on American citizens. In these 53 hours and 17 minutes, the New York Police Department, working with Federal and State law enforcement agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and others, unraveled the tangled web that eventually led to Shahzad's arrest. I thank them. We all thank them.

We acknowledge, however, a few people and groups. First, the alertness and awareness of Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson for "seeing something" on the streets of New York which were out of order; for "saying something" to law enforcement; and not hesitating to do so. If it were not for these men, many others could have been hurt and

Shahzad might not have been apprehended. Think about it. This is the kind of vigilance which is vital to homeland security efforts. We were seconds away from an ignition, a fireball. Who really knows the measure of death and destruction if that incendiary would have been ignited. Who really knows to this day.

I want to thank the citizens of New York for helping and cooperating with law enforcement during the precautionary evacuations in the vicinity of Times Square. I want to acknowledge New Yorkers and their resilient nature and ability to return to life as normal. Perhaps I cannot do justice to it as my brother Mr. KING would do, but you will have to accept me for now because he's not here.

I want to express my deep appreciation for the professionalism and collective response of the following law enforcement agencies: the New York City Police Department. Always there. Always on duty. Always knowing that their city is a target. Always looking to find out information to prevent anything from happening to their citizens.

□ 1115

How about Police Officer Wayne Rhatigan of the Mounted Unit Troop B, the Fire Department of New York, the New York Police Department Bomb Squad. Look, they put their lives on the line. They could have gone much slower, that's not their job. That—no one knew—could have been a deep bomb explosion. They put themselves on the line. We respect them. Rather than simply pat them on the back, we must commit ourselves—both sides of the aisle—to make sure that we are always there for our first responders and not simply be there to say thank you, but beforehand, give them the resources that they need to defend America and its neighborhoods.

The New York Police Department Bomb Squad, beyond the regular day of duty, led by Lieutenant Mark Torre, and other first responders; the Federal Bureau of Investigation; United States Customs and Border Protection—we know how this character was finally corralled, at the airport on a plane; the Transportation Security Administration, TSA; the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York; the Department of Homeland Security; the Department of Justice; the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, which has been a model for the rest of this country; the Bridgeport Police Department, who did so much work in cooperation with Federal authorities to go to the former home of the perpetrator, the alleged perpetrator, whichever you desire; the Detective Bureau; the Patrol Division up in Bridgeport; and other law enforcement agencies in Connecticut.

Finally, I want to thank our private sector partners, too. If Emirates Airlines did not comply with Federal procedures, we might not have apprehended Mr. Shahzad as he was fleeing the country.

Mr. Speaker, while I know others may say that we just got lucky, I say that they're missing the point. Our post-9/11 efforts to foster greater vigilance among our citizens and a culture of preparedness and collaboration among our first responders and law enforcement paid off. We stayed true to our cherished constitutional principles as we initiated this wide-scale collective response to terrorism.

Simply put, Mr. Speaker, while the time line for identifying and apprehending the suspect—53 hours and 17 minutes—is impressive, it is the continued vigilance and demonstrated commitment to working together to keep our country secure which is really impressive, and in awe it leaves us.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume, and I would like to certainly associate myself with the comments of my good friend from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) on this occasion.

I rise today, as do many others in this Chamber, in support of House Resolution 1320, which commends the vigilance of the many individuals and organizations that helped prevent what could have been a catastrophic terrorist attack in Times Square this past weekend.

We should all be extraordinarily thankful that alert street vendors saw something out of place and promptly alerted authorities, who took immediate action to secure the scene and ensure the safety of the many people who are in and around Times Square, which has been called the "Crossroads of the World."

This incident is only the most recent in a string of attempted attacks on New York City. This attack and recent plots to blow up the New York City subway trains and pipelines at JFK Airport—which have also been disrupted—show that Islamic terrorists have their sights set squarely on New York City.

This whole notion of homegrown radicalization is something that we are all deeply concerned about. There is the radical cleric in Yemen, Anwar al-Awlaki, for example, who has been involved with many of the attacks or attempted attacks, including Major Hasan at Fort Hood, Texas, or Abdulmutallab, the so-called "underwear bomber," and his attempted Christmas Day attack. And we have others out there, too, who are homegrown radicals, and it is an increasing concern. Now the most recent radicalization that we've seen here is, of course, Mr. Shahzad. But these plots should have served to reinforce our efforts to secure New York City and every other city in America from devastating terrorist attacks.

The administration, unfortunately, had proposed cutting funding for or eliminating critical Homeland Security initiatives in New York and elsewhere. There are many initiatives that

need to be addressed immediately, such as the Securing the Cities program, which is a successful State and local partnership to help prevent nuclear and radiological terrorism in and around New York. The House has passed legislation to authorize funding for this important initiative, for which the administration has proposed eliminating.

The administration has also proposed dismantling the U.S. Coast Guard's New York City-based Maritime Safety and Security Team, which strengthens the maritime security in and around the city. These reductions are being proposed at the same time that the administration has pursued trying alleged 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed in civilian court just blocks away from where the World Trade Center once stood.

We should be more concerned about properly funding counterterrorism initiatives and finding every way possible to make sure that New York and our entire country is as secure as possible instead of bringing terrorists to America and granting them rights to which they are not entitled.

We all owe a huge debt of gratitude, of course, to the New York Police Department, to the Fire Department of New York, the FBI, Customs and Border Protection, and alert citizens who saw something and said something to help us dodge a potentially very deadly bullet.

I hope that Congress and the administration get serious about properly funding important initiatives that will strengthen the security of New York City and our entire country because we may not be so lucky the next time New York or any other city comes under attack.

Again, I want to commend everybody involved with helping to derail this attempted attack, especially the Police Department of New York and the FBI, and everybody else who was involved. I commend Mr. MCMAHON for bringing this legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PASCRELL. May I inquire as to how much time we have remaining on both sides?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Jersey has 12 minutes. The gentleman from Pennsylvania has 16 minutes.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to Mr. HALL from New York.

Mr. HALL of New York. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise today in support of H. Res. 1320, honoring the brave Americans who acted quickly and professionally to keep the attempted bombing in Times Square last Saturday from becoming a tragedy.

The people of New York City, the New York Police and Fire Departments, the New York Bomb Squad, and others worked together to identify the attack, evacuate civilians, and then defuse the device.

In particular, I would like to call attention to the actions of Duane Jackson and Lance Orton, both disabled Vietnam veterans who work as street vendors in Times Square. I have the honor of representing Mr. Jackson, who lives in the town of Buchanan in Westchester County. His and Mr. Orton's quick thinking turned what could have been a tragedy into an example of American heroism. All New Yorkers and Americans owe them a debt of gratitude that there were no grieving families on Saturday night. They served their country once again and showed the remarkable character of the men and women who wear the uniform of this country and continue to serve long after they take that uniform off.

Events like this are calculated to strike fear into our hearts, even when they fail. However, they also serve as a reminder that in this great Nation we are surrounded by everyday heroes like Lance Orton and Duane Jackson.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PASCRELL. At this time, Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlelady from California (Ms. PELOSI), the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Ms. PELOSI. I thank the gentleman for yielding and thank him for bringing this resolution to the floor so that we can all rise and sing the praises for the vigilance and sense of community of New Yorkers, the courage of our first responders, and the professionalism, commitment, and determination of our local, State, and Federal law enforcement officers. We salute them. They were prepared. They were ready to act. They calmly did what was necessary. And because of their swift action, the people of New York and the entire Nation remain safe.

I thank Congressmen MCMAHON, HIMES, HALL, and all of our colleagues who have sponsored this resolution, recognizing the bravery and, again, the vigilance of individuals and officers of New York and Connecticut as well as the leadership of the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Obama administration.

In the wake of this foiled terrorist plot, we are inspired by the true character of the American people. We recall that our country's spirit can always be found in the hearts and deeds of its citizens, people like Lance Orton and Duane Jackson, "two alert citizens"—and aren't we fortunate for that—as this resolution calls them, who notified the NYPD of a suspicious vehicle in Times Square. The whole country learned of their vigilance and their sense of community.

Our country's resolve rests with police officers such as Wayne Rhatigan of the NYPD, who responded immediately to the scene and, with his fellow officers and with the men and women of the New York Fire Department, thwarted the detonation of the car bomb.

Our country's strength remains with first responders who run into danger when others run out, who safely and promptly evacuated Times Square, protecting those in harm's way. Our country's determination lies with law enforcement at the local, State, and Federal levels who worked together, pursued leads, and detained the bomber within 2 days of the attempted attack, never resting until the job was done.

At moments like this, Congress reaffirms our responsibility, as we do each day, Mr. Speaker, as we pledge to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States from all enemies, foreign and domestic. That responsibility is to protect the American people as well. That is our first responsibility.

As this resolution states, we "urge all Americans to remain vigilant about potential terrorists or suspicious activity within their own communities." We must follow the example of the people of New York who, as President Obama has said, "have reminded us once again of how to live with their heads held high."

Mr. HALL, in his closing remarks, said that the attempt by this terrorist to instill fear was thwarted. The goal of terrorists is to instill fear. The damage is one thing to them, but the fear is really their goal. In that way, in both parts of the attempt, it was thwarted. The violent attack was thwarted, but also, as the President said, we will not be intimidated.

This past weekend, everyday Americans joined our police officers, firefighters, first responders, Homeland Security officials, FBI agents, and other law enforcement personnel as heroes. They are all heroes, and we salute them as such on the floor of the House. Their efforts represent the best in America. Their response serves as an inspiration to us all to stay prepared and do everything we can to keep our great country safe.

Again, I thank Mr. PASCRELL for bringing this resolution to the floor and join in a bipartisan way in saluting the heroes of New York.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Jersey has 10 minutes remaining.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES), a member of the Homeland Security Committee.

□ 1130

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the vigilant citizens and law enforcement officials of New York City and Connecticut whose efforts resulted in bringing Faisal Shahzad into custody a mere 53 hours after his failed bomb attempt in Times Square this past weekend.

From the alertness of Lance Orton and Duane Jackson, noticing a suspicious vehicle in midtown Manhattan

on Saturday, to the response of the NYPD to the report, to the arrest of Mr. Shahzad late Monday evening, to the ongoing investigation into how the bombing happened, local, State, and Federal law enforcement officials have led a coordinated effort that will bring the facts forward, allow us to learn and improve, and bring the terrorist to justice.

Without this interagency communication, this incident could have escalated into a far more serious and dangerous incident. We must continue to work with State and local partners to bolster preparedness and terrorism prevention efforts.

To my constituents in Connecticut, I know that the discovery that the suspect in the Times Square bombing attempt has been living in Fairfield County is a jarring reminder that, due to our proximity to New York City, we face special and uncertain security concerns. Fairfield County was uniquely impacted by 9/11, and this incident is a timely reminder that we must remain sensitive and alert to our unique vulnerability.

I want to specifically recognize the Bridgeport Police Department, including Captain James Viadero and members of the detective bureau, as well as the Bridgeport Police Department's patrol division and members of the FBI Safe Streets Task Force, supervised by Sergeant Juan Gonzalez, Jr., for their role in the events of the last few days. I thank all who helped avert a catastrophe.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I wonder what would have happened if Officer Rhatigan was not on the scene to be alerted by the two citizens I mentioned before. This is exactly why we need to fund our first responders based on security needs. We need no other barometer. America's intelligence agencies, law enforcement agencies, are critical to the task of protecting our citizens and our neighborhoods. But also on duty every day are our first responders—that local responder is the first. On 9/11 they were the first to respond. And a few days ago they were the first to respond after being alerted by two citizens of New York. Keep this in mind every day when we see the EMTs and the firefighters of our local towns and our police officers on duty. They need more than a pat on the back. They need more than our encouragement. They need our votes to make sure that we sustain the resources necessary for them to protect all of America.

I know when these things happen, we rise up and then a few days later we might just forget, but we cannot forget.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have presented this resolution today along with the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT).

Mr. NADLER of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1320.

H. Res. 1320 describes what happened on Saturday, May 1, 2010, concerning the car bomb discovered in Times Square. As the Member of Congress who represents Times Square, I am particularly concerned about these events. We came perilously close to a terrible tragedy, with widespread injuries and loss of life.

As described by this resolution, it was thanks to the alertness of two fellow New Yorkers, Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson, that we first became aware of the car bomb. They brought it to the attention of the New York Police Department, NYPD. The heroes of the NYPD and FDNY then secured the area, took care of the bomb, and safely evacuated those nearby.

Subsequently, agents and officials with the NYPD, Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Homeland Security, DHS, and other law enforcement agencies worked quickly and diligently to apprehend the alleged perpetrator, Faisal Shahzad. Due to their speed, they apprehended him before he could flee the country. I want to salute all of those involved in addressing this situation and acting to protect the public. I sincerely thank them for their service.

The events of this past weekend should be a loud wake-up call to all Americans. It is a stark reminder that there are sick people in this world who think it is right to murder innocent men, women, and children to make political points. It is a stark reminder that these sick people will stop at nothing to bring this war of terror to America. And, it is a stark reminder that New York City is a prime target.

To protect New York City, and the millions of people who live, work, and visit each day, we need more antiterrorism funding directed there. The formulas used to distribute such funds, while improved, still ignore the reality that New York City is the number one target. Increased funds could be used, for example, to support more and better surveillance cameras for public places, as well as for a larger police presence.

More money also could be used to fund the Securing the Cities Initiative. This effort is designed to prevent a radiological or nuclear device from coming into a major city like New York. The horror of what could have happened if the car bomb in Times Square had contained radiological or nuclear material is unimaginable. I have supported efforts to properly fund this program, and I will continue to do so.

Further, it is important to remember that our ports, including New York City, remain vulnerable. I fought for, and we enacted into law, a requirement that 100 percent of shipping containers coming into the United States be scanned electronically before they arrive in this country. If we wait until a container with a radiological or nuclear device gets to our shores, it is already too late. We need to stop such shipments before they are here. The 100 percent scanning requirement takes effect in 2012, but DHS has indicated they likely will miss the deadline. I call on fellow Members of Congress concerned about terrorism to help me see that it is implemented fully, and as soon as possible.

These are just a few ways we could make our country safer. The attempted attack on Times Square tells us we have no time to waste. To protect ourselves and our country, we must act now.

I want to thank Representative MICHAEL MCMAHON for introducing H. Res. 1320. I also want to again thank the heroes who acted so quickly to take care of what otherwise could have been a deadly situation. I urge all Members to support this resolution.

Mr. MCMAHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to urge my colleagues to pass H. Res. 1320, a resolution honoring the citizens of New York City, the brave men and women of the NYPD, the FDNY, and all our federal and state partners in law enforcement and homeland security for their vigilance and prompt response to the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square this past Saturday, May 1, 2010.

I heard the news of the Times Square incident while traveling in Afghanistan and Pakistan, examining the connections between extremism across the world and terrorist attacks on our own soil.

And given the events of this past week, and the arrest of Faisal Shahzad the link is far too clear.

This resolution, which I introduced with my colleagues Congressman JIM HIMES, and Congressman JOHN HALL, along with the entire New York delegation, is in honor of New York City's local law enforcement teams, federal agencies and vigilant citizens for keeping our city, people and country safe. We commend their excellent, professional police and investigative work that led to the quick arrest of this terrorist.

Unfortunately, the fear of terrorism is never far from the mind of any New Yorker.

On Saturday, we were all reminded of the heart-felt loss that we endured nine years ago on September 11, 2001 and how much our world has changed since that tragic day.

New York City remains our nation's number one terrorist target—our greatest symbol of freedom, diversity, and entrepreneurial spirit. It is our nation's financial and cultural capital and as New York Police Commissioner Ray Kelly said yesterday, the terrorists are going to keep trying to attack us in New York City again and again.

That is why the federal government must increase homeland security funding and protection for New York City. Anti-terror funding must be distributed in a way that prioritizes those areas that are most at risk for future attacks.

I urge this body to increase funding and security programs in high priority areas like New York because protecting the homeland is just too important for politics as usual. Found immediately after the botched attack was a map on the Metro North Railroad to Connecticut identifying my own beloved Staten Island Ferry as a target and the subway stops that serve the Manhattan terminal as potential targets.

Walt Whitman once said that "The genius of the United States is not best or most in its executives or legislatures, nor in its ambassadors or authors or colleges, or churches, or parlors, nor even in its newspapers or inventors, but always most in the common people."

On Saturday, two Times Square vendors—Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson—saw smoke billowing out of a SUV parked on West 45th Street in Times Square and took action.

They immediately contacted New York City Police Officer Wayne Rhatigan who started evacuating the area and called for additional NYPD and FDNY support, including the bomb squad.

These people saw something wrong and said something—and their actions saved lives and led to the arrest of a man who was seeking to kill countless numbers of innocent people.

Although, the actions of everyone involved in preventing Saturday's potential tragedy are remarkable, all Americans need to remain alert—and we in the Congress need to support the brave men and women of the NYPD, and law enforcement officers across the Nation with the resources necessary to keep our Nation safe.

As Americans we learn not only from our mistakes but from our successes. The capture of Faisal Shahzad is commendable, but we have to examine why he was allowed to board an aircraft after being added to a no-fly list and why it took until literally the last minute before departure for him to be apprehended. We have got to get to a system for our security and our protection where we track every single person both entering and exiting our country.

In addition we must also continue to support our military and intelligence operations abroad to dismantle these terrorist networks. I just came back from Afghanistan and Pakistan and I can tell you the front line of our security right here at home is in those two countries. Our troops are the front line of defense in protecting the homeland from terrorism and they deserve our support and appreciation.

I urge all my colleagues to support H. Res. 1320.

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1320, a resolution which commends the vigilance of the many individuals, first responders, law enforcement, and homeland security personnel for helping prevent what could have been a very deadly terrorist attack in Times Square last weekend and bring into custody the person who has admitted responsibility for this failed attack. I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of this resolution.

When Faisal Shahzad drove his bomb-laden SUV into Times Square on the evening of Saturday, May 1, 2010, New York City and all America were once again reminded of the thin line between security and tragedy.

This attack was just the most recent of 11 attempts since September 11, 2001, to visit terror on New York City. I cannot say enough about the efforts of the New York Police Department, its local partners, and the Federal agencies, particularly the FBI, that have worked to prevent these incidents and keep the City safe.

The resolution highlights how two vigilant citizens, Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson, saw something and said something to an alert NYPD officer, Wayne Rhatigan, who secured the scene and the safety of those who were at what has been called the "Crossroads of the World."

We are also indebted to the New York Police Department and its Bomb Squad, the Fire Department of New York, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and other homeland security and law enforcement personnel for helping to foil this attack and capture the guilty terrorist.

Unfortunately, even after these 11 wake-up calls, not everyone recognizes that New York City is the nation's top terror target and that we must do everything possible to ensure the safety and security of New Yorkers and those

visiting this great City. New York simply cannot be expected to prevent terrorist attacks alone. Protecting New York City is not a local issue. It is a national issue; a national security issue.

What if the bomb that Faisal Shahzad parked in Times Square had detonated, and included radiological or nuclear material? How many lives would have been lost? How long would it have taken for New York's economy—and the nation's economy—to recover?

One of the best ways to stop that nightmare scenario would be to properly fund the Securing the Cities Program, which is the only Federal program of its kind to establish a ring of radiological detectors on bridges, tunnels, and mobile platforms in the region to prevent a radiological or nuclear attack. Unfortunately, the Administration has eliminated funding for this key program, even though in January 2010 the House of Representatives passed my legislation to authorize and fund the program.

New York City Mayor Bloomberg testified in the Senate this morning and stated: "Since 1990, there have been more than 20 terrorist plots—or actual attacks—against our City. That's why it's so critical for Congress to fully fund homeland security programs like the Securing the Cities—and to take other steps that will help us fight terrorists and make it harder for them to attack us."

NYPD Commissioner Ray Kelly stated on Sunday that the Lower Manhattan Security Initiative has yet to be extended to Midtown Manhattan because of the lack of Federal funding. With just \$50 million, this "Ring of Steel" would give the NYPD a force multiplier throughout Midtown and allow it to expand its reach across the entire city.

The Administration has also proposed eliminating the Coast Guard's Maritime Safety and Security Team in New York City, weakening the City's defenses against a waterborne attack. The Administration has also proposed cutting funding for New York City-area mass transit and port security.

The stark reality is that New York City is the number one target for terrorists. New Yorkers live under constant threat of attack. But the Federal government can minimize those threats by properly funding counterterrorism initiatives based on risk and fund programs in the places they are most needed, like New York City.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues to support this resolution to show our gratitude to the brave and selfless efforts of the first responders and everyone involved who helped turn into a triumph what could have been a tragedy.

Mr. PASCRELL. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1320, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further

proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMMEMORATING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF KENT STATE UNIVERSITY SHOOTINGS

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1272) commemorating the 40th anniversary of the May 4, 1970, Kent State University shootings.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1272

Whereas the year 2010 marks the 40th anniversary of the Kent State University shootings that occurred on May 4, 1970;

Whereas, on such date, Ohio National Guardsmen opened fire on Kent State students who were protesting the United States invasion of Cambodia and the ongoing Vietnam War;

Whereas four unarmed students (Allison Krause, Jeffrey Miller, Sandra Scheuer, and William Schroeder) were killed and nine others (Alan Canfora, John Cleary, Thomas Grace, Dean Kahler, Joseph Lewis, Donald MacKenzie, James Russell, Robert Stamps, and Douglas Wrentmore) were injured;

Whereas the site of the May 4 shootings was entered in the National Register of Historic Places, the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation, in February 2010;

Whereas, to preserve the memory of the May 4 shootings and encourage inquiry, learning, and reflection, Kent State has established a number of resources, including the May 4 Memorial, individual student memorial markers and scholarships in memory of the four students mentioned above who were killed, an experimental college course entitled "May 4, 1970 and its Aftermath", and an annual commemoration sponsored by the May 4 Task Force; and

Whereas Kent State has engaged the internationally renowned design services firm, Gallagher & Associates, to assist in the development of the May 4 visitors center as a central place where individuals can explore and better understand the May 4 shootings: Now therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives, in commemoration of the 40th year anniversary of the Kent State University shootings that occurred on May 4, 1970—

(1) recognizes the tragedy of the May 4 shootings and the implications that the shootings have had not only on Kent State and the local community, but also on the Nation and the world; and

(2) applauds the development of the May 4 visitors center as an additional primary resource to preserve and communicate the history of the May 4 shootings, its larger ethical and societal context and impact, and its enduring meaning for our democratic Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days in which Members may revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Kent State University shootings. On May 4, 1970, members of the Ohio National Guard fired into a crowd of unarmed student demonstrators, killing four and wounding nine students.

Antiwar protests broke out on college campuses nationwide on Friday, May 1, following the announcement of the U.S. invasion of Cambodia as part of the Vietnam War. At Kent State University, students assembled in protest throughout the weekend. On May 4, the number of protesters grew in size until approximately 3,000 demonstrators and spectators were gathered on the commons area of the university. Ohio National Guardsmen, who were brought in as the protest grew, began firing in their direction.

Those who were lost that day were Allison Krause, a 19-year-old freshman honors student; Jeffrey Miller, a 20-year-old student who had recently transferred to the school; Sandra Scheuer, also 20, was simply walking to class with a friend when she came in the line of a bullet fired; and William Schroeder, who was not part of the protest and also on his way to class, died with schoolwork in his hands. In addition to those who perished, nine students were injured: Alan Canfora, John Cleary, Thomas Grace, Dean Kahler, Joseph Lewis, Donald MacKenzie, James Russell, Robert Stamps, and Douglas Wrentmore. All survived, but their lives were forever changed.

The site of the tragic campus shootings that occurred 40 years ago was just recently entered into the National Register of Historic Places, the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. In order to preserve the memory of the May 4 shootings and encourage inquiry, learning and reflection, Kent State has established a May 4 memorial, as well as individual student memorial markers and scholarships in memory of the four students who lost their lives that day.

The university has also begun steps in the development of a May 4 visitors center which will serve as a central place where individuals can explore and better understand the shootings that took place on that terrible day.

Mr. Speaker, once again I express my support for House Resolution 1272 and the development of the May 4 visitors center as an additional primary resource to preserve and communicate the history of the May 4 shootings, its larger ethical and societal context and impact, and its enduring meaning for our democratic Nation.

I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) for bringing this bill forward, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

House Resolution 1272 commemorates the 40th anniversary of the May 4, 1970, Kent State University shootings. On May 4, 1970, people gathered at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio, protesting American involvement in Vietnam. Hostilities escalated and four students, Allison Krause, Jeffrey Miller, Sandra Scheuer, and William Schroeder, were shot, and nine others were injured. This year, 2010, marks the 40th anniversary of this tragic event.

The event will always be remembered and has been commemorated in several ways. The site of the shooting, as has been mentioned, has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places. Kent State University has established memorial markers, scholarships in memory of the students, a collegiate course on the events and effects of the shootings, and an annual commemoration. Kent State has also begun to design a visitors center to help people explore and understand the event.

The death and injuries that resulted from the May 4 shootings at Kent State are no doubt tragic. Kent State University, the National Guard, and this Nation have learned from the events, and have worked to ensure it does not happen again. The shootings evoked a national response and had far-reaching effects.

It is important that we commemorate the students who were at Kent State University that day, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) for 2 minutes.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady.

Forty years ago yesterday, May 4, 1970, Ohio National Guardsmen opened fired on students at Kent State University who were protesting the U.S. invasion of Cambodia and the ongoing war in Vietnam. Four unarmed students, Allison Krause, Jeffrey Miller, Sandra Scheuer, and William Schroeder, were killed. Nine others, Alan John, Thomas, Dean, Joseph, Donald, James, Robert and Douglas, were injured at the noon-time rally. These students were exercising their right guaranteed by the United States Constitution to freely assemble and dissent from their government. The Kent State shootings were followed 10 days later by the shootings of two students protesting at Jackson State College in Mississippi.

The tragedy at Kent State has had a broad resonance in American history. Richard Nixon's former chief of staff, H.R. Haldeman, wrote in his book "The Ends of Power" that the Kent State shootings began the slide into the Watergate crisis, eventually dooming the Nixon Presidency. The shootings led to an uptick in student protests across the country, which prompted Richard Nixon to push for a series of unconsti-

tutional moves to target his political enemies. These culminated in the Watergate break-in 2 years after the Kent State shootings.

Kent State University has established a number of resources to honor the 13 students shot on May 4, 1970. The university has established the May 4 Memorial; Kent B'nai B'rith Hillel Marker; individual student markers and scholarships in memory of Allison Krause, Jeffrey Miller, Sandra Scheuer, and William Schroeder; May 4 collections maintained by the university libraries, the department of art, and the Kent State Museum; the Center for Peaceful Change, now rededicated as the Center for Applied Conflict Management; and an experimental college course entitled "May 4, 1970 and Its Aftermath"; an annual Symposium on Democracy; annual commemorations sponsored by the May 4 Task Force; and recognition of the site on the National Register of Historic Places.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. CHU. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. We were honored, Mr. Speaker, several nights ago to have our colleague, JOHN LEWIS, attend and serve as the keynote speaker of the 40th anniversary of the May 4 shootings. He delivered a passionate, insightful speech, keynote address, which the people of Kent State University and the city of Kent enjoyed. But as we were milling around after, there has always been this tension between what happened at Kent State that day and the community and the students, and one person said this brought healing to Kent and Kent State, and that is what JOHN LEWIS has done for us, and I hope this resolution in some way helps to continue the healing process.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of House Resolution 1272, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1272.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1145

CONGRATULATING THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolu-

tion (H. Res. 1157) congratulating the National Urban League on its 100th year of service to the United States, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1157

Whereas the National Urban League, formerly known as the National League of Black Men and Women, is a historic civil rights organization dedicated to elevating the standard of living in historically underserved urban communities;

Whereas, on its Centennial Anniversary, the National Urban League can look back with great pride on its extraordinary accomplishments;

Whereas, since its inception in 1910, the National Urban League has made tremendous gains in equality and empowerment in the African-American community throughout the United States;

Whereas the National Urban League began as a multiracial, diverse grassroots campaign by Mrs. Ruth Standish Baldwin and Dr. George Edmund Haynes;

Whereas the League has since expanded to 25 national programs, with more than 100 local affiliates in 36 States as well as the District of Columbia;

Whereas, during the Civil Rights movement, the League worked closely with A. Phillip Randolph, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as well as many other exceptional leaders;

Whereas, throughout the 1970s, the League saw tremendous growth in its partnership with the Federal Government addressing race relations, delivering aid to urban areas, as well as making improvements in housing, education, health, and minority-owned small businesses;

Whereas the National Urban League employs a 5-point approach to increase the quality of life for Americans, particularly African-Americans;

Whereas the League's 5-point approach is accomplished through programs such as: "Education and Youth Empowerment", "Economic Empowerment", "Health and Quality of Life Empowerment", "Civic Engagement and Leadership Empowerment", and "Civil Rights and Racial Justice Empowerment";

Whereas through the League's Housing and Community Development division, programs such as "Foreclosure Prevention", "Homeownership Preparation", and "Financial Literacy"; the League was able to aid over 50,000 people in 2009;

Whereas with assistance provided by the League's "Foreclosure Prevention" program, 3,000 people were able to avoid filing foreclosure in 2009;

Whereas through the League's Education and Youth Development division, programs such as "Project Ready" ensure that students will be prepared for the transition from high school to college, or in joining the workforce;

Whereas the National Urban League publishes the "State of Black America", an annual report analyzing social and economic conditions affecting African-Americans that includes their Equality Index, a statistical measure of the disparities between Blacks and Whites across 5 categories: economics, education, health, civic engagement, and social justice;

Whereas the League's programs not only emphasize the importance of leadership and community in local areas but also enhance the quality of life by studying and addressing specific problems within the communities;

Whereas throughout the League's 100 years of service the organization has assisted millions of Americans and especially African-Americans in combating poverty, inequality, and social injustice;

Whereas the League has outlined 4 aspirational goals to increase access to education, jobs, housing, and health care to mark its centennial anniversary as part of its I AM EMPOWERED campaign;

Whereas the work of the League has been pivotal in improving the lives of millions of African-Americans through community-oriented programs, civil rights, and leadership opportunities; and

Whereas the National Urban League remains an essential organization today: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the National Urban League on its 100th year of service to the United States;

(2) expresses its deep gratitude for the hardworking and dedicated men and women of the League who, in the last 100 years, have struggled to improve American society and the lives of all Americans; and

(3) commends the League's ongoing and tireless efforts to continue addressing areas of inequality and fighting for the rights of all Americans to live with freedom, dignity, and prosperity.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1157 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. CHU. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and privilege that I rise in support of House Resolution 1157 in commemoration and recognition of the National Urban League's 110th anniversary and their pursuit of civil rights and economic empowerment for all people.

Founded in 1910 and headquartered in New York City, the National Urban League is a preeminent voice for the civil rights of African Americans and for improving the quality of life in our urban communities. Through their programs, the League provides direct services to more than 2 million people nationwide through more than 100 local affiliates in 36 States and the District of Columbia.

With its 100th anniversary, the League commemorates a rich history of service and advocacy. In what started as a grassroots movement for equality, Mrs. Ruth Standish Baldwin and Dr. George Edmund Haynes provided crucial support to African Americans moving to urban centers in the early 1900s. The League worked tirelessly to reduce the discrimination and pervasive inequality in our Nation's cities.

The League grew in size and influence with our Nation's civil rights movement in the 1960s. They expanded their advocacy operations and established social service initiatives in housing, health, education, and minority business development.

This national organization exemplifies the ideals of service and outreach and has been a tremendous force in enhancing opportunities for education, economic empowerment, health, and quality of life, civic engagement, and civil rights and social justice.

I would like to extend my congratulations and appreciation to the National Urban League for their 100 years of exceptional dedication and service, and I wish this organization continued success in the great work that they do for years to come.

I would also like to thank and congratulate the countless volunteers and staff of the National Urban League for their commitment to furthering the organization's mission of equality, and I join with them in celebrating the League's historic milestone.

I thank Representative HASTINGS for introducing this resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today also in support of House Resolution 1157, congratulating the National Urban League on its 100th year of service to the United States, and I appreciate the gentleman from Florida for having introduced this piece of legislation.

The National Urban League is a non-partisan civil rights organization based in New York City that advocates on behalf of African Americans and against racial discrimination in the United States. It is the oldest and largest community-based organization of its kind in this Nation.

Founded in New York City on September 29, 1910, by Ruth Standish Baldwin and Dr. George Edmund Haynes, among others, it merged with the Committee for the Improvement of Industrial Conditions among Negroes in New York, which was founded in 1906, and the National League for the Protection of Colored Women, which was founded a year earlier, and was renamed the National League on Urban Conditions.

The National Urban League helped train black social workers and worked in various other ways to bring educational and employment opportunities to blacks. Its research into the problems facing employment opportunities, recreation, housing, health and sanitation and education spurred the League's quick growth. By the end of World War I, the organization had 81 staff members working in 30 cities. In 1920, it took its present name.

Today, this organization remains committed to improving the lives of Americans. There are more than 100 local affiliates in 36 States and the District of Columbia providing direct serv-

ices that impact the lives of more than 2 million people nationwide. We congratulate the National Urban League for 100 years of service to our Nation, and I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlewoman from California.

My good friend AL GREEN, whom I am pleased to serve with in the House of Representatives, and I introduced this legislation to congratulate the National Urban League on celebrating its 100th anniversary. I believe he and I also speak not only for substantial numbers of House Members but certainly for all of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus in this congratulatory set of remarks.

As was said, since its founding in 1910 by George Haynes and Ruth Baldwin, this organization has grown from one small housing department into a comprehensive national organization.

I am immensely proud of my own affiliation with the Urban League going back over 35 years now. In 1974, I was one of the founding members of the National Urban League of Broward County, the 104th affiliate chapter in the United States. Our goal then was to help alleviate some of the racial tensions felt throughout the community during desegregation.

I went on to serve on the original board of directors under a tremendous executive director named Leonard Gainey for the local chapter, and we worked to empower the community, increase educational opportunities for our children, and change lives through strong advocacy for essential public services.

The League has made great advances in the realm of civil rights. I knew Whitney Young, who has no peer in this area, who worked closely with leaders such as A. Philip Randolph and Martin Luther King. The League assisted in planning the 1963 March on Washington and carried on the hard work of advocating for equality and opportunity in that tumultuous era. The magnitude of these accomplishments, and countless others, cannot be understated.

The right to an equal education for black Americans has developed into a program aimed at helping these students use their education to propel themselves into leadership roles in their respective communities. Through workshops, summer programs, hands-on learning opportunities, and other endeavors, the League enriches the quality of life for black Americans of all ages and, by that, enriches our country.

With over 100 field offices around the country, League leaders are pillars of their communities, helping to organize campaigns to, in the League's own words, "enable African Americans to

secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights.”

Under the outstanding guidance of extraordinary leaders and everyday men and women, the National Urban League has been at the forefront of the great social efforts of the last century.

I would be terribly remiss if I did not mention the leadership of Vernon Jordan, who was a classmate of mine in law school; Percy Lee, who was a classmate of mine in high school; T. Willard Fair, who I was not a classmate with, but learned to know, learned from and loved through the years; as well as John Jacobs, who I do share fraternity membership with and good friendship; and the new leader now, Marc Morial, as well.

Although we can take great pride in the many exceptional accomplishments of the National Urban League, its work is far from over. With 100 years of experience behind them, the hard-working and dedicated men and women of the National Urban League are well-poised to carry forth its important mission through the next century of progress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation congratulating the National Urban League for its 100 outstanding years of service to our great Nation, and I again thank the gentlelady from California for the time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I reserve my time.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 3 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady for the time, and I want to thank the Honorable ALCEE HASTINGS, a most respected Member of this House. I am honored that he would present this resolution honoring a most respected organization in this country, the National Urban League.

The Honorable ALCEE HASTINGS has been a part of the avant-garde when it comes to human rights and civil rights and protecting those who are among the least, the last and the lost in society, which is what the Urban League seeks to do. One hundred years of service to the United States of America, and indirectly to the planet Earth because indirectly what you do for one, you do for all.

I am honored to mention that the honorable Marc Morial has continued the great tradition of leadership established in the Urban League. He is the current president and CEO. In Houston, we have the honorable Judson Robinson, who is the president and CEO of the Houston Area Urban League, and he has done a stellar job as well.

The Urban League is now and has always been an integrated organization, founded by two persons of different hues, and continues that legacy, that heritage, if you will, of representing all persons, but making sure that those who have been left behind have the opportunity to catch up.

I am honored to tell you that the Urban League has this goal of self-reli-

ance, and it perfects the goal of self-reliance by way of political parity, by way of making real the great and noble American ideal expressed in Baker v. Carr: one person, one vote. The Urban League seeks to cause those who were locked out of the process to have the opportunity to not only participate, but to have their votes mean something.

The Urban League seeks to have self-reliance through economic empowerment, the notion that equality of opportunity ought to exist for all within this great country. Equality of opportunity. Not give me something for nothing but give the opportunity to succeed on merits or fail on demerits, the opportunity to participate in the process.

One hundred years of service. One hundred years of combating poverty, inequality, and social injustice.

I close with this reminder, a cliché, a phrase, if you will, that is worn out, and it is worn because of a good reason, because it means something. That phrase is this: if we did not have the National Urban League, we would surely have to create it.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I reserve my time.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. SUTTON) for 2 minutes.

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady for her time and the leadership that she is displaying here and on so many issues. I also want to thank my friend, Representative ALCEE HASTINGS, for his leadership in bringing this very appropriate resolution to the floor.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1157, to honor and congratulate the National Urban League on their 100th year of giving back to our communities.

I want to thank the leaders in our communities of the Urban League: Bennett Williams, who has the leadership of the Akron Urban League; and Fred Wright, who is the leader of the Lorain County Urban League. Each of these affiliates in Akron and Lorain has stood tall and served as a pillar in our community through the difficult times that many have faced over the past years.

This year, the Akron Urban League will celebrate its 85th anniversary of serving the Akron community, fighting to eliminate the disparities that African Americans face, and helping others who face disadvantages in our community. The Akron Urban League has set out on an aggressive list of programs for adults, one which focuses on career training and pairs each student with a mentor from the local corporate community.

The Lorain County Urban League has served Lorain County for 30 years, empowering African Americans and the disadvantaged. In Lorain County, they offer opportunities such as a youth empowerment program, a program designed to give our young people the

preparation and the skills that they need for the 21st century careers through education and community service.

Both the Akron and Lorain County Urban League affiliates mean a great deal to northeast Ohio and to our country.

Putting people back to work remains my top priority in Congress, and the National Urban League and its affiliates in Lorain County and Akron are steadfastly dedicated to this mission.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the National Urban League on the 100th anniversary of its organization.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be able to give my congratulations and support in this Chamber today to the National Urban League, one of the oldest civil rights organizations in the United States. Established in 1910 as the Committee on Urban Conditions Among Negroes, the National Urban League continues to this day to be a vital community-based organization dedicated to empowering African Americans and improving the standard of living in underprivileged urban neighborhoods.

With over a hundred local branches across our nation, the National Urban League is a living testament to the good that can be accomplished when citizens come together to work for the betterment of their communities. This landmark organization has provided immense support to urban communities throughout the years by offering educational opportunities for youth, expanding civic engagement and community wellness in urban neighborhoods, defending racial justice, and working to improve the economic conditions of African Americans. For example, the Atlanta Entrepreneurship Center, established by the Atlanta Urban League in 2003, works to aid small and medium-sized minority-owned businesses in the urban community by offering much-needed resources and financial advice to minority business owners.

The famous American civil rights leader and former President of the National Urban League, Whitney Moore Young, Jr., was once quoted as saying, “every man is our brother, and every man’s burden is our own. Where poverty exists, all are poorer. Where hate flourishes, all are corrupted. Where injustice reigns, all are unequal.” The National Urban League’s unwavering commitment to equality exemplifies the philosophy of the late Whitney Young and has brought an inestimable amount of good to urban communities since its inception in 1910.

I would like to commend my colleague from Florida, the Honorable ALCEE HASTINGS, for bringing forth the resolution to congratulate the National Urban League on its 100th year of service.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1157, to congratulate the National Urban League on its 100 year of service to the United States.

The National Urban League can look back with great pride on its extraordinary accomplishments, as we mark the organization’s centennial anniversary. Since its inception in 1910, the National Urban League has made tremendous gains in equality and economic empowerment in the African-American community throughout the United States. Today,

the League has become an essential tool in economic advancement, as it has expanded to 25 national programs, with more than 100 local affiliates in 36 states as well as the District of Columbia.

The beginnings of this organization can be traced to two remarkable individuals, Mrs. Ruth Standish Baldwin and Dr. George Edmund Haynes, who founded the League as a multiracial and diverse grassroots campaign. Their efforts in forming the National League of Black Men and Women, later to be known as the National Urban League, began as a civil rights organization dedicated to elevating the standard of living in historically underserved urban communities. The fledgling organization counseled black migrants from the South, helped train black social workers, and worked in various other ways to bring educational and employment opportunities to African Americans.

Under the leadership of Whitney M. Young, Jr., the League substantially expanded its fundraising ability, and, most critically, made the League a full-time partner in the Civil Rights Movement. Lending its resources to the pursuit of equality, it hosted at its New York headquarters the meetings of A. Philip Randolph, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and other civil rights leaders to plan the 1963 March on Washington. Furthermore, Young was a forceful advocate for greater government and private sector efforts to eradicate poverty. His call for a domestic Marshall Program, a ten-point program designed to close the huge social and economic gap between black and white Americans, significantly influenced the discussion of the Johnson Administration's War on Poverty legislation.

My district of Dallas, Texas, has benefited greatly by the community oriented services provided by the Urban League of Greater Dallas. Under the leadership of chapter president, Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks, the Urban League's facility provides an environment where education and training are chosen as paths to self-reliance. Dallas residents are prepared for the world of work, home ownership, and health education through classes and training seminars. In addition to job training, scholarship programs are in place to help students realize their dream of earning a college degree that may otherwise be blocked by a families' limited income.

As we stand in the aftermath of this economic downturn, the role of the National Urban League has become vital as entire communities seek guidance and relief from current economic conditions. Through the League's Housing and Community Development Division, programs such as "Foreclosure Prevention", "Homeownership Preparation," and through "Financial Literacy" were able to aid over 50,000 people in 2009. Furthermore, with assistance provided by the League's "Foreclosure Prevention" program, 3,000 people were able to avoid filing foreclosure in 2009.

Mr. Speaker, if past is prologue, then the National Urban League's exemplarily 100-year history of empowering the lives of millions of African Americans gives me great confidence in the organization's ability to address the challenges of the 21st century.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize the National Urban League for its century of civil rights leadership and for its dedication to ensuring that all Americans

enjoy the benefits of equal justice and economic empowerment.

Since 1910, the National Urban League has worked to elevate the living standards of American families in historically underserved urban areas. The Urban League was founded to advocate on behalf of the tens of thousands of African Americans who began migrating to northern American cities in the early 20th century. Committed to social justice and equality, the Urban League worked to empower these men and women, many of whom had fled the Jim Crow south for the north to escape economic, social and political oppression only to find few employment opportunities, limited access to education and substandard housing. For a century, the Urban League has fought tirelessly to see that all Americans, regardless of race, have equal access to a good education, a good living wage, and safe and affordable housing.

With appreciation for a century of service to the American people, I wish the National Urban League continued success for the years to come.

□ 1200

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I urge once again support of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I urge passage of House Resolution 1157, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1157, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1312) recognizing the roles and contributions of America's teachers to building and enhancing our Nation's civic, cultural, and economic well-being, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1312

Whereas education and knowledge are the foundation of America's current and future strength;

Whereas teachers and other education staff have earned and deserve the respect of their students and communities for their selfless dedication to community service and the future of our Nation's children;

Whereas the purpose of "National Teacher Appreciation Week", held during May 3, 2010, through May 7, 2010, is to raise public awareness of the unquantifiable contributions of teachers and to promote greater respect and understanding for the teaching profession; and

Whereas students, schools, communities, and a number of organizations representing

educators are hosting teacher appreciation events in recognition of "National Teacher Appreciation Week": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives thanks teachers and promotes the profession of teaching by encouraging students, parents, school administrators, and public officials to participate in teacher appreciation events during "National Teacher Appreciation Week".

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MCCOLLUM). Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1312 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I might consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important role teachers play in the education of our Nation. This week, May 3 through 7, we celebrate National Teacher Appreciation Week. The National PTA created this week in 1984 to show gratitude to the approximately 3.2 million teachers in the United States, and to thank them for contributing to the civic, cultural, and economic well-being of our Nation. This National Teacher Appreciation Week is a chance for us to recognize the selflessness and dedication that teachers show to our children every day.

We know that having teachers is integral to the educational outcomes of our Nation's youth. Research tells us that teacher quality accounts for the majority of variance in student achievement. Highly qualified teachers serve as excellent role models and instill a love for knowledge and lifelong learning in our students. They also shape tomorrow's leaders and prepare America's diverse student population with the skills it needs to compete in the 21st century workforce.

Teaching is a skilled practice. Teachers reflect on their lessons and modify instruction to reach the broad range of needs of their students in their classrooms. Quality teachers hone their skills and are experts not only in their subject matter, but also at connecting with young people and making learning come alive. Teaching is a dynamic profession, and educators must continuously engage in quality professional development in order to sharpen their techniques and increase their own knowledge.

Unfortunately, research has shown us the negative effects of teacher shortages. With the economic downturn, we have seen too many States turn to teacher layoffs to address budget deficits. Additionally, over the next 4

years more than a third of the Nation's 3.2 million teachers may retire. It is imperative that schools and communities continue to support our teachers if we are to educate our children to not only compete, but to lead and innovate in the 21st century economy.

I would like to extend my congratulations to the 2010 National Teacher of the Year, Ms. Sarah Brown Wessling, an English teacher at Johnston High School in Johnston, Iowa. Ms. Wessling teaches 10th through 12th graders at Johnston High, and is recognized for her innovative, learner-centered teaching methods, and her passion for quality instruction. We recognize Ms. Wessling's hard work and the example she sets for our Nation's teachers.

Madam Speaker, once again I express my support for National Teacher Appreciation Week. I encourage everyone to take a moment and to reflect on a motivational teacher that helped you realize your potential and reach your dreams. I want to thank Representative GRAVES for bringing this resolution to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to pass this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1312, and also mention a conflict of interest since I did spend 28 years as a public school teacher before I joined this august body here. This resolution recognizes the roles and contributions of America's teachers in building and enhancing our Nation's civic, cultural, and economic well-being, and supporting National Teacher Appreciation Week.

Teachers provide one of the greatest services to our youth, which is education. Educators bear the responsibility of teaching the next generation, and, apart from parents, are one of the primary sources of knowledge and values of our kids. In today's challenging learning environment, teachers provide more than economic leadership. Teachers plan and organize classroom activities, they assess student performance, they understand the basic needs of students, they encourage them to improve, working closely with parents as they relate to students' performance and discipline, they motivate students, encourage them to participate in extracurricular activities, they make the highways safe, and entertain the community on Friday nights.

Showing teachers appreciation and recognition during the upcoming National Teacher Appreciation Week is a terrific act of gratitude that reminds us of how important teachers are, and reminds us of what an integral role they play in our lives.

Teachers today devote time to professional development, their own education, and on class preparation outside the classroom. Most teachers spend much longer than the official school day working on teaching duties, and often spend their own money to

meet the needs of their students. Teachers make these time, energy, and monetary commitments, and they deserve recognition for such.

Today we also recognize the importance of having well-trained, dedicated, and skilled teachers in schools. We honor all teachers who have made a difference by preparing tomorrow's leaders.

I also want to thank my colleague from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) for introducing this resolution, unfortunately 7 years after I retired, but introducing it nonetheless. I ask for your support.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ).

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. I would like to thank my colleague.

Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of National Teacher Appreciation Week. This is a time to honor teachers for the positive impact they make in our lives. I thank the gentleman from Missouri for introducing this legislation.

Teachers fill many roles. They inspire students to set and reach goals. They are role models, motivators, and mentors. Most importantly, they help students develop the knowledge and skills they need to understand the world and to become a productive part of it. They work with limited resources to ensure that our students receive a quality education.

There are so many teachers in my district who work hard to open students' minds to ideas, knowledge, and dreams, but today I want to mention just three:

Julie Wright, who teaches first grade at Gardenhill Elementary School in La Mirada. Recently, Ms. Wright was nominated Teacher of the Year. Outside of the classroom, she invests her time in the local community by participating in the PTA and the Girl Scouts.

Pattie Blasnick is a special day class teacher at Ada S. Nelson Elementary School. Because of her patience and dedication to her special needs students, she was selected as the Los Nietos Teacher of the Year for 2009–2010.

Juvenal Martinez is a sixth grade teacher at Aeolian School who was recently honored for outstanding service in education and agriculture because of his commitment to increasing student and community knowledge about agriculture, horticulture, and nutrition.

I encourage everyone to take a moment to let a special teacher know how much they touched your life.

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Obviously, this is an issue that is very dear to my heart at the same time, as I know full well how dedicated

teachers are in putting in of their own time and their own effort to make their classrooms a success. And it is one of those particular areas in which they need to be recognized.

It would be nice if we could recognize them in other ways that are more substantial and maybe monetarily more satisfying, but at least to recognize the fact that teachers do put of themselves and give of themselves in an effort to try and deal and work with the future generations. That is one of those things that cannot be ever underestimated or underidentified.

So I appreciate the fact that this time, which is called National Teacher Appreciation Week, an entity that was started by the PTA, is indeed one of those elements that we should take the time to recognize the significant factor, the significant effort that all the teachers make in not only our public schools but our private schools as well, and indeed you can probably expand this in some particular way to extend to those who are teaching at home, which means our parents are teachers in and of themselves. They too need to be recognized for the commitment they make to our students. It is an important effort. It is an important entity.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CHU. As a teacher who was in the classroom for 20 years myself, I deeply appreciate this resolution. And it is a very timely one, especially as we go into reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I would like to yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of this particular resolution, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1312, a resolution recognizing the significant contributions of our Nation's teachers. I want to thank Chairman MILLER and Ranking Member KLINE for allowing this measure to come to the House floor today. I also want to thank Representative GUTHRIE and my many colleagues who have joined me as original cosponsors in moving forward this important tribute.

The goal of H. Res. 1312 is to promote the profession of teaching and honor those who enter into it. There are other jobs with better pay, shorter hours, and oftentimes less hassle than teaching. However, each year thousands of college graduates choose teaching as a profession. And it in no small part is a result of the impact their own teachers had on them.

In addition, I urge my colleagues to take part in National Teacher Appreciation Week, held from May 3 to May 7. It is designed to provide a means for students, parents, and the entire community to come together and participate in events and activities that show our appreciation for teachers and their selfless dedication to community service and the future of our Nation's children.

In closing, I once again thank my colleagues for taking the time today to recognize the profession of teaching, and encourage the strong support of this resolution.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1312, a resolution celebrating the roles and contributions of America's teachers to building and enhancing our Nation's civic, cultural, and economic well-being. On National Teacher Day, thousands of communities and schools take time to honor their local educators and acknowledge the crucial role that teachers play in making sure that quality education is a right for every student, not a privilege for some.

I strongly support this resolution because I believe that we in Congress must do our part to thank those teachers who have dedicated their lives to providing a quality education for all students, regardless of socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, gender, or religion. We trust our teachers with our Nation's most precious asset—our children—and we must pause to thank them for the seriousness with which they take that charge.

In my district alone, there are thousands of teachers working hard every single day to make sure that the students in Long Beach, Carson, Compton, Signal Hill, and Watts develop a love of life-long learning and that they have the tools and the knowledge they need to succeed in school and in life. Teachers do more than just teach; they also help build communities. They foster a sense of school community and they bring learning to the neighborhoods and communities that surround our schools. The NEA has asked that on National Teacher Day this year we do more than just pay lip service to our teachers. Better than an apple or a thank you card, a community's active support of the work that educators do to teach and care for the community's students would be ample reward.

But our recognition and support should not stop there. Many States have announced this year that they will solve their budget crises by laying off thousands of teachers and staff from our public schools. For example, in my home city of Long Beach, more than 1,000 teachers, counselors and social workers were formally notified in March that they may lose their jobs at the end of this school year. I was particularly upset by this news because Long Beach Unified School District is one of the best urban school districts in the country. It was awarded the prestigious Broad Prize for excellence in Urban Education in 2003, and it has been nominated for the prize four times since the prize's inception in 2002. The last thing we should do is lay off our Nation's teachers, particularly in places such as Long Beach Unified School District where the teachers and staff are out-performing other schools throughout the country. We should celebrate and recognize those teachers and schools that are excelling, and use them as the model for how to improve teachers and schools that are struggling to meet their standards.

We are facing one of the worst economic downturns in our country's history and I know that we must make tough choices about where to invest our scarce resources. However, our children are our future and without a proper, high-quality education they will not have the tools they need to succeed. I believe we must honor the commitment our teachers have made to our children by finding ways to bal-

ance states' budgets that do not result in widespread layoffs for public school educators and staff. Education is a civil right and we in Congress must do our part to protect that right for all children in all communities around the country.

I applaud our Nation's teachers for their dedication to educating our most valued population in this country—our children. Without high-quality teachers in all schools, many of our children would be at a great disadvantage academically. Our teachers, particularly those who dedicate their lives to teaching in underserved communities, do their part to ensure that all children have the tools they need to succeed every day in school and to contribute to society's future. I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1312.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1312 to recognize the roles and contributions of America's teachers in building and enhancing our Nation's civic, cultural, and economic well-being.

Education is the backbone of our society, and perhaps Thomas Jefferson summed it up best when he said, "Whenever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their own government." Simply put, the ability for our society to function and our democracy to work properly is dependent on a well-educated and informed electorate. Because of this, teachers play such a pivotal and vital role in our society, and it is important that we recognize their contributions to the future of our country.

This year, May 3–7 is teacher appreciation week, and I am proud to honor our teachers during this time. In Dallas, we have some of the best students and educators in the country, and I am incredibly proud of the work our teachers do to enhance the lives of our young people. The sacrifices they make are truly extraordinary, and I commend them on their efforts.

Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today in recognizing our teachers and supporting this resolution. Truly our teachers work tirelessly for our children, and by so doing, they are giving America a brighter future.

□ 1215

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I urge passage of House Resolution 1312, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1312, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL WEEK

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the reso-

lution (H. Res. 1149) supporting the goals and ideals of National Charter School Week, to be held May 2 through May 8, 2010.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1149

Whereas charter schools deliver high-quality education and challenge our students to reach their potential;

Whereas charter schools promote innovation and excellence in public education;

Whereas charter schools provide hundreds of thousands of families with diverse and innovative educational options for their children;

Whereas charter schools are public schools authorized by a designated public entity that are responding to the needs of our communities, families, and students, and promoting the principles of quality, choice, and innovation;

Whereas in exchange for the flexibility and autonomy given to charter schools, they are held accountable by their sponsors for improving student achievement and for their financial and other operations;

Whereas 39 States, the District of Columbia, and Guam have passed laws authorizing charter schools;

Whereas 4,956 charter schools, an increase of 292 schools from last school year, are now serving almost 1,500,000 children;

Whereas over the last 16 years, Congress has provided substantial support to the charter school movement through startup grants for planning, implementation, and dissemination of charter schools;

Whereas over 365,000 children are on charter school waiting lists nationally;

Whereas charter schools improve their students' achievement and often stimulate improvement in traditional public schools;

Whereas charter schools must meet the student achievement accountability requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in the same manner as traditional public schools, and often set higher and additional individual goals to ensure that they are of high quality and truly accountable to the public;

Whereas charter schools must continually demonstrate their ongoing success to parents, policymakers, and their communities, some charter schools routinely measure parental satisfaction levels, and all give parents new freedom to choose their public school;

Whereas charter schools nationwide serve a higher percentage of low-income and minority students than the traditional public system;

Whereas charter schools have enjoyed broad bipartisan support from the Administration, Congress, State Governors and legislatures, educators, and parents across the United States; and

Whereas the 11th annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held May 2 through May 8, 2010, is an event sponsored by charter schools and grassroots charter school organizations across the United States to recognize the significant impacts, achievements, and innovations of charter schools: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of the 11th annual National Charter Schools Week;

(2) acknowledges and commends charter schools and their students, parents, teachers, and administrators across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education and improving and strengthening our public school system; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States to conduct appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to demonstrate support for charter schools during this weeklong celebration in communities throughout the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1149 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. CHU. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1149, a resolution in support of the goals and ideals of National Charter School Week from May 2 through May 8, 2010, and to recognize the growing charter school movement in our Nation.

Since their inception in 1991, charter schools have offered a competitive education to many of our Nation's public school students and have helped drive school reforms across the country. Charter schools across the United States support diverse and innovative instruction and learning models. With autonomy and flexibility, charter schools can make timely decisions about how to structure the school day, which curricula best suits the needs of their students, and which types of staff will enrich the school communities. Additionally, quality charter schools form important partnerships with parents and with their surrounding communities.

This week, charter schools across the country will celebrate the 11th annual National Charter School Week. It is a great time to highlight the role these schools serve in driving education innovation and reform.

Today, there are almost 5,000 public charter schools, which are operating in 39 States and in the District of Columbia. They serve more than 1.5 million students, with many more students on waiting lists. To address this demand, many States and districts are welcoming charters to their neighborhoods. With the start of the school year, over 400 new public charter schools opened their doors to nearly 170,000 new students.

The growing charter school movement is also providing opportunities for many historically underserved communities. Nationally, charter schools serve a high percentage of minority

and low-income students. In fact, 58 percent of charter school students are minorities, and 35 percent qualify for free and reduced priced lunches. Quality charter schools are often able to achieve impressive academic results.

Madam Speaker, once again, I express my support for National Charter School Week, and I recognize the charter school movement and its 18-year history of promoting a high-quality public educational option—an option that is innovative, flexible, and responsive to community needs.

I thank Representative BISHOP for introducing this resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, as you know, it is very difficult for me to speak without chalk in my hand at any given time.

Today, I rise to support House Resolution 1149, supporting the goals and ideals of National Charter School Week, which is being held now. Actually, it runs from May 2 through May 8 of this year. This week has been designated as the 11th annual Charter School Week.

Charter schools are innovative public schools that have unique freedoms and responsibilities. They explore new educational approaches, and they are free from some rules and regulations governing traditional public schools. In exchange for this freedom, charter schools are held to a higher level of accountability than traditional public schools might be.

Charter schools must demonstrate the success of their students' academic achievements to parents, to policymakers, to authorizers, and to their communities or face closure. Many charter schools have met and have exceeded in this challenge. Most charter schools meet necessary student achievement and accountability requirements, and they often set higher individual goals to ensure that they are of high quality and are truly accountable to the public. However, despite these innovative approaches and promising reports of parental satisfaction, charter schools often face unique and unusual obstacles in creating and replicating successful schools.

One such obstacle is State caps, which limit their growth. Twenty-six States and the District of Columbia have some type of limit, or cap, on charter school growth. Most caps restrict the number of charter schools allowed. Others limit the number of students that a single school may serve. These caps prohibit effective charter schools from being created and replicated and, thereby, from serving students in need, oftentimes in niche needs.

It is essential that Congress continues to support public charter school programs and that it continues to recognize the unique attributes and benefits of charter schools. These programs provide support for the development of

charter schools. These programs have helped to create a public charter school system all across this country—schools that work to improve academic achievement, oftentimes for low-income students.

It is important that the charter community is able to continue to provide a high-quality option based on innovation, on freedom from red tape, and on partnerships between parents and educators and that it is able to continue to give hope, oftentimes to disadvantaged and at-risk students across this Nation.

It is, indeed, one of those good things that we are doing in our school system, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1149 which recognizes the important impact charter schools have on students across the nation who attend them.

Charter schools have been one of the fastest-growing innovative forces in education policy. In the past 4 years, 1,600 new charter schools opened and 500,000 additional public school students chose to enroll in charter schools nationwide.

In my home state of New Jersey, 68 approved charter schools serve more than 22,000 students in pre-kindergarten through grade 12. These schools, through creative solutions and selfless dedication, provide an invaluable service to children caught in failing public school systems.

I have been a longtime advocate of school choice. Giving parents options for their child's education not only helps to better educate students, but can also help to build stronger, more prosperous communities. As incubators of innovation in education, charter schools challenge other schools to do better.

Not every child in America is fortunate enough to attend a high performing public school or has the means to afford a first-rate private or parochial education. And, we all know the story of many failing public schools across the nation: Low graduation rates. High dropout rates. Low mathematics and reading scores. Charter schools, school vouchers and other programs that give families a choice in their child's education have and will continue to make a significant and positive impact on those statistics.

We can no longer be distracted by the ideological battles surrounding educational choice and competition while children graduate without the skills to succeed here at home, or even less so in our global economy.

Madam speaker, I close today in appreciation for the teachers and students of charter schools, and the communities and private donors that support them, for their contributions and achievements and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I urge passage of House Resolution 1149, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1149.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOTHER'S DAY CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2421) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of Mother's Day, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2421

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Mother's Day Centennial Commemorative Coin Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress hereby finds as follows:

(1) Anna Jarvis, who is considered to be the founder of the modern Mother's Day, was born in Webster, West Virginia on May 1, 1864.

(2) A resident of Grafton, West Virginia, Anna Jarvis dedicated much of her adult life to honoring her mother, Anna Reeves Jarvis, who passed on May 9, 1905.

(3) In 1908, the Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church of Grafton, West Virginia, officially proclaimed the third anniversary of Anna Reeves Jarvis' death to be Mother's Day.

(4) In 1910, West Virginia Governor, William Glasscock, issued the first Mother's Day Proclamation encouraging all West Virginians to attend church and wear white carnations.

(5) On May 8, 1914, the Sixty-Third Congress approved H.J. Res. 263 designating the second Sunday in May to be observed as Mother's Day and encouraging all Americans to display the American flag at their homes as a public expression of the love and reverence for the mothers of our Nation.

(6) On May 9, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson issued a Presidential Proclamation directing government officials to display the American flag on all government buildings and inviting the American people to display the flag at their homes on the second Sunday of May as a public expression of the love and reverence for the mothers of our nation.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue not more than 400,000 \$1 coins each of which shall—

(1) weigh 26.73 grams;
(2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
(3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the 100th anniversary of President Wilson's proclamation designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

(b) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

(1) a designation of the value of the coin;
(2) an inscription of the year "2014"; and
(3) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(c) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee established under section 5135 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act beginning January 1, 2014, except that the Secretary may initiate sales of such coins, without issuance, before such date.

(c) TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.—No coins shall be minted under this Act after December 31, 2014.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of the face value of the coins, the surcharge required under section 7(a) for the coins, and the cost of designing and issuing such coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, and marketing).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS AT A DISCOUNT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) SURCHARGE REQUIRED.—All sales shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges which are received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary as follows:

(1) ½ to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure for the purpose of furthering research funded by the organization.

(2) ½ to the National Osteoporosis Foundation for the purpose of furthering research funded by the Foundation.

(c) AUDITS.—The Susan G. Komen for the Cure and the National Osteoporosis Foundation shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received by the respective organizations under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary of the Treasury may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

SEC. 8. BUDGET COMPLIANCE.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory

Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEEKS of New York. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, on Sunday, we will be celebrating Mother's Day. On May 9, 2014, we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the declaration by President Wilson of having Mother's Day celebrated on the second Sunday in May.

I speak in strong support of the bill on which Mrs. CAPITO also worked and drafted and for which she fought so hard to have a commemorative coin made for that day in honor of Mother's Day.

As you know, Anna Jarvis, who is considered to be the founder of the modern Mother's Day, was born in Webster, West Virginia, on May 1, 1864. She loved her mother so much that, when her mother passed, the Governor of West Virginia and others came around and said, What a great idea it is to celebrate mothers.

I don't know of a person in this House or in this Nation who does not appreciate the value of their mothers and the greatness that Mother's Day represents as it brings us together to celebrate mothers.

What a brilliant idea 100 years ago by the President, in following the lead of West Virginia, to determine that we are going to have this day of celebration for mothers. What better thing for us to do than to have a commemorative coin established, which would also raise money for two very important organizations.

One half of the profits, which would be received from the surcharge of \$10 per coin, would benefit women's causes, including the Susan G. Komen for the Cure. This would further research funded by the organization. The other half of the profits would go to the National Osteoporosis Foundation for the purpose of further research funded by that foundation.

So, Madam Speaker, I stand here today in strong support of the passage

of the commemorative coin to celebrate the 100th anniversary, the centennial, of Mother's Day as declared by President Wilson.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPITO. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank the gentleman from New York, not only for his support of this bill but also for his eloquent statement in support, not just of the coin but of mothers in general. I want to thank him for yielding time to me.

Madam Speaker, as he said, this Sunday, families across the Nation will gather to honor their mothers and grandmothers. By the way, I am a new grandmother. I had to put that in. They will show their gratitude for the contributions these women have made not only to their immediate families but also to their communities at large. The tradition of honoring our mothers on the second Sunday in May goes back almost a century. It is a very interesting and quite simple history.

The tradition of Mother's Day began in the mountains of Appalachia, when a woman named Anna Jarvis sought a more formal way to honor her mother. Her mother's name was Anna Reeves Jarvis, who had passed away in 1905. Ms. Jarvis, a native of Webster County in the wilds of West Virginia, began working with the Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church of Grafton, West Virginia, to honor her mother and her mother's contributions to the community.

In 1908, the church officially proclaimed the third anniversary of Anna Reeves Jarvis' passing to be Mother's Day, but Anna Jarvis was not to be deterred. She continued her efforts to honor mothers across the State of West Virginia. In 1910, she was successful in lobbying and in encouraging the Governor of West Virginia to issue the first Mother's Day proclamation, encouraging all West Virginians to attend church and to wear white carnations in honor of their mothers.

□ 1230

Ms. Jarvis built upon her success at home and began a nationwide effort to have Federal recognition of Mother's Day. After 4 years of hard work and dedication, President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation in 1914 encouraging all Americans to fly the American flag at their homes on the second Sunday of May as a public expression of the love and reverence for mothers of our Nation.

West Virginians, we are very proud of our heritage and of the role that our State played in the creation and founding of Mother's Day.

Last year I introduced this underlying legislation, which calls for the minting of a commemorative coin in 2014 to honor the centennial of proclaiming and designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. This coin will be minted in 2014, and as the gentleman from New York expressed, the proceeds of the sales of the coin

will go to the Susan G. Komen Foundation and also to the National Osteoporosis Foundation. I wanted to pick foundations that I knew were dedicated to women's health so that the money will be used for research and development to help the mothers of the future cope with the tragic consequences of osteoporosis or cancer.

As an aside, I would like to wish my mother, Shelley Riley Moore, a very happy and wonderful Mother's Day this Sunday. She has been a very special person in my life and in the life of my entire family. And while that's a personal aside, I know we all feel the same way about our mothers, and taking the time to tell them. I would encourage everyone to do that.

I would like to thank the 291 Members of the House who have joined me in this effort allowing the bill to be considered today. I would encourage the passage of this bill, and again I would encourage the recognition of the place that the mothers of America and really across the world play in the lives of all of us here today.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Let me again thank the gentlewoman from West Virginia for her hard work on bringing this bill.

I think there's no more appropriate thing to do than to celebrate mothers, as we will this Sunday, and celebrate the 100th anniversary of Mother's Day, as we will in 2014, as well as raising money for those causes that will help women.

Let me likewise just say that I would not be standing here today in the well of the House of Representatives if it wasn't for many lessons that were taught to me by my mother. And though she is no longer with us, there is not a day that goes by that she is not in my thoughts and in my heart and I don't hear her.

In closing, I must say on a personal note that I must give a special thanks to my wife and what she does on a daily basis mothering our children.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,

Washington, DC, April 29, 2010.

Hon. BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman, Financial Services Committee, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FRANK: I am writing regarding H.R. 2421, the Mother's Day Centennial Commemorative Coin Act.

As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means maintains jurisdiction over bills that raise revenue. H.R. 2421 contains a provision that establishes a surcharge for the sale of commemorative coins that are minted under the bill, and thus falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

However, as part of our ongoing understanding regarding commemorative coin bills and in order to expedite this bill for Floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with

respect to H.R. 2421, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the record.

Sincerely,

SANDER M. LEVIN,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, May 3, 2010.

Hon. SANDER M. LEVIN,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing in response to your letter regarding H.R. 2421, the "Mother's Day Centennial Commemorative Coin Act," which was introduced in the House and referred to the Committee on Financial Services on May 14, 2009. It is my understanding that this bill will be scheduled for floor consideration shortly.

I wish to confirm our mutual understanding on this bill. As you know, section 7 of the bill establishes a surcharge for the sale of commemorative coins that are minted under the bill. I acknowledge your committee's jurisdictional interest in such surcharges as revenue matters. However, I appreciate your willingness to forego committee action on H.R. 2421 in order to allow the bill to come to the floor expeditiously. I agree that your decision to forego further action on this bill will not prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation. I would support your request for conferees on those provisions within your jurisdiction should this bill be the subject of a House-Senate conference.

I will include this exchange of letters in the Congressional Record when this bill is considered by the House. Thank you again for your assistance.

BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman.

Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2421, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CELEBRATING MOTHERS AND MOTHER'S DAY

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1295) celebrating the role of mothers in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of Mother's Day.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1295

Whereas Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday of each May;

Whereas the first official Mother's Day was observed on May 10, 1908, in Grafton, West Virginia, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania;

Whereas 2010 is the 102nd anniversary of the first official Mother's Day observation;

Whereas in 1908, Elmer Burkett, a U.S. senator from Nebraska, proposed making Mother's Day a national holiday;

Whereas in 1914, Congress passed a resolution designating the second Sunday of May as Mother's Day;

Whereas it is estimated that there are more than 82,000,000 mothers in the United States;

Whereas mothers have made immeasurable contributions toward building strong families, thriving communities, and ultimately a strong Nation;

Whereas the services rendered to the children of the United States by their mothers have strengthened and inspired the Nation throughout its history;

Whereas George Washington said, "My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual, and physical education I received from her.";

Whereas Abraham Lincoln said, "All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.";

Whereas we honor ourselves and mothers in the United States when we revere and emphasize the importance of the role of the home and family as the true foundation of the Nation;

Whereas mothers continue to rise to the challenge of raising their families with love, understanding, and compassion, while overcoming the challenges of modern society; and

Whereas May 9, 2010, is recognized as Mother's Day; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives celebrates the role of mothers in the United States and supports the goals and ideals of Mother's Day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add any extraneous materials.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to present House Resolution 1295 for consideration. This legislation celebrates the role of mothers in the United States and supports the goals and ideals of Mother's Day.

Introduced by my colleague and friend Representative JEFF FORTENBERRY of Nebraska on April 22, 2010, House Resolution 1295 enjoys the support of over 60 Members of Congress, and I am proud to say that I have gone out on a limb and become one of those cosponsors.

First, I would like to thank the gentleman from Nebraska for introducing the resolution. I would also like to thank Chairman TOWNS and Mr. CHAFFETZ, my colleague on the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for bringing the resolution to the floor today.

On Sunday, May 9, 2010, we will celebrate the 102nd anniversary of the first official Mother's Day, which was celebrated on May 10, 1908, in Grafton, West Virginia, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It may come as a surprise to some, particularly our own mothers, that it took nearly 103 years for our country to officially designate a day praising motherhood. Thankfully, in 1908 Senator Elmer Burkett of Nebraska had the good sense to propose making Mother's Day into a national holiday. And since 1914, Congress has recognized the second Sunday of May as a time to celebrate the immeasurable contributions mothers have made toward building strong families, thriving communities, and our great Nation generally.

I would not presume to speak on behalf of America's 82 million mothers. Instead, I would simply recognize their importance in shaping our society and our future. Many of our greatest national heroes attribute their own successes to the guidance of their moms. While examples abound, I will quote President Abraham Lincoln, who once said of his own mother, "I remember my mother's prayers, and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life." I am sure that similar thanks and praise are appropriate for mothers of every American.

Madam Speaker, although I think you would agree that it is completely inadequate to spend just 1 day a year celebrating the contributions of America's mothers, my wife regularly reminds me that in our house every day is Mother's Day. As a small token of our appreciation, I urge this body to join its 63 cosponsors and agree to House Resolution 1295.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1295. Now, this is something I can actually get really excited about and proud of the body for taking up because the celebration of the role of mothers in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of Mother's Day is something that I am sure we can be unified on.

This Sunday, May 9, many Americans will take a moment to pay tribute to the estimated 82 million mothers for their immeasurable contributions toward building strong families and successful communities throughout our country.

The first Mother's Day was celebrated in Grafton, West Virginia, 102 years ago on May 10, 1908. From there the custom caught on, quickly spreading to 45 other States. In 1914 President Woodrow Wilson declared the first national Mother's Day as a day for Americans to celebrate a woman's role in the family and as a day for citizens to show the flag in honor of those mothers whose sons had died in war. Celebrated on the second Sunday in May,

this holiday has grown to include all mothers in times of war and peace and is now celebrated in many countries across the globe.

Throughout history mothers have traditionally represented the strength of families. Their nurturing spirit transcends any differences in every culture as mothers protect, guide, and teach their children.

As Washington Irving said, "A mother is the truest friend we have, when trials heavy and sudden fall upon us; when adversity takes the place of prosperity; when friends who rejoice with us in our sunshine desert us; when trouble thickens around us, still will she cling to us and endeavor by her kind precepts and counsels to dissipate the clouds of darkness and cause peace to return to our hearts."

It is with joy in our hearts that once again we honor the women who most of us hold dear, to recognize the steadfast love and support of our mothers who helped shape us throughout our lives.

On a personal note, I miss my mother. She passed away some years ago. I love her and I miss her.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to my distinguished colleague from the State of Alabama (Mr. BACHUS).

Mr. BACHUS. I thank the gentleman from Utah for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I wish to speak on this bill and also on the coin bill.

There is a bond between mothers and their children that words cannot describe. For the lucky ones among us, the more fortunate ones, a mother, our mother or someone else's mother, or a mother figure such as a grandmother, has made all the difference in the world in our lives. The tender care, the unending support, and the unconditional love of a mother truly are life's greatest blessings for a child.

Every year on the second Sunday in May, this Nation honors its mothers. It will do so again this Sunday. We seek to acknowledge their tireless support and their enduring love.

Few of us realize how the tradition began. As Mrs. CAPITO said, it began through the efforts of one lady in 1868 at the end of the Civil War. Her name was Anna Jarvis, and she dreamed of an annual Mother's Day.

However, she didn't live to see that, but her daughter did. On May 9, 1907, the second anniversary of Mrs. Jarvis's death, her daughter organized a group of friends, and within a year they began having church services on the second Sunday of May throughout West Virginia. It spread to Philadelphia. And then in 1910, the Governor of West Virginia, Governor William Glasscock, issued a Mother's Day proclamation. The next year Mother's Day services were held in all the States.

And later that year, President Woodrow Wilson, responding to a joint resolution of Congress, issued a proclamation setting aside the second Sunday of each May for displaying the American flag as a public expression of our love and reverence for our mothers. The mothers of our country.

Today that celebration has spread throughout the world. It began in West Virginia and here in the United States, another thing we as Americans can be proud of as we honor our mothers this Sunday.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to my distinguished colleague from the State of Georgia (Mr. GINGREY).

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. I thank my friend from Utah for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today as a proud supporter of House Resolution 1295, celebrating the role of mothers in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of Mother's Day.

Mothers are the foundation of the family, and their care and love of children have and continue to nurture the future leaders of this great Nation. Each day I am overwhelmed by the wonderful mothers in my own life, in my family, all the way from my mom to my wife to my daughters, which represents three generations of commitment to strong families and successful youth. These women, and so many like them, are the backbone of America.

Madam Speaker, today I thank my mother for instilling in my brothers and me the hard work, good education, personal responsibility, respect for the diversity of others, love of family and country, but, most importantly, love of God.

I must also take a moment to honor my wife for her undying love and devotion to our four children and now, as of Monday, 10 grandchildren.

□ 1245

My wife, Billie, has and forever will be an example for all mothers on how to raise a strong and beautiful family. I'm proud of all mothers in the 11th District of Georgia who are dedicated to family values and compassion for their children. While passing on the ideals and strength that they have instilled into each child they rear, America's mothers are responsible for raising the next generation of mature adults.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, as I know they will, honoring all blessed mothers for their commitment to protecting our Nation's greatest treasure—the American family.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I would like to yield 5 minutes to my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY), the chief sponsor of this resolution.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. I thank the gentleman for the time.

Madam Speaker, as we all know, this Sunday, millions of Americans will celebrate the 102nd Mother's Day. The dedication, the grace, and the love of our mothers are written on all of our hearts and the history of our Nation, and I think it can be rightly said that the great character of America is due to the collective visionary might of the American mother. President Abraham Lincoln elucidated this very well: "All I am or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother. I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life."

Across time, traditions, and cultures, mothers have long been recognized and uplifted for their irreplaceable contributions to the family and to society. But it wasn't until a woman, as we heard earlier, from Grafton, West Virginia, named Ana M. Jarvis, held an observance in her mother's honor at St. Andrews Methodist Church, that the modern American Mother's Day first began. The quest for the official recognition of Mother's Day, however, began in my own home State of Nebraska. Ms. Jarvis and the Young Men's Christian Association urged the junior Senator from Nebraska, Elmer Burkett, to bring the celebration before Congress for a vote in 1908. It didn't pass then—it took until 1914—but they got it done. Congress eventually declared that "the service rendered the United States by the American mother is the greatest source of the country's strength and inspiration."

Since that time, our society has undergone vast transformations, but it is a testament to the enduring role of the family as the true foundation of America that Mother's Day still stands strong, even amid the nuances of modernity. Mothers have sustained and strengthened our Nation through every generation, and their compassionate leadership in the family and in their communities has remained a constant even through turbulent times. Each day, mothers are called to carry on the essential challenge of nurturing and fortifying our world, of building a better future for their—for our—children. The strength of the Nation ultimately is determined by the strength of our families and communities—and mothers shape that strength through their unique and integral role.

Madam Speaker, in times when we have become mired in bitter policy disputes, I believe it is refreshing to come together as a body now to honor the women who have literally given us the breath to stand on this floor, to defend our convictions, and maybe, to try to effect some good in this world. We join with millions of Americans echoing the father of our country, George Washington, who said, "All I am, I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual, and physical education I received from her."

Madam Speaker, I appreciate the time, and I urge my colleagues to support this timeless resolution.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I simply want to say that the foundation, the future of our country, is rooted in our families—and that starts with mothers. The mother of our children, my wife, I can't thank her enough for what she does and for what the literally millions and millions of mothers do and sacrifice every day for the sake of their children.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1295, which celebrates the role of mothers in the United States and supports the goals and ideals of Mother's Day. Mother's Day is one of the most important holidays in our country. It is critical that we honor and recognize the central role that mothers play in raising the youth of our nation and shaping the future of our country.

I was fortunate enough to be raised by a wonderful mother who lovingly cared for me and taught me the skills that I would need to excel in my adult life and career. There are more than 82 million mothers in the United States and each one of them deserves to be recognized on Mother's Day. Mothers work tirelessly every day to raise their children in loving households while juggling careers and countless other responsibilities.

We owe special recognition to the single mothers across the country, who work longer and harder to ensure that their children have the resources and care they need to experience a fulfilling childhood and grow into well-rounded adults.

We also must not forget the grandmothers and aunts, in California's 37th district and across the country, who raise their grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. No one requires them to assume this responsibility; many of them have already raised or are currently raising children of their own. But they do so selflessly and without complaint, loving these children as if they were their own. Mother's day is a celebration of these individuals too—it is a salute to all of the women across the country who shape the lives of America's youth.

We can never repay the mothers of this country for their hard and often thankless work. Especially in these tough economic times, many of them struggle financially, taking on extra jobs to make sure that they can put food on the table and send their children to school in new clothes. These individuals deserve our support. This Congress has responded to that need with the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which will ensure for women across the country that equal work gets equal pay. We also passed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which will help mothers provide themselves and their children with quality health care and end health insurance discrimination against women. Ensuring this basic fairness is the least we can do for the mothers who mean so much to our country.

Our nation's most influential leaders shared this reverence for our nation's mothers. George Washington once said, "All I am I owe to my mother, I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual, and physical education I received from her." Abraham Lincoln

echoed this sentiment, concisely stating, "All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother."

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1295.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. I urge the passage of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, in closing, I just want to thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY) for his foresight and for proposing this resolution. In closing, I want to wish all the moms in Massachusetts and across America a happy Mother's Day, including my own mom and my mother-in-law and my wife.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1295.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1247) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 3 through 9, 2010, and throughout the year.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1247

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity to recognize and promote the important contributions of public servants and to honor the diverse men and women who meet the needs of the Nation through work at all levels of government;

Whereas millions of individuals work in government service in every city, county, and State across America and in hundreds of cities abroad;

Whereas public service is a noble calling, involving a variety of challenging and rewarding professions;

Whereas Federal, State, and local governments are responsive, innovative, and effective because of the outstanding work of public servants;

Whereas the United States is a great and prosperous Nation, and public service employees contribute significantly to that greatness and prosperity;

Whereas the Nation benefits daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals;

Whereas public servants—

(1) defend our freedom and advance the interests of the United States around the world;

(2) provide vital strategic support functions to our military and serve in the National Guard and Reserves;

(3) fight crime and fires;

(4) ensure equal access to secure, efficient, and affordable mail service;

(5) deliver Social Security and Medicare benefits;

(6) fight disease and promote better health;

(7) protect the environment and the Nation's parks;

(8) enforce laws guaranteeing equal employment opportunity and healthy working conditions;

(9) defend and secure critical infrastructure;

(10) help the Nation recover from natural disasters and terrorist attacks;

(11) teach and work in our schools and libraries;

(12) develop new technologies and explore the earth, moon, and space to help improve our understanding of how our world changes;

(13) improve and secure our transportation systems;

(14) promote economic growth; and

(15) assist our Nation's veterans;

Whereas members of the uniformed services and civilian employees at all levels of government make significant contributions to the general welfare of the United States, and are on the front lines in the fight against terrorism and in maintaining homeland security;

Whereas public servants work in a professional manner to build relationships with other countries and cultures in order to better represent America's interests and promote American ideals;

Whereas public servants alert Congress and the public to government waste, fraud, abuse, and dangers to public health;

Whereas the men and women serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, as well as those skilled trade and craft Federal employees who provide support to their efforts, are committed to doing their jobs regardless of the circumstances, and contribute greatly to the security of the Nation and the world;

Whereas public servants have bravely fought in armed conflict in defense of this Nation and its ideals, and deserve the care and benefits they have earned through their honorable service;

Whereas government workers have much to offer, as demonstrated by their expertise and innovative ideas, and serve as examples by passing on institutional knowledge to train the next generation of public servants;

Whereas May 3 through 9, 2010, has been designated Public Service Recognition Week to honor America's Federal, State, and local government employees; and

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week is celebrating its 26th anniversary through job fairs, student activities, and agency exhibits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends public servants for their outstanding contributions to this great Nation during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year;

(2) salutes government employees for their unyielding dedication and spirit of public service;

(3) honors those government employees who have given their lives in service to their country;

(4) calls upon a new generation to consider a career in public service as an honorable profession; and

(5) encourages efforts to promote public service careers at all levels of government.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add any extraneous materials.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I now yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, as chairman of the House subcommittee with jurisdiction over the Federal workforce, postal service, and the District of Columbia, I am pleased to present House Resolution 1247 for consideration. This legislation expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year.

As the original sponsor of the resolution, along with my friend and colleague, Mr. CHAFFETZ of Utah, I'm proud to say that House Resolution 1247 has the support of 60 Members of Congress. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. CHAFFETZ for jointly introducing the resolution with me and for his work on bringing this to the floor today. I'd also like to thank the Partnership for Public Service for their role in organizing this annual celebration week, as well as for their superior work promoting careers in the public sector.

Madam Speaker, this week marks the 27th anniversary of Public Service Recognition Week. From May 3 through May 9, 2010, Public Service Recognition Week is designed to commemorate the hard work, dedication, and sacrifice made by our Nation's Federal, State, and local government employees. It's highly appropriate that we take a moment each year to fully appreciate the extraordinary deeds that are performed by our public employees throughout our country and abroad. Among other things, public servants fight fires and they enforce our laws; teach in our schools and libraries; defend our Nation; and protect the environment and our national parks. These individuals deserve our highest praise, although too often they are criticized and undervalued.

There are millions of individuals who work in government services in every city, county, and State across America and in hundreds of cities abroad. We all benefit enormously from the hard work of these dedicated individuals, and I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight a terrific example from my own district of a good Federal employee

who performs on a daily basis tasks that are vital to a lot of people that we worry about—and that is within the Veterans Administration Boston health care system. The VA system is a consolidation of facilities which delivers high-quality patient care to our Nation's veterans in areas such as mental health services, occupational therapy, and the women's veterans' homeless programs. The employees of all of these centers help to ensure that our Nation's heroes receive the health care they deserve. In particular, Cecilia McVey, who is the Associate Director of Nursing and Patient Care Services at VA Boston, who began her Federal career in 1972, and continues to be recognized as a leader of the Boston VA health care system.

Madam Speaker, our public servants are being recognized this week. I just want to talk about a few of them very, very briefly.

For example, Pius Bannis works for the field office of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service. He has worked tirelessly and selflessly providing assistance to Haitian orphans in the aftermath of the devastation of the January, 2010, earthquake.

Sergeant Kimberly D. Munley and Sergeant Mark A. Todd, Sr., both civilian employees, members of AFGE, the American Federation of Government Employees, who responded to the shooting at Fort Hood. These are civilian employees but they confronted an armed gunman and also mass chaos. The two civilian Defense Department police officers brought an end to the tragic carnage and rampage at Fort Hood that killed 14 people and wounded 43 others.

Also, Sara Bloom, an attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office in my own district of Massachusetts. Sara Bloom led the legal case against one of the major drug manufacturers and recovered \$2.3 billion on behalf of the American people in fines and penalties—the largest health care fraud settlement in the history of the United States.

Jamie Konstas, an Intelligence Analyst at the FBI. He provided vital resources in the fight against commercial and sexual exploitation of children, which has resulted in the conviction of more than 500 individuals and predators and the rescue of more than a thousand child victims.

Also, Carl W. Pike and the Project Coronado Team. They led the largest strike against the La Familia Mexican drug cartel, resulting in more than a thousand arrests, plus the seizure of 1½ tons of methamphetamine and \$32 million in cash.

Also, Terry Glass and the Army Medical Support Systems Team, which developed a state-of-the-art medical evacuation kit to provide lifesaving treatment and emergency transportation to soldiers severely wounded by roadside bombs.

Lastly, Robert James (RJ) Simonds, who dedicated his 20-year career to fighting the global HIV/AIDS epidemic,

advising policymakers on the creation of lifesaving programs and working in developing nations to assure those families receive those services.

Those are just a handful of the public servants that we recognize this week. They are a wonderful reflection of what a lot of people do every day. Madam Speaker, our public servants' hard work and dedication contribute significantly to the greatness and prosperity of our Nation. It is for this reason that, with the help the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) I introduce this resolution, and I urge its adoption. Public servants improve our lives on a daily basis. I hope this Congress will take the time to honor all of those who have dedicated their life to our country by voting in favor of House Resolution 1247.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 1247, commending public servants for their service and dedication to our Nation during Public Service Recognition Week. Every day, millions of hardworking and highly talented Americans serve their country and help make the United States even stronger. As a Nation, we owe public servants everywhere our gratitude for the work that they do.

Americans rely on public employees to keep us safe. Every day, men and women in uniform worldwide protect our freedom and allow us to live our lives in peace and security. When we have an emergency, we depend on firefighters and police officers to help us out in a dangerous and difficult situation. Only a few days ago, we witnessed the heroic actions of the Coast Guard in coming to the rescue of over 100 oil workers trapped on the burning Deepwater Horizon oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico. During many natural disasters, the dedicated members of the National Guard leave their own families and help people and their communities recover and rebuild in times of peril.

□ 1300

On normal days, all American lives are enriched by public employees. Whether it's the postal employee who delivers our mail regardless of the weather or the public schoolteacher whose constant enthusiasm inspires our children to succeed in school, we enjoy the benefits of the work our public servants give us constantly.

Much of the work of public employees we take for granted and do not even realize. There are people on every corner in this country who step up and do the right thing. Now, from time to time we hear about a public employee who does the wrong thing, and that usually will make the news, as it should, because it is not the norm. It is not regular for that to happen. We will highlight those. We will be vigilant in making sure that our public servants are doing what they're supposed to be doing in serving the public.

Whether it's at the local, State, or Federal level, public servants are a significant part of the fabric of this country, and we could not be the great Nation that we are today without their tireless efforts on our behalf.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to support this resolution today which commends the service of the millions of Americans who serve our country daily. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I also encourage all Americans to take some time to thank the public employees that they see for all they do to improve our lives and strengthen our country.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1247, which commends public servants across the United States for their continued service to the nation during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year. This legislation honors the men and women who recognize that service is a solution to serious challenges and selflessly dedicate themselves to the betterment of communities across the country.

I thank Chairman TOWNS for his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this legislation, Congressman LYNCH, for acknowledging the importance of a strong culture of service in the United States.

It is important that we continue to honor and commend the public servants who tirelessly dedicate their lives to serving our nation. I have personally witnessed the transformative power of public service in my own state. Last year, in California, the Corporation for National and Community Service helped 230,000 individuals of all ages and backgrounds meet local needs, strengthen communities, and increase civic engagement through 366 projects state-wide.

We also must honor and commend employees at all levels of government, many of whom dedicate the majority of their lives working to ensure that government is responsive, innovative, and—most importantly—attuned to the needs of the American people. Public servants in government are critical to promoting and protecting the core American values of democracy and representation.

Finally, we cannot forget those in the medical profession who care for the sick, young and old; the teachers who educate our children to become future leaders in our classrooms, colleges, and universities; the police and firefighters who protect our streets and keep us safe; or the construction workers who build our roads and bridges so we can get to work. Public service comes in many forms, all of which are equally vital in promoting the economic and moral strength of our nation.

Madam Speaker, it is entirely fitting that applaud those who serve the public good—whether through their careers, community organizations, or on their own in their spare time—and commend them for their efforts improve the lives of millions of Americans.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1247.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, and I want to thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) for his support on this resolution and co-sponsorship. I ask my colleagues to

join us in supporting House Resolution 1247.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1247.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TELEWORK IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2010

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1722) to require the head of each executive agency to establish and implement a policy under which employees shall be authorized to telework, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1722

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Telework Improvements Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. TELEWORK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part III of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 63 the following:

"CHAPTER 65—TELEWORK

"Sec.

"6501. Definitions.

"6502. Governmentwide telework requirement.

"6503. Implementation.

"6504. Telework Managing Officer.

"6505. Evaluating telework in agencies.

"§ 6501. Definitions

"For purposes of this chapter—

"(1) the term 'agency' means an Executive agency (as defined by section 105), except as otherwise provided in this chapter;

"(2) the term 'telework' or 'teleworking' refers to a work flexibility arrangement under which an employee performs the duties and responsibilities of such employee's position, and other authorized activities, from an approved worksite other than the location from which the employee would otherwise work;

"(3) the term 'continuity of operations', as used with respect to an agency, refers to measures designed to ensure that functions essential to the mission of the agency can continue to be performed during a wide range of emergencies, including localized acts of nature, accidents, public health emergencies, and technological or attack-related emergencies; and

"(4) the term 'Telework Managing Officer' means, with respect to an agency, the Telework Managing Officer of the agency designated under section 6504.

"§ 6502. Governmentwide telework requirement

"(a) TELEWORK REQUIREMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this chapter, the head of each agency shall establish a policy under which employees shall be au-

thorized to telework, subject to paragraph (2) and subsection (b).

"(2) AGENCY POLICIES.—The head of each agency shall ensure—

"(A) that the telework policy established under this section—

"(i) conforms to the regulations promulgated by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management under section 6503, and

"(ii) authorizes employees to telework to the maximum extent possible without diminishing agency operations and performance; and

"(B) that information on whether a position is eligible for telework is included in descriptions of available positions and recruiting materials.

"(b) PROVISIONS RELATING TO CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.—Nothing in subsection (a) shall be considered—

"(1) to require the head of an agency to authorize teleworking in the case of an employee whose duties and responsibilities—

"(A) require daily direct handling of classified information; or

"(B) are such that their performance requires on-site activity which cannot be carried out from a site removed from the employee's regular place of employment; or

"(2) to prevent the temporary denial of permission for an employee to telework if, in the judgment of the agency head, the employee is needed to respond to an emergency.

"(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this chapter shall—

"(1) be considered to require any employee to telework; or

"(2) prevent an agency from permitting an employee to telework as part of a continuity of operations plan.

"§ 6503. Implementation

"(a) RESPONSIBILITIES OF AGENCIES.—The head of each agency shall ensure that—

"(1) appropriate training is provided to supervisors and managers, and to all employees who are authorized to telework, as directed by the Telework Managing Officer of such agency;

"(2) the training covers the information security guidelines issued by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget under this section;

"(3) no distinction is made between teleworkers and nonteleworkers for purposes of—

"(A) periodic appraisals of job performance of employees,

"(B) training, rewarding, reassigning, promoting, reducing in grade, retaining, or removing employees,

"(C) work requirements, or

"(D) other acts involving managerial discretion;

"(4) in determining what constitutes diminished performance in the case of an employee who teleworks, the agency shall consult the performance management guidelines of the Office of Personnel Management; and

"(5) in the case of an agency which is named in paragraph (1) or (2) of section 901(b) of title 31, the agency incorporates telework in its continuity of operations plans and uses telework in response to emergencies.

"(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF OPM.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall—

"(1) not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this chapter, in consultation with the Administrator of General Services, promulgate regulations necessary to carry out this chapter, except that such regulations shall not apply with respect to the Government Accountability Office;

"(2) provide advice, assistance, and any necessary training to agencies with respect to—

"(A) questions of eligibility to telework, such as the effect of employee performance on eligibility, and

"(B) making telework part of the agency's goals, including those of individual supervisors and managers; and

"(3) in consultation with the Administrator of General Services, maintain a central, publicly available telework website that includes—

"(A) any regulations relating to telework and any other information the Director considers appropriate,

"(B) an e-mail address which may be used to submit comments to the Director on agency telework programs or agreements, and

"(C) a copy of all reports issued under section 6505(a).

"(c) SECURITY GUIDELINES.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in coordination with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, shall issue guidelines not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this chapter to ensure the adequacy of information and security protections for information and information systems used in, or otherwise affected by, teleworking. Such guidelines shall, at a minimum, include requirements necessary—

"(1) to control access to agency information and information systems;

"(2) to protect agency information (including personally identifiable information) and information systems;

"(3) to limit the introduction of vulnerabilities;

"(4) to protect information systems not under the control of the agency that are used for teleworking; and

"(5) to safeguard wireless and other telecommunications capabilities that are used for teleworking.

"§ 6504. Telework Managing Officer

"(a) DESIGNATION AND COMPENSATION.—Each agency shall designate an officer, to be known as the 'Telework Managing Officer'. The Telework Managing Officer of an agency shall be designated—

"(1) by the Chief Human Capital Officer of such agency; or

"(2) if the agency does not have a Chief Human Capital Officer, by the head of such agency.

"(b) STATUS WITHIN AGENCY.—The Telework Managing Officer of an agency shall be a senior official of the agency who has direct access to the head of the agency.

"(c) LIMITATIONS.—An individual may not hold the position of Telework Managing Officer as a noncareer appointee (as defined in section 3132(a)(7)), and such position may not be considered or determined to be of a confidential, policy-determining, policy-making, or policy advocating character.

"(d) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—Each Telework Managing Officer of an agency shall—

"(1) provide advice on teleworking to the head of such agency and to the Chief Human Capital Officer of such agency (if any);

"(2) serve as a resource on teleworking for supervisors, managers, and employees of such agency;

"(3) serve as the primary point of contact on telework matters for agency employees and (with respect to such agency) for Congress and other agencies;

"(4) work with senior management of the agency to develop and implement a plan to incorporate telework into the agency's regular business strategies and its continuity of operations strategies, taking into consideration factors such as—

"(A) cost-effectiveness,

"(B) equipment,

"(C) training, and

"(D) data collection;

“(5) ensure that the agency’s telework policy is communicated effectively to employees;

“(6) ensure that electronic or written notification is provided to each employee of specific telework programs and the agency’s telework policy, including authorization criteria and application procedures;

“(7) develop and administer a tracking system for compliance with Governmentwide telework reporting requirements;

“(8) provide to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and the Comptroller General such information as such individuals may require to prepare the reports required under section 6505, including the techniques used to verify and validate data on telework, except that this paragraph shall not apply with respect to the Government Accountability Office;

“(9) establish a system for receiving feedback from agency employees on the telework policy of the agency;

“(10) develop and implement a program to identify and remove barriers to telework and to maximize telework opportunities in the agency;

“(11) track and retain information on all denials of permission to telework for employees who are authorized to telework, and report such information on an annual basis to—

“(A) the Chief Human Capital Officer of such agency (or, if the agency does not have a Chief Human Capital Officer, the head of such agency), and

“(B) the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, for purposes of preparing the reports required under section 6505(a), except that this subparagraph shall not apply with respect to the Government Accountability Office;

“(12) ensure that employees are notified of grievance procedures available to them (if any) with respect to any disputes that relate to telework; and

“(13) perform such other duties and responsibilities relating to telework as the head of the agency may require.

“(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING STATUS OF TELEWORK MANAGING OFFICER.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit an individual who holds another office or position in an agency from serving as the Telework Managing Officer for the agency under this chapter.

“§ 6505. Evaluating telework in agencies

“(a) ANNUAL REPORT BY OPM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall submit to the Comptroller General and the appropriate committees of Congress a report evaluating the extent to which each agency is in compliance with this chapter with respect to the period covered by the report, and shall include in the report an evaluation of each of the following:

“(A) The degree of participation by employees of the agency in teleworking during the period. In the case of an agency which is an Executive department, the evaluation will include the degree of participation by employees of each component within the department, including—

“(i) the total number of employees in the agency;

“(ii) the number and percentage of such employees who are eligible to telework; and

“(iii) the number and percentage of such employees who do telework, broken down by the number and percentage who telework 3 or more days per week, one or two days per week, and less frequently than one day per week.

“(B) The method the agency uses to gather data on telework and the techniques used to verify and validate such data.

“(C) Whether the total number of employees who telework is at least 10% higher or lower than the number who teleworked during the previous reporting period and the reasons identified for any such change.

“(D) The agency’s goal for increasing the number of employees who telework in the next reporting period.

“(E) The extent to which the agency met the goal described in subparagraph (D) for its previous report, and, if the agency failed to meet the goal, the actions the agency plans to take to meet the goal for the next reporting period.

“(F) The best practices in agency telework programs.

“(G) In the case of an agency which is named in paragraph (1) or (2) of section 901(b) of title 31, the extent to which the agency incorporated telework in its continuity of operations plans and used telework in response to emergencies.

“(2) MINIMUM REQUIREMENT FOR COMPLIANCE.—For purposes of the reports required under this subsection, the Director shall determine that an agency is in compliance with the requirements of this chapter if the Director finds that the agency—

“(A) reported the requested data accurately and in a timely manner; and

“(B) either met or exceeded the agency’s established telework goals, or provided explanations as to why the goals were not met as well as the steps the agency is taking to meet the goals.

“(3) REPORTING PERIOD; TIMING.—The Director shall submit a report under this subsection with respect to the first 1-year period for which the regulations promulgated by the Director under section 6503(b) are in effect and each of the 4 succeeding 1-year periods, and shall submit the report with respect to a period not later than 6 months after the last day of the period to which the report relates.

“(4) EXCLUSION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE.—The Director shall not submit a report under this subsection with respect to the Government Accountability Office.

“(b) REPORTS BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—

“(1) EVALUATIONS OF REPORTS BY DIRECTOR OF OPM.—Not later than 6 months after the Director submits a report under subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall review the report and submit a report to the appropriate committees of Congress. The report shall evaluate the compliance of the Office of Personnel Management and agencies with this chapter and address the overall progress of agencies in carrying out this chapter, and shall include such other information and recommendations as the Comptroller General considers appropriate.

“(2) REPORTS ON GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE.—The Comptroller General shall submit a report with respect to the Government Accountability Office in the same manner and in accordance with the same requirements applicable to a report submitted by the Director with respect to any other agency under subsection (a).

“(c) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(1) the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives; and

“(2) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.”

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) The analysis for part III of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 63 the following:

“65. Telework 6501”.

(2) Section 622 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2005, as contained in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (5 U.S.C. 6120 note) is amended by striking “designate a ‘Telework Coordinator’ to be” and inserting “designate a Telework Managing Officer or designate the Chief Human Capital Officer or other career employee to be”.

SEC. 3. POLICY GUIDANCE.

Not later than the expiration of the 120-day period which begins on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall issue policy guidance requiring each Executive agency (as such term is defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code), when purchasing computer systems, to purchase computer systems that enable and support telework, unless the head of the agency determines that there is a mission-specific reason not to do so.

SEC. 4. TRAVEL EXPENSE TEST PROGRAMS.

Section 5710 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 5710. Authority for travel expense test programs

“(a)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, if the Administrator of General Services determines it to be in the interest of Government, the Administrator may approve the request of an agency to operate a test program under which the agency may pay through the proper disbursing official any necessary travel expenses of the employee in lieu of any payment otherwise authorized or required under this subchapter. Under an approved test program, an agency may provide an employee with the option to waive any payment authorized or required under this subchapter. An agency shall include in any request to the Administrator for approval of such a test program an analysis of the expected costs and benefits and a set of criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the test program.

“(2) Any test program operated under this section shall be designed to enhance cost savings or other efficiencies that accrue to the Government.

“(b) The Administrator shall transmit a description of any test program approved or extended by the Administrator under this section to the appropriate committees of the Congress not later than 30 days before the program or extension takes effect.

“(c)(1) An agency operating a test program approved under this section shall annually submit a report on the results of the program to date to the Administrator.

“(2) Not later than 3 months after the conclusion of a test program approved under this section, the agency operating the program shall submit a final report on the results of the program to the Administrator and the appropriate committees of Congress.

“(d) The Administrator may approve such number of test programs under this section as the Administrator considers appropriate, including test programs which are carried out on a government-wide basis, except that the number of test programs in operation at any time may not exceed 12 and test programs shall be conducted consistent with chapter 71 of this title.

“(e)(1) The Administrator may not approve any test program under this section for an initial period of more than 2 years.

“(2) Upon a showing of enhanced cost savings, the Administrator may extend an approved test program for an additional period not to exceed 2 years.

“(f) In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives and the

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

“(g) The authority to conduct test programs under this section shall expire upon the expiration of the 6-year period which begins on the date of the enactment of the Telework Improvements Act of 2010.”.

SEC. 5. TELEWORK RESEARCH.

(a) RESEARCH BY OPM ON TELEWORK.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall—

(1) conduct studies on the utilization of telework by public and private sector entities that identify best practices and recommendations for the Federal government;

(2) review the outcomes associated with an increase in telework, including the effects of telework on energy consumption, the environment, job creation and availability, urban transportation patterns, and the ability to anticipate the dispersal of work during periods of emergency; and

(3) make any studies or reviews performed under this subsection available to the public.

(b) USE OF CONTRACT TO CARRY OUT RESEARCH.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management may carry out subsection (a) pursuant to a contract entered into by the Director using competitive procedures.

SEC. 6. PAYGO COMPLIANCE.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add any extraneous materials.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, as chairman of the House subcommittee with jurisdiction over the Federal workforce, postal service, and the District of Columbia, I am pleased to present H.R. 1722 for consideration. This legislation seeks to improve and expand access to telework among Federal employees government-wide.

The bipartisan measure before us today was introduced by my friend and colleague, Representative JOHN SARBANES of Maryland, along with myself and Congressmen FRANK WOLF, GERRY CONNOLLY, JIM MORAN, DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER, and DANNY DAVIS on March 25, 2009. The bill was amended and favorably ordered reported by the Oversight and Government Reform Committee on April 14, 2010.

Madam Speaker, despite the evolving nature of the way the Federal Govern-

ment conducts its affairs, telework continues to be underutilized by Federal agencies. H.R. 1722 provides for improvements to increase the number of Federal employees that participate in telework programs. Some of the most notable aspects of this legislation include: requiring agencies to develop telework policies within 1 year that allow authorized employees to telework; directing the Office of Personnel Management to develop regulations on overall telework policies and to annually evaluate agency telework programs; requiring the Office of Management and Budget to issue guidelines on information security protections for telework; and instructing agencies to designate a telework managing officer to ensure effective development and implementation of telework plans.

H.R. 1722 also seeks to elevate the importance of incorporating telework into the continuity of operations planning of agencies. Notably, the Office of Personnel Management and its Director, John Berry, estimated that telework reduced the estimated cost of lost productivity during the snowstorms this past winter by \$30 million.

H.R. 1722 is critical if the Federal Government is going to evolve into a more efficient, prepared, and environmentally responsible entity.

This legislation is being considered with an amendment making technical corrections. Notably, H.R. 4106, a bill similar to H.R. 1722, was passed by this body during the 110th Congress.

I urge my colleagues to again take action to move telework forward by passing H.R. 1722, the Telework Improvements Act of 2010.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 1722 would require each executive agency to establish a policy under which employees may be authorized to telework to the maximum extent possible without diminishing employee performance or agency operations.

Telework has been shown to save money on infrastructure, transportation, and other costs. At the Patent and Trade Office, for instance, millions of dollars have been saved through the reduction of office space due to increased use of telework.

In addition, telework has proven to be an effective way to attract and retain highly qualified, skilled, and motivated employees. As the baby boomer generation begins to retire, these types of tools will be essential to ensuring that the Federal Government can attract the next generation of employees.

This bill would require the Office of Personnel Management to maintain a central, publicly available telework Web site, including regulations regarding telework, and a confidential hotline and email address to report abuse. It will also help ensure telework is included in continuity of operations

planning. We saw earlier this year the amazing amount of snow that fell upon Washington, D.C. If we had more extensive telework plans in place, I think the cost to the government would have been certainly diminished.

We must ensure that privacy and security is maintained. That is paramount. It was one of my deep concerns, as we reviewed this bill within the committee, that privacy and security is maintained at all costs and that there be specific rules and regulations in place that are highly enforceable to make sure that the information is secure and private. This bill appears to take these factors into consideration as it is fully implemented.

Historically, the Federal Government has not been at the forefront of deploying technology to permit alternative work environments, lagging behind the private sector in this important recruitment and retention tool. This bill will help close that gap.

I want to thank Members on both sides of the aisle for their great work on this, including Mr. WOLF of Virginia and Mrs. CAPITO of West Virginia, as they seek to make sure that these types of policies are put into place and that we, as the Federal Government, with the millions of Federal employees, are doing the right thing in expanding this type of work and making sure that we have the proper rules, regulations, and the safety and security that we need for the confidential information that our Federal employees deal with.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, at this time, it gives me great pleasure to yield 5 minutes to Representative JOHN SARBANES, the gentleman from Maryland, who is the lead sponsor on our side in support of this legislation.

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I want to thank Chairman LYNCH for yielding his time. I want to thank him for his support of this very important bill. Also, Congressman GERRY CONNOLLY is going to speak, I believe, and he has been very supportive. We have bipartisan support on this bill. I think it is a commonsense approach, and I am delighted that we have it on the floor today.

We have been working for some time to try to strengthen the telecommuting/telework policy across our Federal agencies, and this legislation will make sure that we have a good, strong policy in place. For starters, it's going to instruct the Office of Personnel Management to develop a uniform, governmentwide telework policy for Federal employees. We haven't had this in place before. We've had agencies that have pursued telework, some with great success, but we haven't had a uniform approach and emphasis on telework in all of our Federal agencies, and OPM will make sure that that happens.

I want to say, as an aside, that John Berry, who is the new head of the Office of Personnel Management, is totally on board with this. He's really on the leading edge, and he's as excited as we are that this legislation is on the floor today.

This is really about good government. There is information—in fact, the nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service has released a study that indicates that within the next 5 years, approximately 550,000 Federal employees—which is almost 30 percent of the Federal workforce—is going to retire or leave government and we need the best and the brightest folks to come in and take their place. That's a responsibility that we have. We need to be competing in the workplace and in the market for the most talented people. One way that you do that is to show that you have flexible policies and that telework is part and parcel of the Federal workplace.

Now, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, the Defense Information Systems Agency, and some other agencies have really led the way. They have made this state of the art within their workplace, telework, and they're showing what can be done at the highest levels. We believe other agencies can come to the table and demonstrate the same thing.

It is going to improve productivity. In those agencies where this has been implemented well and across the board, you are seeing productivity go up, not just among the people that are teleworking, but across the entire workforce, because it is a cultural shift in terms of how performance is measured.

All of my colleagues have already mentioned the continuity of operations dimension of this, which was illustrated in ways that could hardly have been more compelling by the snowstorms that we experienced in February. Because there was telework within some of the Federal agencies, they were able to save a tremendous amount of money in terms of lost productivity. So we're very excited about this opportunity.

Just some other details of the legislation I would like to mention before I yield back:

The appointment of a telework managing officer within each agency to be the point person, to be the resource to make sure that the policy is in front of the employees at that agency so they understand what kind of opportunities are available to them;

Training and education for both supervisors and employees;

Governmentwide evaluation on a periodic basis. The Government Accountability Office will be part of that to make sure that we are moving towards these telework compliance goals that are being set forth.

So we're excited about this opportunity, we look forward to our Federal agencies embracing this new policy and taking telework to the next level.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to my distinguished

colleague from the State of West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO).

Mrs. CAPITO. I would like to thank the gentleman from Utah for yielding me time, and I would like to thank the sponsor of the bill.

As a cosponsor of this legislation, I rise today in support of H.R. 1722.

I represent the eastern panhandle of West Virginia that continues to welcome new residents seeking the lower cost of living and family-oriented environment that West Virginia offers. Many of these new West Virginians work in the Washington, D.C., area for the Federal Government.

Telework would further improve the quality of life for these commuters. Teleworking would allow these workers to perform their duties and responsibilities from home or at another worksite—we actually have a remote telework facility in Jefferson County—where they would be removed from their regular workplace.

Telework would be good for families because it provides employees the flexibility they need to meet daily demands. It's an environmental bill because I believe it will reduce traffic congestion and air pollution as well as gasoline consumption.

Additionally, employers benefit from the increased productivity. I think the private sector has studies out there showing that telework can be much more productive for the overall organization: improved morale, fewer sick leave days used, better worker retention, and reduced costs for office space.

As telework is more widely adopted by the private sector, it is critical that the Federal Government continue to keep pace and serve as a model for telework. Several agencies within the Federal Government have already established efficient and effective telework policies, but H.R. 1722 requires each executive agency to establish a policy under which employees would be authorized to telework to the maximum extent possible without diminishing employee performance or agency operations.

As both speakers have stated, many law enforcement, home security, and emergency preparedness agencies on all levels of government advocate formal agency telework policies because they can aid continuity of operations planning for crises—such as the February snowstorms that crippled the Washington, D.C., area—through organized dispersal of employees and computer/telecom technology.

I know that telework may not work for every job, but there are jobs today that lend themselves to telework. Nearly 20 million Americans telework today, and at least 40 percent of American jobs are compatible with telework. I believe that instead of sitting in traffic for hours during the daily commute, time is better spent sitting down to dinner as a family, helping kids with their homework, or other important events that happen during the day which teleworking

would allow many of our Federal employees to do on a regular basis.

I urge passage of this legislation.

□ 1315

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentlelady from West Virginia for her thoughtful remarks, and I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) who is also an original cosponsor and a tireless champion of this legislation.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my good friend from Massachusetts who has so ably shepherded this legislation to this point.

The Telework Improvements Act is an important piece of legislation because it will help us meet five critical policy goals: reduction of dependence on foreign oil; reduction in traffic congestion; improvement in air quality; improvement in Federal recruitment and retention; and improvement in the continuity of operations plan for the Federal Government.

I want to particularly thank Congressman JOHN SARBANES for his leadership in introducing this legislation; my friend and colleague from Virginia, FRANK WOLF, who has long championed this cause; the Office of Personnel Management Director John Berry; and of course the ranking member on the subcommittee, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ).

Telework is an essential part of Federal personnel policy because it can help recruit and retain Federal employees. It can maintain continuity of operations in the event of an emergency, and reduce congestion and associated air pollution. That is very important in this National Capital Region, which is a nonattainment region as measured by the EPA.

With 47 percent of the Federal workforce eligible for retirement sometime over the next 10 years or so, we must provide benefits that attract highly qualified employees. Many private companies already provide better telework benefits than does the Federal Government. We must not fall further behind. The ability to work from remote workstations relies on its regular use. Telework is an important and cost-effective component of efforts to reduce congestion, greenhouse gas pollution, and smog. According to the Telework Exchange, if 20 percent of Americans teleworked, we could eliminate 67 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually and reduce Persian Gulf imports by 40 percent. These greenhouse gas emissions correspond to a reduction in ground level ozone in our region, which is critically important to protect the health of our region's residents.

Only 6 percent of eligible Federal employees currently telework on a regular basis, even though the largely white collar workforce in our region is perfectly suited for telework. By contrast, in my county, Fairfax County, the largest suburb in the National Capital Region, 20 percent of our eligible

workforce telecommutes at least one day a week. The Telework Improvements Act provides a vehicle to increase telework participation, establishing telework managing officers for each agency and integrating continuity of operations planning performance metrics. If I had my way, frankly, we would set a 20 percent goal for every Federal agency. Hopefully that is an issue we will revisit at some point.

As an expression of support for this legislation, the Office of Personnel Management announced administrative changes to improve telework policy. This announcement followed an oversight hearing at which Director John Berry received several questions from committee members about telework and the introduction of this act. Since then, we have had multiple severe snowstorms, as has been mentioned, and the nuclear summit hosted by President Obama in the District of Columbia, all of which demonstrated the importance of telework.

During the snowstorms, Federal workers saved taxpayers \$30 million each day in lost productivity or productivity that would have otherwise been lost because of a telework program already in place. That represented the equivalent of a 30 percent telework rate which is achievable on a regular basis if we commit ourselves to a more robust effort. Aggressive telework targets like these have already been undertaken by leaders in the private sector. AT&T, for example, has achieved a telework participation rate of 33 percent, contrasted with 6 percent in the Federal Government. It is estimated that many companies save as much as \$2,000 per employee per year as a result of reduced absenteeism as a result of telework. Although OPM's telework initiatives are already making a positive difference, it is clear we need to create a statutory framework so it is not undone potentially by future administrations.

In subcommittee markup, I introduced an amendment to direct GSA to work with other Federal agencies to ensure that telework is always a part of the continuity of operations planning. Should this legislation pass, we will be better prepared for future snowstorms or emergencies by enhancing the ability of Federal employees to work remotely. This amendment seems even more important in light of the attempted bombing in Times Square last week, and the ongoing terrorist threat faced here in the National Capital Region.

I appreciate Chairman LYNCH's willingness to work on this and a separate university-based telework center amendment that was adopted in full committee, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation without further delay.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) who has been a long-time advocate and has worked tirelessly on this issue.

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I want to thank Mr. SARBANES for his leadership on this issue. Most of the issues have been covered, but I would just say that there is nothing magic about strapping yourself into a metal box and driving 25 or 30 miles when you can telework. I think the important part of this legislation is the fact that Mr. SARBANES will have someone in each agency, a senior person responsible. Some agencies do a great job, and others do not do very well. But also, it is important for the American people to know the productivity, the studies have shown that the productivity of people who are teleworking is very, very high. So you are really getting a lot for the government and for whoever is the employer.

Secondly, with regard to the environment and the traffic and the congestion in this region and other regions, it is very important.

Lastly, with the American family under such attack, the opportunity for moms and dads to spend more time with their families, singing in a church choir, or coaching Little League is very beneficial.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 1722, the Telework Improvements Act, and thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

I also want to thank Congressman JOHN SARBANES for introducing this important and necessary legislation, and the committee for moving this legislation to the floor.

I am an original cosponsor and strong proponent of this bill.

I have been a long-time and staunch supporter of telework, also referred to as telecommuting.

Last Congress, Congressman SARBANES and I teamed to introduce legislation to establish a National Telework Week.

Last year, this House in a unanimous voice vote approved Representative DANNY DAVIS's Telework Improvements Act of 2008, of which I was an original cosponsor.

I was disappointed that the Senate did not act on that legislation, and am hopeful that the bill we will pass today will be given priority by the other body.

My legislation, enacted in 2001, mandated a phased-in program to expand the number of federal employees who telework with the goal of giving every eligible federal worker this workplace option by the end of 2005.

While annual surveys by the Office of Personnel Management on telework by federal employees have shown some progress in meeting the law's mandate, there is much more that agencies can do to expand telework.

This legislation is an important next step in making the federal government a model telework employer. The federal government should be leading the way in developing an "e-workforce" and enhancing the use of the technologies of the 21st century to seamlessly link employees and employers.

To emphasize the importance of telework in the federal workplace, when I chaired the Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations subcommittee, I included provisions in the FY

2005, FY 2006 and FY 2007 spending bills for the departments of Commerce, Justice, and State and related agencies to withhold \$5 million from the agencies which failed to meet the 2001 law.

Telework offers a 21st century workplace option that can reduce traffic congestion and air pollution, as well as cut gasoline consumption and dependency on foreign oil. Study after study has shown that telework is a win-win for both employees and employers.

It gives employees the flexibility they need to meet daily demands.

Employers—both government and private businesses—get the benefit of increased productivity, improved morale, fewer sick leave days used, better worker retention, and reduced costs for office space.

As we face the realities of the post 9/11 world, ensuring continuity of operations of the federal government is one more reason to support federal telework policies.

The need for this legislation also was crystallized during the historic February blizzard, which paralyzed the Nation's capital and shut down the federal government for four days.

The estimated cost in lost productivity was some \$70 million a day, but that cost was cut dramatically from earlier estimates of \$100 million when the some 30 percent of the federal workforce who teleworked during the shutdown was factored in.

That's a huge savings with telework, which is why it is so important to ensure that more employees are eligible to work from home or at alternate worksites.

Our legislation builds on past actions to require each government agency to establish a telework policy and its provisions will:

Instruct the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to develop a uniform, government-wide telework policy for federal employees.

Create a Telework Managing Officer within every agency and department to oversee telework within that agency or department.

The designation of a senior employee at each agency as a telework managing officer responsible for implementing the bill's requirements is a key provision to allow eligible employees to telework to the maximum extent possible.

Again, I thank my colleague from Maryland, Mr. SARBANES, for his leadership on this important legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I don't believe we have any further speakers, but I will continue to reserve.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, briefly, I am very supportive of this piece of legislation. I think it is important for the continuity of government and interoperations. I think it can be a cost-saving measure for a lot of our agencies, but it is not necessarily right for every single employee. I don't want this to be perceived, and I think the legislation does this, in any way, shape, or form for this to be an excuse to spend more money within our own human resources departments. I am a little worried about the scoring of this. Certainly large agencies will need to have somebody who helps shepherd this and move this forward. But for the smaller agencies, some of the other

agencies, it doesn't necessarily warrant that.

I do appreciate during the process being able to offer an amendment that would allow for some flexibility within the different agencies so that they have the internal control and don't necessarily have the excuse to go out and hire another person to try to manage this.

But with that said, I believe in and support this piece of legislation because, as I said before, the continuity of our government, this is a critical component to that. But it is also incumbent upon the executive branch to make sure that we have the safety, security, and the privacy components firmly in place. I believe that OPM, the Office of Personnel Management, will do that. This legislation strengthens their ability to do that, and that is why I am supportive of it. I appreciate the good work on both sides of the aisle. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for his thoughtful comments and his leadership on this issue. I do want to just try to address the scoring aspect of it, for those who are, as rightly they should be, sensitive to the budget. Our understanding from the estimate provided by the Congressional Budget Office is that this provision would cost approximately \$30 million over 5 years. However, I think it is important to point out that during the recent unexpected snowstorms in the Washington, DC, and Northern Virginia area this past winter, in February we saved \$30 million per day. So the program costs \$30 million over 5 years, and in one severe snowstorm, we saved \$30 million per day by utilizing the telework function.

In closing, I also want to thank Mr. SARBANES and Mr. CONNOLLY for their leadership on our side and also the bipartisanship showed by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and Mr. WOLF as well. I think they did a fine job. I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 1722.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1722, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

NATIONAL TRAIN DAY

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1301) supporting the goals and ideals of National Train Day, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1301

Whereas in 1830, the Nation's first passenger and freight railroad, the Baltimore & Ohio, revolutionized transportation in the United States;

Whereas on May 10, 1869, in Promontory Summit, Utah, the golden spike was driven into the final tie that joined 1,776 miles of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific railways, transforming America by creating the Nation's first transcontinental railroad;

Whereas by 1910, trains carried 95 percent of all intercity transportation;

Whereas after 1920, rail passenger revenues declined due to the rise of the automobile;

Whereas in the 1930s, railroads reignited popular imagination with service improvements and new, diesel-powered streamliners;

Whereas on May 26, 1934, the Pioneer Zephyr set a speed record for travel between Denver and Chicago when it made a 1,015-mile, non-stop "Dawn-to-Dusk" run in 13 hours and 5 minutes at an average speed of 77 miles per hour and, during one section of the run, reached a speed of 112.5 miles per hour, just short of the then United States land speed record of 115 miles per hour;

Whereas on January 22, 1935, the 400, later named the Twin Cities 400, traveled 400 miles between Chicago and St. Paul in 400 minutes;

Whereas at its inception in 1935, Time magazine dubbed the 400, "the fastest train scheduled on the American continent, fastest in all the world on a stretch over 200 miles";

Whereas the resurgence in passenger railroading was short-lived, as the continuing rise of the automobile, the devastating economic impact of two World Wars, the creation of the Interstate Highway System, the increasing availability, comfort, and convenience of air travel, increasing train fares and decreasing service, and a number of railroad bankruptcies, mergers, and acquisitions took their toll on passenger rail service in the United States;

Whereas by 1965, only 10,000 rail passenger cars were in operation, 85 percent fewer than in 1929, and passenger rail service was provided on only 75,000 miles of track;

Whereas in 1970, Congress saved passenger rail service in the United States by creating the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, known as Amtrak;

Whereas since 1970, the Federal Government has invested nearly \$1,300,000,000 in our Nation's highways, more than \$484,000,000 in aviation, and \$67,000,000 in passenger rail;

Whereas with the enactment of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-432) in the 110th Congress and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5) in this Congress, Congress charted a new course for Amtrak and for the development of high-speed and intercity passenger rail in the United States;

Whereas the Recovery Act provided \$8,000,000,000 in grants to States for the development of high-speed and intercity passenger rail and \$1,300,000,000 for Amtrak for capital, safety, and security improvements;

Whereas the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

Appropriations Act, 2010, provided an additional \$2,500,000,000 to States for investment in high-speed and intercity passenger rail and more than \$1,500,000,000 to Amtrak for capital and operating expenses;

Whereas the Federal Railroad Administration received 259 applications totaling \$57,000,000,000 for the \$8,000,000,000 in funds available under the Recovery Act;

Whereas in January, the President announced the recipients of the \$8,000,000,000 in Recovery Act funds for development of high-speed and intercity passenger rail service in 13 corridors spanning 31 States;

Whereas Amtrak has selected projects in 44 States to invest its \$1,300,000,000 in Recovery Act funds;

Whereas these and continued investments in developing a national high-speed and intercity passenger rail system will revitalize passenger rail service in the United States, help develop a domestic manufacturing base for high-speed and intercity passenger rail, and create good jobs in the United States;

Whereas Amtrak ridership grew every year from 1998 to 2008 and the railroad carried 27,200,000 passengers in 2009, making it the second-best year in the company's history; and

Whereas Amtrak has designated May 8, 2010, as National Train Day to celebrate America's love for trains: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the important contributions that trains and Amtrak make to the national transportation system;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Train Day as designated by Amtrak; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to recognize such a day as an opportunity to celebrate passenger rail and learn more about trains.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I ask that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 1301.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Rail in America is experiencing a renaissance we haven't seen in 50 years. All forms of passenger rail, including Amtrak, are seeing increased ridership numbers. In fact, in 2009 Amtrak welcomed aboard over 27.1 million passengers, the second-largest annual total in Amtrak's history, an average of more than 74,000 passenger rides and more than 300 Amtrak trains per day.

For me, as chair of the Rail Subcommittee, the eventual goal is to have high-speed intercity passenger, and commuter rail lines connecting nationwide to serve as an enhancement to our current systems of transportation.

Moreover, if a nationwide high-speed and intercity passenger rail system is realized, it will not only serve as a tremendous benefit to our Nation's transportation needs but will also be a superb asset toward getting people back to work by creating quality jobs in our economy's manufacturing sector. In some areas, like where the Sunset Limited used to operate, it is a homeland security issue. If the United States was hit by a natural or manmade disaster, we need a functional system that will move citizens out of harm's way.

There is no doubt that increasing the use of passenger and freight rail is the best way for our Nation to address the environmental and energy-related challenges we face today. Freight railroads, for example, have made major gains in fuel efficiency through training and improved locomotive technology. Indeed, a single intermodal train can take up to 280 trucks off of our highways. And one gallon of diesel fuel can move a ton of freight an average of 414 miles, a 76-percent improvement since 1980, while General Electric has recently unveiled the world's first hybrid locomotive.

□ 1330

In addition, passenger rail's ability to reduce congestion is well-known, and their ridership numbers are increasing steadily each year. One full passenger train in fact can take 250 to 300 cars off the road. Passenger rail also consumes much less energy than automobiles and commercial airlines. As we have seen with the horrible oil spills on our Gulf Coast, with estimates of 5,000 barrels floating into the sea every day, it is clear we need a new way of doing things in the transportation arena.

Our committee has hit the rails, having a national dialogue with America about the future of the U.S. transportation system. Just two weeks ago, I led a Whistle Stop Rail Tour to promote high-speed and intercity passenger rail in the United States. We started in Washington, traveled to upstate New York, and ended up in Chicago where we conducted a major hearing on rail issues. We are planning additional events in Texas, California, Oregon, and throughout the United States.

All along the way, we saw stimulus dollars going toward improving our transportation infrastructure and creating jobs for the local workforce. In that particular region in upstate New York, rail manufacturing could very well replace the good jobs in those towns that were sent overseas.

Just Saturday, I rode with Amtrak as they tested the current Florida East Coast Railroad line from Jacksonville to Miami for passenger service. And on Monday, we held the latest in a series of high-speed rail hearings in Miami, Florida. Everywhere we have gone, we have gotten very strong support for Amtrak service and high-speed rail. The only complaint I have heard is

that there wasn't enough money and it wasn't coming fast enough.

Over the past 50 years, the Federal Government has invested nearly \$1.3 trillion in our Nation's highways and more than \$484 billion in aviation. Unfortunately, since 1970 when Congress created Amtrak, we have just invested \$67 billion in intercity passenger rail, including Amtrak.

Now, I have always assured everyone that the \$8 billion in the Recovery Act was just a down payment and there would be more planning and construction dollars coming in the near future. But we need to get serious about funding high-speed rail. With just \$1 billion budgeted for fiscal year 2011, we need to find a dedicated revenue source so that States, operators, stakeholders, and manufacturers aren't afraid to make investments in infrastructure and manpower.

In fact, I feel so passionate about it that I spearheaded a letter that over 100 Members signed to President Obama requesting that he include a dedicated source of revenue for high-speed rail in the transportation reauthorization policy objective that the administration is developing.

We still have a lot of work to do before the first passengers board high-speed trains in the United States, but we are off to a great start with the investment made in the Recovery Act.

I encourage all of my colleagues to show their support for this resolution and the new age of rail in America. This is a giant step in the right direction.

Let's roll, baby, roll. Toot toot. That's it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the enthusiasm of the chairwoman of the subcommittee, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The ceremonial golden spike hammered at Promontory Summit, Utah, on May 10, 1869, marked the completion of the transcontinental railroad, one of the greatest engineering masterpieces and, I might add, was spearheaded by the Republican President, Abraham Lincoln. It also marked the birth of what would become the greatest rail network in the world. One hundred forty-one years later, we are still reaping the benefits of our ancestors' visions.

The United States now has over 140,000 miles of railroads making up the transportation backbone of the Nation. Our railroads are environmentally friendly, producing significantly less pollution than other modes of transportation. A train can haul one ton of freight 436 miles on one gallon of diesel fuel, and it is three times cleaner than a truck. Trains also help to alleviate the congestion of our crowded highways across America. One train can actually take 280 trucks off the road.

Railroads have also enjoyed a remarkable resurgence since the bankruptcies, disinvestment, and decay of

the 1970s. The rail deregulation law of 1980, the Staggers Act, has been an unparalleled success. We must take great care to protect the regulatory environment that has allowed railroads to thrive and resist any effort that would undo all the progress this industry has made.

Two years ago, President Bush signed into a law an Amtrak reauthorization that will take this country into the next generation of passenger rail service. The law makes important reforms to Amtrak and also creates a role for the private sector in the passenger rail industry.

The Amtrak reauthorization law, the first in more than a decade, created the framework for public-private partnerships for the construction and operation of high-speed rail corridors all over this Nation. High-speed rail promises safe, fast, convenient service, all while helping to alleviate aviation and highway congestion.

The railroad industry is vitally important to this country and this economy, and I urge the passage of H. Res. 1301 to celebrate National Train Day on May 8, 2010.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), the chair of the committee and our transportation guru.

Mr. OBERSTAR. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. I tip my hat also to the Member of Congress whom I call "Ms. Amtrak," "Ms. Passenger Rail," whose passion is evident; who works tirelessly day and night, week after week, to advance the cause of passenger rail in this country, and has been very successful at it, mobilizing public opinion, igniting public imagination. And I appreciate the comments of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), who has been a very constructive and enthusiastic partner in shaping passenger rail.

I would say to the gentleman, while the Bush administration twice submitted bankruptcy budgets for Amtrak and twice proposed putting Amtrak up for sale in the private marketplace, there were Members on both sides of the aisle who joined together, including the gentleman, to restore funding for Amtrak to keep it going. The gentleman's fingerprints are all over the Amtrak authorization bill that President Bush signed. That same President Bush, who once said we should terminate Amtrak, signed the bill with a whole new future for Amtrak. And Mr. MICA as well, who is, unfortunately, not here on the floor but who nonetheless played a very significant role in shaping a new future for Amtrak and, as the gentleman from Pennsylvania said, opening the door for private investment in each of the corridors that we crafted in the Amtrak authorization.

The Pacific Railway Act over 148 years ago really is the beginning point

for our discussion today and for all discussion on passenger rail. That was the day that President Lincoln signed the legislation that gave the Central Pacific Railroad the right to build rail lines from Sacramento east and chartered the Union Pacific to build rail lines from the Missouri River west.

I would recommend to anyone who is interested in passenger rail to make a trip to Sacramento, to the rail museum in that city. It is a splendid panorama, a stunning sweep of history, of development of both freight and passenger rail, how the railroads were built, the people who built them, the ethnic diversity of those who worked on the laying of the track, and the competition going from west to east and east to west. It is a striking march through history. It gives the viewer a deeper appreciation of our rich history of freight and passenger rail.

The joining of the two just 7 years later, in 1869, was in those times a remarkable timeframe. I think today with modern equipment we might have built those two lines a lot faster. But 1,776 miles of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific joined at Promontory Summit in Utah.

Not long after, the first transcontinental trip took 83 hours and 39 minutes from New York City to San Francisco. By 1910, which was really the peak time for passenger rail, 95 percent of all intercity travel was by rail. By 1920, the railroads carried 1.2 million passengers. The automobile was making its way into our consciousness and taking over and giving Americans a difference of travel and experience and freedom of access.

It is interesting that in 1920 cars accounted for 50 miles of travel a year for the average citizen and 450 miles per year for trains, but 10 years later, that had just turned around. Americans were driving over 1,600, nearly 1,700 miles a year in their cars and only 219 miles on average by train.

That continued to progress until after World War II, the railroads saw more advantage in freight, passenger traffic was dropping off, and the railroads joined with the U.S. Post Office to take the overnight mail off the passenger service. The RPOs began to disappear. That reduced revenue to the railroads. The railroads could then petition the ICC for discontinuance.

By the end of the decade of the 1960s, passenger rail was on life support, and Congress created the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, which we know today as Amtrak.

□ 1345

There is now a rail revival happening all across the land. And that is what this resolution is intended to do, support the goals and ideals of National Train Day.

Everywhere I travel, in almost every city that ever had a rail service there is either a caboose or an old locomotive at the entrance to the community. People celebrate their rail history. But

they also want to bring back active service. Just as in transit, Americans are voting with their feet. A million new transit riders a day. And so with passenger rail.

We all remember the tragedy of September 11, 2001, when the only way you could travel intercity, apart from your automobile, was on Amtrak. And the revival of interest in both transit and in intercity passenger rail has just gone apace since then.

President Obama made a commitment to intercity passenger rail, putting \$8 billion on the table in the stimulus package. That was more in 1 year than Amtrak had received in several years. It's a down payment, as he said, and as Chairwoman BROWN had said and others have observed. Now we are seeing the implementation of those funds by the various corridors to which those stimulus dollars were allocated.

It is up to us, and our committee will continue to hold oversight hearings observing the implementation of those funds to ensure they are wisely invested, that the commitments made are followed through. We will move America along. We are starting slowly.

Goodness, there is passenger rail track that is part of this that's only 35 miles an hour today because that's passenger rail going on freight rail track that has been allowed to deteriorate. There are other corridors where freight rail has been built up, and the investment in the corridor has been robust, and where there is room for passenger rail, but we have to separate the two. And we recognize that we have to have passenger rail partnering with freight rail.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania has been quite a strong advocate for that. And we all recognize we need to move more goods by rail for the economy's sake, for the environment's sake. By the way, I would say to the gentleman that 436 miles a ton on a gallon of fuel was updated yesterday for me by the Association of American Rail. They say it is now 483 miles on a gallon of fuel for a ton of freight. Locomotives are improving in their efficiency. The track beds are improving. And we are going to do even more in the future.

But we are pikers with that \$8 billion. The European economic community, European Union, the transport ministry has a \$1.4 trillion, 20-year investment plan, they are halfway through doing it now, to build 7,000 additional miles of high-speed intercity passenger rail, real high-speed, 200 miles an hour. We will get there eventually. We are almost back where we were in 1890 in making the investment in passenger rail, except that those corridors that remain for freight, in which passenger is a lively, active participant, or a possibility, have been upgraded, and now we need to make the next step upgrades to class six, seven, and eight rail where we can have speeds in excess of 150 miles an hour.

It's going to take a huge amount of capital investment. But Spain has com-

mitted \$140 billion into their high speed rail system, the Talgo. One hundred forty billion dollars for a country with 42 million people. That is an enormous commitment on their part, and shows visionary steps toward their future. But they will have 186- to 200-mile an hour, 220-mile an hour intercity passenger rail service. We can do no less in America. We must do no less in America.

China is completing an 800-plus mile link from Beijing to Shanghai. That is the distance from Boston to Richmond on the East Coast. In that Boston-Richmond corridor are 36 million people. In Beijing-Shanghai there are nearly 100 million people. You will be able to travel that distance, though, in 4 hours on 220-mile an hour steel rail.

We can't let China, Japan with the Shinkansen, South Korea with their high speed rail system, and all the European systems get so far ahead of us. They are now, but we will catch up. And when we do, people will look back and say the goals and ideals of National Train Day moved us in that direction.

And this Congress, both sides of the aisle, and the partnership that we have formed, keeping vigil over the future investments in passenger rail can rightly take credit for moving America along that path toward a great recapturing of our past and making it a greater future.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res 1301, Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Train Day. I want to thank my colleague and friend Chairwoman BROWN for her tireless efforts and leadership on behalf of the rail.

Looking back, this past year has been one of the most exciting years for rail in quite some time and we have a lot to celebrate on National Train Day. With the Obama Administration's focus on bringing high-speed rail to this country and the funding they have dedicated towards high-speed rail, the future of rail seems brighter now than it has in a long time.

Just this past month I helped form the California High-Speed Rail Caucus. The Caucus is working to bring a world class high-speed rail system to California. My home State of California received \$2.3 billion dollars of American Recovery and Reinvestment Funds to build a high-speed rail system, and this is on top of the voter approved bond measure which will provide nearly \$10 billion for the system.

The California High-speed rail line is projected to create 160,000 construction jobs in California to plan, design, and build the system. It is also estimated that an additional 450,000 jobs will be created once the system is up and running. The rail line is expected to reduce congestion, increase mobility, improve air quality, and reduce fatal auto accidents, and it could serve as a model that can be replicated across the country to create a national world-class rail system.

I am glad to be recognizing National Train Day with such excitement across the country with the reemergence of rail as a viable transportation alternative. The United States is finally taking steps to catch up with the rest of the world and create a truly world class rail system.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1301 to recognize the goals and ideals of National Train Day.

America's rail network is one of its greatest treasures, and I am pleased to support Congresswoman BROWN's resolution in support of National Train Day. This year marks the third annual celebration with family-oriented events that provide opportunities to explore interactive and educational exhibits on the ways trains have transformed our country. This year we also celebrate 141 years of connecting travelers from coast to coast as the first transcontinental railroad was completed on May 10, 1869. On that day in Promontory Summit, Utah, the "golden spike" was driven into the final tie that joined 1,776 miles of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific railways, linking the east and west coasts by rail for the first time.

In Texas we have several events lined up to celebrate National Train Day, and Dallas' Union Station will be one of 13 Texas train stations participating in National Train Day. The event will feature train equipment displays, entertainment, balloon makers, and face painters, and additionally, the Dallas Museum of the American Railroad will display its 1931 M-180 Doodlebug and a heritage Pullman Sleeping Car.

Madam Speaker, trains have truly transformed America over the last two centuries, adding to our national character and making us a more efficient and mobile country. I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today in supporting the goals and ideals of National Train Day and recognizing the contributions that trains have made to our national transportation system.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1301, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Resolution 1320, House Resolution 1272, and House Resolution 1301, in each case by the yeas and nays.

Remaining postponed votes will be taken tomorrow.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR PROMPT RESPONSE TO ATTEMPTED TERRORIST ATTACK IN TIMES SQUARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1320, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1320, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 418, nays 0, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 246]
YEAS—418

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Ackerman | Capps | Emerson |
| Aderholt | Capuano | Engel |
| Adler (NJ) | Cardoza | Eshoo |
| Akin | Carnahan | Etheridge |
| Alexander | Carney | Fallin |
| Altmire | Carson (IN) | Farr |
| Andrews | Carter | Fattah |
| Arcuri | Cassidy | Filner |
| Austria | Castle | Flake |
| Baca | Castor (FL) | Fleming |
| Bachmann | Chaffetz | Forbes |
| Bachus | Chandler | Fortenberry |
| Baldwin | Childers | Foster |
| Barrow | Chu | Fox |
| Bartlett | Clarke | Frank (MA) |
| Barton (TX) | Clay | Franks (AZ) |
| Bean | Cleaver | Frelinghuysen |
| Becerra | Clyburn | Fudge |
| Berkley | Coffman (CO) | Gallely |
| Berman | Cohen | Garamendi |
| Berry | Cole | Garrett (NJ) |
| Biggart | Conaway | Gerlach |
| Bilbray | Connolly (VA) | Giffords |
| Bilirakis | Conyers | Gingrey (GA) |
| Bishop (GA) | Cooper | Gohmert |
| Bishop (NY) | Costa | Gonzalez |
| Bishop (UT) | Costello | Goodlatte |
| Blumenauer | Courtney | Gordon (TN) |
| Blunt | Crenshaw | Granger |
| Boccieri | Crowley | Graves |
| Boehner | Cuellar | Grayson |
| Bonner | Culberson | Green, Al |
| Bono Mack | Cummings | Green, Gene |
| Boozman | Dahlkemper | Griffith |
| Boren | Davis (CA) | Grijalva |
| Boswell | Davis (IL) | Guthrie |
| Boucher | Davis (KY) | Gutierrez |
| Boustany | Davis (TN) | Hall (NY) |
| Boyd | DeFazio | Hall (TX) |
| Brady (PA) | Delahunt | Halvorson |
| Brady (TX) | DeLauro | Hare |
| Braley (IA) | Dent | Harman |
| Bright | Deutch | Harper |
| Broun (GA) | Diaz-Balart, L. | Hastings (FL) |
| Brown (SC) | Diaz-Balart, M. | Hastings (WA) |
| Brown, Corrine | Dicks | Heinrich |
| Brown-Waite, | Dingell | Heller |
| Ginny | Doggett | Hensarling |
| Buchanan | Donnelly (IN) | Henger |
| Burgess | Doyle | Herseth Sandlin |
| Burton (IN) | Dreier | Higgins |
| Butterfield | Driehaus | Hill |
| Buyer | Duncan | Himes |
| Calvert | Edwards (MD) | Hinchesy |
| Camp | Edwards (TX) | Hirono |
| Cantor | Ehlers | Hodes |
| Cao | Ellison | Holden |
| Capito | Ellsworth | Holt |

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Honda | McMorris | Sánchez, Linda |
| Hoyer | Rodgers | T. |
| Hunter | McNerney | Sanchez, Loretta |
| Inglis | Meeks (NY) | Sarbanes |
| Inslie | Mica | Scalise |
| Israel | Michaud | Schakowsky |
| Issa | Miller (FL) | Schauer |
| Jackson (IL) | Miller (MI) | Schiff |
| Jenkins | Miller (NC) | Schmidt |
| Johnson (GA) | Miller, Gary | Schock |
| Johnson (IL) | Miller, George | Schraeder |
| Johnson, E. B. | Minnick | Schwartz |
| Johnson, Sam | Mitchell | Scott (GA) |
| Jones | Mollohan | Scott (VA) |
| Jordan (OH) | Moore (KS) | Sensenbrenner |
| Kagen | Moore (WI) | Serrano |
| Kanjorski | Moran (KS) | Sessions |
| Kaptur | Moran (VA) | Sestak |
| Kennedy | Murphy (CT) | Shadegg |
| Kildee | Murphy (NY) | Shea-Porter |
| Kilpatrick (MI) | Murphy, Patrick | Sherman |
| Kilroy | Murphy, Tim | Shimkus |
| Kind | Myrick | Shuler |
| King (IA) | Nadler (NY) | Shuster |
| King (NY) | Napolitano | Simpson |
| Kingston | Neal (MA) | Sires |
| Kirk | Neugebauer | Skelton |
| Kirkpatrick (AZ) | Nunes | Slaughter |
| Kissell | Nye | Smith (NE) |
| Klein (FL) | Oberstar | Smith (NJ) |
| Kline (MN) | Obey | Smith (TX) |
| Kosmas | Olson | Smith (WA) |
| Kratovil | Olver | Snyder |
| Kucinich | Ortiz | Souder |
| Lamborn | Owens | Space |
| Lance | Pallone | Speier |
| Langevin | Pascrell | Spratt |
| Larsen (WA) | Pastor (AZ) | Stark |
| Larson (CT) | Paul | Stearns |
| Latham | Paulsen | Stupak |
| LaTourette | Payne | Sullivan |
| Latta | Pence | Sutton |
| Lee (CA) | Perlmutter | Tanner |
| Lee (NY) | Perriello | Taylor |
| Levin | Peters | Teague |
| Lewis (CA) | Peterson | Terry |
| Lewis (GA) | Petri | Thompson (CA) |
| Linder | Pingree (ME) | Thompson (MS) |
| Lipinski | Pitts | Thompson (PA) |
| LoBiondo | Platts | Thornberry |
| Loebsack | Poe (TX) | Tiahrt |
| Lofgren, Zoe | Polis (CO) | Tiberi |
| Lowe | Pomeroy | Tierney |
| Lucas | Posey | Titus |
| Luetkemeyer | Price (GA) | Tonko |
| Luján | Price (NC) | Towns |
| Lummis | Putnam | Tsongas |
| Lungren, Daniel | Quigley | Turner |
| E. | Radanovich | Upton |
| Lynch | Rahall | Van Hollen |
| Mack | Rangel | Velázquez |
| Maffei | Rehberg | Visclosky |
| Maloney | Reichert | Walden |
| Manzullo | Reyes | Walz |
| Marchant | Richardson | Wamp |
| Markey (CO) | Rodriguez | Wasserman |
| Markey (MA) | Roe (TN) | Schultz |
| Marshall | Rogers (AL) | Waters |
| Matheson | Rogers (KY) | Watson |
| Matsui | Rogers (MI) | Watt |
| McCarthy (CA) | Rohrabacher | Waxman |
| McCarthy (NY) | Rooney | Weiner |
| McCaul | Ros-Lehtinen | Welch |
| McClintock | Roskam | Westmoreland |
| McCollum | Ross | Whitfield |
| McCotter | Rothman (NJ) | Wilson (OH) |
| McDermott | Roybal-Allard | Wilson (SC) |
| McGovern | Royce | Wittman |
| McHenry | Ruppersberger | Wolf |
| McIntyre | Rush | Woolsey |
| McKeon | Ryan (OH) | Wu |
| McMahon | Ryan (WI) | Yarmuth |
| | Salazar | Young (AK) |
| | | Young (FL) |

NOT VOTING—12

| | | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|
| Baird | Davis (AL) | Jackson Lee |
| Barrett (SC) | DeGette | (TX) |
| Blackburn | Hinojosa | Meek (FL) |
| Campbell | Hoekstra | Melancon |
| Coble | | |

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are reminded there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1420

Mr. BURGESS changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF MEMBERS OF OUR ARMED FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES

The SPEAKER. The Chair would ask all present to rise for the purpose of a moment of silence.

The Chair asks that the House now observe a moment of silence in remembrance of our brave men and women in uniform who have given their lives in the service of our Nation in Iraq and Afghanistan, and their families, and of all who serve in our Armed Forces and their families.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

COMMEMORATING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF KENT STATE UNIVERSITY SHOOTINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MCCOLLUM). Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1272, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1272.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 415, nays 0, answered “present” 2, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 247]
YEAS—415

Ackerman
Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bartlett

Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggart
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bocchieri
Bonner

Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite,
Ginny

Buchanan
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carman
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chandler
Childers
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Driehaus
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Graves
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith

Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchev
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Inglis
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Lynch
Mack
Maffei
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCauley
McClintock
McCollum

McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
Meeks (NY)
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascarella
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Paulsen
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quigley
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schmidt

Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder

Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Taylor
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton

Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—2

Burgess Foxx

NOT VOTING—13

Barrett (SC)
Blackburn
Boehner
Campbell
Cantor

Coble
Davis (AL)
DeGette
Hinojosa
Hoekstra

Jackson Lee
(TX)
Meek (FL)
Melancon

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1433

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS SHOOTOUT

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

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, yesterday, we had a big event at the Prince George's County Trap & Skeet Club. We had the annual Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation and Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus Shootout. I have some awards to announce. First of all, team captains were myself, and PAUL RYAN on the Republican side. The winner of the sporting clays competition was Congressman PAUL RYAN; the top trap gun, DAN BOREN; top skeet, CHRIS CARNEY. The top Democratic shooter was Congressman MIKE THOMPSON. The top Republican was Congressman JOHN KLINE. The top gun was DUNCAN HUNTER.

Let me say this, Madam Speaker. DUNCAN HUNTER's father tried to be the top gun for many years and never was able to accomplish it. So it was very nice that his son was able to win that award. But the most important award—for the second year in a row, the Democrats won 225–209.

I would invite all Republican Members to my office, 216 Cannon, to visit the trophy at any time.

NATIONAL TRAIN DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1301, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1301, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 296, nays 119, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 248]

YEAS—296

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Ackerman | Dent | Kildee |
| Adler (NJ) | Deutch | Kilpatrick (MI) |
| Altmore | Diaz-Balart, L. | Kilroy |
| Andrews | Diaz-Balart, M. | Kind |
| Arcuri | Dicks | King (NY) |
| Baca | Dingell | Kirk |
| Baird | Doggett | Kirkpatrick (AZ) |
| Baldwin | Donnelly (IN) | Kissell |
| Barrow | Doyle | Klein (FL) |
| Bean | Driehaus | Kosmas |
| Becerra | Duncan | Kratovil |
| Berkley | Edwards (MD) | Kucinich |
| Berman | Edwards (TX) | Lance |
| Berry | Ehlers | Langevin |
| Biggart | Ellison | Larsen (WA) |
| Bilbray | Ellsworth | Larson (CT) |
| Bishop (GA) | Engel | Latham |
| Bishop (NY) | Eshoo | LaTourette |
| Blumenauer | Etheridge | Lee (CA) |
| Boccieri | Fallin | Lee (NY) |
| Boren | Farr | Levin |
| Boswell | Fattah | Lewis (GA) |
| Boucher | Filner | Linder |
| Boyd | Forbes | Lipinski |
| Brady (PA) | Fortenberry | LoBiondo |
| Bralley (IA) | Foster | Loebsack |
| Bright | Frank (MA) | Lofgren, Zoe |
| Brown (SC) | Frelinghuysen | Lowe |
| Brown, Corrine | Fudge | Lucas |
| Butterfield | Garamendi | Lujan |
| Cantor | Gerlach | Lummis |
| Cao | Giffords | Lynch |
| Capito | Gonzalez | Maffei |
| Capps | Gordon (TN) | Maloney |
| Capuano | Grayson | Manullo |
| Cardoza | Green, Al | Markey (CO) |
| Carnahan | Green, Gene | Markey (MA) |
| Carney | Grijalva | Marshall |
| Carson (IN) | Gutierrez | Matheson |
| Castor (FL) | Hall (NY) | Matsui |
| Chandler | Hall (TX) | McCarthy (NY) |
| Childers | Halvorson | McCaul |
| Chu | Hare | McCollum |
| Clarke | Harman | McCotter |
| Clay | Hastings (FL) | McDermott |
| Cleaver | Heinrich | McGovern |
| Clyburn | Herseth Sandlin | McIntyre |
| Cohen | Higgins | McMahon |
| Cole | Hill | McNerney |
| Connolly (VA) | Himes | Meeks (NY) |
| Conyers | Hinchee | Michaud |
| Cooper | Hirono | Miller (NC) |
| Costa | Hodes | Miller, George |
| Costello | Holden | Minnick |
| Courtney | Holt | Mitchell |
| Crenshaw | Honda | Mollohan |
| Crowley | Hoyer | Moore (KS) |
| Cuellar | Inslee | Moore (WI) |
| Cummings | Israel | Moran (VA) |
| Dahlkemper | Jackson (IL) | Murphy (CT) |
| Davis (CA) | Johnson (GA) | Murphy (NY) |
| Davis (IL) | Johnson, E. B. | Murphy, Patrick |
| Davis (TN) | Kagen | Murphy, Tim |
| DeFazio | Kanjorski | Nadler (NY) |
| Delahunt | Kaptur | Neal (MA) |
| DeLauro | Kennedy | Nye |

| | | |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| Oberstar | Ruppersberger | Sutton |
| Obey | Rush | Tanner |
| Oliver | Ryan (OH) | Taylor |
| Ortiz | Salazar | Teague |
| Owens | Sánchez, Linda | Terry |
| Pallone | T. | Thompson (CA) |
| Pascarell | Sanchez, Loretta | Thompson (MS) |
| Pastor (AZ) | Sarbanes | Tiberi |
| Paulsen | Schakowsky | Tierney |
| Payne | Schauer | Titus |
| Perlmutter | Schiff | Tonko |
| Perriello | Schrader | Towns |
| Peters | Schwartz | Tsongas |
| Peterson | Scott (GA) | Turner |
| Pingree (ME) | Scott (VA) | Van Hollen |
| Pitts | Serrano | Velázquez |
| Polis (CO) | Sestak | Visclosky |
| Pomeroy | Shea-Porter | Walz |
| Posey | Sherman | Wamp |
| Price (NC) | Shimkus | Wasserman |
| Quigley | Shuler | Schultz |
| Radanovich | Shuster | Waters |
| Rahall | Sires | Watson |
| Rangel | Skelton | Watt |
| Rehberg | Slaughter | Waxman |
| Reyes | Smith (NJ) | Weiner |
| Richardson | Smith (WA) | Welch |
| Rodriguez | Snyder | Whitfield |
| Rogers (KY) | Space | Wilson (OH) |
| Rogers (MI) | Speier | Woolsey |
| Ros-Lehtinen | Spratt | Wu |
| Ross | Stark | Yarmuth |
| Rothman (NJ) | Stupak | |
| Roybal-Allard | Sullivan | |

NAYS—119

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Aderholt | Garrett (NJ) | Myrick |
| Akin | Gingrey (GA) | Neugebauer |
| Alexander | Goodlatte | Nunes |
| Austria | Granger | Olson |
| Bachmann | Graves | Paul |
| Bachus | Griffith | Pence |
| Bartlett | Guthrie | Petri |
| Barton (TX) | Harper | Platts |
| Bilirakis | Hastings (WA) | Poe (TX) |
| Bishop (UT) | Heller | Price (GA) |
| Blunt | Hensarling | Putnam |
| Boehner | Herger | Reichert |
| Bonner | Hunter | Roe (TN) |
| Bono Mack | Inglis | Rogers (AL) |
| Boozman | Issa | Rohrabacher |
| Boustany | Jenkins | Rooney |
| Brady (TX) | Johnson (IL) | Roskam |
| Broun (GA) | Johnson, Sam | Royce |
| Brown-Waite, | Jones | Ryan (WI) |
| Brown | Jordan (OH) | Scalise |
| Buchanan | King (IA) | Schmidt |
| Burgess | Kingston | Sensenbrenner |
| Burton (IN) | Kline (MN) | Sessions |
| Buyer | Lamborn | Shadegg |
| Calvert | Latta | Simpson |
| Camp | Lewis (CA) | Smith (NE) |
| Carter | Luetkemeyer | Smith (TX) |
| Cassidy | Lungren, Daniel | Souder |
| Castle | E. | Stearns |
| Chaffetz | Mack | Thompson (PA) |
| Coffman (CO) | Marchant | Thornberry |
| Conaway | McCarthy (CA) | Tiahrt |
| Culberson | McClintock | Upton |
| Davis (KY) | McHenry | Walden |
| Dreier | McKeon | Westmoreland |
| Emerson | McMorris | Wilson (SC) |
| Flake | Rodgers | Wittman |
| Fleming | Mica | Wolf |
| Foxx | Miller (MI) | Young (AK) |
| Franks (AZ) | Miller, Gary | Young (FL) |
| Gallegly | Moran (KS) | |

NOT VOTING—15

| | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Barrett (SC) | Gohmert | Melancon |
| Blackburn | Hinojosa | Miller (FL) |
| Campbell | Hoekstra | Napolitano |
| Coble | Jackson Lee | Schock |
| Davis (AL) | (TX) | |
| DeGette | Meek (FL) | |

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1445

Mr. BILBRAY and Mr. CANTOR changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 248, had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

□ 1445

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETERS). 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 incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 263) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 263

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR DC SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN.

On June 4, 2010, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may jointly designate, the 25th Annual District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run (in this resolution referred to as the “event”) may be run through the Capitol Grounds as part of the journey of the Special Olympics torch to the District of Columbia Special Olympics summer games.

SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITY OF CAPITOL POLICE BOARD.

The Capitol Police Board shall take such actions as may be necessary to carry out the event.

SEC. 3. CONDITIONS RELATING TO PHYSICAL PREPARATIONS.

The Architect of the Capitol may prescribe conditions for physical preparations for the event.

SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include additional material on House Concurrent Resolution 263.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to support House Concurrent Resolution 263, which authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 25th Annual District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. The Capitol Police, along with the D.C. Special Olympics, will participate in the Torch Run to be held on June 4, 2010. Law enforcement officers, who are part of the extended volunteer network that supports the Special Olympics, carry the Olympic torch across the Capitol Grounds throughout the District of Columbia.

The D.C. Special Olympics expect over 1,500 law enforcement officers to participate in the Torch Run, which will be a 2.3 mile course from the Capitol Grounds to Fort McNair. These events, along with others throughout the year, are designed to raise funds to support year-round activities for the D.C. Special Olympics. The D.C. Special Olympics allows area residents with intellectual disabilities to participate in competitive sport activities in order to test their abilities against their peers, develop confidence, and improve their health.

The D.C. Special Olympics will work closely with the Capitol Police and the Architect of the Capitol to make sure that the event is in full compliance with the rules and regulations governing the use of the Capitol Grounds. The event will be free and open to the public.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run to be held on June 4. The torch will be carried throughout the Capitol Grounds as part of the journey to the D.C. Special Olympics summer games.

The Special Olympics is an international organization dedicated to enriching the lives of children and adults with special disabilities through athletics and competition.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run began in 1981 when the chief of police of Wichita, Kansas, saw an urgent need to raise funds and increase awareness of the Special Olympics. The Torch Run was then quickly adopted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Today, the Torch Run is the largest grassroots effort that raises awareness for the Special Olympics program. The event in D.C. is one of many law enforcement torch runs throughout the country and across 35 nations leading up to the summer Special Olympics.

I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to my colleague from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY).

Mr. KENNEDY. I want to thank my colleague from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) and also Mr. SHUSTER from Pennsylvania for coauthoring this important resolution and speaking in favor of it.

The Special Olympics has been an important part of destigmatizing developmental disabilities and those suffering from intellectual challenges. No one would have imagined years ago that folks who otherwise would have been living in the shadow of our society, those with cognitive and intellectual disabilities, would now be so integrated into our society, in large measure due to the opportunity that Special Olympics gave them to participate fully in our society through sports.

Special Olympics represents so much more than competition on the field, but it does represent something so important to our society, and that's opening up opportunities for folks who need to be treated with human dignity because they're like you and me; they just have other challenges intellectually.

All of us have different challenges. These are folks who have been so stigmatized and shamed because of their intellectual challenges that they have been shut out of society, but not for the Special Olympics. They have been embraced; they have been loved by all those huggers at the end of the competition, and they have been part of so many of our most moving moments in our country's efforts to have sports be a competitive endeavor.

I want to thank my cousin, Timothy Shriver, who is the international president of Special Olympics, for the dynamic leadership that he offers this organization and for all the sacrifice he makes to carry on his mother's legacy as the first president of the Special Olympics. And now he is doing it with his own style of leadership that is equally charismatic and energetic.

I want to thank the police for embracing Special Olympics. Both of them are our heroes: the law enforcement community and our Special Olympians. What a great match. The Torch Run should be a terrific event.

I thank my colleagues for allowing me to speak.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Will the gentleman yield for a question?

Mr. KENNEDY. I yield to the gentlewoman.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. I just want to thank the gentleman from Rhode Island, Mr. PATRICK KENNEDY, for your leadership throughout the years in support of the Special Olympics. And how many years have you supported it?

Mr. KENNEDY. Before I can even remember, my Aunt Eunice made sure that I attended the nearest Special Olympics event that was happening. Wherever I traveled, even around the world, she made sure that I asked the local Presidents or Prime Ministers, if we met with government officials, if they had a program for people with developmental disabilities, intellectual challenges. Often they would say, Oh, we don't have those problems. And it shows that now China recently was the host of the International Special Olympics, and yet just years ago the abortion rate in China of babies that had intellectual disabilities was enormous. Now they're embracing people with intellectual disabilities. What a turnaround in attitude and respect for human life and dignity of the human person. That's what has been possible through Special Olympics.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Well, I want to once again thank you for your leadership, not just for America, but for the world in this area.

Mr. KENNEDY. Well, thank you for your leadership.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank and congratulate my colleague, Mr. KENNEDY from Rhode Island, for his leadership in Special Olympics throughout the years and his service in Congress. I know he will continue that work after he leaves Congress. I also want to thank the Shriver/Kennedy family for the great support and the effort they've put forth over the years in supporting such a worthwhile program as Special Olympics. So, thank you, Mr. KENNEDY.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, as an original cosponsor, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 263, which would authorize the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. I commend my colleague from the District of Columbia for introducing this resolution for this worthy cause.

This annual event is in its 25th year of bringing together nearly 50 Federal and local law enforcement agencies to show support for Special Olympics DC. Each year, law enforcement officers across the country and around the world participate in local Torch Run events to raise money and awareness for the Special Olympics. In 2008, the Torch Runs raised over \$34 million for Special Olympic programs.

Funds raised from the Torch Run help support year-round training and programs for Special Olympics DC. It makes an impact in the lives of our community's most vulnerable citizens and enables thousands of children and

adults with disabilities to participate in Special Olympics programs.

Mr. Speaker, the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run is a fitting way to continue the legacy of Eunice Kennedy Shriver so that everyone has the opportunity to compete and reach their full potential.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 263, introduced by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), which authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

This is a premier event in the region that highlights the athletic accomplishments of disabled children and young adults. Thanks to the tenacity of Eunice Kennedy Shriver and the Kennedy family, thousands of Special Olympians see their self-confidence, self-esteem, and health nurtured by participating in the Special Olympics.

Each year, nearly 50 Federal and local law enforcement agencies in the Washington, DC area, participate in the torch run to show their support for the DC Special Olympics. This torch relay event on the Capitol Grounds is a traditional part of the opening ceremonies for the Special Olympics. This year's torch run will be a 2.3-mile trek from the U.S. Capitol building to Ft. McNair.

Since its inception, more than 15,000 District of Columbia citizens with disabilities have participated in the Special Olympics and more than \$1 million has been raised. Funds raised from the Law Enforcement Torch Run for the Special Olympics help support year-round training and programs for the DC Special Olympics, which include basketball, bowling, tennis, and motor activities training.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 263.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 263.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR THE GREATER WASHINGTON SOAP BOX DERBY

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 247) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 247

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR SOAP BOX DERBY RACES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association (in this resolution referred to as the “sponsor”) shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, soap box derby races (in this resolution referred to as the “event”), on the Capitol Grounds.

(b) DATE OF EVENT.—The event shall be held on June 19, 2010, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate jointly designate.

SEC. 2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board, the event shall be—

(1) free of admission charge and open to the public; and

(2) arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The sponsor shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

SEC. 3. EVENT PREPARATIONS.

Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, the sponsor is authorized to erect upon the Capitol Grounds such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as may be required for the event.

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board are authorized to make such additional arrangements as may be required to carry out the event.

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, with respect to the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include additional material on House Concurrent Resolution 247.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am delighted to support House Concurrent Resolution 247, which authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Mr. HOYER, who has been such a great and consistent champion for his constituents for this event.

Consistent with all events using the Capitol Grounds, this event is open to the public and free of charge. The organizers will work with the Capitol Police and the Architect of the Capitol.

I support Concurrent Resolution 247 and urge passage of the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as the gentlelady stated, this resolution authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 69th Annual Washington Soap Box Derby in June. This event occurs annually on the Capitol Grounds, and I know that the majority leader, Mr. HOYER, has been a tremendous supporter of this event every year.

The Soap Box Derby allows children to really showcase their efforts, their dedication, their work, and their creativity as they compete for these trophies. The winners of each division are qualified to compete in the National Soap Box Derby, which occurs in Akron, Ohio.

I support passage of this resolution and urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I want to point out that the Soap Box Derby, of which Mr. HOYER has been the sponsor for a number of years, is an event that has been put on for a number of years, and the purpose is to prepare young people from age 8 to 17.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time we have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman has 18 minutes remaining.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. I yield as much time as the leader may consume.

□ 1500

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady for yielding me this time, and I thank Mr. SHUSTER for helping bring this bill to the floor and thank Ms. CORRINE BROWN from Florida, who does such an extraordinary job.

Mr. Speaker, I rise as a proud sponsor of this resolution which I have worked on for a long period of time. It is a facet of Capitol Hill that we have to pass a resolution to approve and allow the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby to hold the 69th Annual Greater Washington Soap Box Derby on the Capitol grounds on June 19.

Since 1938, when Norman Rocca beat out 223 other racers to win the inaugural Washington race, soapbox derby racing has had a long history in our Nation's Capital. Over nearly seven decades, thousands of the region's young people have come to Washington to take their place in a great race and a great tradition. Whether they were racing down New Hampshire Avenue, or at the current site coasting down Capitol Hill, the event's essential ingredients have remained the same: homemade, gravity-powered cars and the spirit of competition. America's soapbox derbies have rightly been called “the greatest amateur racing event in the world.”

The boys and girls who participate, many of them sponsored by community

groups, police departments or fire departments, don't just gain value experience in building and engineering; they learn about the value of hard work and fair competition.

As the Representative from Maryland's Fifth Congressional District, I am also proud to point out that my district has been the home to a string of soapbox derby champions.

In 2007, Kacie Rader, a neighbor of mine from Mechanicsville, Maryland, won the Greater Washington race and went on to become the first Marylander to win the national soapbox derby title, beating out 550 other local champions.

In 2008, Courtney Rayle, also from Mechanicsville, won the Greater Washington race and also went on to win at the national race in Akron, Ohio.

And finally, last year, her brother Justin Rayle, made it three Greater Washington wins in a row for Maryland's Fifth Congressional District. This is not fixed, I want to tell you. These are just great kids, and we are excited about the soapbox derby.

June's race will be the continuation of a proud tradition for our country and its Capital, and I thank Chairwoman BROWN and Ranking Member SHUSTER for their support and help in bringing this resolution to the floor.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the majority leader for his leadership on this, and set the record straight. I said you have supported this every year; I meant every year you have been in Congress. You haven't been around for 69 years.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 247, introduced by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), which authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

This annual event encourages all boys and girls, ages 8 through 17, to construct and operate their own soap box vehicles. The goals of this event are to teach children and young adults the basic skills of craftsmanship, the spirit of competition, and the perseverance to continue a project once it has begun. The event is supported by hundreds of volunteers and parents. In the past, the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby has produced winners who went on to the national finals. Many volunteers donate considerable time supporting the event, and providing families with a fun-filled day, which has become a tradition in the Washington, DC metropolitan area.

The derby organizers will work with the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police to ensure the appropriate rules and regulations are in place.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 247.

Mr. SHUSTER. I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 247.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1278) in support and recognition of National Safe Digging Month, April, 2010, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1278

Whereas each year there are over 200,000 incidences of unintentional damage to underground utility infrastructure (including pipelines, electrical, telecommunications, water, and sewer lines), many as a result of an individual who fails to have underground utilities lines located before digging;

Whereas there are 2,534,000 miles of pipelines, of which 2,036,800 are for distribution of natural gas, 323,600 for transmission of natural gas, and 173,500 for hazardous materials including oil;

Whereas some utility lines are buried only a few inches underground, making them easy to strike even during shallow digging projects;

Whereas failure to locate underground utility lines before digging may have unintended consequences such as service interruption, environmental damage, property damage, personal injury, and even death;

Whereas State one-call notification programs allow homeowners and excavators to have underground utilities located and marked before conducting digging or excavation activities;

Whereas Congress first established minimum standards for State one-call notification programs and authorized appropriations for Federal grants to improve State one-call notification programs in the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century in 1998;

Whereas Congress required a 3-digit, nationwide toll-free number be established to be used by State one-call systems in the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002;

Whereas in 2005, "811" was designated as the nationwide one-call number for homeowners and excavators to call before conducting digging or excavation activities;

Whereas in the Pipeline Inspection, Protection, Enforcement, and Safety Act of 2006 Congress authorized the Secretary of Transportation to issue civil penalties to any owner or operator of a pipeline facility who fails to respond to a request to mark an underground pipeline facility, any individual who fails to use a State's one-call system prior to digging or excavation activities, or any individual who disregards location information or markings while digging or excavating;

Whereas the one-call system has helped reduce the number of digging damages caused by failure to locate underground utilities prior to digging from 57 percent in 2004 to 37.5 percent in 2009;

Whereas the 1,400 members of the Common Ground Alliance, who are dedicated to ensuring public safety, environmental protection, and the integrity of services by promoting effective damage prevention practices, promote the national "Call Before You Dig" campaign to increase public awareness about the importance of calling 811 to identify the exact location of underground utility lines;

Whereas the Common Ground Alliance has designated April as National Safe Digging month in order to increase awareness of safe digging practices across the country and to celebrate the anniversary of the designation of 811 as the national "Call Before You Dig" number; and

Whereas April is the beginning of the peak of excavation projects around the Nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives supports the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month, and encourages all homeowners and excavators throughout the country to call 811 before conducting any digging or excavation activities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 1278.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1278, a resolution to designate the month of April as National Safe Digging Month. The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, PHMSA, along with many States and stakeholders across the Nation, have come together to support this designation. If approved, it will also mark the 3-year anniversary of 811 as the national "Call Before You Dig" telephone number.

This year, throughout the entire month of April, PHMSA is encouraging all homeowners and contractors to call 811 before they dig to prevent fatalities, injuries, environmental dangers, and other possible loss of critical infrastructure and services. According to PHMSA, excavation damage continues to be a leading cause of serious pipeline incidents. In fact, each year there are hundreds of thousands of underground utility lines damaged through excavation in the United States, 35 percent of which occur as a direct result of people not calling before digging.

According to PHMSA, the one-call notification system has helped reduce the percentage of excavation damages caused by failure to locate underground utilities prior to digging, from 57 percent in 2004 to 35 percent in 2009. Clearly, these numbers speak for themselves. Indeed, it is extremely important to call 811, the Call Before You Dig line, and it is such an easy way for individuals and companies to save lives, the environment, our Nation's infrastructure, and even save money and investments. I encourage my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of House Resolution 1278, a resolution expressing support of the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month.

I introduced this resolution to encourage people to call 811, the nationwide Call Before You Dig number, before conducting any digging or excavating activities and to help draw attention to the problem of excavators and homeowners unintentionally damaging underground utilities.

Throughout the month of April, U.S. Department of Transportation, State utility regulators, and damage prevention stakeholders such as the Common Ground Alliance took part in public awareness campaigns to alert people of the dangers of not having underground utilities located before digging.

Each year more than 256,000 utility lines are unintentionally damaged during excavation activities resulting in fatalities, injuries, loss of utility service, and environmental damage. Many of these unintentional strikes could have been easily avoided if somebody had dialed 811 and had all of the underground utility lines in the area marked.

When a homeowner or contractor calls 811, he is connected to a call center that works with all of the local utility companies to have any underground utilities in the vicinity of the project located and marked. Many utilities, such as cable and telephone lines, are buried only a few inches underground, so even a project that involves only a shallow digging can result in damage to a utility line.

Every weekend, hundreds of homeowners lose cable or telephone service because they unintentionally cut a line while putting in a new mailbox or planting a new tree. While loss of cable or telephone service can be inconvenient, unintentionally striking an underground pipeline or electrical line can be deadly. There are more than 2 million miles of pipelines and more than 1 million of underground electric lines in the United States. These utilities are usually buried deeper than telecommunication lines, but they can be easily struck during road construction and home improvement projects.

Spring marks the beginning of the construction season and the time of year when most homeowners are taking on home improvement and landscaping projects. As contractors and homeowners move forward with their projects, it is important that they remember to call 811 and have underground utilities located before they begin any activity that involves digging or excavating.

Since I will be home this weekend planting trees in my yard, I have called my family, and I hope they have made the call to 811. So if my son, Garrett, is listening to me, make sure you dial 811 before I get home so when we plant the trees this weekend, we are doing all of the right things. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution.

I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1278, introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), which expresses support and recognizes April as National Safe Digging Month. H. Res. 1278 also celebrates the third anniversary of 8-1-1, the nationwide telephone number that all homeowners and contractors must use before conducting digging or excavation activities.

According to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), excavation damage continues to be a leading cause of serious pipeline incidents. More than 256,000 underground utility lines are damaged during excavation each year in the United States; 35 percent of those incidents are due to homeowners and contractors not calling 8-1-1 before they dig.

We created this one-call notification system in 2002 in the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act (P.L. 107-355), which directed the Secretary of Transportation and the Federal Communications Commission to establish a three-digit, nationwide toll-free telephone number for excavators to call to dispatch companies that operate underground utilities in the area to mark the exact location of their utilities. This helps excavators avoid hitting the utilities when digging and any fatalities, injuries, environmental damage, or loss to critical infrastructure and services that could occur.

According to PHMSA, 8-1-1 has helped reduce the number of excavation damages caused by failure to locate underground utilities prior to digging from 57 percent in 2004 to 35 percent in 2009.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1278, to recognize April as National Safe Digging Month. The Common Ground Alliance, an association dedicated to ensuring public safety, environmental protection, and the integrity of services by promoting effective damage prevention practices, has designated April as National Safe Digging Month in order to increase awareness of safe digging practices across the country. This resolution also celebrates the anniversary of the designation of 811 as the national 'Call Before You Dig' number.

I would like to recognize Congressman SHUSTER for his hard work authoring this resolution and bringing it to the Floor. The United States has over 2,500,000 miles of pipelines, of which 2,200,000 are for distribution of natural gas, 320,500 for transmission of natural gas, and 168,900 for hazardous materials including oil. Unfortunately, each year there are over 200,000 incidences of unintentional damage to underground utility infrastructure (including pipelines, electrical, telecommunications, water, and sewer lines). Many of these incidents are a result of an individual who fails to have underground utilities lines located before digging, as some utility lines are buried only a few inches underground.

To prevent these accidents, Congress required a 3-digit, nationwide toll-free number be established to be used by State one-call systems in the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002. These one-call notification programs allow homeowners and excavators to have underground utilities located and marked before conducting digging or excavation activities. I am pleased to say that the one-call system has helped reduce the number of digging damage caused by failure to locate under-

ground utilities prior to digging from 57 percent in 2004 to 37.5 percent in 2009. And as April is the beginning of the peak of excavation projects around the Nation, I am pleased to join Congressman SHUSTER and the Common Ground Alliance in raising awareness about this topic.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in supporting H. Res. 1278.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1278, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AGREEMENT WITH AUSTRALIA CONCERNING PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

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, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress, pursuant to sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2153(b), (d)) (the "Act"), the text of a proposed Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Australia Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. I am also pleased to transmit my written approval, authorization, and determination concerning the Agreement, and an unclassified Nuclear Proliferation Assessment Statement (NPAS) concerning the Agreement. In accordance with section 123 of the Act, as amended by title XII of the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-277), a classified annex to the NPAS, prepared by the Secretary of State in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, summarizing relevant classified information, will be submitted to the Congress separately. The joint memorandum submitted to me by the Secretaries of State and Energy and a letter from the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission stating the views of the Commission are also enclosed.

The proposed Agreement has been negotiated in accordance with the Act and other applicable law. In my judgment, it meets all applicable statutory requirements and will advance the non-proliferation and other foreign policy interests of the United States.

The proposed Agreement provides a comprehensive framework for peaceful nuclear cooperation with Australia based on a mutual commitment to nuclear nonproliferation. The Agreement has an initial term of 30 years from the date of its entry into force, and will continue in force thereafter for additional periods of 5 years each, unless terminated by either party on 6 months' advance written notice at the end of the initial 30-year term or at the conclusion of any of the additional 5-year periods. The proposed Agreement permits the transfer of information, material, equipment (including reactors), and components for nuclear research and nuclear power production. It does not permit transfers of Restricted Data, sensitive nuclear technology, sensitive nuclear facilities, or major critical components of such facilities. In the event of termination of the proposed Agreement, key non-proliferation conditions and controls continue with respect to material, equipment, and components subject to the proposed Agreement.

Australia is a non-nuclear weapon state party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). Australia has concluded a Safeguards Agreement and Additional Protocol with the International Atomic Energy Agency. Australia is a party to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, which establishes international standards of physical protection for the use, storage, and transport of nuclear material. It is also a member of the Nuclear Suppliers Group, whose non-legally binding guidelines set forth standards for the responsible export of nuclear commodities for peaceful use. A more detailed discussion of Australia's domestic civil nuclear activities and its nuclear non-proliferation policies and practices, including its nuclear export policies and practices, is provided in the NPAS and the NPAS classified annex submitted to the Congress separately.

I have considered the views and recommendations of the interested agencies in reviewing the proposed Agreement and have determined that its performance will promote, and will not constitute an unreasonable risk to, the common defense and security. Accordingly, I have approved the Agreement and authorized its execution. I urge the Congress to give it favorable consideration.

This transmission shall constitute a submittal for purposes of both sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Act. My Administration is prepared to begin immediately the consultations with the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs as provided in section 123 b. Upon completion of the 30 days of continuous session review provided for in section 123 b., the 60 days of continuous session review provided for in section 123 d. shall commence.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 5, 2010.

SUPPORT DYSTONIA RESEARCH

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in solidarity with a wonderful and determined south Florida woman, Millie Munoz. Millie Munoz has dystonia, a little-known movement disorder that causes a person's muscles to contract and spasm involuntarily. The trademark of this disorder is repetitive, patterned, and uncontrollable movements.

Since childhood, Millie went from doctor to doctor and was told there was no real problem. Finally in the summer of 2006, she was diagnosed with generalized dystonia. Shortly thereafter, Millie went from climbing the Great Pyramid to being in a wheelchair and bed bound. Luckily, in 2008, she had deep brain stimulation surgery which provided some relief. Today, Millie has a feeding tube and braces on her legs, and she is as resilient and as determined as ever.

Together, we must raise awareness of this disorder and support the research that can find a cure to this silent internal storm.

□ 1515

URGING TESTIMONY OF CHIEF ACTUARY AT THE CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & MEDICARE SERVICES

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week, the Republican members of the Education and Labor Committee sent a letter to Chairman MILLER asking that the chief actuary at the Medicare agency testify before the committee.

The report from Richard S. Foster estimating the financial effects of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act includes a number of adverse implications for employer-sponsored health care plans which make it worthy of consideration by the committee.

The report shows that the act will cause health expenditures to grow by \$311 billion over the baseline projections. The report raises the possibility of a substantial cost shift to private payers, such as employer-sponsored plans, as health care providers will seek to recoup underpayments to the Medicaid program.

I am concerned that small businesses would be inclined to terminate their existing coverage and companies with low average salaries might find it to their advantage to end their plans, allowing workers to qualify for heavily subsidized coverage at taxpayer expense.

As a member of the committee, I urge the chairman to allow this request for the chief actuary to testify

on this new law and its implications for business.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

UNDER SIEGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, a friend of mine in Texas, John, sent me a recent article from the Tucson Weekly written by Leo Banks. The article shines a bright light on life in Arizona north of the border and the shock after the murder of Arizona rancher Robert Krentz. The murderer shot Rob, then his dog, and then fled down the Black Draw on the Geronimo Trail, headed back to Mexico. Rob's sister, Susan Pope, says things have gotten so bad, she can't honestly remember the last time she felt secure.

The Popes' home is in the mountains and it has been broken into three times. Susan works as a bus driver and a teacher at the one-room Apache Elementary School. That elementary school has been burglarized so many times that nothing of value remains there. How can you teach children in an atmosphere like that? They say everybody there knew something like Rob Krentz' murder was about to happen.

Susie Morales lives near Nogales. She said, when she cooks dinner in her kitchen, she can look out and see people, drug mules, with backpacks full of drugs. They are on a trail 75 yards from her front door. Another trail 50 yards from her back door exists. These trails are so close that, when Susie spots the paramilitary squads, she runs into her bathroom with her cell phone, hides and shuts the door. She has to keep her voice down so the drug cartels don't hear her calling for help, and she carries a .357 magnum with her at all times.

Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano, however, says arrests are down on the border's 262-mile-wide Tucson sector. Those arrests are not numbers of actual crossers, however, and these misleading statistics are used to say border security is working.

However, the truth is just the opposite. The people who got away from officially numbered arrests outnumber them three to one. Frontline lawmen

will tell you that it is more like four or five to one to get away.

The Feds boast of 628 miles of fencing now in place, but only 310 miles of that is actually fence. The rest of it, 318 miles, is vehicle barriers that don't stop anybody on foot. Foot traffic still pours over the mountains south of Sierra Vista to the tune of 1,500 a week according to local citizens who count them by placing hidden cameras on the trails. Rancher John Ladd counted some 350 illegals on his San Jose ranch over a period of 18 days before this newspaper interview. He says he is on the phone with the Border Patrol on an average of three times a day, seven days a week, to report groups crossing his ranch.

As one resident said, "We are under the gun all the time. There are people watching us all the time. The smugglers have scouts on the hills watching us, watching Customs, watching Border Patrol. They're terrorists, very militaristic, and they get a high out of it. As long as they can get away with it, it's okay. That's their mentality."

They say the most dangerous thing you can do as a citizen is reach for your cell phone if seen by one of the drug smugglers. Forget you even own one. Keep your hands visible. And no sudden moves if you are spotted. If you encounter the wrong guy and he thinks you are calling Border Patrol, he might just start shooting at you.

Now, when men go out to work at their corrals on the border on their ranches, sometimes miles from the house, their wives go along, too. They are afraid to be alone in their own home. That is no way to live, Mr. Speaker.

People on the border are under siege by the crime cartels. The people-smuggling operations have been taken over by the drug cartels, and the coyotes and the drug cartels work together to smuggle people and drugs across the border, all in the name of money. To cross around Douglas, the rate has gone up to \$2,500 per person. When they don't have the money to pay the drug smugglers and the coyotes, they carry drugs as payment to cross.

Cochise County Sheriff Larry Dever said in recent Senate testimony, "I guarantee that every group coming across that border today has a gun." Just Friday, a deputy sheriff was shot by narco-terrorists carrying AK-47s in Pinal County, 70 miles north of the border.

Those ill-informed elites that don't live in a border State, but reside in high rises in New York or San Francisco, live in "never-never land" when they criticize Arizona for trying to protect its people.

The border is not safe. Ask people who live on the border, both Mexicans in Mexico and Americans in the United States. Those residents call the border a war zone.

The United States protects the borders of other nations. It's about time we protect our own border.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PRICE of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

TRIBUTE TO DONALD SPENCER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DRIEHAUS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Cincinnati's great citizens, Donald Spencer.

Donald Spencer's philosophy in life was, "When you leave this world, it should be better because you have lived." He certainly made this world a better place. Donald Spencer lived life to the fullest and touched many as a community leader, a teacher, and a real estate broker. He was born March 5, 1915, and he died yesterday, May 4, 2010.

Donald Spencer was the first African American real estate broker with the Cincinnati Area Board of Realtors, but teaching never left his blood. A lifelong resident of Cincinnati, he helped pave the way for African Americans in education, as well as real estate, during his career.

Having graduated from Walnut Hills High School before earning his bachelor's degree and master's degree from the University of Cincinnati by 1940, Mr. Spencer embarked on an 18-year teaching career at Douglass, Stowe and Bloom junior high schools.

He opened his real estate office concurrently with the last 6 years of teaching. Five years later, he was well-established as Donald A. Spencer and Associates. The firm eventually grew to 23 on its staff and prospered for 30 years, first with an office in Walnut Hills and later in Avondale.

He was named president of the Cincinnati Association of Real Estate Brokers and was active with PAC, the national policy-making commission of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers.

A staunch supporter of Cincinnati public schools, Mr. Spencer chaired the 2001 campaign, successfully passing the November tax levy. In 2003, he served with CASE, Cincinnati's Active in Support of Education, which led to the passing of the \$435 million levy to build 35 new schools and renovate the remaining 31 buildings.

A lifetime member of the NAACP, Mr. Spencer was active his entire adult life in civic, religious, and civic rights organizations. A member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, he established the undergraduate chapter on the University of Cincinnati campus in 1939. He served on the Boards of Ohio Uni-

versity for 2 years as its president, the Ohio Valley Goodwill, the Fenwick Club, and Family Housing Developers. He was a founding board member of the Friends of Cincinnati Parks and an executive board member of the Walnut Hills High School Foundation.

He also has been active in the Boys Club, the Cincinnati Association, the City of Cincinnati Board of Housing Appeals, the Task Force on Racial Isolation in Cincinnati Public Schools, and Cincinnati's Historic Conservation Board. He was a 30-year trustee at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, now the New Vision United Methodist Church. Among his many honors, Donald Spencer in 1997 received the Charles P. Taft Civic Gumption Award from the Cincinnati Charter Committee.

In 2001, the Cincinnati Park Board developed the Donald A. Spencer Overlook in Eden Park, one of our jewels, to recognize his many years of service to the park system.

Mr. Spencer received the Founders' Citation from the Ohio University Board of Trustees, one of only 14 people to receive the honor in the university's 200-year history.

He leaves behind his wife, Marian, his wife of nearly 70 years, and the legacy that lived up to his own philosophy.

When you look at the folks in Cincinnati and you look at the people that make a difference, the Spencers are the First Couple of Cincinnati.

Mr. Spencer will be dearly missed. He was a treasure to all of us in Cincinnati.

ESTABLISHING THE DEPARTMENT OF NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was humbled, but also pleased, that the House of Representatives passed legislation that would rename the Department of the Navy to be the Department of Navy and Marine Corps, and I want to thank 426 cosponsors of this legislation for joining us yesterday.

Mr. Speaker, the history on this issue is that this is the tenth year that the House of Representatives, not with a vote on the floor of the House, but in the Armed Services Committee, has put language in the House Armed Services authorization bill that would do the same thing, and that is to say, that the Department of the Navy would become the Department of Navy and Marine Corps.

□ 1530

The reason yesterday was very important that we would have this vote on the floor of the House was to say to the Senate, who for 10 years has stopped this effort to recognize two great services, the Navy and Marine Corps, which are known as one fighting team and would carry the name Department of Navy and Marine Corps, it

was to say to the Senate, "Please take a look at this and please look at this seriously because this is important to a large number of people in both the Navy and Marine Corps."

There is no cost to this. This does not affect the budget. It doesn't affect even the stationery. It would just make it so that in the future, as changes come about, it would be known as the Department of Navy and Marine Corps.

Mr. Speaker, I want to tell a story about a news conference. About 6 weeks ago, the Marine Corps League held a news conference in the Cannon Office Building to announce their support of this legislation. At the news conference we had Senator PAT ROBERTS, a retired Marine officer who serves in the United States Senate, who has put in a companion bill, S. 504. In addition, we had a former Commandant, Al Gray, to speak on behalf of this legislation. We had a four star Marine General, Anthony Zinni, to speak on behalf of this legislation.

In addition, we had a young man named Eddie Wright. Eddie Wright lost both hands in Iraq for this country. And he told a very compelling story. He is a Marine, and he said, "I love the Navy." He said, "I love the corpsmen who came on the battlefield and saved my life."

Then we also had a father named Dick Lynn from Richmond, Virginia. Dick Lynn's son was killed in Iraq. He was a Marine. And Mr. Lynn told the story of his father, who had served as a World War II Navy veteran, and the fact that in Culpeper, Virginia, his son, a Marine, is buried next to his grandfather. And Dick Lynn told the story of having the headstone that says "United States Navy" that identified his father who was deceased, and then beside his father was his son's headstone that had "United States Marine Corps".

I bring that up, Mr. Speaker, because we can see beside me is a poster of an actual condolence letter from the United States Navy to the family of a Marine captain who was killed in Iraq. And it says, "The Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D.C.," with the Navy flag. I certainly took the names out of the condolence letter for this poster. Mr. and Mrs. Joe American Marine. "Dear Marine Corps Family: On behalf of the Department of the Navy, please accept my very sincere condolences."

Mr. Speaker, the Navy and Marine Corps are one fighting team. They deserve to be respected as one fighting team by carrying the name Navy and Marine Corps.

Mr. Speaker, if this bill is accepted by the Senate, what we would see in a condolence letter would be "The Secretary of the Navy and Marine Corps," with the Navy flag and the Marine Corps flag. And it would say, "Dear Marine Corps Family: On behalf of the Department of Navy and Marine Corps, we extend our condolences." That's the story that Mr. Lynn tried to say at the news conference.

Why cannot the Senate understand the importance of paying the respects with the recognition to the Marine Corps which the Navy has, the Army has, the Air Force has? This is a very simple change of three words, with no cost to the American taxpayer.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I would like to say there is a national Web site. It's called MarineCause.com. Gunnery Sergeant Lee Ermey, a movie star who himself served in the Marine Corps, in the movie Full Metal Jacket, which is about Vietnam, he is the DI in that movie. He is also on the Military Channel with Lock 'N Load and Mail Call. He is our national spokesman on this Web site. So I hope that the American people would join in this effort.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, this week is Teacher Appreciation Week, and I rise today to say a heartfelt "thank you" to the teachers across the country. This apple is but a symbol of my gratitude for all that teachers have given to me. I have been fortunate enough to live the American dream.

My teachers were ones who made it all possible, whether it was Ms. Barber, who taught me in my early years at Cleveland School; or Coach Bruce Coats, who taught me that it was not enough just to work hard, but that you had to work smart; or Coach Fred McCall, who helped me focus my hard work in college both on and off the basketball court; or any of those who came in-between. My teachers helped shape who I am.

I recently received a letter from a teacher in Johnston County who was worried about our children. And she said, "In these tough budget times, cutting funding in education now means shortchanging an entire generation of learners for the future."

I urge my colleagues today to join me in thanking teachers and working to support funding for the teachers who will shape our Nation's future. As Americans, let us work to make every day a day we say "thank you" to the teachers who mold the future.

FLYING PIG MARATHON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mrs. SCHMIDT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize not only all of those who participated in Sunday's Flying Pig Marathon, but most importantly, our male winner from my area, Milford, Ohio.

Let me tell you the conditions 18,000 participants faced on Sunday. Six-thirty in the morning, torrential downpour, with a forecast of a 90 percent chance it wouldn't let up. And unfortu-

nately, they were right. But as 18,000 of us decided to go at least part of the distance, 6,000 of us decided to go the full 26.2-mile distance.

The Flying Pig Marathon was the brainchild of Bob Coughlin 12 years ago. Twenty-five thousand people participated in the weekend event. And it took an enormous amount of folks, including 3,000 volunteers, to help make that event happen. For all of us that participated, we want to say "thank you".

But I think this year's winner, Brian List, really wants to say thanks to those that helped because his dream came true. This young man, Milford High School graduate, cross country participant in high school, cross country participant in college, came back to his hometown to raise a family and to continue to pursue his dream of running. This was his fourth try at the marathon in Cincinnati. He never really thought he had what it took to actually be a winner. But on Sunday, he was. He posted a great time, 2 hours, 32 minutes, and 20 seconds. He followed his dream, his heart, and achieved his goal. And I am so proud of him.

I don't want to not recognize Lauren Arnold from Colorado, the female winner, but I do want to brag about Brian List, because as a runner I know what it takes to go the distance, and he certainly did that for us.

In conclusion, I would like to say that for most of us I think we adopted Barry Manilow's song, "I Made It Through the Rain." But I know that for Brian and Lauren they were more like Gene Kelly, because at the end they were singing in the rain.

I want to thank all of those that participated, especially the volunteers. And I really want to thank Bob Coughlin for putting this brainchild together and allowing all of us to have fun. Because you know, Mr. Speaker, in Cincinnati pigs do fly at least 1 day out of the year. And next May, the first Sunday in May, it will be our 13th running. Let's hope that the weather will compete as well as it has for 11 of the 12.

I again want to say "thank you" to Brian List for following his dream, keeping his pedal to the metal, and getting that crown.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, this month marks Jewish American Heritage Month. So now seems a fitting

time to look back on the history of the State of Israel and remember it accurately. In recent weeks there has been much attention paid to the announcement of new construction in East Jerusalem. Lost in the debate were some basic facts about settlements and the historical context that must be remembered.

Today I want to set the record straight and outline six key facts about settlements. No. 1, the construction under debate is not in Arab East Jerusalem, but in a Jewish neighborhood in northern Jerusalem. Not only has this area never been governed under Palestinian authority, but there has never been a question of to whom the land belongs. Under every possible two-state plan, including the plan produced by President Clinton at Camp David in 2000 and the scenario and the letter from President Bush to Prime Minister Sharon in 2004, this area would be part of Israel.

No. 2, Jerusalem is not a settlement. Jerusalem has been a Jewish majority since 1870. And every Israeli Government since 1967 has recognized Jerusalem as the sovereign capital of Israel, not part of the West Bank. To reduce Jerusalem to anything less undermines the very foundation of Israel.

No. 3, settlements are not an obstacle to peace. This is where remembering history is especially important. Twice Israel has given up land and removed settlers in an effort to make peace, and each time peace was rejected. In 1980, after its peace accord with Egypt, Israel removed settlements from the Sinai Peninsula, but peace was rejected. Again in 2005, settlers were forcibly removed from Gaza, but peace was rejected. Settlements can be dealt with in any future negotiations through land swaps and border adjustments. But the issue of settlements should never prevent the two sides from sitting down to negotiate.

No. 4. The 10-month moratorium on new construction in the West Bank issued by Prime Minister Netanyahu is unprecedented. Despite staunch domestic criticism and incredible political risk, Prime Minister Netanyahu announced a 10-month moratorium on new construction in the West Bank. The move was praised by the Obama administration. U.S. Middle East envoy George Mitchell called the move significant, stating that "for the first time ever an Israeli Government will stop all new construction in West Bank settlements." Yet the Palestinian Authority continues to refuse to resume peace negotiations.

In the past, settlement construction did not prevent negotiations. In fact, both Yasser Arafat and Mahmoud Abbas negotiated with Israel even while building in settlements continued.

No. 5, only Israelis and Palestinians together can create a lasting peace agreement. The U.S. must continue to play a central role in peace negotiations, but ultimately the conflict must

be resolved through direct talks between the two parties. Requiring preconditions for negotiations simply allows the parties to avoid direct dialogue and ultimately a resolution. Any rhetoric that prevents the parties from resuming negotiations must be tempered.

No. 6, this constant focus on settlements distracts us from the greater threat, a nuclear Iran. The most significant threat to Middle East security is Iran obtaining a nuclear weapon. Iran's acquisition of nuclear weapons would surely spur nuclear proliferation throughout the Middle East, and even result in terrorist groups obtaining nuclear weapons. Our focus now must be on preventing Iran from becoming a nuclear power, not on debates about Jerusalem's construction policies.

Yes, settlements must be addressed, and they will be addressed in any peace process negotiations. We know this because over the years numerous proposals to solve the settlement issue have been floated, and Israel has twice shown it's willing to take action, pulling its citizens out of Sinai and Gaza. But settlements cannot be an excuse not to negotiate. Settlements cannot be considered an impediment to peace. And settlements cannot distract us from the looming threat of a nuclear Iran.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING DR. RODRIGO NOGUERA CALDERON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an admirable educator and scholar from Bogota, Colombia, Dr. Rodrigo Noguera Calderon. During his long and highly acclaimed professional career after receiving a doctorate in law with a specialization in socioeconomic sciences from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, he has been an exceptional jurist and academician.

His humanistic formation led him to defend from the outset the values and principles of western civilization, the defense of which is today manifested in the formation of professionals educated with the same principles.

□ 1545

As a corollary of his humanistic formation, Dr. Noguera has been an ardent defender of democracy and of its liberties, and he has been a fighter against totalitarian and so-called

"populist" regimes which seek to destabilize democratic governments.

Dr. Noguera has also stood out for his unwavering and constant defense of the principles on which human rights are based and for the correct application of international norms that regulate them against those who, in the name of human rights, violate the very principles they say they seek to protect. To further this cause, Dr. Noguera established the Human Rights Institute in collaboration with academic institutions on three continents.

Regarding the United States of America, his positions and those of the Universidad Sergio Arboleda, which is the university founded in 1984 by his father, Rodrigo Noguera Laborde, and at which he has presided since 2003, have always been of friendship and in defense of the postulates and values of this great Nation.

The Universidad Sergio Arboleda was the main academic institution in Colombia that supported and assisted with the entire negotiation process of the Free Trade Agreement between the United States and Colombia.

The Universidad Sergio Arboleda also maintains very close relationships, by means of specific shared programs and projects, with many American universities, such as Florida International University, Florida Atlantic University, Georgetown University, American University, and the New York University School of Law. The Universidad Sergio Arboleda was a leader in the creation of joint degree programs with American universities. It was also a leader in other innovative and groundbreaking agreements, which have benefited both the United States and Colombia.

The Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute, of which I am honored to chair, will also enter into an agreement of collaboration with the Universidad Sergio Arboleda.

Dr. Noguera has held very prestigious public-sector positions by presidential appointment, including supervisor of corporations, national electoral council judge, and associate judge of the National Constitutional Court of Colombia. He was presently named by Colombian President Alvaro Uribe as a member of the Committee on Political Reform. He has received many important distinctions, including the Order of Democracy Simon Bolivar in the degree of Cruz Gran Caballero, which is one of the highest civilian honors of Colombia, granted by the Colombian House of Representatives.

For my late father, for my brothers, and for me and my wife, our friendship with Rodrigo Noguera and his wife, Zayda Barrero de Noguera, is an extraordinary honor.

H.R. 2927—THE BORDER TAX EQUITY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon to speak on an issue that for too long we have known about but have done little to nothing to address on either side of the aisle. That issue is our growing trade inequity, which continually puts American manufacturers at a disadvantage and which has cost too many Americans their jobs.

I introduced bipartisan legislation, H.R. 2927, with my colleague, Representative WALTER JONES. So we've got Republicans on this bill, and we've got Democrats on this bill. It offers one path toward equalizing our growing trade inequity; but instead of having a thoughtful debate, we are again confronted by misinformation and, in this case, by an entirely unfounded and false fear of new taxes being imposed.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to state for the record that H.R. 2927, the Border Tax Equity Act, has a singular mission—to stop the offshoring of American jobs. It does not impose a value-added tax. In fact, this legislation is geared to fight a value-added tax, which would be imposed by foreign nations on American-made products. The Border Tax Equity Act stands up against foreign export subsidies and trade barriers that offshore U.S. jobs.

Who is talking about this? When are we going to begin to protect American jobs?

We can have all of the job creation and all of the stimulus. If we don't get to the heart of the issue, we are going to lose any manufacturing edge that we have. We are not a service job country. We need to have agrarian; we need to have service, and we need to have manufacturing jobs. Otherwise, God forbid, if we ever went to war, we'd have to buy our tanks from China right now. We have dismantled our manufacturing base. We have destroyed the infrastructure of manufacturing in this country. Let me make it clear.

When I say "export subsidies," what I am talking about are our trade partners—our allies, many of them, and some not our allies. They give rebates and monetary givebacks—I call them "kickbacks"—to their own manufacturing companies. With a deal like that, it is impossible for our manufacturers to be on an even playing field, to compete or to stay in business.

This is the heart of our trade inequity. Free trade, fair trade—humbug. It doesn't go to the center of the issue. It seems that, lately, many have been confusing this bill with legislation that promotes a value-added tax when, in fact, the Border Tax Equity Act seems to level the playing field for U.S. producers of goods and services.

When are we going to give a break to the manufacturers, both large and small, in the United States of America? When are we going to stop saying that free trade is the panacea for creating jobs in the United States? Take a look at what NAFTA did to this country. Take a look at how many jobs we've lost, not only in the United States, but in Mexico. It is a disaster.

The Border Tax Equity neither imposes a value-added tax nor advocates for the imposition of one. I will repeat: It does not impose a value-added tax.

WALTER JONES and I introduced this legislation to encourage U.S. job creation and economic growth. That is at the center of the recovery. Countering foreign border adjusted tax export subsidies and trade barriers are a must if America is going to kick-start manufacturing job creation and double our exports in the next 5 years.

I also hope that this bill will shed light on our need to counter foreign border adjusted tax schemes that encourage the offshoring of production of U.S. goods and services. Here is a perfect example:

The rising export subsidies and trade barriers of foreign border adjusted taxes were a key contributor to the loss of 5.7 million manufacturing jobs over the last decade. It is the prime reason why U.S. industrial output is less today than it was 10 years ago, and this is despite a 50 percent increase in the global gross domestic product. Foreign border adjusted tax schemes are designed to make U.S.-produced goods and services less competitive by making exports to the United States cheaper, cheaper, cheaper so they can build more Wal-Marts, more Wal-Marts, more Wal-Marts and so they can put more people out of jail than are in the United States of America. That is fact, not fiction.

So, Mr. Speaker, I ask that we get the facts straight on what we are talking about.

PROTECTING CONSUMERS THROUGH REFORMING THE SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, during the past few years, the financial service industry has endangered the American Dream of capitalism. Each day, we learn more about those who are responsible.

It wasn't small business, the owners of these businesses or the entrepreneurs who harmed us but, rather, the Wall Street firms that manipulated the system and the Securities and Exchange Commission, SEC, that allowed greed to destroy the economy.

SEC Inspector General David Kotz, in his recent report, said that the SEC bears total responsibility for nearly \$70 billion of investor losses due to the Stanford and Madoff Ponzi schemes. Thousands of additional innocent victims were allowed to lose their life savings while they mistakenly believed that the SEC was actually regulating the securities market.

What is worse is that, even today, Wall Street is attempting to manipulate the laws to avoid their responsibilities under the 1970 Securities Investor

Protection Act, SIPA, and the corporation created to carry it out, the SIPC, the Securities Investor Protection Corporation.

SIPA provides \$500,000 of insurance to investors against the fraud or the dishonesty of an SEC-regulated broker. Wall Street supported SIPA because it wanted to encourage investors to allow brokers to hold their securities in their street name.

For example, if you bought securities through Merrill Lynch, instead of your name appearing on the stock certificate, it was held in Merrill Lynch's name. This allowed the brokerage firms to enjoy an enormous amount of additional revenue because they could treat those securities as their own.

The quid pro quo for giving up the protection of having securities in your own name was SIPC insurance. SIPC insurance was created to protect against the dishonest broker who either steals the customer's security or who steals the customer's money and never actually purchases the securities.

Today, 40 years later, Wall Street controls SIPC because the broker-dealers are members of SIPC. As a result, SIPC has spent more money fighting investor claims than it has paid out to investors—therefore, persecuting rather than protecting investors.

SIPC has the power to assess each member firm one-quarter of 1 percent of operating revenues, but instead, it has charged its members—many of whom were large firms—only \$150 per year for the privilege of promising millions of customers that they were insured. Thus, Wall Street figured out a way to have its cake and eat it, too. It advertised insurance, but in reality, never funded it; therefore, it could not provide enough funds to cover the victims' claims when Madoff collapsed.

Today, SIPC is paying the trustee and his law firm \$1.5 million each week to persecute investors by depriving them of insurance and by threatening to sue those who took mandatory withdrawals from their IRA accounts. I am referring to the clawbacks that Irving Picard, the SIPC trustee, has threatened against thousands of innocent investors, whose only mistakes were to rely upon their SEC broker-dealer confirmations and monthly statements.

SIPC refuses to honor the law's mandate to honor the legitimate expectations of customers who relied upon their confirmations and statements. If investors can't rely upon those documents, the entire stock market could collapse because no customer would ever have proof that he owned any securities.

I am asking that we hold Wall Street responsible for SIPC insurance. Every dollar that SIPC doesn't pay and every dollar that the SIPC trustee claws back increases the IRS theft loss to which an investor is entitled. Thus, after not only paying SIPC premiums for 19 years, Wall Street is cleverly attempting to pass their financial obligation back to the government.

We cannot let this happen.

I am aware that the bankruptcy court has ruled in SIPC's favor on this issue, but as we all know, the court sometimes gets things wrong. Madoff investors are entitled to an immediate amendment to SIPA to clarify that it was never congressional intent that a customer of an SEC-regulated broker-dealer would be subject to a clawback suit.

Under no circumstances, except complicity with a crooked broker, should these investors be subject to clawback litigation. If necessary, I am prepared to propose such legislation. Instead of representing the best interest of the victims, the Madoff trustee is representing SIPC against the victims.

Let's do the right thing for the average American—who works hard, who saves money, and who invests in the stock market with the hope of ultimately retiring on his savings.

Mr. Speaker, I will have further remarks on this important topic, which is of great importance to my constituents, later on next week.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THOSE MASSACRED 40 YEARS AGO AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. QUIGLEY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GRAYSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, we voted on memorializing the tragic events that took place 40 years and 1 day ago at Kent State University.

Most Americans today are too young to remember what happened then, but I think that those of us who lived through that time and the many others who thought about it or who saw afterwards what happened have this picture in their minds.

This is Mary Vecchio, kneeling over the body of Jeffrey Miller, at Kent State, on that terrible day when four students were shot by American soldiers. I think we would honor them by remembering how and why they died, and that is what I propose to do now.

In 1968, Richard Nixon ran for President. He said he had a secret plan to end the war. That plan was so secret that, apparently, even Nixon, himself, didn't know what it was because, when he was elected, he simply expanded the war.

In November of 1969, the My Lai Massacre exposed to the whole world—not just to Americans but to the whole world—the sheer brutality of the war in Vietnam.

The following month, in December of 1969, the draft was instituted. American college students and others—everyone of a certain age—knew that they would have to serve in Vietnam unless the war was ended.

□ 1600

Then on April 30 of 1970, the first war ever announced on TV, President Nixon announced the invasion of Cambodia by U.S. forces. Almost immediately there were protests at universities all around the country, including at Kent State, and those protests grew and grew day by day. And the right wing immediately mobilized against these protests. In Ohio the Governor, Governor Rhodes, said, "They're the worst type of people that we harbor in America," these students protesting against the war. "I think that we're up against the strongest, well-trained, militant, revolutionary group that's ever been assembled in America." And President Nixon chimed in by saying that the antiwar protestors were pawns of foreign communists.

So it was that 4 days after the announcement of the invasion of Cambodia, there was a protest that took place at Kent State University in Ohio, 20,000 students collected, assembled peacefully to protest, and the National Guard was called in to drive them away.

First, the National Guard attacked them with tear gas. The students took the tear gas canisters and threw them back at the National Guard. The National Guard drew its bayonets and charged the students and forced them to a different location, but they still didn't disperse. So at that point they shot them. Four Americans died that day, including Jeffrey Miller.

The protests continued. In fact, they grew. Almost a thousand universities were shut down all across the country. For the only time in American history, we had a national student strike everywhere in the country. At Jackson State 10 days later, two more students were shot by the National Guard, shot dead.

And the thing that I remember most at that time is this sign, written on a bed sheet and dropped from a dormitory window outside of New York University in New York, this noble sign: "They can't kill us all."

Let's take a closer look. "They can't kill us all."

Then, as now, together, both times, there are people all around the world and especially people in America who want to live in peace, who think that no war is better than two wars, who think that we voted to end war, not to continue it. And for all those people, we know in our hearts they can't kill us all.

There are people who think that we should be concentrating on education and not war, and we know they can't kill us all. There are people who think that we should be concentrating on our health, our own bodies, improving our living standards, rebuilding America,

instead of war. And they can't kill us all. There are people who believe, not only in America but all over the world, that we should be striving every day toward peace, toward peace, not toward war. And they can't kill us all.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FRANKS of Arizona addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING ROBERT POOLE AND GLENN E. SMITH OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this year celebrates the 100th year of the Boy Scouts of America. And that means there has been a century of youth living the Scout law and the Scout promise.

Scouts have made a difference in their communities with their dedication to five of scouting's core principles: leadership, character, community service, achievement, and love of the outdoors.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate two men from Centre County who will be honored at the Boy Scouts' annual Good Scout Dinner in State College on Friday, May 7.

Local homebuilder Robert Poole will be presented with the Good Scout Award by the Nittany District of the Boy Scouts of America. And longtime scouter Glenn E. Smith will be awarded the John M. Kriner Community Service Award.

Poole will be honored for his charitable work because he says, "The three things I really care about are: one, kids; two, health care; and, three, education." He has been chair of the Centre County United Way's 2004 campaign, co-chair of the State College YMCA's capital campaign, and supported the development of the S&A Stadium and baseball fields at the Shaner Sports Complex. He served for 12 years as chairman of the board of The Second Mile, a statewide nonprofit organization for children who need additional support and who would benefit from positive human contact. Bob Poole is a distinguished alumni of Penn State and currently sits on the Smeal College of Business Board of Visitors and Schreyer Honors College Advisory Board.

The Good Scout Award has been presented to local residents who have made a commitment to giving back to the community through charitable works since 1974. Past recipients include Joe and Sue Paterno.

Glenn E. Smith from Pleasant Gap, Pennsylvania, affectionately is called

"Scouter Glenn." He has been in scouting for more than three decades as a youth and an adult. The John M. Kriner Community Service Award is scouting's way of saying thank you for his service to youth and the community through scouting. Smith has served on boards of review and has been the troop committee chairman for Troop 66 in Pleasant Gap. He has served on the Nittany Mountain District Committee and as a unit commissioner. His love of cooking is well known, and he has served as head cook for such events as the Order of the Arrow and at National Jamborees. And for many years running, he has organized a Nittany Mountain District Memorial Day weekend trip to a Canadian Scout camporee.

Smith is the recipient of another of scouting's coveted awards and recognitions. For outstanding service to the community and youth, the Juniata Valley Council of Boy Scouts of America presented Glenn Smith with the Silver Beaver award.

His service to youth extends beyond the Boy Scouts to include being an assistant leader in Girl Scouts and working with youth in his church.

It is my great pleasure to recognize these two outstanding individuals for their service to the community, and I will be present as the Boy Scouts award them their service award on Friday.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE PORT OF PORTLAND'S NEW HEADQUARTERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud of Portland, Oregon's—my hometown—leadership as America's Sustainability Capital. And thanks to the Port of Portland, we just acquired another symbol of that sustainability.

The Port of Portland is one of five major consolidated port authorities in the United States and one of the greatest economic engines of our region. It operates an international airport, a major seaport, general aviation airports, and several thousand acres of industrial property. And for the first time, its entire administrative workforce will be housed in one location, a beautiful new structure that's not only iconic but is also cost-effective, environmentally friendly, and expecting to be certified LEED Gold.

Virtually every employee has access to natural light, sits in open visible cubicles, including the executive director, and is surrounded by the kind of sustainable development features that Oregon is known for. All of the building's wastewater is treated using a "Living Machine," a sort of indoor wetlands, and the water is reused in

restrooms and the cooling tower. There are 200 pipes sunk 340 feet into the ground to use the Earth's temperature to dramatically lower the energy costs required to heat and cool the building. By locating 450 administrative employees in one place, it eliminates 15,000 hours of interoffice commuting every year, which saves the port millions of dollars in operating expenses and improves efficiency at the same time and, I would dare say, the satisfaction of its many employees.

Good news that no taxpayer dollars were used in construction of this marvelous new facility. The port's customers, airlines, shipping companies, and others, will not experience any increase in their costs. Indeed, they will share in cost reductions.

My commendations to the Port of Portland Commission and its employees for a job very well done.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. KING of New York addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, tonight I want to discuss an important issue that is significantly impacting our economy but has not received nearly enough attention and action by the administration and this Congress. If the issue is not addressed, it will continue to drag down and harm our already shaky national economy.

I am referring to the deterioration of the commercial real estate sector. Now, when I speak of commercial real estate, I am talking about properties that can be found in every community in America: retail properties, office space, industrial facilities, hotels, and apartments. Similar to the residential real estate crisis we experienced, the commercial real estate market faces significant strains as a result of declining property values, refinancing difficulties, and economic uncertainty.

Commercial real estate values throughout the United States are collapsing, going down as much as 40 to 50 percent in some regions. We have seen this happen in parts of southern California, in my own congressional district. I know we have seen it in many other parts of the country from New York to Idaho and Nevada to Florida. Most experts predict that the declining trend in commercial real estate values will continue through 2011 and 2012.

Many economists are concerned by this trend because the health of our commercial real estate market has a direct and lasting impact on the stability of thousands of small businesses, and small and midsize banks, which could result in significant job losses across the country. The commercial real estate sector provides more than 9 million jobs and generates billions of

dollars in Federal, State, and local tax revenue.

Additionally, many property owners are underwater. An analysis by Deutsch Bank indicates that of the almost \$1.4 trillion in commercial real estate loans that will mature over the next 4 years, as many as 65 percent will struggle with refinancing, even if they are performing loans with payments being made on time.

The Congressional Oversight Panel, created by Congress in 2008 to review the current state of our Nation's financial markets and regulatory system, dedicated an entire report to the commercial real estate liquidity crisis, entitled "Commercial Real Estate Losses and the Risk to Financial Stability," which was released on February 11 of this year. The report estimates that bank losses alone could range as high as \$200 billion to \$300 billion. The panel wrote, "A significant wave of commercial mortgage defaults would trigger economic damage that could touch the lives of nearly every American."

This week and next, many of my fellow colleagues in Congress will be visited by members of the National Association of Realtors as part of their annual meeting in Washington, D.C. They will talk about how the commercial real estate market is in the midst of a serious financial crisis and share stories of how small businesses across the country continue to suffer. Many of my colleagues and economic experts agree that the continuing crisis in the commercial real estate market could lead to a double-dip recession.

Due to the growing economic threat of the faltering commercial real estate market, I spearheaded a bipartisan effort with my friend from Pennsylvania, Congressman PAUL KANJORSKI, to raise these concerns to Secretary Tim Geithner and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke on January 29 of this year. The letter, signed by 77 of our colleagues, called for the establishment of a clear method for measuring the effectiveness of recently announced commercial real estate loan modification guidance. Furthermore, the letter called on Secretary Geithner and Chairman Bernanke to institute metrics that will allow banks to more clearly differentiate performing versus nonperforming loans in order to treat them appropriately.

On February 17 of this year, I once again joined Mr. KANJORSKI to author a letter addressed to the heads of the FDIC, OTC, OCC, and NCUA to bring to their attention our concerns and highlight the findings of the February 11 Congressional Oversight Panel report on "Commercial Real Estate Losses and the Risk to Financial Stability." The letter "urged the regulators to work together and work with the Treasury and the Fed to minimize the impact this problem will have to our economy."

On March 16 Secretary Geithner testified before the House Appropriations Committee regarding the fiscal year 2011 budget and economic outlook. At the hearing I asked the Secretary directly what steps he intended to take to address the liquidity problems in the

commercial real estate sector. Secretary Geithner's response was, "We have a ways to go to get through the broader adjustment in the commercial real estate that is still ahead of us."

□ 1615

The administration must take deliberate action to enhance liquidity in the commercial real estate market to avoid the derailment of our economic recovery. Congress can play a role in advancing solutions by closely examining the current status of commercial mortgage market liquidity through oversight hearings with Federal Reserve Chairman Bernanke and other regulators. I call on the Financial Services Committee to hold such a hearing by the summer to reveal the true state of this sector of our economy and discuss regulatory and legislative fixes. The upcoming field hearing on May 17 in Chicago is a good start, but more attention needs to be made. The spotlight of oversight is all Congress needs to do at this time—the power to do something about this problem is in the administration's hands already.

In closing, I truly hope the administration will take the necessary steps to prevent further economic damage and provide a fix for commercial real estate.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, January 29, 2010.

Hon. TIMOTHY F. GEITHNER,
Secretary, U.S. Department of the Treasury,
Washington, DC.

Hon. BEN S. BERNANKE,
Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal
Reserve System, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY GEITHNER AND CHAIRMAN BERNANKE: As you know, the financial crisis continues to have a dampening effect throughout the credit markets. The commercial real estate (CRE) market, in particular, continues to experience difficult credit accessibility conditions. Moreover, the scarcity of credit in the \$63 trillion CRE sector poses a dangerous threat to our financial system just as our economy has begun to show signs of recovery.

Earlier this month real estate data provider Trepp announced that the delinquency rate for loans underlying commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) ballooned 500 percent in 2009, surpassing 6 percent in December for the first time. Additionally, the CMBS market has all but shut down over the past year making it more difficult for CRE owners to sell or refinance.

We appreciate the acknowledgement by federal regulators of this situation in October, when the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, along with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the National Credit Union Administration, and the Office of Thrift Supervision, issued a policy statement advising financial institutions to extend and/or restructure loans backed by income-producing and/or development properties whenever possible in order to minimize losses as well as to stabilize overall asset values in the communities they serve.

While the regulatory guidance is a relatively recent occurrence, we remain concerned by early indications that it may not yet be having the desired impact in stabilizing the CRE market. While some properties are in desperate need of modification

due to the economic downturn, we are not convinced these loans are being serviced properly or in an efficient manner. Of even more concern, anecdotal evidence suggests that regulators continue to encourage lenders to write down the value of performing loans, whose payments may well be current and, in some instance, even call the loan. This further exacerbates the crisis by creating defaults in properties that were able to meet their debt servicing.

To ensure the recent CRE loan modification guidance will have a positive and stabilizing effect, and to protect the broader economy from further disruptions, we urge you to establish a clear method for measuring and evaluating its effectiveness. Furthermore, we encourage you to institute metrics to more clearly differentiate performing versus non-performing loans as well as any other steps that provide lending institutions with more confidence in assessing CRE loans. We also call upon you to make clear public statements encouraging lenders to continue to make credit available for performing assets as a means of restoring confidence and long-term value in the CRE market.

In sum, we strongly believe that regulators must take continued steps to mitigate ongoing turmoil in the CRE sector before it becomes a full-fledged crisis, forestalls our economic recovery, and possibly requires additional taxpayer-funded capital injections. Consistent with all applicable law and regulation, thank you for the consideration of our views and your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Kanjorski, Judy Biggert, Bill Foster, Dennis Moore, Gary L. Ackerman, Ken Calvert, Chris P. Carney, Joseph Crowley, Luis V. Gutierrez, Sander M. Levin, Steve Israel, Mike McIntyre, Suzanne M. Kosmas, Laura Richardson, Charles A. Wilson, Russ Carnahan, Ron Klein, Jo Bonner, Henry E. Brown, Jr., André Carson, Bobby Bright, Steve Driehaus, John Campbell, Ben Chandler, John Lewis, Kathy Castor, David Scott, Shelley Berkley, Donald A. Manzullo, Michael E. McMahon, Dan Burton, Lynn A. Westmoreland, Baron P. Hill, John Culberson, Timothy H. Bishop, James P. Moran, Melissa L. Bean, Carolyn B. Maloney, Glenn C. Nye, Dina Titus, Pete Olson, Bill Pascrell, Jr., Howard Coble, Kay Granger, C.W. Bill Young, Doug Lamborn, Gary Miller, Shelley Moore Capito, Debbie L. Halvorson, Gary C. Peters, Bob Inglis, Jeff Miller, Tim Matheson, Vernon J. Ehlers, Geoff Davis, Alcee L. Hastings, Jim Marshall, Peter Welch, Connie Mack, John A. Yarmuth, Jerry Costello, Ginny Brown-Waite, Cliff Stearns, Patrick J. Murphy, Gerald E. Connolly, Brett Guthrie, Bruce Braley, Rubén Hinojosa, Joe Wilson, Thomas J. Rooney, Rick Larsen, Alan Grayson, Gregory W. Meeks, Robert B. Aderholt, Jim Gerlach, Mike Turner, Edolphus Towns, Chris Lee, Charles Boustany, Jr.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, February 17, 2010.

Hon. SHEILA C. BAIR,
Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JOHN C. DUGAN,
Comptroller of the Currency, Office of the
Comptroller of the Currency, Washington,
DC.

Mr. JOHN E. BOWMAN,
Acting Director, Office of Thrift Supervision,
Washington, DC.

Hon. DEBORAH MATZ,
Chairman of the Board, National Credit Union
Association, Alexandria, VA.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BAIR, COMPTROLLER DUGAN, ACTING DIRECTOR BOWMAN, AND CHAIRMAN MATZ: As you are aware, the commercial real estate market continues to face significant strains as a result of declining property values, refinancing difficulties, and economic uncertainty. Some have predicted that these problems have the potential to cause hundreds of billions of dollars in losses as loans come due in the next few years.

We now write to bring your attention to a recent report by the Congressional Oversight Panel, entitled "Commercial Real Estate Losses and the Risk to Financial Stability," released on February 11, 2010. The report indicates that about \$1.4 trillion in commercial real estate loans will reach the end of their terms between now and 2014 and that nearly half of these mortgages are currently underwater as property values have declined and continue to do so. The report estimates that losses at banks alone could range as high as \$200 billion to \$300 billion.

Moreover, the Congressional Oversight Panel found that the impact of massive commercial mortgage defaults could be far reaching:

"A significant wave of commercial mortgage defaults would trigger economic damage that could touch the lives of nearly every American. Empty office complexes, hotels, and retail stores could lead directly to lost jobs. Foreclosures on apartment complexes could push families out of their residences, even if they had never missed a rent payment. Banks that suffer, or are afraid of suffering, commercial mortgage losses could grow even more reluctant to lend, which could in turn further reduce access to credit for more businesses and families and accelerate a negative economic cycle."

The full report can be found online at <http://cop.senate.gov/reports/library/report-021110-cop.cfm>.

The findings of the Congressional Oversight Panel have only heightened our concerns about the need for the government and regulators to act to mitigate a serious problem before it becomes a major drag on our financial system. Joined by 77 of our House colleagues, we recently sent to Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke the enclosed letter about the impending troubles in the commercial real estate sector. We called upon them to take action to address this problem, and we urge each of you to work together and with them to minimize the impact this problem will have on our economy.

In sum, thank you for your consideration of our concerns. Please also continue keep us regularly advised of your progress in addressing this serious problem.

Sincerely,

PAUL KANJORSKI,
Member of Congress.

KEN CALVERT,
Member of Congress.

APPROPRIATIONS FULL COMMITTEE HEARING ON FY2011 BUDGET & ECONOMIC OUTLOOK WITH PETER ORSZAG, TIM GEITHNER, AND CHRISTINA ROMER

10:00AM—MARCH 16, 2010, 2325 RHOB

HEARING TRANSCRIPT FROM REP. KEN CALVERT EXCHANGE WITH TREASURY SECRETARY TIM GEITHNER ON COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE MARKETS

Chairman OBEY, Mr. Calvert.

Mr. CALVERT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize, I was away for a while. I was on the floor. And this may have been brought up, which is the problem with the commercial real estate sector at the present time.

As you know, commercial real estate values throughout the United States are literally collapsing, going down as much as 40 percent, 50 percent in some areas. And most experts assume that this continuing collapse in commercial real estate values will continue through 2011, 2012.

Deutsche Bank just did, in a recent study, of about \$1.4 trillion in outstanding commercial paper, a significant part of that will come due by 2013. Almost half of it is underwater.

As you know, a lot of these small and midsized banks are primarily exposed to these commercial loans. And the regulators in day-to-day activities aren't helping much, especially on the performing assets. We have performing assets where people are making their payments, making their tax payments, making their insurance payments, are current, and yet the bank is bringing them in because of appraised values and telling them to come in with a significant capital call, which they can't do in this credit market.

And what the banks are doing is taking back the property, having to put it in the loan loss side of their ledger, which is taking credit away from these banks, because they don't have the money.

So what can we do—this wouldn't, from my perspective, cost the government anything. If banks have discretion on performing assets, why aren't the banks given discretion to footnote that these assets—and they are assets—are current and can be treated as an asset rather than a liability on the balance sheet?

Secretary GEITHNER. You are right about the problem, and you are right that we have a ways to go to get through the broader adjustment in commercial real estate that is still ahead of us. And we discussed it a little bit when you were away, but I think, again, the two most important things we can do in this area is to make sure that small community banks, which have a lot of commercial real estate exposure, have the ability to come take capital from the government to help make sure they don't have to cut lending further to their business clients.

But, also, we can—and we have been continuing to work with the bank supervisors, so they are providing guidance to their examiners and that message gets out across the country that they don't, frankly, overreact, overreact to decline in the value of collateral and they look at the broader cash flows, earnings potential of the company as a whole, as they are looking at loan classification decisions.

Mr. CALVERT. I have a limited time. If the gentleman would let me reclaim my time.

I will tell you, in the real world right now, I know of people who have shopping centers, 100 percent full shopping centers, paying their bills, and yet they are still getting capital calls on those loans, which makes zero sense.

Secretary GEITHNER. No, I think you are right. I hear these stories across the country.

I think you are right to emphasize them. And I just need to underscore that the bank supervisors, which are independent of the Treasury—I don't have the capacity to direct what they do, in this case—are working to provide a little bit more balanced guidance to lean against just the practices you are shining a light on. And I think they can probably do a better job of getting the message out to—

Mr. CALVERT. But this also goes back to the mark-to-market provisions. And I understand that there may be, from my perspective, a step back in this economy where you have an overcorrection in value, where we ought to take a look at relaxing those mark-to-market provisions on performing assets. Because, under the accounting rules, they are going to continue to deflate—this is going to continue to deflate these values. And that is not going to be helpful in trying to get this economy moving again.

I am fearful—I don't know if you are—that this commercial real estate problem is so huge that it could put us back into a double-dip recession.

Secretary GEITHNER. I do not believe it poses that risk at the moment. I think, again, it is going to be a challenge—

Mr. CALVERT. We thought the same thing about the housing market.

Secretary GEITHNER. We did. But I think this is different, and our financial system is in a much stronger place today to weather those remaining challenges.

As you know, the FTC and the FASB are looking at a whole range of broad reforms to accounting practices in the United States. And I think they would be happy to talk to you, to respond to any questions you have about how to think about the role fair value accounting can play in mitigating these kinds of pressures in the future.

Mr. CALVERT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[From the Press-Enterprise PE.com, Mar. 18, 2010]

PREVENT A DOUBLE-DIP RECESSION

(By Ken Calvert)

A recent P-E article cited local economic forecasts that suggested the Inland Empire will continue to lose jobs well into 2010 ("Small businesses still pessimistic," March 12). As residents know all too well, the drastic downturn in residential construction and international trade has significantly impacted our region's economy.

Businesses hire when they see an economic opportunity to increase the sale of the goods or services, not when the government provides a one-time tax credit to hire. When businesses are ready to grow, they often need financing in order to make big purchases. However, small businesses around the country are struggling to get the credit necessary to grow as banks tighten lending standards in the aftermath of the financial crisis on Wall Street.

Businesses may find it even harder to obtain credit as they begin confronting liquidity challenges in the commercial real estate market. Recent analysis conducted by Deutsche Bank analysts indicates that of the almost \$1.4 trillion in commercial real estate mortgages due by 2013, as many as 65 percent may struggle with refinancing, even if they are performing loans that are completely current.

If the conditions in the commercial real estate market deteriorate further, the negative effects will be significant and widespread. If community banks are forced to close or further tighten lending standards, small businesses will find it even harder to obtain financing sources and our economy will lose its tenuous grasp on a recovery and dip back further into recession.

Due to this growing economic threat, I spearheaded a bipartisan effort to raise these concerns to Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke. In a letter to the regulators, 78 of my colleagues and I proposed that a clear method for measuring the effectiveness of recently announced commercial real estate loan modification guidance should be established. Also, the letter called on the officials to institute metrics that will allow banks to more clearly differentiate performing versus nonperforming loans in order to treat them appropriately.

The regulators also should give banks the flexibility to account for performing loans as an asset, not a liability, something that could be achieved with a simple change in accounting practices. This would actually increase transparency as well as free up capital that could be loaned out into the market. Most important, the fix would not cost a dime to American taxpayers or require any form of a bailout.

Our current economic situation could aptly be called the speculators' recession and, if the administration does not take action, this second dip would be known as the regulators' recession.

No legislation is needed for the fix. The administration can address the liquidity issues facing small businesses and the commercial real estate market by providing correct guidance to the bank regulators. A proactive and engaged response can prevent a doubledip recession and ensure small businesses can grow and start hiring again.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PAUL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

RETIRE SHUTTLE TO HOUSTON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. OLSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for housing one of the remaining space shuttle orbiters in Houston upon the end of the space shuttle program. The shuttle program can be counted among our Nation's greatest achievements. Scientists and engineers envisioned and created reusable vehicles to ferry astronauts, experiments, and supplies back and forth from space to Earth. They have done so now over 100 times, with three more flights to go.

The flights and missions of Columbia, Challenger, Atlantis, Discovery, and Endeavour are some of our Nation's proudest achievements, and much like the programs before it, this program has captured our Nation's imagination and taught us more about our universe and ourselves than we ever thought

possible. As the program concludes, the decision on where the orbiters will be displayed has been given to NASA Administrator Charles Bolden. Houston and the Johnson Space Center are intrinsic to human space flight, and we are asking Administrator Bolden to give one of the orbiters a final home in Houston.

I grew up in the Clear Lake area of Houston, where the Johnson Space Center is located. I spent my childhood living with astronauts and wanting to be one when I grew up. I attended college at Rice University in Houston, where John F. Kennedy made his famous declaration that this country would be the first on the Moon. While many things have changed since I was young, children in Clear Lake still have similar dreams. They learn about the history and the importance of NASA and they are inspired by NASA's achievements every day. Their parents, coaches, and Sunday school teachers are the engineers and scientists who are the backbone of our space program. Some of them are even astronauts who have to miss a game or a parent-teacher conference because they're taking a trip to the International Space Station.

A few weeks ago, I enlisted the help of students in the Clear Creek Independent School District from kindergarten through high school to explain to Administrator Bolden why one of the retiring orbiters should be placed in Houston on permanent display. Thousands of children from the Clear Lake area responded to the challenge and wrote letters to Administrator Bolden. The letters were funny and heartwarming. They expressed a maturity beyond their years and a firsthand knowledge of the Houston area's unique and lasting contributions to the achievement of NASA. I was amazed by the passion and dedication and their longing to have one of the orbiters make its home in their neighborhood. Each of these children wrote of their personal connection they feel towards our space program and the joy and pride they'd feel when they called their friends and family from all over the country and invited them to come to Houston to see one of the space shuttles.

Mari Archambault wrote, "With so many in the community involved, it only makes sense to have a shuttle retired in a place where so much of the training related to it takes place. Houston deserves that." Savannah Finger thinks it would be "a good feeling to be standing feet away from a retired shuttle, which really went into space." Allyson Stromer drew this picture to show Administrator Bolden how beautiful the shuttle would look in Rocket Park. Bill Kontonassios asked how, "Space City can be complete without a space shuttle." Chloe Molina, from League City, reminded Administrator Bolden what the tragic loss of the shuttles Columbia and Challenger meant to the Houston community. "Viewing a

shuttle orbiter will remind them of the brave crews of Columbia and Challenger. It would be a fitting memorial, for although our Nation lost 14 heroes, the people of Houston lost coworkers, neighbors, friends, and family members in those tragedies." Faith Matthews knows that having a shuttle "will inspire the youth of Houston to become the astronauts of the future so dreams and wishes could take us to Mars." Marisol Hernandez, the daughter of an astronaut, knows that "if Texas is the home of one of the retired space shuttles, I could remember my father's launch."

The contributions and achievements of the Houston area make our home a logical and appropriate steward for one of the space shuttle orbiters. Houston is "Space City USA," and there's no better place for a shuttle to be.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask Administrator Bolden to hear the requests of these students, not just in housing an orbiter in Houston, but in providing them with a future in space worthy of our great past.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. POSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POSEY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

FINDING A VOICE ON SUDAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WOLF. "If President Obama is ever going to find his voice on Sudan, it better be soon." These were the closing words 2 weeks ago of columnist Nicholas Kristof.

Having first traveled to Sudan in 1989, my interest in this country has spanned the better part of 20 years. I've been most recently there in July of 2004, with Senator BROWNBACK. We were the first congressional delegation to visit Darfur, where genocide has taken place. We saw the same scorched earth tactics from Khartoum in the brutal 20-year civil war with the South where 2.1 million people perished. I remain grateful for President Bush's leadership in bringing about an end to the bloodshed with the historic signing of the CPA. But that peace is now in jeopardy.

Fast forward to 2009. I was part of a bipartisan group in Congress who called for the appointment of a special envoy shortly after President Obama was elected. What was once a successful model for Sudan is not having the desired effect today. And I'm not alone in that belief. Last week, six respected NGOs ran ads in the Washington Post calling for Secretary Clinton and Ambassador Rice to exercise "personal and sustained leadership on Sudan" in the face of a "stalemated policy."

Today, I join the chorus of voices in calling on the President to empower Secretary Clinton and Ambassador Rice to take control of this languishing policy in Sudan. They should oversee quarterly deputies' meetings to ensure options for consequences are on the table. In fact, I call on the President himself to exercise leadership in this regard, consistent with the explicit campaign promises he made about Sudan—promises which, to date, ring hollow. There is a pressing need for renewed and principled leadership at the highest levels—leadership which is clear-eyed about the history and the record of the internationally indicted war criminal at the helm in Khartoum.

In addition to the massive human rights abuses perpetrated by the country's leader, Bashir, Sudan remains on the State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism. The same people currently in control in Khartoum gave safe haven to bin Laden. Bin Laden lived in Sudan from 1991 to 1996. I believe that this administration's engagement with Sudan, under the leadership of General Gratton, and with the apparent blessing of the President, has failed to recognize the true nature of Bashir and the NCP. While the hour is late, the administration can still chart a new course.

Today, I sent a letter to the President, which I submit for the RECORD, outlining seven policy recommendations and calling for urgent action.

When the administration released its Sudan policy, Secretary Clinton indicated that benchmarks would be applied to Sudan, that progress would be assessed, and that "backsliding by any party will be met with credible pressure in the form of disincentives leveraged by our government." But in the face of national elections that were neither free nor fair, and in the face of continued violations of the U.N. arms embargo, in the face of Bashir's failure to cooperate in any way with the International Criminal Court, there are no disincentives. This is a worst case scenario and guaranteed, if history is a guide, to fail. More than 6 months have passed since the release of the administration's Sudan strategy, and implementation has been insufficient at best and altogether absent at worst.

During the campaign, then-candidate Obama said regarding Sudan, "Washington must respond to the ongoing genocide and the ongoing failure to implement the CPA with consistency and strong consequences." These words ring truer today than ever before. But the burden for action, the weight of leadership, now rests with this President and this administration alone—and there are lives at risk. The stakes could not be higher.

I close, Mr. Speaker, with a slight variation on the words of Nicholas Kristof: If President Obama is ever going to find his voice on Sudan, it had better be now.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 5, 2010.

Hon. BARACK H. OBAMA,
The President, The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: "If President Obama is ever going to find his voice on Sudan, it had better be soon." These were the closing words of New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof two weeks ago. I could not agree more with his assessment of Sudan today. Time is running short. Lives hang in the balance. Real leadership is needed.

Having first travelled to Sudan in 1989, my interest and involvement in this country has spanned the better part of 20 years. I've been there five times, most recently in July 2004 when Senator Sam Brownback and I were the first congressional delegation to go to Darfur.

Tragically, Darfur is hardly an anomaly. We saw the same scorched earth tactics from Khartoum in the brutal 20-year civil war with the South where more than 2 million perished, most of whom were civilians. In September 2001, President Bush appointed former Senator John Danforth as special envoy and his leadership was in fact instrumental in securing, after two and a half years of negotiations, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), thereby bringing about an end to the war. I was at the 2005 signing of this historic accord in Kenya, as was then Secretary of State Colin Powell and Congressman Donald Payne, among others. Hopes were high for a new Sudan. Sadly, what remains of that peace is in jeopardy today. What remains of that hope is quickly fading.

I was part of a bipartisan group in Congress who urged you to appoint a special envoy shortly after you came into office, in the hope of elevating the issue of Sudan. But what was once a successful model for Sudan policy is not having the desired effect today. I am not alone in this belief.

Just last week, six respected NGOs ran compelling ads in the Washington Post and Politico calling for Secretary Clinton and Ambassador Rice to exercise "personal and sustained leadership on Sudan" in the face of a "stalemated policy" and waning U.S. credibility as a mediator.

In that same vein, today I join that growing chorus of voices in urging you to empower Secretary Clinton and Ambassador Rice to take control of the languishing Sudan policy. They should oversee quarterly deputies' meetings to ensure options for consequences are on the table.

There is a pressing and immediate need for renewed, principled leadership at the highest levels—leadership which, while recognizing the reality of the challenges facing Sudan, is clear-eyed about the history and the record of the internationally indicted war criminal at the helm in Khartoum. We must not forget who we are dealing with in Bashir and his National Congress Party (NCP). In addition to the massive human rights abuses perpetrated by the Sudanese government against its own people, Sudan remains on the State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism. It is well known that the same people currently in control in Khartoum gave safe haven to Osama bin Laden in the early 1990s.

I believe that this administration's engagement with Sudan to date, under the leadership of General Graton, and with your apparent blessing, has failed to recognize the true nature of Bashir and the NCP. Any long-time Sudan follower will tell you that Bashir never keeps his promises.

The Washington Post editorial page echoed this sentiment this past weekend saying of Bashir: "He has frequently told Western governments what they wanted to hear, only to

reverse himself when their attention drifted or it was time to deliver. . . . the United States should refrain from prematurely recognizing Mr. Bashir's new claim to legitimacy. And it should be ready to respond when he breaks his word." Note that the word was "when" not "if" he breaks his word. While the hour is late, the administration can still chart a new course.

In addition to recommending that Secretary Clinton and Ambassador Rice take the helm in implementing your administration's Sudan policy, I propose the following policy recommendations:

Move forward with the administration's stated aim of strengthening the capacity of the security sector in the South. A good starting point would be to provide the air defense system that the Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS) requested and President Bush approved in 2008. This defensive capability would help neutralize Khartoum's major tactical advantage and make peace and stability more likely following the referendum vote.

Do not recognize the outcome of the recent presidential elections. While the elections were a necessary part of the implementation of the CPA and an important step before the referendum, they were inherently flawed and Bashir is attempting to use them to lend an air of legitimacy to his genocidal rule.

Clearly and unequivocally state at the highest levels that the United States will honor the outcome of the referendum and will ensure its implementation.

Begin assisting the South in building support for the outcome of the referendum.

Appoint an ambassador or senior political appointee with the necessary experience in conflict and post-conflict settings to the U.S. consulate in Juba.

Prioritize the need for a cessation of attacks in Darfur, complete restoration of humanitarian aid including "non-essential services," unfettered access for aid organizations to all vulnerable populations and increased diplomatic attention to a comprehensive peace process including a viable plan for the safe return of millions of internally displaced persons (IDPs).

When the administration released its Sudan policy last fall, Secretary Clinton indicated that benchmarks would be applied to Sudan and that progress would be assessed "based on verifiable changes in conditions on the ground. Backsliding by any party will be met with credible pressure in the form of disincentives leveraged by our government and our international partners." But in the face of national elections that were neither free nor fair, in the face of continued violations of the U.N. arms embargo, in the face of Bashir's failure to cooperate in any way with the International Criminal Court, we've seen no "disincentives" or "sticks" applied. This is a worst case scenario and guaranteed, if history is to be our guide, to fail.

Many in the NGO community and in Congress cautiously expressed support for the new policy when it was released, at the same time stressing that a policy on paper is only as effective as its implementation on the ground. More than six months have passed since the release of the strategy and implementation has been insufficient at best and altogether absent at worst.

During the campaign for the presidency, you said, regarding Sudan, "Washington must respond to the ongoing genocide and the ongoing failure to implement the CPA with consistency and strong consequences." These words ring true still today. Accountability is imperative. But the burden for action, the weight of leadership, now rests with you and with this administration alone. With the referendum in the South quickly approaching, the stakes could not be higher.

The marginalized people of Sudan yearn for your administration to find its voice on Sudan—and to find it now.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress.

FEMA FUNDING SHORTFALLS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BRIGHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to refocus our attention on funding shortfalls in the Federal Emergency Management Agency. On March 24, the House—we in this location—passed nearly \$5.1 billion in emergency funding to help FEMA meet its obligations. This money is not allocated for future disasters or for bureaucratic costs. This is money that FEMA has already promised to local communities to put lives in order after federally declared disasters. Yet the Senate has thus far refused to act on this important piece of legislation. Our constituents can't wait any longer, nor should they have to wait.

The recent flooding in Tennessee, tornadoes in Alabama and Mississippi, and the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico underscore the need to pass emergency funding for our disaster management agency. These events are startling in scope and certainly require assistance from the Federal Government. How can we expect FEMA to effectively respond to future disasters if they have yet to meet their obligations from over a year ago?

Mr. Speaker, nearly every day my office hears from local emergency managers, mayors, and county commissioners who express frustration over the fact they're still waiting for the money FEMA promised them. These are not people who expect a handout from the government. They're simply asking about the emergency assistance they were already granted months, and in some cases, over a year ago.

Henry County, which is in my congressional district in southeast Alabama, is a good example of how FEMA's budgetary issues have affected towns across our great Nation. Henry County started a \$153,000 project to replace a large drainage structure under County Road 2 that was damaged during last spring's floods. FEMA approved the project but has not been able to distribute money to the county. In addition to County Road 2, Henry County is still waiting for reimbursement for three other road projects that resulted from flooding in December of 2009.

As you can see, a small county is waiting on two different payments from FEMA—one from a disaster that occurred over a year ago. I am sure that the story is similar in other areas of our great country. What is more troubling is that we are still debating this issue while spring floods are out in full force and hurricane season is less

than a month away. We cannot forget about the promises we have already made as we brace for the next disaster to strike American soil.

Last year saw record disasters around the country. Floods soaked the Southeast, wildfires burned the West, and record snows blanketed the Midwest and Northeast.

□ 1630

It is understandable that FEMA used up all of its budgeted resources. Congress must now act to provide our communities with the funds they were promised.

Mr. Speaker, I am a committed fiscal conservative, and I believe we should closely watch every dollar we spend. I welcome a debate on how to reduce Federal spending and reform the way FEMA operates in order to make it more efficient; however, the time for that debate is not while our communities wait for necessary and guaranteed Federal funds.

In closing, let me once again urge the Senate to act on this very pressing issue. As the summer nears, we simply cannot afford to ignore this problem any longer. The Senate needs to do what the House has already done and pass, very quickly, emergency funding for FEMA, and pass it quickly so that they don't have to wait any longer.

WHAT GOT US INTO THIS ECONOMIC MESS?

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

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, it's a pleasure to be able to join you and my colleagues and others who are gathered here to talk about something that has been on our minds for some considerable time now—many months, even 1½ to 2 years—and that is the subject of the economy and jobs and what's really going on in America.

I'm a person who is of that baby boomer-type cycle—I'm 62—and there are many other people such as myself in America that have done a lot of work and tried to save our money and all of a sudden something seemed to go wrong in the economy. We lost a lot of money in 2008, and there is a real concern out there about jobs, the economy, and what's going on in the policies. And so I thought, in that we have 1 hour—we don't have to do everything in 1 minute or 5 minutes, but we have 1 full hour today—that I would open the subject. I will invite my other Republican colleagues to join me. You may see some coming in before long. And I want to talk about this whole situation, and because we have more time, I can go back just a little bit.

I would like to go back to how is it that we were kind of cruising along, things seemed to be going pretty well by about 2006 or so with the economy,

and then all of a sudden, in 2008, we really seem to have come to "grief on a reef," so to speak. So what went on?

Well, let's go back to an interesting article in the New York Times, not exactly a conservative oracle. It was September 11—not in 2001, but September 11 in 2003—the New York Times reported this, that there is a new agency proposed to oversee Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae. Well, why would there be a new agency to oversee Freddie and Fannie? Well, Freddie and Fannie were these quasi-governmental agencies, and their job was to help provide Americans with affordable loans so Americans could buy houses.

So here we have in this article, it says: The Bush administration today recommended the most significant regulatory overhaul in the housing finance industry since the savings and loan crisis a decade ago.

Oh, my goodness. So President Bush is saying we need to overhaul Freddie and Fannie. They were quasi-private, quasi-public. Why would he want to overhaul? Well, they just had misplaced a few hundreds of millions of dollars and gave people a lot of concern that maybe Freddie and Fannie were not in good shape economically. Well, then the question becomes, if they're not in good shape, what would that mean? Well, that would mean, guess what? The American taxpayer may be asked to bail out Freddie and Fannie. So the President is saying, Hey, I need some more authority to make sure that Freddie and Fannie don't do some dumb things that cost us a whole lot of money. So that's what the President is saying in this article. Again, this is 2003.

Following that, we read further in the article, and we have another interesting situation here where we have the gentleman now who is in charge of trying to fix these Wall Street institutions, that is, our current Congressman BARNEY FRANK. And this was his statement in the same article in 2003: These two entities, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, are not facing any kind of financial crisis. The more people exaggerate these problems, the more pressure there is on these companies, the less we will see in terms of affordable housing.

So this is something we have a clear party line difference. The President is saying Freddie and Fannie are not managing things properly, they were a risk to our economy, and you have a Democrat, who is now the ranking guy on this committee, that's saying, no, they're fine, Freddie and Fannie are just fine.

Well, of course, hindsight is always 20/20. It was obvious that what was said here by Congressman FRANK was completely wrong. Freddie and Fannie were in trouble. They did mismanage things, and they have now been taken over by the Federal Government, more or less. And guess who has to pick up the tab? You guessed it. The American taxpayer.

Now, how did this whole situation develop and what happened? Well, part of what happened was people came to the conclusion some number of years ago that it would be nice if people could get loans to buy houses. And what happens for the people who don't have very good credit ratings? How about the people who are a bad security risk? What are we going to do with them? Well, we're going to say, You can get a loan, too. That's what he's saying in terms of affordable housing.

So somehow, in the name of compassion, we came up with this idea that the government was going to allow people to get loans and not check whether the person had a capacity to repay the loans. And at the height of the big bubble that was going up on home prices, just about anybody, regardless of their credit rating or anything else, what job they had, could go in and get a loan to buy a great big house. And it worked pretty well for a couple of years. You could go in, buy a house, and then wait a couple of years. The price of the house would double, and you would sell it and buy some other big house.

And you could pyramid your money up even though you were borrowing money and you didn't have any way to pay it back, because these loans were so good you wouldn't have to pay anything for a number of years at all. You could get a loan that would say you don't have to pay anything for a couple of years at least. So you could buy something. It would appreciate. You could sell it, and then move on and do that. And so people were starting to do that with houses. The trouble was, of course, that the bubble burst, and all of the house of cards came tumbling down.

Now, we understand what caused the problem originally was the concept that the government requires the banks to make loans to people who can't afford to pay. That's a bad policy, because when people can't pay, somebody's going to have to pick up the tab. And guess what happened? You guessed it once again. It was Uncle Sam passes it on to the taxpayer to pick up the tab for this failed policy.

So you want to ask, How did we end up with this 10 percent unemployment? How did we end up with a very weak economy? How did we get into this trouble? The trouble was caused, about 90 percent, by the U.S. Government. It was caused by people who meet in this Chamber and various administrations.

At the end of the Clinton administration, the Clintons decided that what they were going to do was to increase the percentage of those bad loans that banks had to approve. What did the banks do with them? They passed them on to Freddie and Fannie. What happened to Freddie and Fannie? Well, Wall Street sliced and diced the loans up and sold them all over the world, and Freddie and Fannie then get into a big problem.

Now, what was the political organization that forced all of these loans to be

made to people who couldn't afford to pay it? You guessed it. It was ACORN. ACORN was involved in a lot of voter fraud, but it also was involved in forcing banks locally to take loans that they shouldn't have taken. So this is a piece of what happened.

The other piece was the policy of the Federal Reserve. Because of the recession that we came into in 2001 when I was first elected, the Federal Reserve decided to increase liquidity. But particularly what was happening, Greenspan decided to reduce the interest rate. Now, this idea of increasing liquidity is the equivalent of the crack cocaine of economics. What it is is it's a government—in the old-fashioned world, you would say the government is running the printing presses.

Well, that's what we did. We ran the printing presses, but we also reduced the cost of money to very low, to about zero percent, and held it there for some period of time. By dumping lots and lots of dollars into the economic system, people that had the dollars go, Hey, I'm getting these dollars for a very, very low interest rate. What can I invest in? Hey, why not invest in the housing business, because housing prices are going up like a rocket. I can borrow money at a couple percent, or even less, and I can double my money, almost, in the housing business in a couple, 3, 4 years. So why not do it?

Well, everybody did for a while until this very low interest rate, the high level of liquidity, and boom, you get another bubble. It's like the high-tech bubble, because we're using liquidity to try and pull ourselves out of problems. We'll come back to that in a little while.

So what was it that really caused the economic crisis? Well, first of all, it was lousy policy set right here in Congress about making loans to people who couldn't afford to pay them and then not holding Freddie and Fannie accountable for what they're doing. And by doing that, we ended up with the beginning of the recession.

Now, following that, we start to go into recession. The idea then was, just in Bush's last year or so and when I was here, we had Paulson come to us and say, Hey, look, everything's in trouble. You guys have got two choices: Either the entire world economic system is going to melt down—I mean, the Earth is going to crack. Hailstones are going to come from heaven. I mean, it's going to be terrible, and there's going to be riots in the streets because the dollar bill won't work anymore and the banking system will collapse—or your other alternative is, give me \$700 billion in unmarked bills in a brown paper bag. Those are your two choices, Congress, and we're going to the public and letting everybody know. And if you do the right thing, hopefully there will not be this terrible calamity.

And so Congress was supposed to give \$700 billion to Hank Paulson. Well, did he really need that? No, he didn't need

it. In fact, it was part of the same mistake that we make frequently here, and that is that every time there's a problem economically, the government has to jump in and fix it, bailout fever. And this was, of course, the beginning of the big Wall Street bailout.

Unfortunately, some Republicans supported that idea, along with most of the Democrats, and we took \$700 billion away from the American taxpayer to buy these supposedly troubled assets that had been created by Wall Street. Well, it's pretty hard to buy something when there isn't a market in it, so we took \$700 billion out of the market—about \$350 supposedly spent during Bush's last year, another \$350 in Obama's first year—and that was the beginning of our big spending. And again, it's based on this concept that the government should jump in and fix everything and that the government is going to be able to fix the U.S. economy. That turns out to be a troubling assumption, and it continued to get us in trouble over the last year or two, which has then made the economic situation even worse.

The next thing that happened was, after we did this Wall Street bailout, we decided that what we had to do next was a stimulus package. The proposal was that we're going to do this stimulus. Now, the whole concept of stimulus is pretty much like the idea of, if you had a pair of boots on, what you're going to do is to reach down, grab your bootstraps and lift hard, and if you lift hard enough, you can float around the room. And this is the concept in economics that was known as Keynesianism. It was the idea that if the Federal Government just spends a whole lot of money, it will make the economy better when you have a tough economy.

If you think about that from a commonsense point of view, picture you're trying to run your family and you realize, hey, there's really some economic problems our family is having, so the solution is go out and just spend money like mad. Now, would you think that would be a very smart idea? Well, most commonsense people—certainly people from my State, the State of Missouri, would say that's not very smart just to go out and spend a whole lot of money. Has that idea been tried before? Well, yes, it has. It was tried by Henry Morgenthau back when Little Lord Keynes was first proposing this theory. It's a lovely theory if you're in government, because the theory says you can just spend lots and lots of money that's not your money.

People in politics think that's nice because people like it when I spend lots of government money. The problem is that Henry Morgenthau, who was Secretary of the Treasury under FDR, managed to use this policy to take a recession and turn it into the Great Depression. And so he came, at the end of 8 years, before the House Ways and Means Committee here, and Henry Morgenthau says that we have tried

this theory of spending money. We've spent and spent and spent, and we have not seen any change in unemployment. We have terrible unemployment and a huge debt and deficit to boot. So this is the guy right alongside with Little Lord Keynes that said this didn't work. We tried it for 8 years, and it just created the Great Depression in America.

We should learn something from history, but, no, we decide what we're going to do is we're going to come up with the "stimulus bill," another 700-and-something billion dollars, \$787 billion. And here we have our new President here. He says, like any cash-strapped family, we will work within a budget to invest what we need and sacrifice what we don't. The things on this side of the chart sound pretty good. If I heard somebody say that that was my President, I would say, Hah, this is a pretty good idea.

This is what the President said at the beginning of the year.

□ 1645

The only trouble is there is this huge gap between what is said and what is done. So what we do, we start with: Is it any real serious budget reform? No, it is not really budget reform at all.

In fact, what has happened in terms of the Federal spending? Have we learned anything after the stimulus bill? What should we have learned from the stimulus bill? Well, we were told that if you do not pass the stimulus bill, if you don't pass it, here is what is going to happen, so you better look out. If you don't pass the stimulus bill, that is what is going to happen to unemployment, this line here. But if you pass a stimulus bill, here is what is going to happen, it will keep this unemployment down. So we were told that if you don't pass the stimulus bill, unemployment could go as high as 8 percent. And if you pass it, it will bring it on down.

Well, that was all based on this silly idea that if you spent lots and lots of money, everything would be okay. This really wasn't even a good FDR stimulus bill because if he had been doing it, it would have had a lot of concrete in it. It would have been hydroelectric plants and roads. This had much more food stamps and aid to States that overspent their budgets and things like that. So we spent \$787 billion on the stimulus bill, and here is what happened. This red line. So you think a whole lot of government spending is going to fix unemployment? Absolutely not. We have already tried it. One more time, if we didn't learn our lesson from Henry Morgenthau, we have another chance. Here we go. Same dumb idea, still doesn't work. You can try it as many times as you want. It is not going to work. So the unemployment now jumps up. In many places it is more than 10 percent. These numbers are pretty conservative. If you have been looking for a job for more than a year, you are not counted anymore in these statistics. So people without a

job for a year—maybe some have given up in despair of ever getting a job—they are not even counted in these numbers. So this idea of a whole lot of government spending didn't work, and so we have unemployment.

I am joined by a good friend of mine, Dr. PRICE, who is really on top of some of these things. I would ask if he would like to join in the conversation a little bit here this afternoon.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I thank the gentleman for his leadership on this and all issues, and especially for highlighting the challenges Americans face all across this land.

But pointing out, as this chart so aptly does, that the "solution" which has been put in place by this administration has, I would argue and I know you would, has in fact made things worse. So here we are with the Nation being promised a little over a year ago that if we spent hundreds of billions of dollars in an effort to try to get the Nation back moving from an economic standpoint, that we wouldn't see an unemployment rate of 8 percent.

Mr. AKIN. Right. If we didn't pass it, 8 percent.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. That was going to be the high point. And here we are at 9.7 percent, and it has been higher than that. And the take-home message on that is what they are doing doesn't work.

I told a fellow the other day, I said, They are thinking about doing a new stimulus bill, a new jobs bill. You know, they tried millions and then they tried billions, and I guess we are going to move to gazillions next.

Mr. AKIN. Don't forget the trillions. We are working on trillions right now.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. And as you well know, it is money we don't have. It is money that we don't have, and that is the troubling thing for the American people all across this land because they know the policies that have been put in place not only haven't worked, they have been destructive to job creation, which is what is frustrating to those of us on our side of the aisle who know that fundamental American principles, if you follow them, actually can allow you to create jobs.

So what does that mean? It means spending less. You've got a great chart right there, and people rail on the amount of spending that was done at the end of the last administration, and we did as well. But if you might share with folks the numbers that have happened since Speaker PELOSI and her crowd have taken over.

Mr. AKIN. Right. You know, I appreciate your bringing that up because one of the things that Americans intuitively understand, they are not really buying this idea that by spending tons of money the Federal Government is going to make everything better. Maybe some ivory-tower people, but most people on the street know that doesn't make any sense.

They also know we as Republicans did the wrong thing; we spent too much

money. And the worst year in terms of spending too much money was Bush's last year in office and our deficit was \$459 billion. That is this box here. The reason it is red is because this is when the Pelosi Congress took over, so it was George Bush with the Pelosi Congress. And of all of the years that President Bush had spent too much money, this was his worst year right here. We follow that up with 2009 and this \$459 billion jumps to \$1.4 trillion. Now when you really think about it, that is really a tripling of the amount of deficit.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. It really is astounding. And the picture—they say a picture is worth a thousand words. That picture is worth over a trillion words, and that is because that is money we don't have. It is money that puts greater deficits and debt on the backs of our kids and our grandkids. It is mortgaging the future.

Right now we are seeing the consequences of reckless and irresponsible spending at a national level in another nation—Greece. And if you look at the trajectory, the spending path we are on, and the debt and the deficit path we are on, we are not far behind the incredible irresponsibility that is now being addressed in the nation of Greece.

Well, the American people know that is wrong. They know they can't go to the garage and print money, and that is what the Federal Government does. That is what the Obama administration has done. Those red columns there, those red lines there, demonstrate clearly that the deficits and the debt that are being run up by the Obama administration and Speaker PELOSI and the majority party right now are unparalleled in our history.

Mr. AKIN. It seems like people think politics is complicated, and all this economic stuff is complicated. It doesn't have to be nearly as complicated as people think it is. For instance, take a look between the parties. The Democrats, their basic idea of a solution to a problem is that the government has to get bigger and spend more money. That's the way they always look at it. They think that the solution is the government, and we think that the problem is the government. This thing here is an indication that with a completely Democrat House and Senate and President, this is what happens. We triple this amount of deficit to the point now when the Federal Government spends \$1 today, 41 cents of that \$1 is borrowed.

Aside from this just insane level of spending money that we don't have, which is basically taxing our grandchildren—I have some grandchildren, I've gotten old enough, and I don't like the idea of taxing them any more than paying taxes myself.

My background is engineering and the manufacturing business. You know, this idea about unemployment is not that complicated. It is really very basic. Anybody who has tried to run a

little lemonade stand knows more or less how businesses work. What I have done, I have created a list that if you want to kill jobs, if you want to declare war on business in America, these are the things that you want to do to create unemployment. And the tragedy is we are doing all of the things that are well calculated to create unemployment.

Now, I guess the good news is that the jobs that would have been created here by American businesses and American ingenuity are simply going to be done in plants that are overseas, and so those jobs go to other countries. We will still use our intelligence. In my own city of St. Louis, we have a guy who is the president of Emerson Electric, it is a big company, and it has all kinds of divisions and it has all kinds of technology. They create tons of jobs. The president of Emerson says, Look, when you do all of these things to us, you are forcing us. We will still grow. Our stock will do well. We will create jobs, it just won't be jobs in the U.S., they will be somewhere else. So what do you do? If you think about this, it is not very complicated.

The first thing is, if you have a tremendous amount of uncertainty, you don't know what nutty thing the government is going to do next; if you're a businessman, you're going to say, I think I'm going to hunker down. I'm not going to make any big decisions because I'm not sure whether the last couple of dollars I have in reserve I am going to need for some other hare-brained idea that these guys in Washington come up with.

So if there is economic uncertainty of any kind, that is going to tend to undermine job creation. And then if there is a slowdown, that is what we have been seeing, that doesn't help because you don't have the orders coming in. And here is the big one, excessive taxation, because what President Obama has promised is that he is going to tax those people in the \$250,000 bracket. Well, I'm glad he is going to do that because I don't make that much money, so I don't need to worry, right. Oh, no, I do need to worry. I need to worry because the people who are making \$250,000, a lot of those are the guys owning these small businesses that make all of the jobs. And the guy who is making \$250,000, you say, I don't feel sorry for him. But you better, and here is why: because that guy is going to put that money back into his business to put a new wing on a building, put a new machine tool there, or develop a new process. Which is going to hire more people. So if you kill him, if you take all of his money away through excessive taxation, he won't invest in his business.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. You mentioned how our good friends on the other side of the aisle look to government as the solution to everything, and they do. They believe that Washington and government has a better answer. We sometimes get criticized for

saying government can't do anything. There are some things that government ought to be doing, but they ought not be owning banks, they ought not be owning automobile companies, they ought not be running our health care system, they ought not be deciding whether or not there is any risk at all in the market.

Our friends on the other side of the aisle believe that the government ought to control all of those things. And when they control all of those things, what happens is that you decrease all of the ingenuity and entrepreneurship and genius of the American people.

So what I like to say is, when you have big government, you have small citizens. When you have small government, you have big citizens. And we believe in big citizens as opposed to big government.

Checks and balances are what is necessary. You wouldn't have these kinds of crazy things going on up here in Washington if there were checks and balances here in the Federal Government. And the people across this land know that. They know that runaway government on either side, frankly, is not what they desire. So they look to Washington and say, My goodness, what the heck are they doing? We have to put some checks and balances in place.

Mr. AKIN. The President says here that families across the country are tightening their belts and making tough decisions, the Federal Government should do the same. Yes, we should do the same, but what are we doing? Let's take a look at the policies: Wall Street bailout, \$700 billion; stimulus package, another \$700 billion; then in this House we passed that goofy cap-and-tax bill which is going to put the government in charge of trying to reduce CO₂ in the country by making the Federal Government in charge of all of the building codes for houses. You can't even add an addition to your house without making sure that it is safe from a global warming point of view. And there goes another number of billions of dollars in taxes. And then, of course, socialized medicine that we just got done with, which is absolutely the biggest government takeover. It is one-sixth of the U.S. economy. The government can't run Medicare and Medicaid and keep them in the black, so what are we going to do, take over all of health care?

The families are tightening their belts, so what is the Federal Government going to do? They are just absolutely going to go on another spending spree. So what does that do? Excessive taxation. What's that do? It kills jobs. What does that do? It takes away freedom because it makes you little and Big Government big.

Here is a question for you. Thinking back about what phenomenon in all of human history should human beings be most concerned about, should it be the problem of war or should it be the

problem of Big Government? It is an interesting question. Why do we have this faith, why do the Democrats have this faith in Big Government? Is there anything historical to suggest that they are a solution or is it more to suggest that they are a problem.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. In the area of health care, which I know a little about, having practiced medicine for over 20 years, what we have seen is the intrusion of the Federal Government into the practice of medicine, into health care, is only destructive to all of the principles that we hold dear for health care.

So whether it is affordability, or accessibility, or quality, or the responsiveness of a system, or innovation, or choices, all of those kinds of things that we as Americans hold dear in health care, they all get destroyed with the Federal Government. You know that. That is what results in that kind of economic uncertainty for the businesses of health care.

I can't tell you how many letters I have received that have told me, from my colleagues, my former medical colleagues who, since the bill has been passed and signed into law—these are people in the prime of their career, those who are taking care of literally thousands of patients across this land—who have said, Look, with the oppression of the Federal Government at this point, I'm going to do one of three things. Either I am going to close my practice, I'm leaving, and that challenges the accessibility problem. Or I am going to limit the number of patients I see that have some type of government health care because of the intrusion. In fact, virtually all of us will have government health care when this crowd gets done with their plan. Or third, and something that you've touched on, which is the alternative for business-minded individuals in an economy like this where the politicians are picking the winners and losers: They are heading elsewhere. They are going offshore.

Mr. AKIN. A little island in the Caribbean, come on down. A big hospital and a landing strip.

□ 1700

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. There are actually hospitals being built in the Caribbean right now.

Mr. AKIN. In expectation of this thing. So what you are saying is really not very outlandish, from a common-sense point of view. It is not like you are speculating and saying this thing is not going to work.

We have seen European socialized medicine. We have next door the Canadian socialized medicine model. And I think it was about 10 years ago the head of Canada, their prime minister said, We have got the best health care system in the world, as long as you are healthy. It was that little "as long as you are healthy" piece that is the problem. If you are not healthy, you go down to America to get it taken care

of. So we have seen it not work in Europe.

I am a cancer survivor. I see what the cancer rate statistics are in England. I don't want to be a cancer guy in England. I wouldn't want to be a cancer guy here. So you see it hasn't worked in England, it hasn't worked in Canada, as well as our system currently works.

Then, of course, we saw Massachusetts and Tennessee take bold forays into this socialized medicine field, and they got hammered by it. So what do we do? We do the same dumb thing.

I was going to jump to something even more basic, though, if you think about it, and this was a statistic that kind of surprised me—some of them are in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—and that was the number of people that were killed by their own governments.

If you take a look, you know, at the good old communists. You look at Stalin, he basically had murdered about 40 million people. Now, he was pretty good at murdering people, but not nearly as good as Chairman Mao in China, who has credit for killing about 60 million Chinese.

Now, this is government-on-citizen crime. This was not a war. In fact, if you add just the people killed in various communist countries that killed their own population, the governments killing their own population, you have more people killed by just communism alone than all the wars in history since the time of Christ.

So the question is, is it really rational for human beings to put so much trust in government? That is not talking about Nazis or the other types of dictators that killed lots of their own citizens.

So why do we have this great faith in government, when we see it doesn't work for health care, yet we have the government in charge of that? We are putting government in charge of student loans and in charge of insurance for flooding, and we have got the Federal Government in charge of housing and in charge of education. We have got the Federal Government in charge of car companies, insurance companies and all.

Let's see, the Soviet Union, what was their model? The government was in charge of, well, let's see, education, health care, your house, your food and your job. It didn't work for them. Why do we want to do the same thing here?

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. It is very concerning. And I think that is exactly the picture that is being painted for folks all across this land and why they have the kind of frustration and anger and angst and anxiety about the future of their country. It is why they are saying, look, to Washington, are you not listening to us? Can you not hear us?

They know. They know that the government ought not to be owning banks. They know that the government ought not to be owning automobile companies. They know that the government ought not to be running health care.

And they know that not because it is just not right; they know it because it doesn't result in the highest quality of opportunities and choices and dreams realized for individuals.

Remember, big government, small citizen. Big government, small patient. Big government, small consumer. You've got small government, you've got big patients, you've got big citizens, you've got big consumers, and more dreams realized.

Mr. AKIN. And that is really what you are saying, is basically you are losing your freedom; a little bit here, a little bit here. You are losing your freedom, and pretty soon you feel frustrated, you feel angry, because you have some common sense, and you know what it takes to make jobs, and we are doing all the wrong things.

But there are so many people on the street, and they are looking to you, they are looking to me, to try to help turn this thing around and get jobs going. And, of course, we don't have enough votes to turn these policies around.

Another one of these things that is really tough on jobs is insufficient liquidity. What that means is that a business needs to be able to borrow money. But the banking regulators are so tight now that a lot of businessmen can't get the loans they need to make their business go.

Of course, excessive government spending, we have been talking about that, and excessive government mandates and red tapes. Boy, talk about that. And this health care bill, of course, is leading the charge and damaged all these areas. And the end result is what? Well, unemployment. Not a big surprise, particularly, because we are doing everything wrong.

And yet here is an interesting question. Apparently what is happening is Wall Street seems to be doing a lot better. Is it because we have turned these bad policies around and are doing the right thing in D.C.? No. We are still doing everything wrong, and yet Wall Street seems to be doing better. Well, what is the logic of that?

Well, you know, to some degree it goes back to that same problem that got us into this housing bubble, and that is the crack cocaine of the government Federal system. That is, they can create unlimited liquidity.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. And unlimited amounts of money is what that means.

Mr. AKIN. Unlimited amounts of money and very low interest rates. So you have got lots of money with very low interest rates, and it comes down and starts to create these bubbles. So we really haven't fixed the job problem.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. You are absolutely right. I think that is so important because when people look to the items that need to be fixed from a financial standpoint, they look and they see that Washington has had its hand in some things that have been very destructive.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, for example, are really at the epicenter of the challenges that we have had in the economy. And the bill that is being proposed and the bill that came through the House earlier to assist in "fixing" things, their solution doesn't address Fannie and Freddie at all, which is so frustrating because the American people know that there are positive solutions. And you with the Republican Study Committee, we have been working diligently on putting forward those positive solutions to all of the challenges that we face that embrace those fundamental American principles.

So whether it is health care, whether it is energy, whether it is the economy, whether it is jobs, all of those things have fundamental principal solutions that don't require putting the government in charge.

Mr. AKIN. You are absolutely right, and it doesn't involve the government taking everything over.

We're going to take a break and yield because I believe there is some business that needs to be taken care of.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5019, HOME STAR ENERGY RETROFIT ACT OF 2010

Ms. MATSUI, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-475) on the resolution (H. Res. 1329) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5019) to provide for the establishment of the Home Star Retrofit Rebate Program, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

WHAT GOT US INTO THIS ECONOMIC MESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Missouri may proceed.

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, we are just taking apart a little bit some of what has been happening the last couple of years, why the economy has been struggling some, and why we are having a lot of unemployment and problems. Some people have a hard time understanding why it is that we are having a hard time. This little cartoon kind of comes along the same lines.

"Now, give me one reason why you are not hiring." And you have coming into the China shop a couple of bulls. You have the health care reform and the cap-and-tax and the war on business tax. That is basically businesses getting just hammered with taxes.

Of course, the picture here is we are not doing the right things that we need to be doing to keep the economy going and to create jobs. In fact, we are creating a perfect storm. People have said we have a war going on business, and we really do. We are doing everything wrong to try to create jobs and try to get the economy going.

So, on the one hand, we are making the statement here that families across

the country are tightening their belts and making tough decisions. The Federal Government has got to do the same. What is the Federal Government doing? Oh, we are doing the Wall Street bailout, we are doing the stimulus bill, we are doing the cap-and-tax bill, we are doing the socialized medicine bill. And now we are proposing institutionalizing bailouts, so that anytime anything goes wrong, the Federal Government takes your tax dollars and goes in and picks the winners and losers and bails companies out. That is exactly the wrong message.

I am joined by a good friend of mine from the wonderful State of Pennsylvania, and I would yield to him just a moment to share along the same line.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Well, I thank my good friend from Missouri for leading this very important Special Order where we are talking about jobs.

You know, I don't want to misquote, I believe it was President Reagan—I will give him credit at this point anyway—that made the statement that the best welfare program there is is a job.

Mr. AKIN. Get him a job, yes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Give him a job. And that is what we have not been doing.

Mr. AKIN. Do you think people want to be bailed out? Do you think people want their unemployment to be extended? Would they rather be sitting being unemployed, or would they rather have a good job with really good prospects and a bright future? I think people would rather have a strong economy.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. I think so, too. I talked with a constituent of mine from Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, today, and he was calling to talk about the unemployment because he has been without a job. And as we got talking, it was very clear that what he wanted was not so much the unemployment check, but he really wants a job. We got talking about the things that go into that and why we are not seeing the job growth. We are still bleeding to death in terms of our jobs in this country.

As I go around the district and I talk with job creators, the job creators are, I think as you know, our small business owners. The large majority of work is provided through small businesses.

Mr. AKIN. The gentleman is right. I think, if I recall, if you take 500 employees or less, that is 80 percent of the jobs in America. So 500 employees or less, which 500 is kind of more of a medium size, but 500 down, that is 80 percent of U.S. employment. So policies that affect those small businesses are a big deal in terms of jobs.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. They are. And I heard you use the word "uncertainty." I guess I kind of fall back on my health care background, and when it comes to jobs in this country, my diagnosis is we have a psychological problem. We have a total lack

of confidence and a lack of trust in the Federal Government. And it is earned. It is the things you have there on your chart as job killers.

It is the individual small business people who normally every year take a portion, usually a part of their profits, and reinvest it into their companies. When they do that, they expand product lines, they expand locations, they expand service lines, and they create jobs, good jobs. Well, these people are sitting on the sideline right now because they are concerned with all the things they have seen for some time, especially these past 16 months, many of the things that you have identified there, and I heard that message again today.

I sit on the Small Business Committee, and we had a hearing with five or six witnesses that came in that represent small businesses. And we were there to talk about specifically the role of taxes in small business and what that does to really hurt small businesses.

Mr. AKIN. I would like to stop you for a minute. If I had to pick one on here, because we just had a jobs summit actually on Main Street, back in St. Charles in my district. We had to do one on Main Street because everybody talks about Main Street.

I asked a whole bunch of small business leaders—we had probably 30 or 40 of them, and we created a list of job killers, and this chart was made before that time. I asked them to give me their list and then rate them in terms of priority which is the most deadly in terms of killing jobs.

They came to exactly what you said, which is excessive taxation because when you take that tax out of the hide of the owner of the business, you really make it so that he cannot then invest in those jobs. So excessive taxation was the deal.

Of course, what we have done is we have got, what is it, the people in the upper tenth of the income bracket are paying something like, what is it, 50 percent of all of the taxes in the country or something. So we are just hammering these small business owners with taxes. Then we wonder why we don't have jobs. And you have the same experience, I gather.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Yes. This panel that we heard in the Small Business Committee just reaffirmed that chart that you have. Each of those bullets came up in the discussion today.

When you look at the taxes, tax increases have been levied in the past 16 months. Our colleagues across the aisle said, well, we are going after the wealthy. We are going to increase taxes on the wealthy. Well, at least 40 percent of the individuals who are experiencing and will be experiencing, especially next year come January 1, 2011, significant tax increases, are small business owners. They are people who are organized as limited liability corporations, S corporations. They pay

their taxes as individuals, but frankly, they make a payroll out of their income, and they create just tremendously important jobs.

Mr. AKIN. Of course, you know, that is really kind of a thing. Maybe people feel safe to say, hey, we are just going to tax all those rich guys; don't you worry about all the policies we have got.

Well, you know, when you do that Wall Street bailout where the government is going to pick winners and losers, then you do the big stimulus thing, where you are taking taxpayer money and giving it to States that don't manage their State properly, and you are increasing the number of food stamps and all these other kinds of things that if you want to believe in big government they think they need to do, and then you are going to do this cap-and-tax thing, so everybody's energy cost is going to go up.

Now, the President said, I guarantee you, I am not going to raise taxes on people making less than \$250,000, and yet in this Chamber we pass a tax that as soon as you flip a light switch you are going to start paying more taxes.

□ 1715

Now, that's not people making \$250,000, that's an average guy that wants to turn his lights on. So you say, well, shoot, we're going to tax the rich guys. The trouble is those rich guys are the ones that are hiring you and your kids.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. If the gentleman will yield, in terms of the cap-and-trade, cap-and-tax, or the light switch tax, I guess, in Pennsylvania the Public Utility Commission sent a letter to the Pennsylvania delegation adamantly opposing cap-and-trade because they did their analysis of that bill, and electricity costs in Pennsylvania would rise by 30 percent.

Now, that 30 percent tax, that increase will not discriminate. It will hit the most wealthy of Pennsylvania citizens, but just as much, and I think more severely even, it's going to address those who are just living paycheck to paycheck today. And even people that aren't getting by financially, to see a 30 percent increase in the cost of electricity, that's immoral to me.

Mr. AKIN. The thing that's amazing about that to me, I am an engineer by training, and let's assume that all of this global warming supposedly science were all true, which we now know, particularly since East Anglia and the scandal there that all of these guys were doctoring the numbers and everything, but let's just assume for sake of argument that CO₂ is really a bad gas and aside from the fact that all of us have to stop breathing because we breathe out carbon dioxide.

Aside from that, let's just assume that that's true. If you really wanted to get rid of CO₂ in America, regardless of what other nations in the world are doing, you think this is our moral obli-

gation to get rid of CO₂, we could get rid of all the CO₂ produced by all the passenger cars in America, the equivalent of that amount of CO₂, by simply taking the electric generation that's done in our country that's done with coal-fired plants, we currently have 20 percent of electricity in America is made by nuclear, if we were to go from 20 to 40 percent nuclear, we would get rid of all the CO₂ produced by every passenger car in America.

So if you are a Democrat and you really think CO₂ is so bad, why not come out here with a couple of page bill saying we're just going to gradually phase in nuclear plants in place of these coal-fired plants, and we would get rid of all the CO₂ produced by every passenger car in America. No, that's not what comes out. We come out with this thousand-page bill, 300 pages, passed at 3 o'clock in the morning. People don't know what's in it. There isn't even a copy of the bill on the floor. And we vote for this piece of trash, which fortunately the Senate wasn't dumb enough to have passed. And anybody who flips a light switch would have been taxed. Your State would have gotten a 30 percent increase in electric.

Now, what does that do to jobs?

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. That kills jobs.

Mr. AKIN. It just kills jobs. So this excessive taxation, combined with things like amount of government mandates and red tape, this starts to gang up. And one thing on top of the next on top of the next, and you get unemployment.

Go ahead. I didn't mean to interrupt. We're talking about a light switch tax. You were in the business that's getting the wheelchair tax. It's interesting to see what people want to tax. Now we are going to want to tax wheelchairs. That's with that socialized medicine bill.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. The medical device tax that is being levied on medical devices has such a wide range. And people don't understand what medical devices are. We are a country that has just benefited tremendously from innovation in terms of medical devices and medical advancements. Our health care system as we currently have it, now see what happens to it under ObamaCare, but as it currently has it, this is a country that develops innovations, life-saving techniques, diagnostic procedures, pharmaceuticals.

With medical devices, it is not just wheelchairs. It's everything from bed pans to prosthetic arms. It's insulin pumps. Medical devices is a term that really has many, many different applications. And those devices really go towards maintaining quality of life, maintaining maximal independence for people. Most taxes I would put as immoral, but you start putting a tax on electricity for everybody, and you put a tax on medical devices, it's hard to imagine anything that's going to be more immoral than that.

At the panel today with the small businesses, I asked a specific question about where are we in terms, what's the impact, given that even before these taxes we have got a tax out there in terms of corporate income tax, second highest in the world. And what does that do to our small businesses, that alone? How are they supposed to compete? Especially, you know, those businesses that are formed as corporations. And there are many of them that have to pay that.

I see my good friend has a great chart there that addresses the economic freedom index. The response was that where we have the potential for trade, it really puts us at a tremendous disadvantage where we have got this tax burden. That's just one more thing that keeps businesses from growing, jobs from being created, and for economic prosperity.

Mr. AKIN. I think maybe we could get too negative here, because there are solutions to these problems. This stuff is not new. Other Presidents and other people in different decades have dealt with these problems. There is a solution to getting the economy up and going. And the funny thing is it's sad, but the Democrats haven't learned from JFK. JFK had the formula right. He reduced taxes. As he reduced taxes, what that meant was the private sector started to grow. It created jobs. And guess what happened? The government actually got more revenue by reducing taxes, which seems a little bit odd.

But by getting the taxes off the backs of the American public, the businesses prospered when they did. The taxes that were there brought in more revenue to the government than if they hadn't done that. So by cutting taxes, JFK understood that you could get the economy going. Ronald Reagan did the same thing. George Bush II did the same thing. By cutting taxes, you allow private citizens to invest their money. When they do that, it gets the economy going.

The government doesn't get the economy going. All the government can do is to create an environment that helps. So it's not like these problems, it's not like there's no answer and doom and gloom. There are clear-cut answers. That's what's so terribly frustrating when you see our government at war with business and the President saying, oh, we've got to be sensitive to jobs and this and that, and every single policy proposed is destructive to job creation and the economy.

Now, here is the funny thing. Here are the regulations. This is overall economic freedom index. You see America in 2001, here it's sixth. It's already down to eighth. If you take a look at corporate taxes, we are the second highest corporate taxes of any country in the world, behind only Japan. And so our policies are not set to help us with these problems. We are doing all the wrong things.

And yet the economy could rebound. Why would it rebound? Well, it would

be a little bit like this. I want you to picture, you've got a weak heart. You've had a four-way heart bypass. You also have diabetes. You also have several other medical maladies. So you're not feeling too super strong. And all of a sudden somebody gives you some crack cocaine, and you feel like you're Superman and you're doing great. Well, that's what's just happened to the U.S. economy.

We're doing everything wrong from a point of view of policy. We're doing everything to kill jobs. But we are doing one thing that's going to make people think everything is okay. And that is the Federal Reserve has increased a tremendous amount of liquidity with a very low interest rate. And that trumps all of the bad policy decisions we have been making. And so you see Wall Street starting to pick up and stock prices starting to go up and all. Why is that happening? It's happening because we have allowed the Fed to create all this liquidity and basically put our economy on steroids. And that's not going to work for very long, and it's not going to fix that unemployment problem. And before long, we are going to jump from unemployment to an incredible level of inflation.

Again, this stuff isn't so rocket science. We know what's the right thing to do, but we are unwilling to do it. We are unwilling to get off the big spending kick. That's what really has to change.

I yield to my friend.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. I share your concern. In fact, I guess the artificially induced high from the crack cocaine description that you used, I think that's going to describe 2010. I think that because we have infused a tremendous amount of taxpayer money, and I think in a very careless and reckless way into the economy, that's going to help mask the symptoms of the problems that we have in terms of jobs for 2010. And we may all feel better in 2010.

Here is my concern. I think with the amount of deficit spending that we have done that come January 1, 2011, this country falls off a cliff financially. The tax increases that will be implemented, the ramping up of an Environmental Protection Agency that has been tripled in size. We have already seen abusive behavior on their part in terms of them trying to legislate through their authority as an agency, redefining what a hazardous gas is, superseding all of their normal procedures they use in terms of scientific process to decide that carbon dioxide is a hazardous gas. All those things, I am very concerned with where that takes us in 2011.

I think deficit spending, things never work out well when you do that type of borrowing, that type of debt, especially when we are indebted principally to other countries with much of that debt.

Mr. AKIN. You are absolutely right. 2010 should be a little better year be-

cause of a weird thing. And that is the Bush cuts in capital gains expire next year. So if you have any capital gains in something, there is a huge incentive this year to sell whatever it is and get your capital gains tax paid this year at 20 percent because in 2011 it's going to jump to 35 percent. Because you know the Democrats are not going to allow that tax cut to stay. And so you are creating an artificial opportunity for 2010 to look better, when we are going to get hammered in 2011 because everybody's going to sell everything that they have capital gains on that they're going to take that tax hit on.

But here is what's really going on. If you take a look, these are the receipts. This is the money coming into the Federal Government. That's this blue dot. And this pink and red dot is how much we are spending. You take a look at the size of the two, and you are going uh-oh, something's wrong here. And that's why I said that when we spend a dollar, the dollar we spend of Federal money, 41 cents is borrowed.

You take a look over here at our outlays, what's going on? Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. Those are the three big entitlements. They are now bigger than all the rest of the spending. I am on the Armed Services Committee. Guess what I am seeing. We are gutting defense. Why? Because we don't have enough money here and we have too much over here.

Now obviously the Democrats are not that worried about balancing the budget. They are spending a ton on all kinds of entitlements and bailouts and all that kind of stuff. But sooner or later with this amount of entitlement, this amount of defense, we are going to pick up the other problem, which is we are not going to be able to defend ourselves. And you are seeing severe cuts in defense spending now, particularly missile defense and our offensive weapons, which have always been the thing that have kept Americans safe.

All of these problems don't stay tightly inside a box. One thing spills over into the other. But these huge outlays of big government have got to be brought under control for our Nation to survive. And just another infusion of running the printing presses and dropping the interest rate, that crack cocaine works for a little while, but it comes back with a whale of a hangover.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. It's deadly in the end.

Mr. AKIN. The trouble is that it's people in your and my district that are going to get hung with the cost of this deal. They are the ones that are struggling to make ends meet. They are the ones whose families are having a hard time. They are the ones that are getting taxed out of house and home. And they are the ones that are saying, I don't trust what Washington, D.C. is doing. I don't trust what Wall Street is doing. I don't know what to do with the last of my savings that just shrunk out from underneath me because of all of these policies.

We have to get back to some sanity and do the basic things that work. We have got to stop taxing the people who run the businesses. We have to get liquidity to business owners so that they have money to invest. What we have to do is to stop all the red tape. We have to basically change the banking rules so that there is some liquidity that way. And particularly, we have got to get off of the big spending. We just can't keep running this kind of deficit. This is just something that will not work mechanically. And so we are going to have to make some tough decisions. What we are going to have to do is let free enterprise work again, because that's the thing that pulls us out of this mess is good old American freedom, just allowing the U.S. citizens to be unfettered, have a chance to keep some of what they make, invest in their businesses, invest in Americans, and stop this whole sort of covetousness idea that any time somebody makes any money, the government's got to take it away from them.

□ 1730

If we want jobs, if we want a strong economy, and if we want money for the government to be able to spend to pay the government's bills, we are going to have to allow freedom to flourish in America instead of trying to stomp it out, which is what we are doing. We are following the failed model of the Soviet Union, and we are stomping out freedom.

Thank you, gentleman. I really appreciate Pennsylvania for sending GT down. It is a treat to serve with you.

Thank you all.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Homeland Security:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 5, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Office of the Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: I respectfully wish to resign from the Committee on Homeland Security. I have been honored to serve on the Committee and have found my experience to be extremely rewarding.

Sincerely,

BEN RAY LUJÁN,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

THE REFORM OF WALL STREET

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, thank you so very much.

What we intended to talk about was the Wall Street meltdown and the necessity of the reform of Wall Street. However, having listened to our colleagues on the Republican side carry on for the last hour, there are some things that need to be said about their discussion.

HEALTH CARE

First of all, they started off with this issue of health care, with the government takeover of health care. That is absolutely not true. We have passed major health care reform, and it is not a government takeover. In fact, it builds on the present American system. There is some government—some very, very good government programs.

You tell me what senior in America wants to have Medicare done away with. None of whom I know. There is always room for improvement. In every program, there will be problems from time to time, but no senior of whom I am aware anywhere in America wants to do away with that government program.

What this bill really does is to help organize the American health care system so that it will be more effective and efficient and so that it will build on the private insurance system, which is much a part of America.

I know this business because I was the insurance commissioner in California for 8 years, and I regulated the insurance company. In this legislation, there is heavy-duty regulation of the insurance industry because there was a lot of talk—a lot of talk from our Republican colleagues—about a death panel. I'll tell you what the "death panel" is. It is the private insurance company that has heretofore denied coverage for people who have been seriously ill. When people would have illnesses, they would just dump them from the rolls. They would not insure people who had preexisting conditions.

I will tell my Republican colleagues and the American people that those days of insurance excesses and that those days of insurance discrimination are over. They are over. For men and women who are working their 8-, 10- and 12-hour shifts every day, they will be able to have their own doctors. That is what this reform does. It is not a government takeover. In fact, it builds upon the American system, which is unique here, and that is a fact.

TAXATION

They also talked about taxation. Well, let's understand that more than 80 percent of the Bush tax cuts went to the top 10 percent of wealthy people in America. They got the tax break, and the other Americans got the shaft. That is not the way we see tax cuts on our side. In fact, my colleague from Minnesota, who will join me in just a moment, was there to vote for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. That is the largest middle class tax cut in America's history.

The issue here is that Democrats will cut taxes for the working men and women—for middle class America. As

for the wealthy, that's where the Republicans are. They will cut the taxes of the wealthy every single time.

If you listened carefully to the previous discussion from our Republican colleagues, they said it very clearly. They were talking about taxes for those who have limited liability companies. You tell me. Do small businesses out there in my community—the painting contractors, the plumbing contractors—have limited liability companies? No. No. They are sole proprietors. Their taxes were cut by Democrats, and Republicans cut the taxes for Wall Street.

My good colleague from Minnesota (Mr. ELLISON), you had some thoughts about this as you were sitting there, listening to them talk about the things that are going on. Please share with us your thoughts.

THE REFORM OF WALL STREET

Mr. ELLISON. I thank the gentleman for yielding. I also thank the gentleman for holding down this Special Order tonight. It is very important to talk about the American economy, so let me dive right in, as there are a few facts the American people may want to consider.

Barack Obama took office on January 20. George Bush was the President that whole month. There were 741,000 jobs lost to the American economy. There were 741,000 jobs lost under the Republicans when they had the Presidency, even back when they had majorities in both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

I think this board is very revealing. On the vertical axis, it demonstrates Time, which is months during the year—'07 all the way to March 2010. On this vertical axis are Job Changes.

Here we see, in January 2008, Bush begins to lose jobs, and they very clearly go down to hit the very bottom when we see December 2008–January 2009.

What we see during the Obama administration is a steady climb back up from the abyss. Very recently, we have even seen positive job growth for a few months.

This is an important fact to point out in the very beginning because, as we talk about who ran the economy into the ditch, it is very clear that our Republican colleagues managed that on their own and that it is the Democrats who steered the American economy back to a point of safety.

Let me also say this: When it comes to financial deregulation—and of course, tonight, we're going to be talking about the Wall Street Reform Act and about accountability. The fact is it was during the Bush administration that the climb on foreclosures began and that we saw 2.8 million people face foreclosure. In the last year, we saw foreclosures begin, and we have yet to see an antipredatory lending bill passed under any Republican regime. While the Republicans were in the majority, they did not do anything about foreclosures. They did not do anything about predatory lending. They did not

do anything about yield spread premiums. They did not do anything about 2/28 mortgages and 3/27s. This is when people were being encouraged and persuaded to sign these fine-print, no-doc, low-doc mortgages. At the end of their teaser rate periods, they would see these mortgages explode, and they would find themselves in foreclosure.

The fact is the Democrats have taken the bull by the horns, and we have begun to right our ship of state to bring the American economy back to health. We have seen increases in the gross domestic product. Under the Democrats, we have seen increases in the number of jobs and decreases in the rate of unemployment. Thank goodness, we are here on the verge, hopefully, to pass Wall Street reform in order to really put the American economy back in the shape it deserves to be in.

I yield back to the gentleman.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. ELLISON, thank you so very, very much for pointing out what was the history of the great 2008 collapse.

You saw those enormous job losses that were occurring during the Bush period and then the slow but steady improvement in the number of jobs that were lost so that now we are in a situation where we are actually seeing jobs added. We don't see the unemployment rate coming down as we would like to, but we are on the correct road, and we are making great progress on that.

I would like to ask my colleague to join us in carrying on this discussion, if you would.

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Thank you, Congressman GARAMENDI. I appreciate very much your taking the leadership tonight on this issue, which is so critically important.

There is a tremendous amount of misinformation out there about what has gone on in terms of the financial markets. I happen to sit on the Financial Services Committee, so I've seen firsthand what we have been able to do in terms of structuring a fix for what is going on on Wall Street and for what happened on Wall Street.

Yet it would be a mistake just to talk about the fix without talking about the history. Far too often, the Republicans would have us believe that all of this history began in January of 2009, which is when Barack Obama took the oath of office and when we took the oath of office. The facts are far different, and I think it is important to help voters and folks out there to better understand exactly how we got to where we are.

I remember as a State legislator, when I served in the Ohio House from 2001–2008, that these issues of predatory lending and of foreclosure came up over and over again. I pushed Governor Strickland to create a foreclosure task force in the State of Ohio, and I was proud to serve on that task force. Yet what we realized way before the task force was formed was that so many of

these problems were Federal in nature. They were Federal in scope; though, the Federal Government was doing very little to regulate Wall Street, to regulate the mortgage industry.

My colleague Mr. ELLISON mentioned predatory lending and the failure to enact predatory lending legislation. I will remind the viewers and I will remind this body, Mr. Speaker, that it was in 2000 that Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones from Ohio—God rest her soul—introduced predatory lending legislation here in the House. They could have enacted that in 2000. They could have enacted it in 2001, in 2002, in 2003, in 2004, in 2005, and in 2006. Every year, she brought forward legislation concerning predatory lending because she understood the impact this was having in neighborhoods across Ohio and across the country, but they failed to act. We knew that these things were being created on Wall Street, things like mortgage-backed securities and credit default swaps, which backed up the mortgage-backed securities, and collateralized debt obligations, which backed those up. The vast majority of the people had no idea that these things even existed much less what they were doing.

What we soon found out was that these mechanisms on Wall Street were allowing for the bubble to occur, which then led to the collapse when we found out what was actually contained in them.

For just a minute, Congressman, I'll talk about how the risk was shifted, because this is fundamental to what happened. You know, years ago, you would go to a savings and loan or you would go to a bank, and you would try to get a mortgage on your house. The risk would be shared between the financial institution and the homeowner, and they would hold onto the paper. The financial institution would hold onto that mortgage paper, and it would be part of their investment portfolio; but that is not what happened in the 2000s.

What happened in the early 2000s was that investment vehicles were created on Wall Street that no longer required that bank or that savings and loan to hold onto that paper. They sold it immediately. They sold it immediately onto a secondary market that was created. These things were then brought together in thousands of mortgages, called "mortgage-backed securities." They were then sold to international investors, to pension funds—to all kinds of entities.

In the meantime, the rating agencies were rating these things at AAA despite the fact that many of the mortgages contained in these packages were bad mortgages. Oftentimes, they were 2- or 3-year adjustable rate mortgages to subprime borrowers. "Subprime borrowers" are simply borrowers who have poor histories of paying back in the first place.

So what behavior did this incentivize? Well, at the front end, I will tell you what it incentivized.

You had mortgage brokers and financial entities going out there trying to qualify anybody they possibly could for a mortgage at the highest prices they could possibly get because they were no longer holding onto the paper. It was no longer a long-term investment of the property value of that home; it was at the close of the deal. If it's at the close of the deal, you're going to close as many deals as you possibly can. That's why they were qualifying people who should never have qualified for mortgages. That is how this bubble was created.

Now, I have heard a lot of my colleagues come down here and blame the Community Reinvestment Act over and over again. If you listen to conservative talk radio, they say the banks were forced to lend into these neighborhoods and the banks were forced to make bad loans. Now, I've never come across a bank that didn't have the power to say "no" to a loan, but they would have you believe that it was the banks that were forced to do this because of the Community Reinvestment Act. So I just want to bring a few things to the attention of the public.

□ 1745

First of all, the Community Reinvestment Act was established in 1977. So if the Community Reinvestment Act was the problem, you would think that maybe we would have seen this in the 1980s and the 1990s. But we didn't because the Community Reinvestment Act wasn't the problem.

What the Community Reinvestment Act did was it provided incentives for financial institutions to go into neighborhoods where there were depositors in those financial institutions but folks weren't qualifying for loans because they had red-listed entire areas. They weren't required to make bad loans. They were just required to go into the neighborhoods and make good loans.

And if I can just refer to Ben Bernanke in a letter November 25, 2008, who said this, and he's responding to one of our Senate colleagues:

"Thank you for your letter of October 24, 2008, requesting the Board's view on claims that the Community Reinvestment Act is to blame for the subprime meltdown and current mortgage foreclosure situation. We are aware of such claims but have not seen any empirical evidence presented to support them. Our own experience with CRA over more than 30 years and recent analysis of available data, including data on subprime loan performance, runs counter to the charge that CRA was at the root of, or otherwise contributed in any substantive way to, the current mortgage difficulties."

The fact of the matter is over 80 percent of the bad loans that went into default, that caused the foreclosure crisis, over 80 percent, were from financial entities and nonfinancial entities that didn't even participate in the Community Reinvestment Act.

Mr. GARAMENDI. You have raised a very, very important point, and it's the history of how all of this came to pass, about a mortgage industry that had run amok, that had engaged in predatory pricing and predatory mortgages and selling products, mortgages and loans, that they knew the homeowner could not possibly afford, maybe during the teaser rate period, but when that teaser rate was over in a year or two and the rate readjusted and reset, it was all over. That's the history of what was going on. It was Wall Street and its minions out there throughout the United States, the mortgage companies, that were all playing a part of this game.

It comes down to basic American values that were not honored. The basic American value. You know, you work hard, you get a wage, you can get a home. But in this case, they were selling people products and mortgages that no way could they possibly afford, and they had no skin in the game. They had no ongoing obligations. You explained it so well, Mr. DRIEHAUS, how that was going on.

It comes back to certain values. Wall Street's value was greed is good. That's not an American value. That's a unique Wall Street value. Greed is not good. Greed leads to some real serious problems. You go back through all of the writings in the Bible and other religious writings down through the millennium, and it comes down to the same thing. Greed's not good, folks. Yet Wall Street was engaged in that very un-American practice of extraordinary greed, unbridled greed that led to the creation of these bogus and unsubstantiated mortgage instruments that were—by their own admission 2 weeks ago or a week ago when Goldman Sachs testified here, the guy that created them used some extraordinary language, that these were monsters, these were things that were unintelligible, that couldn't be understood and couldn't be priced, and yet that was Wall Street. Why did they do it? They did it because they wanted the money and they played the games.

This was a chart that was used last night by Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER as she explained one of the things you talked about, Mr. DRIEHAUS, how Goldman Sachs would create a mortgage-backed security. In fact, this one didn't even have mortgages backing it. It was totally ephemeral. It was a figment of the imagination of Wall Street bankers. They created this thing.

Then down here at the bottom, these were the less risky portions of it. Each one of these are what they called tranches. They would sell it off, saying this was an A-rated. That's relatively good strength. Then down here at the very bottom, which was pure junk, they managed to get the rating houses, Standard and Poor's and other rating houses, to say, well, maybe this piece of junk is actually of some value if we go back and look not at the ability of

the homeowner to pay but rather at the FICO score. Well, they did, and they rated it as an A, and then they sold it to unsuspecting investors, and the result was, at the end of the day, junk is junk and the thing collapsed. So we had the great collapse of 2008. So what do we do about it now?

And, by the way, you mentioned the Community Reinvestment Act. I was the insurance commissioner in California for 8 years, and I watched the banks use the Community Reinvestment Act to bring bank offices and branches into the underserved communities. It ended the redlining. It's a very, very good law. If only the insurance industry had a similar law so that they would provide insurance products in those communities, but it doesn't. The Community Reinvestment Act isn't to blame here. Greed, unbridled greed is the problem.

And to our Republican friends that ranted for the previous hour about government regulation, we need it, serious government regulation of Wall Street.

Let's talk about where we go from here. Mr. DRIEHAUS.

Mr. DRIEHAUS. I think it's a good point, Congressman. There was no regulation. There was no regulation of mortgage-backed securities. There was no regulation of credit default swaps. So when folks get up and say we have enough regulation on Wall Street, well, there may be regulation, but the regulation was in the wrong place.

So if you look at the bill that came through the House when it comes to regulatory reform, we focused on some sound principles. First, the creation of a Consumer Financial Protection Agency, an independent agency that provides consumers with information, good information, about the products that they are being offered. Now, this isn't a crazy idea. You know, we often said in the State of Ohio that you were safer purchasing a toaster than you were a home loan because you had more consumer protections purchasing a toaster. And that's true. You have consumer protections when it comes to purchasing a vehicle. You have consumer protections if you purchase toys for your kids. But you don't have those same consumer protections when it comes to a home loan.

Mr. GARAMENDI. That's in the bill that you and the other members of the Financial Services Committee put together. It was voted on here on this floor in December, as I recall. I had the pleasure of being elected in November, and I was here for that vote. Very, very important.

I am going to just put this up here, and maybe the three of us together can refer to this as we go on. Right there, number one, consumer protection, watchdog with teeth.

I know, Mr. ELLISON, you were talking to me earlier about some of these things.

Mr. ELLISON. Yes. If the gentleman would yield, I want to just say that this is an excellent list and really helps

listeners to sort of zero in on some of the key features that we will elaborate on right now.

Let me just give my own take on consumer protection. There are about seven different agencies that had some responsibility for consumer protection. The Federal Reserve Bank, for one, has some responsibility. Actually, it was in 1995 that Congress passed a law that said that the Fed could regulate in the area of mortgage lending, and they didn't do so.

What this Consumer Protection Agency would do is to say, you know what? We're not going to spread the responsibility so that everybody says, well, I thought somebody else was going to do it. What we do is we concentrate it and say we hold this agency responsible for consumer protection. The Fed, as you know, is responsible for monetary policy and responsible for unemployment, keeping the economy going for employment. It also has responsibility historically for consumer protection. What we're saying is that it makes sense for an agency which will have the responsibility for rulemaking with regard to consumer protection, enforcement of consumer protection rules, and examination of companies that have a responsibility to comply, to make sure that if you are going to sell a product, a financial product, a loan, that the terms are clear, that people understand the terms, that people know what they are getting into, that there's transparency, that there is real information that a person could make a good decision on. And then also there might be some products that are just completely and patently unfair that consumers ought to be able to not have to be part of.

Let me just say there's something going on here when we do financial transactions known as information asymmetry. Let's just face it, folks. Look, I'm a 46-year-old man. I bought only one house in my life. I have been at a closing once and only once. I went to college. I even went to law school. I was a State legislator. I am no match, no match at all, for somebody who wants to sell me a mortgage that maybe I don't want. The terms and conditions are just too opaque. It's too much information. If you've ever been to housing selling, you're just signing documents, one right after another. People don't get it. We need a Consumer Protection Agency that will say, look, this has got to be a fair transaction, this has got to be disclosed, it needs to be clear, and that way we may be able to have some good decision-making and better decisionmaking on behalf of consumers.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. DRIEHAUS. I appreciate that. And picking up on that point, the CFPB is critical to provide consumers information. But if you go back down to No. 5 on that list, strengthening community banks, this strengthens community banks because so much of the problem occurred outside of the financial institutions in the first place.

Many of these subprime mortgages, many of these bad loans didn't originate with community banks. The community banks were doing the right thing. But there was no regulation of the behavior of these nonfinancial entities. So for the first time, the CFPB will step in and provide regulation over the product itself. So it doesn't matter how you structure your entity to avoid regulation. The regulation will come in the form of the product. So if you're offering a consumer product which is determined to be a bad product for consumers, you will be prohibited from offering that, regardless of the type of entity that you are.

This is important because banks are very wary of regulators and for good reason, especially community banks, who have regulators coming in all the time to make sure that safety and soundness is being complied with and to make sure that consumers are being treated fairly. But what the CFPB gets at isn't additional burdens on community banks, but it's going after those previously nonregulated entities to make sure that they are following the law and that the products they are offering are fair and that the disclosures they are providing are clear, that they're transparent, and consumers know what they are getting themselves into.

Mr. ELLISON. Could I ask the gentleman a question?

Mr. GARAMENDI. Please.

Mr. ELLISON. And I will ask both gentlemen a question.

Now, if the Consumer Protection Agency is going to actually provide regulation to nonbank lenders, most of whom generated these subprime and predatory loans, will that help community banks by taking away the competitive advantage some of those unregulated lenders had?

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Yes, I believe it will absolutely strengthen the community banks.

And as you know, many of the community banks were provided additional protections, Mr. Speaker, by making sure that the CFPB was only part of the regulatory structure when we went into community banks so that we didn't place yet an additional burden in terms of an examination on that community financial institution.

So I believe this is an additional protection because for far too long, these entities were existing outside of a regulated marketplace, which put community banks, the guys that were doing the right thing, the guys that so many of us rely upon, and lend to small businesses, lend to people trying to purchase their homes—they were at a competitive disadvantage, and this really does strengthen those community banks because it forces everybody to have an even playing field.

Mr. GARAMENDI. It's really very, very important that we do focus on the community banks. This is Main Street. This is where the small businessman—the men and women that own the local

grocery store, the shop, the person who is the carpenter, the painter, this is where they will get the money that they need, the loan that they need to carry on their business. It's the community banks. But what has happened in America over the last decade is a concentration of economic strength in the hands of just a few.

□ 1800

A very, very few of the large banks, Wall Street banks now, control 80 percent or more of the American financial strength. We need to take that into account, not only because it will give the community banks an opportunity to compete and to have capital available to them so that they can make those loans, but also because of this problem of too big to fail. Too big to fail. That's what happened over the course from 2000—maybe beginning in the nineties—until 2008, when the great collapse occurred. The banks grew bigger and bigger and fewer and fewer so that at one point just a handful controlled most of the financial assets of America. And they grossly mismanaged those assets. AIG, a famous name. Lehman Brothers, another bankrupt company. All of the games that they played, those roosters came home to roost and the droppings were on American homeowners and the hardworking men and women of America that lost their jobs as a result of Wall Street excesses.

So now what are we going to do about too big to fail? The Senate, which is now moving a piece of legislation that would accompany the House bill, which we passed 4 months ago, that piece of legislation may be amended to say that no financial institution in America can control more than 10 percent of the financial strength of this Nation. That is something I really like. Back in college, I learned about the need for competition. I took an economics class. You have to have competition. You've got to have a lot of players. You've got to have a robust free market. Well, we don't really have that in the financial institutions anymore because they've grown too big. Well, if we just make them a little smaller: You get to 10 percent, I'm sorry, you're going to have to shed some business. We'll have to have others pick up the rest of it. But this too big to fail is part of the reform bill. Exactly how it's going to come out of the Senate, we don't know for sure. But it is certainly going to deal with this issue.

Mr. ELLISON, I know that you worked on this.

Mr. ELLISON. Well, the gentleman, I'm glad, talks about this issue of too big to fail. If either the gentleman from Ohio or California want to elaborate, I'd just like to pose to both of you gentlemen a question, and that is: If some banks are too big to fail, are there then other banks that are too small to save?

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, now that's an interesting question. Clearly, we

have institutions that are too big to fail. That's where the TARP legislation that was the last act—one of the last acts of the Bush administration—came into being. The Treasury Secretary, Mr. Paulson, who actually was the CEO of Goldman Sachs, as I recall, came to this House, came to the Senate, and said, Oh, my. Oh my. The world is going to collapse unless you immediately cough up a trillion dollars to the banks to stabilize the banks. Fortunately, this House said, Wait a minute. Let's see what we're doing here. Instead of a 1-page bill giving the Treasury Department a trillion dollars, the TARP program was put in place. And it did stabilize the financial institutions but it was a clear sign that Wall Street banks had become too big. AIG. How much have they taken? Twenty-three billion dollars of our money. Are we going to get it back? We don't know.

Mr. DRIEHAUS, if you will carry on here. I know that you were involved in that TARP legislation. Share with us.

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Getting back to the issue of too big to fail, because I think this is really a critical issue for people to get their arms around. I think it's important that we have strong capital markets; that the private sector works well in providing capital to allow our businesses to grow, to allow people to invest in the economy. That's critically important. But the issue of too big to fail really comes back to our responsibility, because when an entity is too big to fail, then it suggests that they go well beyond losses that might just impact the shareholders or losses that might just impact the owners or the employees of a business, but in fact it impacts all of us.

We then have a responsibility so that when the harm that's caused by these institutions is so great that it impacts the public good, then the United States Congress has a responsibility. In this case, the foreclosure crisis. Not only have we seen the greatest recession in our lifetimes but we have seen neighborhoods just devastated by foreclosures all across this country. Certainly, in the State of Ohio, where I come from.

The cost is enormous. That's not being repaid by Goldman Sachs. Lehman Brothers isn't around to do it. The big investment firms on Wall Street aren't there when we're having crime in our neighborhoods due to the foreclosures. It's the residents and the local governments that are left to pick up the pieces. That's what we mean by too big to fail.

So never again will we allow an entity to get so big that its failure will cause such a calamity not just to the economy but to our neighborhoods, to our communities, and obviously to jobs across the country. So we've put mechanisms in place to prohibit entities from growing that large. And if they are so large that their collapse would have this tremendous impact, we provide for a provision to allow the Fed to

wind them down and allow Treasury to wind them down—not at taxpayer expense but at their own expense and at the expense of financial entities who are contributing to a pool. We don't believe in the government bailouts. We are trying to put an end to government bailouts. What we are trying to do is allow these to be dissolved in a way that's fiscally responsible. That's what we mean by too big to fail.

Mr. GARAMENDI. That's a very, very important point about how things will move forward. It's also extraordinarily difficult for me to understand the Republican Party in this matter. On the Senate side, at the moment it looks as though they want to maintain the status quo. They want to maintain business as usual. That business as usual took this economy and nearly the entire world's economy into the tank. We need change. We need to put in place the reforms so that these kinds of financial meltdowns don't occur again. And for too big to fail, the use of wise processes within the government to unwind those companies that are too big, bring them back to size; when they're in financial trouble, unwind it and to bring us back to some sane situation.

There are a couple of other things that are in this thing that are really important. This number three of the kinds of reforms that the Democrats want to put forward: Stop Wall Street firms from betting against their customers. Also, Wall Street is not a gambling house. Wall Street isn't the shore of New Jersey or Las Vegas. Wall Street is where the financial strength of this Nation and indeed the world should be, based on fundamental American values of fair play, of honesty, of no games, straightforwardness, of visibility, of what is going on.

We have seen far too much of Wall Street hiding the ball, of gambling as though they were some casino in Las Vegas, and creating products and selling products that they know are detrimental to their customers' well-being—their financial well-being. So this is part of the reform that's going to go into place when the Republicans in the Senate finally allow the Senate to move forward with its reform.

I know you were involved here in the House as you took up this issue, Mr. DRIEHAUS. Share with us, if you would, some of the things that took place that are in the House reform.

Mr. DRIEHAUS. I think it's critically important as you move through this list to help people better understand exactly what it is that we're doing. One of the big issues that comes up time and time again is the issue of transparency. Because transparency was a big problem. It wasn't that the regulations didn't necessarily exist on some of these products, but people didn't know what was in the products. And so the Wall Street banks were intentionally hiding the risk associated with some of these derivative products.

Derivatives by their very nature are derived from other capital. But they're

critically important. They're critically important to our system, our economic system, because they provide capital investment that creates jobs in our economy. So we don't want to stop derivatives. We want to create investment vehicles. Derivatives are okay, but these investment vehicles need to be transparent. That's all we're asking through the legislation, is that the risk associated with the product be clear so that the people investing in these products know the risk associated with their investment. This is basic. This is basic finance, that people asking to invest in products should know the risk associated with those investments. That's what we're trying to achieve through the regulatory reform bill.

Mr. GARAMENDI. It's one of those basic American values that Wall Street seems to have forgotten and the Republican Party seems to want to be absent from Wall Street, and that is honesty, transparency. That is, explain what this product is all about, and also, the requirement that when you're selling something in a financial institution, you have the obligation of good faith to your customer; that you're being honest—a fundamental American value that was largely forgotten by Wall Street. As this reform goes into place, I think we will see it returned, because it will be the law. Sometimes you simply have to say you have to change because the law now requires you to be honest, to be straightforward, to be transparent; that is, to explain your product.

I notice that we have now been joined by your colleague from Ohio, the gentlewoman, Ms. KAPTUR. She has a chart up there that I think goes right to the heart of this. If you would, please, share with us.

Ms. KAPTUR. Thank you very much. I appreciate the gentleman yielding this evening and I thank you both for sponsoring this Special Order. Part of our responsibility is to restore trust in the most important financial institutions in our country—restore trust to the American people in those—and to change the laws in order to make sure that that trust in our capital markets and in our banking system is restored. We're a long way from doing that, and financial reform is a part of it. I hope that the bill improves as it moves through the Senate.

The chart that I brought to the floor tonight—and this is just one chart. I would like to put in the RECORD, CBS News Investigates Goldman Sachs' Revolving Door, with a full list of individuals just from that company. There are many other companies, but the kind of incredible power that they wield in this city.

If you just look at Goldman Sachs and then at people from Goldman Sachs who came to work for the government of the United States in the highest positions, you begin to question whether they were representing the public interest or their personal interest in many of the dealings that occurred on Wall Street.

For example, you have an individual during the last administration that worked for President Bush by the name of Joshua Bolten. He was the President's Chief of Staff during the time when the TARP was voted through this Congress in the bailout in the fall of 2008. He had been the director of OMB through most of the Bush administration. But what a lot of people don't know is that before that he had been the Executive Director of Legal Affairs for Goldman Sachs based in London. That is the bank's chief lobbyist to the European Union. So when you look at the collapse of institutions in Europe, whether it was Dresdner Bank in Germany or Societe Generale, which was a counterparty in the AIG insurance situation, those deals were brokered through London. And there he sat for the whole decade of the nineties, putting together the architecture that then collapsed in this decade.

But he's not alone. It's important that people understand this just didn't start in 2007 or 2008 or 2005. The pieces were put together starting in the 1980s, and then the foundation stones and all the regulatory changes were made that allowed this type of hyperinflation of the housing market and the pyramiding of equity to a point that it simply couldn't hold. These men were a part of that.

If you look at the former Secretary of Treasury in the past administration, before President Obama and during President Clinton, he had come from Goldman Sachs, Robert Rubin, and he was Secretary of the Treasury from 1995–1999, when so much of the deregulation was done. But they all go back to Goldman Sachs. That's the beehive. The bees come out, they go somewhere else, and then they come back. We have to begin to unpeel this and unwind and understand who these individuals are. We heard the name of Hank Paulson, who was Secretary of the Treasury during the period time that the bailout was voted. He was the CEO of Goldman Sachs. So they come in, collect a little bit of honey, and then they go back. What the American people have to understand is what exactly did they do; who made these decisions.

Now, we have over at the Secretary of Treasury the chief of staff to the Secretary of Treasury, Mark Patterson. Guess where he came from? Goldman Sachs. And the recent general counsel from the White House, Mr. Craig, he left the White House. Where did he go? Goldman Sachs.

□ 1815

So it rises above party. We have to stand up for what's right for America, and we have to unwind these private interests that have caused such harm to our country.

[From CBS News Investigates, Apr. 7, 2010]

GOLDMAN SACHS' REVOLVING DOOR

(By Paula Reid)

A CBS News analysis of the revolving door between Goldman and government reveals at least four dozen former employees, lobbyists

or advisers at the highest reaches of power both in Washington and around the world.

THE INFLUENCE AND POWER OF GOLDMAN SACHS

For example, former Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson is a former Goldman CEO; Arthur Levitt, the head of the Securities and Exchange Commission is a now a Goldman adviser; and former House Majority Leader Dick Gephardt is now a paid lobbyist for the firm.

Our alphabetical list:

JOSHUA BOLTEN

Government: President George W. Bush's Chief of Staff from 2006–2009; Director of Office of Management and Budget from 2003–2006; White House Deputy Chief of Staff from January 20, 2001–June 2003.

Goldman: Executive Director of Legal Affairs for Goldman based in London, aka, the bank's chief lobbyist to the EU from 1994–1999.

KENNETH D. BRODY

Government: President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the United States (1993–1996).

Goldman: Former general partner and member of the Management Committee at Goldman Sachs where he worked from 1971–1991.

KATHLEEN BROWN

Government: Former California State Treasurer.

Goldman: Senior Advisor responsible for Public Finance, Western Region.

MARK CARNEY

Government: Governor of the Bank of Canada since 2008.

Goldman: Mr. Carney had a thirteen-year career with Goldman Sachs in its London, Tokyo, New York, and Toronto offices. His progressively senior positions included Co-Head of Sovereign Risk; Executive Director Emerging Debt Capital Markets; and Managing Director, Investment Banking. He started at Goldman in 1995.

ROBERT COGORNO

Government: Former Gephardt aide and one-time floor director for Steny Hoyer (D-MD.), the No. 2 House Democrat.

Goldman: Works for [Steve] Elmendorf Strategies, which lobbies for Goldman.

KENNETH CONNOLLY

Government: Staff Director of the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee 2001–2006.

Goldman: Vice President at Goldman from June 2008–present.

E. GERALD CORRIGAN

Government: President of the New York Fed from 1985 to 1993.

Goldman: Joined Goldman Sachs in 1994 and currently is a partner and managing director; he was also appointed chairman of GS Bank USA, the firm's holding company, in September 2008.

JON CORZINE

Government: Governor of New Jersey from 2006–2010; U.S. Senator from 2001–2006 where he served on the Banking and Budget Committees.

Goldman: Former Goldman CEO. Worked at Goldman from 1975–1998.

GAVYN DAVIES

Government: Former chairman of the BBC from 2001–2004.

Goldman: Chief Economist at Goldman where he worked from 1986–2001.

PAUL DIGHTON

Government: Chief Executive of the London Operating Committee of the Olympic Games (LOCOG).

Goldman: Former COO of Goldman where he worked for 22 years beginning in 1983.

MARIO DRAGHI

Government: Head [Governor] of the Bank of Italy since January 2006.

Goldman: Vice chair and managing director of Goldman Sachs International and a member of the firm-wide management committee from 2002–2005.

WILLIAM DUDLEY

Government: President Federal Reserve Bank of New York City (2009–present).

Goldman: Partner and Managing Director. Worked at Goldman from 1986–2007.

STEVEN ELMENDORF

Government: Senior Advisor to then-House minority Leader Richard Gephardt.

Goldman: Now runs his own lobbying firm, where Goldman is one of his clients.

DINA FARRELL

Government: Deputy Director, National Economic Council, Obama Administration since January 2009.

Goldman: Financial Analyst at Goldman Sachs from 1987–1989.

EDWARD C. FORST

Government: Advisor to Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson in 2008.

Goldman: Former Global Head of the Investment Management Division at Goldman where he worked from 1994–2008.

RANDALL M. FORT

Government: Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research from November 2006–Jan 2009.

Goldman: Director of Global Security 1996–2006.

HENRY H. FOWLER

Government: Secretary of the Treasury from 1965–1968.

Goldman: After leaving the Treasury Department, Fowler joined Goldman Sachs in New York City as a partner.

STEPHEN FRIEDMAN

Government: Chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board and of the Intelligence Oversight Board; Chairman Federal Reserve Bank of New York from 2008–2009; former director of Bush's National Economic Council. Economic Advisor to President Bush from 2002–2004.

Goldman: Former Co-Chairman at Goldman Sachs and still a member of their board. Joined Goldman in 1966.

GARY GENSLER

Government: Chairman of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission since 2009; Undersecretary to the Treasury from 1999 to 2001; Assistant Secretary to the Treasury from 1997–1999.

Goldman: Former Co-head of Finance for Goldman Sachs worldwide. Worked at Goldman from 1979–1997.

LORD BRIAN GRIFFITHS

Government: Head of the Prime Minister's Policy Unit from 1985 to 1990.

Goldman: International Advisor since 1991.

JIM HIMES

Government: Congressman from Connecticut (on Committee on Financial Services) since 2009.

Goldman: Began working at Goldman in 1990 and was eventually promoted to Vice President.

ROBERT D. HORMATS

Government: Under Secretary of State for Economic, Energy and Agricultural Affairs-designate since July 2009; Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business affairs from 1981 to 1982.

Goldman: Vice Chairman of Goldman Sachs International and Managing Director of Goldman Sachs & Co. He worked at Goldman Sachs from 1982–2009.

CHRIS JAVENS

Government: Ex-tax policy adviser to Iowa Senator Chuck Grassley.

Goldman: Now lobbies for Goldman.

REUBEN JEFFERY III

Government: Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business, and Agricultural Affairs from 2007–2009; Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission from 2005–2007.

Goldman: Former Managing Partner of Goldman Sachs Paris Office. Worked at Goldman Sachs from 1983–2001.

DAN JESTER

Government: Former Treasury Advisor.

Goldman: Former Goldman Executive.

JAMES JOHNSON

Government: Selected to serve on Obama's Vice Presidential section committee but stepped down.

Goldman: Board of Director of Goldman Sachs since May 1999.

RICHARD GEPHARDT

Government: U.S. Representative (1977 to 2005).

Goldman: President and CEO, Gephardt Government Affairs (since 2007). Hired by Goldman to represent its interests on issues related to TARP.

NEEL KASHKARI

Government: Interim head, Treasury's Office of Financial Stability from October 2008–May 2009; Assistant Secretary for International Economics (confirmed in summer 2008) Special assistant to Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson from 2006–2008.

Goldman: Vice President at Goldman Sachs from 2002–2006.

LORI E LAUDIEN

Government: Former counsel for the Senate Finance Committee in 1996–1997.

Goldman: Lobbyist for Goldman since 2005.

ARTHUR LEVITT

Government: Chairman, SEC 1993–200; Goldman: Advisor to Goldman Sachs (June 2009–present).

PHILIP MURPHY

Government: U.S. Ambassador to Germany since 2009.

Goldman: Former Senior Director of Goldman Sachs where he worked from 1983–2006.

MICHAEL PAESE

Government: Top Staffer to House Financial Services Committee Chairman Barney Frank.

Goldman: Director of Government Affairs/Lobbyist (2009).

MARK PATTERSON

Government: Treasury Department Chief of Staff since February 2009.

Goldman: Lobbyist for Goldman Sachs from 2003–2008.

HENRY "HANK" PAULSON

Government: Secretary of the Treasury from March 2006 to January 2009; White House Domestic Council, serving as Staff Assistant to the President from 1972 to 1973; Staff Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon from 1970 to 1972.

Goldman: Former Goldman Sachs CEO. Worked at Goldman from 1974–2006.

ROMANO PRODI

Government: Two time prime minister of Italy.

Goldman: From March 1990 to May 1993 and when not in public office, Mr. Prodi acted as a consultant to Goldman Sachs.

STEVE SHAFRAN

Government: Advise to Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson.

Goldman: Worked at Goldman from 1993–2000.

SONAL SHAH

Government: Director, Office of Social Innovation and Civic Participation (April 2009); advisory board member Obama-Biden transition Project; former previously held a variety of positions in the Treasury Department from 1995 to early 2002.

Goldman: Vice President 2004–2007.

FARYAR SHIRZAD

Government: Served on the staff of the National Security Council at the White House from March 2003–August 2006; Assistant Secretary for Import Administration at the U.S. Department of Commerce in the Bus Administration.

Goldman: Global head of government affairs (Lobbyist) since 2006.

ROBERT K. STEEL

Government: Under Secretary for Domestic Finance of the United States Treasury from 2006–08.

Goldman: Former Vice Chairman of Goldman Sachs where he worked from 1976–2004.

ADAM SCORCH

Government: COO the SEC's Enforcement Division (October 2009–present). He was 29 years old at the time of his appointment.

Goldman: Former Vice President at Goldman Sachs where he worked from 2004–2009.

RICHARD Y. ROBERTS

Government: Former SEC commissioner from 1990 to 1995.

Goldman: Now working as a principal at RR&G LLC, which was hired by Goldman to lobby on TARP.

ROBERT RUBIN

Government: Treasury Secretary from 1995–1999; Chairman of the National Economic Council from 1993–1995.

Goldman: Former Co-Chairman at Goldman Sachs where he worked from 1966–1992.

JOHN THAIN

Government: CEO resident of NYSE (2004–07).

Goldman: President and Co-Chief Operating Officer from 1999–2004.

MARTI THOMAS

Government: Assistant Secretary in Legal Affairs and Public Policy in 2000. Treasury Department as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Tax and Budget from 1998–1999; Executive Floor Assistant to Dick Gephardt from 1989–1998.

Goldman: Joined Goldman as the Federal Legislative Affairs Leader from 2007–2009.

MASSIMO TONONI

Government: Italian deputy treasury chief from 2006–2008.

Goldman: Former Partner at Goldman Sachs from 2004–2006.

MALCOLM TURNBULL

Government: Member of the Australian House of Representatives since 2004.

Goldman: Chairman and Managing Director, Goldman Sachs Australia from 1997–2001 and Partner with Goldman Sachs and Co. from 1998–2001.

SIDNEY WEINBERG

Government: Served as Vice-Chair for FDR's War Production Board during World War II.

Goldman: Worked at Goldman from 1907–1969, eventually becoming CEO after starting as a \$3-a-week janitor's assistant.

KENDRICK WILSON

Government: Advisor to Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson.

Goldman: Senior investment banker at Goldman where he worked from 1998–2008.

ROBERT ZOELLYCK

Government: President of the World Bank since 2007.

Goldman: Vice Chairman, International of the Goldman Sachs Group, and a Managing Director and Chairman of Goldman Sachs' Board of International Advisors (2006–07).

Mr. GARAMENDI. Thank you very much. That history is not a good chapter in America, and these men that were involved in all of this, to whom did they owe their allegiance?

I've said many times, it's about the fundamental American values. I know that in my community, a small community in California of farmers and hardworking men and women, that they go to work every day and they expect to be paid a fair wage, but they don't expect to make that wage by cheating somebody, by playing a financial game. They expect to make it by working hard and carrying on for their family.

Mr. DRIEHAUS, if you would share with us some of the additional experiences that you had on the Financial Services Committee.

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Well, I would just share with you and share with everyone here that the reality is that, from a legislative standpoint, nothing has changed. Despite the fact that we're in the worst recession that we've ever experienced—we all know what caused this. We know how we got here. We know the lack of regulation on these very sophisticated financial instruments caused the mortgage meltdown which led to the recession. But the fact of the matter is, legislatively, nothing has changed in statute.

We passed a good bill out of the House—

Mr. GARAMENDI. Back in December.

Mr. DRIEHAUS. We passed a good bill that had a lot of measures. Subsequent to that, after it went over to the Senate, there has been stalling by the Republican Senators. We've had closed-door meetings by leadership of the Republicans in the House and in the Senate, both here in Washington and on Wall Street, because the financial firms on Wall Street like the status quo. We've seen their profits. They're back to the days of big bonuses. But our neighborhoods are still struggling. Our neighborhoods are still trying to get out of the foreclosure crisis that has impacted them, and it's going to be years before they come out of that crisis. It's the most important thing that we can do here is make sure that this never happens again, but our Republican colleagues in the Senate are standing in the way. At least here, the Republicans just voted "no," but they couldn't stop the process from moving forward.

We, as a Congress, have an obligation to the people. We, as a Congress, have an obligation to the people to ensure that the crisis that we found ourselves in never happens again. We do that through strong regulatory reform. We've passed a strong measure in the House. We're waiting upon the Senate to tell the American people that we won't let this happen again. That is our

responsibility, and that's what we need to impress upon people as we move forward.

Enough of the closed-door meetings with Wall Street; it's time to act on behalf our constituents.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Let's be very clear that those closed-door meetings were the leadership of the Republican Party sitting down with Wall Street and talking about how to preserve the present system that led to this great collapse.

You said something that just ticked me off—not at you, but at the situation—and it's the Wall Street bonuses. At a time when hardworking men and women, more than 8 million Americans were losing their jobs as a result of the financial games of Wall Street, 8 million—in my district, tens of thousands of men and women that worked hard every single day to put bread on their table for their family, to keep their roof over their head lost their jobs because Wall Street was playing financial games, thinking of the financial market as some sort of gambling casino while my constituents were losing their houses, losing their jobs, forced to go on unemployment, losing their health insurance.

What was going on, on Wall Street? Well, here it is: Wall Street was paying some of the highest salaries and bonuses ever in America's history. In 2007, before the collapse, look at that, \$137 billion, \$137 billion in pay and bonuses. During the great collapse in 2008, when 750,000 people were losing their job every month, Wall Street was paying its fat cats \$123 billion. And then in 2009, using the recovery money, using our taxpayer money, what did Wall Street do? They paid themselves \$145 billion.

There ought to be a law—in fact, there ought to be a tax law that says when you get a fat-cat bonus and you've taken your company into virtual bankruptcy, we're going to tax that bonus and we're going to bring it back. We're going to bring it back to the local bank so that they can make a real loan to real businesses and put aside the financial gains. There ought to be a tax on those kinds of unconscionable bonuses and pays that are going to these Wall Street fat cats that nearly brought down the world's financial economy. There ought to be a law, and that law is being held up now by the Republican Party. We need Wall Street reform right now.

Ms. KAPTUR. Would the gentleman be kind enough to yield?

Mr. GARAMENDI. I would be delighted to yield.

Ms. KAPTUR. Congressman GARAMENDI, I want to compliment you and Congressman STEVE DRIEHAUS of Ohio for putting this information on the RECORD.

I think it's important to state that at the beginning of the financial crisis, these large institutions, the six of them that are the most culpable—JPMorgan Chase, Morgan Stanley,

HSBC, Wells Fargo, Citigroup, Goldman Sachs—had one-third of the capital in this country, one-third of the assets in those institutions. And while they were taking all those bonuses and while this Nation has gone through this terrible washout, they now command 66 percent. They doubled the size and their importance inside this economy.

So while they're taking those horrendous bonuses, they've also been gobbling up institutions. States like my own are losing their money center banks. The fees that banks that didn't do anything wrong are having to pay have gone up extraordinarily. We don't know if some of them will make it. But they are just huge leviathans that are taking over this economy, and look at what they've done.

Mr. GARAMENDI. More like tyrannosaurus rexes.

Ms. KAPTUR. I love that.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Did you say at the beginning of this crisis in 2007 they had something like one-third of the financial assets—

Ms. KAPTUR. That's right.

Mr. GARAMENDI. And today the largest five have over 60 percent?

Ms. KAPTUR. Sixty-six percent.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Sixty-six percent. Now we really have a serious problem called "too big to fail." Now we're in a very, very serious problem.

I want to refer back to this chart that we were using before. The legislation does deal with this issue of too big to fail.

Now, we passed a good bill out of here in December that dealt with this, but on the Senate side there are some Senators who are progressive and thinking about this and they're saying, Wait a minute. Maybe we should limit to 10 percent, no company can have more than 10 percent of the total assets. When you get that big, that's it. You're going to have to shed assets. Someone else is going to have to pick it up.

But now we have seen even more concentration in Wall Street. We can't wait any longer for the reforms. We can't wait any longer. America can't wait any longer. How many more hardworking men and women are going to lose their job as Wall Street continually declines to provide loans to Main Street?

Ms. KAPTUR. Yes.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Let's take a look at some of the facts about that.

I heard you, in one of our discussions, talk about this and the effect in your community in Ohio, the men and women, the small businesses, their inability to get loans. Why don't you pick that up and share some of the stories.

Ms. KAPTUR. I just did that again this weekend. I went into a bakery in our district, and the owner said, Marcy, I could hire three more people and I want to add some machines and so forth because I've got orders I can't fill, but I can't get operating loans from the bank.

Credit is frozen across this country because they are these big, giant, inefficient institutions, and credit needs to be more decentralized. We need more financial institutions not fewer financial institutions. And the financial reforms that this Congress should pass should go to that level to restore a robust, competitive financial system in this country. And, by the way, we not only have to make the future better; we have to go back and catch the crooks that put us on this path.

I have a bill, H.R. 3995, that would add 1,000 agents to the FBI, to the SEC, and to the FDIC in order to fully investigate and go after these big institutions, because what happened after 9/11 was that the White Collar Crime division of the FBI was reduced to 75 investigators, 75. The SEC has 25 going after the largest financial institutions in this country? We need to, both on the civil side and the criminal side, investigate and prosecute.

When you have this level of implosion in an economy and a few people are getting very rich and everybody else is suffering, doesn't that tell you that something was fundamentally wrong? Some people say it was rigged, that control fraud may be, in fact, what has riddled through the system from the very top down through every community that we represent. So H.R. 3995 would add 1,000 more agents and help beef up prosecution in this country.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, just before we took the floor here for this discussion, I was listening to our Republican colleagues say that government regulation is wrong. Well, no, not in the case of Wall Street. The statistics you just gave us, did you say the FBI had 75 agents for all of the United States to deal with Wall Street?

Ms. KAPTUR. Yes.

Mr. GARAMENDI. At a time when the Wall Street behemoths were going from 33 percent of their total financial wealth in the Nation to 66 percent? And 30-something people for the Securities and Exchange Commission?

I hope your bill passes. We need watchdogs. We need watchdogs with teeth that are willing to bite into the arrogance and the greed of Wall Street. We need those people there to watch and to make sure that the kind of financial rip-offs that occurred that nearly took down this Nation's economy—and the world's economy with it—and put hardworking men and women that were out there on the production lines in your community, that were building the homes in my community, the farmers, they're out of work. They are unemployed. Why? Because of the extraordinary greed, arrogance, and mismanagement of Wall Street thinking that the financial institutions of America are nothing more than a Las Vegas casino, where a bet is placed on a product that they could not even describe. Enough already. Enough already.

The Republican Party has got to come to its senses and give us the op-

portunity to pass a strong financial reform of Wall Street. The people in my district, my homeowners, my small businesses are trying to get a loan at a time when we're seeing more and more concentration of power on Wall Street.

Ms. KAPTUR. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. GARAMENDI. I would be delighted to share with you.

Ms. KAPTUR. What is unbelievable is the public relations on this, because companies like Goldman Sachs now have whole new lobbying offices here in Washington to hire people to try to convince us that the real is unreal. And what they're saying is that, well, you know, it isn't our fault that this happened. It's the fault of those Americans down there who lost their jobs and they maybe won't be able to pay their mortgages, right? Well, wait a minute. Wait a minute. Why did they lose their jobs, and why can't unemployment benefits at least be used in the interim to help people stay in their homes for the next year until we can try to get this economy to recover?

And so the very institutions that are not working out loans at the local level and making billions and billions and billions of dollars more in profits and in bonuses are saying to us, Oh, it's not our fault. It's the fault of the American people who wanted to own a house. You know, it's really their problem that they got put out of work, when, in fact, these institutions aren't loaning money to our small businesses that want to employ people. They're not doing mortgage workouts at the local level. They are not taking any principle write-downs, which they could do, and in a formal FDIC bank regulatory process that would happen. They're not serious. They're not serious at the bargaining table. They are not even returning calls to our Realtors at the local level. We're trying to reach accommodation on short sales. We've been trying to reach accommodation on short sales for 2 years. They're standing up the Realtors across this country as we get more and more foreclosures around this Nation. We have to focus on the big six.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, the big fix is available. The big fix is to reform Wall Street, to stop the kind of greed that has nearly destroyed this Nation's economy and the world economy along with it.

The bill that was passed by the House of Representatives in December is a good, strong bill. We beg our Republican colleagues over in the Senate to stand aside. If you don't want to work towards a decent reform, then get out of the way and let the Democratic Party put in place a strong reform that will bring Wall Street to its senses, that will once again make Wall Street a legitimate, honest, transparent place where the financial inner workings of this Nation can take place. That's our plea, and we need to have it done, not next month. We need to have it done this week.

Thank you so very much. I yield back my time, Mr. Speaker.

□ 1830

HONORING BOBBY COX

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRIGHT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor one of the greatest managers in the history of major league baseball, Bobby Cox, the manager of my hometown team, the Atlanta Braves. He is an icon in the managing profession, and after giving selflessly to the Braves for over 25 years, I want to congratulate him on his retirement at the end of this season. Mr. Speaker, I am proud that he is my constituent in the 11th Congressional District of northwest Georgia.

A lifetime man of the game, Bobby played in both the minor and major leagues for 12 years. At the age of 30, he retired as a player and launched a coaching career which will go down in history as one of the best in the game. Bobby's first coaching job allowed him to manage the Braves, but he left Atlanta in 1982 to work with the Toronto Blue Jays.

Bobby realized success quickly in Toronto as he led the Blue Jays to the American League East Crown in 1985. For these efforts, he was named Major League Manager of the Year by the Baseball Writers Association of America, the Associated Press and the Sporting News.

After his winning seasons in Toronto, Bobby returned to Georgia to work with the Braves again in 1985, this time

as general manager. It was then that he began creating a baseball empire, by restructuring the team from the farm system up through the major leagues. In the 1990s, he was back in the dugout as manager of the Braves, and he led them to five National League pennants, one World Series Championship, and 14 consecutive division titles. He was named Manager of the Year once again, and to this day he is still the only coach to win Manager of the Year in both the American and the National Leagues.

Bobby has won over 2,000 games and is the all-time winningest coach in Braves history. Bobby has made a name for himself amongst his players by being a true "players" coach and always going to bat for his team and his players. That passion and love for the game have earned him another distinction, Mr. Speaker: The all-time record for the most ejections from the game.

Mr. Speaker, Bobby's skills, dedication, and attitude will be missed in both the Braves dugout and also in the stadiums wherever the Braves have played. He will continue to assist the organization by advising the minor league teams in the Atlanta area. Bobby's imprint on the Atlanta Braves organization will undoubtedly be remembered and revered for years to come.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ETHERIDGE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DRIEHAUS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PASCRELL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FALCOMA, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GRAYSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. QUIGLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. POE of Texas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, May 6.

Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, May 12.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, May 12.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, May 12.

Mr. WOLF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. SCHMIDT, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BLUMENAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. OLSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BRIGHT, for 5 minutes, today.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DRIEHAUS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 6, 2010, at 10 a.m.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to Public Law 111-139, Mr. SPRATT hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of the bill H.R. 1722, the Telework Improvements Act, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 1722, THE TELEWORK IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2010, AS AMENDED

Table with columns for fiscal years 2010-2020 and 2010-2015, 2010-2020. Net Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit. Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact: 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

Pursuant to Public Law 111-139, Mr. SPRATT hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of the bill H.R. 2421, the Mother's Day Centennial Commemorative Coin Act, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CBO ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 2421, THE MOTHER'S DAY CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT, AS PROVIDED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET ON MAY 3, 2010

Table with columns for fiscal years 2010-2020 and 2010-2015, 2010-2020. Net Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit. Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact: 0, 0, 0, 0, -3, 0, 3, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, -3, 0.

H.R. 2421 would authorize the U.S. Mint to produce a \$1 silver coin in calendar year 2014 in commemoration of the centennial anniversary of Mother's Day. The legislation would specify a \$10 surcharge on the sale of those coins (a credit against direct spending), which would later be paid to certain nonprofit organizations that fund health care research (an increase in direct spending).

Pursuant to Public Law 111-139, Mr. SPRATT hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of the bill H.R. 5160, the Haiti Economic Lift Program Act of 2010, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CBO ESTIMATE OF THE STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 5160, HAITI ECONOMIC LIFT PROGRAM ACT OF 2010, AS AMENDED AND PROVIDED BY THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—

| | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2010-2015 | 2010-2020 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----------|-----------|
| Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact | 0 | 60 | 70 | 78 | -272 | -16 | 562 | 108 | -645 | -111 | 165 | -80 | -1 |

Note: Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Sources: Congressional Budget Office and Joint Committee on Taxation.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

7336. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket ID: FEMA-2010-0003] received April 26, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7337. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket ID: FEMA-2010-0003] received April 26, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7338. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket ID: FEMA-2010-0003] received April 26, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7339. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket ID: FEMA-2010-0003; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-8125] received April 26, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7340. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket ID: FEMA-2010-0003] received April 26, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7341. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Medicaid Program; State Flexibility for Medicaid Benefit Packages [CMS-2232-F4] (RIN: 0938-AP72) received April 30, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7342. A letter from the Deputy Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Advisory Committees: Technical Amendment [Docket No.: FDA-2010-N-0001] received April 20, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7343. A letter from the Deputy Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Listing of Color Additives Exempt From Certification; Bismuth Citrate [Docket No.: FDA-2008-C-0098] received April 20, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7344. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Roof Crush Resistance [Docket No.: NHTSA-2009-0093] (RIN: 2127-AG51) received April 26, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7345. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.622(i), Post-Transition Broadcast Stations (Beaumont, Texas) [MB Docket No.: 10-49] received April 22, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7346. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Standards for Business Practices for Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines [Docket Nos.: RM96-1-030 and RM96-1036; Order No.: 587-U] received April 20, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7347. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Categorical Exclusions from Environmental Review [NRC-2009-0269] (RIN: 3150-AI27) received April 20, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7348. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, LRAD, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Freedom of Information Act [Docket ID: OCC-2010-0008] (RIN: 1557-AD22) received April 12, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7349. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's "Major" final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast (NE) Multi-species Fishery; Amendment 16 [Docket No.: 0808071078-0019-02] (RIN: 0648-AW72) received April 26, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

7350. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Trade Adjustment Assistance; Merit Staffing of State Administration and Allocation of Training Funds to States (RIN: 1205-AB56) received April 12, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Ms. MATSUI: Committee on Rules, House Resolution 1329. A Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5019) to provide for the establishment of the Home Star Retrofit Rebate Program, and for other purposes (Rept. 111-475). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following

titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BOUSTANY (for himself and Mr. POMEROY):

H.R. 5207. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the operation of employee stock ownership plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. BILBRAY, and Mrs. MYRICK):

H.R. 5208. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to strengthen student visa background checks and improve the monitoring of foreign students in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KIND (for himself, Mrs. BONO MACK, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. FUDGE):

H.R. 5209. A bill to provide a comprehensive approach to preventing and treating obesity; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, Ways and Means, Agriculture, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts (for himself and Mr. MORAN of Virginia):

H.R. 5210. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act regarding an endocrine disruptor screening program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York (for herself and Mr. PLATTS):

H.R. 5211. A bill to strengthen families' engagement in the education of their children; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona:

H.R. 5212. A bill to amend Public Law 105-344 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the Blue Ridge Unified School District that portion of the Woodland Lake Park tract in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest in the State of Arizona containing the Big Springs Environmental Study Area; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. FARR, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. SCHRADER, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. WU, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. CHU, Mr. FILNER, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. BAIRD, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. DICKS, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. STARK, and Mr. SCHIFF):

H.R. 5213. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the

outer Continental Shelf off the coast of California, Oregon, and Washington; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HOLT (for himself, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. KOSMAS, Mr. BOYD, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. HODES, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. INSLEE, Mrs. CAPPS, and Mr. BRALEY of Iowa):

H.R. 5214. A bill to require oil polluters to pay the full cost of oil spills, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. AKIN:

H.R. 5215. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the \$2,500 limitation on health flexible spending arrangements; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. AKIN:

H.R. 5216. A bill to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Appropriations, Ways and Means, Education and Labor, the Judiciary, Natural Resources, House Administration, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HELLER:

H.R. 5217. A bill to provide for distribution to States of revenues under the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 as provided in that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. POLIS (for himself, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. RICHARDSON):

H.R. 5218. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide for school improvement and professional development for teachers, principals, instructional staff, and other school leaders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. BERKLEY):

H.R. 5219. A bill to withdraw certain land located in Clark County, Nevada, from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws and disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral and geothermal leasing or mineral materials, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HOYER (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. EHLERS, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

H.R. 5220. A bill to reauthorize the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act of 2004, to provide assistance to Best Buddies to support the expansion and development of mentoring programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 5221. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require air carriers and foreign air carriers to transmit a passenger and crew manifest for a flight in foreign air transportation to or from the United States to the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection at least 24 hours before the departure of the flight, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MEEK of Florida (for himself and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida):

H.R. 5222. A bill to suspend certain activities in the outer Continental Shelf until the date on which the joint investigation into the Deepwater Horizon incident in the Gulf of Mexico has been completed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SALAZAR:

H.R. 5223. A bill to establish the Chimney Rock National Monument in the State of Colorado; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. TSONGAS (for herself, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. GIFFORDS, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia):

H.R. 5224. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to conduct a comprehensive review of the health care services available for female members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. TSONGAS:

H.R. 5225. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to jointly develop and implement an electronic personnel file system, and to jointly conduct a study on improving the access of veterans to files related to military service and veterans benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WILSON of Ohio:

H.R. 5226. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Appalachian Regional Commission to carry out a program of outreach for veterans who reside in Appalachia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 5227. A bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to require delivery by United States mail of any transportation security card issued to an individual who resides in a remote location; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. FORBES (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. AKIN, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. PENCE, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. JONES, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. LATTA, Mr. HARPER, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. WOLF, Ms. FOXX, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. COLE, Mr. BERGER, Mr. WAMP, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. THORNBERRY, Ms. GRANGER, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. CAMP, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado):

H. Con. Res. 274. Concurrent resolution reaffirming "In God We Trust" as the official

motto of the United States and supporting and encouraging the public display of the national motto in all public buildings, public schools, and other government institutions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MORAN of Virginia (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. BECERRA):

H. Res. 1326. A resolution calling on the Government of Japan to immediately address the growing problem of abduction and retention of United States citizen minor children in Japan, to work closely with the Government of the United States to return these children to their custodial parent or to the original jurisdiction for a custody determination in the United States, to provide left-behind parents immediate access to their children, and to adopt without delay the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself and Mrs. NAPOLITANO):

H. Res. 1327. A resolution honoring the life, achievements, and contributions of Floyd Dominy; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCOTTER (for himself, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. CAMP, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. UPTON, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SCHAUER, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. HELLER, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. BUYER, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. TERRY, Mr. PITTS, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. AUSTRIA, Mr. LATTA, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. NUNES, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. DENT, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. MCCAUL, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. POSEY, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. LEE of New York, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, and Mr. BISHOP of Utah):

H. Res. 1328. A resolution honoring the life and legacy of William Earnest "Ernie" Harwell; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. FARR (for himself, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. PALLONE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. KAGEN, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. NADLER of New York, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. REYES):

H. Res. 1330. A resolution recognizing June 8, 2010, as World Ocean Day; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CAO:

H. Res. 1331. A resolution recognizing and appreciating the historical significance and the heroic struggle and sacrifice of the Vietnamese people for the cause of freedom and

commending the Vietnamese-American community and nongovernmental organizations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HIMES:

H. Res. 1332. A resolution encouraging the continuation and further expansion of sister-city relationships between United States and Haitian municipalities as an essential instrument in the ongoing efforts to rebuild Haiti and restore hope and prosperity to its people; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

270. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the State of Kansas, relative to Senate Resolution No. 1855 supporting the NewGen Tanker that is to be built by Boeing; to the Committee on Armed Services.

271. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, relative to House Resolution No. 606 supporting the petition of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission that is before the Federal Communications Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

272. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Maine, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 1324 urging the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to strengthen enforcement of domestic sourcing laws; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

273. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 5012 urging the Congress of the United States to authorize and appropriate funds for a study of the Missouri River Basin; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

274. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Maine, relative to House Resolution No. 1320 urging the Congress of the United States to support and pass H.R. 4241; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

275. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Arizona, relative to Senate Concurrent Memorial 1001 urging the Congress of the United States to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Education and Labor, Ways and Means, Appropriations, the Judiciary, Natural Resources, House Administration, and Rules.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 333: Mr. WOLF and Mrs. DAHLKEMPER.
 H.R. 406: Mr. MEEKS of New York.
 H.R. 450: Mr. SIMPSON.
 H.R. 510: Mr. RODRIGUEZ.
 H.R. 953: Mr. POE of Texas.
 H.R. 1024: Mr. SARBANES.
 H.R. 1077: Mr. MELANCON.
 H.R. 1205: Mr. HOEKSTRA, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. POE of Texas.
 H.R. 1314: Ms. LEE of California.
 H.R. 1339: Mr. SIREN, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Mrs. CAPPS.
 H.R. 1362: Mr. MATHESON.
 H.R. 1433: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 1554: Mr. COLE.
 H.R. 1712: Mr. TERRY.
 H.R. 1792: Mr. GERLACH.

H.R. 1874: Mr. CARNAHAN.
 H.R. 1887: Mr. FARR.
 H.R. 1939: Mr. SHULER.
 H.R. 2000: Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida and Mr. GARAMENDI.
 H.R. 2149: Ms. KILROY.
 H.R. 2235: Mr. CAPUANO.
 H.R. 2262: Mr. CROWLEY, Mrs. LUMMIS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
 H.R. 2296: Mr. BUYER.
 H.R. 2406: Mr. GALLEGLY.
 H.R. 2478: Ms. KILROY.
 H.R. 2546: Mr. MCNERNEY.
 H.R. 2697: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa and Mr. PERLMUTTER.
 H.R. 2730: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
 H.R. 2850: Mr. NADLER of New York.
 H.R. 3012: Mr. ACKERMAN.
 H.R. 3024: Ms. MARKEY of Colorado, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. Young of Florida, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. MCDERMOTT.
 H.R. 3043: Mr. SMITH of Washington and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
 H.R. 3108: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. BERRY.
 H.R. 3181: Mr. HINOJOSA.
 H.R. 3396: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
 H.R. 3441: Ms. KILROY.
 H.R. 3567: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
 H.R. 3595: Mr. AKIN, Mr. MANZULLO, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
 H.R. 3734: Mr. CUMMINGS.
 H.R. 3749: Mr. MCNERNEY.
 H.R. 3758: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
 H.R. 3781: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
 H.R. 3926: Mr. BERMAN.
 H.R. 3995: Mr. STARK.
 H.R. 4000: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 4115: Mr. MEEKS of New York and Ms. RICHARDSON.
 H.R. 4116: Mrs. CAPPS.
 H.R. 4150: Mr. ORTIZ.
 H.R. 4223: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
 H.R. 4226: Mr. BOUCHER.
 H.R. 4256: Mr. STARK.
 H.R. 4263: Ms. FUDGE.
 H.R. 4320: Mr. ALEXANDER.
 H.R. 4399: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
 H.R. 4459: Mr. CALVERT.
 H.R. 4472: Mr. CONYERS.
 H.R. 4509: Mr. ROONEY and Mrs. HALVORSON.
 H.R. 4530: Mr. LEVIN.
 H.R. 4533: Mr. PETERS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
 H.R. 4544: Ms. KILROY.
 H.R. 4557: Ms. RICHARDSON.
 H.R. 4636: Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. HERGER, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. PITTS, and Mr. GINGREY of Georgia.
 H.R. 4638: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
 H.R. 4645: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
 H.R. 4676: Ms. WOOLSEY.
 H.R. 4684: Mr. POE of Texas, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
 H.R. 4692: Ms. BEAN.
 H.R. 4722: Mr. HONDA and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
 H.R. 4733: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
 H.R. 4755: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
 H.R. 4757: Mr. ELLISON, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. GARAMENDI.
 H.R. 4761: Mr. ALTMIRE.
 H.R. 4770: Ms. BEAN.
 H.R. 4785: Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. SPACE, and Mr. HARE.
 H.R. 4790: Ms. DELAURO, Mr. HALL of New York, Ms. WATSON, and Mr. WELCH.
 H.R. 4800: Ms. LEE of California.
 H.R. 4803: Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. LATTA, and Mr. HALL of Texas.
 H.R. 4844: Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. ORTIZ, and Mr. MILLER of Florida.
 H.R. 4868: Mr. WU.
 H.R. 4870: Mr. NADLER of New York and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

H.R. 4914: Mr. ADLER of New Jersey.
 H.R. 4918: Mr. SCHRADER.
 H.R. 4933: Ms. NORTON.
 H.R. 4943: Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
 H.R. 4985: Mr. COBLE.
 H.R. 4995: Mr. SIMPSON.
 H.R. 5008: Mr. QUIGLEY.
 H.R. 5012: Mr. MOORE of Kansas.
 H.R. 5016: Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, and Mr. BROUN of Georgia.
 H.R. 5034: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, and Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida.
 H.R. 5040: Mr. TONKO.
 H.R. 5041: Mr. ISRAEL and Mr. BACA.
 H.R. 5044: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
 H.R. 5049: Mr. BACA and Mr. MURPHY of New York.
 H.R. 5054: Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS and Mr. ADERHOLT.
 H.R. 5081: Mr. GERLACH.
 H.R. 5092: Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. PETRI, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. HARPER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. KILROY, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. CHU, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. RICHARDSON, Ms. WATERS, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. SHULER, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mr. SESTAK.
 H.R. 5129: Mr. SIREN.
 H.R. 5137: Ms. ESHOO, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. INSLEE, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. COOPER, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. CARNEY, Ms. BEAN, Ms. KILROY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BOCCIERI, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. HARE, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. HONDA, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. COSTA, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. ANDREWS, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. KAGEN, Mr. PERRIELLO, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Mr. NADLER of New York, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. ISRAEL, Mrs. EMERSON, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. TERNEY, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. KIND, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. MCMAHON, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MAFFEL, Mr. HALL of New York, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. HOLT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. WATT, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. WEINER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. MURPHY of New York, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. SHULER, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. WELCH.
 H.R. 5141: Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Ms. FALLIN, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. GOODLATTE, and Mr. SCHOCK.
 H.R. 5142: Mr. STARK, Mr. SIREN, Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. SPIER, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Ms. BERKLEY.
 H.R. 5152: Mr. MARSHALL.
 H.R. 5158: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. BOCCIERI.
 H.R. 5200: Mr. COURTNEY.
 H. Con. Res. 266: Mr. CULBERSON.
 H. Res. 173: Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN and Mr. SCHOCK.
 H. Res. 764: Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS.
 H. Res. 928: Ms. NORTON.
 H. Res. 989: Ms. CHU and Mr. PALLONE.
 H. Res. 1073: Mr. WALZ, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. HILL.

H. Res. 1078: Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. THORBERRY, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. ROONEY, and Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee.

H. Res. 1093: Mr. LOEBSACK.

H. Res. 1106: Mr. SHULER.

H. Res. 1152: Ms. MATSUI and Ms. KILROY.

H. Res. 1157: Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. SIRES, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. CAO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. WATSON, and Ms. BERKLEY.

H. Res. 1207: Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, and Mr. SALAZAR.

H. Res. 1245: Mr. TERRY.

H. Res. 1247: Mr. CASTLE.

H. Res. 1250: Mr. ELLISON, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. NORTON.

H. Res. 1258: Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. SESTAK, and Mr. COURTNEY.

H. Res. 1261: Mr. EHLERS.

H. Res. 1266: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.

H. Res. 1273: Mr. POSEY and Mr. SCHOCK.

H. Res. 1279: Mr. JONES.

H. Res. 1294: Mr. LANCE, Mr. PITTS, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. INGLIS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. POSEY, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr.

THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. MICA, Mr. CAMP, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. LEE of New York, Mrs. BIGGERT, Ms. FALLIN, and Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.

H. Res. 1297: Mr. SCHRADER and Ms. WOOLSEY.

H. Res. 1299: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. COURTNEY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. REICHERT, and Mr. LAMBORN.

H. Res. 1317: Mr. UPTON, Mr. PITTS, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Mr. LOBIONDO.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

123. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska, relative to supporting House Joint Resolution 53 of the Twenty-Sixth Alaska legislature; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

124. Also, a petition of City of Binghamton, New York, relative to Permanent Resolution 10-32 supporting the passage of the Uniting American Families Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

125. Also, a petition of Board of Aldermen, St. Louis, Missouri, relative to Resolution Number 381 supporting the passage of the Uniting American Families Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

126. Also, a petition of California Federation of Teachers, California, relative to Resolution 21 urging the Congress of the United States to oppose the free trade agreement between the United States and Colombia; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

127. Also, a petition of City of Berkeley, California, relative to Resolution No. 64,820-N.S. supporting H.R. 4687, the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Exchange Expansion and Job Creation Act of 2010; jointly to the Committees on Financial Services and Ways and Means.

128. Also, a petition of California Federation of Teachers, California, relative to Resolution 33 calling for a redirection of the military budget for Afghanistan to reparations for infrastructure and social programs for the Afghani people; jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Armed Services.

129. Also, a petition of California Federation of Teachers, California, relative to Resolution 25 urging the immediate release of the "Cuban Five"; jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary and Foreign Affairs.

130. Also, a petition of California Federation of Teachers, California, relative to Resolution 24 declaring solidarity with the people of Honduras; jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, Financial Services, Armed Services, and Ways and Means.