

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