

not without precedent. A similar extension was granted for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

In the process of recovering from Ike, please consider that Catholic Charities reports that there are over 3,500 families in Galveston who are in the process of getting their homes repaired or replaced who still need rent assistance. The Gulf Coast Center in Galveston and Brazoria Counties is working with 19 agencies to provide mental health support and counseling to 3,000 clients each month who are still suffering from the impact of Hurricane Ike on their lives. The University of Texas Medical Branch reports that they are providing food assistance, medical care, and case management to 20,000 households each month. This will end without an extension.

In the words of one leader at the United Way, "We are not asking to access more funding, only to finish what we started." Do I wish this extension was not needed? Of course. We all do. But it is needed, and I ask that this Chamber join me in doing what is right and fair for a community that lost so much 2 years ago. I urge my colleagues to vote for Senate bill 3774, so the people of southeast Texas can finally put Hurricane Ike in their past.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 3774, which would extend the deadline for Social Services Block Grant expenditures of supplemental funds appropriated following disasters occurring in 2008.

The FY2009 Supplemental Appropriation included funding for disasters that occurred in 2008. This included \$600 million in Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funding eligible to be used for a wide variety of social services to assist in disaster recovery.

In the wake of Hurricane Ike, a total of 734,000 Texans had registered with FEMA for individual assistance and 17,000 homes in Harris County were destroyed.

Due to the magnitude of Ike, the State of Texas received \$219 million in recovery funds under the Social Services Block Grant program from the Department of Health and Human Services.

Under federal law, these SSBG funds must be spent by September 30, 2010. Any money not spent by that time must be returned to the federal Treasury. Texas currently has \$44 million in funding that will revert back to the federal government.

Many entities and local governments in Texas have expressed difficulty in meeting the September 30, 2010 deadline and are requesting a one year extension to September 30, 2011.

Although there have been significant successes through the recovery process, significant needs remain. In the Greater Houston area, more than 2,500 families in case management still cite needs in the area of home repair and/or unmet needs.

It is important to note that Texas is not the only state that would lose access to these funds—16 other states have remaining funds and an extension would assist those states as well.

A similar extension was granted by Congress for Hurricane Katrina SSBG disaster re-

covery funds. It is also important to note that this bill involves no new spending. The SSBG grant funds were released and dispersed to the states over a year ago. This bill will only give those who need it, extra time to expend these needed funds as they continue to recover from Hurricane Ike.

Senator CORNYN's legislation, S. 3774, passed out of the Senate on a unanimous consent. It would extend the deadline for Social Services Block Grant expenditures of supplemental funds appropriated following disasters occurring in 2008 for one year from September 30, 2010 to September 30, 2011.

Before the House recessed on September 29 we tried to bring up this legislation, but it came over from the Senate very late and we were unable to come to an agreement to bring up the legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to allow the states impacted by disasters that occurred in 2008.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. And with that, I would ask for support of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3774.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. 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.

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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 California (Mr. SHERMAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SHERMAN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

TAX CUTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GRAYSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, sometime between now and December 31 we will be discussing tax cuts—specifically, whether to extend the President Obama tax cuts for the middle class or

whether to extend the George W. Bush tax cuts for the rich—and I think it is important for people to understand exactly who this money will be received by.

In the case of the Obama tax cuts, like the child tax credit, it will be received by needy parents who need the money in order to pay the mortgage, pay the rent, pay their car payments, their credit card payments. And in the case of the Bush tax cuts for the rich, it will be received by the rich.

In fact, for the top 1 percent of income in this country, the high and mighty, the people who make an average of \$1.4 million every single year, according to these charts I am about to show, you will see the following:

Mr. Speaker, the Republican plan for tax cuts is to give each millionaire, each person who makes \$1.4 million a year on the average, the top 1 percent of income in this country, the high and mighty, \$83,347 a year in tax cuts. \$83,347 a year, according to econometric modeling by Citizens for Tax Justice.

Let's give some thought as to what the high and mighty might actually do with that money.

Well, here is one possibility. They can buy an \$83,000 Mercedes-Benz E-Class car not just once, but every single year for the next decade. And each year when they get tired of their brand-new Mercedes-Benz E-Class car, they can just give it to somebody because they can afford another one. They can give it to a spouse, a sister, a son, a daughter, anybody. Every single year for the next 10 years, the Republican tax plan is to give millionaires enough money for a Mercedes-Benz.

Here is something else they can do with it. They can buy this gorgeous Hermes bag, a Birkin, for \$64,800, not once, but every single year for the next 10 years, to which they will say to the Republican party, "Thank you very much."

Here is something else they can do with their money. They can buy this bottle of Chateau d'Yquem wine, bottled in 1787, for only \$56,588. That will leave loose change in their pocket of \$25,000. They can buy a bottle of wine from 1787 every year for the next decade. Thank you, Republican Party.

Here is something else they can do. They can buy 20,000 jars of their favorite mustard, Grey Poupon, 20,000 jars. That is certainly enough for them, their family, their friends, even a few poor people. Thank you, Republican party.

Here is something else they can do with the \$80,000 that the Republican Party wants to put in their pocket every year for the next 10 years. They can buy 800 cigars. Think about that. That is one for the morning and one for the evening, 800 luxury cigars. Then they can light each one of those cigars with a \$100 bill. Thank you, Republican Party. You are letting the rich in this country enjoy two cigars each day for the next 10 years and light each one with a \$100 bill.