and whilst he is quiet, he is as well guarded as a prince in his castle. This writ, if it should be declared legal, would totally annihilate this privilege.'' Now 250 years later, the Patriot Act restores these roving searches.

In the audience that day in 1761 was a 25-year-old lawyer named John Adams. He would later recall: ''Every man of an immense crowded audience appeared to me to go away as I did, ready to take arms against writs of assistance. Then and there was the first scene of the first act of opposition to the arbitrary claims of Great Britain. Then and there, the child, 'Independence' was born.''

The American Founders responded with the Fourth Amendment. It provides that before the government can invade a person's privacy the executive branch must present sworn testimony to an independent judiciary that a crime has occurred and that there is reason to believe that an individual should be searched for evidence of the crime, and then specify the place to be searched and the things to be seized. The John Doe roving wiretaps provided under this bill are a clear breach of this crystal-clear provision.

The entire point of having an open and independent judiciary is so that abuses of power can be quickly identified by the public and corrected. The very structure of this law prevents that from occurring.

I also object to the lone wolf provision of the act that allows a person who's not acting in concert with a foreign power to be treated as if they were. This malignant fiction utterly blurs the critical distinction between a private person protected under our Constitution and an enemy combatant acting as an agent of a foreign power.

My chief of staff, Igor Birman, was born in Moscow. His family emigrated to America when he was 14. He tells of the days leading up to their long-awaited departure. His father had technical expertise, and the authorities were desperate to find some pretense to cancel the family's exit visa.

A week before they departed for America, the family returned home to find that the Soviet authorities had turned their apartment upside down looking for anything that could be used to block their emigration. This was not the result of suspected criminal activity but, rather, the same kind of open-ended search the Fourth Amendment protects us against.

His younger brother was terrified and hysterical. His mother calmed the little boy by saying, Don't worry, don't worry. We're leaving in a few days for America. This will never happen to us there.

Our country is threatened by foreign governments and multinational terrorist groups which are actively trying to do us harm, backed by a fifth column within our own borders. But we have faced far more powerful governments and far better organized networks of spies and saboteurs in the past without having to shred our Bill of Rights.

The freedom that our Constitution protects is the source of our economic prosperity, our moral authority, and our martial strength. It is also the ultimate bulwark against authoritarianism. Abraham Lincoln was right: No transatlantic military giant, let alone some fanatical terrorist group, can ever ''step across the ocean and crush us at a blow.'' And no foreign power can destroy our Constitution. Only we can do that.

As Lincoln said: ''As a Nation of free men, we are destined to live forever, or die by suicide.''

CONSEQUENCES OF THE REPUBLICAN CONTINUING RESOLUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, Republicans have introduced an irresponsible and dangerous spending bill that cuts jobs, threatens American innovation, and diminishes investments in rebuilding America. Republicans only want to offer Americans a pink slip. We all want to find an appropriate way to reduce our deficit, but this certainly is not the way.

Republicans have proposed a resolution that will not decrease the deficit, but that will add $5 trillion to the deficit through tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans, unlimited war funding, and the repeal of the health care legislation. They have not presented a serious plan for actually addressing the deficit.

The irresponsible impact of Republican spending in education: Democrats are going to fight with everything we have to ensure that the next generation of students is prepared to become the educated workforce of tomorrow. But the Republicans believe that it is okay that more than 200,000 children will be kicked out of Head Start.

□ 1040

The Republicans believe that thousands of teachers should lose their jobs. The Republicans believe that Pell Grant recipients should lose $800 worth of financial support to pursue their educations.

In the area of innovation, America's competitiveness depends on our ability to innovate and keep America number one. Republicans believe that there should be 20,000 fewer researchers supported at the National Science Foundation. They believe that there should be a $1.4 billion reduction in science and energy research. They believe that there should be $2.5 billion in cuts to the National Institutes of Health, representing a significant setback in cancer and other diseases and research in general, which will especially hit hard the district I represent.

If we're talking about rebuilding America, Democrats support key investments in roads, schools, bridges that are critical for businesses to grow and that create good-paying American jobs. Republicans would rescind more than $2.5 billion for high-speed rail projects that have already been awarded. That would allow the loss of more than 25,000 new construction jobs and the cancellation of 76 projects in 40 States. Republicans would cut $234 million designed to improve our Nation's air traffic control system.

And as it relates to public safety, one of the most important things that a government does provide, we are here to take care of our people. We are to provide safety. The Republicans propose that more than 1,300 fewer cops should be on the streets because they are going to eliminate the COPS grants. And they would have 2,400 fewer firefighters on the job because they are going to eliminate funding for SAFER grants.

As President Obama said, we must out-innovate, out-educate, and out-build the rest of the world. Let's invest in America. Let us reject the Republican CR.

FUNDING CUTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Maine (Ms. PINGREE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Madam Speaker, we are facing some very important and difficult decisions in the coming weeks as we debate both the continuing resolution and the President's budget. I would like to talk just a little bit about some of the decisions that we have to make today as we discuss this this morning.

As some of my colleagues have already mentioned, the proposed continuing resolution that the Republicans have put on the table has draconian cuts that will not move our country forward. Whether it's cuts to the National Institutes of Health and investigating important research that we have before us, cuts to our infrastructure or education, arts and culture, cuts to our police protection and fire protection in our home communities, this budget does not do what the American people need, and it will not move us forward.

The proposed continuing resolution has made one particular cut that I want to discuss in more detail. For a party that refers to itself as ''the party of jobs'' and says they want to move the economy forward, I am very disturbed to see that they are slashing the funding for the Economic Development Administration, and I am here to say that doing so will pull the rug out from the very people who are creating jobs and helping turn our economy around.

Last year, I brought the administrator of the Economic Development Administration to Maine; and he saw firsthand, as he well knew, how EDA funding could help make it possible to build a new freezer facility in the city of Portland. This is a critical infrastructure improvement for our already struggling Maine fishermen. This

would make it possible so that they would not have to send their catch off to another State or even another country to be processed. If we can build that freezer in Portland, hundreds of jobs could be created, and our working waterfronts could be strengthened.

Also in Maine, the community of Brunswick has been hit by BRAC, a base closure; and they have worked long and hard to develop economic development opportunities that will strengthen that community and reuse the base. They have successfully attracted exciting new projects, including an aircraft manufacturing facility using carbon fiber, high-technology materials and the highest technology in new engineering and building on the site of the former air base.

But those projects and the hundreds of jobs that they will create are counting on the EDA funding to help transform what was once a former Navy base into a civilian economic engine. The economy is just starting to turn around, and eliminating the critical investments we need to keep it going is the last thing we should be doing right now.

I want to say a couple of things too about the President's budget. The President has put forward a budget on the table that does many of the things that we need to have done: investing in infrastructure, science and technology, education, the very kinds of things that will make our country competitive and move us forward. There are many good things in this budget, whether it's eliminating the tax breaks for big oil companies, or no further extensions of tax cuts for the wealthy, or making sure we do increase the Economic Development Administration and invest in economic development.

Investing in health care, continuing to implement the health care reform bill where we are putting money into the critical training of 4,000 more primary care providers—I know that's a huge need in my State and so many other States—as well as working to move forward on the permanent fix to the SGR so that our physicians are adequately reimbursed.

Investments in housing, making sure that the homeless veterans are no longer on the streets anymore and that people have more choices to move forward in housing. Eliminating tax breaks for big oil companies. Making our commercial buildings more efficient, even cutting defense in strategic ways. Up to $78 billion in wasteful spending is cut out of the President's budget. Cutting of the alternative engine for the F–35, which is just wasteful, unnecessary while at the same time he is making sure that our military personnel get a pay raise and that they are recognized and supported.

I do need to discuss one issue in the President's budget that will be a problem for my constituents in Maine. The President's budget proposes to cut LIHEAP funding. LIHEAP funding helps nearly 70,000 Maine households make ends meet by offsetting home heating costs. Funding is especially important for Maine. We have some of the country's oldest housing stock, and we are heavily dependent on oil for heating. In fact, we are the most dependent State in the Nation on oil heat.

The cost of heating oil is going up, from a low of about $2.25 at the beginning of the economic downturn to about $3.35 now. Maine communities are still struggling in the down economy. Slashing funding for this program would not be appropriate, and it must be changed in the President's budget.

DO NOT CUT LIHEAP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. ELLISON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, I come before the House today to talk about a critically important program that I think all Americans need to know about which is hanging in the balance as we approach this continuing resolution. The program I am here to talk about is the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, also known as LIHEAP.

LIHEAP is a program commonly believed to be an income-support program. But actually, Madam Speaker, it is not an income-support program. LIHEAP, which provides energy to low-income families, heating oil, things like that, is actually a health program and a program that is designed to make sure that citizens do not have to choose between heat and eat. You do not have to choose between dinner and a warm room. Many of us who are from places like Minnesota, my own home State, but also Michigan, Maine, New Jersey, New Hampshire, add to that many others—Montana, many others, and even some States that we think of as warm-weather States, but in the winter can get cold too—really, people depend upon these programs to really survive.

In my own State, if LIHEAP is cut, many people will simply go without. And of course I have statistics here, Madam Speaker; but rather than talk about statistics, I want to talk about a man who lived in my district who was actually not a LIHEAP recipient but was eligible for the program and didn't use it. He didn't have enough money for his heat, so what he did was he kind of jerry-rigged some space heaters, and he kind of made due. And this caused a fire, Madam Speaker, which resulted in his death.

And when I looked up what really happens, how often people die from space heaters, the numbers are not always consistent, but upwards of 32 percent of all home fires are because of space heaters; and about 75 percent of all home-fire deaths are due to space heaters, deaths.

□ 1050

People die when this happens because they don't have the energy assistance that they need. And our Congress, right now, under Republican majority, is talking about cutting this program even more.

Now, you think about a winter like this one, Madam Speaker, where there have been record snowfalls in many places around our country, and it's been cold since October in Minnesota. And the fact is that programs that provide LIHEAP funding are already running out of money. And if they were drawn back to 2008 spending levels, we would have run out of LIHEAP funding in January. In Minnesota it really does not warm up until around April. And so this is terrible.

Madam Speaker, let me tell you, if you look at young people, kids, statistics show that if a family does not have to put a bunch of money into heating the home the child's diet improves, and the kid has enough to eat before he goes to school, which means that that little girl or that little boy can sit in the classroom without their stomach growling and can actually pay attention to the lesson that's going on because their family has some home energy assistance.

Our seniors are poor. It's about the prescription, or it's about the heated room.

Madam Speaker, it's not right to tell Americans that the wealthiest and most well-to-do among us get their tax break extended, and the poorest among us, well, they can just go get another blanket. That's wrong. We're failing a moral test of our Nation when we do things like this.

Madam Speaker, I want to raise this issue that we consider what we are doing to our society. It's not welfare; it's not income support. It is a health program. It is a health program designed to make sure that Americans don't freeze to death in their own homes. It is a health program designed to make sure that Americans don't have to make awful decisions about medication, about food, and things like this. It is a health program. And it's a program that has done countless amounts of good for many, many people that helps seniors, that helps children.

I'm very proud, Madam Speaker, as I close, to quote a man from my State of Minnesota. His name was Hubert H. Humphrey, and he said, The moral test of a Nation is how it treats people in the dawn of life, our children; people in the twilight of life, our seniors; and people in the shadows of life, the poor and underprivileged.

If we cut low-income energy assistance, we've failed that moral test.

ELIMINATION OF TITLE X FUNDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, it has been 6 weeks