

remarks in debate are properly addressed to the Chair and not to a viewing audience.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2017, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

Mr. REED (during the Special Order of Mr. ROE of Tennessee), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112-95) on the resolution (H. Res. 287) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2017) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

MAKE IT IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin our remarks today which will focus on our Make It in America agenda, the agenda that we put together to put the American people back to work to really support manufacturing, and we are going to have a good discussion about that.

I would like to yield first to the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL) who has some important remarks to share.

Ms. SEWELL. Thank you so much for yielding.

I rise before you today to discuss the recent disasters, natural disasters, that have affected families, businesses and communities across this Nation. In the aftermath of such disasters, there must be a shared commitment to rebuilding communities across this Nation.

My thoughts and prayers are with the people of Joplin, Missouri, who suffered the most recent wrath of nature. We in the Seventh Congressional District of Alabama suffered massive devastation during the April tornados. Nine out of 12 counties in my district suffered tremendous damage. These pictures only show part of the story. Homes were destroyed. Schools, churches, businesses, and communities were destroyed; and many of my constituents lost the lives of their friends and loved ones.

I want to thank the President and the First Lady for visiting my district and seeing the devastation firsthand. Mr. President, you told us then that you had not seen such devastation before. You also said that you would make sure that we were not forgotten.

Thank you, Mr. President, for your commitment to rebuilding Alabama. I want to thank your administration for responding so quickly.

Within hours, FEMA administrator Craig Fugate was on the scene to sur-

vey the widespread damage. The emergency disaster declaration and the major disaster declaration were approved within hours.

I also want to thank Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and SBA Administrator Karen Mills for traveling to my district days later.

As a result of the April tornados, 67 lives were lost in my district alone; and in the State of Alabama, 238 people lost their lives. I want to extend my deepest condolences to those who have lost their loved ones. I want to thank all of the first responders who were on the scene to help so many of the victims.

I also want to thank the volunteers who continue to work tirelessly to restore the lives of families who lost all that they had. The destruction and loss of lives has been absolutely heartbreaking. But out of this tragedy, we will triumph. We will recover, rebuild, and restore our communities. We will be better and stronger than before. I am inspired every day by the resilience that my district in the State of Alabama and the people have shown. Neighbor helping neighbor.

The response by the State and local government has been tremendous. I want to thank Governor Bentley of Alabama for his leadership and timely response. The coordinated efforts of my local mayors have been amazing. I would like to thank Mayor William Bell of Birmingham, Mayor Walt Maddox of Tuscaloosa, Mayor Cunningham of Geiger. Your leadership and tireless efforts have been commendable.

I also would like to commend the Alabama Emergency Management Agency under the leadership of Art Faulkner. I would be remiss if I did not mention the incredible support and help of my colleagues within the Alabama delegation.

What we have learned is that what affects one of us indeed affects all of us. Together, I know we will work to rebuild Alabama.

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank the gentlewoman, and I know we all stand in strong support of the work that is under way in your district and all across this country and our hearts and prayers continue to go to the families who have suffered such tragic losses during those terrible, terrible incidents. We compliment the first responders and the mayors and all those you have recognized tonight.

I would like now, Mr. Speaker, to turn to the agenda that we announced several weeks ago that involves really comprehensive pieces of legislation to really support American manufacturing.

Our country has a proud tradition of making things. We built the world's strongest middle class because, in large part, so much of what the world needed, we made here in America. And for millions of Americans, our tradition of making things here has been a source

of opportunity and great pride. Today, with millions of Americans still out of work and with an economy which is still struggling, it's time to draw from that tradition to build a positive, job-creating agenda.

The American Dream used to mean something, that if you put in a hard day's work you could expect good American wages, benefits, and a better life for your family. It meant that when products said "Made in America," people knew that they were getting the highest quality manufactured goods money could buy. It's time working Americans used our strength in numbers to reclaim the American Dream. Working people deserve a voice at the table; and if we lose that voice, we will lose what our grandparents fought so hard to leave us.

We should start with manufacturing. The number of Americans involved in producing goods is still near its lowest point since World War II. Manufacturing is central to our economy. The National Association of Manufacturers tells us that manufacturing stimulates more economic activity than any other sector. It's time we started expanding opportunity and stopped shrinking the middle class.

So this effort is to really understand that we have to start making things again, that manufacturing matters. My friend, Mr. GARAMENDI, certainly our leader in this Make It in America agenda, is someone who has spoken so passionately and so forcefully about our ability again to lead the world in making goods so that we can start shipping goods that are made in this country all over the world. Instead of exporting jobs, let's export American-made goods.

I tell my constituents—I hear from them all the time—go into a store and try to find something made in America. It's almost impossible, and it doesn't have to be that way. We still have the best workers in the world, we still make the best products in the world, and what we need are good public policies that support American manufacturing, that support job growth in American manufacturing to give fair trade and tax policies that give American manufacturers a fighting chance to compete in a global economy and efforts to be sure that our trading partners like the Chinese stop cheating and play by the rules and are held accountable when they do.

So we put together an ambitious agenda to really make things again in this country. Because when we make things in America, families can make it in America.

We have a series of bills we want to talk about tonight, but think of those days when you would go into a store and you would pick up an item and it said "Made in the USA" and the kind of pride we felt because we knew that was a product that was made well, built well, that would stand the test of time, and we could sell it all over the world. We can do that again.

We are doing it. We have some great manufacturing in this country. We are seeing a real growth, particularly in new manufacturing, high-tech manufacturing, which requires innovation and entrepreneurship and the kinds of investments in technology that will help us lead the world in this new knowledge-based economy. So this effort is to really understand this is part of our history, it's part of the present day, and it is part of our future as a great economic power.

I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) who has been such an important voice on the importance of rebuilding and strengthening manufacturing in this country.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. CICILLINE, it does not surprise me at all that you have a passion for this issue. You come from a part of the United States that really started the industrial revolution, the Northeast, and your State in particular, the industrial revolution started there.

And over the years it gave great strength to this Nation, and it was the manufacturing that provided the economic underpinnings for the growth of the American economy. Unfortunately, your part of the State, perhaps for a variety of reasons, some of them having to do with national policies, began to lose its industrial base.

But with your representation and your passion for this issue, I have absolutely no doubt that once again the Northeast will find the resiliency and the right national policies to rebuild the manufacturing base there and across the rest of the Nation.

We are already beginning to see it as a result of the stimulus program, and some of the specific laws that were built into that program are now rebuilding the manufacturing base in the Midwest.

□ 2050

Specifically, a requirement that for the high-speed rail systems and the rebuilding of the American intercity rail programs, those goods, trains, rails, electronic systems, control systems, have to be built in America. And guess what? International companies are establishing, reestablishing, and building manufacturing facilities in America to take advantage of that money that was in the stimulus bill. Simple, little things, not an increase, but rather using our Federal money wisely. We can do it. We must do it. We will make it in America once again, and it will be the great American manufacturing sector. And when we do this, America will make it.

There has been a lot of discussion here on the floor today about deficits. What are we going to do about the deficits? Are we going to raise the debt limit? Of course we're going to raise the debt limit. We have to. America stands behind its debts. We will pay. It will engender a debate. Fine. Let's make this part of the debate. Let's make this part of the debate.

In dealing with America's deficit, are we willing to put in place the policies that will rebuild the American manufacturing sector? And I know it is the Democratic agenda to do just that, that we will rebuild the American manufacturing sector. And in doing so, we will rebuild the American economy and provide one of the critical bricks in solving the deficit problem. Without a growing economy, without a strong middle class, the deficit will never be solved. So we ought to do it.

How can we do it? Well, how about our legislative agenda? Why don't you start us off on a couple of the bills and see where it takes us?

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank the gentleman.

I think one of the important investments that we need to make in supporting manufacturing that you just referenced is infrastructure. And one of the parts of the Make It in America agenda is the making of a national infrastructure bank which will create a public-private partnership to finance the construction of roads, bridges, transit, and the ability to move information, goods, and services in the 21st century.

If we're going to successfully compete in the manufacturing sector, we need to have an infrastructure that has the ability to move goods, services, and information to be competitive and succeed in the 21st century economy.

When you look at what other nations who are investing in manufacturing, are investing in their infrastructure to support manufacturing, in roads, in bridges, in transit, in information technology, and the ability to move goods and services competitively, they are racing by us, literally and figuratively. And what we need is an infrastructure that will support this growth in manufacturing, an infrastructure that will really allow American manufacturers to compete successfully in the 21st century.

Mr. GARAMENDI. If you would yield, the infrastructure bank is a great idea, and it is one which allows us to build immediately. And over time, as those projects pay off, they repay the loans. It is a very, very wise investment to create an infrastructure bank. Other countries have it. And in the United States, there are certain localities and States that also have it.

Another piece of legislation dealing with infrastructure actually is a bill that I put together that says, we spend a lot of money. It's part of the excise tax money that goes out to build highways, to pay for buses, trains, light rails and the like. And my bill is pretty simple. It's our tax money. Use that tax money to buy American-made equipment. Why would we send our tax money off to China to buy a Chinese bus? Hey, we make great buses. We make a great bus in the Bay Area. The GILLIG Corporation makes a bus that is a superb bus. And we need to spend our taxpayer money buying American-made buses, trains, light rails and the like.

We're going to spend billions. Is the money going to be spent in America or is the money going to be spent overseas? My legislation says buy American-made equipment. Pretty simple. After all, it's our tax money. One of several bills—the infrastructure bank and this particular bill—in building the American infrastructure.

I notice one of our colleagues here from the State of Hawaii.

Mr. CICILLINE. Yes, I know she, I'm certain, is going to join the conversation.

I think the point you made, Mr. GARAMENDI, is an important one. These are not always pieces of legislation that require additional investments of resources. It's also about ensuring that the resources that we're expending are used in ways that support the growth of American jobs and American manufacturing, and your bill is an excellent example of that.

I think we also have, as part of this package, kind of as a beginning point, the development of a national manufacturing strategy, a legislation that would direct the President to convene the stakeholders in industry, in labor, and manufacturers to really develop a national manufacturing strategy with benchmarks and with ways to hold ourselves accountable to meeting those benchmarks; because, again, all of our competitors who are serious about growing manufacturing are doing it pursuant to a well-conceived and developed manufacturing strategy.

We need to put the same kind of thoughtful consideration in the development of that strategy and then really hold ourselves accountable with good benchmarks. And I think that's a great other piece. Of course, my favorite in the package is my very own Make It in America block grants.

Mr. GARAMENDI. It's always good to talk about your legislation. This is a great way to get things started. This is a great way to do it. It came from a fellow from the East Coast, the great State of Rhode Island, and it basically is a block grant program to jump-start the infrastructure programs all across the Nation.

The thing that's really good about this is it's a competitive block grant. You're just not going to go out with earmarks because somebody has seniority, but it's going to be based on the quality of the program, the jobs that are brought, the necessity of moving people. I think it must have been a genius out of Rhode Island. Was it you, Mr. CICILLINE, who came up with that idea?

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank the gentleman for that excellent question. But this legislation really grew out of my visits to manufacturers in Rhode Island, some who have been very successful, some that are growing, some that have not been growing. And I said, What are the impediments? What would allow you to grow? What do you need as an American, as a Rhode Island manufacturer? And developed this idea

of the Make It in America block grant that would provide resources in a competitive process as you described, for manufacturers to retrofit their factories to make energy improvements in their plants, to train workers on new equipment, to buy new equipment, to engage in activities which will allow them to increase their exports, but really a shot in the arm to help manufacturers to compete successfully in the 21st century by identifying what they need.

And, look, we invest lots of resources in other areas of our economy. We don't do enough for American manufacturing. This would respond to many of the urgent issues that Rhode Island manufacturers, American manufacturers are facing, do it in a competitive way with real measurement of outcomes, but really invest again in making things in this country.

I know the gentlelady from Hawaii has now joined us, who has also been an important part of the Make It in America agenda.

I would like to yield to Congresswoman HANABUSA.

Ms. HANABUSA. Thank you very much. It's very fascinating to watch the both of you go back and forth on this.

Hawaii doesn't have manufacturing like the traditional form of manufacturing. However, there is one part of our economy that is very critical, and it's under fire. And I would like to discuss that, because I have some statistics as to how, when we protect what is made in America, we are able to actually see the results.

And I'm talking about the Jones Act, which has different ramifications for all over, but for Hawaii, because we are in the middle of the Pacific, what we tend to forget is that our oceans are our highways. And what people think is that, gee, if we had ships coming in from foreign-flagged vessels, we might have a reduction in the costs. And that is exactly where we do not want to go.

Let's talk about manufacturing and how it affects us. First of all, shipbuilding, the gentleman from California and I sit on the Armed Services Committee, and tomorrow in one of the subcommittees, they're going to discuss the 30-year plan of shipbuilding in the military. And the military, I know from conversations with my own hometown people who are in the maritime industry that they have been called to Washington because the NAVSEA component wants them to continue to build in America. They want them to build the ships because we can't, the military can't continue to keep this industry alive. They need help from the private sector. So let's look at: Why wouldn't the private sector do this?

And one of the pieces of legislation that has been there to keep the private sector in the manufacturing of ships has been the Jones Act.

Now, let's understand what it means for a State like Hawaii, and then maybe we can, by going through that,

understand what the ramifications are when we talk about Make It in America, because people may not see that actual connection to how we benefit from it.

We have, for example, in my district alone, 16,494 domestic maritime industry jobs. This is the second highest of all congressional districts. This is according to a PricewaterhouseCoopers Transportation Institute survey or statistic that they did.

□ 2100

Now, the total gross economic output from domestic maritime activity is \$3.389 billion annually for the State of Hawaii. Gross output is defined as the sum of receipts or sales and other gross income generated in this maritime sector. Executives and other workers related to the domestic maritime industry receive total compensation of \$785.9 million annually. The total value added for goods and services moving by domestic waterborne transportation is \$1.24 billion annually.

The State of Hawaii is a top contributor to the domestic maritime industry, ranking basically in the top eight of four categories, top eight. Think about how small we are: jobs, economic output, labor compensation, and value added. There are over 23,000 domestic maritime jobs in the State of Hawaii, and the total gross economic output for the State is well over \$4.7 billion annually. And the related labor compensation is \$1.1 billion annually, and the annual value added is about \$1.7 billion.

Now, nationally, the domestic maritime industry accounts for about 499,676 jobs; \$29.1 billion in labor compensation; \$100.3 billion in economic output; \$45.9 billion in value added; and \$11.4 billion in taxes. There are more than 40,000 vessels in America's domestic fleet, one of the largest in the world. But remember something, and one of my Senators made the statement—and I was stunned by it—he said after World War II in terms of ruling the high seas, America had over 90 percent, over 90 percent; and we are now in the low 20s.

What does that mean for us? Think about the industry. Think about the manufacturing. Think about the high-quality jobs that the maritime industry represents, and what are we doing about it. We know trade. We also know in terms of the military that the maritime industry is critical, but the military alone cannot keep that industry alive.

That is why—let us not forget the Jones Act comes from the Merchant Marine Statute. And what has been done in the past? In the Persian Gulf war, for example, and in other types of areas where we don't have enough ships, we go to the private sector; and we are able to do that because they are American flagged, American owned, and American manned—manned, not to be referencing other than man or woman.

But that's what it is all about. We are, no matter what, the greatest power in the world. That's what we are. That's what we represent. And why would we not recognize that there are many things that we do best and we rule the high seas, as they said. And now we are willing to sacrifice that to other countries? That should not be the case because trade, maritime, is a major component of our success and our ability to continue to be independent.

And we know, the gentleman from California and I as we sit through many of our hearings, that the new military is looking at a marriage with the commercial areas, a marriage with using all of the different ships, plus airlines, to transport things. You know, that is the future; but to make that future a viable future and a cost-efficient future, we have got to continue to make it in America.

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank the gentlelady.

I think the other very important part of that conversation has to be a continued investment in science and research and innovation. A lot of the things you are talking about, kind of new manufacturing, we are going to continue to rely on the knowledge economy and the brilliant new innovators and the great new scientists and the great new technologies and research. We need to be sure that even in these difficult budget times, we are making investments in science and research that will help protect those jobs of the 21st century so we can not only develop the ideas, but then manufacture the products. I think that is an additional important point.

Mr. GARAMENDI. I only want to take a second here. I notice one of our colleagues from Texas has joined us. She is a strong advocate of returning American manufacturing.

I want to thank our colleague from the great State of Hawaii for bring to our attention the critical importance of transportation on the sea and in the American flag. Just for a moment, she caused in my mind a memory to return about an article that I read about where the ship is flagged. That is where it is licensed. I recall that I think it is from Florida, the Carnival Cruise lines, a billion-dollar operation with the ships actually flagged, I believe, in Panama. Interestingly, the tax that they pay to the U.S. Government, that is their corporate income tax—zero, nada, nothing—largely because they are able to avoid the American laws by flagging their ship offshore.

We need these ships flagged in America for many reasons, and certainly the issue that she raised about national defense. Corporate tax policy, the R&D tax credit, another one of the bills that the Democratic Caucus has put forward to permanently put in place the research and development tax credits so that we can expand the genesis, the beginning of tomorrow's manufacturing, which actually comes through the research. I can go on and on about that.

Representing California, we think research is really, really important. That is why we supported, without any Republican support, the STEM program, science and technology, which is research and also the education that goes with.

One of the things that I found so disturbing was the effort by our Republican colleagues to back off the research, to reduce the research in America, when in fact that is where the future comes from.

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank the gentleman from California.

I think that point cannot be stated often enough, that part of our ability to make it in America, not only manufacture but invent and create and make the new discoveries, is understanding that we need to maintain our investment in science and research to compete in this global economy. I thank you for raising it.

I am delighted that we are joined by our colleague from the great State of Texas, someone who has been a very forceful and strong advocate for manufacturing and making it in America.

I yield to the gentlelady from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I thank the gentleman.

It is my privilege to be able to join the gentleman from Rhode Island, a former mayor of one of our great cities, who understands when he looks at his constituents in city government that job creation and manufacturing churns the economy of local government as well.

I am delighted to say to my friend from California, Texas is right with you. I don't think any State can reject the value of research. We have the Texas Medical Center. It has research in many different components, but they all come together to generate jobs and a better quality of life.

And I am amazed at how astutely correct the gentlelady from Hawaii was on this whole idea of shipbuilding and the flags that ships fly under and the loss of income.

But more importantly, most of us grew up, young as we are, with this country being the grand shipbuilder. We were proud of that. We loved those christenings; but, more importantly, to see those great ships.

So I rise today to support you and to join also, if I might, with my colleague from Alabama, having had the opportunity to join her there in Birmingham and Tuscaloosa. Let me say to her and to those who have lost so much in Alabama and throughout the areas surrounding Alabama, and certainly to our dear friends in Missouri, and the tragedy of such a high cost of life, let me say to them that we will never give up on helping you.

My point is this: it is interesting that today we had an example of the lack of seriousness that my Republican friends have regarding job creation.

□ 2110

No matter how we voted—I voted “aye” on the debt relief, or the debt in-

crease—we all know that our commitment is to save Medicare and Medicaid, and that it is also to generate revenue.

How do we generate revenue? We put the punch back in manufacturing. We manufacture and we create jobs. How did FDR do it? He put people to work. Eventually, the government got out of putting people to work, and you saw this big manufacturing boom—shipbuilding, building homes. We all remember the massive homebuilding that President Eisenhower engaged in—manufacturing, making a whole bunch of things.

Let me tell you why this is so important and how sad I was that the debt relief was, in fact, a mockery, because, if you commemorated soldiers yesterday, let me tell you what the unemployment rate is for veterans: 7.7 percent. The unemployment rate for those Afghanistan veterans—and I would include Iraq—is 10.9 percent.

How do you put these folks to work? You put a boost and a punch in manufacturing. You let these guys come back and use the skills that they've gained in working—or soldiering, if you will—in Iraq, in fighting for our freedom in Afghanistan and other places. You say to these guys, I don't just mourn the loss of your comrades on Memorial Day; I listen to the voices of your families and yourselves. When you come back, I've got jobs for you.

Let me tell you how you do it, because I am big on making things. Here we go. Here is one of our bills that we are very interested in, H.R. 613. We build airports. We refurbish airports. We make them better. We fix our highways. We build or we engage in high-speed rail—trains, transit—and we make it in America. Let me say this: we make sure that trains are made here in America, are assembled here in America. We go back to making the same trains that we had to make when everyone said, Go west, young man. Go west, young woman. That's how Texas got here. That's how California got here.

So it saddens me that instead of spending the time today in looking at H.R. 1730, which will be discussed, or H.R. 613 or the research tax or the ability to give incentives for research or to help the Texas Medical Center or Silicon Valley, we did something that we didn't take seriously—the need of America to pay her bills.

Then, of course, what does it mean when we talk about “making it in America”? Boy, this is exciting to me. We begin to appreciate chemistry and physics because we are in the business of inventing and therefore of making. This picture shows research and what happens when you get through with research. It is extremely important that we, in essence, show the importance of what happens to Americans. They get to work.

My point is that there are a lot of Americans who can be helped if we engage in job creation by making it in America. As we have all committed to

do, I am beginning to go around to my district and am excited about all the manufacturers I am finding. I'll tell you, you just go around to say “thank you” to these manufacturers, “thank you” to what's happening. If we were to invest in America and make it in America, it would be a better deal not only for America and those Americans here but for our young people graduating from college and for our soldiers coming back.

So I want to thank the gentleman for, I think, the right approach, which comes right after the mockery of a debt relief that was not serious. For those of us who believed it was important to be serious and who may have voted “aye,” we really wanted to be discussing job creation, and we really wanted to be discussing having jobs, as well as providing for those who are ready to work. Let's see if we can get something done, so I join with the gentleman in working on these important issues.

I close by simply saying: what an excitement to make ships again, to build the trains for high-speed rail, to make America's infrastructure in such a way of using our manufactured products. What a way to put America back to work.

I hope we will continue to press this issue. I believe the Democrats are going to be able to get this done—to make it in America, which will create more jobs for America and will generate the revenue that will really bring down the deficit.

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank the gentlelady for her passion, and I am really hopeful that this is an issue on which we can really build some bipartisan support.

We put forth from the Democratic Caucus a very ambitious and detailed agenda on how we can make things again in this country and on how we can rebuild manufacturing and can really lead the world in the manufacturing sector again. I hope it's not a Republican or a Democratic issue. I hope people understand this is good for our country, is good for America, is good for American workers, is good for our economy; and I hope we will be able to find some support on the other side of the aisle for making it a reality.

I know a big piece of this is also supporting small businesses, which are an important part of the manufacturing sector. I would like to welcome the gentlelady from Alabama again and thank her for being part of this discussion.

Ms. SEWELL. Thank you so much for allowing me to be a part of the Make It in America Special Order hour.

I want to acknowledge the importance of small businesses in making it in America. Small businesses play a critical role in our economy. They provide jobs, they spur innovation, and they strengthen our economy. Small businesses are responsible for generating half of our Nation's gross national product and for employing half

of its workforce. That is why I have introduced the Small Business Start-Up Savings Account Act. More folks would benefit if they were provided incentives to allow them to save money to start up a business.

On average, an entrepreneur who wants to launch a new business spends \$80,000 in first-year start-up costs. Entrepreneurs often go into large amounts of debt to start their businesses. They may even try to save money ahead of time in order to start these businesses. Many even use their savings from their retirement accounts to build the capital they need to run their businesses.

This bill would allow entrepreneurs to save money tax free so that they could start their small businesses. Similar to the retirement accounts, this bill would allow entrepreneurs to save up to \$10,000 per year and to grow that amount tax free. Once people start their small businesses, funds from their savings accounts can be used for operating expenses.

In his State of the Union address, President Obama charged America once again to spark its creativity and imagination. He reminded us that we are the Nation that put cars in drive-ways, computers in offices, the Nation of Edison and the Wright Brothers, of Google and Facebook. In America, innovation doesn't just change our lives; it is how we make our living.

The government can't guarantee a company's success, but it can knock down barriers that prevent hard-working Americans from starting their very own small businesses. Innovation is the key to keeping America number one, and small businesses have always been at the forefront of American innovation. We can't expect to stay competitive in a global market without making the creation of small businesses a centerpiece in our playbook.

In the Seventh Congressional District of Alabama and throughout this country, the number one issue is job creation. Ordinary Americans with dreams of starting their own businesses will create most of the jobs that will employ the workers in America. In fact, over the past decade and a half, America's small businesses have created 65 percent of all jobs in this country. As we continue to build our economy, we must again build things in America, and we can do that through innovation and job creation through small businesses right here in America.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to pass this legislation and to help make things right here in America. I want to again applaud the gentleman from Rhode Island for leading us in this discussion tonight. It is critically important to the people of Alabama, whom I represent, and this Nation that we make things right here in America.

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank the gentleman.

I think this is one of those issues where the American people are well

ahead of the elected officials because I think most Americans recognize the importance of our making things again in this country. This agenda, this Make It in America agenda, is really about two things: one, rebuilding our manufacturing sector so that we can make products here in America and can sell them from here all over the world; and, second, creating good jobs so that more families are able to make it in America.

Americans inherently know that manufacturing is critical to our Nation. It is not just that manufacturing creates good-paying middle class jobs and fosters innovation but that we've also been incredibly proud as a country about the fact that we make things and that we make the best products in the world.

□ 2120

We need and want more success stories like General Motors' recent announcement that they will be adding and preserving over 4,000 jobs across the United States, or Ford's decision to move 2,000 jobs back to the United States from Japan, Mexico, and India. In fact, Ford is planning to add another 7,000 jobs here in the United States. We need more stories like that that recognize that we make the best products and we have the best workers in the world.

I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. GARAMENDI. I was just listening to you discuss the situation with General Motors and Chrysler. That was a very courageous move that the Democratic Congress, together with President Obama, made when they made a decision to save the American automobile industry.

Many people, particularly the Republicans here in this House, said don't do it, government shouldn't interfere with business, let the good go and the bad die. Well, this was several hundred thousand small businesses across the Nation that are supply chains that would have died. But the decision was made—a very courageous decision by the President—to support the foundation of one of the great industries in this world and one of the great industries in America. And so General Motors and Chrysler did receive a bailout. And here we are today with two companies back at it, making cars, making it in America, and by golly, we're going to "Import from Detroit." You know, that was one of the greatest advertisements there ever was. But that's what this is all about, that's what this Make It in America agenda really is.

There is another piece of this agenda that we really must pay attention to, and that is the future energy sources of America are going to be renewables, together with gas and nuclear, but these new industries need support in their early days. And this is a tax policy. There has been in place for about 7 or 8 years now a very robust tax policy to support the new renewable industries.

The production tax credit. When you put a solar panel up on your roof and you draw down the energy, there is a tax credit available to homeowners. Those are very, very good. We need one more little twist to it. I saw this in my own district with those wind turbines down there. They were being made offshore, and yet our tax money was—appropriately—supporting the energy, but if you add to it one additional fact, and that is the tax policy that supports a wind turbine made in America so that our tax money uses American-made equipment.

Another piece of legislation I have simply says, in the green technologies, wonderful, we need to do it, but let's make sure that those solar panels, those wind turbines are made in America.

Mr. CICILLINE. One of the most frustrating parts of that is when you look at the technology that forms the basis of those products, they were developed in large part—sometimes exclusively—by the great scientists and researchers at our great universities, and then they are manufactured outside the United States, and we're using public money to make those purchases. So you're absolutely right, having that requirement that it be manufactured in the United States is a critical part of it.

Mr. GARAMENDI. A pretty basic thought for me is that it's our tax money; spend it on American-made equipment.

The other piece of this is that these tax policies, these subsidies really work. And I want to give you an example. About a century ago, nearly a century ago America decided it needed a new energy source called oil. Over the years, subsidies were put in place to encourage investment in the oil industry and it worked, it worked phenomenally, created the best, most profitable industry in America, the petroleum industry; \$970 billion—just slightly short of \$1 trillion—of profit after taxes for the petroleum industry. And after a century of being subsidized by taxpayers, it's time for those to end. Let that industry help us with the deficit.

End the subsidy for Big Oil. Return the money to the American Treasury. Bring down our deficit. There's a lot of money here. Depending on how you count it, it's somewhere between \$2 billion, \$3 billion, or \$12 billion a year in subsidies for this industry. Let's end that. But unfortunately, we're involved in a debate here in Congress over whether we keep the tax subsidy for Big Oil and shift the burden of solving the deficit to seniors, an incredible policy put forth by our Republican colleagues that would force seniors to pay more for their medical insurance and literally terminate, end Medicare for everyone that's not yet 55 years of age. Terminate Medicare, shift the tax burden to them, and keep the tax subsidy for Big Oil. Hello? What's that all about? Big Oil doesn't need any more help. The deficit needs the help. Don't give the tax breaks to Big Oil. And for

heaven sakes, don't terminate Medicare and force today's seniors and tomorrow's seniors to add the burden while keeping the benefit to Big Oil.

This is about choices here. This is about choices. How do we use our tax money? For the future energy industries? Do we use our tax money to benefit Big Oil and force seniors and nursing homes to pay more? That's not out there 10 years from now, that's right now, because the Republican budget reduces Medicaid. The biggest single part of Medicare is to subsidize seniors and nursing homes. So seniors and nursing homes, their families would pay more while Big Oil is protected.

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank you for raising that point.

This is a very, very important question that we have to decide in this Congress: What are our priorities? What investments are we going to make both to rebuild our economy and get people back to work, but also to keep our commitment of promising aid to our seniors. This proposal that was made by the Republicans in this very Chamber to end Medicare to people 55 and under, end Medicare, and at the same time to reestablish the doughnut hole today so it would make prescription drugs more expensive for seniors, make nursing home care unavailable to many seniors, slash funding for Medicare, and really shift control to the private insurance companies to make health care decisions for our seniors—a terrible idea. And at the same time, as you pointed out, preserving tens of billions of dollars in subsidies to the Big Oil companies that have record profits, that don't need a check from the taxpayers that adds to our debt, and at the same time not making investments in the kinds of things we need to rebuild manufacturing and to make it in America.

It's the wrong priorities. We've got to protect our seniors, keep the promise we made to them, make the right investments here, and get rid of tax subsidies for Big Oil, get rid of the waste and fraud. Make cuts the right way, but make the right investments at the same time.

Mr. GARAMENDI. We heard a debate here earlier, and while we're on Make It in America, this kind of moves us a little bit away, but they were saying earlier that in the health care reform, the Affordable Care Act, money was taken out of Medicare. Not true. Money was taken out of the pockets of the insurance industry who were given, back in the Bush era, an additional subsidy. It terminated a subsidy of \$500 million that the insurance companies had to participate in Medicare. Why in the world we would subsidize the health insurance companies who this year are showing record profits, I don't know, but the Republicans perhaps want to keep that subsidy there for the health insurance companies just as they want to keep a subsidy there for Big Oil, rather than taking care of our seniors, shifting the subsidies to tomorrow's energy sources.

These are policy choices. And the policy choice of the Democratic Party is to protect seniors, to make sure that Medicare is there today, tomorrow, and forevermore. Let me be very clear about this. If you want to have a fight on this floor, then you fight with us over Medicare. We will not tolerate the termination of Medicare, period. And we don't want to shift costs to seniors. We want to make sure that those companies that are profitable, the oil industry, pays its fair share and terminate the subsidies to them.

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank the gentleman.

I yield to the gentlelady from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. There is just a whole litany of things that I think have been mentioned today that are so very important.

One, I want to again emphasize when you invest in America, you create jobs. Look at what is happening to the auto industry. And I am far away from the auto industry. I happen to be in Texas. But I can assure you that I can point to an auto dealership that is alive today because we said "yes" to manufacturing and owning businesses and keeping the doors open. Now this same auto dealership—which, by the way, is in American-made cars, GM—is expanding, is refurbishing, will be hiring new people, will be selling more cars because we were engaged.

□ 2130

And I think the point that we have to create jobs to reinvest in this community points again to preserving Medicare, which is not being done by our friends—certainly the vote that we had today had nothing to do with the debt ceiling, had nothing to do preserving Medicare and Medicaid. And I truly believe there is a nexus, there is a connection—invest in America, create jobs, have revenue returned back to the economy, bring down the debt, and watch America churn like an engine that is purring and doing better.

We can make it in America. We can applaud our manufacturers. We can grow them. And I think the investment in America's auto industry is evident by all of the jobs being brought back home.

Let me end by saying to all of those who can hear us: American manufacturers, American corporations, bring your jobs back home and participate with Democrats in their serious effort to enhance making it in America and creating more opportunity. You are better off here. You can watch your company grow, and you can support the continued growth of America and opportunities for small businesses and the young people who are now coming out of our many colleges and schools ready to work.

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank the gentlelady, and I thank you for your passion on this issue and again for restating the urgency of job creation and getting the American people back to work as our number one priority.

The Make It in America agenda will help do that by restoring making things again and understanding it has to have a central place in rebuilding our economy, by building an environment in which American manufacturers can grow and create jobs and making sure our businesses are competitive all across the world.

Many of our Make It in America bills have won bipartisan support, and now we can win bipartisan support in the new Congress when we work for stronger job training partnerships, fight for a fair playing field for American exporters, and hold China and our other trading partners accountable for currency manipulation and unfair trade practices.

Make It in America also means recommitting ourselves to the future of America's middle class by ensuring that we are out-educating, out-innovating and out-building our competitors. We, of course, have to cut wasteful spending and restore fiscal responsibility by making priority investments that are necessary to keep our Nation competitive.

As the gentleman from California has just put forth, that board which really does describe the issues that are part of the Make It In America agenda: focusing on fair trade policies; tax policies which support job creation in American manufacturing, that give American manufacturing the tools they need to succeed; energy policies that will increase investments in renewable energy, clean energy to make American manufacturers more competitive; labor policies; educational investments, educational investments; protection of intellectual property; and investments in infrastructure. Those are really the outlines of what we know we have to do to really support making it in America, to support manufacturing, and to support rebuilding and strengthening the middle class of this country.

I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. GARAMENDI. If anyone understands the history and the importance of manufacturing, it's the gentleman from Rhode Island. The Black River down through Rhode Island was the very first place that America started its manufacturing base, using water as a source.

And today, as we look to the future of American manufacturing, we do have to deal with the energy issues. And we probably should take a full night here and just talk about how the American economy can benefit from a new energy strategy.

Tax policies we've discussed here a little bit.

One of the things we didn't discuss here on tax policy was we put forth a bill last year that took away \$12 billion of subsidies that American corporations had when they shipped jobs offshore. I have no idea how such an incredibly stupid policy got into the Tax Code, but it did. It's gone. It was a Democrat agenda to eliminate those

tax subsidies that shipped jobs offshore. Unfortunately, not one Republican joined us in eliminating that crazy tax subsidy. That money is now back to help deal with the deficit.

Labor policies, education—another full night can be taken on just education. We talked a little bit about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, the STEM programs. But it's much, much more. It's the reeducation of our workforce. Intellectual property, research, how you protect that, critically important. We did have a good discussion about infrastructure.

This is our agenda. This is the American agenda. This is the agenda about the future. And it is so much an important part of dealing with the deficit. There is not an economist out there that tells us we can actually deal with the deficit unless we get people back to work. And the people that we want to get back to work is American middle class. The American middle class needs to be rebuilt along with our manufacturing base, and we can do it with the set of policies that we're putting forth here.

We ask for our Republican colleagues to join us on these smart pieces of legislation.

Mr. CICILLINE, this is your night. You've led us in this. I yield back my remaining time for your closure.

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank the gentleman from California for your leadership on this and your participation tonight. I thank the gentleladies from Alabama and from Hawaii and from Texas for joining us as well.

I'll just end by saying you're right. Rhode Island was really the birthplace of the industrial revolution. And when you look at the role manufacturing played in the early days of our country's economy of the industrial age, Rhode Island played a really important role; and from Woonsocket to Providence to Newport to Pawtucket, we have examples of great manufacturing facilities. And what we need to do is put in place the tools and the policies that can rebuild that strength—and not only in Rhode Island but all across this country—that takes advantage of the great American ingenuity, of the great American innovation and the great American entrepreneurship to make the best products to solve the new challenges of the 21st century, to build products and to sell them all over the world, to create jobs as we sell American-made products all across the world.

And we can do it. We have the best workers. We make the best products. What we need are policies at the national level that recognize this is a key part to rebuilding our economy, a key part to the American—the rebuilding of the American economy, and understanding that we can make things again in this country. And by doing so, we can make sure that American families make it again in America.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I yield back the balance of my time.

AMERICA'S DEBT CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUFFY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY) is recognized for 23 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. ROBY. We face a budget crisis in this country. America is broke. Without bold action, our budget situation will get worse, not better. We also face a severe economic recession. The current national unemployment rate is 9.0 percent, and it has been as high as 10.1 percent back in April of 2009.

With so many Americans out of work, the Federal Government should be doing everything in its power to encourage economic growth—not discourage it.

Cutting spending is critical to creating a pro-growth environment. Cutting spending is essential to free market job creation. House Republicans are the only group in Washington showing leadership on this issue. We have voted repeatedly to cut spending in the short term, and we have passed a budget that would reduce spending by \$6.2 trillion over 10 years.

By contrast, it has been more than 750 days since Senate Democrats have even passed a budget. Recently, Senator REID said: "There's no need to have a Democratic budget, in my opinion. It would be foolish for us to do a budget at this stage."

That is a breathtaking statement for two important reasons: First, the Senate is required by law under the Congressional Budget Act to pass a budget. Second, working families all across America live within their means every single day by following a family budget. It's simple. They don't spend what they don't have. So I ask: Why shouldn't Democrats in the Senate live by the same rule?

Now the White House is asking us to raise the debt limit and Secretary Geithner wrote, "Never in our history has Congress failed to increase the debt limit when necessary." The White House wants a clean increase in the debt limit. That means they want Congress to approve more debt without cutting back on any spending. That is a failed policy.

The vote we took tonight is a clear indicator that House Republicans reject that approach. Our message is clear. We will not vote to raise the debt limit without significant reforms to change the culture of spending in Washington. If the White House wants us to consider raising the debt limit, they should be at the table proposing

significant reforms that yield trillions, not billions, in savings to the American people. So far, that has not happened.

□ 2140

Tomorrow, the President has invited House Republicans to the White House to discuss the debt ceiling. His request for a clean increase in the debt limit was rejected tonight. I hope that tomorrow the President will offer serious proposals to cure Washington's addiction to spending. No lip service. No gimmicks. No smoke and mirrors. The American people don't want more political posturing. Real spending cuts. A true commitment to that is what will spur job creation and get our economy back on track.

I now yield to the gentleman from Colorado for as much time as he may consume.

Mr. GARDNER. I thank the gentle lady from Alabama for her leadership on this issue, and the time tonight to be able to talk about an issue that's very important to my constituents in Colorado, the Fourth Congressional District, and around this country. There hasn't been a town meeting gone by where somebody hasn't stood up and said, "Congressman GARDNER, what do you think about the debt ceiling? What's going to happen to this country? What happens if we continue to spend the kind of money that this Congress, this Nation has seen over the past decade?"

As we turn our focus and continue to focus on jobs and growing our economy, the only way that this Nation is going to be able to create long-term jobs and job growth is if we do everything we can to make sure we are cutting spending and reducing the size of government.

In 2006, President Obama talked about a failure of leadership, a failure of leadership to increase the debt ceiling, and that he would vote against it. He did vote against it because he believed to continue to kick the can down the road, to continue to spend money without a plan to reduce our debt, address the deficit, he believed was failure of leadership.

Tomorrow we have an opportunity to visit the President at the White House. And I hope we hear from him why he believed that in 2006 an \$8.4 trillion debt was too much, why it was a failure of leadership to go beyond \$8.4 trillion in debt. Because the President is now asking us to go beyond \$14 trillion in debt, to pass a debt ceiling that would allow Congress to spend even trillions more than the \$14 trillion debt that we have today. The people in my district are concerned that there is no stop sign in place for the fiscal recklessness that this Nation has seen. The failure of leadership continues from one Congress to another without a plan in place.

I have had the opportunities over the past several years to attend high school financial literacy classes, where