

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, while in Iraq last week with Members of Congress, we not only met with our troops, but we met with Prime Minister Maliki. During our conversation, it was suggested to Mr. Maliki that Iraq eventually assume some of the costs for this war of liberation.

The war has cost billions of dollars and thousands of American lives. Since we are rebuilding Iraq and have given them a free democracy, it seems only right that Iraq at least consider paying for part of the cost with future oil revenues. I was surprised that Prime Minister Maliki reacted with an emphatic "no way" to sharing the cost. Even Kuwait helped reimburse the coalition nations when Saddam was driven from their lands. But not Iraq. They will not hear of it.

Later this same day, we learned that the Prime Minister had actually ordered the Members of Congress out of Iraq. Looks like our questions to him were a political IED.

But as the date for our military looms ever closer for departure, there are reports the Prime Minister wants our military to stay a little longer and Americans to pay for it. Iraq should help pay for the nation that Americans rebuilt and liberated.

And that's just the way it is.

#### PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Presidential Scholars Dylan Neel of Moses Brown High School and Sol Taubin of the Wheeler School for the academic excellence.

Dylan and Sol have shown themselves to be some of our Nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. They are two of only 141 students selected as U.S. Presidential Scholars from more than 3,000 applicants. The U.S. Presidential Scholars program recognizes graduating high school seniors for academic excellence, artistic accomplishments, and civic contributions. These young people represent the great hope of our Nation's youth and the promise of the American education system.

I also want to recognize Jennifer Stewart and Christine Barry, who were selected by Dylan and Sol, respectively, as their most inspiring and challenging teachers. I thank these teachers for their dedication to our young people and our schools.

I am pleased to join the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars and the United States Department of Education in recognizing Dylan Neel and Sol Taubin.

#### HAMAS FUNDING

(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, a few days ago from this very Chamber, we heard the Israeli Prime Minister make clear that Israel seeks a permanent peace settlement with recognition of a Palestinian state. He reiterated that Israel seeks peace with its neighbors. Unfortunately, some of its neighbors do not feel the same way.

The charter of Hamas clearly states that peaceful solutions are contrary to their beliefs. As a party, they stand for the destruction of Israel, they glorify the murders of women and children, and even mourn the death of Osama bin Laden. Despite these positions, Hamas was recently welcomed back in to the Palestinian Government, and Egypt has opened the border to the Gaza Strip.

By no means should U.S. taxpayer money go to support these murderers. We cannot support a Palestinian Government that has no intention to live peacefully with its free and democratic neighbor. We must stop sending hundreds of millions of dollars in annual aid until all parties in the Palestinian Government recognize that Israel has a right to exist.

#### TERROR GAP

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, shockingly, individuals on the Federal terrorist watch list are not excluded from purchasing firearms in the United States. Quite simply, this means you can be on a terrorist watch list and be prohibited from boarding a plane because we think you are a terrorist, but you can buy a semiautomatic weapon.

Last week, American-born al Qaeda spokesman Adam Gadahn urged the terrorist group's followers to exploit this "terror gap" in our gun laws. Our enemies, intent on destroying Americans and our way of life, have made a calculated decision that Congress cares more about protecting the gun lobby than it does the safety of its citizens. They are convinced we lack the courage and fortitude to close our gaping loopholes and that their persistent campaign to strike again on our soil has new promise.

I would love to stand here today and say our enemy has grossly underestimated us. I am not certain I can. My colleagues in Congress are now faced with a critical opportunity to do the right thing and pass the most commonsense of commonsense policies by closing the terror gap. Al Qaeda will be watching our response.

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#### INDIANA AIR NATIONAL GUARD AIRMAN OF THE YEAR: STAFF SERGEANT ANDRE CARBONEAU

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to honor a native member of Indiana's Air National Guard today. Staff Sergeant Andre Carboneau was recently awarded Indiana Air National Guard Airman of the Year for 2010. The honorable award is designed to recognize members that are hardworking, are involved in the community, and have continued to advance themselves in education. After members compete on a quarterly basis, they compete at the State level to become the airman of the year.

Carboneau received his award Friday, May 20, at Victory Field in Indianapolis. He is from Warsaw, Indiana, and a phase aircraft mechanic for 122nd Fighter Wing in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He is also a full-time student at Indiana State University, where he is majoring in professional aviation.

I congratulate Staff Sergeant Andre Carboneau for his achievements and am proud of Indiana's 14,700 members of the Indiana Army and Air National Guard.

Our Nation owes endless gratitude to these men and women in uniform who have devoted their lives to our security and the preservation of our liberty.

#### MEDICARE VOUCHER PROGRAM

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the Republicans' misguided attack on Medicare and Medicaid. No matter what the other side says, their plans for Medicare and Medicaid will end them, leaving them as nothing but a shell.

This is a question of priorities. Which is the best choice? Either closing the doughnut hole so seniors, including 7,000 in my district, don't have to choose between their medications and paying the rent, or giving huge subsidies to oil companies?

Or this choice: telling people, including 100,000 in my congressional district who are in their 40s and 50s, to hurry up and save another \$200,000 each before they retire so they can pay for health care since Medicare's guarantee is gone?

Or continuing tax breaks for millionaires and billionaires?

The Republican budget is not a plan for our future. It's a recipe for disaster. It ends Medicare and Medicaid, puts our seniors at risk.

Stand up for our current and future seniors. Say "no" to the Republican attack on Medicare and Medicaid.

#### MR. PRESIDENT, WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

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

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, we found out last week that new business