

serious health problems. By cutting emissions of fine particles, EPA estimates that these rules will prevent up to 2,500 premature deaths, 1,500 non-fatal heart attacks, 17,000 cases of aggregated asthma, and 130,000 days when people miss work or school each year.

EPA estimates that the cost to comply with the rules will be about \$950 million in 2013. In contrast, EPA estimates that the monetized health benefits associated with reduced exposure to air pollution range from \$6.7 billion to \$18 billion in 2013 and annually thereafter.

Moreover, these figures likely underestimate the health benefits of the rule because, given time and data limitations, EPA wasn't able to put a dollar value on the health benefits of reducing cement kiln emissions of carcinogens and other toxic substances such as mercury, which is a powerful neurotoxin.

Well, this amendment simply restates the conclusions of EPA's cost-benefit analysis. This amendment does not change what the bill does. If this amendment passes, the bill would still nullify the cement kiln rules and force EPA to start all over again. The bill would still rewrite the Clean Air Act in such a way that EPA may never be able to reissue emission limits for toxic air pollution from cement kilns.

But this amendment provides an important reminder. By nullifying the rules, the bill also nullifies the \$6.7 billion to \$18 billion in annual health benefits that would have made Americans better off if the rules remain in place. This amendment ensures that we have a clearly stated accounting of the monetized costs and benefits of this bill.

The Republicans have been eager to talk about the benefit to industry of shielding them from having to cut their toxic and mercury emissions. This amendment simply outlines the costs to public health of nullifying these rules.

When it came to Congressman ELLISON's amendment, where he wanted the benefits clearly stated, the Republicans opposed it because they said that EPA had already studied it, so why should we have to put it in the finding. When it comes to this amendment they say, well, maybe they haven't studied it well enough; and they didn't want to put it in the findings for that reason. I find both arguments not only inconsistent, but not very persuasive.

So I'd urge my colleagues to vote for this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further pro-

ceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Maryland will be postponed.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia) having assumed the chair, Mr. ROSS of Florida, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2681) to provide additional time for the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to issue achievable standards for cement manufacturing facilities, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

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HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

THE GOP JOBS OFFENSIVE: ROLLING BACK JOB-KILLING REGULATIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROSS of Florida). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Thank you very much.

Over the last year particularly, great attention has been paid in this country to the state of our economy; and despite all of the efforts of the bailouts, the stimulus spending and other efforts, our unemployment rate is still above 9 percent nationally.

We were told that when we adopted the bailouts, when we made money available for the stimulus plans, that unemployment would be reduced in the U.S. to a maximum of 8 percent. Well, that has not come to pass. And as you talk to business leaders large and small around the country, they will tell you that one of the primary reasons that our economy has not been stimulated is because of the uncertainty that has been caused by this administration.

Now, the uncertainties that I'm talking about are, number one, all of those uncertainties that are related to the health care legislation that passed in the last Congress. We know that that health care bill will not be fully implemented until the year after the year 2014. We've been told that CMS and HHS and others have already written 8,700 pages of additional regulations. It's quite clear from discussions with physicians, hospital administrators, and other health care providers that

they do not know what to do. Businesses do not know what to do because they are not able to determine what the cost of health care is going to be because they still do not even know what is in the health care bill.

So with the uncertainty caused by the health care legislation, the uncertainty caused by the financial regulatory regime, the raising of the capital requirements, the changing in the methods used for conducting appraisals, all of that has generated a lot of uncertainty, and it's more difficult particularly for community banks to make loans.

A third area of uncertainty is related to regulations implemented by this Environmental Protection Agency. Under the administrator, Lisa Jackson, this has been the most aggressive EPA in the history of the agency. Trying to keep up with all of the regulations coming out has been very difficult to do. Lawsuits have been filed, consent decrees have been entered, court decisions have been rendered, environmental groups have been reimbursed for their legal costs, the regulations are changing; and so businesspeople are saying, we're not going to invest one dollar, much less millions of dollars, until we have some certainty about these regulations.

So the uncertainty related to health care, the uncertainty related to financial regulation, and the uncertainty related to EPA regulations have been a tremendous obstacle for investment to be made and for additional jobs to be created.

I think it's essential that if we're going to get this economy back on track that we have to have certainty in a lot of these areas, and that's precisely what the leadership in this House of Representatives is attempting to do. We're calling upon the leadership in the Democratic-controlled Senate to do the same thing; and the sooner that we can do that, the more likely it is that we're going to stimulate this economy. It's not going to be stimulated by additional regulation, it's not going to be stimulated by additional government expenditures, which is basically what the President's jobs plan is all about, and I might refer to today's article in *The Hill* and the headline that says Senate Democrats Buck Obama on Jobs Plan.

So let's get back to providing certainty; and when we do that, we're going to encourage investment in our economy to create more jobs.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The balance of the majority leader's time is reallocated to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that, and I thank my friend from Kentucky for being here. I wanted to let him know that I have enjoyed the day. It's been a wonderful challenge and great working with him. I thank my friend for all the good work we did today.