

who come to the Hill and use their connections to talk to people, try and understand what piece of legislation is moving, what's the potential for a potential government contract, and then they go back and sell the information that's given to investors.

That breach of trust, that potential to undermine our financial systems, is a cancer on the system. It weighs on the American public's trust of their finance, of corporations, of Congress and undermines the democracy. These people can still come here but register just like lobbyists.

Let's make sure that transparency and the disinfectant of sunshine shines on this. There is no room in this institution for even the perception of wrongdoing. Every Member of Congress must be held to a higher standard. It doesn't infringe upon their rights to legally trade, it doesn't infringe upon their rights—their American rights—to work hard, be smart, make good investments, and profit from that. What it does prohibit is an unfair playing field that penalizes those that play by the rules. And like so many of my colleagues and millions of middle class Americans, I myself am a public school teacher. I spent 24 years in the National Guard. I tried to do what was right by my family and my neighbors. I tried to play by the rules, with the great understanding that the American Dream was you play by the rules, you work hard, and you will benefit from that.

This piece of legislation ensures that the American people know that we, as their representatives in this sacred House of the people, are playing by the exact same rules, not worrying about enriching ourselves, not worrying about gaming the system, and making sure that their needs are put first. And as I said, it's not whether it happens or not, it's whether the perception is there. I urge my colleagues and Speaker BOEHNER, move this to the floor and let's vote for it.

THE HOLOCAUST RAIL JUSTICE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. TURNER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. TURNER of New York. Mr. Speaker, the tragedy of the Holocaust is etched deep within our minds. All of us have heard the stories of human experiments, tortures, and mass execution. As the entrance to the Holocaust Museum here in Washington says, "Never again," and others have said, "Never forget."

Sadly, we were provided with a powerful reminder this past week in my district that anti-Semitism is very much in our midsts. Seventy-three years later to the day, the events of Kristallnacht, the "night of broken glass," were replayed in my district. Cars were burned and anti-Semitic scrawlings left on property.

Today we know the consequences of inaction. It was as true then as it is

today. We know that hatred is out there, and we are all too familiar with its ability to spread like a cancer. Ten million people died at the hands of the Nazis, including 6 million Jews. This indiscriminate murder is beyond comprehension. It is unfathomable. And while Hitler and his Nazi henchmen coordinated this horrific event, they were not alone, and others who aided, abetted, and profited from this crime should be held accountable.

This morning, I will be joining my colleague, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, who is holding a hearing on two important pieces of legislation which would make and hold accountable those entities that aided in the Holocaust. The Holocaust Rail Justice Act would make the French-owned rail company, SNCF, which transported Jews in appalling conditions from France to Germany, liable for damages.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bill. For a generation, Holocaust victims and survivors have been denied justice through a legal loophole barring lawsuits against sovereign entities. The rail company, SNCF, has hidden behind this legal veil as a way to escape liability, even though SNCF's trains, tracks, and employees were used.

There's no excuse for any person or entity that played any role in the Holocaust. The Nuremberg trials made clear that it is not enough that "we were following orders." It is not enough today to say that SNCF did not engineer the atrocities. SNCF facilitated it, and they should be held accountable for their part.

□ 1030

Chairman ROS-LEHTINEN has introduced another measure which will enable Holocaust survivors and heirs and beneficiaries of Holocaust victims to obtain compensation for insurance policies which were taken by Nazi-run governments. This bill would provide a legal forum for victims to have their claims heard—which is small compensation for the atrocities of the Holocaust—so that the words "never again" are more than just words.

NAMING NEW FEDERAL COURT-HOUSE IN BUFFALO FOR ROBERT H. JACKSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, on November 28 a new Federal courthouse will open in western New York. Located on historic Niagara Square in Buffalo's central business district, the 10-story structure will be home to the United States Court for the Western District of New York.

The striking profile of the courthouse is a reminder that Buffalo's future is connected to its unique architectural heritage. As we draw inspiration for our future from this impressive

building, I can think of no name more fitting to grace it than one from our past, that of western New York's only Supreme Court Justice, Robert H. Jackson.

Jackson was born and raised near Jamestown, New York. He spent the first 42 years of his life in western New York and for a time lived on Johnson Park, which is in the shadow of the new courthouse, and he practiced law at the historic Ellicott Square Building in downtown Buffalo. He was a prominent local attorney, and in 1934, President Roosevelt called him to public service in Washington.

After stints as Assistant Attorney General for Tax and Antitrust, Jackson was appointed U.S. Solicitor General. He personally argued more than 30 cases before the Supreme Court on which he would later sit. Louis Brandeis, who was a Supreme Court Justice at the time, said of Jackson that he was so good he "should be Solicitor General for life." But Jackson was soon tapped to head the Justice Department as United States Attorney General. He was instrumental in helping President Roosevelt formulate America's national security policies as the United States headed toward inevitable involvement in World War II.

In 1941 Roosevelt appointed Jackson to the United States Supreme Court. He remains to this day the only Supreme Court Justice from western New York. He served on the Court for 13 terms and took part in several important decisions, none bigger than the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education*, which prohibited segregation.

Justice Jackson was known on the Court for personally authoring thoughtful and compelling opinions. The leading constitutional scholar Laurence Tribe called Jackson "the most piercingly eloquent writer ever to serve on the United States Supreme Court."

In 1945 President Truman asked Jackson to take a leave from the Court to serve as the United States Chief Prosecutor at the International Military Tribunal, the Nuremberg Trials. Jackson was the chief prosecutor of the Nazi war criminals and was responsible for achieving consensus among the allies on the design and implementation of the trials. Some believe that the year Jackson spent away from the Court cost him a chance of being elevated to Chief Justice, but Jackson argued that Nuremberg was the most important work of his life.

True to his western New York roots, immediately upon returning from Europe, Jackson took a train to Buffalo to address the University of Buffalo's centennial. He spoke eloquently of the subjects of war, international law, and the need for countries to work together for peace.

Robert Jackson died in 1954 and is buried at Maple Grove Cemetery in Frewsburg, New York, not far from his childhood home. The Federal Judges and the United States Attorney of the

Western District of New York have endorsed the naming of the courthouse in Jackson's honor. Chief Judge William Skretny called him "the most distinguished jurist and most acclaimed legal mind to come out of the Western District." And Senior Judge John Curtin said of Jackson, "I think we should pick someone from the court family in western New York. I can't think of a better choice."

Mr. Speaker, Justice Jackson's story is uniquely American and it's uniquely western New York. I will soon introduce legislation to name our new courthouse for Robert H. Jackson, and I invite my colleagues to join to support this effort.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, before spending last weekend in Hawaii and now jetting off to Australia and Indonesia, President Obama was crisscrossing our country on his "We Can't Wait" for Congress to act tour. Along the way, he found the time to issue Executive orders that circumvent the will of Congress. His justification for this end run around Congress? America can't wait for Congress to act to create jobs.

If our President was really interested in creating jobs, he would not have caved in to election-year politics, which was precisely what he did last Friday when he punted on approval of the proposed Keystone XL pipeline until well after next fall's election.

When completed, the Keystone XL pipeline will bring nearly 1 million barrels of oil per day to the United States from Canada. Support for this pipeline is wide and varied, including major United States labor unions who understand the project will create thousands of American jobs and reduce our reliance on Middle Eastern oil. We will have greater energy security, which means greater national security. That's a win-win-win-win for America.

There is no dispute that building the pipeline will create 20,000 direct American construction jobs and spin off over 100,000 indirect jobs in the good 'ol USA. Unfortunately, the President is putting personal political needs before the needs of out-of-work Americans. He is blowing an opportunity to ensure a stable energy supply from a country that likes us while creating jobs right here in America.

The Environmental Protection Agency and the State Department have spent extensive time reviewing the impact of this pipeline. Early proposals were revised to address EPA and stakeholder concerns. After years of study, a decision was supposed to be made this fall by President Obama. Apparently, it was a tough decision for our President. He had to choose between two groups within his political base—labor unions and jobs or environmental activists and no jobs.

There are times when the American people expect leadership, leadership which requires making tough decisions. Regrettably, last Friday, our President caved in to environmental and Hollywood activists as they surrounded the White House in opposition to the Keystone pipeline. He chose to postpone a final decision on the Keystone XL pipeline until January 2013. His reason? The administration needed to consider alternative routes for the pipeline that avoided aquifers in Nebraska.

But the saga doesn't end there. Yesterday, TransCanada, the builder of the pipeline, directly addressed President Obama's concerns by announcing they would reroute the pipeline to avoid the Nebraska aquifers. Problem solved. American people win; right? No. It took a few hours for the administration to announce that the goalposts were being moved again. Despite proposing a solution to the President's concerns, the administration announced that a final decision would not come until after the Presidential election in 2012. The bottom line: Presidential politics trumped what's best for a nation struggling to recover from the worst recession in history.

America needs a thoughtful leader who places the needs of country over politics. Canada has an abundance of energy they want to sell us, but they won't wait forever, and China is a ready customer. Canadian Prime Minister Harper recently indicated that with this unnecessary delay, Canada must increase its efforts to find a partner to ensure it can supply energy outside the United States and into Asia in particular.

This pipeline will help American families today. We need these jobs today. We need this pipeline today.

□ 1040

The Chicago Bears need a punter. The American people need a leader. President Obama should be that leader and approve this pipeline today.

RESTORING OUR ECONOMY

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

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, in the waning months of the Clinton administration, Jason Seligman, a government economist, produced a memo for the White House that speculated on what the effects would be if the United States paid off its national debt by 2012, as many were predicting at the time.

The memo, which was obtained by NPR under the Freedom of Information Act, was never released publicly, and the events of the intervening years have rendered it nothing more than an historical curiosity, but its mere existence is both a stark reminder of what might have been, and an acknowledgment that the great majority of the current debt was built up during the last administration.

In late 2000 no one could have foreseen the 9/11 attacks or the wars that would follow. These certainly contributed to the red ink. But profligacy, poor strategic choices, and political positioning are the real drivers of our burgeoning budget, which was under \$6 trillion at the time of President Clinton leaving office but is now nearly \$15 trillion.

Add in a real estate bubble fueled by too easy credit and an economy that was no longer focused on creating and making things here in America, and the challenge facing us comes into even more clear focus.

In one week, the bicameral supercommittee is due to present its plan to Congress to rein in our out-of-control finances and restore the responsible stewardship of our economy that prevailed at the end of the Clinton administration, when government ran surpluses for four straight years. A mere month after the supercommittee presents its plan, just before Christmas, we will either bless its work or face the real prospect of painful across-the-board cuts beginning in 2013.

I have long supported a realistic approach and urged the supercommittee to go big and consider the full range of government spending in making cuts. However, I also know that we cannot put our fiscal house in order solely through spending cuts, and that the government is going to have to find a way to increase the revenue flowing into the Federal Treasury.

While the choices we will confront in the next few weeks will be difficult, they're only the beginning of a process that must result in a new economic paradigm that will guide Congress and the administration in the coming years, when we'll be forced to adjust to a much more competitive global environment even as we work to put the economic downturn of the past 3 years behind us.

As the current wave of pessimism surrounding the work of the supercommittee demonstrates, this will not be an easy task, nor will it be accomplished quickly. If we are to succeed, and success is an absolute imperative, I believe that we'll need a new set of long-term strategies and policies to accomplish five principles.

First, the U.S. is going to have to become a manufacturer again. We should be proud that many of the world's iconic consumer products, like Apple iPhones, for example, were designed and developed here. But much of the benefit to our economy is lost because these products are too often manufactured overseas. American workers are not benefiting from the manufacture of Apple's category-leading smartphone.

We need to return to an economy where American workers are involved in the full life cycle of a product, from concept, through design and testing, and on to manufacture and marketing. To do that, I believe that we need to inject some certainty into our corporate tax structure, as well as create