

receiving the AJC's prestigious Judge Learned Hand Human Relations Award. The Learned Hand Award is presented to leaders in the legal profession who display the highest principles and ideals of humanitarianism and betterment of the community.

In both his professional and community activities, Sandy Perl has shown that he carries on in this proud tradition. A native of the 10th District of Illinois, Sandy has served in a number of leadership roles at his firm and is consistently recognized as one of the top lawyers in his industry.

But what makes Sandy stand out for this well-deserved recognition is his commitment to civic and charitable causes. Through his active leadership in organizations such as the Jewish Federation and the Golden Apple Foundation, which recognizes excellence in teaching, and through his work on global issues with the Chicago chapter of the AJC and with the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, Sandy has dedicated himself to improving his community and fighting for important causes worldwide.

I want to congratulate my friend Sandy Perl on this tremendous honor, the Learned Hand Award.

PASSING THE AMERICAN JOBS ACT

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. It has been 45 weeks since the Republican Party took control of this House, and they still haven't passed a serious jobs bill. In fact, it's just the opposite. They've blocked proposals that will put millions back to work—to play political games while people are hurting and to attack the President's job instead of creating jobs.

Last week, we honored those who have fought to protect our country, many of whom are returning to a tough job market. That's why, this week, my office held a veterans' job seminar in St. Louis. When our troops return home, they deserve our promises kept.

The American Jobs Act will get more than 1 million Americans back to work—teachers, firefighters, police, construction workers. It will encourage small businesses to grow and hire.

Next week, we will celebrate Thanksgiving—a holiday that brings families and communities together. As well next week, I hope those in this people's House, who have so clearly lost touch, will hear loud and clear from the people they represent and will come back with renewed focus to pull together in order to tackle the common challenges we face as a Nation.

SMALL PROGRESS IN THE SENATE ISN'T SUFFICIENT

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Madam Speaker, I was pleased to see that last week the Senate finally followed the House and passed one of our pro-growth bills; but while repealing the 3 percent withholding tax is a step in the right direction, it's not enough. We've sent them more than 20 other bills, each of which would stimulate job creation and a pro-growth environment.

These aren't ideological bills. They're commonsense pieces of legislation that were passed with bipartisan support. They would get government bureaucrats off the backs of small businesses and enable the private sector to invest and grow their businesses, putting Americans back to work and getting our economy moving again.

I hope the Senate will listen to the American people and pass the 20 bills that we've sent to them.

POST OFFICE CLOSURES

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

Mr. SIREs. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my deep concern about the closure of post offices across this country.

For decades, the post office has sustained and created American jobs in every corner of this country. Closing these vital institutions will not only hurt our economy, but it will devastate American families who rely on these jobs.

The closing of thousands of post offices will adversely affect minorities who live in low-income neighborhoods; it will affect the elderly, who need post offices within walking distance in order to send letters to their families; and it will affect small business owners who use the U.S. Postal Service as a way to conduct business. Additionally, rural communities, the hardest hit by the economic downturn, will see the greatest number of closures, causing their communities to further suffer.

It has been reported that if 10,000 of the smallest post offices were closed the postal service would only save 1 percent of its total yearly budget. Furthermore, the United States Postal Service branch closings would mean that approximately 5,000 postal employees would lose their jobs.

If we are serious about economic recovery, we must save post offices, which provide jobs to thousands of Americans; and we must make the necessary reforms to strengthen our postal service.

THE SENATE MUST PASS REPUBLICAN JOBS BILLS NOW

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I have breaking news for President Obama and Senate Democrats:

House Republicans have passed more than 20 bills that would create much needed jobs, but the Democrat-controlled Senate won't even consider them.

The hardworking people of eastern and southeastern Ohio are ready to get back to work. In fact, they've been ready. So I'm serious about creating and protecting jobs now. That's why I was proud to introduce the Coal Miner Employment and Domestic Energy Infrastructure Protection Act, which would prevent the Obama administration from enacting more job-killing regulations.

This administration's war on America's coal industry will be devastating to eastern and southeastern Ohio. Up to 27,000 direct and indirect coal jobs are at risk from the administration's proposed rewrite of the stream buffer zone rule—and that's just one regulation.

This bill is part of the House Republican jobs plan that you can find at jobs.gop.gov. I urge the Senate to get to work and to pass these important bills now.

MR. DANIEL FOSTER AND LACK OF BENEFIT DISBURSEMENT FROM DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. I rise today to recognize Mr. Daniel Foster, the recipient of a Silver Star and a Purple Heart, and who is a veteran of both Iraq and Afghanistan. However, he has waited more than 1 year to receive his benefits that he both deserves and has earned, because the Department of Veterans Affairs has lost his benefit application over and over and over, person by person.

As a result of this carelessness with Mr. Foster's files, he was unable to receive his VA benefit checks for the last year, and he was not able to pay the mortgage on his disabled father's home in Costa Mesa, California, where he resides with his father. Now the home is scheduled to be foreclosed on November 23, the day before Thanksgiving.

Mr. Foster does not reside in my district, but he came and asked for help. I am happy to say that Representative ROHRBACHER, Mr. Foster's Representative, has now opened a case on his behalf. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I work every day to ensure that our veterans receive the benefits they need and deserve. So I will continue to follow Mr. Foster's case and will encourage veterans in my district who are experiencing these types of difficulties to please contact us at our Garden Grove office.