

jobs if the United States Postal Service goes forward with the closure of the William Street mail processing facility. The good news is there is legislation that could have an immediate impact.

My friend and colleague, Representative STEVE LYNCH, has introduced H.R. 1351, which would recalculate the Postal Service's pension funding, easing the budget strains that necessitate this drastic facility closure proposal. Last week I sent a letter, along with my western New York colleagues, Representative LOUISE SLAUGHTER and Representative KATHY HOCHUL, urging Republican leadership to bring this bill to the floor for immediate consideration. Madam Speaker, this legislation is bipartisan and currently has 228 cosponsors, more than half the House.

Though broader reforms will be needed, this bill is what will keep the Postal Service afloat in the short term. It's time for Congress to step up, put aside politics, and do what's right for small business, working families, and postal customers nationwide.

FLORIDA KEYS OUTREACH COALITION CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I'm so pleased to recognize the 20th anniversary of the Florida Keys Outreach Coalition.

For 20 years, Reverend Stephen Bradock and the Florida Keys Outreach Coalition have worked to empower individuals and families, assisting them in reaching their full potential by providing the resources and support they need to become self-sufficient.

In its mission to, very simply, eliminate homelessness in the Keys, Monroe County, the Florida Keys Outreach Coalition has become a model human services organization in reaching this goal. Its goal has become a reality for many families who have transitioned from homelessness into permanent housing.

I've had the great privilege of seeing their work firsthand, and it is nothing short of inspirational. I've witnessed the effectiveness of their outreach efforts, and I have seen the benefits of their emergency shelter and transitional housing programs.

I applaud everyone at the Florida Keys Outreach Coalition for their selfless efforts as they strive to better the future for the homeless. Thank you for 20 years of service to our south Florida community.

OSCAR COULD HAVE GONE TO THE HOUSE

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

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, a silent movie won this year's Oscar for Best Picture. That award just as easily could have gone here to the House, because the House Republicans continue to be silent on job creation and seem intent on dragging America back to 1929 when the last silent film won the Oscar.

When Republicans recently held a hearing on contraception, they did their best to silence female voices, inviting five men and zero women to testify on the topic of female reproductive health.

Since they gained the majority, House Republicans have been painfully silent about actually creating jobs. In 2011, they voted for a budget that would have cut 700,000 of them. This year, they proposed a transportation bill that would cut another 550,000 of them. As Americans ask for real job proposals, Republicans remain silent.

It's time that someone actually started speaking up for the American people. Despite 23 straight months of job growth, there are still almost 8 million people trying to reenter the workforce. Unlike this year's Best Picture winner, this continued silent treatment from the Republican majority offers Americans no entertainment and, sadly, no employment.

FOSTERING JOB GROWTH

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, my colleague from Virginia needs to redirect his comments about silent response to the Democrat-controlled Senate, the party of which he is a member. Fostering job growth for the American people continues to be the number one job for House Republicans, and we have a record to prove it.

With unemployment and underemployment at above 15 percent for the past 36 months, the Obama economy continues to produce the Nation's worst jobless record since the Great Depression. So far, by following the House Republican Plan for America's Job Creators, the House passed more than 30 bipartisan jobs bills on behalf of the American people.

Each of these bills is aimed at unleashing the power of our private sector to freely and confidently build, invest, innovate, and expand again—and put millions of Americans back to work. Unfortunately, the vast majority of these bipartisan House-passed jobs bills are being ignored or blocked in the Democrat-controlled Senate.

The American people are tired of waiting. It's time for Democrats in the Senate and the White House to put politics aside and pass these jobs bills.

COMMENDING JEREMY LIN

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, Linsanity is here with us today. On behalf of over 18 million Asian Pacific Americans, and as a member of the Asian Pacific Congressional Caucus, I rise today to commend rising NBA star Jeremy Lin.

A son of immigrants from Taiwan and the first American NBA player of Chinese or Taiwanese ancestry, Jeremy is the first, first Harvard—economics major, 4.0 GPA—graduate to play for the league since the 1950s. Since playing as the Knicks' point guard, he has scored the highest point total in his first five games—136 points—for any player since the 1970s.

In the history of Asian Pacific American participation in the NBA, Japanese American Wataru Misaka broke the color barrier when he played for the Knicks in the 1940s. Following Misaka, we have Japanese American Rex Walters; Filipino American Raymond Townsend; Samoan American Wally Aliifua Rank; and, currently, Samoan American James Johnson, who plays for the Toronto Raptors; and Hawaiian American Jason Kapono, who now plays for the L.A. Lakers.

Along with these pioneers, Jeremy Lin's rise to international stardom has broken ethnic stereotypes in our society.

I commend Jeremy for this tremendous achievement and for his example to the world and what America is all about: You work hard, you be true to your principles of fairness and equity, things will come your way.

CONTRACEPTION

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

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in outrage and disbelief that my Republican colleagues believe that they are more qualified to determine what a woman can do with her own body than she is.

Republicans say that they are on the side of freedom and personal responsibility. They also say that they are against Big Government intrusion. But when it comes to women in this country, it's nothing but a bunch of empty rhetoric.

Let's be clear: the debate about contraception is really about Republicans' deep-seated opposition to women making decisions about their own bodies. It is an outrage; it is unconscionable; it is insulting; and it is un-American to treat women, by virtue of their gender, as second-class citizens by denying their ability to control their own destinies.

To my Republican colleagues, shame on you for waging your hypocritical war on women.