

in the auto factory—a job that exposed him to toxins that ultimately killed him. My father died when I was 8 years old.

Today, the Michigan legislature approved right-to-work legislation, intending to roll back the clock on our labor laws. We can not allow this to happen. Right-to-work is wrong for workers, and it must be stopped.

WE GOT HERE BY SPENDING TOO MUCH, NOT TAXING TOO LITTLE

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, “The last thing you want to do is to raise taxes in the middle of a recession because that would put businesses in a further hole.” That was President Obama in 2009. But that was then and this is now. President Obama now says he wants to save us all by raising taxes on a few Americans. But the idea is flawed. One, the plan only funds the government for a few days. Then what’s the plan, Mr. President? Two, according to the Senate Budget Committee, 75 percent of the new taxes will go towards spending, not deficit reduction.

This plan won’t work to solve our economic woes. The problem is the government just spends too much. Where’s the plan to cut spending? There isn’t one. We got here by spending too much, not taxing too little. After all, “the last thing you do in a recession is raise taxes”—quoting the President.

And that’s just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING DEPARTING MEMBERS OF THE OHIO DELEGATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KINZINGER). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TIBERI. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials for the RECORD on the topic of the Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, tonight, we from Ohio would like to recognize and thank for their service five departing Members from the Ohio delegation. Congressmen STEVE AUSTRIA, DENNIS KUCINICH, STEVE LATOURETTE, JEAN SCHMIDT, and BETTY SUTTON will end their service with us at the end of this year. Over the next hour we would like to, as Republicans and Democrats, thank them for their service.

I would first like to recognize my colleague from central Ohio, Congressman STEVE STIVERS, for his remarks.

Mr. STIVERS. I would like to thank the gentleman for yielding.

I would like to say a few things about our five departing colleagues, who have given great service to our country. I want to thank them on behalf of the people of the 15th District for their incredible service and talk a little bit about each one.

I’ll start with Congressman STEVE LATOURETTE, whose service in Congress has really been incredible, and he’s been a role model for many of us who are younger. He’s been a great mentor. He’s not afraid to stand up for what he believes in. He knows that we’ve got to work together as Republicans and Democrats to solve our Nation’s problems. He’s an illustration of what a good Member of Congress should be—someone who’s always thinking about their constituents.

STEVE LATOURETTE had been a mainstay of Congress, and it won’t be the same here without him, especially on transportation issues. I’d like to just thank him for his support, as I had a transportation bill earlier in this Congress. He was very helpful. I had a plan to try to fund transportation projects differently, and he sat down with me and worked me through the process and helped me sit down with the folks at the Congressional Budget Office and folks in leadership to sell my idea. That bill passed the House with bipartisan support, with 20 Democrats voting for it and a lot of Republicans voting for it. I know I couldn’t have gotten that done without Congressman LATOURETTE. I’m sorry to see him retire. But he’s leaving behind a legacy of outstanding service, and he’s been an incredible Member of Congress, and I know there are great things in his future.

The gentlelady to my left, Congresswoman SCHMIDT, I grew up in her district. My family lives in her district, and they really appreciate her hard work and constituent service. She’s a runner. She runs marathons in her spare time, but she runs her office like a marathon. She’s always working for the people of her district, the Second District. It’s been incredible just to watch her advocacy for important things in all of her district. We share some territory down in southern Ohio now. She’s been a leader on the uranium enrichment plant in Piketon and what it can do for our country, for safety in our nuclear arsenal, and for what it can do as an economic driver in southern Ohio. On behalf of the people of southern and central Ohio, I want to thank the gentlelady for her work on that. She’s left a legacy that’s really going to make a difference in the future.

The Congressman from the Seventh District, Congressman AUSTRIA, and I served as State senators together. He got up here a couple of years before I did in 2008, back when my race was still in a recount. We came up to orientation together, and he showed a willingness and an interest to run for leader-

ship of the class, to be the president of the class. I worked hard as his campaign manager. He got elected class president that year, and he went on to give great service to this class in Congress. He’s also been a leader on the Appropriations Committee for these 2 years.

I’ve seen him work on some tough issues in the State senate, and I know he’s got great things in his future. I’m certainly sorry to see him retire. I’m proud of his service, and I’m happy to call him a friend. I’m looking forward to what is next in his life. And I know he’s going to do great things.

Also, our Members from the other side of the aisle, Congresswoman SUTTON and Congressman KUCINICH have really worked hard, and I appreciate all their work and efforts. DENNIS KUCINICH is really a man who sticks up for his principles. I certainly respect him for that. He’s willing to stand up for what he believes is right when nobody in this institution will. I really respect him for that. He’s also become a good friend. He’s a really nice fellow. I want to thank him for his service and wish him great luck in his future.

Congresswoman BETTY SUTTON, I really appreciate her service back to her time on the city council and the Summit County Council and the State legislature. She’s advocated for her constituents. I just want to thank her for her service.

I think it’s important that we as Republicans and Democrats work together on the issues that are facing our country, and I want to thank these Members for their service to our country and thank them for everything that they’ve done for the people of Ohio. And as a grateful coworker, I want to say: job well done.

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Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a privilege to recognize one of the more famous members of our delegation because he is the Speaker of the House. Our leader, Mr. BOEHNER, is recognized.

Mr. BOEHNER. Let me thank my colleague for yielding.

I have proudly represented the people of the Eighth Congressional District of Ohio now for 22 years. During that time, our State delegation has had a long line of great leaders and great legislators here in the Congress.

Tonight, I want to recognize the careers and the service of five departing members from the Ohio delegation, each of whom in their own way exemplify the type of leadership for which our great State has long been known.

Congressman KUCINICH has been a passionate advocate for his community. While we haven’t always agreed, I respect his courage, his passion, and his commitment to his constituents.

Congressman STEVE AUSTRIA has worked tirelessly on military and veterans issues that are so important to the people we both serve. Steve, for your efforts on behalf of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, the community, and the people of southwest Ohio,