

They will not be able to compensate. Those who are poor and vulnerable will be worst off after the changed CPI.

I join with many, many Members of the United States Congress to say we can make Social Security solvent, Medicare solvent and Medicaid solvent, but we must not have to change CPI. I oppose it and many others.

TAX CODE

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

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, April 15, the dreaded tax day, is almost here. According to the non-partisan Tax Foundation, Americans will have to work 108 days this year just to be able to pay their taxes—108 days. That's just not right, and Americans are sick of it. The good news is Congress has a chance to do something about it this year.

So what would the average American want to see in a new Tax Code?

One, lower tax rates on individuals and businesses, with an assurance that those rates would remain low;

Two, no ridiculous special interest loopholes or giveaways, especially those that have nothing to do with creating jobs; and

Three, making sure that everyone pays their fair share.

If Congress aims for these goals, Americans should get a Tax Code that encourages work and investment, resulting in economic growth and job creation.

And let's not forget, we cannot allow any future growth-generated revenue to be spent on wasteful government programs. Instead, the revenue should go toward eliminating the deficit and then paying down our debt.

Let's cut spending, lower our deficit, and fix our loophole-ridden, work-penalizing, and jobs-killing Tax Code once and for all.

MAKE IT IN AMERICA

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, later today, I will join House Democratic Whip STENY HOYER to announce our Make It In America agenda, a legislative package that will help reinvigorate our manufacturing sector and grow American manufacturing jobs. These bills will help to put our country back to work by helping to create good-paying jobs, the kind of jobs that built the American middle class of this country.

Earlier this year, I introduced one such proposal, the Make It In America Manufacturing Act, which establishes a competitive grant program that will help small- to medium-sized manufacturers retool their facilities and retrain their workers to compete in the 21st century.

Senator KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND of New York has introduced a companion bill in the Senate that is cosponsored by Senators JACK REED and SHELDON WHITEHOUSE. These are the kinds of commonsense proposals that we need to support if we are going to get our economy back on the right track and get folks back to work.

I urge my colleagues to support the Make It In America agenda, and I look forward to joining Whip HOYER for his announcement this afternoon.

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S BUDGET

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

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, President Obama's budget is 65 days late and trillions of dollars short. And while his plan contains plenty of tax increases, budgetary gimmicks, and stimulus-style spending, it fails to adequately address our Nation's unsustainable deficits and debt. In fact, the President's budget would never balance.

I share President Obama's view of a thriving middle class and strong manufacturing base, but the policies put forth in his budget show the White House is more focused on increasing the size of government than growing the private sector. If the President is truly serious about building a 21st century economy, then he should work with House Republicans in eliminating the roadblocks to innovation and entrepreneurship. That means reducing government red tape, creating a fairer and flatter Tax Code, and ending the deficit spending.

I urge the President to join us in putting forth sound policies that will grow jobs and put our country back on a sustainable path.

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WESTERN NEW YORKERS WILL FIGHT FOR WHAT THEY DESERVE

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, in western New York, we don't expect anything to be handed to us. History has taught us that we have to fight for what we deserve. Our community just won two recent victories against Federal bureaucracies by standing up and demanding better.

When the Veterans Administration decided to cancel the Golden Age Games just 2 months before they were to be held in Buffalo and stick our community with a \$2.2 million loss, the community fought back. Last week, the VA reversed its decision and announced that the games would proceed as planned.

When the Army Corps of Engineers decided to prohibit access to Squaw Island Pier in Buffalo, a popular fishing

destination on the waterfront, we pushed back hard. This morning, I met with Corps officials. They assured me that public access to the site would continue.

Western New Yorkers won two victories in 2 weeks because we stood up for ourselves. Let this be a lesson to our community and a warning to the Federal bureaucracy: when you make senseless decisions that hurt western New York, you're going to have a fight on your hands.

FATHER EMIL KAPAUN

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

Mr. POMPEO. It is an honor today to tell you about one really good man. He was born in Pilson, Kansas, and later became an ordained priest in Wichita in 1940.

This very good man, a fellow named Emil Kapaun, served as a military chaplain during World War II and again in September 1948, this time entering the Korean battlefield with his unit, the 3rd Battalion of the 8th Cavalry Regiment of the 1st Cavalry Division.

There we saw what comes of a good man when placed in dangerous times. Father Kapaun became a hero. He died after saving hundreds of lives on the battlefield and in a prisoner of war camp, having dedicated himself to the physical and spiritual health of his fellow prisoners for a very long time.

Tomorrow, President Obama will bestow upon Father Kapaun, this very good man, the Medal of Honor, America's highest military honor.

I want to take this moment to recognize his fellow POWs who never wavered in an effort to secure this medal for Father Kapaun, to the Catholic Diocese of Wichita, and everyone else who has worked so hard for this recognition.

Finally, I want to thank the fellow Members of this body who supported my provision in the NDAA to allow a waiver for the statutory time exception so that he could receive this award.

Father Kapaun is a true American hero, a hero of mankind and so deserving of this Medal of Honor.

PLEASANT GROVE BASKETBALL

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

Mr. BERA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pleasant Grove High School boys basketball's team for recently winning the Division 1 State Championship.

In their hard-fought victory, they displayed sportsmanship and teamwork and became the first local team to host the Division 1 State Championship.

When forward Matt Smreker was asked about the victory, he told reporters: