

Our national security is being weakened as Army training rotations are being canceled; earlier this year nearly one-third of Air Force squadrons were grounded; and maintenance on equipment and facilities is being deferred.

More than 600,000 civilian Defense employees (85 percent) were furloughed this summer for more than one week, meaning a pay cut of more than \$1 billion.

\$37 billion in cuts to defense this fiscal year is harming economic growth and our military readiness.

## HEALTH

Cutting \$1.5 billion from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) means less research into preventing, treating, and curing diseases that affect millions of Americans, like cancer, diabetes, and heart disease.

A \$285 million cut for the Centers for Disease Control is limiting their ability to detect and combat disease outbreaks like pandemic influenza; plan for public health emergencies; and facilitate immunizations that keep you and your family healthy.

Cutting NIH by \$6.7 billion will hold back life-saving research.

## SENIORS

More than 5 million fewer meals are available for low-income seniors through Meals on Wheels and related programs.

## INFRASTRUCTURE AND JOB-CREATING INVESTMENTS

Community Development Block Grants to ensure decent affordable housing, provide services to the most vulnerable, and create jobs by expanding and retaining businesses cut to lowest level in its history.

Clean energy and efficiency research are cut by nearly one-half and breakthrough cutting edge advanced energy research cut 81 percent from 2013 enacted level.

Major job-creating investments in highways, transit, railways, bridges and ports through the TIGER program would be eliminated, while putting modernization of the air traffic control system at risk.

EPA cut by more than 1/3 and grants to local communities for clean water and drinking water slashed.

It is time for Congress to reject a continuation of these draconian cuts and replace the sequester with a balanced package that demands additional revenue, including closing corporate tax loopholes.

Instead of continuing sequestration levels of funding, and trying for the 42nd time to defund, delay, or impede the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, we need to work together to develop a balanced and responsible plan that makes the necessary investments that will generate economic growth and create jobs that will enable Americans to live a middle class life.

We should reject this resolution and adopt the substitute resolution offered by my colleague, Congressman VAN HOLLEN, the Ranking Member of the Budget Committee.

The Van Hollen Alternative is superior to the resolution before us because it eliminates the sequester's immediate, excessive, and irresponsible cuts to vital investments and replaces these with a roughly 50/50 combination of targeted spending cuts and limits on tax breaks to reduce the deficit in a balanced way.

Moreover, the proposal achieves over \$75 billion more in deficit reduction than the sequester would have achieved.

I urge all members of the House to join me in voting to reject this irresponsible resolution that will not create jobs, places our economic recovery at risk, threatens the health security of millions of Americans, and jeopardizes the creditworthiness of our nation.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS  
RESOLUTION, 2014

## SPEECH OF

## HON. RUSH HOLT

## OF NEW JERSEY

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 20, 2013

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I oppose this flawed continuing resolution, H.J. Res. 59. As the Congress lurches from self-imposed crisis to self-imposed crisis, it is easy to understand why members of the public shake their heads in disgust at the inability of the government to do the important work of America to help Americans.

Today we go through another farce—the 43rd time we will vote to stop the Affordable Care Act. It's another gimmick. It's another charade to appease the Tea Party.

This bill takes a slightly different tack than the others that have tried to kill health care reform. The attempt to defund Obamacare is tied to the legislation that would fund the federal government. On October 1st, the government will shut down if a budget is not passed before then.

One of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle said, "We've got to play the game." Running our country is not a game. Shutting down the government is not a game. It's the height of irresponsibility.

This bill will not become law, I am very sure. The House Republicans know that this is a terrible idea, but they are proceeding with it evidently with the expectation it will fail. But they seem not to care that shutting down the government puts in jeopardy our servicemembers, our veterans, those who are experiencing hard times as our economy is still in the midst of recovery. It puts children's health care in peril. Talk about absurdity.

Once again the House Republicans have decided to put party ideology above the needs of the American people. Once again the House Republicans have made senseless accommodations to the callous and vociferous shouting of those who simply don't care how devastating shutting down the government is to Americans.

The radical games need to stop. We have played them over and over again. Playing with American lives is not what a responsible government does.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS  
RESOLUTION, 2014

## SPEECH OF

## HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

## OF MICHIGAN

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 20, 2013

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.J. Res 59, the Con-

tinuing Appropriations Resolution of 2014. With only ten days left until funding for the government expires, it shocks me that we are considering legislation that will do nothing to solve our problems. This is yet another political stunt by my friends on the other side of the aisle who clearly want the government to be shut down, and it should be rejected.

Our economy is recovering, but much more work needs to be done. A government shutdown would destroy all that progress and would cause much damage to middle class families across our nation. Social Security beneficiaries would not get their checks, veterans services would be cut, and every American would feel the impact. Furthermore, this resolution continues the misguided policy of sequestration. If this continues it will cost our economy 1.6 million jobs in 2014 and will prohibit our nation from making critical investments in education and life saving medical research. Democrats have an alternative that ends the sequester in a responsible manner and keeps the government running for the next year. My friends on the other side of the aisle do nothing but slow our nation's recovery with these futile efforts. Government funding remains in jeopardy. These stunts provide only further uncertainty for our businesses, left unable to hire workers, expand facilities, or make any of the necessary decisions to prosper in this economic environment. Madam Speaker, I plead with you to work with us in a bipartisan manner rather than wasting precious floor time on a bill that is going nowhere.

We all know my friends on the other side of the aisle oppose Obamacare. They have already voted 41 times in this House to repeal or undermine the law, and this bill increases this number to 42 by defunding Obamacare entirely. The American people spoke just last year in the elections, and the Supreme Court has spoken as well: Obamacare is the law of the land, and this effort is not going anywhere. In less than 2 weeks time, people who have never had access to health insurance for their entire lives will be able to purchase an affordable plan that gives them the health coverage they deserve. Even if you oppose the President, you should agree that this is a reasonable goal to have. And this bill goes beyond just defunding the parts of the law they don't like. It would let insurance companies deny coverage for people with pre-existing conditions, they could drop coverage when people get sick, and would prevent young Americans from staying on their parents plan until age 26. We should not turn back the clock when we are so close to making real, measurable progress. I look forward to full implementation of the law in the coming weeks so the American people can receive the full benefits of Obamacare.

In closing, this is a waste of our time. With such little time left to avoid a government shutdown, I would expect the Majority in this body to work with us in a bipartisan manner rather than continuing to play political games. I know we can come together to prevent a government shutdown and prevent miserable harm from being inflicted on the American people. But today, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against this misguided bill.