

called “fast track” to negotiate this, which means whatever they negotiate, we don’t get to see, and then they bring it up here under a fast track procedure. That process ties our hands. They bring it up in one lump-sum vote, with no amendments allowed. And they usually do it in a lame-duck session of Congress after election and just try to ram it through, usually very late in the evening, often in the early morning hours.

Since fast track was first used, the United States has accumulated red ink—trade deficits, more imports coming in here than exports going out—for nearly three decades. We have accumulated over \$9 trillion in trade deficits. If you want to know why we have a budget deficit, it is because we have a trade deficit. We have outsourced too many jobs to low-wage havens. Go out and try to buy anything made in America; right? The American people know this inherently. More than 7 million good-paying American manufacturing jobs have been lost since fast track was first passed.

Every poll of U.S. opinion tells this Congress: What do the American people care about? Jobs and the economy. Jobs and the economy. They care about economic recovery. So why is this administration using the same old model that goes back to 1975? Now they are looking at the Pacific, the Pacific region, as if we haven’t had relations with some of those countries before. But every other agreement has resulted in red ink. The American people want job creation, not job outsourcing. Actually, if this President were to refurbish this failed trade model and really fix it, it would be the first time in modern history that our trade policy would yield job creation in this country, net job creation in this country and real income growth for the American people.

Now, let’s look at a couple dimensions of this.

The trade deficit in 2012, the last year for which we have confirmed numbers, was half a trillion dollars, \$534 billion. That alone resulted in over 2 million lost jobs in this country. That number has just been getting worse with each passing decade, more and more jobs lost.

Let’s look at some of the countries. Let’s take China. The trade deficit in 2000 with China was about \$83 billion. It has increased four fold. It has quadrupled. In 2012, for which we have confirmed numbers, we had over \$315 billion in trade deficit with China. Every billion equals 4,000 lost jobs in this country. So we are net negative with China—a job loss of over 1,200,000 more U.S. jobs.

With Japan, we have been solidly negative for decades. In 2012, our trade deficit with Japan was \$76 billion.

With Mexico, they said after NAFTA, oh, it is going to be great for America; there are going to be millions of jobs in the United States. Wrong. Our jobs were outsourced. In fact, in the year

2000, we had a \$24 billion deficit with Mexico. By 2012, that had gone up three times more to \$61 billion in the red—in the red—our jobs going there, their exports coming here, not the reverse. That’s 244,000 more lost jobs. The numbers don’t lie.

In Korea, we had a discussion with some of the President’s advisers. They said, well, you know, that was supposed to be the new trade model, the Korean trade deal that this President proposed was going to change everything. Well, guess what? We are in the red with Korea, too. In 2000, we already had a \$12 billion trade deficit. Yes, more red ink. After the new Korean free trade deal, in 2012, it has nearly doubled. It is \$16.6 billion. And in 2013, just through November, it is nearly \$20 billion. That is a doubling of the trade deficit with Korea and 80,000 more lost U.S. jobs.

So if this fast track free trade is such a great trade model, how is it working for the American people? It isn’t. None of these trade deals are working. It might be working for certain transnational corporations who can pay their investors more because of the profits they are making off of cheap labor in low wage haven and the lack of environmental regulations in these other countries, but it is not working for the benefit of the American economy, the American people. It is time to change the trade model.

Let me just put two other numbers on the record here. We have over 1.5 million Americans over 45 years of age who still are unemployed. These are people who have worked their whole lives. We can’t even get them unemployment benefits and their jobs have been shipped out someplace else.

Mr. Speaker, later in the week I will talk about the cost of environment degradation in this country because of imports that are not properly regulated by the Department of Agriculture coming over our border and doing harm from coast to coast. It’s long, long overdue for a new trade model that benefits our nation and creates jobs here at home.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o’clock and 27 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Dr. Andrew Chaney, First and Calvary Presbyterian Church, Springfield, Missouri, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, You equipped the Founders with great resilience as they sought Your wisdom in establishing our Nation. With that same power that inspired our patriots, bless these Members of Congress today. Lift them up, O God.

When they feel discouraged, when negative thoughts seem to dominate, when the winds are against them, strengthen their minds and spirits with an inner faith that only You can provide.

As we are now united in prayer, unite their efforts. Help them leave bitterness by the wayside. May their decisions consider the hopeful faces of parents, children, elderly, soldiers, veterans; that each person in every district will be blessed by the strong leadership of this Congress.

As many voices compete for their attention, create a sanctuary for them to pause, reflect, and hear Your voice. Equip them with a courage that constantly reminds them that “with God, all things are possible.”

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day’s proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REVEREND DR. ANDREW CHANEY

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LONG) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, today I have the honor of introducing my friend, Reverend Dr. Andrew Chaney.