The history of America is one generation after another making sure that the generations that follow would have it better than they did. When we come to this generation, my generation—and it's embarrassing, but we've been so self-indulgent, so self-absorbed that we would spend future generations' money. They are kids, some of them are not even born, and they are going to have to bear the cost of what we're doing. As one of our Republican friends said just about an hour ago, Be quite sure any deficit spending now will be a tax on someone at some point. It's just the way it is.

We keep hearing that everybody needs to pay their fair share, and I hope that beginning now when people hear ''fair share,'' they'll think about a flat tax. Steve Forbes has been talking about it for years. RAND PAUL had an article out a year or so ago proposing a flat tax. My friend, MIKE BURGESS, has a proposal. Many of us have proposals.

Look, you talk about wanting Warren Buffett to pay what his secretary does, yet you haven't made one proposal that will bring Warren Buffett to paying what his secretary does. That's crazy. That's why we shouldn't eliminate the word ''lunatic.'' It really has application around this town.

Warren Buffett ought to take heed. He runs around telling people, yeah, rich people should pay more taxes. Well, he's not. He's not going to pay more, not on any of the proposals that the President has him running around endorsing. How about a flat tax that says 15 percent for capital gains tax, what Warren Buffett normally pays, 15 percent for his secretary in income tax, 15 percent for gift tax, and a 15 percent corporate tax. Let's just go 15 percent across the board. The irony is that the economy would so explode—so many more people would be employed, so many more people would be making more money—that the revenue would actually come in in greater amounts. We would actually get greater revenue, and there would be less pain and less suffering in America.

A couple of years or so ago, an 80-year-old lady in east Texas said:

> I grew up here in east Texas in a home that had no electricity, no power. We had a wood-burning stove; and now the electricity, propane, everything is so expensive, my Social Security doesn't cover it. It looks like I'm going to have to go back to a wood-burning stove just to exist. This could be a cold winter.

It doesn't have to be like that. It ought to be an economic renaissance. The more fair we are here in Washington—you make more, you pay more; you make less, you pay less. I'm one of those that likes two deductions: one for charitable giving and the other for the mortgage interest deduction.

We can negotiate over numbers. That's not a problem. We could compromise. We can reach an agreement, a compromise over numbers, but let's don't compromise on a principle that is so basic and simply says, if you make more, you pay more. It's an easy concept. You make more, you pay more; you make less, you pay less. That's fair.

For Heaven's sake, let's do this. Let's take that ObamaCare burden off the working poor in America that are going to get socked with that tax. We were told for so long, if we don't do something, there will be maybe 30 million people in America who won't have insurance. Then we get to the bottom of it and we find out, well, now we're going to have lots of people paying lots more taxes and we're still—oh, and we're gutting Medicare. Because of ObamaCare, we're gutting Medicare by $716 billion so the seniors will have less health care. Oh, I know, some of our Democrat friends have said not to worry, we're only taking that from the health care providers—the doctors, the hospitals. We're taking that from them. We're not taking it from you, seniors. You don't have to worry. You will have Medicare. My foot.

Those health care providers who have $716 billion sucked out of the system will not be able to provide service to all the seniors, and that's why we start hearing stories now about how ObamaCare is going to work. Some say the age may be 75 that is tossed out by the panel. It won't be a death panel, but it will be a panel that says, You're 75. No hip. No, no. You're too old. You don't get a hip. You don't get a knee. You're just going to have to suffer because you're not productive anymore.

That is outrageous. Every individual has value.

I would just like to conclude with words from my friend Dick Morris, who said:

> I know there is a disagreement on when life begins in America, but for Heaven's sake, we ought to agree that life ends when you die.

That's why ObamaCare needs to go.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MARINO (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for December 4 and today on account of family medical reasons.

Mr. BILBRAY (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of personal reasons.

Ms. MATSUI (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of attending funeral of longtime family friend Martin L. Friedman.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Friday, December 7, 2012, at 11 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8589. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Halosulfuron-methyl; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0781; FRL-9370-6] received November 29, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8590. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Alkyl(C8-C18) dimethylamidopropylamines; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0106; FRL-9369-2] received November 29, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8591. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Christopher D. Miller, United States Air Force, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8592. A letter from the Attorney, Legal Division, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Consumer Leasing (Regulation M) [Docket No.: CFPB-2012-0042] received November 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8593. A letter from the Attorney, Legal Division, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Truth In Lending (Regulation Z) [Docket No.: CFPB-2012-0004] received November 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8594. A letter from the Attorney, Legal Division, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Truth in Lending (Regulation Z) [Docket No.: CFPB-2012-0043) received November 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8595. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Indonesia, Singapore, and/or Malaysia pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

8596. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to the Republic of Ghana pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

8597. A letter from the Director, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Updating OSHA Standards Based on National Consensus Standards; Head Protection [Docket No.: OSHA-2011-0184] (RIN: 1218-AC65) received November 29, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

8598. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Allegheny County Incorporation by Reference of Pennsylvania's Control of NOx Emissions from Glass Melting Furnaces [EPA-R03-OAR-2012-0785; FRL-9755-4] received November 29, 2012, pursuant to 5

U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8599. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, for Imperial County, Placer County and Ventura County Air Pollution Control Districts [EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0120; FRL-9710-3] received November 29, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8600. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; California; San Joaquin Valley and South Coast; Attainment Plan for the 1997 8-hour Ozone Standards; Technical Amendments [EPA-R09-OAR-2011-0589 and EPA-R09-OAR-2011-0622; FRL-9753-3] received November 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8601. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Final Authorization of State-initiated Changes and Incorporation by Reference of State Hazardous Waste Management Program [EPA-R06-RCRA-2012-0473; FRL-9745-1] received November 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8602. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Withdrawal of Approval of Air Quality Implementation Plans and Findings of Failure to Submit Required Plans; California; San Joaquin Valley; 1-Hour and 8-Hour Ozone Extreme Area Plan Elements [EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0734; FRL-9753-4] received November 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8603. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Guidance on Performing a Seismic Margin Assessment in Response to the March 2012 Request for Information Letter (JLD-ISG-2012-04) received November 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8604. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Assessing and Managing Risk Before Maintenance Activities at Nuclear Power Plants, Regulatory Guide 1.182 [NRC-2012-XXXX] received November 29, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8605. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 12-149, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8606. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 12-103, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8607. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 12-113, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8608. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 12-135, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8609. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 12-148, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8610. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 12-150, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8611. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 12-137, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8612. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 12-092, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8613. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 12-127, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8614. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 12-152, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8615. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Burma that was declared in Executive Order 13047 of May 20, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8616. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq that was declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8617. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, Deputy Chief Acquisition Officer, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-62; Introduction [Docket: FAR 2012-0080, Sequence 7] received November 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8618. A letter from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's 2012 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8619. A letter from the Chairman, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the Board's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period April 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8620. A letter from the Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Director for Financial Management, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Civil Monetary Penalties; Adjustment for Inflation [Docket No.: 121022566-2566-01] (RIN: 0605-AA31) received November 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

8621. A letter from the Administrator, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting notification that funding under Title V, subsection 503(b)(3) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended, has exceeded $5 million for the cost of response and recovery efforts for FEMA-3350-EM in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5193; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8622. A letter from the Administrator, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting notification that funding under Title V, subsection 503(b)(3) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended, has exceeded $5 million for the cost of response and recovery efforts for FEMA-3353-EM in the State of Connecticut, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5193; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8623. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Small Business Size Standards: Health Care and Social Assistance (RIN: 3245-AG30) received November 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Small Business.

8624. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Small Business Size Standards; Adoption of 2012 North American Industry Classification System for Size Standards (RIN: 3245-AG47) received November 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Small Business.

8625. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Small Business Size Standards: Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (RIN: 3245-AG28) received November 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Small Business.

8626. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Small Business Size Standards: Educational Services (RIN: 3245-AG29) received November 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Small Business.

8627. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Applicable Federal Rates — December 2012 (Rev. Rul. 2012-31) received November 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8628. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Fiscal Year 2011 Defense Environmental Programs Annual Report; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Commerce.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the following actions were taken by the Speaker:

The Committee on Natural Resources discharged from further consideration. H.R. 511 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

The Committee on the Judiciary, Agriculture, Energy and Commerce, and Transportation and Infrastructure discharged from further consideration H.R. 4297.