THE NUMBERS THAT ARE DRIVING OUR ECONOMY RIGHT NOW

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the American people are hurting. We all know that. There are some specific numbers to which we can point that underscore that pain: First, 9.5, the current percentage of unemployment; 14, the number of consecutive months that the unemployment rate has been in excess of 9.4 percent; 125,000, the number of jobs that were lost last month; $13 trillion, the level of our national debt; $1 trillion, the annual deficit as we head towards the end of the fiscal year; 0, the number of times before this year that the House has ever failed to debate and pass a budget; 0, the number of proposals by the Democratic majority to cut wasteful spending and provide accountability for their out of control spending practices; 0, the number of pro-growth proposals that the Democratic majority has offered.

The American people want nothing more, Mr. Speaker, than to create jobs and get our economy back on track. Unfortunately, the refusal to pass a budget, the refusal to rein in wasteful spending, the refusal to allow proven pro-growth economic policies to be put into place is impinging our opportunity to do that.

Republicans stand ready to put into place the kinds of policies that will ensure that the pain the American people are feeling will be diminished.

SOCIAL SECURITY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 75th anniversary of the founding of Social Security, it's a time to reflect on the generations and the hundreds of millions of Americans who through good times and bad counted on Social Security to be there to have dignity in retirement, to provide quality of life.

There is millions of stories out there very similar to the one in my family. As a young man watching my father die of a lengthy illness, and a 9-year old brother at home, and a stay-at-home mother, watching Social Security survivor benefits be there to allow my little brother to go on and go to college and my mother to retrain as a nurse and go back into the workforce. Many people will say, and they're absolutely right, pull yourself up by your bootstraps. They are right about that. We just didn't have any boots. They were loaned to us by Social Security. And for that we have paid that back 10 times over.

A family is stronger, a community is stronger, our country is stronger. In August we should celebrate the 75th anniversary and many more to come.

WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

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

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I love these debates about Social Security and this conversation about Social Security. But if you don't have a job, who's going to pay the Social Security? So it's really about jobs.

I had an interview today with some radio folks back in my district, and they asked a question, Have we created any jobs but government jobs? And how come we are creating government jobs that get paid more than the private-sector jobs? When did we get confused about that? They wanted me to answer the question, Where are the jobs for the folks in Texas? Where are the jobs for the folks in the other States? Why are all the jobs just in Washington, DC, growing the government?

This administration has destroyed thousands of private-sector jobs by taking over and Federalizing the student loan program and making loans harder to get and taking longer to be processed. Now President Obama and this administration have unilaterally killed tens of thousands of jobs in the gulf, in direct violation of a Federal court order.

Now, is this a way we create jobs for America? The question they want to know, Where are the jobs, so, with a job, we can pay our share of Social Security?

SOCIAL SECURITY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

(Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the upcoming 75th anniversary of Social Security and express my support for the financial security of millions of retired Americans.

Representing Maryland's Fourth Congressional District, I serve many who oversee and administer the Social Security Administration. One of my constituents I had the honor of meeting out at Collington retirement community in Mitchellville, Maryland.

Robert M. Ball was one of the chief architects of Social Security, the program we know today. Mr. Ball was Social Security's chief administrator from 1962 to 1973. He was described once as ''the undisputed spiritual leader, and its chief advocate and defender.'' He served three presidents, Republicans and Democrats, to make sure it remained strong for all of us. He passed away in January 2008, but he left a legacy barely known outside Washington, but a program that's the backbone of America's social safety net.

At a time when Republicans are threatening the privatization of Social Security, Mr. Ball would say not now. Can you imagine what would have happened just a year ago when our Nation suffered its worst financial crisis since the Great Depression? Our seniors would have lost everything, and our young people would be starting from scratch. The American people deserve better. Democrats are going to give them better. And we need to get our economy back on track, put people back to work, contribute to Social Security, and strengthen our most successful program of the 21st century.

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PAT BOONE: AMERICAN ICON

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in addition to being a legendary actor, writer, and singer, American actor Pat Boone serves as spokesman for 60 Plus, an advocacy group led by Jim Martin for senior citizens. Pat is an advocate for liberty and a defender of the Constitution. His contributions for our military servicemembers are inspiring. Pat developed the documentary ''For My Country'' to promote the significance of the National Guard.

Pat Boone is ahead of his times. Back in 2004, at a commencement speech at Pepperdine University, Boone stressed the need for citizen involvement and called for a new Boston Tea Party movement. Today, as the Tea Party is a household term, we should note Boston was not the only city with the tea rebellion during the Revolutionary War. Before the famous Boston Tea Party, patriots in Charleston, South Carolina, impounded tea in 1773 to protest taxes and in 1776 sold the tea to finance the Revolution.

Concerned citizens still feel T-E-A, Taxed Enough Already. It's time to give Americans tax relief and create jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE EXTENSION

(Ms. CHU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the millions of Americans caught in the crosshairs of Republican political calculations. Today, a partisan minority blocks relief to those laid off during this recession.

This obstruction doesn't just keep food off American tables; it keeps Americans out of work. People like Annette Tornberg. Last month, she lost her benefits. Now she can't afford the gas she needs to drive to job interviews. Like the vast majority of those