why this is important. This morning we were doing our investigation of the BP oil spill. We had President Bush's Secretary of the Interior, Gail Norton, testify. And you know what we discovered?

During the Bush administration's rapid ramp-up of offshore drilling, they learned that 50 percent of the blow-out preventers that were supposed to be the fail-safe system to prevent these massive oil spills, 50 percent of them didn't work. But they refused to do anything about it.

They learned that they had a problem with their own investigators, that the wells weren't being cemented appropriately, but they refused to do anything about it.

We are not going to let folks go backwards on Social Security, go backwards on Wall Street reform, or go backwards on environmental protection. This is a country that goes forward.

NO BUDGET THIS YEAR

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

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, it's official. In late June the majority leader confirmed what we've known all along and suspected: There will be no budget this year.

Yes, for the first time since 1974, the House will not even consider a budget resolution that's necessary to begin the appropriations process beginning October 1.

Now, this may sound like inside baseball or congressional housekeeping, but it's much more than that.

Over this past month, I've met with hundreds of constituents who have the same question, ''Where are the jobs?''

My colleagues, we should be spending this summer working to improve our financial outlook, positioning our Nation to create an environment for private sector job growth and opportunity.

Instead, the majority has chosen to increase domestic spending by 84 percent since the President took office on inefficient programs that have succeeded only in adding to the public debt. To finance this spending binge, we're borrowing more and more money from nations like China, Japan, and Saudi Arabia.

The people of New Jersey and people across the Nation know that we spend too much, tax too much, and we borrow too much. It's got to stop.

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EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

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

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend I went door to door in Waterbury, Connecticut, where unemployment today is 14.1 percent. Guess what everybody wanted to talk about? They wanted to talk jobs. People in Waterbury never shied away from hard work. This is the Brass City. It's due to its rich history of manufacturing, making things from Boulder Dam in Colorado to munitions for World War II and Korea.

And today the unemployed in Waterbury aren't just sitting on their hands waiting for a job to drop in their lap. And unlike some on the right try to suggest, they're not looking for a handout either. They just need some help getting through this recession.

Outside the city limits of D.C., patience is running thin with the Republicans who are playing politics with people's ability to buy groceries and simply make ends meet during tough times.

We can come out of this recession stronger than ever, but Congress needs to do the right thing and extend unemployment benefits for people in Waterbury and all across this country.

THE UNARMED NATIONAL GUARD WILL GUARD COMPUTERS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the administration says they will be sending 1,200 National Guard troops to the southern border region on August 1. But they're not going to the actual border. They'll be far behind the lines, guarding computers. And the National Guard will be unarmed while they are guarding the computers.

The Border Patrol welcomes the National Guard at the border. They appreciate the help. But the Border Patrol agents made it real clear they need armed National Guard to help them stop the criminal cartels at the border. Further, the Border Patrol will need to guard the National Guard. Now, how does that make sense?

Mr. Speaker, we have 15 million unemployed Americans already. We should hire some of those 15 million unemployed to do the technical work behind the lines, and the National Guard should be armed and on the front lines of the border doing what they're trained to do: Protect the country. We need the National Guard with boots on the ground on the border, not rebooting computers somewhere behind the border.

And that's just the way it is.

SOCIAL SECURITY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. HALL of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HALL of New York. Mr. Speaker, Republicans in Congress are talking about dismantling our Social Security system. They want to privatize this important program, raise the retirement age, and make our seniors pay for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. This is simply unacceptable.

Seventy-five years ago our Nation made a promise to our seniors. We promised to help them through their golden years. This promise has served our Nation well, allowing those who built this great country an opportunity to enjoy the fruits of their hard work. Social Security is one of the most important, successful programs in the United States' history, an invaluable program that helps more than 50 million seniors and disabled Americans.

Our seniors depend on their monthly checks to put food on the table and a roof over their heads. Without this critical help, many of them would fall into poverty. Social Security should not be privatized, and must remain intact for America's future generations.

ECONOMY AND JOBS—MORATORIUM

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, as Americans ask, Where are the jobs, we see the job creation of one family at risk thanks to the President's ill-conceived offshore drilling moratorium.

Sunbelt Machine Works Corporation was founded 32 years ago by Frank and Mary Scantlin. While Frank ran the shop, Mary served as secretary and a truckdriver to help out. Their children grew up sweeping the floors and learning the business, working their way up in a company that today employs 70 people in the district that I represent.

The President's moratorium will cause Sunbelt to lay off people soon if production doesn't restart quickly. Jobs have already headed overseas, as two rigs have left the gulf. The CEO of one of those rigs' owners apologized for the ''loss of U.S. jobs'' because of the moratorium.

Mr. Speaker, we must lift this job-killing moratorium now. Americans are tired of asking, Where are the jobs?

PRESIDENTIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

Mr. BACA. The American people know that we cannot go back to the failed policies of the Bush administration and the Republicans in Congress. Their lack of accountability and oversight caused 8 million Americans to lose their jobs and led to the worst economic conditions since the Great Depression.

Thankfully, President Obama has led our efforts to rebuild a strong economy for the middle class and expand new job creation for Americans. With his leadership, we have enacted laws, created millions of jobs, given 98 percent of the working families a tax break, increased