Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, one business organization after another has made it clear: The policies of this President and this Democrat-controlled Congress are creating uncertainty all throughout the private sector. Whether it's the Chamber of Commerce or the National Federation of Independent Businesses, the message is the same: Washington is giving them no reason for confidence in the economy.

All across this country, business owners are looking at higher costs for health care, the potential for higher energy costs, the threat of more taxes, and the reality of oppressive, costly government regulations. It's no wonder the private sector isn't hiring. The only sector of the economy that's really growing is government. The endless deficit spending in Washington is expanding government and sucking the life out of the private sector.

This has to stop. House Republicans have commonsense solutions. We need to rein in out-of-control spending, cut taxes and get a massive Federal Government off the back of free enterprise.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, for the first time in history, the other body has to wait for a new Member to be sworn in today to take up unemployment insurance and break a filibuster. Even in the mildest of turndowns, there has always been bipartisan support for unemployment benefits. Ask the average American: Give us your definition of emergency spending: unemployment benefits paid for in part from employee paychecks or more tax cuts for the wealthy?

The question answers itself, for all except my Republican friends in this House. They've gone further and insulted the unemployed by offering as an excuse that benefits keep people from looking for and taking jobs. The Bush recession left one job for every five job-seekers. It's cruel to blame the unemployed for not finding work in the midst of the great recession. It is worst to deny them food to put on the table.

CONGRESS' RAMPANT ACTIVISM

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

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, after four stimulus packages over the past 2 years, Americans are asking: Where are the jobs? Why aren't businesses hiring? In a word, uncertainty.

We've seen a great deal of activist government over the past 2 years with enormous budget deficits, the government takeover of car companies, bank bailouts, mandatory national health care, misguided financial regulation and more. Still, President Obama and the congressional leadership have additional disruptive plans on tap, including big tax increases and cap-and-trade legislation. Not only are businesses being burdened with new taxes and other requirements, they also know that further afflictions are coming, but the form and extent of those afflictions are still a mystery.

Business people plan to succeed, but when the government is making major burdensome and, as yet largely unspecified, changes, it is very difficult to plan. Rather than hiring and investing, many are choosing to wait and see.

America's working people are the victims of this administration's and this Congress' rampant activism.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Social Security as it approaches its 75th anniversary. When FDR signed this historic legislation into law, he understood that the whims of Wall Street were sweeping many hardworking Americans into financial ruin. At the time, more than half of America's seniors lacked sufficient income to be self-supporting.

Social Security changed all of that. Indeed, today, in my home State of Florida, 53 percent of seniors would be below the poverty line without Social Security. That hasn't stopped Republicans from wanting to end the guarantee of Social Security. In 2005, President Bush proposed privatizing Social Security, which would have cut benefits for 70 percent of retired Americans. Well, it's deja vu all over again.

While President Bush may be gone, his plans live on. House Republicans are once again calling to privatize Social Security, and Medicare for good measure. We simply cannot risk tossing millions of seniors into poverty.

Let us rededicate ourselves to Roosevelt's vision and to the economic security of all of our citizens and not throw our seniors out in the cold.

DEEPWATER DRILLING JOBS MOVING TO OTHER NATIONS

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, the people of Louisiana have suffered a lot of catastrophes: the BP explosion, fishing industry's down, the tourism industry is down. Now, to add insult to injury, we have the moratorium which is costing thousands of jobs in Louisiana.

What's the result? ''Three deepwater drilling rigs to be moved from sites south of Cameron Parish.'' ''First rig sails away over drilling ban'' to Egypt. ''Brazil sees silver lining in BP spill: more rigs.''

Mr. Speaker, where are the jobs? Well, in the deepwater drilling they're going to be moved to other nations.

SOCIAL SECURITY BRINGS A SENSE OF PRIDE

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

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Sometimes when I listen to the debate, you would think that President Obama inherited a large surplus and growing jobs. No, what my Republicans forget, that's not what President Obama inherited. That's what George Bush inherited and lost in 8 years.

Why are we in this problem? It is for 8 years of bad economic principles that George Bush put forward. Obama inherited deficits and loss of jobs, 750,000 of them a year; and now we hear again the same old policy, attacking and wanting to privatize Social Security.

Well, Democrats and the American people rejected that idea during the failed policies of the 8 years of George W. Bush, and we reject that policy again because we understand the significance and the importance that Social Security brings to our families, it brings to children and those who are retired who without Social Security would be in poverty.

Social Security brings a sense of pride to those who have worked hard all of their lives so that they can have something at the end.

TENNESSEANS FRUSTRATED WITH CONGRESS

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, my home State of Tennessee has an employment rate of over 10 percent. The Tennesseans that I know are very frustrated with Washington. They've lost faith that this Chamber can or will do anything meaningful about jobs this year. They look at Washington and see us living out that maxim: if at first you don't succeed, spend and spend again. They look at us and they said where are the jobs.

Now Tennessee's Governor and State legislature have made some very different choices. Instead of expanding the size of government, they scaled it back. Instead of increasing taxes, they've offered incentives for investment. Many in this Chamber say those are policies of the past. Well, in Tennessee, those choices have worked. They attracted over $4 billion of investment in the past 18 months. It is investment that creates sustainable growth and good, solid paying jobs.

By contrast, the stimulus program we hear so much about in this Chamber has sent just over $1 billion to the State of Tennessee. At 10 percent unemployment, what do Tennesseans

have to show for those stimulus jobs? No jobs and a lot of expensive road signs.

REPUBLICANS WANT TO PRIVATIZE SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. WEINER. If you're one of those folks who has one of those new, modern TVs with the ''what the heck are they talking about button'' on the TV, you're going to need it for this side of the aisle because, frankly, it is insane for them to wrap their arms around the idea that deficits are growing, they're booming, and then get this, they want to offer tax breaks to billionaires this year. Millionaires and billionaires. And you know how they're going to pay for it? They don't say. They want to add to the deficit.

But there is one moment of clarity we saw recently that I have got to tell you that in my 12 years in Washington is refreshing. The Republican head of the Budget Committee, their ranking member, came out with a proposal to privatize Social Security. And you know what, that's not some obscure Member. I actually like the guy. I commend him for being honest. Finally, the Republicans have come out and said what, frankly, they've said for 75 years. They want to eliminate Social Security. Not actually eliminate it. They want to invest it in the stock market. Boy, talk about lessons unlearned.

The Democrats, who created Social Security, are here to celebrate 75 years of keeping it strong and another, God willing, 75 years. The Republicans want to privatize it, invest it in the stock market. You decide for yourself what the right policy is.

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IMMIGRATION LAW

(Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, last week the Department of Justice filed a lawsuit challenging the State of Arizona's recently enacted immigration law.

DOJ bases its groundless lawsuit on the supremacy clause, preemption, and the commerce clause. However, DOJ's officials should take note—and maybe even read the bill, for that matter—that the new Arizona law mirrors Federal law, which already requires aliens to register and carry their documents with them. Arizona's law simply states that violating Federal immigration law is now a State crime as well.

Because illegal immigrants are, by definition, in violation of Federal immigration law, under the new provisions they can now be arrested by local law enforcement in Arizona. This week DOJ officials have stepped up their attack on the Arizona immigration law by stating that they may file another lawsuit if the law leads to racial profiling.

Once again, read the bill. Arizona's law expressly prohibits racial profiling four separate times. All in all, DOJ's lawsuit reveals the Obama administration's contempt for immigration law, the people of Arizona, and for the majority of the American people who support Arizona's efforts to reduce human smuggling, drug trafficking, and illegal immigration.

Arizona takes a responsible and constitutional approach to defending the immigration laws.

RESPECT VIRGIN ISLANDS' LAW ENFORCEMENT

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I came to the floor originally to reassure our seniors about Democrats' determination to save Social Security as it approaches its 75th birthday, but I must respond to my colleague who raised the issue of the ATF Agent William Clark.

Neither he nor I know exactly what happened the day that Agent Clark shot and killed Mr. Sukow. Yes, he did come to the aid of a lady who was at least being verbally assaulted by the victim, and the victim had a flashlight in his hand.

But the investigation raised serious questions about the level of the threat and whether the reaction of Agent Clark was excessive. Given the information received by witnesses, an attorney, and a security guard, as well as the medical examiner and the police investigation, our attorney general acted responsibly by charging the agent.

Agent Clark has and will continue to have a fair hearing in our courts, and Congress should not do anything to interfere with the judicial process. We wish the incident did not happen.

In the meantime we are working with Federal law enforcement to make sure that the authority under which they carry out their duties will be clear. We respect their work, and we ask that they respect the Virgin Islands' law enforcement in return.

BROKEN GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I was home again this weekend and, guess what, the American people are still sick and tired of this broken government and business as usual, and so am I.

They said that new government leaders promised them change, and that's what they got. And that's what they still get when they stick their hand in their pocket, a handful of change.

The new government said we will pay for everything we do. They call it ''pay as you go.'' The people I talk to say what we got instead was tax to the max, borrow like there's no tomorrow, and spend to the end. Spend to the end of American ingenuity, spend to the end of American innovation, spend to the end of our children's future, the end of a great American experiment, the end of our freedom.

Instead of building our country on the word ''change,'' let's get America back on track, build it on words like responsibility, accountability, God, family, country. Mr. Speaker, how about faith, a little faith in the American people?

SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, for 75 years Social Security has been a promise, an investment in the future of our Nation's workforce. An estimated 159 million Americans are eligible for Social Security benefits, and they have earned them.

It is their money, but many worry that these benefits won't be around when they need them. These workers can rest assured that my Democratic colleagues and I intend to preserve and strengthen Social Security for generations to come.

Social Security is a major income source for retired Americans, and workers should receive back what they have paid into Social Security over the years. Our children and grandchildren also deserve to have Social Security available to them upon their retirement.

We can and we will protect the core values of the Social Security system.

DO SOMETHING BESIDES BLAME PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT IN OFFICE

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, well, I keep hearing our friends across the aisle end up talking about George W. Bush. They keep forgetting that got them the majority in November of 2006. My friends across the aisle have been in charge ever since 2006.

It's time to do something besides blame people who are not in office. Take responsibility, that's a good thing.

And then we just hear this weekend, our administration, our friends, want to give $500 million more to Pakistan because we are not worried enough about folks here. We already gave them maybe a billion bucks. I have the new results from last year. They voted against us in the U.N. 87.5 percent of the time.

You don't have to pay people to hate you; they'll do it for free. Let's get the