money where it will do us some good instead of helping our enemies cause us problems.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of the most successful program the United States Government has ever created, Social Security.

Since its inception in 1935, Social Security has become the great promise that each generation will take care of those who came before it. In our district in Texas, nearly 65,000 recipients receive over $61 million monthly from the Social Security administration. It's a blue-collar district, home to thousands of hardworking families who have overcome wars and natural disasters in becoming the backbone of the American economy.

The national average benefit for the retiree is $14,000 a year, a majority of income for 6 out of 10 seniors. This modest amount guarantees that tens of millions of parents, grandparents, friends and neighbors can retire with dignity.

I believe it's important to consider what would have happened if Congress had followed along the lines of then-President George W. Bush in 2005 to partially privatize Social Security and make Social Security subject to the stock market.

Or consider what could happen if Congress follows along the plans of some of my colleagues across the aisle in cutting Social Security to reduce the national debt. I believe that cutting Social Security is irresponsible and wrong as we approach the 75th anniversary of Social Security.

SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I guess the polls show that the Democrats are in trouble, because every time that happens, Social Security is pulled out of their back pocket. Republicans are going to destroy Social Security. This party is the only party to save Social Security.

Democrats must be behind in the polls because they are pulling out George W. Bush. I have looked all over this campus. I can't find him. I went down to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. He left. Maybe you folks didn't notice.

President Obama is there. And what a real shame it is that current Democrats are running away from the Democratic Party of John F. Kennedy. He told us, forget about class warfare; a rising tide lifts all boats.

Maybe you ought to listen to some of those on your side who didn't talk about fear but talked about hope.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, next month marks the 75th anniversary of Social Security, which has been there for generations of Americans and will be for generations to come.

Social Security is a bedrock promise to all Americans. You have paid into the system, the money is yours, and it is our responsibility to do everything we can to guarantee that it will be there for you when you retire.

That's why we are so fortunate that our friends on the other side of the aisle were unsuccessful in their attempt to privatize Social Security at exactly the time the American financial markets were nearing collapse. 401(k)s and IRAs lost one-third of their value during the stock market plunge of 2008 and 2009. Imagine what would have happened to those retirees' income if their Social Security earnings had also been gambled away in the stock market.

Mr. Speaker, rather than risk a lifetime of savings, Social Security will continue to be the stable, reliable, safety net that it was created to be 75 years ago.

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GETTING THE ECONOMY MOVING AGAIN

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, just Friday I was in my district in Barren County, Kentucky—voted the number one rural county in America to live in—and I was at the Chamber of Commerce. I sat and talked at a roundtable with business leaders, people who own franchises and other types of small businesses, and their concerns about getting the economy moving again didn't have to do with George W. Bush or even when the majority took over in 2006. Their concern was this Congress, the debt from the stimulus bill that didn't keep unemployment from going above 8 percent. They were concerned about the energy cost that is going to greatly affect the great Commonwealth of Kentucky, the cap-and-trade. And also, they were talking about how they're going to implement the health care bill that was passed by this majority. Those were their concerns.

I left with them saying, if we got back to our belief in limited government and unlimited faith in the American people, that we will get this economy moving again and bring back the jobs they need.

SOCIAL SECURITY MUST BE PRESERVED

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

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, 75 years ago Frances Perkins, a wonderful woman who came from a long line of Maine farmers and craftsmen, addressed the Nation as the Secretary of Labor. In addition to being the first woman Cabinet member in our Nation's history, she was also the person President Roosevelt put in charge of creating the Social Security system. In her address, she talked about creating a system to ''provide safeguards against the misfortunes which cannot be wholly eliminated in this man-made world of ours.''

Nearly 300,000 people in my State now receiving benefits are living proof that for 75 years Social Security has done just what Frances Perkins hoped for—assuring a decent standard of living in good times and in bad for seniors and for countless others.

From disability insurance and survivors' benefits to providing a cushion during retirement, Social Security has allowed Americans to retain their independence and their dignity. It must be preserved.

GOVERNMENT-RUN STIMULUS HAS FAILED

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

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, we must end this culture of uncertainty. It is delaying our economic recovery. Businesses are unwilling to hire new workers because they do not know what new taxes and regulations Washington will enact on them. ObamaCare's chilling effect on hiring and new jobs was just the beginning. The cap-and-trade bill will further hurt our economic recovery if it is enacted.

As a result of policies adopted by this administration, businesses are sitting on huge stockpiles of cash to brace themselves for further interference from the government. Economist Larry Kudlow noted that corporations are sitting on $2 trillion worth of cash. If allowed to be injected into our economy, this could unleash a tremendous private sector stimulus of our economy.

The government-run stimulus has failed. We now need to get government out of the way of the private sector to let it save our economy.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on Congress to defend Social Security.

For many years, I've had the privilege of working to bring commonsense policies that benefit middle class families in North Carolina and across America. I was proud to help lead the fight against President Bush's misguided effort to privatize Social Security and to cut benefits. We won that