

Western District of New York have endorsed the naming of the courthouse in Jackson's honor. Chief Judge William Skretny called him "the most distinguished jurist and most acclaimed legal mind to come out of the Western District." And Senior Judge John Curtin said of Jackson, "I think we should pick someone from the court family in western New York. I can't think of a better choice."

Mr. Speaker, Justice Jackson's story is uniquely American and it's uniquely western New York. I will soon introduce legislation to name our new courthouse for Robert H. Jackson, and I invite my colleagues to join to support this effort.

#### KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. OLSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, before spending last weekend in Hawaii and now jetting off to Australia and Indonesia, President Obama was crisscrossing our country on his "We Can't Wait" for Congress to act tour. Along the way, he found the time to issue Executive orders that circumvent the will of Congress. His justification for this end run around Congress? America can't wait for Congress to act to create jobs.

If our President was really interested in creating jobs, he would not have caved in to election-year politics, which was precisely what he did last Friday when he punted on approval of the proposed Keystone XL pipeline until well after next fall's election.

When completed, the Keystone XL pipeline will bring nearly 1 million barrels of oil per day to the United States from Canada. Support for this pipeline is wide and varied, including major United States labor unions who understand the project will create thousands of American jobs and reduce our reliance on Middle Eastern oil. We will have greater energy security, which means greater national security. That's a win-win-win-win for America.

There is no dispute that building the pipeline will create 20,000 direct American construction jobs and spin off over 100,000 indirect jobs in the good 'ol USA. Unfortunately, the President is putting personal political needs before the needs of out-of-work Americans. He is blowing an opportunity to ensure a stable energy supply from a country that likes us while creating jobs right here in America.

The Environmental Protection Agency and the State Department have spent extensive time reviewing the impact of this pipeline. Early proposals were revised to address EPA and stakeholder concerns. After years of study, a decision was supposed to be made this fall by President Obama. Apparently, it was a tough decision for our President. He had to choose between two groups within his political base—labor unions and jobs or environmental activists and no jobs.

There are times when the American people expect leadership, leadership which requires making tough decisions. Regrettably, last Friday, our President caved in to environmental and Hollywood activists as they surrounded the White House in opposition to the Keystone pipeline. He chose to postpone a final decision on the Keystone XL pipeline until January 2013. His reason? The administration needed to consider alternative routes for the pipeline that avoided aquifers in Nebraska.

But the saga doesn't end there. Yesterday, TransCanada, the builder of the pipeline, directly addressed President Obama's concerns by announcing they would reroute the pipeline to avoid the Nebraska aquifers. Problem solved. American people win; right? No. It took a few hours for the administration to announce that the goalposts were being moved again. Despite proposing a solution to the President's concerns, the administration announced that a final decision would not come until after the Presidential election in 2012. The bottom line: Presidential politics trumped what's best for a nation struggling to recover from the worst recession in history.

America needs a thoughtful leader who places the needs of country over politics. Canada has an abundance of energy they want to sell us, but they won't wait forever, and China is a ready customer. Canadian Prime Minister Harper recently indicated that with this unnecessary delay, Canada must increase its efforts to find a partner to ensure it can supply energy outside the United States and into Asia in particular.

This pipeline will help American families today. We need these jobs today. We need this pipeline today.

□ 1040

The Chicago Bears need a punter. The American people need a leader. President Obama should be that leader and approve this pipeline today.

#### RESTORING OUR ECONOMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, in the waning months of the Clinton administration, Jason Seligman, a government economist, produced a memo for the White House that speculated on what the effects would be if the United States paid off its national debt by 2012, as many were predicting at the time.

The memo, which was obtained by NPR under the Freedom of Information Act, was never released publicly, and the events of the intervening years have rendered it nothing more than an historical curiosity, but its mere existence is both a stark reminder of what might have been, and an acknowledgment that the great majority of the current debt was built up during the last administration.

In late 2000 no one could have foreseen the 9/11 attacks or the wars that would follow. These certainly contributed to the red ink. But profligacy, poor strategic choices, and political positioning are the real drivers of our burgeoning budget, which was under \$6 trillion at the time of President Clinton leaving office but is now nearly \$15 trillion.

Add in a real estate bubble fueled by too easy credit and an economy that was no longer focused on creating and making things here in America, and the challenge facing us comes into even more clear focus.

In one week, the bicameral supercommittee is due to present its plan to Congress to rein in our out-of-control finances and restore the responsible stewardship of our economy that prevailed at the end of the Clinton administration, when government ran surpluses for four straight years. A mere month after the supercommittee presents its plan, just before Christmas, we will either bless its work or face the real prospect of painful across-the-board cuts beginning in 2013.

I have long supported a realistic approach and urged the supercommittee to go big and consider the full range of government spending in making cuts. However, I also know that we cannot put our fiscal house in order solely through spending cuts, and that the government is going to have to find a way to increase the revenue flowing into the Federal Treasury.

While the choices we will confront in the next few weeks will be difficult, they're only the beginning of a process that must result in a new economic paradigm that will guide Congress and the administration in the coming years, when we'll be forced to adjust to a much more competitive global environment even as we work to put the economic downturn of the past 3 years behind us.

As the current wave of pessimism surrounding the work of the supercommittee demonstrates, this will not be an easy task, nor will it be accomplished quickly. If we are to succeed, and success is an absolute imperative, I believe that we'll need a new set of long-term strategies and policies to accomplish five principles.

First, the U.S. is going to have to become a manufacturer again. We should be proud that many of the world's iconic consumer products, like Apple iPhones, for example, were designed and developed here. But much of the benefit to our economy is lost because these products are too often manufactured overseas. American workers are not benefiting from the manufacture of Apple's category-leading smartphone.

We need to return to an economy where American workers are involved in the full life cycle of a product, from concept, through design and testing, and on to manufacture and marketing. To do that, I believe that we need to inject some certainty into our corporate tax structure, as well as create