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WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2012

No. 59

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 24, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 17, 2012, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

MEL WORTMAN

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

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the passing of a constituent and friend of mine who was a true friend and one of the great leaders of the city of Bremerton, Washington.

Mel Wortman died last month at the age of 91, and he was remembered this past weekend at a service in Bremerton by his family and friends for his wit and for his many enduring personal relationships he developed over decades of working at the Puget Sound Naval

Shipyards in Bremerton, and during the years of service to many organizations in our community.

I knew Mel for most of my life. He was a graduate of my mother's high school, and he always joked that he never would have graduated if she hadn't helped him through math class. He was also a great friend of my father, and they were often enjoying their favorite pastime, fishing for trout out on Kitsap Lake. In fact, they had a secret formula that I was hoping Mel would have passed on to me.

Mel served in the Navy in World War II before taking a job at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, eventually rising to be superintendent of Shop 31, which was the machine shop.

Mel's personal advice to me ranged from pointers he gave me when I played sports with his sons, Dave and Gary, to the suggestions he offered when I was running for Congress, and later, as a member of the Defense Appropriation Subcommittee, on important things we could do to make the shipyard in Bremerton function better.

Mr. Speaker, Mel Wortman was one of the remaining members of this Greatest Generation of Americans who selflessly served in World War II and then returned home to raise families and pursue their careers without asking for thanks.

I think it is appropriate once again for us in the House of Representatives to express our thanks to those great Americans as we note the passing of one of their finest, Mel Wortman.

I submit for the RECORD Mel Wortman's obituary as it was published in the Kitsap Sun, noting his wife Jane and the many members of his family who have lost a great patriarch.

OBITUARY PUBLISHED IN THE KITSAP SUN,
BREMERTON, WASHINGTON

Melvin David Wortman
July 4, 1920 to March 19, 2012
Veteran

Mel Wortman died at his home on March 19, 2012 surrounded by his family. Mel did a

stint in the Navy during World War II and was a longtime resident who retired from PSNS after working his way up to Superintendent of Shop 31. Well known in Kitsap County, Mel was said to be the go-to-guy in Democratic politics and he headed up numerous political campaigns. Mel had a passion for sports and we're just sure he and son Gary are shooting some hoops in heaven. Mel was a Washington State Park Commissioner for 12 years and prided himself on visiting all of the parks in his beloved state.

Mel loved to share details of his family with anyone who would listen. Jane, his patient and loving wife listened to his stories and jokes for the past 72 years and continues to make her home in Bremerton. The Wortman's oldest son, Dave lives in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho with his wife Chrissy. Son Gary, who was an NBA Scout, is deceased.

Their daughter, Janna and her husband Bob reside in Arizona, while their other son Steve and his wife Cindy live in Tacoma.

Mel was proud of his 11 Grandchildren and 16 'Greats' who filled his life with tremendous joy in his later years. A memorial service will be held for Mel at the Bremerton Elks Lodge on April 22 at 1:00 p.m.

Born on July 4, Mel lived a life dedicated to being a great American, he made a difference in the lives of all who knew him. In lieu of flowers, Jane requests that donations be made to Hospice of Kitsap County at 570 Lebo Blvd. Bremerton, WA 98310.

TAXMAGEDDON, JANUARY 1, 2013

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, last week, April 17, was Tax Day, when all hardworking Americans must file their taxes with the Internal Revenue Service. Ironically enough, April 17 was also Tax Freedom Day, the day when Americans earn just about enough earned income to pay off the tax bill for all Federal, State, and local taxes. The first 111 days of the year, everything you and I, and all Americans earn went to fund the United States Federal Government, the same government that wasted \$800,000 on a GSA conference with mind readers, commemorative coins, and bike building

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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exercises, and the same government that thought giving half a billion dollars to Solyndra was a good idea.

In 1900, Americans paid about 5.9 percent of their income in taxes, and Tax Freedom Day came about 22 days into the year. It is a far cry, my colleagues, from what we have to endure in taxes today.

If you think 111 days to reach Tax Freedom Day is excessive, just wait till next year. We are on the cusp of a tax Armageddon. I like to call it a Taxmageddon. It's scheduled to hit on January 1, 2013. It will be the largest tax increase in memory, possibly ever, a \$494 billion tax increase in 1 year.

When we talk about taxes, we usually project the increase or decrease in revenue over a 10-year budget horizon. But this \$494 billion tax increase isn't over a 10-year budget window; it is an immediate massive tax increase in 1 year.

Where do these tax increases come from? There are a number of tax provisions that are set to expire at the end of this year. Unless action is taken to extend these provisions or make them permanent, it will lead to an unheard of tax increase in January.

About one-third of the tax increases will come from the expiration of the Bush tax cuts from 2001 and 2003. These tax cuts reduced the marginal rates for all Americans and expanded the child tax credit, reduced the marriage penalty, and increased the tax breaks for education costs. The majority of the tax benefits in these tax cuts were targeted towards the middle and lower income tax folks.

About a quarter of the tax increases will come from the expiration of temporary payroll tax cuts that were created just 2 years ago.

Another quarter of the tax increases will come from the expiration of the alternative minimum tax. With all of this talk about creating the Buffett rule, the President seems to forget that we already have the Buffett rule in the AMT. The AMT was created in 1969 to ensure that 155 high-income households paying zero Federal income taxes would pay income taxes. Unfortunately, it was never indexed to inflation. So more and more Americans become entangled in the AMT, and today the AMT threatens to hit most Americans in the middle class and is regularly patched to protect taxpayers, but never repealed. Unless it is dealt with, it will impact millions of middle class taxpayers.

In 2013, we get a brand new tax, courtesy of ObamaCare. There will be a 3.8 percent tax on wages and salaries over \$250,000 and investment income over that same amount. While this seems like it won't affect most people, this tax can apply to unearned income, like capital gains from selling your home, which will affect middle class families when they sell property. Like the AMT tax penalty, this tax is not indexed to inflation, which means that more and more Americans will be affected by this tax over time.

We'll also see the return of the Death Tax to its pre-Bush levels, when the maximum rate can be 55 percent of your estate. I believe there should be no taxation without respiration; that is, you have to be breathing. It is wrong to tax a business or a family farm when it's transferred from parent to child. This tax has hurt family farms and family businesses where children have been forced to sell the business or farm because they could not afford to pay the Death Tax.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke has referred to all these expiring tax provisions as a "massive fiscal cliff."

When we talk about taxes, we usually project the increases over 10 years, but this is going to be immediate in the year 2013, January 1.

There has been a failure of leadership from the White House. The President's budget is full of election-year gimmicks and unwillingness to try to address the upcoming Taxmageddon. Instead, the President doubles-down on his election year rhetoric, he doesn't address expiring taxes, and instead proposes a slew of new taxes on American companies.

You do not raise taxes during a recession. Raising taxes will halt what little economic growth we had over the last 3 years and return us to the days of double-digit unemployment.

SAN JACINTO DAY

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 176th anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto. Last Saturday, the State of Texas celebrated April 21, 1836, when Texas forces led by General Sam Houston dealt a decisive blow to General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.

Several weeks after the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence in March 1836, roughly 900 members of the Texas Army overpowered a much larger Mexican Army in a surprise attack.

Texas soldiers ran and shouted, "Remember the Alamo" and "Remember Goliad." Some 700 Mexican soldiers were killed and 730 captured, while only 9 Texans died. General Santa Anna was captured the following day. He signed the peace treaties that ordered the Mexican Army to leave Texas, paving the way for the Republic of Texas to become an independent country and later a State in our great country.

The battle was memorialized along Buffalo Bayou and San Jacinto River with the San Jacinto Monument in east Harris County. It is in our congressional district.

God bless Texas and God bless the United States of America.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

Reverend Joel Osteen, Lakewood Church, Houston, Texas, offered the following prayer:

Father, we thank You that You show Your goodness and Your favor to the United States of America and to those who govern it. We ask that You bless this House of Representatives and each Member who serves in it. Help these lawmakers to search their hearts so that they may serve with dignity and honor and that through them our Nation will achieve the destiny that You have set before us. Give them wisdom as they make good decisions, courage that they will hold fast to Your truth, and compassion that all should prosper from their laws.

We receive Your presence here today. Father, we pray that these lawmakers will remain mindful of You and that they will honor You in everything they do here.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SABLAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REVEREND JOEL OSTEEEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) is recognized for 1 minute.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it gives me a great amount of privilege today to welcome two humble

spirits in Pastor Joel Osteen and Co-Pastor Victoria Osteen, and to recognize their entire family and their delightful children, Alexandra and Jonathan. Two humble spirits.

As was reflected in his prayer, Joel Osteen has taught us to embrace God's grace and mercy, and for those who will listen, to stand in the sunlight of joy as one looks toward the hopefulness of the future.

I am delighted that Lakewood started in a feedstock store in the 18th Congressional District. The story is told that there were spiders and a lot of dust, organized by his wonderful father, John Osteen, and his mother, Dodie Osteen, two who loved each other dearly but really loved the Lord.

Out of that wonderful union came five children. And out of that wonderment, as John Osteen preached for over 40 years, as the love of his wife, Dodie Osteen, provided a comfort at his side, they built a wonderful church called the Oasis of Love.

But John was taken from us suddenly in 1999. A young man by the name of Joel was at school. But, knowing how much he loved his family, he came home, just happening, a month or so ago or a few years before, working with his father's ministry, and gave a sermon for the first time one week before his father died. Maybe it was the father telling the son that now it is your time.

As we look to the future, Pastor Joel Osteen, who has published many books, continues to be a humble spirit, is known to have the largest and most growing church in American history and, as well, continues with a humble spirit. His phrase that "Our God is a good God who desires to bless those who are obedient and faithful to him" is one that we're reminded of. He continues to ensure that those who are in need have a sense of inspiration and hope, and he continues to preach this word around the world.

He asks for all of us, and he asks for America and the world, to become all that God created you to be, and continues to emphasize that we are better than we think. As he was the product of John and Dodie Osteen, he is now, along with his wife and along with his mother, continuing to shine a light.

We're delighted to have him today because we need a light in America. As he reaches those who are seeking light, we ask Pastor Joel Osteen, in his books, in his message, to continue to bless us. He is, in fact, someone who warmly says: America is a great country, but we're better when we work together.

Thank you, Pastor Osteen, for keeping the dream alive, that of your father and mother, of a church that was started in 1959. Thank you as well for opening the doors of your church to everyone that would come. But more importantly, every background, race, color, or creed is welcome in those pews, now some 16,000. And that was a former basketball stadium, or arena, but yet now people come and worship.

I'm delighted to host Pastor Joel Osteen and his co-pastor, his wife, Victoria Osteen, for what they are doing not only for their church and their members, but really what they're doing for harmony and the spirit of America.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the achievements of a native Houstonian Joel Osteen, his wife of 21 years Victoria Osteen, as well as, Joel's parents John and Dodie Osteen. Their Church Lakewood was established in 1959 in my district the 18th Congressional District in Houston, Texas.

Joel was born in Houston on March 5, 1965 and has become an internationally known televangelist, theologian, speaker and writer.

He was born into a family dedicated to serving their community. In 1959, six years before his birth, Joel's parents, John and Dodie Osteen, founded the Lakewood Church in Houston, Texas. Joel bore witness to his parents' commitment to the church and the community that they served.

Joel has married a woman who shares his level of commitment. His wife Victoria is also his co-pastor and together they have two children Alexandra and Jonathan.

John Osteen was not only a founder but also the Pastor of Lakewood Church and as the years progressed he along with Dodie was able to develop a loyal local following. John was a prolific writer and authored 45 books and his wife, Dodie joined him in his passion for writing. She also published a book which described her battle with metastatic cancer of the liver. Dodie's survival was a miracle and a blessing for all who heard her story.

Joel, who has always been strongly committed to his family, left for university; however, he returned home early and continued to help his family with the church. Joel had found his calling in life, and gave his first sermon one week before his father's death. That moment set his future destiny—he was called to pastor Lakewood Church.

Before that, Joel believed the next step for the church was television and he worked without ceasing behind cameras and as a producer of the church's broadcasts. Young Joel had a vision and the Osteens, as a family, worked towards that vision to bring their church into the homes of millions of people around the world as a conduit to deliver the word of the Lord.

In 1999, Joel reached his 34th birthday and in that year he along with his family had already celebrated many successes. Sadly, they also had to come together that year to mourn the loss of their patriarch, John Osteen, who died of a heart attack.

At the time of his father's death, Joel had to decide what to do next. He had spent his life dedicated to supporting the mission of the Lakewood Church. He could have chosen a different path in life but had remained steadfast in working with the congregation for so long.

Instead of leaving the church upon his father's death, Joel decided to pick up the torch lit by his parents and stepped into his father's shoes as Pastor of Lakewood Church. The rest is history.

Within the space of 9 years, Joel has transformed the Church and left his mark on history. According to reports, Lakewood Church under Joel Osteen's leadership has become America's largest and fastest growing church. The Osteen family has lived their vision; they

are indeed being seen in millions of homes around the world.

Currently Joe's services can be seen in nearly 100 countries. Lakewood Church is nondenominational—there are no crosses or other visual representations of Jesus—instead, the focus is on the message as delivered by Joel and his co-pastors. He wants to teach people on the redemption of Jesus Christ.

Joel has been preaching to millions of people around the world. He has a strong message of unity and encourages diversity and acceptance. Joel is arguably the most popular preacher in the country. Lakewood Church is the largest congregation in the United States, averaging more than 43,500 in attendance per week. The congregation in Houston meets in a 16,000-seat former sports arena.

On any given Sunday over 7 million people watch his services. And his ability to embrace technology has allowed even more viewers to witness his services. Currently the church has 48 million podcasts with over 1 million people downloading their podcasts every week.

I commend Joel Osteen, his wife Victoria, his family and his Lakewood Church team ministry who have worked together to put forward a message that has engaged the hearts and minds of millions.

JOEL'S STORY

Joel Osteen is currently in negotiations with a major network to anchor a primetime reality series based on the inspirational themes of his Sunday sermons. The show will originate from Lakewood Church and tell the stories of ordinary people meeting extraordinary challenges.

Joel Osteen is a native Houstonian and the Pastor of Lakewood Church, which according to Church Growth Today is America's largest and fastest growing church.

On July 16, 2005 after completing \$95 million in renovations, Joel moved Lakewood Church into its new 16,000-seat home—the former Compaq Center. It is the largest regularly-used worship center in the United States.

Each week Joel delivers God's message of hope and encouragement to more than 38,000 attendees.

According to Nielsen Media Research, Joel is the most watched inspirational figure in America.

His weekly sermon is broadcast into every U.S. television market where it is viewed by 7 million Americans each week and more than 20 million each month. His weekly broadcast is also seen in almost 100 nations around the world.

In 2004, his first book, *Your Best Life Now*, was released by Time Warner debuting at the top of the New York Times Bestsellers List and quickly rising to #1. It remained on the New York Times Bestsellers List for more than 2 years and has sold more than 4 million copies.

Joel was named as one of Barbara Walters' "10 Most Fascinating People of 2006" and he was selected as the "Most Influential Christian

in 2006” by the readers of Church Report Magazine.

PREPARED FOR GOD’S CALLING

Joel, the son of John Osteen, a highly respected minister of the Gospel and the founder of Lakewood Church, attended Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he studied radio and television communications.

In 1982, Joel returned to Houston and founded Lakewood’s television ministry where he produced John Osteen’s televised sermons for 17 years until January 1999 when his father passed away suddenly from a heart attack.

For many years, John Osteen encouraged Joel to preach, but he always declined preferring to work behind the scenes. But, in early 1999 Joel felt compelled to accept his father’s invitation and he preached his first sermon on January 17th of that year. Little did anyone know that would be the last Sunday of John Osteen’s life. Two weeks later, Joel began preaching and later that year was installed as the new Senior Pastor of Lakewood Church.

A NEW VISION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

Almost immediately, weekly attendance began to grow at an extraordinary rate and in 2005, Joel moved Lakewood Church into its present location, the former Compaq Center, a 16,000-seat arena that was once home to the Houston Rockets professional basketball team. Now, with his wife Victoria, and the leadership staff at Lakewood, the innovative church is poised for the new millennium.

Joel’s extraordinary success can be found in his core message: “That our God is a good God who desires to bless those who are obedient and faithful to Him through Jesus Christ.”

It is Joel’s deepest desire that his own life be an example of that principle and that everyone who hears this message of hope and encouragement would choose to accept God’s goodness and mercy and to become all that God wants them to be.

JOEL’S BACKGROUND

Born in Houston, Texas, Osteen married Victoria L. Iloff on April 4, 1987. They have two children, Jonathan and Alexandra.

Joel, son of John and Dolores (Dodie) Pilgrim, is one of five children. His older siblings, Paul, Lisa, and Tamara, and his younger sister, April, are also involved in full-time ministry.

Joel’s half-brother Justin does missionary work out of New York.

Joel’s father, John Osteen, a former Southern Baptist pastor who became Charismatic in the late 1950s, founded Lakewood Church on Mother’s Day, 1959.

Osteen’s father developed Lakewood into a body of approximately 6,000 members with an active television ministry, conferences, missionary support and food distribution.

Currently, Osteen and several Lakewood Church personnel travel across the nation, presenting programs in large arenas. The event, titled “A Night of Hope,” includes worship music led by the church’s music ministry, a testimony by Joel’s mother Dodie and a sermon from Osteen. In 2007, the tour expanded to include stops in several other countries, including Canada, England, Northern Ireland and Israel.

MISSION/VISION OF LAKEWOOD
LAKEWOOD CHURCH

Vision Paragraph: Lakewood seeks to become a vibrant community for God growing

deeper in faith, knowledge, love and relationship with Him. We desire to express the spirit of Jesus through the individual members of the body; through uplifting public worship and intimate small group fellowship; and through committed prayer and dedication to God’s will. We strive to offer a welcoming environment for truth-seekers irrespective of knowledge, experience, and background. We want to follow God wherever He leads to make a difference in others’ lives by identifying individual talents and preparing people for kingdom service locally, nationally and globally. We desire to do this with humility and love giving God the glory!

Community: God wants me to be a MEMBER of His family—This is the purpose of fellowship. Following Christ is not just a matter of believing; it also includes belonging. The Christian life is not a solo act. God has given us the church as a spiritual family for our own benefit. You are members of God’s very own family . . . and you belong in God’s household with every other Christian (Ephesians 2:19).

Loving God: God wants me to be a MAGNIFIER of His name—We are called to worship God. O Magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together (Psalm 34:3). There is an inborn urge to worship in every human being. If we don’t worship God, we will find a replacement. We may worship our job, family, money, a sport, or even ourselves. That is why the very first commandment says, “Thou shalt have no other god’s before Me.” (Exodus 20:3)

Loving Others: God wants me to be a MESSENGER of His love—Once we have been born again, we become messengers of the Good News to others. It is part of the job description for every believer. For God was in Christ, restoring the world to himself, no longer counting men’s sins against them but blotting them out. This is the wonderful message He has given us to tell others. We are Christ’s ambassadors. God is using us to speak to you: we beg you, as though Christ himself were here pleading with you, receive the love He offers you—be reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:19-20).

Loving Others: God wants me to be a MINISTER of His grace—A responsibility of every Christian is service. God expects us to use the gifts, talents, and opportunities He gives us to benefit others. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms (1 Peter 4:10).

Imitating Christ: God wants me to be a MODEL of his character—The goal of discipleship is becoming just like Christ. For God knew His people in advance, and He chose them to become like His Son (Romans 8:29). In 1 Timothy 4:12, Paul describes specific areas where we are to model the character of Christ . . . set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity. Notice that maturity is not measured by one’s learning but by one’s lifestyle.

USC HONORS COLLEGE NAMED
TOP HONORS COLLEGE IN NATION

(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, based upon their rigorous curriculum, retention and graduation rates, honors housing, study abroad programs, and enrichment opportunities for students, the University of South Carolina Honors College was recently named the number one honors

program by the Public University Honors organization. This achievement will be published in “A Review of 50 Public University Honors Programs” later this month.

The University of South Carolina Honors College was established in 1978 and has more than 8,000 alumni spread across the world. Since its founding, USC Honors College students have won over 363 national awards, including the Rhodes, Marshall, Goldwater, and others.

The 2011 incoming Honors College class had an average SAT score of 1427 and an average weighted GPA of 4.61. Congratulations, Dr. Steve Lynn, dean of the Honors College, and university president, Harris Pastides, on their leadership and accomplishments.

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

□ 1410

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF WE THE PEOPLE

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

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, this year we celebrate the 25th anniversary of We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution. Since We the People began in 1987, more than 30 million high school students and 90,000 teachers have participated in this valuable program that promotes the understanding of the constitutional principles that shape and guide our Nation and instills a sense of civic responsibility in young people.

This year, more than 1,000 students from every part of our country will take part in the National Finals here in Washington. The competition will test students’ knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights, showcasing their intelligence, determination, and teamwork.

I want to recognize 24 exceptionally talented and hardworking students from Saipan Southern High School in the Northern Mariana Islands who return to the Finals as repeat regional champions. Working together and striving for excellence are defining traits of this time. I congratulate them and their teachers and coaches, and wish them all success in this year’s We the People competition.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHUCK
COLSON

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, Chuck Colson, a former Nixon administration lawyer, founder of Prison Fellowship, and a good friend, passed away.

I first got to know Colson through his incredible ministry. I knew of his

time serving in Maxwell prison in Alabama, and after he was released, I invited him, as a young State legislator in Pennsylvania, to come and speak to a dinner in my district. I had 535 people show up. He spoke and shared the concept that he had gotten as he served in prison of this idea of Prison Fellowship.

He asked me and another fellow to go up to a couple of Federal prisons in Pennsylvania and select four prisoners to bring to Washington for the first time of this group, and I did. I went to Lewisburg and Allenwood, met over six weekends with the little Christian fellowship in those prisons, and they selected two from each prison. One was a bank robber, a hijacker, a labor union racketeer, and a drug dealer.

And without guards, the prison officials permitted me to drive them to Washington. We dropped them off here, left them for a week, and then I came and picked them up and took them back. But this idea of Prison Fellowship started back then. Chuck, when he would speak to me many times, would call me his first prison volunteer.

It was a wonderful ministry. Chuck is going to be greatly missed. Chuck Colson's story is really one of grace, grace that was given to him, that he worked tirelessly to spread across the Nation and across the world. He will be sorely missed.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY IN FEDERAL CONTRACTING ACT

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, this House has a critical opportunity to reform the Federal contracting process, save the taxpayers billions of dollars, and spur job creation. Last Thursday, I introduced the Fiscal Responsibility in Federal Contracting Act to suspend the Davis-Bacon Act for 10 years.

The Davis-Bacon Act requires the Department of Labor to, essentially, set wage rates for workers on Federal construction projects. The metrics used to come up with these wages are deeply flawed and inflate the labor costs of Federal construction projects by 22 percent.

Suspending this act, as Presidents of both parties have done in the past, would save the taxpayers billions per year and empower Federal contractors to employ more people on their projects. Imagine getting five Federal projects for the price of four. That's a win/win for the U.S. taxpayer and construction workers.

I urge my colleagues to join me in this important reform bill by cosponsoring H.R. 4403.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 24, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
*The Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 24, 2012 at 12:45 p.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 4348.

Senate requests a conference with the House and appoints conferees.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1630

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS) at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO CORRECT ERRONEOUS SURVEY, COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST, ARIZONA

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1038) to authorize the conveyance of two small parcels of land within the boundaries of the Coconino National Forest containing private improvements that were developed based upon the reliance of the landowners in an erroneous survey conducted in May 1960, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1038

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF LAND TO CORRECT ERRONEOUS SURVEY, COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST, ARIZONA.

(a) *CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.*—The Secretary of Agriculture may convey by quitclaim deed all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the two parcels of land described in sub-

section (b) to a person or legal entity that represents (by power of attorney) the majority of landowners with private property adjacent to the two parcels. These parcels are within the boundaries of the Coconino National Forest and contain private improvements that were developed based upon the reliance of the landowners in an erroneous survey conducted in May 1960.

(b) *DESCRIPTION OF LAND.*—The two parcels of land authorized for conveyance under subsection (a) consist of approximately 2.67 acres described in the Bureau of Land Management's Survey Plat titled *Subdivision and Metes and Bounds Surveys in secs. 28 and 29, T. 20 N., R. 7 E., Gila and Salt River Meridian approved February 2, 2010, as follows:*

(1) *Lot 2, sec. 28, T. 20 N., R. 7 E., Gila and Salt River Meridian, Coconino County, Arizona.*

(2) *Lot 1, sec. 29, T. 20 N., R. 7 E., Gila and Salt River Meridian, Coconino County, Arizona.*

(c) *CONSIDERATION.*—

(1) *AMOUNT OF CONSIDERATION.*—As consideration for the conveyance of the two parcels under subsection (a), the person or legal entity that represents (by power of attorney) the majority of landowners with private property adjacent to the parcels shall pay to the Secretary consideration in the amount of \$20,000.

(2) *DEPOSIT.*—The Secretary shall deposit the consideration received under this subsection in a special account in the fund established under Public Law 90-171 (commonly known as the Sisk Act; 16 U.S.C. 484a).

(3) *USE.*—The deposited funds shall be available to the Secretary, without further appropriation and until expended, for acquisition of land in the National Forest System.

(d) *REVOCATION OF ORDERS.*—Any public orders withdrawing any of the Federal land from appropriation or disposal under the public land laws are revoked to the extent necessary to permit conveyance of the Federal land under subsection (a).

(e) *WITHDRAWAL OF FEDERAL LAND.*—Subject to valid existing rights, the Federal land authorized for conveyance under subsection (a) is withdrawn from all forms of entry and appropriation under the public land laws, location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and operation of the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws until the date which the conveyance is completed.

(f) *OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.*—The conveyance authorized by subsection (a) shall be subject only to those surveys and clearances as needed to protect the interests of the United States.

(g) *DURATION OF AUTHORITY.*—The authority provided under this section shall terminate three years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. And for some obvious reasons, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR), the sponsor of this bill that solves some real problems, for the introduction of this particular bill.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 1038, legislation that settles a Federal land boundary dispute in the Mountaineer subdivision in Coconino County, Arizona. This legislation is a commonsense solution to an incomprehensible Federal land situation.

In 1961, the Federal Government conducted a survey in which several acres of the United States Forest Service land were misidentified as private property. It was not until 2007, when the Federal Government contracted another private survey, that the mistakes were realized, and the residents of the Mountaineer neighborhood were informed of these errors.

Until the 2007 survey, many of these residents had maintained these parcels and had developed them as their own for years and, in some cases, decades. In essence, the Federal Government seized lands that residents had maintained, developed, and paid taxes on for years.

So what does this mean?

On some of these parcels, the revised boundary goes right through the portions of the residents' homes, literally right through people's homes. Can you imagine the Forest Service, if they told you we own half of your living room?

Questions associated with the land ownership have plummeted property values in the neighborhood and prevented a number of owners from selling their homes.

For years, the residents of this neighborhood have tried to work individually with the Forest Service to settle the situation administratively. It did not work. So I put forth this legislation to solve the problem immediately.

H.R. 1038 authorizes the Forest Service to convey all rights, titles, and interests in approximately 2.67 acres of the Coconino National Forest to the homeowners. It will provide much-needed relief to my constituents in the Mountaineer subdivision in Coconino County.

In exchange for the land, the homeowners pay a fee. The \$20,000, required in the bill, which was agreed to by all parties, including representatives from the local national forest, is based on precedence, the Northern Arizona Land Exchange legislation. This legislation pertained to a small piece of property within the same county.

Frankly, I do not believe these constituents should have to pay anything to retain property rights on land they have developed and paid taxes on as property owners for decades. However, I have agreed to this compromise, a compromise agreed upon by all parties, because my constituents need this situation fixed now.

The Forest Service does not want to own these people's living rooms, and the property owners certainly don't want to share their homes or yards with the Forest Service. This bill is a no-brainer. Everyone supports it, including the administration.

Before I conclude, I want to thank the residents of the Mountaineer

neighborhood and Coconino County. They worked with my office to put together a video, to call members of the committee, and to advocate on behalf of this bill. Without this teamwork, we would not have garnered unanimous support at the committee level and would not be voting on this bill today.

I would also like to thank Chairmen HASTINGS and BISHOP and their staffs for pushing this bill forward. While this bill affects a small amount of land, it is vital to the livelihoods of my constituents that are affected.

It is not often that Congress gets the opportunity to take up noncontroversial legislation like H.R. 1038. I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation and relieve my constituents of this financially burdensome situation.

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Ms. TSONGAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, this bill corrects a survey error made in the 1960s. The landowners will be required to pay \$20,000 for these two parcels. We have no objections to Congressman GOSAR's legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. We have no other speakers. I'd ask if there are other speakers on your side.

Ms. TSONGAS. We have no other speakers.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I am ready to close if you're ready to yield back.

Ms. TSONGAS. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, as has been said, this is a problem. It's sad that it has to come all the way to the Congress to actually solve this problem, but it is being solved; and I appreciate the gentleman from Arizona's hard work in trying to help his constituents out.

I would encourage our Members to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1038, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

SPECIAL RULES FOR INYO NATIONAL FOREST LAND EXCHANGE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2157) to facilitate a land exchange involving certain National For-

est System lands in the Inyo National Forest, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2157

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SPECIAL RULES FOR INYO NATIONAL FOREST LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT LANDS OUTSIDE BOUNDARIES OF INYO NATIONAL FOREST.—In any land exchange involving the conveyance of certain National Forest System land located within the boundaries of Inyo National Forest in California, as shown on the map titled "Federal Parcel" and dated June 2011, the Secretary of Agriculture may accept for acquisition in the exchange certain non-Federal lands in California lying outside the boundaries of Inyo National Forest, as shown on the maps titled "DWP Parcel - Interagency Visitor Center Parcel" and "DWP Parcel - Town of Bishop Parcel" and dated June 2011, if the Secretary determines that acquisition of the non-Federal lands is desirable for National Forest System purposes.

(b) CASH EQUALIZATION PAYMENT; USE.—In an exchange described in subsection (a), the Secretary of Agriculture may accept a cash equalization payment in excess of 25 percent. Any such cash equalization payment shall be deposited into the account in the Treasury of the United States established by Public Law 90-171 (commonly known as the Sisk Act; 16 U.S.C. 484a) and shall be made available to the Secretary for the acquisition of land for addition to the National Forest System.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to grant the Secretary of Agriculture new land exchange authority. This section modifies the use of land exchange authorities already available to the Secretary as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I, again, ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. This is another good bill that solves a problem that should have been solved at another level, and to introduce it I would yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCKEON).

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 2157.

I want to thank Chairman HASTINGS and Ranking Member MARKEY, as well as Subcommittee Chairman BISHOP and Ranking Member GRIJALVA, for giving my legislation a fair hearing and moving the bill through the committee.

Mr. Speaker, the Mammoth Mountain Ski Area is located in the northern half of my district in the eastern

Sierra Mountains. Mammoth provides between 10 and 30 percent of the total employment in Mono County, and it's a primary recreation destination for tourists all throughout California and the United States. Each winter, Mammoth sees an average of 1.3 million visitors.

□ 1640

These visitors pump vital money into the local economy by populating hotels, motels, restaurants, and stores throughout the region.

Tourism is the lifeblood of the eastern Sierra. Mammoth has operated on a special use permit from the U.S. Forest Service since 1953. The base area of the mountain is aging rapidly and is in need of renovation and redevelopment in order to provide a safer, more enjoyable experience for visitors to Mammoth Mountain; however, these renovations are difficult to achieve under the terms of the special use permit.

Since 1998, Mammoth Mountain has been working with the Forest Service to complete a land exchange between their main base parcel and other desired Forest Service acquisitions. These acquisitions include high-resource value lands in the Inyo, El Dorado, Stanislaus, and Plumas National Forests. The exchange would allow the main base to undergo significant and needed renovations.

My legislation is meant to supplement and codify this agreement. It is needed for two reasons:

Number one, the two parcels that the Forest Service wants are outside Inyo National Forest boundaries. Both parcels are currently leased by the Inyo National Forest from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power;

Number two, there's more value in the Mammoth Mountain parcel than in all the land parcels exchanged in total. So Mammoth needs legislation for permission to pay a cash equalization to the Federal Government that will be used for future forest acquisition.

The agreement is widely supported by the local community because residents, business owners, local governments understand the great value of having Mammoth Mountain in their community. Besides jobs and recreation, Mammoth supports a significant portion of the tax base providing needed revenue throughout the region.

We've received numerous letters of support from community members, including those from Duane Hazard, chair of the Mono County Board of Supervisors; Vikki Bauer, member of the Mono County Board of Supervisors; the Mono Lake Committee; the Eastern Sierra Land Trust; and the Mammoth Lakes Town Council.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for giving my bill time on the floor. Mammoth Mountain has been a good steward of the environment, a solid partner in economic vitality for the region, and an honest party in negotiations with the Forest Service. This land exchange will be mutually beneficial for all par-

ties involved, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2157.

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Ms. TSONGAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TSONGAS. H.R. 2157 provides for a land exchange between the United States Forest Service and the Mammoth Mountain Ski Area. We applaud Congressman McKEON for this legislation and support the passage of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. BISHOP of Utah. This is another great bill. I urge its adoption.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2157.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

IDAHO WILDERNESS WATER RESOURCES PROTECTION ACT

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2050) to authorize the continued use of certain water diversions located on National Forest System land in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness and the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in the State of Idaho, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2050

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Idaho Wilderness Water Resources Protection Act".

SEC. 2. TREATMENT OF EXISTING WATER DIVERSIONS IN FRANK CHURCH-RIVER OF NO RETURN WILDERNESS AND SELWAY-BITTERROOT WILDERNESS, IDAHO.

(a) AUTHORIZATION FOR CONTINUED USE.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall issue a special use authorization to the owners of a water storage, transport, or diversion facility (in this section referred to as a "facility") located on National Forest System land in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness and the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness for the continued operation, maintenance, and reconstruction of the facility if the Secretary determines that—

(1) the facility was in existence on the date on which the land upon which the facility is located was designated as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System (in this section referred to as "the date of designation");

(2) the facility has been in substantially continuous use to deliver water for the beneficial use on the owner's non-Federal land since the date of designation;

(3) the owner of the facility holds a valid water right for use of the water on the owner's non-Federal land under Idaho State law, with a priority date that predates the date of designation; and

(4) it is not practicable or feasible to relocate the facility to land outside of the wilderness and continue the beneficial use of water on the non-Federal land recognized under State law.

(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—

(1) REQUIRED TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—In a special use authorization issued under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(A) allow use of motorized equipment and mechanized transport for operation, maintenance, or reconstruction of a facility, if the Secretary determines that—

(i) the use is necessary to allow the facility to continue delivery of water to the non-Federal land for the beneficial uses recognized by the water right held under Idaho State law; and

(ii) the use of nonmotorized equipment and nonmechanized transport is impracticable or infeasible; and

(B) preclude use of the facility for the storage, diversion, or transport of water in excess of the water right recognized by the State of Idaho on the date of designation.

(2) DISCRETIONARY TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—In a special use authorization issued under subsection (a), the Secretary may—

(A) require or allow modification or relocation of the facility in the wilderness, as the Secretary determines necessary, to reduce impacts to wilderness values set forth in section 2 of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131) if the beneficial use of water on the non-Federal land is not diminished; and

(B) require that the owner provide a reciprocal right of access across the non-Federal property, in which case, the owner shall receive market value for any right-of-way or other interest in real property conveyed to the United States, and market value may be paid by the Secretary, in whole or in part, by the grant of a reciprocal right-of-way, or by reduction of fees or other costs that may accrue to the owner to obtain the authorization for water facilities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, again we have a bill that does a great job in solving a problem that should have been solved a long time ago, especially if the Senate would ever listen to it.

To introduce his bill, I would like to yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of the bill, the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON).

Mr. SIMPSON. I thank the gentleman from Utah for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2050, the Idaho Wilderness Water Resources Protection Act.

This bipartisan, noncontroversial legislation is a technical fix intended to enable the Forest Service to authorize and permit existing historical water diversions within Idaho wilderness.

Last Congress, one of my constituents came to me for help with a problem. The Middle Fork Lodge has a water diversion within the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness Area that existed before the wilderness area was established and is protected under statute. The diversion was beginning to leak and was in desperate need of repairs to ensure that it did not threaten the environment and watershed, but it turned out the Forest Service did not have the authority to issue the lodge a permit to make the necessary repairs.

As we looked at this issue, we discovered that the Forest Service lacked the authority throughout both the Frank Church Wilderness area, of which there are 22 known water developments, and the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, where there are three. These diversions are primarily used to support irrigation and minor hydropower generation for use on non-Federal lands. While the critical situation at the Middle Fork Lodge brought this issue to my attention, it is obvious that this problem is larger than just one diversion. At some point in the future, all 25 of these existing diversions will need maintenance or repair work done to ensure their integrity.

H.R. 2050 authorizes the Forest Service to issue special use permits for all qualifying historic water systems in these wilderness areas. I believe this is important that we get ahead of this problem and ensure the Forest Service has the tools necessary to manage these lands.

For these reasons, I've introduced H.R. 2050. The legislation, which was passed by the House last Congress, allows the Forest Service to issue the required special use permits to owners of historic water systems and sets out specific criteria for doing so. Providing this authority will ensure that existing water diversions can be properly maintained and repaired when necessary and preserves beneficial use for private property owners who hold water rights under State law.

I have deeply appreciated the cooperation of the Forest Service in addressing this problem. Not only have they communicated with me the need to find a systemwide solution to this issue, but at my request, they drafted this legislation to ensure that it only impacts specific targeted historical diversions—those with valid water rights that cannot feasibly be relocated outside of the wilderness area.

H.R. 2050 is bipartisan and noncontroversial. I know of no opposition to this bill. It is intended as a simple, reasonable solution to a problem that I think we can all agree should be solved as quickly as possible. I'm encouraged that the committee held hearings on this bill, and I am hopeful that we can

move it through the legislative process without delay so that the necessary maintenance to these diversions may be completed before the damage is beyond repair.

I thank the gentleman from Utah for yielding this time to me.

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Ms. TSONGAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TSONGAS. This legislation provides commonsense access to maintain water facilities within the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness area. These water features were present prior to the congressional designation of Wilderness and are necessary to protect individual water rights in the State. We applaud Chairman SIMPSON for his legislation and support the passage of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Again, this is an issue that has been recognized and is a solution that Mr. SIMPSON has presented, and I urge its adoption.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2050.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

□ 1650

RELEASE OF REVERSIONARY INTEREST AND USE CONDITIONS, COOK COUNTY AIRPORT, COOK COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2947) to provide for the release of the reversionary interest held by the United States in certain land conveyed by the United States in 1950 for the establishment of an airport in Cook County, Minnesota.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2947

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RELEASE OF REVERSIONARY INTEREST AND USE CONDITIONS, COOK COUNTY AIRPORT, COOK COUNTY, MINNESOTA.

(a) **RELEASE OF REVERSIONARY INTEREST REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of Agriculture, acting on behalf of the United States, shall release, without consideration—

(1) the conditions imposed on the use of the parcel of land originally conveyed by the Secretary pursuant to section 16 of the Federal Airport Act (Act of May 13, 1946, ch. 251, 60 Stat. 170) to the State of Minnesota by deed executed May 31, 1950, for the establishment of an airport in Cook County, Minnesota; and

(2) the reversionary interest retained by the United States in connection with such conditions.

(b) **INSTRUMENT OF RELEASE.**—The Secretary of Agriculture shall execute and file in the appropriate office a deed of release, amended deed, or other appropriate instrument reflecting the release of the reversionary interest and conditions under subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Once again, we have a problem that should easily be corrected and a bill that does that.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. CRAVAACK) to explain his particular piece of legislation.

Mr. CRAVAACK. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2947.

This straightforward, commonsense bill will remedy an unintentional consequence of the restrictive language of the original deed set in Cook County, Minnesota.

In the 1950s, the Secretary of Agriculture granted a deed to the State of Minnesota to build an airport in Cook County. The deed only allowed the land to be used for airport purposes. That made sense at the time, but it now precludes the county from building a connector road on a sliver of the land. The connector project enjoys broad support throughout the community. H.R. 2947 does not seek any appropriation of Federal funds, nor does it authorize the project. It merely only proposes to remove a clause placed in the deed when the land was originally granted. This bill allows Cook County, Minnesota, to manage their own land as they see fit. The bill enjoys bipartisan support of Minnesota Senators and Minnesota State representatives.

I've reached out to the United States Forest Service, and they have responded by saying they have no objections and support this legislation moving forward. I look forward to quickly remedying this problem so that Cook County can create jobs and improve

the lives of its residents and businesses.

I ask for my colleagues to please join me in supporting this bill.

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Ms. TSONGAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2947 releases a reversionary interest held by the United States to a parcel of land in Cook County, Minnesota. The release of this interest will allow Cook County to use this land for a local highway.

We have no objections to this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. This is another great solution to a problem that should have been solved at some other level. I appreciate the gentleman for bringing it back.

I urge its adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2947.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BOUNDARY MODIFICATION AND TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION, CIBOLA NATIONAL FOREST, NEW MEXICO

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 491) to modify the boundaries of Cibola National Forest in the State of New Mexico, to transfer certain Bureau of Land Management land for inclusion in the national forest, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 491

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. BOUNDARY MODIFICATION AND TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION, CIBOLA NATIONAL FOREST, NEW MEXICO.

(a) BOUNDARY MODIFICATION.—

(1) MODIFICATION.—The boundaries of Cibola National Forest in the State of New Mexico, are modified to include the land depicted for such inclusion on the Forest Service map titled “Crest of Montezuma Proposed Land Transfer” and dated October 26, 2009.

(2) AVAILABILITY AND CORRECTION OF MAP.—The map referred to in paragraph (1) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Forest Service. The Chief of the Forest Service may make technical and clerical corrections to the map.

(b) TRANSFER OF BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LAND.—

(1) TRANSFER.—The Secretary of the Interior shall transfer to the administrative ju-

risdiction of the Secretary of the Agriculture, for inclusion in, and administration as part of, Cibola National Forest, the public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and identified as the “Crest of Montezuma” on the map referred to in subsection (a).

(2) EFFECT OF TRANSFER ON EXISTING PERMITS.—In the case of any permit or other land use authorization for public land transferred under paragraph (1) that is still in effect as of the transfer date, the Secretary of Agriculture shall administer the permit or other land use authorization according to the terms of the permit or other land use authorization. Upon expiration of such a permit or authorization, the Secretary of Agriculture may reauthorize the use covered by the permit or authorization under authorities available to the Secretary on such terms and conditions as the Secretary considers in the public interest.

(c) LAND ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.—Subject to the appropriation of funds to carry out this subsection and the consent of the owner of private land included within the boundaries of Cibola National Forest by subsection (a), the Secretary of Agriculture may acquire the private land.

(d) MANAGEMENT OF ACQUIRED LAND.—

(1) MANAGEMENT.—Any federally owned lands that have been or hereafter may be acquired for National Forest System purposes within the boundaries of Cibola National Forest, as modified by subsection (a), shall be managed as lands acquired under the Act of March 1, 1911 (commonly known as the Weeks Act; 16 U.S.C. 515 et seq.), and in accordance with the other laws and regulations pertaining to the National Forest System.

(2) WITHDRAWAL FROM MINING AND CERTAIN OTHER USES.—The land depicted on the map referred to in subsection (a) and acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture is hereby withdrawn from—

(A) all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws;

(B) location, entry, and patent under the public land mining laws; and

(C) operation of the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws and the mineral materials laws.

(e) RELATION TO LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ACT.—For purposes of section 7 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601–9), the boundaries of Cibola National Forest, as modified by subsection (a), shall be considered to be boundaries of the Cibola National Forest as of January 1, 1965.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This legislation would authorize the transfer of a parcel of land known as the Crest of Montezuma from the Bu-

reau of Land Management to the Forest Service.

The Crest of Montezuma is remote from the current BLM-managed areas. It can be better managed by the Forest Service as part of the Cibola National Forest. Both agencies agree and support this legislation.

I urge the adoption of this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Ms. TSONGAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TSONGAS. I rise in support of this legislation, and applaud Congressman HEINRICH for his hard work. It is hard to reach consensus on these issues, and he has achieved that with this legislation.

With that, I yield such time as he may consume to Congressman HEINRICH of New Mexico, this bill’s sponsor.

Mr. HEINRICH. I want to thank my friend from Massachusetts for the time today and for her leadership on these issues.

Mr. Speaker, the Cibola National Forest provides a stunning backdrop to the city of Albuquerque and much of central New Mexico. Stretching north to south through the Sandia and Manzano Mountains, this national forest demonstrates the value of preserving wild places near urban areas.

H.R. 491 would expand the boundaries of the forest to streamline management and improve recreational access for local residents. It would transfer a 917-acre parcel, known as the Crest of Montezuma, from the Bureau of Land Management to the Forest Service.

The Crest of Montezuma is an isolated BLM parcel adjacent to Cibola National Forest. The bill would also extend the forest boundary around three small parcels of private land adjacent to the Crest of Montezuma to allow the future purchase of these parcels subject to available funds.

The owners of these parcels are willing sellers and eager to see their land permanently protected for the public good.

H.R. 491 has strong local support from local residents, including from the Las Placitas Association, a 300-member citizen group that represents residents near the Crest of Montezuma. Local sportsmen also support the bill because of the importance of these lands as wildlife habitat.

Over the last 3 years, I’ve received many letters from constituents asking me to make sure that the Crest of Montezuma is managed in a way that preserves its role as a wildlife corridor and opens it up for recreation for local residents.

I am pleased to sponsor this bill to add these critical lands to the Cibola National Forest, and I ask my colleagues for their support.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I have no other speakers. Do you have anyone else on this issue?

Ms. TSONGAS. We do not. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I also yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 491.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK LAND EXCHANGE ACT OF 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2240) to authorize the exchange of land or interest in land between Lowell National Historical Park and the city of Lowell in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2240

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Lowell National Historical Park Land Exchange Act of 2012".

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.

The Act entitled "An act to provide for the establishment of the Lowell National Historical Park in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and for other purposes" approved June 5, 1978 (Public Law 95-290; 16 U.S.C. 410cc et seq.), is amended in section 202, by adding at the end the following:

"(d)(1) The Secretary may exchange any land or interest in land within the boundaries of the park for any land or interest in land owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the city of Lowell, or the University of Massachusetts Building Authority.

"(2) Except as provided in paragraph (3), an exchange under this subsection shall be subject to the laws, regulations, and policies applicable to exchanges of land administered by the National Park Service and any other terms and conditions that the Secretary determines to be necessary to protect the interests of the United States.

"(3) Where facilities or infrastructure required for the management and operation of the Lowell National Historical Park exists on the Federal land to be exchanged, and the non-Federal land or interest in land to be exchanged is not of equal value, the values shall be equalized by the payment of cash to the Secretary. The Secretary shall not be required to equalize the values of any exchange conducted under this subsection if the land or interest in land received by the Federal Government exceeds the value of the Federal land or interest in land exchanged."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and in-

clude extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 2240, introduced by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS), will authorize a land exchange between the Lowell National Historical Park and the city of Lowell, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the University of Massachusetts Building Authority.

This will allow the transfer of the visitor center parking lot in exchange for an equal number of parking spaces in a new garage to be built by the city. The Park Service property, where the current lot is located, is needed for the community development, and the stakeholders have concluded that this is a more beneficial use to the community and the park visitors.

I urge the adoption of H.R. 2240, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Ms. TSONGAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TSONGAS. It is with great pleasure that I rise today in support of H.R. 2240, the Lowell National Historical Park Land Exchange Act.

This legislation will facilitate the exchange of land or interest in land between the city of Lowell and the Lowell National Historical Park.

In 1978, legislation was passed establishing this park. It was championed by my late husband as well as by two Republican Members of Congress who previously represented this district. We should take bipartisan pride in its great success.

This national park was given a unique mandate to not only preserve and interpret the resources representing Lowell's central role in our 19th century industrial revolution, but also to serve as a catalyst in revitalizing the city's physical, economic, and cultural environment, all outgrowths of the city's industrial heritage.

In working together with the city of Lowell, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and many other public and private partners, the Lowell National Historical Park has played a vital role in rehabilitating over 400 structures and has since 1978 helped spur an estimated \$1 billion in private investment in the city. All of this has been done while the park has developed a compelling array of programs, exhibits, guided tours, and other interpretive programs.

□ 1700

H.R. 2240 would allow the park and its partners to continue working to advance the park's mission to preserve the city's historic industrial architecture while creating jobs and continuing to partner with the city of Lowell to advance a critical economic develop-

ment project, the Hamilton Canal District.

This legislation would most immediately allow the park to exchange a current surface parking lot for an equivalent number of spaces in a new garage that will be built by the city of Lowell adjacent to the present parking lot, guaranteeing necessary parking spaces for park visitors while freeing the surface parking lot for the incorporation into the Hamilton Canal District redevelopment.

On the space of the current parking lot and adjacent vacant property, the city, in working with private partners, plans to construct over 400,000 square feet of commercial and R&D space, generating as many as 1,600 jobs. As such, it is a critical piece in the master redevelopment plan for the area. This land exchange is supported by the Lowell National Historical Park, the city of Lowell, and all local stakeholders, and has received all major State permits and local zoning allowances.

Because the enabling law for the Lowell National Historical Park only provides for the park to receive additional land, it is not allowed to exchange land. This legislation would allow this mutually agreed-upon exchange. I want to stress that this legislation will cost the taxpayers absolutely nothing.

I thank Chairman HASTINGS and Ranking Member MARKEY, as well as Chairman BISHOP and Ranking Member GRIJALVA and the committee staff for working with me to advance this bill to the floor. It is my hope that my colleagues today will appreciate the importance of passing this legislation to create jobs, continue revitalizing this historic mill city, and protect a key part of our industrial heritage and economic history.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. It's another great bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2240, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1845

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CHAFFETZ) at 6 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.

SPECIAL RULES FOR INYO NATIONAL FOREST LAND EXCHANGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2157) to facilitate a land exchange involving certain National Forest System lands in the Inyo National Forest, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 376, nays 2, not voting 53, as follows:

[Roll No. 178]

YEAS—376

Adams	Carney	Ellmers
Aderholt	Carson (IN)	Emerson
Alexander	Carter	Engel
Altmire	Cassidy	Eshoo
Amodei	Castor (FL)	Farenthold
Andrews	Chabot	Farr
Austria	Chaffetz	Fattah
Baca	Chandler	Fincher
Bachmann	Chu	Fitzpatrick
Bachus	Cicilline	Flake
Baldwin	Clarke (MI)	Fleischmann
Barletta	Clarke (NY)	Fleming
Barrow	Clay	Flores
Bartlett	Cleaver	Forbes
Bass (CA)	Clyburn	Fortenberry
Bass (NH)	Coble	Fox
Becerra	Coffman (CO)	Frank (MA)
Benishkek	Cohen	Franks (AZ)
Berg	Cole	Frelinghuysen
Berkley	Conaway	Fudge
Berman	Cornollos (VA)	Gallely
Biggert	Conyers	Gardner
Bilbray	Cooper	Garrett
Bilirakis	Costa	Gibbs
Bishop (GA)	Costello	Gibson
Bishop (NY)	Courtney	Gingrey (GA)
Bishop (UT)	Cravaack	Gonzalez
Black	Crawford	Goodlatte
Blackburn	Crenshaw	Gosar
Blumenauer	Crowley	Gowdy
Bonamici	Cuellar	Granger
Bonner	Culberson	Graves (GA)
Boren	Cummings	Graves (MO)
Boswell	Davis (IL)	Green, Al
Boustany	Davis (KY)	Green, Gene
Brady (TX)	DeFazio	Griffith (VA)
Braley (IA)	DeLauro	Grijalva
Brooks	Denham	Grimm
Broun (GA)	Dent	Guinta
Brown (FL)	DesJarlais	Guthrie
Buchanan	Deutch	Hahn
Buerkle	Diaz-Balart	Hall
Burgess	Dicks	Hanabusa
Burton (IN)	Dingell	Hanna
Calvert	Doggett	Harper
Camp	Dold	Harris
Canseco	Dreier	Hartzler
Cantor	Duffy	Hastings (FL)
Capito	Duncan (SC)	Hastings (WA)
Capps	Duncan (TN)	Hayworth
Capuano	Edwards	Heck
Carnahan	Ellison	Heinrich

Herger	McKeon	Ryan (WI)
Herrera Beutler	McKinley	Sánchez, Linda
Higgins	McMorris	T.
Himes	Rodgers	Sanchez, Loretta
Hinchey	McNerney	Sarbanes
Hinojosa	Meehan	Scalise
Hochul	Meeks	Schakowsky
Holt	Mica	Schilling
Honda	Michaud	Schmidt
Hoyer	Miller (FL)	Schock
Huelskamp	Miller (MI)	Schweikert
Huizenga (OH)	Miller, Gary	Scott (SC)
Hultgren	Miller, George	Scott (VA)
Hunter	Moore	Scott, Austin
Hurt	Murphy (CT)	Scott, David
Issa	Myrick	Sensenbrenner
Jackson (IL)	Nadler	Serrano
Jackson Lee	Napolitano	Sewell
(TX)	Neal	Sherman
Jenkins	Neugebauer	Shimkus
Johnson (GA)	Noem	Shuler
Johnson (OH)	Noent	Shuster
Johnson, E. B.	Nunes	Sires
Jones	Nunnelee	Smith (NE)
Jordan	Olson	Smith (NJ)
Keating	Oliver	Smith (TX)
Kelly	Owens	Smith (WA)
Kildee	Palazzo	Southerland
Kind	Pallone	Speier
King (IA)	Pastor (AZ)	Stark
King (NY)	Paulsen	Stearns
Kingston	Pearce	Stivers
Kinzinger (IL)	Pelosi	Stutzman
Kissell	Perlmutter	Sullivan
Kline	Peters	Sutton
Kucinich	Peterson	Terry
Labrador	Petri	Thompson (CA)
Lamborn	Pingree (ME)	Thompson (MS)
Lance	Pitts	Thompson (PA)
Langevin	Poe (TX)	Thornberry
Lankford	Polis	Tiberi
Larsen (WA)	Pompeo	Tierney
Larson (CT)	Posey	Tipton
Latham	Price (GA)	Tonko
LaTourette	Price (NC)	Towns
Latta	Quayle	Tsongas
Lee (CA)	Quigley	Turner (NY)
Levin	Rahall	Turner (OH)
Lewis (CA)	Reed	Upton
Lewis (GA)	Rehberg	Van Hollen
Lipinski	Reichert	Velázquez
LoBiondo	Renacci	Visclosky
Long	Ribble	Walberg
Lucas	Richardson	Walden
Luetkemeyer	Richardson	Walsh (LL)
Luján	Richmond	Walz (MN)
Lummis	Rigell	Walters
Lungren, Daniel	Rivera	Watt
E.	Roby	Waxman
Lynch	Roe (TN)	Webster
Mack	Rogers (AL)	Welch
Maloney	Rogers (KY)	West
Manzullo	Rogers (MI)	Westmoreland
Markey	Rohrabacher	Whitfield
Matheson	Rokita	Wilson (FL)
Matsui	Rooney	Wilson (SC)
McCarthy (CA)	Ros-Lehtinen	Wittman
McCarthy (NY)	Roskam	Wolf
McCaul	Ross (AR)	Womack
McCollum	Ross (FL)	Woodall
McCotter	Rothman (NJ)	Woodsey
McDermott	Royce	Yoder
McGovern	Runyan	Young (AK)
McHenry	Ruppersberger	Young (IN)
McIntyre	Rush	
	Ryan (OH)	

NAYS—2

Mulvaney
NOT VOTING—53

Amash	Griffin (AR)	Murphy (PA)
Ackerman	Gutierrez	Pascrell
Akin	Hensarling	Paul
Barton (TX)	Hirono	Pence
Bono Mack	Holden	Platts
Brady (PA)	Israel	Rangel
Bucshon	Johnson (IL)	Reyes
Butterfield	Johnson, Sam	Roybal-Allard
Campbell	Kaptur	Schiff
Cardoza	Landry	Schrader
Critz	Loeb sack	Schwartz
Davis (CA)	Lofgren, Zoe	Sessions
DeGette	Lowe y	Simpson
Donnelly (IN)	Marchant	Slaughter
Duffy	Marino	Wasserman
Filner	McClintock	Schultz
Garamendi	Miller (NC)	Yarmuth
Gerlach	Moran	Young (FL)
Gohmert		

□ 1913

Mr. AMASH changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 178. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall vote No. 178.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 178, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 178, had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, I want to state for the record that on April 24, 2012, I missed the one rollcall vote of the day.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall vote No. 178, the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2157—To facilitate a land exchange involving certain National Forest System lands in the Inyo National Forest, and for other purposes.

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 178 on H.R. 2157 I am not recorded because I was absent due to illness.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and 1 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 1 legislative day to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials on the subject of my 1-minute regarding Pastor Joel Osteen and Co-Pastor Victoria Osteen of the Lakewood Church in Houston, Texas.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

ARKANSAS COUNTY BANK

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of Arkansas County Bank. The bank is a fourth-generation family-owned business. It serves Arkansas County and

the Grand Prairie as a national- and State-chartered institution.

Arkansas County Bank began with humble origins. At the end of their first year of business in 1912, the bank had just \$64,000 in total deposits. By 1919, Arkansas County Bank had its first million dollars in deposits and has seen steady growth ever since.

By 1985, Arkansas County Bank had expanded into Sevier County after purchasing the Bank of Lockesburg. Today, they also have a branch that serves the Stuttgart community.

Giving back is important to Arkansas County Bank. Bank employees regularly volunteer over 1,000 hours annually to charities and service organizations throughout the Grand Prairie of Arkansas.

As Arkansas County Bank celebrates 100 years of business, they are building on the past by looking to the future. With a record of service, Arkansas County Bank is dedicated to beginning a second century of community investment.

Congratulations again to the leadership, employees, and the family of Arkansas County Bank on 100 years of business.

PEACE OFFICERS VS. THE ANARCHY OF THE LAWLESS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when lawless drug dealers, child molesters, wife beaters, robbers, bandits, and other street terrorists threaten our communities, peace officers are always the first ones to track them down.

Peace officers are the last strand of wire in the fence against good and evil.

These men and women put themselves in danger every day in order to protect us and our families. Some put on the uniform and badge and do not return home after their shifts.

There has been an alarming 75 percent increase in police officer deaths since 2008. The year 2011 was the first time more officers died at the hands of street thugs than in car crashes. In many instances, the killers were repeat offenders who shouldn't have been roaming the streets in the first place.

As we approach Peace Officers Memorial Day in May, we have to support those that protect the homefront. They are what separate us from the outlaws and the anarchy of the lawless.

And that's just the way it is.

PRESERVING HEALTH CARE CHOICES FOR AMERICANS

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, more and more American consumers are discovering a provision in the President's new health care law that prevents them from buying simple, over-the-

counter medications using their health care savings accounts or their flexible spending accounts unless they first get a doctor's prescription.

Instead of walking into their local drugstores to use their HSAs or their FSAs, Americans are now forced to visit a doctor and pay a standard copay before finally receiving a prescription to buy medicines like Advil or Claritin. Does this sound burdensome? That's because it absolutely is.

Mr. Speaker, millions of Americans use HSAs and FSAs for their flexibility and portability, yet this new health care law is taking that away and is wreaking havoc on patients and also increasing burdens on physicians.

We need to repeal this onerous provision, and that's why I've introduced legislation that does exactly that, with bipartisan support.

Mr. Speaker, this week, the House Ways and Means Committee will hold a hearing on the use of HSAs and FSAs on over-the-counter medicine practices, and I hope we'll all agree that individuals, families, patients, and doctors make the best decisions for their health care needs, not the government. It's time to do away with this onerous prescription requirement.

□ 1920

HELP RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATES WHO CAN'T FIND JOBS

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

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the extension of the current student loan interest rates.

Every young American who works hard and studies hard deserves a shot at the American Dream. Unfortunately, the economy, led by President Barack Obama, is denying them the opportunities that they need. Actually, according to an Associated Press analysis, over 53 percent of young college graduates aged 25 or under, which is 1.5 million young Americans, are unemployed or they hold low-wage jobs that don't require them to use the degrees that they just obtained.

Our approach to help young people is about more than just the interest rate that they pay on their loans; it's about creating an economy that gives them a chance to apply the knowledge that they worked so hard to learn. That means not raising taxes or imposing new regulations on the very job creators that will offer opportunities to our young people. It means opening up energy reserves to lower prices at the pump because, guess what, Mr. Speaker, young people also are paying these high gas prices as well.

Let's stop the rise in student loan interest rates, but at the same time let's get this economy moving so that America's young people can achieve their dreams.

STAFFORD STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, we are here today, Tuesday, April 24, to talk about an issue which, again, middle class families all across America are watching very closely. As the chart next to me indicates, in 67 days, the interest rates on the Stafford student loan program, a loan program which serves over 7 million college students all across America, is slated to increase its interest rate from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent.

This program, which over time today has served roughly about 35 to 40 million Americans, is a critical component for middle class families to provide affordable higher education, which today, in the 21st century, is almost as important as having a high school education.

The Stafford student loan program's interest rate was cut in 2007 as a result of the passage of the College Cost Reduction Act, a measure which cut the rate from 6.8 percent down to 3.4 percent. Unlike this Congress, it was a bipartisan effort—77 House Republicans voted for that measure; 35 Republican Senators voted for that measure. George W. Bush signed it into law, President Bush, to his credit, and it provided, again, great relief for students all across America for an issue which we now know from the Federal Reserve Bank threatens, really, the financial solvency of America's middle class.

College student loan debt today now exceeds credit card debt. It exceeds car loan debt. One of the few safe harbors that exists in the system for students is, in fact, the Stafford student loan program. It has great bipartisan genealogy and sources.

Stafford was actually a Senator, Robert Stafford, from Vermont, a Republican, who, again, believed in education and was somebody who understood that the cost of college and university education is not what it used to be and that we had to give, again, middle class families better tools to pay for it.

Anyone who has dealt with the private student loan market knows that the rates today are roughly about 9 to 10 percent. Interest accumulates from the day the loan is taken out. If you're a freshman at a 4-year university, you accumulate interest for the entire time that you are in college using those loans. There is no forbearance. There is no timeframe in terms of repayment. Again, it is nondischargeable in bankruptcy if a person gets into great financial difficulty.

The Stafford student loan program, in contrast, has affordable rates—3.4 percent. There is a forbearance period, after a student graduates, of 6 months before payments commence, and no interest accumulates during the time

that the student is actually in college. If there are financial problems that occur, again, there are systems for deferring payments. In fact, there is an income-based repayment formula so that no more than 10 percent of your income can be devoted to the repayment of Stafford student loans.

So this is really, again, a measure which affects a broad swath of America in terms of millions of students, millions of families. It is really about the only avenue that young people facing the formidable challenge—almost like buying a house when you go to college. Yet we stand here today, 67 days away from having these rates increase.

Now, for those who have been watching this issue, President Obama, right from that podium at the State of the Union address, challenged this Congress back in January to address this issue to avoid a doubling of interest rates. To date, the majority party in this House, the Republican majority, has not taken up a single bill. Even though we hear some nice words on the other side, there is no measure with which they have come forward.

The chairman of the Education Committee last week was quoted in *The New York Times* as saying that protecting this rate at 3.4 percent was bad policy. We have the words of the chairwoman of the House Education Subcommittee, from North Carolina, who stated on a radio program a couple of weeks ago:

I have very little tolerance for people who tell me that they graduate with \$200,000 of debt or even \$80,000 of debt, because there's no reason for that.

I would challenge that Member to talk to a new dentist or a new dental student graduating, or a nurse anesthetist who was in my office the other day who was carrying over \$80,000 in debt. The fact of the matter is, in terms of trying to get, again, skills for this, the modern American workforce, that is a reality that students and families confront day in and day out.

Yet the leadership of the majority of this Congress is basically turning its back on the bipartisan tradition of the Stafford student loan program with its really pioneering Member of the Senate, Robert Stafford, with the bipartisan support for the College Cost Reduction Act passed with strong bipartisan votes and signed into law by a Republican President, George Bush, and basically saying it's bad policy and we're not going to do it.

Since last week—and again we did one of these Special Order 1-hour sessions with a countdown clock—some things are starting to change.

Yesterday, the Republican frontrunner, effective nominee for President, Mitt Romney, during the middle of a press conference, finished up, turned around, was walking away and turned on his heel and said, Oh, by the way, I want to say that I support President Obama's proposal to block the increase in interest rates of 3.4 percent. This is the leader of the Republican Party, nationally.

There does seem to be some hope. Now, it may be connected to the fact that the President, yesterday, was at the University of North Carolina, talking to young people in this country who know exactly what he is talking about in terms of higher education costs and the need to protect affordable loan programs to pay for college. Later tonight, he is going to be at the University of Colorado, talking to students at Colorado about exactly the same issue. Tomorrow, he is going to be at Iowa State University.

There is clearly a bit of politics swirling around here, because if you look at Mr. Romney's comments on this issue over the last few months or so, he has, in fact, said exactly the opposite. Indeed, he has come out in support of the Ryan budget, the Republican budget resolution, which was passed in this Chamber a few weeks ago. In that budget resolution, that 6.8 rate increase is locked in under the Ryan budget plan. Not only does it lock in the higher cost of the Stafford student loan program, it cuts the Pell Grant program.

□ 1930

That's the other workhorse of economic affordability in this country, named after Senator Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island. Again, it is a grant program that helps the most needy students pay for college. It's up to \$6,000—hardly enough to fully pay for most colleges in the country, but nonetheless is essential for college students across this country.

The Ryan budget cuts the grant level for the Pell program down to \$5,000—unbelievable—at a time when we're seeing college student loan debt skyrocket in this country and, sadly, at a time when America's graduation rate, which was number one in the 1980s, has now fallen to number 12. For the folks who are listening here today, that is a trend of mediocrity for this country. That is not a trend of growth. That is not a trend of innovation for the future. That is a trend which basically says we are basically going to surrender to the forces of mediocrity in this country. And that is not acceptable to this country, and it's certainly not acceptable to all of us as Americans, and it resonates all across America. Again, I come from the Northeast, up in Connecticut.

We're joined here today by a great Congresswoman from the State of Texas, SHEILA JACKSON LEE, and I'd like to yield to Congresswoman LEE to talk about her perspective from the great State of Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I want to thank the gentleman from Connecticut for his untiring and unceasing work and for the reach that he has made to this issue to really touch the hearts and minds of those who believe that education is opportunity and it is something for which we need to plant the seeds for those who are now following forward with their destinies.

I'm delighted to be on the floor as well with another leader in education, the Honorable DANNY DAVIS.

I would just say to you that I took the oath. And the whole 4 days when I was in my district, everywhere I went I touched the hearts of young and old when I reported to them that while their children are struggling, working hard trying to get good grades in higher education, and when they in good faith took out loans of about 2.8 percent just a few years back—somewhere between that and 3.4—now within days this is going to double. And we are here fighting in Washington to ensure that the doors of opportunity are not closed.

So I think it is very important. You are absolutely right to take note that the potential, or soon-to-be Republican nominee, for President has recognized the foolishness, unfortunately, of stalling in this House; that we have not simply passed a bipartisan effort, your legislation that I am a cosponsor of, that simply indicates that we will not see the doubling of those interest rates.

I have universities—if I don't call them all—from the University of Houston to Texas Southern University, Rice University, Houston Community College, Lone Star College, Houston Baptist, and St. Thomas in and around the 18th Congressional District, the University of Texas, Texas A&M, and others around the State; and young people who are attempting to achieve the American Dream and individuals who are going back to school. Even though our GIs have the GI Bill, some are extending their degrees and have had to take out loans.

So I rise today to join you and my good friend from Chicago to indicate that I'm going to join the army, if you will, the band of members who truly believes that there is no divide amongst us, Republicans and Democrats, when it comes to educating our children. Many of us are parents. Many of us have seen our children go through college, some having finished, some still in college, and some with young children coming into college. And although we are blessed, many will have to take out loans for higher education, and doctors and lawyers whom we wish for higher education will have to secure those loans. I don't want to be in the midst of a ticking time bomb. I don't want to be the barrier. I want to be the firewall that protects them and allows them to gain an opportunity in this world.

So let me just thank you for allowing me to be on the floor this evening to indicate to my colleagues we speak quietly and softly tonight because we're asking you to join us, my Republican friends. Take the lead and join us so that in a few days—not 67 days—we can finish this up. Let's give them a graduation present. Let's tell every student coming out of high school and every college student that's in college that we are going to be your firewall and give you an opportunity for success in this great country that has always been the country that people

have either come to or people have been proud to be in because of the great opportunity to be what you are achieving or seeking to be.

Mr. COURTNEY. Thank you, Congresswoman JACKSON LEE.

Again, just to follow up on one quick point, which is that there is legislation that is now pending in the House, H.R. 3826. A few minutes ago, we got our 146th cosponsor. To this date, though, we are still waiting for any Members on the majority side to join us in this effort. Again, 77 of them voted in 2007 to support this measure to cut the interest rates. It's time. It's time for them to listen to what their presumptive nominee is saying. It's time to join the Members on this side of the aisle and prevent the damage that this would do to middle class families.

And no one knows that issue better than a member of the Education and Workforce Committee, who has, again, done great work in terms of education issues and higher education affordability. Congressman DAVIS, thank you for joining us here this evening.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Thank you very much, Representative COURTNEY. I want to not only thank you, but I want to commend you for the tremendous leadership that you've displayed on so many issues as I've watched you since you've become a Member of this House. I also want to thank you for taking on this issue—the issue of trying to ensure that young people especially in our country, a country that has been dubbed the greatest Nation on the face of the Earth—and it got to be that way because of its emphasis on education and providing opportunity for individuals to begin in life anywhere in this country and move as a result of education to the highest ranks, to the highest levels, to the ability to make valuable contributions not only to the development of their own lives, but to the lives of others.

I often think of things that people have said about education and something that I'm told that Abraham Lincoln once said: Education makes a man easy to lead, but difficult to drive; easy to govern, but impossible to enslave.

College access and success are fundamental stepping stones towards economic security and global competitiveness. As policymakers, it is imperative that we support students in making college affordable so that our citizens can prosper. We face an immediate crisis in college costs. Without congressional action, interest rates will get out of the box.

I'm very fortunate to represent a congressional district that has what we call an education mecca in terms of the numbers of institutions that we have in what we call the South Loop area of Chicago, which is only a few blocks long and a few blocks wide. We have more than a hundred thousand students just in that area at colleges and universities like Loyola, DePaul, Spertus College, East-West University. As a matter of fact, I was at the board

meeting of East-West last evening, where we were reviewing our accreditation standards and making sure that everything was in order so that the thousands of students who attend that university could get the very best.

But unless we make sure that students can acquire the money, I have organized a little scholarship fund in honor of my parents, because they believed so much in education—two of the smartest people I've ever known. My father finished fourth grade when he was 19 years old. We saw his report card. But he was a great reader and he read everything that he could get his hands on. My mother was a little more fortunate than that. She finished eighth grade and was considered to be one of the more educated people in our community. But they pushed for education. They knew that if their children were going to have opportunities that they did not have that they had to get as much education as they possibly could.

□ 1940

So, when interest rates bar and prevent people, I just know so many students and so many families who are wondering if they're going to be able to make it. Last year, I had one family who called to ask if we could help them find the money just to get to school. They had done all of the other things that their daughter needed to do, but they came up short with transportation resources, and they were trying to keep from borrowing any additional money. And then once they get out of school, if your debt is so high when you go to try and find a job that it staggers you and pushes you back and works against your will, then it becomes even more difficult. So we're trying to make education affordable, just trying to give people the chance, the opportunity.

Something I remember that the fellow named Wolfe said:

To every man his chance, his golden opportunity to become whatever his manhood, talent, ambitions, and hard work combine to make him, that is the promise of America.

Of course, if he were saying that today, he wouldn't have just said "every man." He would have said, every person, every woman, everybody, every citizen, everybody who wants to should have that opportunity.

So, again, I commend you for your leadership, I commend you for your tenacity, and I just like the way you work. I like what you do. I like the issues that you raise. And you mentioned the Pell grants. Senator Pell, from the same area of the country that you come from, his daughter was in my office not very long ago, saying that she and a group of her friends were going to get very active on the whole issue of trying to make sure that individuals who were incarcerated had an opportunity to pursue the Pell grant in honor of her father and remembering the great work that he did. So I remember you for the great work that

you're doing. I thank you, and I'm pleased to join with you this evening.

Mr. COURTNEY. That is high praise from you, Congressman DAVIS. When I was a freshman, brand new to the Capitol, the Education and Labor Committee, which you've been serving on for a number of years, it was a great honor to really observe you and to see that the College Cost Reduction Act was one of the first things that came out of the chute in January of 2007. And, again, your words tonight show that this has been a lifelong priority and mission for you to make sure that that happens.

You mentioned Abraham Lincoln from your great State of Illinois. It is interesting to note that the College Land Grant system, the Morrill Act, was actually passed in 1862 in the middle of the Civil War, the most catastrophic threat to our country's existence ever. And yet we had a President from your great State who had the vision to understand that every State should have a land grant college, which is what that bill did, and created a national commitment to higher education. Again, it was committed to agricultural sciences and mechanical engineering.

What an amazing story about somebody who, gosh knows, could have been distracted with whatever was happening in that terrible conflict, and yet he still understood that we can never, ever, ever lose sight of the importance of investing in our people. That's what has made our country great, and you know that better than anyone.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. You are absolutely right, and I thank you again because I went to one of those land grant colleges—I, along with seven of my brothers and sisters—and I can tell you that, had they not existed, none of us ever probably would have gone to a college or university. So, thank you, again, as I take my leave.

Mr. COURTNEY. I look forward to working with you over the next few weeks on this issue.

Now we're joined by a gentleman from the great State of Michigan, Congressman HANSEN CLARKE, who is a relatively new Member but who has, again, jumped right in on this issue. Thank you for joining me here this evening.

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. You're very welcome, Representative COURTNEY. I thank the gentleman from Connecticut for raising this important issue and for introducing this important bill, which I'm very honored to support.

We've got to keep interest rates low on student loans. 3.4 percent is reasonable. The Federal Government shouldn't be in the business of trying to make money or extract more money from student loan borrowers. The real problem with these interest rates, if we allow them to go up, is that if a borrower, for some reason, can't make a payment because they're sick, because they get laid off, maybe they get a divorce, that the interest rate would

then compound. The interest would apply on top of interest, and the loan principal will actually start growing as the student loan borrower's income drops. So it puts student loan borrowers in a position where it could take them decades, if ever, to pay off their loans if they're in financial hardship. And that's not right.

As the gentleman from Illinois said, these loans are to provide people with educational opportunities, to give them a chance to get a degree where otherwise they wouldn't have the money to be able to do so. But instead, Representative COURTNEY, of these loans providing borrowers with a chance of experiencing the American Dream, the debt burden is so high on many of our graduates right now that the student loan debt has actually turned into a national nightmare. As you mentioned, over \$1 trillion of debt is owed by student loan borrowers. These aren't just the graduates. There are parents that also borrow money and take out student loans that help fund the education of their kids so their kids can have a better life.

I've introduced a bill, H.R. 4170, to complement your efforts. It's the Student Loan Forgiveness Act of 2012. In that bill, I adopt your position on keeping the interest rates on student loans, Federal student loans, at 3.4 percent. Then I also want to make student loan repayment fairer and simpler by allowing every student loan borrower to get a second chance. Yes, you may have fallen behind on your payments—you may even be in default—but I want you to have a second chance to pay off your loans and to continue your education.

So, under my bill, every student loan borrower who is currently in repayment right now or has already taken out a loan will be able to repay that loan based on their income, 10 percent of their discretionary income. They make those payments for 10 years, and they'll be eligible to have the balance of their student loans, if there is anything outstanding, to be forgiven. But if you pay 10 percent of your discretionary income for 10 years, more than likely, you'll pay off a substantial amount of your loans if not the entire loan balance.

But for those who have had to borrow a lot of money because you decided to get a graduate education or maybe you came from a family that didn't have much money so that your only chance to get an education was to borrow student loans, you won't be saddled with those loans for decades. You'll be able to pay them off over 10 years, which is the standard term for student loan repayment.

One thing I'd like to add, though, about the bill is this: that forgiving the balance of these student loans is not just to help the borrower. It's also to help our country. Cutting student loan debt, keeping the interest rates down, and forgiving student loans that pose an excessive burden on Americans,

that's the most effective, one of the most effective, ways to stimulate our economy to create jobs.

Think about it. A student loan borrower, instead of having to pay hundreds of dollars a month, maybe even \$1,000 a month, that after they've paid it according to their income, according to their means, for 10 years, to have the balance of that forgiven so now they have this money available to use as they choose it, to invest, to start their own business. And think about it: our graduates, those are the ones that were disciplined enough to go to school. They were ambitious enough to set their sights on a goal and achieve it. Those are precisely the folks that we want to encourage to go into business because it's through private business, free enterprise, that we really create jobs in a sustainable way in this country. Let's free up people's money so they can start their own businesses and realize the American Dream, not just for themselves, but for everyone else.

I'm from the city of Detroit. We've always been a tough place, but we've had great entrepreneurs who risked everything, like Henry Ford, to create and expand the automobile industry in this country, which created jobs for millions of Americans for generations. We have so many young people right now who are ready to work and ready to start their own businesses, but they're not going to take any risk like that because they're too much in debt. They won't even buy a house because they can't afford it. Many student loan borrowers even postpone probably the most precious thing that anyone could get involved in—our great institution of marriage—and they put that off.

□ 1950

So, the student loan debt, it's not only a burden on the borrowers, on the parents, it's costing our society jobs and economic growth; and we're costing the global market the opportunity to be benefited by the great products that our country could produce, the great services that we could provide, the great technology that we could develop and create and sell globally. We are depriving the world of that because many of our budding entrepreneurs can't take the risk of starting their own businesses because they're in the hock of student loan debt, which is outrageous.

So, I want to thank you again for your leadership, for your persistent leadership on keeping student loan interest rates down at a reasonable level. As you can see, everyone around the country, including Members of the other party, they understand the commonsense notion of that.

See, these loans, again—essentially I'm talking to the American people because they understand this. These loans that the government provides you, it's not just for your benefit, it's to make our country stronger. There's a reason why we had the GI Bill after

World War II. The more educated, the more trained, the more that we're able to develop our skills to our fullest potential, we're able to do more for ourselves and our community and for our country. See, that's what America is all about.

The reason this is such a big deal for me is that my dad immigrated to this country during the midst of the Great Depression, the midst of the Great Depression, the roughest time economically for this country, because he saw America as a land of opportunity. My mother, who was African American, had to struggle for years under discrimination and segregation in Detroit in the thirties and the forties and fifties. She was a school crossing guard and a cleaning lady who saved up all of her money so I could get a chance to get an education. But after I dropped out of school and after my parents died, the only way I could return to college is I had to borrow student loans. I thank this country for having those loans available as an opportunity for me to get an education, to come here and to be able to effectively represent the people of this country.

But you know what the problem is now, Representative, is that students who want to get the same education that I did decades ago, they may not be able to afford to do it. Even if they could borrow the money, they can't afford the costs that they'll have to endure in trying to pay off that debt year after year, decade after decade. That's not right. The Federal Government shouldn't have that kind of power to press people, robbing them of their money—because it's our money that we're using to pay off these loans—and robbing us of our job and economic potential.

So thank you again for your leadership. I'm very honored to join you in your endeavor to make student loan financing fairer for our country, but also, too, to let you know my bill, H.R. 4170, the Student Loan Forgiveness Act, I offer to complement your efforts to provide equal opportunity for education for all of us here in this country.

Mr. COURTNEY. Thank you, Congressman CLARKE, and thank you for sharing your personal story.

What has been sort of extraordinary to me is that over the last few months, as we've been working on H.R. 3826, our office has received communications from all over the country from folks talking about the importance of the Stafford program in terms of really transforming their lives. I'll be at Chamber of Commerce meetings; I'll be at Rotary Club meetings; I will have people who are not on my side of the aisle politically but coming up to me afterwards and saying this is something that the Congress absolutely has to pay attention to, that it has to protect that lower rate, and thank God this person had the Stafford loan program available to him just like you did.

To see that rate go up to 6.8 percent at a time when our economy—Treasury bonds are being sold at a 2 percent yield. You can get a 30-year fixed mortgage for, really, under 4 percent right now, variabilities at much lower. When you tell people that this rate is going to double to 6.8 percent for this one segment of the population, young Americans who really are doing it for the purpose of improving their own situations, it's greeted by just absolute utter disbelief.

At a time when, as you point out, debt levels—and I've got a little chart here from the Federal Reserve which shows where we're headed right now in this country. We have got to, number one, not make the condition worse by increasing the interest rate—and again, we've run the numbers.

Over a 5-year period of time, somebody who has got a Stafford loan portfolio is looking at an additional \$5,000 in interest payments. It's \$11,000 for over a 10-year period, which is quite normal, as you said, for people paying back their student loans. We are compounding the trend lines for which the Federal Reserve Bank has, again, put up the warning flags to tell us that we're just creating crushing debt.

The Wall Street Journal had a story, which I was thinking of it as you were speaking earlier, about a young couple with student loan debts who basically were putting off starting a family and buying a house because of the debt levels, that they were basically just working to pay for every month in terms of their burdens there.

We need to be, frankly, A, dealing with the issue of the rate increase obviously in the next 67 days; but, secondly, we need to have a much bigger national conversation to talk about measures like your bill to create, again, a system that rewards people who are current with their payments, who are making progress in their lives but that are not going to have a ball and chain around their necks in terms of debt levels that, again, as you point out, at the end of the day really inhibit creativity and investment and innovation for people at a time in life when they really should be just spreading their wings, not dragging these huge burdens of debt that really hold them back and hold our country back.

So, again, I really appreciate your contributions here this evening. The clock is ticking, 67 days and counting.

Mr. Romney yesterday basically put up a strong signal to the congressional majority in the House here, the Republican congressional majority, that this is something that we must do. And we're still waiting. 146 cosponsors on H.R. 3826.

I'm not somebody who has a big ego. If somebody has a counterproposal to come up with a different way to do this, we're all ears. But what we don't need are the comments of the chairwoman of the Higher Education Subcommittee basically saying she has no tolerance for students with \$80,000 in

student loan debt. That is a Congress which is out of touch with the reality that young people are confronting these days, who are really trying to improve themselves and fill the workforce needs of this country.

We cannot afford that type of leadership here in this Congress. We need to have people who are focused on the real condition of the middle class in this country, but also really focused, like Abraham Lincoln was back in 1862, about what's important in terms of the future of this country.

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Your request for us to keep interest rates at 3.4 percent is so reasonable that we need to act on that right now. The point that you mention, that we need to have these loans available for our students so they can get the training that they need to be hired into jobs that are going unfilled right now, in metropolitan Detroit, which is known for having a high unemployment rate, where people really want to go to work, there are thousands of jobs that are available in metro Detroit that are not being filled because employers can't find the folks that have the training in the information technology area for software engineering.

So, we want to encourage people to go to school even if they don't have the money. We want them to be able to borrow loans without having to go into this type of debt.

My final point is this, too: that if we allow borrowers to be burdened by student loan debt to such a degree that they can't pay off their debt, we, as taxpayers, are on the hook for this debt. Probably one-half trillion of it is taxpayer backed. So we're on the hook for this one way or the other. We should give our borrowers a helping hand so they can manage their student loan repayments, pay this debt down, and then get on with their lives and help us create jobs throughout this country and throughout this world by selling the best products that metro Detroit knows how to do.

Mr. COURTNEY. Thank you, Mr. CLARKE.

In closing, I just want to end where we began, which is that it's 67 days and counting.

Today, all across America, there are high school seniors who are experiencing probably one of the most exciting moments in their lives, which is that they're going to the mailbox to find out whether or not they've been accepted to a 2-year school or a 4-year school. I remember those days. I have a son who just finished up college—and remember how exciting that was—and a daughter who's in high school and who's hopefully going to hear soon when her turn comes. But the fact of the matter is they need to have some horizon, some predictability at this critical moment to make sure that they can plan and budget to pay for college.

□ 2000

Financial Aid offices all across the country are putting up warning flags

for students and their families that interest rates are going to double unless Congress acts. And the fact of the matter is that creates an instability about planning for what college to go to, what kind of budget a family can really accommodate in terms of paying for student loan debt. And that's wrong.

I mean, we can do better than that as a Congress. We can do better than that as a Nation.

Again, we're glad to see that Mr. Romney finally came around, even though he had sent out signals in opposition to this type of approach by supporting the Ryan budget which locks in the 6.8 percent interest rate.

But you know what, this issue is too important to get sucked into sort of partisanship here. It is time to move forward, just like we did in 2007, when 77 Republicans voted in favor of the College Cost Reduction Act; 35 Republican Senators supported it. President George Bush signed it into law, a program named after Republican Senator Robert Stafford from Vermont.

I mean, come on. You know, people are sick and tired of the fact that every single issue, whether it's a highway bill, a payroll tax cut extension, or education assistance for middle class families gets sucked into this partisan maelstrom in Washington, DC.

And the fact of the matter is there's 146 Members on our side that have cosponsored H.R. 3826 that are looking for a signal from the Republican majority to say, you know what, it's time to look at our history. It's time to look at the genealogy of the Stafford student loan program and the great bipartisan support to cut those rates 5 years ago.

Let's come up with a solution. Let's move. Let's help those families whose students are being accepted into college and those financial aid offices that are trying to help families budget and plan for the next academic school year.

Sixty-seven days is really not enough time, even today, but we should at least not compound it by delay and, hopefully, not compound it by letting just a totally unacceptable increase in interest rates for Stafford student loans to go into effect.

And I look forward to working with you, again, in the next hours and minutes and days to make sure that that doesn't happen. Thank you for joining me here, Congressman CLARKE.

I yield back the balance of my time.

WESTERN CAUCUS ON JOBS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to be on the floor tonight speaking on behalf of the Western Caucus. We, in the West have been working for 2 years now—for a year and a half—to help the Obama administration out with their tasks.

In September of last year, September 11, President Obama said that he would keep trying every new idea that works and listen to every good proposal, no matter which party comes up with it. And so 4 days later, on the 12th of September, last year, we in the Western Caucus, Senator BARRASSO and myself, sent a letter to President Obama outlining the "Jobs Frontier Report"; but, to date, we have not yet heard from the administration.

In that jobs report we have, basically, 40 different pieces of legislation that create American jobs, utilize American energy, and also stop regulations that are in the process of killing, during this year, 3 million more jobs.

So at a time when the Nation is faced with 8.2 percent unemployment, continuing over 8 percent, month after month, for one of the longest periods of time in our history, the administration seems pretty flat-footed on ideas, and so we in the Western Caucus felt like we could assist in that. That's our business. Many of us are familiar with the industries, we're familiar with the job creation that can go on in the Western States. And so we felt that we were offering help to the administration but, to this point, they've been completely unresponsive.

If you go on our Web site, you would be able to see the "Jobs Frontier Report." We've got the cover of it depicted here, and it simply describes in that report the 40 exact pieces of legislation that have already been written and submitted in order to create these jobs.

Now, it would be important to understand that all of these jobs, not one of them requires Federal input, no Federal expenditure, no Federal stimulus, no tax to the American people. And, instead, we're simply trying to solve the problem with the free market that has caused this country to be so great in the past.

We are faced with unemployment in the West that is actually much higher. It's 10.1 in percent in the West, which tells us that the accusations that there is a war on the West, a war on jobs in the West by the administration are verifiable in the unemployment figures.

We have other documentation. Gas prices have doubled since 2009. The public lands are facing increasing restrictions.

The President has recently stated that the oil production is up in the U.S. Well, he stated a correct thing; but what he should have been, from his perspective, talking about is it is all produced on public lands. And when we analyze that, we find out, in 2011, that oil based on public lands, produced on public lands, actually decreased by 14 percent, and that the gas production, natural gas production, decreased by 11 percent.

And so when Secretary Salazar levies his charge that the facts don't speak for what our position is, maybe we could redirect the Secretary to go to

the Web pages for the government that would describe exactly what we're showing here, that the oil production that is occurring to increase our total production is occurring on private lands. It is not occurring and is, in fact, decreasing on public lands.

That's because the government is slowing down the permitting process. They're finding new and restrictive ways to implement requirements on people who would be creating jobs, who would be drilling for oil; and each of these processes simply strings out our investment.

We had testimony earlier today, the House and Senate Western Caucus came together, had testimony from two different panels; and one of the panelists explained that they had bought—they had paid for these leases on public land, but they, in fact, then turned them back because the requirements turned it into a proposition that they had not bid on at all.

So we continue to find these case examples of too much interference, too much regulation, causing the energy sector to slow down in certain areas on public lands therefore creating more unemployment and creating a bigger gap.

I'll finish one thought, and then I'm going to yield time to my friend, Congresswoman LUMMIS from Wyoming, who is a member of the Western Caucus and is the vice chairman of that. We were in the hearing together earlier today.

But at this time in our Nation's history, almost everyone agrees that the greatest threat that we face is the continuing debt and the year-after-year deficits.

There are only three ways that you can solve deficit. If you're spending more money than you're bringing in, as a family, well, you've got a couple of choices. Number one, you can go out and get a second job or retraining to where you make more income so you can increase your income.

Number two, you can cut your expenses down; or, number three, you can borrow money to make up the differences.

The Federal Government is faced with the same conclusions. It either needs to increase revenue, that's by raising taxes; or you can increase revenue by growing the economy, that's creating more jobs.

Secondly, you can cut spending. Thirdly, you can borrow.

Unfortunately, the Federal Government goes one extra step that most families, some families actually resort to, but it's against the law for families. It's perfectly legal for the government. But the fourth thing is to print money. And it's that printing of money, that debt which is not being able to be repaid that is the great threat to the country.

If we were to look across the West and see where we've choked off jobs and put those people back to work in the hundreds of thousands of jobs, then

each job would do two things. First, they would cut the cost of the government because those people come off unemployment, welfare, food stamps; but then, secondly, they go to work and start paying taxes. So you have a squeeze from both the cost end, because the government is spending less money; but you also have an increase in revenue so your costs and revenue move together when we create jobs.

□ 2010

That's the reason that the Western Caucus is concentrated on jobs rather than a taxation policy or a borrowing policy and especially not on the printing-of-money policy.

So at this moment, I will yield time to my good friend, CYNTHIA LUMMIS, from Wyoming. We welcome you tonight and thank you for being willing to speak on behalf of the Western Caucus.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate your work as chairman of the Western Caucus.

The western States are roughly the 17 western States and three island governments, but they also include Members from States who have very similar problems, but who happen to be east of the Mississippi, such as some of the southern States along the Gulf of Mexico that have enormous energy reserves and face some of the same regulatory burdens. Also, people from coal-producing States that are east of the Mississippi, such as West Virginia, where a heavy attack on coal has jeopardized jobs and the future of coal in this country as a contributor to our energy future.

As we see from the chart next to me and from what Congressman PEARCE has previously told us, even though energy production is up, oil and gas production is up on private land. This is the bar to my far right. Over closer to me to the left, it shows that energy production, oil and gas production from Federal lands has declined—11 percent in the case of oil and 6 percent in the case of natural gas.

Now, why is this affecting gas prices? Why does President Obama say that drilling more now on Federal land will not affect oil prices now or the price of gas at the pump?

Well, there's two ways to look at that. One is he's correct that it's not going to affect the price of gasoline today or tomorrow. But the fact that we're not drilling now and that permits are not being issued now—we know of about 22 projects for the proposed 44,000 new oil and gas wells on private land that are being held up. That's going to be gas production and oil production that will be available in the future, anywhere from 3 to 7 years, that because of these regulatory burdens is not going to be produced.

That not only drives up the price of gasoline and power of all kinds, energy of all kinds, in those future years long after President Obama is out of office, but it does affect today's futures market because the people who are looking

at the price of gasoline are looking at whether production is continuing to go up in this country. That is a factor that is considered when futures pricing occurs, and because it's very obvious that the government policy in the United States for the last 4 years has been away from oil and gas and coal and in favor only of solar and wind energy because we subsidize it so heavily and promote it so heavily at the United States Department of Energy, it does affect the price of oil, gasoline, and eventually gasoline at the pump.

Now, another factor related to the coal issue that I mentioned is, are we going to hurt our environment if we don't quit using coal? The answer is to look at our regulatory work that was done prior to President Obama taking office, and it's represented on this chart.

Let's look from 1970. The population in the United States is up 48 percent since then; coal-fueled electricity up 184 percent since then. The gross domestic product of the United States up 200 percent since the 1970s in part because we have had affordable, reliable, and abundant electricity. So much of what we've done in this country in producing job growth is based on the fact that we have been able to rely on affordable, abundant electricity. Half of that has come from coal.

Now, in that same time period, emissions from power plants had declined 60 percent. Look at all of this growth. Look at even the growth in coal-fueled electricity and the decline in emissions down 60 percent. And that's due to the Clean Air Act and compliance with the Clean Air Act.

The point here being regulations can be valuable when done properly, and the Clean Air Act was a regulation that had the desired impact. It dropped emissions 60 percent by 2008. The problem has been since 2008, the efforts to overregulate have stifled our ability to create more energy from coal. It has reduced the number of jobs from coal. It has reduced revenue from coal, and it has reduced the affordability of electricity going into the future.

Mr. Chairman, I have some other points that I want to make about this. But for now, I'd like to just point out that the people who are bearing the brunt of our policies on energy in this country for the last 4 years have been people of very modest income. Because when gasoline prices go up at the pump, when your electric bill goes up, it is the people who are in the lower- and middle class population or in a category of workers who make very little money and struggle to make ends meet, especially single mothers, who are really bearing the brunt of these policies.

These policies are choices of this administration. They are conscious decisions that they are willing to see prices go up for coal, oil, gas generated power in order to make them more competitive with higher-cost, higher-priced wind and solar energy.

These are bad policies for the average, everyday American. These are bad policies for America's working mothers.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for this opportunity.

Mr. PEARCE. I thank the gentlelady from Wyoming for her presentation and the facts that she presents.

One of the things that people constantly say who are opposed to oil and gas, to energy coming from America, is that it's impossible to drill and remain environmentally sensitive and safe. I think that those people are simply not looking at current technology.

It is possible with today's technology to drill up to 7 miles horizontally. That would be like drilling from here in this room here across the Potomac River somewhere out into Crystal City and putting a drill bit through a window that's maybe this large.

So what we're able to do is drill down 3,000 or 4,000 or maybe 5,000 feet, turn horizontally and drill and hit the zones of production. It is possible in today's technology to preserve almost the entire footprint of whether we're wanting grass lands or forest lands or whatever. We almost don't have to disturb those because the drill bit actually will be so far beneath the surface, we don't have to go in and clear locations like we did 15, 20, and 30 years ago.

You can also take one well, drill it straight down and then come off that and put multiple well bores so that what used to be spread on a quarter-acre or quarter-mile spacing or half-mile spacing might now today be one well for any number of the distributed wells.

So the environmental impacts of drilling today are probably less than in any other technology.

Wind energy, for instance. Wind is very large in New Mexico. They've got these miles and miles of wind generators standing in the air. Very large footprint. New Mexico is very capable of producing a lot of wind, but one of the problems is that the wind doesn't always blow and the sun doesn't shine all the time.

We had in Arizona recently—one of the operators of a wind farm said that they get about 12½ percent reliability, that is about 12½ percent of the time they're getting generated power out of the wind, and it's somewhat higher in Arizona for solar, about 25 percent of the time.

So when people are talking about converting from oil and gas to wind and solar, and I think every one of us believes that we ought to be using all of those forms of energy, but we have to understand that if we go to 12½ percent reliability, that's the amount of time that when you flip the switch that you're going to have power.

□ 2020

I think most of us are living lives that we demand and need power immediately for use of home appliances, for use of our computers. In manufac-

turing, you don't want power that is just available part-time. Generally, manufacturing is expensive and competitive. We're trying to keep our manufacturing jobs here, and the last thing we want to do is tell manufacturers you've got to shut down for 10 hours today because the wind is not blowing. The modern economies absolutely demand the predictability of good power when you flip the switch to turn on equipment or to turn on things in your home.

It is possible to provide those energy resources at the same time that we protect the environment. In my father's generation, there were lots of problems. In my generation, I watched as major companies began to clean up things that had originated back in the twenties and the thirties. So it's necessary for us to say that every single one of us wants to see the environment clean. They want clean water. They want the soil to be clean and clean air. And it is possible to achieve both because of the technologies that we have today.

I would draw our attention next to the fact that this administration has been saying that they want an all-of-the-above energy policy. At the same time, then, they're increasing restrictions on public lands and access to public lands. They're making it more difficult for the producers of both coal and electricity generation. They're making it so much more difficult that everyone in the West is struggling under the load.

The reason that the West has to deal with the problem more than the East is that the Western lands are so much more owned by the government. State government and Federal Government own such a large proportion of the land in the West that it's incomprehensible to States back East exactly about the problems that we face. But whether it's endangered species, whether it is restrictions, whether it is EPA, all of the agencies play a part in slowing down the process.

Recently, our administration—through Mr. Abbey at the BLM—said that we really want the BLM across the Nation to lower the time required to give permits. In fact, that time is still abysmally high at over 200 days.

I see my friend from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) standing ready to speak. At this time, if he is ready, we'll yield time to Mr. BISHOP, and we appreciate your presence on the Western Caucus.

Mr. BISHOP is the past chairman and still a respected person on the House Western Caucus. Thank you for being here tonight, and we appreciate your participation on the caucus.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I appreciate the gentleman from New Mexico's introduction, which is far more fluent than my presentation will be.

I share what the gentleman from New Mexico, as well as the gentlelady from Wyoming, have said on this particular issue, that we in the West seem to have a unique situation in which there is an

effort to try and stifle—hopefully by simple incompetence and not out of planning—but stifle the economic growth that we need so desperately in the West for our kids and for our future.

There are two things that were said today that I read in the paper that come from this administration, which tells us that we're obviously in a campaign season and that the words are simply being used in a unique and different way.

The President once said that the party to which I belong is currently engaged in a war on the poor, which I find unique because, to be honest, when you have overriding and ever-increasing energy costs, that—as the gentle lady from Wyoming said—is the real war on the poor.

Somebody who is in the bottom portion of our economic sphere, our economic stratus, will pay three times as high a percentage of their income for increased energy prices as those who are in the top will. If you have a nice urban job, you may have an inconvenience as energy prices go up. But if you're one of those struggling working families trying to make ends meet, this becomes a unique situation.

When gas prices go up to \$4 or more, climbing towards \$5, they may dip down again, but they will certainly rise one more time. It hurts the poor far worse than it does any other sector of our country. They are the ones who have the least likely chance of actually having some kind of fuel efficient automobile, and yet they probably have the greatest chance of needing desperately that car simply to go to work, and have no other options whatsoever. They are the ones who will have the most difficult time trying to heat their homes in the middle of winter with the increased cost of fuel. They are the ones who will recognize, first of all, that whenever the cost of gasoline goes up, the cost of food will also go up, simply because it takes money to send that food to market so that you can buy it. All of that hits those who are in the lowest sector of our economy harder than those who are in the upper sector of our economy.

One of the estimates we used a couple of years ago said that for every \$420 a family has to pay in increased energy costs, it will equate to 6,000 jobs that will be lost in the economy. That's one of the problems that we simply find ourselves in. The sad part about that is we don't have to do it. This is not an energy-poor country. In fact, it is an energy-rich country.

We should be using the resources that we have here in the country to enrich ourselves and to help each other to have a better lifestyle, not getting worse. And the competition for energy is going to increase as time goes on. There are 6½ billion people in the world; 2 billion of those 6½ billion have no electricity today. They're going to want that in the future, which means our energy needs will be increasing,

not diminishing. It doesn't matter what kind of efforts you put in there, our energy needs worldwide will be increasing. We have to be able to plan for that.

I have a good friend who is one of the CEOs of an energy company today who said when he was in college back in 1973, the word went out there that we were in an energy crisis, we were running out of oil, and we had to come up with a way of solving that problem. That was still the Shah's era, and so we did.

In 1977, we came up with a national energy plan. It was a colossal failure. It was an effort to do centralized planning here in Washington to come up with a way of solving our problem in the future, and it failed miserably. Thirty years later, we have people in the bureaucracies of this administration who want to try and reinvent a very bad wheel that didn't work back in the 1970s.

Someone has to tell this administration and this city that back in 1988, the Berlin Wall fell down and the idea of centralized planning was discredited throughout the entire world, not only in government, but also in industry. Everyone learned that lesson except the bureaucracies here in Washington, where a solution of this administration and far too much that takes place in this city is still the same idea: let's get a Big Government plan and let the government control everything. We want energy security, but we don't want to drill anywhere. We don't like \$4 a gallon gasoline prices, but we're not ready to increase any refineries anywhere. We don't necessarily want more coal or hydro or nuclear, but we're not ready to come up with any kind of alternative. We actually do want to have more gas coming in here, but we're not ready to put any pipelines in place to try and make sure that actually happens.

The end result is we lose. The Western Energy Alliance made the prediction that because of our lack of energy development on public lands in the West, we have lost 16,000 jobs and almost \$4 billion of infrastructure investment that comes in there.

The Secretary of Interior made a speech today where he called a lot of things we talk about here in Congress the "imagined energy world." I think this administration believes in that imagined energy world.

It's very easy for this administration to list all of their alternative energy projects by name, because they have very few of them. They're not moving ahead with solar power. They're not moving ahead with wind power. They're not moving ahead with anything else, and they're not moving ahead with alternative forms either. And this hits us in the West specifically.

Mr. PEARCE, I don't want to consume too much time. You may want to go in another direction. But I'm an old school teacher, and this is one of the areas that is of concern to me.

This map is obviously the United States. Everything in red is what is controlled by the Federal Government.

□ 2030

You notice that we in the West have the unique opportunity of having one half of everything in the West controlled by the Federal Government. The Federal Government controls one out of every 3 acres in the Nation, and in some of our States it's like 90 percent, 70 percent, 60 percent of all the land is still controlled by the Nation.

Now, one of the things that you may say is, Well, is that bad? I want to contend to some of my good friends who live in other parts of the Nation that they have an interest in all of this red stuff over there because my good friends who live in the East are shelling out \$8 billion to \$9 billion a year in order to control the West, to pay for all this land. Every year, in their efforts to make sure this map stays the same, that's \$8 billion to \$9 billion that comes out of their pockets.

What do they get for that investment? They get this map. The States that are in red are the States that have the hardest time funding their education systems over the last several decades.

Now, notice once again the States in red. The area in red is the Federal Government's own land. The States in red are the ones that have a hard time funding. You notice there is kind of a correlation simply between the two? This is what the United States is getting for its \$9 billion investment to control the West. We are harming our schools.

Now, even in this land that's in the West, we have a huge backlog in maintenance issues. Our National Park Service is hundreds of millions behind in their maintenance system.

There are some States like mine that simply said, you know, this is ridiculous. Our kids are being harmed in their education funding. We can't generate the money we need for our own infrastructure. Why don't you just let us take control of the land, and we will save those pristine areas that need to be saved. We will ensure there is access for recreation and multiple use, and we will develop those resources.

The Secretary of the Interior today said, simply, that concept defies common sense. The idea that only the Federal Government has the ability and the intelligence to control this kind of land and that people who live in the States obviously can't do it defies common sense.

What this means is the Federal Government that wants to spend more money for land acquisition, that cannot maintain its own land right now, that harms kids in the West with their education funding, that underfunds all the projects that are there right now and simply wants more and more, that's the common sense. If that, indeed, is the future, then we have a long, long way to go.

We in the West simply have a simple situation. We can do it just as well, if not better, and my argument to you is we can actually do it better. That's what should be common sense. Our kids are being harmed by this system. We are not producing jobs for our kids because of this system. What I think we need to do in the West is realize this is a country that has energy potential, energy ability, job potential, job ability, and we have kids that definitely need that.

We in the West pay more taxes than they do in the East when you add everything up. We put a higher percentage of our State budgets into education than they do in the East. We actually have higher class sizes than those in the East. We have more kids than those in the East.

We need to have the ability of actually meeting our particular needs. Part of that is for this administration to simply realize you've got to help develop the resources that we can. We can control it. We can fund it. We can do it if you give us the opportunity just to move forward.

This administration says that we are producing more oil now than ever before because it's all being produced on private property where they can't control it, try as they might to. If they simply unleash the potential in all this red area, this country would move forward in a growth spurt that is almost impossible to imagine. That's the commonsense plan.

I am very happy to be a part of this issue because I'm excited about what my colleagues are saying in a much more refined way than I have been able to do that, and I'm excited about hearing some more of my westerners who realize, hey, listen, there is a war on western jobs and it needs to stop. We need to have help in creating western jobs, not hindrance in stopping western jobs.

Mr. PEARCE. I thank the gentleman for his comments and would, again, accentuate both his points and the gentleness from Wyoming's about the administration's current war on the poor. We have heard repeated comments from the administration and their representatives that we need to get the price of gasoline up so that people will consume less, that, yes, the price of electricity by our policies will necessarily increase dramatically. The price of electricity increasing, the price of gas increasing, punish the poor terribly. Why would we have policies that are so unfair to the poor? It defies imagination.

Also, following up on my friend's comments about the Secretary saying that it is impossible, just not feasible, even unimaginable that people in the States would take better care of the property than the Federal Government has, I would simply direct the Secretary's attention to those massive forest fires in the West. They are managing our forests in order that they would burn down. They and the Federal

Government have choked the bureaucracy full of people in order to manage these resources, but, instead, they manage them in a process that ultimately sees that they will burn down. It's not a question of if but when.

The final comment I'm going to make, and then I'm going to yield to my friend from Colorado, but the President recently asked for \$52 million to crack down on speculators, which he claims are the cause of high gas prices. \$52 million to crack down on speculators.

Now, speculators, you have to understand that they make their money by guessing which way the market is going to go. Right now they see a government that is choking down access to supplies, so they scratch their head and say, We think maybe the price is going to go up and so they speculate and buy on the assumption that the price of gas is going up, the price of oil is going up, and lo and behold, they're making money.

But if the President were to announce today that he was going to open—and people sincerely believed him, that he was going to open access to Federal lands, those same speculators who today think the price is going to go up would begin to say, Oh, I better buy down, because if I bid up and the price falls, I'm going to lose money. So those speculators would begin to drive the price down.

But he doesn't need \$52 million. All he needs to do is give one sentence from the White House that the war on the West is ending and we're going to open the West oil production up again. That would do the trick; no \$52 million putting us deeper into debt. It simply makes sense to us from the West because we see it day in and day out.

We're joined tonight by our good friend, DOUG LAMBORN, from Colorado, and welcome here. It's nice to see you, and we appreciate your participation in the Western Caucus. We appreciate you being here tonight.

Mr. LAMBORN. Thank you, Representative. You do such a great job representing New Mexico, and you know so much about energy issues and financial institutions, issues like that as well. But this is a great forum. I thank you for organizing this and your leadership on energy issues.

I want to quickly address an issue that is of great concern to many people, myself included, and that is: Who should be regulating things like hydrologic fracking, fracturing—or fracking, for short—here in the United States? We have about 10 different Federal agencies that have their hand involved one way or another in regulating fracking, or at least trying to do so, from the EPA all the way to the Securities and Exchange Commission, if you can believe that.

I'm concerned because in my work on the Natural Resources Committee, along with ROB BISHOP that you heard from earlier, we have been hearing that the Bureau of Land Management, one

of the agencies that our agency oversees, is proposing rules regulating fracking on public lands. The concern about that is that right now, in a State like Colorado, my own State, those State regulators are already doing a great job regulating fracking. They know the local geology. They know the water, the water aquifers. They know the things that someone in Washington is not really going to know.

If you add a second layer of bureaucracy onto what the States are already doing, you have the potential—in fact, the certainty—of crippling job production, crippling energy production, because you'll have twice as many regulations to have to deal with if you're an energy producer. Why in the world do we need to, when the States are already doing a good job, add another layer of red tape and bureaucracy? I'm really concerned about that.

The subcommittee that I'm the chairman of on Natural Resources, Energy and Mineral Resources, is having a hearing in Denver next week on Wednesday, the 2nd of May, at the State Capitol in Denver. We're going to get right into this very issue.

□ 2040

Should the States be regulating fracking, or do we also want to have the Federal Government regulating as well? I hope that the evidence shows—and I believe it will—that the States are already doing a great job. We can only lose by having another layer of regulation.

This is an issue that affects energy in the West on public lands, and I'm really concerned that we have Federal agencies getting involved when the States are already doing a fine job and it's only going to hurt the production of energy and the creation of jobs.

Mr. PEARCE. That is absolutely true. One point that is often omitted by the opponents of fracking is that the people who most want fracking not to communicate with the fresh water are the oil companies themselves. They drill this million-dollar well bore, then they run casing in the well bore. They put cement outside that casing in order that they can have a nice tight well bore in order to produce the oil that allows them to pump the oil out expeditiously. And when they frack, they frack thousands of feet below the water zones. They're usually right up at the surface. And for contamination to occur, that pressure that is pumped down in the thousands of feet lower in the well would have to come outside the well bore, outside the cement around the casing, all the way to the surface, and then contaminate the water up there. In doing that, they have ruined the entire well bore.

So the companies themselves are watching to see if there's any drop in pressure. That's when you know that you've got something bleeding off. They shut everything down. They patiently look at it. The oil companies, again, are the best custodians of the

water because they don't want to ruin the well that they have spent drilling and a lot of money in completing.

I notice that my good friend, Mrs. LUMMIS, is back at the podium, and would yield more time to her at this point.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to point out what States are experiencing in relation to our Federal budget. So let's start with the Federal budget. Here we have all our revenue for 2011 in this column. Here we have just our entitlement programs that we spend money on in this column. So we're spending all of the tax revenue we take in in this country just on our entitlement programs. That is Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, other mandatory programs such as food stamps and school lunches. And then, of course, interest on the debt. Which means every other discretionary program and the global war on terror and our national defense is all borrowed money—borrowed from China, from Saudi Arabia, from Japan, and from American companies and the American people. That would never happen in the State.

On the front page of my State's statewide newspaper today was an article that our Governor, Wyoming Governor Matt Mead, is asking all State agencies to budget for an 8 percent cut in spending, and the health department, a 4 percent cut in spending. This is because natural gas prices in the United States have dropped below \$2 in MCF, which is extremely low, and my State is the second largest producer of natural gas in the Nation, and we're heavily reliant on natural gas for revenues.

So what do we do when our revenues decline? We cut spending. We budget differently. We don't hire people to sit in vacant positions. We leave those positions vacant or, better yet, make them completely go away. That's what States do to manage their problems. But an interesting source of revenue for the State is income off State lands. And it's a very important source of revenue.

Now, Mr. BISHOP from Utah pointed out earlier this evening that the American taxpayers are paying \$8 billion, Mr. BISHOP, to pay for administering public lands in the West. In my State of Wyoming, we could be managing those lands. And if you went and looked at the quality of our State lands, you would be thoroughly impressed. They are beautifully managed. The stewardship is well done. We are producing oil and gas. We're producing livestock, cattle, and sheep. We're producing timber. We're producing recreational opportunities, open space. We're creating, because of all that open space, places where clean air, clean water, and clean living can really work together. It is a wonderful system with much smaller administrative costs than the American people are paying for the Federal lands in the West.

We've proven that as States who received land when we became States, we can manage all of the land in our State that's not private land.

Consequently, I agree with what Mr. BISHOP said earlier. The fact that we have NEPA, FLPMA, SMCRA, CERCLA, and lots of other laws that are managed from the Federal Government's level that could be managed at the State level would make it much less expensive, would make the land stewardship closer to home where the people who really love and thrive on these important lands live and work and want to recreate and want to participate in the management of these lands.

They would also produce more revenue for the States, making States like Utah, like my own State of Wyoming, where we prioritize public education above all other expenditures of government, we would make more money available. Because as you know, in most States, the property taxes go largely to the education system. Well, when the land belongs to the Federal Government, the Federal Government doesn't pay taxes. Consequently, that money is not available to us.

Now, States do get something called PILT payments—payment in lieu of taxes—but they're not the same as if that land were on the tax rolls of the States in which those lands reside. Consequently, look at what we've summed up. We're producing less jobs off Federal lands with more regulations, more cost to the American taxpayer, less revenue to the States, less revenue to the Federal Government, and less potential for job creation. The job seekers end up being on unemployment instead of paying taxes because of the salaries that are paid. And when you have great-paying jobs like in the oil and gas industry, where the average job pays \$72,000 a year—a much higher wage than the average wage in our States—we really are hurting ourselves terribly by not prioritizing jobs, not using Federal lands to their fullest capabilities in a way that provides great stewardship that those in the West value and seek and yearn for and want and would never compromise in order to have a robust State and a robust economy.

I want to thank Mr. PEARCE once again for his leadership.

Mr. PEARCE. I thank the gentlelady. Before I yield time to my good friend Mr. BISHOP again, I'm reading in today's quotes that Interior Secretary Salazar said that House Republicans live in an imagined energy world. I appreciate his concern and his criticism. I consider it as constructive. But think about this imagination.

The President in March of 2012 said: We can't just drill our way to lower gas prices. We can't drill our way to lower gas prices. That's a viewpoint that could be considered legitimate, except that about the same time he's calling for Brazil and Saudi Arabia to increase their drilling in order to get the prices

down so that people in America don't have to pay as much at the pump.

□ 2050

Now, I'm not sure what imagined energy world says that it will cause the price of gas to go down if they drill in Saudi Arabia and Brazil, but it won't cause the price of gas to go down if they drill over here. That, to me, argues that it is that that is instead an imagined energy world.

The Secretary goes on to talk about that these members of the Republican Party are members of the Flat Earth Society in a demeaning term. Now, in my county, you can see from one end to the other, miles and miles; and if you turn and look east, you can see all the way to Dallas 300 or 400 miles away. I do live in a flat part of New Mexico and can see across the line into Texas. And so he speaks in demeaning terms about flat Earth, and yet he's very happy to have all the production of oil and gas that comes from there.

So the flat-broke administration is criticizing the Flat Earth Society. And of the two, I would rather live on flat ground than be flat broke. And so I would yield to my good friend, and then I will close out.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I thank the gentleman from New Mexico, and, once again, I do agree with you. I enjoy your image of the world much better than this particular administration. It reminds me of "Back to the Future" when they had the two movies, what happened if Biff got the sports sheets and what happened if he didn't? It's almost what we're doing here. There are two actual visions of what the future of this America will be; and, I'm sorry, this administration keeps taking us down the road in which Biff actually does have the sports sheets and he is able to win all those bets and get control of everything.

I just want to add one other thing to what the gentlelady from Wyoming also said here. When we talk about the Federal Government and what the Federal Government does on public lands, I just want you to realize it is not only related to public lands itself.

We find that this administration is not satisfied with just living within the boundaries of public lands, but is coming up with policies that impact private property that is next to those public lands. When this administration took over, in the State of Utah there were 77 oil leases that had gone through a 7-year review. They had all the public hearings, they did everything, they were ready to be let for sale to try and develop those resources in the eastern part of my State.

The very first thing this administration did was recall those 77 leases. It didn't matter that the process had gone through, they had done the work. They recalled them for the purpose of special interest groups for their satisfaction. What happened in the eastern part of my State is the unemployment rate simply skyrocketed not only for

these 77 leases that were on public land; but the private sector that was there ready to invest saw the handwriting on the wall, and they pulled out of that particular area. They were not ready to go through the kind of harassment as well as the regulation that they could see taking place. And the unemployment skyrocketed; the investment in that area went. Only now is it starting gradually and gradually to come back in.

Here is the problem that we have with this administration's policies: Not only do they inhibit energy production and jobs that can be generated on public lands; their efforts of increased regulation and efforts to inhibit that kind of development take away jobs on private property where they see that there is not a future there and they don't want to go through the regulatory hassle. So what could have been developed in my State basically went to North Dakota on private lands, and there they found their ability to make lots of money and to increase the energy production here because they simply did not have to deal with this administration.

Unfortunately, it's not just about energy jobs. This administration on public lands is doing the same thing for recreation jobs. With the number of roads that have been closed on the forest and BLM lands, stopping the ability of people to hunt and fish and do other forms of regulation, even the kinds of regulation on outfitters that tells them what kind of coffee they have to serve when they're on Park Service property, that is an impediment to the development of our recreation community and recreation jobs at the same time.

One of the things we have to realize is that this administration's effort to try and control everything is producing nothing that is helping us create jobs for our kids to keep them at home. I appreciate Mr. PEARCE for actually starting this process and talking about this issue because it needs desperately to be addressed.

Mr. PEARCE. I thank the gentleman. Senator HATCH is going to introduce this week the West Act, which is a combined 10 bills that we have previously sent from the House of Representatives that are sitting dormant drawing dust in the Senate, and so he is going to lump them together and push them out. Those are a part of our "Jobs Frontier Report." And those acts do things like H.R. 1229, Putting the Gulf Back to Work Act, that's by Representative HASTINGS; H.R. 1230, Restarting American Offshore Leasing Now Act by, again, Mr. HASTINGS; H.R. 1231, Reversing President Obama's Offshore Moratorium Act; H.R. 2021, the Jobs and Energy Permitting Act, and that's by Mr. GARDNER from Colorado; H.R. 1837, the San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act by Mr. NUNES of California; H.R. 872, Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act by Mr. GIBBS; H.R. 1633, the Farm Dust Prevention Act by Ms. NOEM; and, finally, H.R. 910, the

Energy Tax Prevention Act by Mr. UPTON.

Now, just talking among friends, I would feel that the Secretary of the Interior exposes a little bit of thin skin. These are credible debates that we're having in America right now, whether we should use foreign oil or oil produced in this country, whether we should export our jobs overseas to produce energy or whether we should get them here.

I read where Mr. Salazar says that the fact is most of the Outer Continental Shelf resources are open for business, he says. Well, then, give us the nod, and we'll simply pass those first three bills: Putting the Gulf Back to Work Act; Restarting American Offshore Leasing Now; and Reversing President Obama's Offshore Moratorium. If it's already the case, then just humor us, nod your head, and nothing will be changed since it's already open for business, and if the President would tell the Senate to go ahead and pass just those three bills, we could send them up to the President, and we could have plenty of jobs starting out and plenty of American production.

Again, I would look back at the price of natural gas. When the administration says that you can't drill and come up with lower prices, the price of natural gas a couple of years ago was in the \$12 range. Today, the price is about \$2.50. Now what caused the price to go from 12 to 2? When the price is going up, the President says, I need \$52 million to control the speculators that are driving the price up. But when the price goes down, somehow he's not saying we need to give you \$52 million back because now those speculators are driving the price down.

This view of energy in the White House, originating with the Secretary of the Interior, somehow doesn't get the fact that the reason the price of natural gas has fallen from 12 to 2—and that's a very steep decline—is because we have drilled our way into lower prices. We've increased the supply enough through more jobs and more production that world demand is kind of swamped with the supply. It's, again, an economic equation of supply and demand.

I think that's the greater impact in the price of gasoline today. The supply and demand of oil and the supply and demand of natural gas controls that. We have drilled our way to success in natural gas because companies went everywhere drilling on private lands.

But now, then, the administration is saying we need to curtail all that production here because it's not going to lower the price; we need to control the speculators. These are simply inconsistencies that are punishing the American public. They're punishing the American public and especially the poor in the American public by higher gasoline prices and by higher electricity costs. It's making it to where families just can't get by, to where they can't make the payments for the

month. And poor families everywhere are having to make choices to buy energy or to live in cold, live without air conditioning, and to not be able to drive and see their grandkids.

What kind of choices are those? Those are not the choices that I think most Americans want. I think most Americans like our lifestyle. Our lifestyle is based on two dominant things—the cost of food and the cost of energy. And when we drive both of those costs up through overregulation and through government limitations, then we're doing a disservice to the American public.

Every single person in America wants to see our land protected, they want to see the workers protected, they want to see soil, water, and air protected; but they also are desperate to see jobs created. It's within the power of this body, it's within the power of the Senate, and it's within the power of the President to create those jobs, to create the answers for an America that is tired, for an America that is scared, and for an America that is worried about its future and the future for her children.

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It's within our power in this town to reverse those things, to stop the war on the West, to start making sense in public policy, to start making decisions that create solutions—real solutions for not just jobs, but for careers where people can plan their lives, they can set aside to buy a house, or to send their kids to school. That's the America that all Americans want across party lines, across racial lines. People for generations have come to this country for that promise, for that hope, and that opportunity. It starts with us in this town. It is time for us to put aside the differences.

We ask the Senate to pass the West Act; and, Mr. President, we respectfully ask for you to sign that act to bring jobs to the West and bring prosperity to the Nation.

God bless this country, and God bless each one of the taxpayers.

I yield back the balance of my time. ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCKINLEY). All Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. SCHIFF (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of illness.

Mr. MARINO (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 25, 2012, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5733. A letter from the Secretary, Air Force, Department of Defense, transmitting notification that the Average Procurement Unit Cost (APUC) and Program Acquisition Unit Cost metrics for the C-130 AMP Program have exceeded the critical cost growth threshold, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2433(e)(1); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5734. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Paul S. Stanley, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5735. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Richard Y. Newton III, United States Air Force, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5736. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Marc E. Rogers, United States Air Force, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5737. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing Brigadier Generals Darryl W. Burke and John F. Newell III, United States Air Force, to wear the insignia of the grade of major general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5738. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Inflation Adjustment of Threshold for Acquisition of Right-Hand Drive Passenger Sedans (DFARS Case 2012-D016) (RIN: 0750-AH65) received April 3, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5739. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Repeal of Case-by-Case Reporting (DFARS Case 2012-D020) (RIN: 0750-AH67) received April 3, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5740. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Separation of Combined Provisions and Clauses (DFARS Case 2011-D048) (RIN: 0750-AH38) received April 3, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5741. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to various foreign buyers pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

5742. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Russia pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

5743. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting the Council's Annual Report for 2011; to the Committee on Financial Services.

5744. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's semi-annual Implementation Report on Energy Conservation Standards Activities, pursuant to Section 141 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5745. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medical Devices; Neurological Devices; Classification of the Near Infrared Brain Hematoma Detector [Docket No.: FDA-2012-M-0206] received April 2, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5746. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding Between the Food and Drug Administration and Other Departments, Agencies, and Organizations [Docket No.: FDA-2012-N-0205] received April 2, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5747. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) Annual Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 2013, pursuant to Public Law 106-398, section 1308 (114 Stat. 1654A-341); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5748. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the text of ILO Recommendation No. 200 concerning HIV and AIDS and the World of Work, Adopted by the Conference at its Ninety-Ninth Session, Geneva, 17 June 2010, pursuant to Art. 19 of the Constitution of the International Labor Organization; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5749. A letter from the Director, Bureau of Economic Affairs, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — International Services Surveys: BE-150, Quarterly Survey of Cross-Border Credit, Debit, and Charge Card Transactions [110817508-2069-2] (RIN: 0691-AA79) received March 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5750. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — Schedule of Fees for Consular Services, Department of State and Overseas Embassies and Consulates [Public Notice 7835] (RIN: 1400-AD06) received April 11, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5751. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 12-001, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5752. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Report on Denial of Visas to Confiscators of American Property", pursuant to 8 U.S.C. 1182d Public Law 105-277, section 2225(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5753. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 11-105, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5754. A letter from the Diversity and Inclusion Programs Director, Federal Reserve System, transmitting the eighth annual report pursuant to Section 203(a) of the No Fear Act, Pub. L. 107-174, for fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5755. A letter from the Commissioner, International Boundary and Water Commission United States and Mexico, transmitting the Commission's annual report for FY 2011 prepared in accordance with Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5756. A letter from the HR Specialist, Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation, transmitting the Office's annual report for Fiscal Year 2011 prepared in accordance with Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5757. A letter from the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator For Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; Adjustment to 2012 Annual Catch Limits [Docket No.: 111207734-2119-02] (RIN: 0648-BB50) received March 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5758. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; Sub-Annual Catch Limit (ACL) Harvested for Management Area 1B [Docket No.: 0907301205-0289-02] (RIN: 0648-XA971) received March 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5759. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; Sub-ACL (Annual Catch Limit) Harvested for Management Area 2 [Docket No.: 0907301205-0289-02] (RIN: 0648-XB001) received March 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5760. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod for American Fisheries Act Catcher/Processors Using Trawl Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 101126521-0640-02] (RIN: 0648-XB028) received March 26, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5761. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's report detailing activities under the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act during Fiscal Year 2011, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1997f; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5762. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2011-1230; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-141-AD; Amendment 39-16964; AD 2012-04-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 30, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5763. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0107; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-087-AD; Amendment 39-16965; AD 2012-04-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 30, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5764. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Division Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0944; Directorate Identifier 2011-NE-11-AD; Amendment 39-16960; AD 2012-04-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 30, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5765. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airplanes Originally Manufactured by Lockheed for the Military as P2V Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2012-0107; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-018-AD; Amendment 39-16955; AD 2012-03-51] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 30, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. GARDNER (for himself, Mr. CANSECO, Mr. OLSON, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LANDRY, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. TERRY, and Mr. BERG):

H.R. 4480. A bill to provide for the development of a plan to increase oil and gas exploration, development, and production under oil and gas leases of Federal lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Defense in response to a drawdown of petroleum reserves from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROE of Tennessee:

H.R. 4481. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that Department of Veterans Affairs employees who violate certain civil laws do not receive bonuses; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 4482. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent home loan guaranty programs for veterans regarding adjustable rate mortgages and hybrid adjustable rate mortgages; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (for herself, Ms. WILSON of

Florida, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. REYES, Mr. RUSH, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. HINOJOSA, and Ms. FUDGE):

H.R. 4483. A bill to authorize the Director of the National Science Foundation to provide grants to institutions of higher education for implementing or expanding reforms in undergraduate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education in order to increase the number of students from underrepresented minority groups receiving degrees in these fields, and to recruit, retain, and advance STEM faculty members from underrepresented minority groups at institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. CHAFFETZ (for himself, Mr. FALCOMAVAEGA, Mr. FLAKE, and Mr. MCKEON):

H.R. 4484. A bill to provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of National Forest System land in the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Utah to Brigham Young University, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CONAWAY:

H.R. 4485. A bill to further the preparedness of the United States Armed Forces, in cooperation with regional allies, to prevent the Government of Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MANZULLO:

H.R. 4486. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on polypropylene fiber with tow bundles comprised of 300,000 to 400,000 individual filaments; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MANZULLO:

H.R. 4487. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on polyester fiber with tow bundles comprised of 300,000 to 400,000 individual filaments; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4488. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 2-ethylhexyl (4-chloro-2-methylphenoxy) acetate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4489. A bill to suspend temporarily the rate of duty on 2-Methyl-2-(methylthio)propanal O-(N-methylcarbamoyl)oxime; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4490. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 2-Methyl-4-chlorophenoxy-acetic acid, dimethylamine salt; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4491. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 4-(2,4-dichlorophenoxy) butyric acid and 4-(2,4-dichlorophenoxy) butyric acid, dimethylamine salt; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4492. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on MCPB Acid and MCPB Sodium Salt; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4493. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Bromoxynil Octanoate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4494. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on triphenyltin hydroxide; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4495. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on dichlorprop-p acid,

dichlorprop-p dimethylamine salt, and dichlorprop-p 2-ethylhexyl ester; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4496. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 2-methyl-4-chlorophenoxyacetic acid; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 4497. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on formulations containing Bromacil and Diuron and application adjuvants; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 4498. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on formulations containing Diuron and application adjuvants; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 4499. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Dimethyl carbonate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 4500. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 5-Chloro-1-indanone; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 4501. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Esfenvalerate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARNEY:

H.R. 4502. A bill to extend and modify the temporary suspension of duty on certain men's footwear; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARNEY:

H.R. 4503. A bill to extend and modify the temporary suspension of duty on certain men's footwear; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARNEY:

H.R. 4504. A bill to extend and modify the temporary suspension of duty on certain women's footwear; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARNEY:

H.R. 4505. A bill to extend and modify the temporary suspension of duty on certain women's footwear; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4506. A bill to extend and modify the temporary reduction of duty on Metalaxyl-M and LMetalaxylfenoxam; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4507. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Cloquintocet-mexyl; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4508. A bill to extend and modify the temporary suspension of duty on Difenoconazole; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4509. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Benzene, 2,4-dichloro-1,3-dinitro-5-(trifluoromethyl); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4510. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Cyprodinil; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4511. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Trinexapac-ethyl; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4512. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain mixtures of cyhalothrin; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4513. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain formulations of Thiamethoxam, Difenoconazole, Fludioxinil and Mefenoxam; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4514. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain mixtures of Difenoconazole and Mefenoxam; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4515. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Mucochloric acid; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4516. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Methidathion; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4517. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 4-Chloro-3,5-dinitro-, -trifluorotoluene; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4518. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain mixtures of Azoxystrobin; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4519. A bill to extend and modify the temporary reduction of duty on Azoxystrobin; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4520. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 2-Chloro-6-Fluorobenzyl Chloride; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4521. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on thermoplastic biodegradable polymer blend; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4522. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on thermoplastic biodegradable polymer blend; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4523. A bill to extend the temporary reduction of duty on yarn of combed cashmere or yarn of camel hair; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4524. A bill to extend the temporary reduction of duty on yarn of carded cashmere 19.35 metric yarn count or higher; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4525. A bill to extend the temporary reduction of duty on camel hair, processed beyond the degreased or carbonized condition; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4526. A bill to extend the temporary reduction of duty on waste of camel hair; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4527. A bill to extend the temporary reduction of duty on camel hair, carded or combed; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4528. A bill to extend the temporary reduction of duty on woven fabrics containing 85 percent or more by weight of viscuna hair; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4529. A bill to extend the temporary reduction of duty on camel hair, not processed in any manner beyond the degreased or carbonized condition; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4530. A bill to extend the temporary reduction of duty on noils of camel hair; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4531. A bill to extend the temporary reduction of duty on fine animal hair of Kashmir (cashmere) goats, processed beyond the degreased or carbonized condition; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4532. A bill to extend the temporary reduction of duty on yarn of carded hair of Kashmir (cashmere) goats, of yarn count less than 19.35 metric, not put up for retail sale; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4533. A bill to extend the temporary reduction of duty on yarn of carded camel hair; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4534. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on biaxially oriented polypropylene film; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4535. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on thermoplastic biodegradable polymer blend; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. ELLMERS:

H.R. 4536. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 2-Chlorobenzyl chloride; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. ELLMERS:

H.R. 4537. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Methyl 2-[(4-methyl-5-oxo-3-propoxy-4,5-dihydro-[1,2,4]triazole-1-carbonyl)sulfamoyl]benzoate, sodium salt; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. ELLMERS:

H.R. 4538. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on Permethrin; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. ELLMERS:

H.R. 4539. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Tungsten carbide; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. ELLMERS:

H.R. 4540. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Tungsten concentrate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. ELLMERS:

H.R. 4541. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Tungsten oxide; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4542. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain modacrylic staple fibers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4543. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain acrylic staple fibers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4544. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain acrylic staple fibers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4545. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain acrylic staple fibers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4546. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain acrylic staple fibers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4547. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain acrylic filament tow; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4548. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain acrylic filament tow; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4549. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain acrylic fiber tow; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4550. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain acrylic staple fibers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4551. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain acrylic fila-

ment tow; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4552. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain acrylic or modacrylic staple fibers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4553. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain acrylic filament tow; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 4554. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain modacrylic staple fibers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois:

H.R. 4555. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Penthiopyrad technical; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois:

H.R. 4556. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on 4,6-dimethyl-2-pyrimidinamine; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois:

H.R. 4557. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on carbamic acid; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois:

H.R. 4558. A bill to extend and modify the temporary suspension of duty on Bifenthrin; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois:

H.R. 4559. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Carbofuran technical; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois:

H.R. 4560. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Carbosulfan technical; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4561. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on 5-Methylpyridine-2,3-dicarboxylic acid; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4562. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on 2-Acetylnicotinic acid; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4563. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on mixtures of 2-amino-2,3-dimethylbutanenitrile and toluene; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4564. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on 3,5-Difluoroaniline; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4565. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on Methyl methoxyacetate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4566. A bill to modify and extend the reduction of duty on Diethyl ketone; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4567. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Oxalic acid, dimethyl ester (DMO); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4568. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Oxalic acid, diethyl ester (DEO); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4569. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on Carbamic acid, [4-chloro-2-fluoro-5-[[[methyl(1-methylethyl)amino]sulfonyl]amino]carbonyl]phenyl]-, ethyl ester (PCM); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4570. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Ethyl 3-amino-4,4,4-trifluorocrotonate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4571. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on 5-Ethylpyridine-2,3-dicarboxylic acid; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4572. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Dinotefuran; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4573. A bill to extend and modify the reduction of duty on Bentazon, sodium salt; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4574. A bill to modify and extend the temporary reduction of duty on AE 0172747 Ether; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4575. A bill to modify and extend the temporary reduction of duty on Isoxaflutole; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4576. A bill to modify and extend the temporary reduction of duty on Clothianidin; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4577. A bill to extend and modify the temporary reduction of duty on mixtures containing Isoxaflutole and Cyprosulamide; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4578. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Triadimefon; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4579. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on mixtures containing Thiencarbazone-methyl, Isoxadifen-ethyl, and Tembotrione; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4580. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on mixtures containing Trifloxystrobin, Clothianidin, Carboxin, and Metalaxyl; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4581. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on 5-Methylpyridine-2,3-dicarboxylic acid dimethyl ester; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4582. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on staple fibers of viscose rayon, not carded, combed, or otherwise processed for spinning; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4583. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on staple fibers of viscose rayon, not carded, combed or otherwise processed for spinning; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4584. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on staple fibers of rayon, carded, combed, or otherwise processed for spinning; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4585. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on artificial staple fibers of viscose rayon, not carded, combed or otherwise processed for spinning; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4586. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on artificial staple fibers of viscose rayon, not carded, combed or otherwise processed for spinning; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4587. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on Reactive Red 266; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4588. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on Reactive Black 005; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4589. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Reactive Orange 131; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4590. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain window shade material; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4591. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain window shade material; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4592. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on Chloroacetic acid, sodium salt; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4593. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on acetyl chloride; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4594. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Octanoyl chloride; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4595. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on Glyoxylic Acid; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4596. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on sodium petroleum sulfonic acids, sodium salts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4597. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Mixtures of tetraacetylenediamine with extenders and additives; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4598. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on 1-Propanonesulfonic acid, 2-methyl-2-[(1-oxo-2-propenyl)amino]-, monoammonium salt, polymer with 1-ethenyl-2-pyrrolidinone; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4599. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on esters and sodium esters of parahydroxybenzoic acid; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4600. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Ammonium polyacryloyldimethyl taurate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4601. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on Isobutyl 4-hydroxybenzoate and its sodium salt; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4602. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on filament tow of rayon; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4603. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on staple fibers of viscose rayon, not carded, combed, or otherwise processed for spinning; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 4604. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a national program to conduct and support activities toward the goal of significantly reducing the number of cases of overweight and obesity among individuals in the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PIERLUISI:

H.R. 4605. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the eligibility of activities in Puerto Rico for the deduction for income attributable to domestic production activities; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. REHBERG:

H.R. 4606. A bill to authorize the issuance of right-of-way permits for natural gas pipelines in Glacier National Park, and for other purpose; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. RIBBLE (for himself, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. CARTER, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 4607. A bill to ensure economy and efficiency of Federal Government operations by establishing a moratorium on midnight rules during a President's final days in office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RIGELL (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H.R. 4608. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve oversight and accountability for military housing projects carried out using the alternative authority provided by subchapter IV of chapter 169 of such title; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California (for herself, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BACA, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. BASS of California, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CARNAHAN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. CHU, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLAY, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Mr. FILNER, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. HAHN, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HONDA, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. MALONEY, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. OLVER, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. POLIS, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. STARK, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. BONAMICI, and Ms. HIRONO):

H.R. 4609. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for treatment of permanent partnerships between individuals of the same gender as marriage for purposes of determining entitlement to benefits under such title; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4610. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 2-methyl-4-methoxy-6-methylamino-1,3,5-triazine; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4611. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 2-amino-4-methoxy-6-methyl-1,3,5-triazine; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4612. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on 3-(ethylsulfonyl)-2-pyridinesulfonamide; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4613. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Fluthiacet-methyl technical; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4614. A bill to extend the suspension of duty on Carfentrazone-ethyl and formulations thereof; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4615. A bill to extend and modify the reduction of the duty on Sulfentazone; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4616. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on Pyroxasulfone; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4617. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain used fuel, lubricating, or cooling medium pumps; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4618. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain used compression-ignition internal combustion piston engines; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4619. A bill to extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain used gear boxes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 4620. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to add certain counties in the State of Mississippi to the region represented by the Appalachian Regional Commission; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself and Mr. DENHAM):

H. Con. Res. 118. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself and Ms. LEE of California):

H. Con. Res. 119. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that involuntary homelessness for families, women, and children in America should be eliminated; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. RANGEL, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. LOBIONDO):

H. Con. Res. 120. Concurrent resolution supporting the goal of preventing and effectively treating Alzheimer's disease by the year 2025, as articulated in the draft National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease from the Department of Health and Human Services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GOSAR:

H. Res. 630. A resolution expressing support for Israel and its right to self-defense against the illegal nuclear program by the Islamic Republic of Iran; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. GARDNER:

H.R. 4480.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, clause 2

By Mr. ROE of Tennessee:

H.R. 4481.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 4482.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 4483.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. CHAFFETZ:

H.R. 4484.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section III, Clause II of the Constitution.

By Mr. CONAWAY:

H.R. 4485.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the powers granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clauses 11, 12, and 13 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MANZULLO:

H.R. 4486.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MANZULLO:

H.R. 4487.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4488.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4489.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4490.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4491.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4492.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4493.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4494.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4495.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H.R. 4496.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 4497.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, sec. 8

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 4498.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, sec. 8

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 4499.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, sec. 8

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 4500.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, sec. 8

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 4501.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, sec. 8

By Mr. CARNEY:

H.R. 4502.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clauses 1 & 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. CARNEY:

H.R. 4503.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clauses 1 & 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. CARNEY:

H.R. 4504.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clauses 1 & 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. CARNEY:

H.R. 4505.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clauses 1 & 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4506.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4507.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4508.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. COBLE:

H.R. 4509.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers

“The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts, and provide for the common Defense and General Welfare of the United States; but all Duties and Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.’

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4597.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1, Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution which reads:

“The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts, and provide for the common Defense and General Welfare of the United States; but all Duties and Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.’

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4598.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1, Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution which reads:

“The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts, and provide for the common Defense and General Welfare of the United States; but all Duties and Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.’

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4599.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1, Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution which reads:

“The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts, and provide for the common Defense and General Welfare of the United States; but all Duties and Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.’

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4600.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1, Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution which reads:

“The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts, and provide for the common Defense and General Welfare of the United States; but all Duties and Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.’

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4601.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1, Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution which reads:

“The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts, and provide for the common Defense and General Welfare of the United States; but all Duties and Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.’

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4602.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1, Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution which reads:

“The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts, and provide for the common Defense and General Welfare of the United States; but all Duties and Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.’

By Mrs. MYRICK:

H.R. 4603.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1, Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution which reads:

“The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts, and provide for the common Defense and General Welfare of the United States; but all Duties and Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.’

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 4604.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. PIERLUISI:

H.R. 4605.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to lay and collect taxes and to provide for the general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution; to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution such powers as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution; and to make rules and regulations respecting the U.S. territories, as enumerated in Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution.

By Mr. REHBERG:

H.R. 4606.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. RIBBLE:

H.R. 4607.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. I, Sec. 8

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. RIGELL:

H.R. 4608.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14: To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 17: To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards and other needful Buildings;

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California:

H.R. 4609.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4610.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated

in Article I, Section 7 and Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4611.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 7 and Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4612.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 7 and Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4613.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 7 and Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4614.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 7 and Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4615.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 7 and Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4616.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 7 and Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4617.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 7 and Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4618.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 7 and Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 4619.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 7 and Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 4620.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 14.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

- H.R. 85: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas and Ms. RICHARDSON.
- H.R. 104: Mr. COSTA.
- H.R. 139: Mr. DEUTCH.
- H.R. 187: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
- H.R. 329: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
- H.R. 360: Mr. GOSAR.
- H.R. 365: Mr. CONYERS.
- H.R. 466: Mr. GOSAR.
- H.R. 587: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia and Mr. RANGEL.
- H.R. 733: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, and Mrs. NOEM.
- H.R. 757: Mr. BASS of New Hampshire.
- H.R. 805: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.
- H.R. 812: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
- H.R. 816: Mr. GOSAR.
- H.R. 889: Mr. HEINRICH.
- H.R. 941: Mr. MEEHAN.
- H.R. 942: Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky.
- H.R. 1006: Mr. BARTLETT.
- H.R. 1066: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
- H.R. 1161: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.
- H.R. 1167: Mr. OLSON.
- H.R. 1182: Mr. OLSON.
- H.R. 1236: Mr. GIBSON.
- H.R. 1244: Mr. HOLT.
- H.R. 1265: Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. WESTMORELAND, and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
- H.R. 1296: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
- H.R. 1327: Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. DOYLE, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.
- H.R. 1331: Mr. MICHAUD.
- H.R. 1448: Mr. RANGEL and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
- H.R. 1463: Mr. POLIS.
- H.R. 1513: Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.
- H.R. 1519: Mr. CRITZ.
- H.R. 1546: Mr. WALDEN, Mr. LANCE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. GOSAR.
- H.R. 1579: Ms. FUDGE.
- H.R. 1588: Mr. KELLY.
- H.R. 1612: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
- H.R. 1666: Mr. BOREN.
- H.R. 1738: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
- H.R. 1842: Mr. SERRANO and Mrs. LOWEY.
- H.R. 1897: Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MEEHAN, and Mr. MCNERNEY.
- H.R. 1951: Mr. HEINRICH.
- H.R. 1960: Mr. LATTA.
- H.R. 1964: Mr. GIBBS, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.
- H.R. 2020: Mr. GOSAR.
- H.R. 2082: Mr. PETERS.
- H.R. 2182: Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.
- H.R. 2206: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
- H.R. 2212: Mr. TOWNS.
- H.R. 2226: Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. HOLT.
- H.R. 2269: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
- H.R. 2479: Mr. KEATING.
- H.R. 2541: Mr. HURT.
- H.R. 2568: Mr. LONG.
- H.R. 2569: Mrs. BLACKBURN and Mr. CRAWFORD.
- H.R. 2592: Mr. PAUL.
- H.R. 2597: Mr. LOBIONDO.
- H.R. 2617: Ms. DELAURO.
- H.R. 2655: Mr. MEEHAN, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. COSTA.
- H.R. 2680: Mr. STEARNS.
- H.R. 2705: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California.
- H.R. 2721: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. FALDOMAVAEGA.
- H.R. 2746: Mr. TOWNS, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
- H.R. 2827: Mr. WOMACK, Mr. MCCOTTER, and Mr. LUCAS.
- H.R. 2950: Mr. ANDREWS.
- H.R. 2951: Mr. KING of Iowa, and Mr. ROSS of Florida.
- H.R. 2966: Mr. ALTMIRE and Mr. RIVERA.
- H.R. 2978: Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado.
- H.R. 2989: Mr. REICHERT.
- H.R. 3032: Ms. RICHARDSON.
- H.R. 3044: Mr. WESTMORELAND.
- H.R. 3059: Mr. CARNEY and Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.
- H.R. 3068: Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina.
- H.R. 3096: Mr. PLATTS.
- H.R. 3173: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. HANNA, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
- H.R. 3179: Mr. BACHUS, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. HANABUSA, Mr. ELLISON, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
- H.R. 3187: Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. BACA, Mr. BOREN, Mr. TURNER of New York, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGBEN of California, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. HAHN, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. HANABUSA.
- H.R. 3200: Mr. GIBSON.
- H.R. 3203: Mr. GOSAR.
- H.R. 3208: Mr. GOSAR.
- H.R. 3423: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida and Mr. ROSS of Florida.
- H.R. 3485: Ms. SCHWARTZ.
- H.R. 3506: Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. MEEHAN.
- H.R. 3591: Mr. GIBSON and Mr. OWENS.
- H.R. 3596: Ms. MOORE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. CHU, and Mr. VISCLOSKEY.
- H.R. 3612: Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. WEST, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
- H.R. 3618: Ms. ESHOO, Mr. CLARKE of Michigan, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. OLVER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. HINCHEY.
- H.R. 3627: Mr. DOYLE and Mr. OLSON.
- H.R. 3665: Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
- H.R. 3721: Mr. GRIMM.
- H.R. 3729: Mr. NEAL, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. ROSS of Florida.
- H.R. 3797: Mr. PALLONE.
- H.R. 3798: Ms. SPEIER, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. ELLISON.
- H.R. 3809: Mr. LOBIONDO.
- H.R. 3826: Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. HANABUSA, Mr. KIND, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. KISSELL, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. BACA, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SERRANO, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. PIERLUISI, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Ms. KAPTUR.
- H.R. 3848: Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. LONG, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. LUTKEMEYER, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
- H.R. 3881: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
- H.R. 3895: Ms. BUERKLE.
- H.R. 3903: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. KILDEE, and Mr. YARMUTH.
- H.R. 3905: Mr. CARNAHAN.
- H.R. 3974: Ms. BONAMICI.
- H.R. 3991: Mr. PALAZZO.
- H.R. 4004: Ms. BONAMICI and Mr. GARDNER.
- H.R. 4029: Mr. GIBBS.
- H.R. 4045: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
- H.R. 4057: Mr. OWENS.
- H.R. 4060: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
- H.R. 4063: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
- H.R. 4070: Mr. AUSTRIA and Mr. BARROW.
- H.R. 4077: Mr. YODER.
- H.R. 4124: Mr. QUILLEY and Mr. MICHAUD.
- H.R. 4134: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. WOMACK, and Mr. SCHOCK.
- H.R. 4142: Mr. JONES.
- H.R. 4144: Ms. RICHARDSON.
- H.R. 4160: Mrs. BLACK.
- H.R. 4164: Mr. WITTMAN and Mr. FORTENBERRY.
- H.R. 4169: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. CALVERT.
- H.R. 4170: Mr. BOREN and Ms. SPEIER.
- H.R. 4199: Mr. DEUTCH.
- H.R. 4209: Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. BONNER, and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
- H.R. 4222: Mr. GOSAR.
- H.R. 4228: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SCHOCK, and Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado.
- H.R. 4232: Ms. KAPTUR.
- H.R. 4243: Mr. MARINO and Mr. SHIMKUS.
- H.R. 4256: Mr. PETERSON, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, and Mr. MANZULLO.
- H.R. 4271: Mr. BERMAN, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. BOSWELL.
- H.R. 4277: Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CLARKE of Michigan, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. FILNER, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. HAHN, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HOLT, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. OLVER, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. RUSH, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SIRES, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. STARK, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. WATERS, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mr. NEAL.
- H.R. 4278: Mr. LONG, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. MCINTYRE, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
- H.R. 4332: Mr. BURGESS.
- H.R. 4345: Mr. LATHAM.
- H.R. 4351: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
- H.R. 4367: Mr. RENACCI, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. JONES, and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.
- H.R. 4385: Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ROSS of Florida, Mrs. BLACK, Ms. JENKINS, and Mr. GOODLATTE.
- H.R. 4388: Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, and Mr. FARENTHOLD.
- H.R. 4390: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
- H.R. 4454: Mr. BARLETTA and Mrs. BLACK.
- H.R. 4470: Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. RICHARDSON.
- H.J. Res. 13: Mr. RIGELL and Mr. GOSAR.
- H.J. Res. 88: Mr. NEAL.
- H.J. Res. 103: Mr. BONNER, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
- H.J. Res. 104: Mr. FORBES.
- H. Con. Res. 63: Mr. RANGEL, Mr. LATOURETTE, and Mr. FILNER.
- H. Con. Res. 101: Mr. AMODEI and Mr. BACHUS.
- H. Con. Res. 114: Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
- H. Res. 57: Mr. STEARNS.
- H. Res. 130: Mr. CARDOZA.
- H. Res. 134: Mr. FORBES and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
- H. Res. 282: Mr. REICHERT.
- H. Res. 298: Mr. FORBES.
- H. Res. 304: Mr. HINCHEY and Mr. DEFazio.
- H. Res. 507: Mr. FLORES.
- H. Res. 583: Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. YODER, and Mr. CLAY.
- H. Res. 601: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
- H. Res. 604: Mr. TIBERI and Mr. BROUN of Georgia.
- H. Res. 608: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
- H. Res. 618: Mr. FALDOMAVAEGA and Mr. DINGELL.
- H. Res. 623: Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. BUERKLE, Mr. FLORES, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. YODER, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. PAUL, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. ROSS of Arkansas, and Mr. BOSWELL.