

make \$85,000 or \$90,000 a year, when, in fact, nothing could be further from the truth.

Now this was done I think as a way to skew the numbers to make it look like the Republican tax plan actually gave bigger tax breaks to people who were more well off than they did to people who were less well off. So when we began to analyze this, we used the more normal numbers that would be used by most anyone who is thinking about how much families make, and this chart depicts what we found when we looked at how the tax code the new tax plan will affect taxpayers in various economic groups.

For example, here is the lowest 20 percent of taxpayers on this end and the highest 20 percent of taxpayers on the other end. Now, 63 percent of the American people, under the current tax code, 63 percent are in the highest tax bracket, the highest 20 percent. And under the new tax plan, guess what, there is no change whatsoever in that number, continues to say that 63 percent of the people are still in the top tax bracket.

I will just conclude, Mr. Speaker, by saying, as we move on down, we see very clearly that there is no change whatsoever in any of the numbers as it relates to people who pay taxes and how much they pay under the new tax plan, it is the same identical amount as the old.

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REFUSES TO CONDUCT STUDY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. STRICKLAND] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, as I walked over to the Capitol tonight and saw the lights on the dome, I felt, as I always feel as I look at this magnificent structure, I felt a deep appreciation for the opportunity to serve in this place and I felt a deep responsibility to my constituents who have sent me here. To represent the people of southern Ohio I consider a sacred responsibility.

I come to the floor again tonight to talk about a little village in my district located on the Ohio River in Lawrence County, OH, a little village called Chesapeake, OH, a place where people for years have decided to build their homes and their lives on the banks of the beautiful Ohio River because they love the river, they love the environment, they love the community.

A few months ago, a large barge towing company applied to the Army Corps of Engineers for a permit to build a large fleeting facility directly across the river from Chesapeake, OH. Now, I recognize the fact that the Ohio River is a river of great commerce and that we need to utilize it to its fullest to provide jobs and transportation for coal and products. I am not against a fleeting facility, and I am not against

this particular company's location of a fleeting facility along the Ohio River.

I simply object to the fact that this facility would be permitted to be located directly across the river from Chesapeake, OH. It would greatly diminish the property values of my constituents. I believe it would provide additional safety problems, air and water pollution, perhaps soil erosion.

The Congressman before me requested that the Army Corps of Engineers require that an environmental impact statement be made and conducted before such a permit was granted. After I came to this office, I requested the Army Corps of Engineers to conduct an environmental impact study leading to an environmental impact statement.

Such a study would require the corps to look at a range of issues, certainly the commercial aspects of the permit, but also factors like quality of life, air, water and soil issues, recreational problems that may be encountered as a result of such a facility, and property values.

The corps steadfastly refused to conduct such a study. I would say that the citizens of this country would not have been required to pay for such a study, that would have been the responsibility of the corporation, a large, wealthy corporation that was asking for the permit.

Why did the Corps refuse to conduct a study? I think it is because such a study would have revealed factors which would have made it nearly impossible for them to have legitimately issued a permit. Some 2,000 of my constituents signed petitions directed to the Corps of Engineers asking them for the study.

Two Members of Congress requested such a study. And yet the Army Corps of Engineers put the well-being of a large corporation above the well-being of my constituents, of hundreds, even thousands, of the citizens who live in the vicinity of Chesapeake, Ohio. The company claimed that they would create 30 jobs. They were certainly not able to convince me, nor were they able to say with surety that these would be 30 new jobs rather than simply a consolidation of existing jobs. I am not against fleeting operations.

I am not against the barge and towing industry. In fact, I strongly and enthusiastically support the commercial use of the Ohio River. We need it to provide jobs and transport for our goods. The question is should this facility have been located directly across the river from an established community. I think any reasonable consideration of the facts would lead to the conclusion that this was an unwise decision.

The truth is that the Army Corps of Engineers ignored the representative of the people, it ignored the petitions of the people, and it decided that the well-being and the interests of a single large corporation should take priority and precedence over the well-being and

the safety of hundreds, even thousands, of my constituents.

What the Army Corps has done is wrong. Their policies and procedures need to be evaluated. I ask my constituents to continue the fight, and I ask my colleagues in this body for their assistance in righting this terrible wrong.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CHRISTENSEN). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. HERGER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HERGER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

PRESIDENT'S TAX CUT PROPOSALS BENEFIT TYPICAL AMERICAN FAMILIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it has been noted that many of us have come repeatedly to the floor of the House in trying to explain to the American people this whole debate on tax cuts. There have been an extensive amount of rhetoric, allegations of welfare deadbeats getting tax cuts, allegations that those who really work and really pay taxes would benefit under the Republican plan, but yet where are the facts?

This is so important an issue that I think, Mr. Speaker, we should continue to come and come and come so that those individuals who pay our salaries can fully appreciate the intensity of this debate, but the realism of this debate.

Just a few speakers ago, there was someone standing with a very pretty chart trying to discern between the Secretary of the Treasury's analysis and the Republican analysis. Let me, however, share with my colleagues words from the Congressional Research Service, the Library of Congress. Many of us go to libraries. We recognize that libraries have a myriad of resources. Most of all, libraries do not try to convince us of anything. They give the pros and the cons. They give the fiction and the nonfiction.

In this report, the CRS service has made a very simple analysis. No one has paid them to make a statement in favor of one versus another. But it simply says estimates by the Treasury Office of Tax Analysis suggest that these tax cuts will favor high-income individuals while certain estimates taken from the analysis of the Joint Committee on Taxation indicate the cuts will favor the middle class.

What does did CRS say? The CRS says that the Office of Tax Analysis, that is in the Secretary of the Treasury's Office, provides a more comprehensive measure, more consistent