

over the weekend. The Postal Service, who delivers mail through rain or shine or any other difficulty, are the working people of America.

That is why I ask the U.S. Postal Service to give every single postal worker gloves and surgical masks as the science dictates, to provide free testing and free treatment and free drugs if necessary to treat them as it relates to the anthrax scare. These are difficult times and America needs to invest in its people. That is why I will vote "no" for this special interest economic stimulus package that stimulates no one but corporate America. And yes, I will vote to help postal workers, and I will vote to federalize the airline security system because what America wants is a secure Nation for the working people of America and all the people of America, not a special interest economic stimulus package that serves no absolute purpose.

GOOD NEWS REGARDING MARS SPACE PROGRAM

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, we have gone through some extraordinary challenges over the past several weeks and I think it is important for us when we have some good news to point to that. We all know that this is the greatest Nation the world has ever known, and further evidence of that came this morning when we saw that the Odyssey entered the orbit of Mars. I want to extend congratulations to the wonderful people at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory that my friend the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) and I have the privilege of representing. I see the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) here in the Chamber. I know she has many constituents who work up there. They have gone through some very tough times over the past 2 years in dealing with the Mars program. This sign of success is a further demonstration of the greatness of the United States of America and the people who are working on the very important space program.

STIMULUS PACKAGE MARKS RETURN OF PARTISANSHIP

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

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the so-called economic stimulus package, a bill that truly marks the return of partisanship to our Chamber. Congress should be helping workers in need due to the aftermath of the terrorist attacks. These workers are my constituents, the hardworking men and women who make their living off the tourism industry which provides so much to our district.

Our workers want Congress to strengthen homeland security, to put

money in the pockets of unemployed workers, and to ensure our long-term economic confidence. That is exactly what the Blue Dog plan would do. Our plan deals with immediate economic concerns without damaging the Nation's fiscal health or long-term economic recovery. It would ensure resources for vital security needs, provide critical relief for laid-off workers, and maintain the fiscal discipline needed to restore long-term economic confidence and keep interest rates low.

The Republicans are putting special interest tax cuts ahead of the workers of America.

ANNOUNCING A NEW ILLINOIS POWER PLANT

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, in the days and weeks of bad news, I would like to come to the floor with some good news. On Monday, I attended an announcement of a collocated coal mine and power plant that is being planned and developed in Washington County, Illinois. Generation is planned for 2003. Construction of this facility will create approximately 1,500 jobs and then for the operation of the coal mine and the power plant another 500 jobs. These will be high-paying union jobs. This is what we and the administration hoped for in a national energy plan.

I applaud the State of Illinois for their assistance and I look forward to low-cost, reliable, clean energy for Illinois and this Nation.

AIRLINE SAFETY

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, it is a shame that we are now 42 days after the attack of September 11 and this House has done not a single thing for airline safety. Nothing. Zilch. Not one additional element of airline security. When you get on your planes next Friday to go home, it will be with the sure knowledge that 90 to 95 percent of the bags that go into the belly of your airplane are not screened for explosive devices. Those bags go in there with nothing to screen them from keeping C-4 explosives in them.

Yesterday at the airport, or 2 days ago, I got on an airplane and they took the nail clippers away from the guy next to me and that is great. But we have not done a single thing to keep C-4 explosives out of the bags. Instead, the majority party is bringing this alleged stimulus package that is going to stimulate nothing except campaign contributions. It is really too bad that we are paying more attention to the corporate financial security and no interest in airline passenger personal security.

ANTHRAX AND ECONOMIC STIMULATION

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

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to congratulate the leadership on the Democratic side and the Republican side for dealing with this anthrax issue in the House of Representatives and in the Senate. It has called for cooperation on both sides to deal with this very complicated issue. And, yes, it is affecting our legislative process. It is slowing it down. We are not able to move as fast as we want to.

On the economic stimulus package, it is not everything that any of us want. I will say this, though, that this stimulus package provides \$9 billion to States to help them respond to economic hardship in the wake of the September 11 attack. It also provides \$3 billion in fiscal 2002 to help States provide health care coverage for unemployed workers who today do not have any health care coverage.

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Obviously there are some aspects of it we do not like, but hopefully we can work those out with the Senate in the conference. So I think that this economic stimulus package is reasonable and we can work out differences with the Senate.

CORPORATE ORGY

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, the Republican Economic Security Act being voted on today is not economic stimulus; it is a corporate orgy. It is not temporary, as most economists would recommend, but a permanent corporate party at the expense of the average taxpayer.

The Republican plan does not help small and mid-sized businesses that cannot weather the storm on their own, but it does help special interests. The Republican economic plan not only provides a tax break for corporations, but a corporate tax bonus going back to 1986. Displaced, laid-off workers get no guaranteed assistance; and if they get anything, they get chicken feed.

The Republican plan is nothing but a shameless raiding of billions of dollars from the public treasury for private profit, with \$20 billion in tax benefits alone for overseas corporations of financial services companies. At a time of national urgency, when we should be here providing for the security of the American people, we should not in fact be fleecing them, and that is what this Republican plan does.

PROVIDE ECONOMIC STIMULUS TO PEOPLE WHO NEED IT

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1