

MINNESOTA STEM CELL ADVANCES

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

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, stem cell researchers at the University of Minnesota and BioE, a company in my home State, have reported that they have successfully differentiated cord blood stem cells into lung cells.

This potential breakthrough would extend the promise of stem cell research to a treatment of many respiratory conditions. And just this past February, researchers at the University of Minnesota discovered the potential application of cord blood stem cells in nerve tissue regeneration.

This research reinforces the importance of the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act we passed last year, and why we must fully fund the stem cell research it authorized.

This research out of my home State of Minnesota reminds us that stem cell research that respects life is already being used to provide astonishing miracles for devastating diseases.

OUR COUNTRY IS LIVING IN DEBT

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, during these tough economic times when Americans are paying record amounts at the pump, struggling with rising college tuition bills and facing high health care costs, many families are working hard to keep their bank balances positive and their heads above water.

These families know well the consequences of going into debt and the importance of living on a pay-as-you-go system. It is a lesson that they should teach House Republicans who have once again proposed a budget resolution that sends us spiraling even further into record debt and proposes no plan for balancing our Nation's account.

Republicans propose we continue living on credit, money borrowed from nations such as China, to whom we now owe \$257 billion. In fact, they have the audacity to propose that we even increase the debt limit for our Nation for the fifth time since this President took office.

Mr. Speaker, this shameful budget proposal is another example of how this Republican Congress failed to do what every American family must do, to live within their means.

BORDER SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION LAW ENFORCEMENT

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week President Bush laid out a plan to

strengthen our border security, and I commend him for focusing on this vital issue. There is nothing more important to me than the safety and security of this country. Border security is the starting point for ensuring that all Americans remain safe.

Don't get me wrong. I sympathize with those who wish to live the American dream. America is a Nation of immigrants, but we must never forget that we are also a Nation of laws. Immigration laws exist to provide the necessary steps for safe and legal entry into this country. And we must be able to enforce them.

Illegal immigration is a major problem that is having a very negative effect on our education, health care, Social Security, taxes, employment, wages, crime and countless other areas of our daily lives. Immigration laws exist to provide the steps for safe and legal entry into this country, and we must enforce them.

I support doing whatever it takes to secure our border and enforce our laws, including deploying members of our National Guard to our southern border. I also support denying government benefits to illegal aliens, making English our official language, and cracking down on those who knowingly hire illegal workers. However I do not support a guest worker program that has amnesty components or that leads to citizenship for those who break our laws.

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BUDGET IMPACT ON WOMEN

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

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, this morning I rise to highlight how the Republican budget resolution will harm millions of women and children around the country.

This budget makes it more difficult for young women to earn college degrees by cutting their financial aid. This budget continues to shortchange hundreds of thousands of children by freezing for the 5th year, the 5th year, the Child Care Development Block Grant.

During the President's tenure, the number of children living in poverty has actually increased and not decreased. In addition, the Republican budget resolution cuts key health programs, veterans programs, and environmental programs. These cuts, as you know, will hurt our American families when they are feeling the pain the most, when they have to pay higher gas prices. All their bills are going up. Health care costs are out of bounds.

H. Con. Res. 376 will actually increase the Nation's deficit, does nothing to balance the budget, and adds to the crushing national debt.

I urge my colleagues to support the Democratic budget substitute and vote "no" on this immoral and irresponsible Republican budget resolution.

REPLACE IMPORTED OIL WITH DOMESTIC BIOFUELS

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

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, our Nation is addicted to oil, and it is a national security issue.

The fact that two-thirds of the oil that we consume is imported puts us at risk. Today left-wing autocrats like Venezuela's Hugo Chavez have told us very clearly they plan to use oil as a political weapon against the United States.

There is a reason we have \$3 gasoline. It is time that we replace imported oil with domestic, homegrown biofuels like ethanol and biodiesel.

Last year's energy bill was a good start, doubling the biofuels that we consume from 4 billion to 7.6 billion gallons by the year 2011. That is why today there are 26 organizations in Illinois planning to move forward to build ethanol plants, five in the district that I represent alone. But that only represents 2.5 percent of all the fuel that we consume; so we need to do more.

I urge this House to move forward on an aggressive plan to replace imported oil with the homegrown biofuels. The Biofuels Act of 2006 accomplishes that goal. Let us pass it. Let us move it now.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET PUTS U.S. FURTHER IN DEBT TO OTHER NATIONS

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, instead of offering a plan to bring us out of debt, the Republican budget actually makes the deficit worse. This is fiscal irresponsibility, and that means that we will continue to borrow billions of dollars from other nations.

Today we owe Japan \$682 billion; China, \$249 billion; the Caribbean nations, \$115 billion; Korea, \$66 billion; and OPEC, that is right, the oil-producing nations we rely on so heavily to fuel our vehicles, we owe \$67 billion.

Washington Republicans have been so fiscally irresponsible that President Bush has now borrowed more money from other nations than all other 42 predecessors combined. And they are not done. They plan to borrow more because they stuck another debt limit increase in the budget.

Mr. Speaker, this does not sound like a record anyone would be proud of. No wonder that so many Republicans are skittish about supporting it.

The Democratic plan balances the budget in 5 years and restores pay-as-you-go that worked so well in the 1990s.

THE MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

(Mrs. MYRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1