

of displaced American workers. She was a proud mother who wanted nothing more than to see her daughters attend college, and she did. Donna understood something elemental: that when you protect workers' rights, you strengthen families, you strengthen communities.

Mr. Speaker, today, let us say thank you to Donna Kammritz for her gifts, for her selfless dedication and for her love of the things that we hold so dear. May her inspiration live on in all of our work.

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UNITY NEEDED ON SECURITY

(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, America is at a critical time in moving forward with our efforts in the fight against the global war on terror, and it is time for this House to act.

In the coming days this House will consider legislation to ensure that we can try terrorists in military tribunals and military commissions while protecting America's most vital secrets. That legislation will also give those brave Americans who confront suspected terrorists on the front lines of the war on terror and those who interrogate them with the guidance on what they can do to protect our citizens.

We will also be considering legislation that will officially sanction the NSA's terrorist surveillance program that is critical, absolutely critical, to help keep our Nation safe.

Mr. Speaker, we have not been attacked here at home since the horrific attacks on our Nation of 9/11 in large measure because these programs have worked. I ask the Democrats to put aside their partisan posturing and to join with us in protecting America.

The Democrats must recognize that we are at war against terrorists, and that their political rhetoric and demagoguery in search of votes will not make America more secure. They have an opportunity to join us, and I sincerely hope they do so. The security of our Nation depends on it.

AMERICA DESERVES A NEW DIRECTION ON ENERGY POLICIES

(Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, hardworking Americans are stretched thin. Under the Republican majority, their wages have remained stagnant, while their day-to-day expenses have all increased: health insurance, childcare, tuition, housing, energy bills.

Energy costs have skyrocketed, whether at the pump, at home or in business. Americans are paying more,

and they are looking to Congress for relief. They are asking, demanding, that we work to reduce these costs, reduce dependence on foreign oil and make our Nation more secure. They are looking for a new direction.

Democrats have responded and Democrats have a plan. Democrats will double the production of renewable fuels like ethanol and biodiesel; Democrats will increase accessibility to renewable fuels at the pumps; and Democrats will aggressively invest in the future to assure their energy needs are not tied to the whims of unfriendly nations in the Middle East. Our plan will reduce costs for American consumers, and it will make this Nation safer. It is smart, and it is common sense.

What have the Republicans done? They have given away billions to the oil industry. America deserves a 21st century solution to energy needs, not oil industry handouts.

Mr. Speaker, America deserves a new direction.

THE REAL GUANTANAMO BAY

(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, listening to critics talk about the treatment of terrorist detainees at Guantanamo Bay, one may believe these trained murderers are not properly treated.

I have visited Gitmo twice and can attest that their living conditions are to the highest standards of a first-class American detention facility. In fact, more money is spent on food for the detainees than on the U.S. troops there. Instead of deprivation, the terrorists have gained weight on the nutritious diet.

Detainees have received medical care. In the prison hospital I toured last year, these detainees received 35 teeth cleanings, 91 filled cavities and 174 pairs of glasses.

With legal, strenuous interrogation, the terrorists from the battlefield have revealed bombing cells across the world, they have explained their ability to finance murder, and they have uncovered recruiting efforts of more homicide bombers.

Our troops at Guantanamo deserve praise and credit for protecting American families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

RESTORING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR THE FORGOTTEN MIDDLE CLASS

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

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, President Bush and the congressional Republicans are failing America's middle class again. This is nothing new.

Millions of Americans are struggling paycheck to paycheck, and falling deeper in debt.

Under Republican rule, the rich are getting much richer, while the middle class are helpless to stop the decline in their purchasing power. America's companies are recording their best profits in over four decades, while wages remain stagnant for the overwhelming majority of middle-class workers. Workers are behind those record corporate profits, but the workers are left behind sharing the gains.

The middle class deserves a pay raise, but Washington Republicans pay no attention to the needs of real Americans. They can't raise the minimum wage. They are too busy working for the rich.

For 5 straight years, Republicans have said to the middle class, You don't count. We have got rising college costs, skyrocketing health care costs, crippling energy costs, but no help from the Republicans.

The Democrats offer a new direction for America. Democrats will restore economic opportunity and economic stability for the forgotten middle class. In November, the middle class is going to get taken care of by the new direction of the Democrats.

THE WHITE FLAG

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

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, the White House recently released a new report detailing our Nation's updated strategy for combating terrorism and winning the war against Islamic extremists. The report underscores the importance of our national security and our fight both in arms and ideas.

This is a battle to preserve freedom and civilization from tyranny and barbarism, from Baghdad to Beirut to Tehran, Islamic extremists importing weapons from rogue regimes and exporting terrorism around the world.

Mr. Speaker, while the Republicans are committed to spreading our message of hope and liberty in a region torn by violence and extremism, the left is advocating and continuing to advocate a policy of cut and run. The central difference between Republicans and Democrats is that we want to fight, and they want to wave the white flag.

Mr. Speaker, the last time I checked, white flags aren't bulletproof.

BUSH ECONOMY IS NOT BENEFITING AMERICA'S GREAT MIDDLE CLASS

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

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, for 6 years now, the middle-class families in the United States have been sold out by the leadership here in Washington.

Wages are worse than stagnant. Families are paying more for energy, health care and education, and yet real household income for working-age families has declined every year of the Bush administration, dropping nearly \$3,000 in real terms. Personal debt is at the highest in many years, and America's debt has climbed 50 percent, to more than \$28,000 per person since Bush took office, and will double to more than \$11 trillion.

I wonder if Americans realize that Republican leadership has stubbornly and consistently refused to accept Democratic calls to have pay-as-you-go budgets. The Democratic leadership would take our Nation in a new direction and begin to repair the economy for regular middle-class American families.

BREAST CANCER PATIENT PROTECTION ACT

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1849, the Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act introduced by my colleague from New York, Congresswoman SUE KELLY.

Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in women today. This legislation requires health care providers to cover hospital expenses for breast cancer patients undergoing a mastectomy or lumpectomy.

In my home State of Florida, it is estimated that over 13,000 new cases of breast cancer in women will be diagnosed this year, and that over 2,500 women will die of this disease. It is our duty to reduce these numbers, both in Florida and nationwide, by ensuring medical coverage for these lifesaving procedures. I urge my colleagues to join the fight against breast cancer by supporting this and other crucial pieces of legislation.

A PLEA FOR THE SURVIVAL OF THE PEOPLE OF DARFUR

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

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to plead for the survival of the people of Darfur. Despite a peace agreement signed in May and the U.N. Security Council's approval for a peace-keeping force of 20,000 last month, Darfur is descending into chaos.

Twelve years ago the world stood by as ethnic war erupted in nearby Rwanda. One hundred days later, 800,000 bodies, hacked to death by machetes, had piled up in the streets and rivers. Without swift intervention, Darfur may soon erupt into a scene as deadly. Today's poorly trained and equipped African Union Force can only watch the chaos unfold. When they leave in a week, they must be replaced by a U.N.

force that can protect the Darfuri people from slaughter.

Sudan must allow the U.N. peacekeepers to end the government-sponsored genocide. President Bush must decisively lead the international community for this effort to succeed. The U.N. force must have the training, the equipment and the mandate to stop the slaughter and punish the slaughterers. The world must not deploy another force that will simply bear witness to the slaughter of innocents.

AMERICANS DESERVE REAL IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, you know, all Americans know if you are here legally, you ought to be rewarded. If you are here illegally, you ought to be deported.

My constituents constantly complain to me that illegal immigration is a huge problem. Local officials have used the so-called "catch-and-release" policy when they apprehend an illegal immigrant. Really, that person should be sent to jail. Why would we want someone who was just picked up by the police and is here illegally still out in the community and potentially free to flee? That just doesn't make any sense.

It is time America totally ends catch-and-release policy when it comes to illegal immigration. Texans and all Americans want, need and deserve real immigration reform.

PROVIDING A NEW DIRECTION ON ECONOMIC SECURITY ISSUES

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

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep concern about the economic crisis facing American families under the failed policies of the Republican leadership.

Housing construction has plunged to the lowest level in more than 3 years. In fact, many families in my district can't even make their mortgage payments anymore. The average cost of food supplies is increasing, just like the increase in electricity bills.

In my home State of California, gas prices have doubled in the past 5 years to well over \$3.50 in my district. Families with two cars in Los Angeles will pay an extra \$2,330 per year for gas. That is higher than it was 5 years ago. The increase in gas prices will cost Los Angeles drivers an extra \$9.2 billion this year alone.

Real wages have not kept up with increased costs as well. In Los Angeles, workers there only make 84 cents on the dollar. In East Los Angeles, in my district, the unemployment rate is currently 7.1 percent, compared to 4.9 percent for all of California.

America's working families need a new direction, one that works for everybody and doesn't discriminate depending on where you live, instead of one that rewards the very wealthy at our expense.

SUPPORT THE FEDERAL ELECTION INTEGRITY ACT OF 2006

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

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give advance notice of a bill that will be coming up today, and I certainly appeal for your support for that bill.

There are very few things in this life that I hate, but one that I hate is dishonesty, particularly dishonesty in voting. I am very eager to make certain that every vote taken in this country is legitimate, is properly cast and properly counted, so that all citizens can be assured their vote will be counted and not be diluted by others who vote illegally.

With that in mind, our committee, the Committee on House Administration, has taken up H.R. 4844, a bill proffered by the gentleman from Illinois Mr. (HYDE). This bill will be coming up today.

It is very simple. It simply requires by the year 2008, in every Federal election, every voter will have to display a photo ID. That is not a bad requirement. You already have to show it to cash a check, to get on an airplane or to buy cigarettes or alcohol. It is not at all a difficult proposition. By the year 2010, that photo ID will also have to have something on it that shows that the voter is a citizen.

With those two improvements, I believe we can go a long way to get rid of fraud in our electoral process.

DEMOCRATS WORK TO FILL THE DOUGHNUT HOLE SO SENIORS DON'T LOSE DRUG COVERAGE

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, there is an old saying that goes, if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Well, just the opposite is true when it comes to the Republican prescription drug plan that is seriously broken. We must fix it.

This week, the average American senior will be denied payment of their drug costs through the private plans they have selected because they have fallen into the so-called doughnut hole. Under the Republican plan, seniors lose drug coverage after they have spent \$2,250 in out-of-pocket costs, and they won't be eligible for more assistance until they have spent \$5,100 for the year.

It is expected that more than half of the seniors who fall into the doughnut hole will not be able to escape it. This