

stay the course in Iraq with an open-ended commitment and no questions asked. This stay-the-course strategy has strained our military, compromised our readiness, cost nearly 2,700 American lives and almost \$400 billion, and diverted attention and resources away from the real war on terror.

Stay the course is not a strategy, and it is not working. Republicans refuse to face the fact that the reality on the ground is that we are not winning. We have no end game plan.

Today, we are bogged down in the middle of a civil war, one where 100 people are killed every day. From May 20 through August 11, the average number of attacks per week against Americans and Iraqis was 792, the highest number since the war began.

Meanwhile, the war in Iraq is distracting us from the overall global threat of terror. Over the past 3 years while we have been fighting in Iraq, the number of worldwide terrorist attacks have grown dramatically and the Taliban is growing in strength in Afghanistan.

The President has to stop looking and face the facts.

#### PRESIDENT BUSH AND GOP OUT OF TOUCH ON THE ECONOMIC CONCERNS OF AMERICANS

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

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, President Bush and the congressional Republicans refuse to face reality when it comes to the economic conditions the American middle class and working poor now face. Despite all the evidence to the contrary, President Bush continues to contend that things are good for American workers.

Just what numbers is he looking at? Surely, it cannot be the economic numbers that show average workers today are making \$3,000 less than they did 5 years ago, if you adjust for inflation.

The President must also be ignoring numbers showing that wages and salaries now make up the lowest proportion of the economy since the government began taking records back in 1947. While wages have been stagnant, corporate profits have climbed to their highest levels since the 1960s.

Mr. Speaker, that last fact must be the one that the President is referring to when he touts the economy. It may be working well for the President's wealthy special-interest friends who are forcing their workers to be more productive without allowing them to share in the profits. Is this really fair?

Democrats believe we need to take our economy in a new direction, one that looks out for all Americans, not just the privileged few.

#### AMERICANS KNOW WE CAN DO BETTER

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

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Speaker, probably the most frequent fear facing a family each month is paying bills. Even families with income above minimum wage struggle. Nothing pays family bills but money. Nothing is better for bringing in money than a good job with a good wage.

For the last several years, our country has not been moving in the right direction: no change in the minimum wage; the numbers of uninsured substantially increased; tuition for technical schools going up; tuition for colleges substantially increased without an appreciable increase in Pell Grants and the GI bill.

We must do better. Americans know we can do better.

#### THIS ADMINISTRATION MUST CHANGE DIRECTION ON AVIATION SECURITY

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, 5 years and 9 days after 9/11 our system of aviation security is not yet done. In fact, today, a USA Today headline: "Crisis Seen in Luggage Screening." We still do not have inline, integrated state-of-the-art baggage screening in the largest majority of U.S. airports. People would be appalled if they saw what went on behind the scenes that is supposedly providing for security.

But the Bush administration has said consistently for 5 years, we cannot afford to make flying safe and to screen cargo and baggage; we cannot afford it.

If they just would forgo the tax cuts for 1 year for wealthy investors, exempting their dividend taxes from a normal rate of taxation, we could put this equipment in every airport in America. But guess what? Those rich people do not care. They are flying on the private jets and the Bush people are flying on their military flights, so they do not really care about the American public and their security.

But this is a crisis and we cannot afford to continue to ignore what we need to do, what we need to invest to make the American flying public safe.

This administration must change direction or we must change the leadership in Congress.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4844, FEDERAL ELECTION INTEGRITY ACT OF 2006

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1015 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1015

*Resolved*, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without inter-

vention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4844) to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require any individual who desires to register or re-register to vote in an election for Federal office to provide the appropriate State election official with proof that the individual is a citizen of the United States to prevent fraud in Federal elections, and for other purposes. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on House Administration now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

#### UNFUNDED MANDATE POINT OF ORDER

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 426 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, I make a point of order against consideration of the rule, H. Res. 1015.

Section 425 of the same act states that a point of order lies against the legislation which, number one, imposes an unfunded mandate in excess of the annual amount specified in that section against State or local governments; or two, does not publish prior to floor consideration a CBO estimate of any unfunded mandates in excess of the amounts specified annually for State and local entities or in excess of the amount specified annually for the private sector.

Section 426 of the Budget Act specifically states that the Rules Committee may not waive this point of order.

On page 1, line 2, and on page 2, line 1, of H. Res. 1015, all points of order are waived against consideration of H.R. 4844, the Federal Election Integrity Act of 2006. Therefore, I make a point of order that this rule may not be considered pursuant to section 426.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). The gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) makes a point of order that the resolution violates section 426(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

In accordance with section 426(b)(2) of the act, the gentleman has met the threshold burden to identify the specific language in the resolution on which the point of order is predicated.

Under section 426(b)(4) of the act, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) and the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) each will control 10 minutes of debate on the question of consideration.

Pursuant to section 426(b)(3) of the act, after that debate the Chair will put the question of consideration, to wit: "Will the House now consider the resolution?"

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

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

Republicans want to erect a fence around the right of the American people to vote. They have offered a bill