

Madam Speaker, the May jobs report should serve as a wake-up call to President Bush and congressional Republicans to support our efforts to extend unemployment insurance.

URGING THE PRESIDENT TO DECLARE AN EXPEDITED MAJOR DISASTER AREA IN THE STATE OF INDIANA

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, across Indiana, Hoosiers are picking up the pieces from a week of extraordinary weather. My own hometown of Columbus is in the midst of a cleanup of the worst flooding since the Great Flood of 1913, and I come to the floor today to urge the President of the United States to take immediate action and declare an expedited major disaster area in the State of Indiana as a result of these severe storms, tornadoes and torrential downpour.

Following the harsh impact of tornadoes 1 week ago today, on Saturday parts of my district experienced approximately 10 inches of rain in a matter of hours. This is more rainfall than Hoosiers typically see in 2 months during this time of year, and the results have been catastrophic.

I commend the President for his action on Sunday evening speeding relief to community governments, but this government must act and act now to bring relief to Hoosier families, small businesses and family farms. We need additional declarations like those requested by Governor Mitch Daniels of the President, support from FEMA and the Department of Agriculture, and we need it now.

Hoosier families and communities are hurting, and they deserve to know that help is on the way. I urge this administration and all of my colleagues to focus their attention on this urgent Midwestern need for emergency relief.

CONGRATULATING SHAWN JOHNSON: 2007 WORLD GYMNASTIC CHAMPION; 2008 NATIONAL CHAMPION

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

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, last November I stood here to congratulate a native of Iowa, a young woman from our district who has demonstrated amazing discipline and spirit of American ambition. In September of 2007, Shawn Johnson won the 2007 World Artistic Gymnastic Championship. She is one of four American women to hold this esteemed title.

Today, I congratulate Shawn on her most recent win. On Saturday, June 7, Shawn successfully defended her title as the National Champion in women's gymnastics. Next weekend she will

compete in Philadelphia for a spot on the elite six-member U.S. Women's Olympic Gymnastic Team.

Shawn not only exudes the hard work necessary to achieve her dreams, but also the character of a natural role model. Even with all her gold medals and new-found fame, Shawn continues to compete with humble pride and gratitude.

I thank Shawn for all of the wonderful things she has done around the State of Iowa and the Nation. Since winning the world championship, she has used her fame to bring awareness to breast cancer and other cancers that affect women.

Once again, Shawn, congratulations on winning the National Championship again, and good luck in Philadelphia.

REPUBLICANS ARE READY TO ACT ON ENERGY NEEDS

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, my constituents and Americans are asking, where is the bill? When will House Democrats bring forward a real plan for families being hammered by record gas prices?

Today, the majority will spend hours considering no less than 10 nonbinding resolutions. Yet this Democrat Congress will do nothing, nothing, about outrageous energy prices. We fill the day with recognitions and commemorations, but there is no urgency for struggling Americans.

It is shameful that with energy prices rising 70 percent on their watch, House Democrats remain stubbornly opposed to offering any ideas to increase supply and lower gas prices. All we see from this majority is brazen neglect.

Republicans, on the other hand, have brought forward an energy action plan. We are ready to act. We are ready to increase American-made energy resources. We are ready to provide a broad mix of energy options. We are ready to streamline regulations allowing for increasing refining capacity. We are ready to help.

Madam Speaker, we are ready. Americans are begging to know, when will this Democrat majority be?

THE TROUBLED STATE OF OUR WORLD'S OCEANS

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about the troubled state of our world's oceans. Last month, I attended an ocean science summit in Monterey, California. Also there were State and Federal policymakers and scientists concerned about our oceans and the lack of attention our Federal Government has given them.

This year's summit marked the 10-year anniversary of the Year of the Ocean and the oceans conference in Monterey attended by President Clinton and Vice President Gore. In the intervening 10 years, the Federal Government has done little to address the oceans' growing problems, ranging from overfishing to pollution to coastal development and global warming. California and Massachusetts have had to step into the breach, but problems as big as our oceans can't be addressed by a few States.

Fortunately, there is a solution. Oceans 21, introduced by Representative FARR and moving through the Natural Resources Committee now, establishes a national oceans policy and a framework for national and regional management of our shared ocean resources.

I strongly urge my colleagues to sponsor Oceans 21. Join us, and help provide stewardship for this vast resource and protect it for future generations.

REMEMBERING THE HEROES OF WORLD WAR II

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, 64 years ago this week, my father and approximately 2 million of his fellow soldiers from the United States, Great Britain, and Canada were moving into the area of France, which began the liberation of Europe. Sixty-four years ago they sacrificed in ways almost unimaginable for us. Had they not done that, had they not succeeded, we would not enjoy the freedoms we have today.

Yet it was little remarked nor remembered on the pages of our newspapers across our country and on our television sets. And the fact of the matter is these brave, gentle warriors are dying at over 1,000 a day. We soon will not have the opportunity to thank them for the sacrifices they made.

So today as we deal with these problems that face us, let us remember that America has always been a can-do country. We have never shirked from challenges. We have figured out how to do it. And remember in the words of those people in that movie not too long ago, to ask ourselves what our fathers asked themselves; are we worthy? Did we lead a good life? Did we do what we had to do?

DEMOCRATS ARE FIGHTING TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF VETERANS

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

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, while the Iraq war has stretched our military thin and our troops continue to struggle with multiple deployments,

House Democrats are fighting to improve the lives of soldiers when they return home.

Last month we passed a new and improved GI Bill that restores the promise of a full 4-year college scholarship. The original GI Bill sparked economic growth and expansion in America after World War II. This new bill will be an integral part of rebuilding our failing economy. It will also make military service more attractive and improve the quality of recruits as we work to strengthen our military. The new GI Bill goes further than current law, which only covers a small portion of public and private college education.

Madam Speaker, the education of our Nation's veterans should be considered a cost of the war which they rightfully have earned after completing their military service.

Madam Speaker, the U.S. has never gone wrong when it properly invests in education and rewards our veterans. I would only hope that President Bush would reconsider his opposition to the new GI Bill. It is the right thing to do for both our military and our economy.

DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY NEEDS NEW ENERGY POLICY NOW

(Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, with high gas prices soaring, moms and dads across East Tennessee and across America are struggling to put a budget together at the kitchen table. They are worried how they are going to pay for their health care, how they are going to buy enough gas to get their kids to school, how they are going to pay for their children's education.

Families and small businesses across America are hurting. Earl Humphreys, for example, in Bristol, Tennessee, owns Lawn Boyz Lawn Care Service. He has told me he may have to go out of business.

It is time for solutions, time for no more excuses. High gas prices are not only an economic security issue, they are a national security issue. We are too dependent on foreign countries, countries that hate us and hate our freedoms and, quite frankly, hate our religion.

We need an energy policy now. I call on the Democrat majority to offer legislation that will provide for lower gas prices, better economic security, better national security, and I ask them to do it now. We need to use American energy. We need solutions.

REPUBLICAN LEADERS OPPOSE EFFORTS TO LOWER RECORD HIGH GAS PRICES AT THE PUMP

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

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, for 7 years now, Washington Republicans

have allowed Big Oil to run our Nation's energy policy. From the very first days of this administration, Vice President CHENEY was meeting in secret with energy executives to develop its energy proposal. Today we see the results of that secret policy that was approved by a rubber-stamp Republican Congress. When President Bush took office, the average price of gas was \$1.47. Today, it has more than doubled to an average hovering around \$4.

Since taking control of Congress last year, Democrats have rejected the failed Republican policies that are responsible for these record high prices. We are working to lower prices by cracking down on price gouging, holding OPEC accountable for price fixing, repealing subsidies for profit-rich oil companies, and instead investing in renewable energy.

Each of these efforts have received some partisan support, but the Republican leadership of this House and the President continue to oppose our efforts.

RESPONSIBLE ENERGY POLICY NEEDED

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, today America is drilling for ice on Mars, yet we cannot drill for oil in America. We have billions of gallons of crude oil in America that we can't even tap into because of a failed policy by the majority. We can't drill for oil. Just yesterday, I filled up my car and paid \$3.99.9 a gallon.

It is crazy that we can't drill for oil. We have to have responsible energy policy that gives us more supply. It is not about wind or electricity or taxing oil. The Democrats want to put a 50 cents a gallon tax on every gallon of diesel and gasoline in America. That is insane. That is not energy policy.

We have to drill for oil now. We have to streamline the permitting process for refineries. We have to supply more gas to people. It is a national security policy, it is an economic policy that we cannot continue that the majority has given us today. We need a responsible energy policy.

DEMOCRATS TAKE ACTION ON RECORD HIGH GAS PRICES AT THE PUMP

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, as the price of gas continues to hit record highs almost every day, House Democrats continue to work on passing legislation that creates a cleaner and smarter energy policy that will provide consumers some real relief.

This year, the House has passed nine bills, many of which the President has

vetoed, that should help lower prices at the pump.

Last month we passed a final farm bill that makes an historic investment in expanding biofuel production, largely from non-food crops such as cornstalks, wood chips and switchgrass. The bill also provides support to farmers growing energy crops and entrepreneurs building refineries to convert biomass into fuel. Without biofuels, gasoline prices would be about 50 cents higher per gallon than they are right now.

The farm bill should be going to the President's desk any day now, but he plans to veto it. Fortunately, we should have enough bipartisan support to override that veto when the bill comes back to Congress.

Madam Speaker, investing in biofuels is critical to our energy future. The farm bill is just one more example of how this Democratic Congress is working to lower prices at the pump.

□ 1030

INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF OIL AT HOME

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, President Bush recently went to Saudi Arabia to ask the gulf kingdom to increase its oil production to help bring down gas prices. Instead of flying all the way to the Middle East, perhaps he should have made the short trip down Pennsylvania Avenue for a visit with Congress to ask the lawmakers here to increase the supply of oil right here at home.

According to the Department of Interior, 86 billion barrels of oil are available in the Outer Continental Shelf, added to the 53 billion barrels available in land. According to the Bureau of Land Management, we have 139 billion barrels of oil right here at home. That's more than the oil-rich countries like Kuwait, Venezuela and Russia have. Last year we imported over 6 billion gallons of refined gasoline into the United States.

One might ask, considering these numbers, why aren't we attempting to access more of our fuel right here at home? The Democrat leaders have a roadblock to every bill to drill for oil, natural gas, shale oil, right here in the U.S.

How long is it going to take them to learn?

AMERICAN FAMILIES ARE PAYING THE PRICE

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

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, today American families are paying the price for 7 years of failed economic policies