

excuse to allow further encroachment of government in our lives. Let us seize this moment in time to secure our liberties by limiting our government. More government, more taxes, more spending of the people's money will not solve our challenges. Securing liberty will.

The United States of America is the greatest country on the face of the planet, but liberty, not bigger government, will allow us to prosper.

TAXPAYER DOLLARS MUST BE SPENT WITH ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

(Mr. LEE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, taxpayer dollars must be spent with accountability and transparency. To date, the Troubled Asset Relief Program, commonly known as TARP, has failed to meet the commonsense standard of fiscal responsibility.

TARP was established last fall as an emergency plan to prop up the ailing financial markets, but, today, we have far more questions than answers. Taxpayers have already lost \$64 billion on the first round of investments made through TARP. The new administration has asked this Congress to double down on TARP and rubber stamp another \$350 billion without credible assurance of future results.

With a \$1.2 trillion deficit on the books and a nearly \$1 trillion stimulus package looming, these are resources we cannot afford to spend without responsible oversight.

Western New York's economy is in a perilous state. What we need right now is swift bipartisan action that creates jobs and spurs future economic growth, not another bloated Washington program that overpromises and underdelivers.

I hope my colleagues will reject any attempt to rubber stamp the TARP Program and ensure taxpayer dollars are spent wisely, not wastefully.

CONGRATULATING OUR NATION'S 44TH PRESIDENT, BARACK OBAMA

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join in congratulating our Nation's 44th President, Barack Obama, on his inauguration. This is truly a historic moment for our Nation.

We are all Americans first and, as Republicans, stand ready and willing to work with the President in restoring economic growth, creating jobs, restoring physical integrity and protecting our Nation's security.

In the weeks and months ahead, we will surely have honest differences on what the best direction is for us as a country.

But all of us start this Congress with tremendous hope for President

Obama's success. Madam Speaker, some of us grew up at a time of segregation and division in our Nation. But with President Obama's election and inauguration as President, all of us better understand what Dr. King told us when he said, "Occasionally in life there are those moments of unutterable fulfillment which cannot be completely explained by those symbols called words. Their meanings can only be articulated by the inaudible language of the heart."

WILLING AND READY TO WORK TOGETHER

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

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Madam Speaker, yesterday was an absolutely glorious day. We watched the peaceful transfer of power from one President to the next. Standing there, I had the great honor of looking out at millions of my fellow countrymen and women who came together to stand there beside our great memorials to watch this event.

Everything went so beautifully that I felt that I wanted to thank those who were involved in making the process happen. I would like to thank all of the security that came and the men and women here who work every single day as our guards and our fire department and others who committed themselves to such a day.

So it was a day to celebrate and, certainly, we have turned a page in history. And we are willing and ready to work together to move this Nation forward.

DESIGNEE FOR SECRETARY OF TREASURY POSES PROBLEM

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

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, as Members of the House of Representatives, we don't get a vote on confirmation of Cabinet appointments. But at the same time, that does not absolve us of the responsibility to speak out when we see a problem and, currently, the designee for the Secretary of the Treasury poses an enormous problem for this House and for the Senate.

Now, Madam Speaker, my constituents have trouble with taxes, just as all of our constituents have trouble with taxes, and sometimes they get into real difficulty. But it doesn't, it doesn't absolve them of their obligation to pay their taxes and their interest and their fines because, of course, we have many thousands of people who paid their taxes honestly. I speak to you about that as someone who ran their own business and had to pay payroll taxes.

Whether this was a mistake or an evasion, yesterday, when President Obama spoke about a call to service but also underscored a call to com-

petence, mistake or evasion, it certainly doesn't underscore either.

HONORING DR. DAVID LAND FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

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

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Dr. David Land, a gracious contributor to the Third District of Arkansas, who passed away earlier this year.

Dr. Land was the superintendent of Omaha schools for more than 22 years, but he wasn't just an administrator. He was a mentor and a friend to the staff and students who knew him as "Doc." Doc spent his life as an educator and showed that actions do speak louder than words. He fixed tiles in the cafeteria, jump-started students' cars, drove the bus to field trips and wrote grants for the small school district. These actions weren't out of the ordinary for this extraordinary man.

He was named the Arkansas Rural Association's 2005 Northwest Arkansas Superintendent of the Year. Doc spent his life as an administrator, but it wasn't just a job, it was something that he loved.

When a friend talked to him and asked about retirement, Doc said, "What else would I do? This is my life."

Madam Speaker, Doc will certainly be missed. I thank my colleagues for the opportunity to honor and celebrate the life of this wonderful man.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

□ 1230

OBSERVING THE BIRTHDAY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 73) observing the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., and encouraging the people of the United States to observe the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., and the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 73

Whereas Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Junior, was born January 15, 1929;