

by millions and millions of dollars in every part of the country.

The bill directly undermines key welfare reforms passed by Congress in the nineties that got people off welfare and back to work. In fact, under provisions in the bill, States are actually incentivized to put more people on welfare.

Not to mention the pork: \$4.8 million for a polar bear exhibit, \$3 million for golf carts, \$150 million for honey bee insurance, and on and on.

This isn't much about creating jobs; it is massive government spending. First the bailout, now the so-called stimulus. Enough is enough.

□ 1015

#### COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. BACA. I believe that the stimulus package is very important for working families. And we must pass this bill on behalf of the American people. But our Nation is in desperate need of comprehensive immigration reform, as well. Politicians have used the immigration issue as white noise for every important bill that is brought up here in the House. We can keep dancing around the problems. We need real reform with border enforcement that also addresses the 14 million undocumented people living here in this country.

Just yesterday, The Washington Post reported that local counties in the area are stepping up their collaboration with ICE. This will only be creating more fear and dividing our communities and our families. This is why we cannot use a wide brush to paint a solution to deal with the immigration issues. We must not forget that we're talking about families, not just numbers and statistics.

I urge my colleagues to help these families and join me in working towards real comprehensive immigration reform. I ask President Obama and Speaker NANCY PELOSI to address this issue of comprehensive immigration.

#### DEFENDING THE PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO KNOW

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

Mr. PENCE. Today Congress will begin to consider, under the guise of stimulus, what will amount to the largest spending bill since the Second World War. As millions of Americans have come to realize, this spending bill is not so much about creating jobs as it is about creating more government and more debt. Senator CHUCK SCHUMER referred to the "porky" elements of this bill. And we're learning about millions of dollars for golf carts. And this morning we learned about millions of dollars to protect San Francisco mice.

But I don't rise this morning to debate the bill, Madam Speaker, so much as to defend the public's right to know. Just a few short days ago, Congress unanimously voted to post the so-called stimulus bill on the Internet for 48 hours to let the American people judge for themselves. I rise to challenge my colleagues in the Democrat majority, slow this process down. Post this bill on the Internet. Let the American people see this so-called stimulus bill in all of its details and they can decide whether we're creating jobs or just more government and more debt.

#### SCHOOL FUNDING

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

Mr. WALZ. Madam Speaker, you hear everyone in this body talking about strengthening our economy, leading in innovation and creating that entrepreneurial spirit. But to do this, there is one thing we must do to ensure a solid base for our economic future, and that is to provide the best education possible for our children.

Like most States, my State of Minnesota is facing a severe budget crisis. Without Federal assistance, the largest community in my district, Rochester, Minnesota, will have to cut up to 35 teachers. That is home of the famous Mayo Clinic, which is also a place that uses research on mice to cure some of the most debilitating diseases in this country. What it means to our local schools is that students will get less time to become those researchers of the future and less attention from their teachers.

I recently watched a video from my district from the United South Central Schools showing children entering a crumbling literally 1932 building. I know in my 20 years of teaching, children do much better when they're in a safe and efficient environment. We're going to get the opportunity to invest in America's future, to invest in that economy and to invest in those children. The stabilization money will do exactly that. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" for America's future.

#### OPPOSE THE STIMULUS PLAN

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

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I'm acutely aware that many folks in the Ninth Congressional District of Missouri are hurting. They're contacting me every day about the challenges they're facing. They're worried about keeping their jobs and providing for their families. But those same people are telling me that this so-called "stimulus package" is not the answer. I'm hearing from 49 percent of my people that are saying "no" to this massive spending bill. And the other 51 percent are saying "heck no."

It is time to cut up our Nation's taxpayer-funded credit card and get our

fiscal house in order. The Republican alternative plan creates twice as many jobs at half the cost. There is a better plan. The people of the Ninth Congressional District of Missouri sent me here to make tough decisions on their behalf. They also sent me here to make good decisions. That is why I simply refuse to spend taxpayer money irresponsibly. And I refuse to saddle our citizens and families with more debt.

#### VOTE FOR THE STIMULUS BILL

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, on this day of celebration and commemoration of the 200th birthday of Abraham Lincoln, a man of conviction and conscience and patriotism, I'm proud to be able to say that this Congress will have a historic opportunity to put their special interests aside and vote for the American people. Vote for the 3 to 4 million jobs saved or made. Vote for the 269,000 jobs that were made in the State of Texas. Vote for the 7,000-plus jobs in the 18th Congressional District in Houston. Vote for the opportunity to modernize and repair our schools, to ensure that the broken roads and freeways will be repaired and to put men to work such as the gentleman that I met in my district in an unemployment office who had 17 years of experience in heavy equipment and couldn't find a job. Vote for those who need a more improved medical system. And vote for those who want extensive research in renewable energy.

I'm proud to stand alongside of the history of Abraham Lincoln, the history that points to others and not to self. Voting for this bill recognizes the needs of Americans who are outside the Beltway begging for us to do something. I'm proud to stand with them.

#### LINCOLN MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, on the 200th birthday of our great President, Abraham Lincoln, I rise to pay tribute to his accomplishments. But primarily I want to tell my colleagues and others about Tennessee's great Lincoln Memorial University.

General Howard, President Lincoln's main military adviser, said the President told him that the people of east Tennessee had been loyal to the Union, and he wanted to form a school for them. Remembering Lincoln's words, General Howard formed LMU in 1897. Today, the university is reaching new heights. It has the Nation's newest medical school, and it is in the process of forming a new law school. Its main campus is in a beautiful setting in Harrogate, Tennessee, but it has very large

nursing and graduate education programs in Knoxville, which will also be the home for the law school.

Under the great leadership of President Nancy Moody, Vice President Cindy Witt and Board Chairman Pete DeBusk, the university has its highest enrollment ever. The main mission of the school is to educate the young people of Appalachia, 97 percent of whom receive financial aid.

Lincoln Memorial University, Madam Speaker, also has an outstanding Lincoln Museum and continues to be in every way a fitting tribute to a great President.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF LAWRENCE "LARRY" KING

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

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Lawrence "Larry" King, a California eighth-grader who was shot and killed 1 year ago today by a classmate because of his sexual orientation and gender identity. Larry's tragic death is a reminder of what we already know, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students continue to face pervasive harassment and victimization in schools.

On this anniversary of Larry's death, vigils are being organized across the country in his memory, and young Americans are raising their voices to demand an end to violence and harassment directed at LGBT people in schools. This morning, I raise my voice with them. Every young American deserves an education free from name-calling, bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence regardless of his or her sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.

I want to thank my colleague, LOIS CAPPS, for her work in authoring a resolution to honor Larry's memory. I urge my colleagues to join us in calling for an end to all violence and harassment in our schools.

#### HONORING ARMY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ALBERT JEX

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

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Army Private First Class Albert Jex, a Lockport, New York native who made the ultimate sacrifice on February 9, 2009, in Mosul, Iraq. Private Jex was deployed to Iraq in December from Fort Hood as part of the 1st Cavalry Division which is the Army's premier heavy-armored division.

Named after a great-uncle who died fighting the Nazis in World War II, Private Jex devoted his life to public service. He was a junior volunteer fighter for the South Lockport Fire Company, and he heard the call of duty after the events of September 11, 2001.

The close-knit neighborhood where Private Jex grew up has been lined with yellow ribbons since he first became a soldier and was sent to Iraq in 2003. These symbols now serve as quiet tributes to the bravest of patriots.

Finally, I want to recognize the courage of Private Jex's family. The thoughts and prayers of all western New Yorkers go out to his family.

#### JOB LOSS

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

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the suffering felt throughout our Nation as Americans lose homes, businesses, jobs and opportunity. The job loss is proceeding at an alarming pace, one that hasn't been seen in decades. In January alone, 598,000 jobs were lost, the largest 1-month loss in 35 years. And it marked the 13th straight month that more workers were laid off than were hired. And just this morning, the Department of Labor announced that 623,000 initial jobless claims were filed last week. It is a sober reminder that it is time to get this country back on track.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will create 3 to 4 million new jobs over the next years, 66,000 in my home State of Maryland, 8,000 in the Fourth Congressional District of Maryland. And our actions are necessary to stop the free fall and to get this country back on track.

Madam Speaker, what we do in this crisis will affect our Nation for generations. And I will vote for the recovery package because it will create jobs. It will create hope, opportunity and confidence for the American people. It is time to restore that hope and opportunity.

#### BIG GOVERNMENT IS BACK

(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, the question isn't whether we should do something. The question is, what should we do when we have this stimulus package in front of us? And why is that important? Well, Newsweek magazine says it all. The cover says: "We Are All Socialists Now." And inside they say, referring to the debate that is taking place on the floor, "big government is back big-time."

They go on to tell us that in many ways, our economy already resembles a European one. And they then project we will soon become even more French. I don't know about you, but I didn't believe that the people voted in the last election to become more French. And when I look at the stimulus package and learn that it has \$30 million to protect the San Francisco marsh mice, I have to ask, is that becoming more

French, or is that just becoming more absurd?

#### GOOD NEWS

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, Americans today can breathe a sigh of relief as we take a first step toward repairing our badly damaged economy. This bill will begin to put Americans back to work fixing roads, repairing bridges, building schools and laying the bases for the economy of tomorrow.

The good news is already starting to come in. Caterpillar Tractor, an iconic American machinery manufacturer, announced that it will rescind some of the 20,000 announced layoffs as soon as this bill passes.

This bill is expected to produce 4 million jobs. And it contains tax cuts that will benefit 95 percent of working Americans, including a \$400 tax credit for individuals and an \$800 tax credit for couples. This is a bill that says to the world, "yes, we can."

#### RECIPE FOR DISASTER

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

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about the proposed stimulus legislation. To paraphrase Winston Churchill, never have so few spent so much so quickly to do so little. The stimulus bill, now totaling a staggering \$789 billion, does little to aid our ailing economy. Let me put \$789 billion in perspective. That is more money than we spent in 5 years of war in Iraq. That is more money than we spent in Afghanistan. Seven hundred eight-nine billion dollars is nearly as much as the total of all United States currency currently circulating worldwide.

This spending bill creates some 30 new Federal programs and agencies, growing government to the largest size ever. In fact, the spending in this bill is larger than the budgets of most governments and nearly twice the size of the oil-rich economy of Saudi Arabia. What we need is more money in the hands of those who pay taxes, create jobs and invest in our economy. Instead, we're giving billions to those who will grow government and raise taxes.

Madam Speaker, this is not a road to recovery. This is a recipe for disaster.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 157 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows: