

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, let me quote from a meeting with the editorial board at the San Francisco Chronicle that then-candidate Barack Obama had in January of 2008. He said, "under my plan of a cap-and-trade system, electricity rates would necessarily skyrocket. This will cost money. They will pass that money on to consumers."

Well, ladies and gentlemen, unfortunately, the President's cap-and-trade plan, or as many people call it, the cap-and-tax plan, does exactly that.

There was a recent study conducted by MIT, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and it was able to assess the fact that a total energy bill for the average household will increase over \$3,000. As a matter of fact, it will be up by \$3,128 per year. According to CBO testimony, those figures actually will relate.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

ON THIS SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF WAR, LET US WORK FOR PEACE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, in 2 days, we will mark the sixth anniversary of America's invasion and occupation of Iraq. When President Bush announced the start of the conflict on the night of March 20, 2003, he said that America must go to war against a regime "that threatens the peace with weapons of mass murder." Of course, Mr. Speaker, we know that those weapons did not exist and that the war should never have been fought. But today, I don't want to go back, and I don't want to revisit all the many mistakes of the past. Instead, I want to use this time to remember the literally millions of men, women and children from the United States of America, from Iraq and from the many other countries whose lives have been shattered over the past 6 years.

These include those who died, the wounded, the veterans, the refugees, the orphans, the widows and the many other family members who are left to mourn and to struggle. We have a great responsibility in this House of Representatives to honor and to give meaning to their sacrifice. I believe the best way to do that is by committing ourselves to work for peace so that war becomes a thing of the past.

On this sixth anniversary, Mr. Speaker, this anniversary of the occupation, we have more reason to hope for peace than on the previous five. That is because we have a new leader in the White House, one who has already taken some very positive steps. Presi-

dent Obama is committed to diplomacy, not war, and the most important tool of American foreign policy. He has banned the use of torture. He is closing the notorious prison at Guantanamo Bay. And he has announced a plan to remove all combat troops from Iraq. But Mr. Speaker, there is much more that we need to do.

The Iraq withdrawal plan will leave 50,000 troops behind to continue the occupation. That is unacceptable. All troops and military contractors must come home by August 2010, at the latest. In Afghanistan, the administration is planning to double down on our military involvement. But, Mr. Speaker, there is no military solution to the situation in Afghanistan. That is why I have joined my colleagues, BARBARA LEE and MAXINE WATERS, in asking the President to establish a timeline for the redeployment of our troops out of Afghanistan. We have also called for a plan to assist the Afghan people, because we cannot defeat the Taliban with bombs and bullets. We can only defeat the Taliban by helping the Afghan people to meet their desperate needs for schools, for roads and for economic development.

But we need to do more than just solve problems as they arise. We need to be proactive. We need to have a comprehensive strategy for keeping the peace. Let me suggest two ways to achieve that goal. First, I believe this is a good time to renew Congressman KUCINICH's calls for the establishment of a Cabinet-level Department of Peace so we can work full-time to analyze international problems and advise the President on strategies to prevent war and to peacefully resolve conflicts around the world. The President of the United States has never had the advantage of such advice. I believe it is high time that he did.

Second, I believe that this is a good time to renew our proposal for a smart national security plan. "Smart" is based on a simple idea: War is an outdated concept. That is why my smart plan keeps Americans safe through strong global alliances and better intelligence, as opposed to pre-emptive military strikes. Smart also calls for the United States to support nuclear nonproliferation, and it includes an ambitious humanitarian development agenda to end the hopelessness and oppression that lead to war and terrorism in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, after these many years of violence, one thing is clear. The American people have had enough war. They are seeking a better way to make the world safe for their children and grandchildren. So let us resolve in the honor of those who suffer because of a mistaken occupation 6 years ago to do everything we can to avoid the mistakes of the past and lay the foundation for a peaceful future.

That is the best way to honor those who were caught up in the chaos of Iraq. And it is the best way to turn the tragedy of this sixth anniversary into a

time of hope for the people of the world.

REDESIGNATING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY AS THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY & MARINE CORPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues in the House, from both parties, for joining me as cosponsors of H.R. 24, legislation to redesignate the Department of the Navy to be the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps. As of today, this legislation has 100 cosponsors.

Mr. Speaker, this is the right thing for the Congress to do. For the past 7 years, the language of this bill has been part of the House version of the National Defense Authorization Act. And this year, I'm grateful to have the support of Senator PAT ROBERTS, a former Marine, who introduced the same bill in the Senate, S. 504. With his help, I'm hopeful this will be the year the Senate supports the House position, and we can bring proper respect to the fighting team of the Navy and the Marine Corps.

It is important to remember: The National Security Act of 1947 defines the Marine Corps, Army, Navy and Air Force as the four services. It clearly indicates that the Marine Corps is a legally distinct military service within the Department of the Navy. The Navy and Marine Corps have operated as one entity for more than two centuries, and H.R. 24 would enable the name of their department to illustrate this fact.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to share part of a 2006 editorial published by the Chicago Tribune which describes what that legislation is really all about. And I quote the editorial, "no service branch shows more respect for tradition than the United States Marine Corps does, which makes it all the more ironic that tradition denies the Corps an important show of respect, equal billing with the other service branches." They are the words that were in the editorial in the Chicago Tribune. But sometimes it is good to break with tradition. The War Department, for example, became the Department of Defense after World War II. The Army Air Corps was elevated in 1941 to the Army Air Forces, and in 1947 to the autonomous Air Force.

The Marine Corps has not asked for complete autonomy. Nothing structurally needs to change in their relations with the Navy which has served both branches well. The Corps only asks for recognition. Having served their Nation proudly and courageously since colonial days, the leathernecks have earned a promotion.

Mr. Speaker, the marines who are fighting today deserve this recognition.

Before closing, I would like to show you what this change could mean to