

This bipartisan legislation is a completely different type of alternative approach to public health policy with tobacco. So while the gentleman was active with regard to what occurred in the last Congress, this is a very different Congress. So we are asking for regular order.

And there is a particular issue that is highly sensitive to the House Armed Services Committee because the Waxman legislation mandates the inclusion of the military in the Roth program. So what we have is, the Energy and Commerce Committee is dictating military personnel policy. In order to protect this about 160 million over a 10-year, for that to remain in the personnel budget of the Armed Services Committee, the Armed Services Committee would need to have an amendment that goes through the Rules Committee. You see, if, in fact, you allow it to come on suspension, the suspension then denies the House Armed Services Committee's ability to fence off those dollars for it to remain in the personnel budget. It would also deny the bipartisan substitute and would also deny Dr. BURGESS his amendments.

So the dynamic, I just want to inform the majority, has changed. And we are very hopeful that you will take that under advisement and that that bill will be brought to the floor under a rule.

Mr. CANTOR. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. CROWLEY. Thank you for yielding.

I appreciate Mr. BUYER's work and efforts on this legislation. I do know there are multiple jurisdictions on this. And it is my understanding that the chairs of the requisite committees are continuing to discuss the legislation. And again, it is a priority for Mr. WAXMAN, and we hope to have it on the floor, and they are hoping to work through some of these issues.

Mr. CANTOR. I yield to the gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. BUYER. We have been working very hard. And I would place the majority on notice that please do not bring this on suspension, because we have the votes to bring it down.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the gentleman from New York about the schedule past the Easter recess and what we can expect to come to the floor following our return from recess.

Mr. CROWLEY. The agenda for the next work period, I have not, again, spoken directly with the majority leader about the schedule after recess. But I would expect we will be working on a budget conference report after the Senate and House will have worked their will next week, in addition to some of the other items you have mentioned, including a D.C. vote as well as stem-cell legislation.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman.

I would like to ask the gentleman in reference to the budget that will be

considered next week, that we now have a text of the bill out of committee, and the fact that really some of the implications of that bill still remain very unclear. Specifically, I would like to ask about the cap-and-trade scheme that seems to be continuing to circulate in the discussions in committee as well as publicly in the press, and whether the reconciliation instructions in the bill that came out of the Budget Committee refers to that, and whether we are going to be considering the impact of that scheme on the working families of this country, as they are having a difficult time as it is, as the gentleman knows, in his area, in particular, as it is hard-hit as the center of the financial world. Are our families going to have to expect that somehow the reconciliation tools will be used to impose a national energy tax that some have estimated will cost the average family \$3,000 a year?

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. CROWLEY. I thank the gentleman for yielding and his observations about my district as well. The gentleman makes reference to cap-and-trade as we know it on this side of the aisle.

The budget resolution does not provide reconciliation instructions for cap and trade. And it is not our intention to use reconciliation in terms of the process for that legislation. However, it does provide for legislation encouraging alternative energy sources and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, which we intend to move through legislative process.

In addition, we have heard repeatedly the minority's concern about the cost of the cap-and-trade proposal. You just reiterated some of those concerns. Again, the budget does not proscribe the contents of cap-and-trade legislation, which we have left to the relevant committees, including the committee that you and I both serve on, where a hearing at this very moment on cap and trade is taking place. At this point, both those estimates make certain assumptions about a bill that is, in effect, not yet written.

We look forward to working with the minority, I personally with you, to address the costs of cap-and-trade legislation as it moves forward.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to yield time to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

Mr. LATOURETTE. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I asked the whip to yield to me so I may inquire of the designee of the majority leader. Today, the House Financial Services Committee by a vote of 64-0 reported H. Res. 251. And as the gentleman is aware, the AIG bonus issue is something that has roiled both parties. Both parties are embarrassed that somebody slipped a paragraph into the stimulus bill. H. Res. 251 is a resolution of inquiry that directs the Secretary of the Treasury to provide not only the documents that he might have

in his possession, but they also relate back to Secretary Paulson and his administration of the TARP program. So it clearly is a bipartisan measure. I think the vote of 64-0 speaks for itself.

And I note that on next week's schedule the majority has scheduled the other bill that was just reported this morning out of the Financial Services Committee, and I would ask the gentleman if we are going to see H. Res. 251 next week. And if not, I would make my request that we do. And I would further make the request that since the vote was 64-0 and we appear to have run out of post offices, perhaps it could be a suspension next week.

Mr. CANTOR. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. CROWLEY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I haven't spoken to Chairman FRANK about the legislation. I don't expect at this point that it would be on the suspension calendar or on the calendar for next week. Again, that does mean it will not be. I just simply have not had that conversation to affirm or negate that.

Mr. LATOURETTE. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman.

At this time, I would like to again reiterate my thanks to the gentleman from New York, and I yield back.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY,
MARCH 30, 2009

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING
REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a)
OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO
CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN
RESOLUTIONS

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-57) on the resolution (H. Res. 289) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

VILLA MARIA ACADEMY
BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my alma mater, the Villa Maria Academy Girls' Basketball Team, or should I say the 2009 Pennsylvania AA State Champions.

Last Friday, Erie, Pennsylvania's Villa Maria Victors defeated three-time defending champs, York Catholic, by 56-51, winning the State championship for the first time in school history.

Displaying great team spirit, Villa Maria built a large 18-point lead in the second half before fighting off a late York Catholic charge.

Established in 1892 by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania, the Villa Maria Academy is a Catholic coeducational secondary school. And for over 115 years, Villa Maria Academy has been a part of the history and tradition of the Erie area, providing educational excellence for area students in preparation for higher education and life pursuits.

The mission of the academy is to empower young people to recognize their uniqueness and talents. The Villa Maria Academy Girls' Basketball Team demonstrated that commitment to excellence last Friday.

Congratulations to the new 2009 Pennsylvania AA State Champions.

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.

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

(Mr. POE of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

OBAMA TAXES

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, one of the worst things that you can do during an economic downturn is to raise taxes. And Speaker PELOSI and the Democrats' budget does exactly that.

The amount of taxes that they anticipate raising in their budget, which we are going to debate next week, is \$1.4 trillion. One point four trillion dollars. And the majority of the burden of this tax increase is on a number of different areas of government. One of those is a \$637 billion tax increase that is going to be borne by small businesses that pay taxes as individuals. Small businesses create about 60 to 80 percent of all the new jobs in America, and these new taxes will be a real wet blanket on job creation and economic growth right in the middle of this recession.

They are also going to tax everybody in this country with the energy tax that they are going to add. The budget proposes to raise taxes by \$646 billion

on consumers of oil, coal and natural gas through a complicated cap-and-tax program that will increase the cost of energy for every American. If you turn on your light switch, if you use gas in your car, if you use gas to heat your home, any kind of energy that you use is going to be taxed. And that is going to amount to, on average, \$3,128 in new taxes on every family in America.

Also under the Speaker's budget, taxes on capital gains and dividends will increase from 15 to 20 percent, increasing taxes on investors by \$338 billion over 10 years. These taxes would directly affect investors and stockholders, including people who have 401(k) programs and pension funds, mostly impacted by the declining stock market, and would further discourage investments during a time when new investments are absolutely essential to jump-start our economy.

They are also going to tax charitable giving. They are going to reduce the amount of money that people can deduct from their taxes when they give money to charities. And the charities of this country indicate that is going to cost them at least \$4 to \$9 billion. Now, if the charities in this country can't spend that \$4 to \$9 billion that is given to them by the people of this country, then where are they going to get the money?

Where are the people of this country going to get the money to solve these problems? It is going to probably end up on the back of the taxpayers.

And then we have what is called the "death tax" that they are reinstating. And that says that everybody that has a business, if you want to pass it on to your relatives or your children or grandchildren when you die, there is going to be a tax on it. They are going to tax it and tax it and tax it so that the value of the property or the investment will go down dramatically. And many of the people who would inherit a business so that they can carry on, a farmer, an agricultural family, they will lose it because they can't pay the taxes.

And then they are also going to tax investors, Part 2 investors. The budget would more than double the taxes on carried interest, increasing taxes up from the capital gains rate of 15 percent to the income tax rate of 35 percent.

And all I can say to my colleagues is that the Speaker and the Democrat proposal needs to be re-evaluated. At a time when this economy is suffering, we need to have tax cuts, tax incentives for new job creation, and tax cuts that will allow Americans to take more of their pay home that they can spend on things like refrigerators, cars, food and clothing.

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And what they're going to do is they're going to tax, tax, tax, which is going to be another wet blanket on the economy.

One of the great things, one of the things that really hurt this country

during the Great Depression in the twenties and thirties, was because they raised taxes. That's exactly the wrong thing to do. After Jimmy Carter put us in this trick bag with 14 percent unemployment, or 14 percent inflation and 12 percent unemployment, Ronald Reagan came in and cut taxes across the board, and that increased the productivity in this country. People had more disposable income, and the economy flourished, and we had a period of unprecedented economic growth. That's what we should be doing now, not raising taxes, not adding to the deficit by having these huge budgetary expenditures that are in Speaker PELOSI and the Democrats' plan.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that everybody will listen to what was just said because we don't need tax increases and more spending right now.

WE MUST NOT REPEAT THE MISTAKES OF THE PAST

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, the Obama administration is finalizing its strategy for Afghanistan, and it may announce the results of its war review in the next few days.

President Obama inherited the situation in Afghanistan. He is a leader who prefers diplomacy over war. The United States is organizing an international conference on Afghanistan to reach out to the international community for their help. And there is talk about sending a civilian surge, a surge of experts in such areas as agriculture, reconstruction, rebuilding, and education to Afghanistan, all very positive steps.

Since President Obama, however, has said that he will send at least 17,000 more troops to Afghanistan and possibly more, I am deeply concerned. It will take years, and it will take a lot of blood and treasure to fight a war in Afghanistan and Pakistan. It could bog us down and distract us from our enormous domestic problems right here at home. It could cost us lives. It would cost us economic treasure, and it would cost us, actually it would leave our reputation, international reputation in tatters.

Our 6-year occupation of Iraq, which continues, as I speak, has been a disaster that we absolutely must learn from. Using military force to solve problems that don't have a military solution doesn't work. Foreign occupation doesn't work. According to a new Army report, there are still over 100 attacks per week on our troops in Iraq.

Another occupation, Madam Speaker, halfway around the world, raises serious questions that Congress needs an answer to. So last month, I joined my colleagues, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE and Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS, and since we wrote a particular letter to the President and sent it, 10