

our original entry in 2001. As a result, the President's request for supplemental funding is not a reallocation of resources. It is support for a new and different war and must be assessed as such.

I have repeatedly asked in various venues how the President's new strategy would bring regional stability, the length of time, and troop levels that such a commitment requires and what our exit strategy would be. The best answer I have received thus far was from Admiral Mullen. He said, "I think it's going to be a while. At what level of combat, what level of troops, that's difficult to predict right now."

A "yes" vote on the supplemental is fundamentally an acceptance of an open-ended military commitment to Afghanistan. That is not something I can support.

#### WHAT IS THE EXIT STRATEGY FOR GUANTANAMO BAY?

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Americans want to know and they want to know now—what is the exit strategy for Gitmo? In the dark of the night, the first Gitmo terrorist indicted for killing innocent Americans was moved to New York. The White House approved this despite the fact that 65 percent of Americans do not support closing Guantanamo and sending dangerous and deadly detainees to U.S. prisons.

It's about time this administration started an open and honest dialogue on the future of Gitmo and inform the Congress before ferrying terrorists to America. This sneaky middle-of-the-night move shows that the administration does not want to publicly answer any questions about their exit strategy on Gitmo. Americans want, need and deserve to know exactly where these terrorists will go come next January, and we don't want them here in the United States. We don't need al Qaeda recruiting and training hardened criminals in our prisons.

#### NOTHING ABOUT COAL IS CLEAN

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, nothing about coal is clean. From extraction, to waste slurry, to stream contamination in Appalachia, nothing—I repeat—nothing about this energy source is clean. In order to extract coal from the ground, mountains are literally blasted apart, killing wildlife and destroying forests, contributing to erosion, flooding and pollution that hits local communities and causes severe health problems. Over 1,200 miles of stream in Appalachia alone have been buried or completely contaminated because of mountaintop mining.

In order to prepare the coal for burning, an overwhelming amount of water is needed to clean the coal. For every ton of coal cleaned, 20 to 40 gallons of water are used to wash the coal, creating a sludgy pollutant known as slurry. Over 90 million gallons of slurry are created every year while harvesting and preparing coal for burning. Keep in mind, we haven't even begun to burn the stuff yet.

Green jobs are the key to economic and environmental progress in regions torn by surface and mountaintop mining and struggling economically due to the destruction of the land. These include jobs in wind, hydroelectric and biofuel power. These jobs will give hard-hit communities a long-term future for their families instead of a short-term paycheck in exchange for the quality of life in the region forever.

#### BRITISH HOSPITAL PATIENTS DRINK OUT OF FLOWER VASES

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, while our President preaches the virtues of government-run health care, the Prime Minister of Great Britain is apologizing to his country for their socialized system. And no wonder—Bella Bailey went to Staffordshire Hospital for minor surgery. But things were so bad, she got scared because of the poorly trained English staff. Her fears proved correct when a nurse dropped Bailey on the floor. Her daughter said, "Meals were brought to patients who couldn't feed themselves, but the staff wouldn't help. Elderly men wandered the halls in a confused state. Vulnerable patients were left hungry and dirty screaming in pain without help."

"Some patients were so thirsty, they drank from flower vases. It was like a third-world country. Things were so bad, I fed patients and took them to the lavatory. It was like I was watching my mum die and others too."

Well, Mrs. Bailey did die in that government-run hospital from injuries sustained while there. Do we really want the government controlling access to health care? Nationalized health care will have the competence of FEMA, the efficiency of the Post Office, and the compassion of the IRS.

And that's just the way it is.

#### CLEAN ENERGY JOBS EARN ALBUQUERQUE A RANKING IN KEY JOB GROWTH AREAS

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

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, we are at a tipping point in our country's energy policy debate. Today, Americans are realizing the potential jobs that are at stake in our country's energy policy.

In New Mexico's First Congressional District, Schott Solar is on track to

employ 1,400 people in Albuquerque; Solar Array Ventures, another 1,000 people; hundreds have already helped build the 100-megawatt High Lonesome Mesa wind energy project; and Sandia National Laboratories continues to partner with multiple clean energy startups.

These clean energy jobs earned Albuquerque a second-place ranking in Kiplinger magazine's 2009 listing of cities leading the country in key job growth areas, the kinds of jobs that are leading America toward economic recovery.

Mr. Speaker, to realize the promise of a clean energy economy, to leave a healthy environment to our children, and to end our dangerous dependency on foreign oil, I urge Congress to take bold, decisive action on America's energy policy.

#### WORKING ON BEHALF OF ORLEANS AND JEFFERSON PARISHES

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

Mr. CAO. Mr. Speaker, the issues of crime and hurricane recovery are most important for Orleans and Jefferson Parishes. Yesterday I voted for the Witness Security and Protection Grant Program Act, and it passed. Law enforcement officials in my district must have the Federal resources needed to protect our citizens.

On Monday, I requested a government review of unresolved FEMA public assistance projects that will help Louisiana move forward with delayed disaster recovery efforts. Lastly, I was able to acknowledge the diverse culture of New Orleans by cosponsoring a resolution to honor black music.

It has been a productive week.

#### URGING THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO MOVE SLOWLY AND CAUTIOUSLY IN ITS RELATIONS WITH CUBA

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

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak for those oppressed in Cuba that cannot speak for themselves. As the administration is moving forward with immigration talks, as the Organization of American States is welcoming Cuba, I rise to remind my colleagues in Washington and my friends abroad that when you deal with Cuba, you are not dealing with a benign regime. You are dealing with a dangerous regime. The regime's most recent crackdown has surfaced in the oppression of religion.

In May 2008, Pastor Omar Gude Perez was arrested and charged with human trafficking. When no evidence was found to support the charges, the Cuban regime simply changed the charges. He is now on trial for "counter-revolutionary conduct." A man who has been dedicated to his religion now faces years in prison.