

We have to be innovative and know what the American people want; but, most of all, the government of the United States is a problem-solver. The people of America are hurting, and we must address the questions of health care and the underutilized ability for Americans to be served by new health care as well as new jobs. America must answer the call.

SCHWARZENEGGER'S FOLLY

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, California's Governor is seeking billions of dollars of additional Federal funds in order to fill his ever-widening budget deficits.

Last April, he imposed the biggest tax increase by any State in American history, despite repeated warnings of the damage it would do to the State's economy. California already had the highest sales and income taxes in the Nation. He increased both.

The taxes were supposed to produce \$13 billion of additional revenue. But after 9 months, California's sales tax collections are down \$270 million; income tax collections are down \$10 billion. The only major tax not raised, the corporate tax, is the only tax that is producing more revenue. That is up \$2.4 billion in the same period.

I have a modest suggestion to Governor Schwarzenegger: rescind the tax increase that has crushed California's economy and its revenues. And to my House colleagues, let's not repeat Governor Schwarzenegger's folly nationally.

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TAX CREDITS FOR GOLF CARTS

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. My Democrat colleagues, Mr. Speaker, are going to solve the health care problems of this country with a 2,100-plus page bill, and it's going to simplify the whole procedure and make everything better. But let me just give you an example of how things go awry.

We passed an amendment in this body that deals with the Internal Revenue Code so people would buy more green cars that weren't going to pollute the atmosphere, and bioelectric cars. Well, John Stossel of Fox network saw where there were free golf carts and called up, and he found out that he could get a golf cart for \$6,490, but because Congress screwed up with the tax code, he could get all of that money back from the taxpayers of this country, in essence, getting that golf cart for free.

That's how government continues to screw up. And if you think that's bad, just think what's going to happen if we

pass this terrible health care bill that's going to raise taxes and ration health care and hurt seniors because it's going to cause them to lose a lot of their Medicare and Medicare Advantage coverage.

That's why we shouldn't be rushing to judgment on the health care bill. This is the kind of screw-up that should not take place.

CONGRATULATING THE PENN STATE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in awe of the Penn State University women's volleyball team. We often hear in this Chamber from Members who celebrate a national championship or an undefeated team from around the country, but rarely have I heard a record equal to that of these particular Nittany Lions. I would just cite a few of their accomplishments and allow you to judge for yourself.

This team hasn't lost a game since 2007. They had a 101-game winning streak, an undefeated season, a record 18 consecutive NCAA tournament victories, and on December 19, they beat the University of Texas Lady Longhorns for their third consecutive national championship.

Coach Russ Rose deserves a great deal of credit for the success of these young college athletes, and I can't say enough about the team and its leaders. Megan Hodge became just the fifth player in Division I history to be named first-team All-American 4 years in a row and also was named the American Volleyball Coaches Association's National Player of the Year for 2009.

It isn't enough to say I'm proud of this team. I repeat that I'm awestruck and struggle to find the words to properly praise them. So I will simply say, Congratulations.

PROGRESS IN WAR ON TERROR

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, I was pleased to see The New York Times acknowledge Afghanistan and Iraq as the central front in America's struggle against Islamic extremism. It further cites how the United States is making progress turning security efforts over to the Iraqi military and police forces.

The Washington Post covered the year-end review by General David Petraeus and General Ray Odierno and highlighted how over the last 2 years there's been a 92 percent decrease in security incidents and a 90 percent decrease in civilian deaths due to the surge. Attacks have dropped from more

than 200 a day in 2 years to approximately 15 today.

I want to thank General Petraeus and General Odierno, our troops, military families, and veterans for their commitment to victory in Iraq and Afghanistan to protect American families at home by defeating terrorists overseas.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Welcome, Anna Grace Wilson, born December 17, 2009, daughter of Jennifer and Alan Wilson, at Lexington Medical Center, West Columbia, South Carolina.

TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. GOHMERT. We heard the President—now the President—say back in a debate with Hillary Clinton in 2008, "That's what I will do in bringing all the parties together, not negotiating behind closed doors, but bringing all parties together, and broadcasting those negotiations on C-SPAN so that the American people can see what the choices are."

We know in the debate, when he was running against JOHN MCCAIN, our now-President said, "I'm going to have all the negotiations around a big table. We'll have doctors and nurses and hospital administrators. Insurance companies, drug companies—they'll get a seat at the table, they just won't be able to buy every chair. But what we will do is, we'll have the negotiations televised on C-SPAN so that people can see who's making arguments on behalf of their constituents and who's making arguments on behalf of the drug companies or the insurance companies."

We heard the Speaker say repeatedly that when she was Speaker, this would be the most open government ever. So it's deeply perplexing, since we know they would never lie, why they're preventing what they promised from coming true.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE MICHAEL M. HONDA, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable MICHAEL M. HONDA, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 8, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena, issued in the Superior Court for Santa Clara County, California, for documents in a civil case.