

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, private industry is creating solutions to protect the Gulf of Mexico because the government really doesn't create anything. Government just stops things from being created like jobs.

ExxonMobil, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, and Shell Oil have announced a new coordinated plan. They're building a new emergency oil spill containment system to protect the Gulf of Mexico. Their deepwater rapid response system will capture and contain oil in a blow-out emergency. It will be engineered to be used in underwater depths of up to 10,000 feet and under different weather conditions as well. The initial capacity will contain 100,000 barrels of oil a day.

These oil industry leaders have committed \$1 billion to the initial cost. Engineering, procurement, and construction will begin immediately. Exxon-Mobil has taken the lead on behalf of the other companies. This is great news for drilling in the Gulf of Mexico. American private industry is taking the lead.

The administration needs to end the moratorium on drilling and get out of the way and quit killing jobs in the Gulf of Mexico.

And that's just the way it is.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO HOUSE AMENDMENT TO SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4213, UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-556) on the resolution (H. Res. 1550) providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 4213) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

THE MOTEL KIDS OF ORANGE COUNTY

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, last night I had an opportunity to preview a documentary entitled "Homeless, the Motel Kids of Orange County."

In the shadow of Disneyland, filmmaker Alexandra Pelosi captures the stark reality of children who are living in motels. For all the legitimate policy differences that divide people in Congress, sometimes it's jarring how starkly we view different worlds, that we can believe in different facts. But these children live in a world, the reality of which can be denied only by people who don't bother to see and listen.

I hope my colleagues will watch the HBO documentary Monday, or better

yet, get a copy of the DVD to review themselves and with their staff.

We appear at times to be capable of arguing with a straight face about what the day's date is, but this is an area where we should agree to assign priority, spend precious dollars, and refine our policies. These children deserve our best.

□ 1010

FY 2011 APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS

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

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, you know, this is a different kind of July than we usually experience here in Congress. Usually we're doing appropriation bills. We aren't doing them this month. We aren't likely to do any until after the election. Isn't that something? The one responsibility we have here in Congress, pass appropriation bills, we aren't doing until after the election. This might give you an idea why we're not doing that.

These are the bills that have gone through the Appropriations Committee, either the subcommittee or the full committee. When you look at the number of earmark dollars that are associated with powerful Members of Congress, either those on the Appropriations Committee or leadership or the chairs of committees, just take, for example, the MilCon-VA bill, 78 percent of the earmarks are going to 13 percent of the Members. Other bills are similar: 76 percent in Agriculture; CJS, 57 percent going to the most powerful Members.

It's often said that we earmark here because we know our districts better than those bureaucrats. Well, apparently, 13 percent of the Members know their districts; the rest of us don't.

That's just one of the problems with the earmarking system we have in Congress. It's a spoils system. Those who are powerful get the spoils.

EXTENDING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of extending unemployment benefits to the hardworking San Joaquin Valley families of California who continue to search for work during these tough economic times. The current lapse in benefits is unprecedented. Since 1959, the government has never allowed these benefits to expire when the national unemployment rate is above 7.2 percent.

Californians are concerned with providing for their families and putting food on the table, not who scores the most political points in Washington.

Extending unemployment benefits isn't just critical to our Central Val-

ley's workers and communities where unemployment hovers around 20 percent in some of the counties but also to our economy. Every dollar in unemployment benefits creates at least \$1.63 in economic activity. That puts money in neighborhood businesses.

Now is the time to focus on middle class families and our economy, not the next election. It's time to pass this measure and to send it to the President for his signature.

YOU CUT AND ASO

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

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, America is struggling under the weight of its debt and a falling economy. Worse, Washington isn't listening.

One of two new tools that we're trying to put forth, and I think they're great opportunities for the American people, is America Speaking Out. I will be doing a town hall this Saturday in my community in Sarasota to be able to pick up their ideas, identify the challenges, and with the ideas we gather, these ideas across the country, put forth an agenda for the American people this fall.

The other tool that I think is very effective is YouCut. These are two different sites. You go on and make your suggestions heard. Our debt today is at \$13.6 trillion. We're expected to go to \$20 trillion. We've got to find a way to balance the budget. We would like to get your ideas as it relates to this.

I encourage all Americans to go to these two sites. Anyone that's interested could visit my Web site, buchanan.house.gov. They're available there. We need to start listening to the American people. We need your ideas.

PRESIDENTIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

Mr. BACA. When President Obama took office, he inherited a \$1.2 trillion deficit, two wars, a growing recession, and disasters like Katrina that pushed our economy to the brink. Since then, his leadership has laid the groundwork to rebuild our economy and finally end the outsourcing of American jobs.

The President successfully worked to pass historic health care and financial regulatory reform. No administration has done more to improve care and the benefits for our veterans and returning troops.

President Obama and the Democratic Congress have strengthened the quality of health care for over 5 million American veterans, authorized 3.4 percent pay raises for our troops, invested millions for VA facility improvements, and improved health services for women veterans.

The President and the Democratic Congress will continue to do the right

things for the American people. The choice is clear. We must say “no” to the failed policies of the past and “yes” to continuing in a new direction looking forward.

MORATORIUM

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

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. Speaker, a blanket moratorium is not the answer. It will not measurably reduce risk. It will have a lasting impact on the Nation's economy, which may be greater than that of the oil spill. We do not believe in punishing the innocent. Overcome emotion with logic. These are quotes from five engineers from the National Academy of Engineering who object to the President's moratorium.

This is not a drilling moratorium; it is a jobs moratorium. It is an assault on those most injured by the gulf oil spill. By some estimates, over 100,000 Americans—welders, pipe fitters, engineers, caterers, roustabouts—will lose their jobs because of this moratorium, decent, hardworking Americans.

Eleven thousand people yesterday filled the Cajun Dome in Lafayette, Louisiana, to protest the jobs moratorium. They're begging that politics be put aside, the President listen to the scientists, and let the workers return to work supplying our Nation's energy needs.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, in 1935, President Roosevelt and a Democratic Congress envisioned and passed a safety net for senior citizens and the disabled. We call it Social Security. It has worked well, and I cannot imagine what we would be as a Nation without it.

The cash flows of the fund will see a deficit in just a few years because of the aging of the baby boom generation. We will fix this problem, and hopefully, our Republican colleagues will work with us for a bipartisan solution.

In December, I'm confident that the President's fiscal commission will present well-conceived ideas. We must use their recommendations to develop a bipartisan solution to protect Social Security. When those recommendations are presented, bipartisanship must prevail. Partisanship must take a hike.

I am committed to doing my part and look forward to the commission's report.

FINANCIAL REFORM BILL—A STIMULUS FOR MORE GOVERNMENT

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, when Congress passes a 2,000 plus-page bill, it's not all that surprising to find objectionable items tucked away in the pages. Such is the case with the Dodd-Frank financial reform legislation. This bill creates many new financial regulatory offices for the very same Federal regulators who failed to foresee the financial collapse in 2008.

With this bill, Congress is giving the American people the gift of more bureaucracy with: an Office of Financial Research, a Financial Stability Oversight Council, 20 Offices of Minority and Women Inclusion, a Federal Insurance Office, an Office of Fair Lending and Equal Opportunity, an Office of Investor Advocate and Ombudsman, and a Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. It goes on and on with new czars.

Note that the problems with Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are not even addressed. Yet these agencies were the cause of this economic crisis. So this bill is nothing more than a stimulus for more government.

SMALL MANUFACTURERS EXPORT INITIATIVE

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

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I not only stand in support of extending unemployment benefits to over 18,000 Washington State residents; I stand today in support of small manufacturers in my State of Washington.

Earlier this week, I introduced H.R. 5797, the Small Manufacturers Export Initiative. This legislation will help small- and medium-sized manufacturers export their products, not their jobs, overseas. I want to see the label “Made in America” again, and this bill is an important step in that direction.

The global market presents a fast and ever-growing market for U.S. exports. Nationwide, nearly 3.7 million manufacturing jobs are supported by exports. In my district alone, there are 182 aerospace production suppliers and other vendors. In Washington State, there are over 100 boat manufacturers, with many of these small businesses not only supplying the domestic market but also exporting their products.

We must do all we can to support these manufacturing companies to sell their products both here in the U.S. and overseas. The Small Manufacturers Export Initiative will build the infrastructure necessary to connect these small- and medium-sized manufacturers with export opportunities around the world and help them increase their productivity and expand their businesses.

I urge support for this legislation.

□ 1020

CANCEROUS DEBT

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the President's own Democrat co-chair of the debt commission, Erskine Bowles, said “This debt is like a cancer.” And he's right.

This debt cancer is spreading rapidly. Democrat spending is out of control and adding to the already staggering deficit. House Democrats canceled the 2011 budget and failed to propose and pass an annual budget resolution for the first time since 1974.

More and more tax dollars are being wasted. Job creation in the private sector remains at a virtual standstill. A trillion dollars was spent on the President's stimulus, and there are still more than 14 million people out of work.

This cancerous debt, a symptom of the failed stimulus and increasing government control, needs to be stopped immediately. Washington needs to start letting taxpayers spend their own money and start putting Americans back to work.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, 75 years ago this country recognized the plight of senior citizens who had no retirement, who were forced to move in with their kids when they got old; and we created Social Security. And it has been a tremendous success. Many people, however, don't realize what else Social Security does for this country.

About 8.5 million Americans who have a disability that limits their ability to work receive assistance from the program. Roughly 6.5 million children receive part of their family income through a program which has lifted nearly 2 million of them out of poverty.

When their breadwinner, when their father or their mother, dies, Social Security gives them a benefit. Some of them have used it to go to college. And through the Social Security program, another 7.5 million people, very low income and severely disabled people, receive critical financial support to meet their most basic needs.

I urge all my colleagues to review the entire record and support fixing Social Security next session.

COMMEMORATING 58TH ANNIVERSARY OF PUERTO RICO CONSTITUTION

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

Mr. PIERLUISI. Mr. Speaker, 58 years ago this Sunday, the Constitution of Puerto Rico took effect. As we