

taxes and over \$300 billion in new, unrelated mandatory Federal spending.

I don't see a lot of people down here who are exactly worried about this on the Democratic side. I hear people who are down here talking about that it's the right thing to do, and that is what the Democratic majority will get credit for with this bill: more taxing, more spending, more rules and regulations, more unemployment, more high debt, pushing jobs offshore.

Mr. Speaker, reforms are needed to make America more competitive. The reforms should be about making sure that the drilling that takes place in the gulf or anywhere else is done safely and that we do follow best practices and rules and regulations. It should be done to encourage the government to work successfully with business, with industry, with the American worker, but that's not what we have here. What we have is a bill designed to kill the industry, to diminish its effectiveness, to increase costs for consumers, and to make pump costs and costs on natural gas more expensive.

I think that this economic plan by the Democratic majority they should get full credit for: higher taxes, more spending, assault on the free enterprise system, more unemployment, more debt, more things that are not working.

I'm going to give the Democratic majority credit today. Good for you. Now we know what that is. I know you're two-tenths through this agenda of killing 10 million American jobs, but you need to know this. You're going to get credit for this, and I hope the American people, in just a few days, when we go home, talk to their Members of Congress about changing that, because we ought to have a jobs bill on this floor to create jobs, not kill jobs.

The Republican Party is for the creation of jobs. We are for balancing the budget. We are for stopping the assault on employers, and we're for empowering the American people to have a brighter future, not one that simply empowers Washington, DC.

Mr. Speaker, the numbers are stunning. Over the time that President Obama has been in office, we have lost 2.5 million free enterprise system jobs, and yet 500,000 Federal Government jobs have been added in that period of time. The assault on the common man of this country is unrelenting by the Democratic majority.

For that reason, I encourage a "no" vote on the previous question to bring some fiscal sanity and sense and restraint to this body, and I'm going to offer a "no" vote on the rule.

Mr. Speaker, the facts of the case are simple. The American people have got it. It is time for a real change.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, throughout the spring and summer, the public outrage has been palpable—in Washington, among the pundits and talking heads, in my own State of Maine and, truly, everywhere in this country.

In Maine, we have a special understanding about the impact the BP oil spill is having on the people of the gulf coast. Just like them, our lives and livelihoods are closely linked to the ocean. Off the Maine coast, there is an amazing renewable resource—strong winds and tides that can power our economy and create good-paying jobs and reduce greenhouse gas pollution. I think it's time for us to start using it.

As someone from a community who relies on its working waterfront, I am asking that we stand with the hard-working men and women of the gulf coast in their time of need and make sure that those responsible are the ones that pay for the spill and that we strive to ensure that a spill like this never happens again.

I urge my fellow Members to vote for the rule and the underlying bill. I urge a "yes" vote on the previous question and on the rule.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the rule for the CLEAR Act which would, among other provisions, provide full and dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Congress created LWCF in 1965 on the principle that some funds from the sale and extraction of oil and gas from federal lands be used for the protection of important lands and waters; so they remain available for the enjoyment of all Americans. Only once in 45 years has LWCF received its full funding.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle say that the \$2.00 per barrel conservation fee will be an undue burden on consumers. One fourth of a cent per gallon at the pump, 2 cents per tank, is well worth it for preserving Yellowstone, the Everglades, a battlefield, or building a local park in Shrewsbury or a playground in Lawrence Township.

This bill ensures that \$900 million will be provided annually for LWCF without appropriation and achieve a long-awaited, much-needed balance between resource extraction and resource conservation. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the rule allowing for consideration of H.R. 3534, the Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources Act of 2010.

Congress has a responsibility to take action to respond to the terrible tragedy in the Gulf region and work to ensure that such an event never happens again. However, in doing so, we must also be careful to only advance legislation that is narrowly focused on responding to the root causes of the Gulf Oil Spill. Unfortunately, that is not the case with H.R. 3534, which I believe is overreaching and will have negative effects on domestic onshore production and on independent oil producers' ability to continue operating offshore. Among my concerns is subjecting oil and gas wells to new and unnecessary Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, storm water discharge permitting requirements. A report from the Department of Energy has shown that should the storm water provisions pass, it could result in the loss of up to 10 percent of domestic oil and gas production.

My colleagues, Congressman HARRY TEAGUE and Congressman JASON ALTMIRE, offered amendment to this legislation in the Rules Committee to remove these problematic

provisions. However, it was not made in order. I believe that the inclusion of this amendment would have improved this bill by helping to more limit its scope towards responding to the oil spill and not place new unnecessary burdens on onshore development. Without this amendment, and because of my concerns about the impact these provisions will have on North Dakota's growing energy sector, I am voting against this rule.

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

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ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

INCREASING FLEXIBILITY IN AMOUNT OF PREMIUMS CHARGED FOR FHA SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING MORTGAGE INSURANCE

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5981) to increase the flexibility of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development with respect to the amount of premiums charged for FHA single family housing mortgage insurance, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5981

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MORTGAGE INSURANCE PREMIUMS.

(a) FLEXIBILITY.—Subparagraph (B) of section 203(c)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(c)(2)(B)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding clause (i)—
(A) by striking "shall" and inserting "may"; and

(B) by striking ".050 percent" and inserting ".15 percent"; and

(2) in clause (ii), by striking "shall be in an amount not exceeding 0.55 percent" and inserting "may be in an amount not exceeding 1.55 percent".

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary may adjust the amount of any initial or annual