

I urge all of my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, to focus on the big picture and get to work on creating jobs. Let's build our future.

JUST ANOTHER DAY ON THE TEXAS BORDER, PART II

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, American missionaries Nancy and Sam Davis ran a charity in poor villages in Mexico. Recently, Nancy and Sam were driving home to Texas from Mexico when they were ambushed near the border by a roadblock of masked gunmen who opened fire on them. Nancy was shot in the back of the head. Sam bravely raced against oncoming traffic to the border while Nancy sat in the passenger seat bleeding to death. Nancy did not survive and died in McAllen, Texas.

The Mexican government has already said they will not investigate this homicide, and the American government must hold Mexico accountable. The narcoterrorists continue to murder Americans in lawless Mexico, and they will continue their terror on our side of the border if they are not stopped. They are international bandits. Meanwhile, our Federal Government continues to whistle by the graveyard of victims while the people in the border towns live in constant fear and danger. But it is just another day on the Texas border.

And that's just the way it is.

JOB CREATION, ECONOMIC RECOVERY, AND DEBT REDUCTION

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

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, as I listen to the debate in this House, we need to put politics aside and pursue policies that move America forward. I encourage my Republican colleagues to focus on legislation that creates jobs, economic recovery, and debt reduction.

While cutting spending is an important aspect of reducing the deficit, we must ensure that it is done in a way that will not threaten jobs, economic growth, and the security of our middle class. I am particularly troubled by recent proposals that would slash long-term investment in transportation, clean energy, innovation, and education. Spending cuts in these areas are unwise for our economic future, especially when it comes at the expense of the American workers. We need to continue to foster investment in these fields in order to expand private sector growth and put America back to work.

The situation in this country is such that every bill that comes before this House must be measured by whether it creates jobs, strengthens the middle class, and reduces the deficit. It is imperative that we come together to meet these goals in order to lay the

foundation for future prosperity in this country.

□ 1210

FEDERAL RESERVE CHAIR BERNANKE: BIG DEFICITS COULD HURT THE ECONOMY

(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, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke of Dillon, South Carolina, is the latest leading economist to admit that out-of-control deficits could hurt our national economy. Last week, Mr. Bernanke warned, "Sustained high rates of government borrowing would both drain funds away from private investment and increase our debt to foreigners." This borrowing would lead to higher lending costs for small businesses and consumers. This threatens small businesses across America trying to create jobs.

At the same time, House Republicans are proposing billions in spending cuts. House Budget Chairman PAUL RYAN called this is a "down-payment" in attacking Washington's spending spree. This is just the beginning. As Speaker JOHN BOEHNER has stated, "There's no limit to the amount of spending we're willing to cut." Republicans made a pledge to America, and we're now making good on it.

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

HOCKEY IS FOR EVERYONE MONTH

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, as you know, I come from Chicago, home of the world champion Chicago Blackhawks, and I rise today in support of the National Hockey League's designation of the month of February as "Hockey is for Everyone Month."

"Hockey is for Everyone" is a nationwide initiative that works to break racial and economic barriers that prevent children from playing ice hockey. It reaches more than 300,000 underprivileged boys and girls annually across North America and includes programs for veterans and the disabled. I believe that no matter your background, every child should have the opportunity to play the greatest sport in the world. Increased access to healthy exercise will aid in the fight against childhood obesity and continue to decrease high school dropout rates.

On behalf of kids all over the continent, I thank the National Hockey League and "Hockey is for Everyone" for putting more hockey sticks in more hands—and more pucks on those sticks.

WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

(Ms. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDWARDS. Here we are, it's mid-February. The Republicans took control. They won the election in November on an agenda of trying to create jobs for the American people. Two months into after being sworn in, here we are now—still haven't created a job. We haven't put a single bill on the floor of the House of Representatives to create jobs for the American people. With over 9 percent unemployment—among African Americans, 16 percent unemployment—communities across this country hemorrhaging, corporations in this country sitting on \$2 trillion in cash—and still no jobs.

So what are the Republicans doing instead? Here's what they're trying to do. They're trying to further restrict a woman's right to choose—not creating jobs, but want to get in the middle of your doctor's office to restrict your right to choose. Hours and hours of debate to direct committees to oversee regulations. Well, that's our job, to oversee the regulatory process. We don't need hours of debate to give us permission to oversee the regulatory process. Still no jobs.

What else are the Republicans doing? They're reviewing, reviewing. Well, that's safe. What do we have to review? Our job, of course, is to review. But our job is to create jobs for the American people. That's what they expected out of the election. That's what we need to deliver them.

TITLE X FAMILY PLANNING FUNDING

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

Ms. CHU. So far the Republican majority hasn't created a single job. In fact, they haven't even put a jobs bill on the House floor. Instead, they are focusing on partisan priorities that just don't help the country come out of this recession. Instead of putting people back to work, they are restricting women's reproductive rights.

Next week they will gut Title X funding for family planning. This Federal money is a critical health care safety net for women around the country. It has helped improve the quality of women's health, given women free choice, and also saved lives. Title X helps low-income women afford Pap smears and STD testing. It helps reduce unintended births and abortions. And who doesn't want to do that?

It's month 1; and instead of working on the economy, they are working to limit women's personal choices. Instead of doing the bidding of ideological extremists, let's join together and address the real needs of the American people—jobs.

BEADING TO BEAT AUTISM

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, it takes real heroes and real leaders to believe in the possibility of what we can do through hard work, perseverance, and commitment to make the world a better place. I'm proud to say that my hometown of Louisville has many of these leaders, and this week, one of them, 13-year-old Michala Riggle, was recognized nationally with the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes. It's a well-deserved recognition, and I rise to applaud Michala's work with Beading to Beat Autism, which has been nothing but miraculous.

Three years ago, after learning that an underfunded treatment program could help thousands of kids in Louisville with autism, like her brother Evan, Michala stepped up. She planned to enlist her friends and family to raise \$200,000 by making beaded bracelets and selling them for \$3 each. People told her it was impossible, but she said, It's just like a ball game. If you don't believe you can win, it's game over before you start. You gotta believe. And after 6 months, Michala had reached her goal. To date, she's raised \$350,000 to help children with autism. Now, through BeadingtoBeatAutism.org, she hopes to raise \$300 million to finance an autism research center in Louisville. And I don't doubt that she can accomplish that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Members of the House to join me to salute her. I'm proud to wear her bracelets and proud that she's a resident of the Third District of Kentucky.

Congratulations, Michala.

JOBS CRISIS ON OUR HANDS

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

Mr. DEUTCH. In a time of great economic strife, Americans deserve more from their leaders than recycled attacks on their constitutional rights. Let's not deny women access to birth control and wellness care provided by Planned Parenthood, or the Presidential Women's Center in my district, or the many other providers instrumental in reducing unwanted pregnancies in America. Let's not levy special taxes on women who have never had an abortion, but pay for a private health plan that covers these procedures. Let's not subject any citizen to government intrusion in the doctor's office because of their gender.

The retired women in my district who were on the front lines of the fight for equality in reproductive rights know what path these policies will lead us down. Let's not create a crisis in America—a crisis of public health, of back-alley abortions and accidental sterilization, of less education and more sexually transmitted diseases, of

fewer routine screenings and more cervical cancer.

We already have a crisis on our hands in this country—a jobs crisis—and in November, Americans voted this Congress to address it.

TURN TO THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN

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

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with my colleagues for one reason—to talk about jobs. My constituents are hurting. They need help. They want to work. I've been here for almost 2 months, and I'm still waiting to hear a Republican plan for jobs. So far this week, the only things I've voted on are our renaming of a courthouse and taking back money that we have already given to the United Nations. When are we going to talk about jobs? I came to Washington to focus on jobs. My constituents sent me to Washington to focus on jobs.

All across the Nation, the high school class of 2011 is getting ready to graduate. Some will go on to higher education, and some will enter the workforce. What type of world are they entering? What type of jobs will await them? I propose that we invest in the class of 2011. Instead of political games and bills that cut jobs, I propose that we invest in education, innovation, and infrastructure. Please, I urge all of my colleagues to turn toward the future of our children—turn toward creating jobs for them.

DON'T IGNORE THE MIDDLE CLASS

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

Mr. TONKO. I rise today on behalf of the regular, everyday American families and those who work for a living. Just yesterday, my friends on the other side of the aisle released their job-killing spending policies. Make no mistake about it, these policies will deeply hurt the middle class and will not help grow jobs.

Let's look at these statistics: 83 percent of all United States stocks are in the hands of 1 percent of the American public; the bottom 50 percent of income earners in the United States now collectively own less than 3 percent of our Nation's wealth. I encourage my Republican colleagues in this House to stop in their efforts to take money away from those who use it to stay warm in the winter and cool in the summer, to stop in their efforts to take away money from those who keep our air safe and our water clean, and to stop in their efforts to take investments away from technology and jobs of the future.

Mr. Speaker, the middle class has been ignored for far too long. As the backbone of our country, it is time

they get their fair share. I stand for empowering our middle class, not reducing jobs in America.

□ 1220

ADVICE TO THE MAJORITY: KEEP YOUR PROMISES

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give some advice to the Members of the majority party. My grandmama used to tell me, "Son, keep your promises."

As we all know, the majority promised to be focused on job creation; but the 11 bills that have passed this body thus far, in 2 months, have failed to create a single job.

Watch out for these budget cuts that these Republicans are proposing also. I'm going to tell you, if you are a firefighter or a police officer or a teacher, you are out of luck. This recovery needs to work for the working people of this Nation, not just for the Wall Street bankers.

Today, we should be voting for investing and making products in America, not on toothless resolutions. If we continue on this path much longer, the American people will see for themselves that they've been lied to.

To the majority party, you need to keep your promises and stop shrinking the middle class. You need to be about job creation like you promised. Don't turn America into a pink slip Nation.

WHERE'S THE BEEF?

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

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, about 15 years ago, there was a commercial that is really applicable to today. It was about a woman who looked through hamburger buns and asked, "Where's the beef?" The American people are asking us, Where's the jobs?

We managed to survive and avoid the Great Depression of this century. Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, what we need to do to continue with our recovery is to build public confidence. The only way we are going to build that public confidence is for people to feel that we are looking at what is so essential to their futures, so essential to the building of their confidence back in themselves and in government, and that is the creation of jobs.

Mr. Speaker, I believe all Members of this Congress must look to that. We must get down and address jobs. That is what we are here to do. That is what we need to do, or we will have failed the people who have sent us here.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may inquire.