

take care of their employees and build their companies.

By passing legislation focused on protecting the economic vitality of small businesses in the trucking industry and all other sectors, we will facilitate economic growth for all Americans.

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of this resolution is postponed.

□ 2120

HONORING COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

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

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise to honor the 141st anniversary of the founding of Colorado State University, located in Fort Collins, Colorado.

On February 11, 1870, Colorado Territorial Governor Edward McCook signed the Morrill Act establishing the State Agricultural College in Fort Collins. In its 141 years, Colorado State University has grown to over 26,000 students, 1,400 faculty members, and has become one of the Nation's leading research universities. On average, CSU's research expenditures top \$138 million annually.

To this day, Colorado State University still maintains the commitment of a State agricultural college. It provides countless support for promoting economic development throughout the rural communities in Colorado. CSU has over 90,000-plus alumni that live in the State, accounting for nearly \$4.1 billion annually in household income for Colorado. The CSU alumni list includes State Governors, business leaders, Olympic gold medalists, teachers, researchers, artists, and even a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

I am proud to call myself a Colorado State alumnus. It is my honor to recognize CSU on the House floor for its 141 years of excellence in education and research.

JOBS, THE DEFICIT AND FEDERAL SPENDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOWDY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN) is recognized for 18 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, congratulations. You look good up in the Chair there.

We are going to have a chance to talk for just a few minutes about an interesting topic. It is something on the minds of Americans everywhere, and that is about jobs, about the deficit and about Federal spending and what we have to do in those areas.

I think sometimes it is helpful, you hear so much detail that you need to

step back at the 30,000-foot view and say what is the big picture of what is going on. So I have here one of those traditional pie-type charts, and it has an overview of the total spending of the Federal Government in the year 2010. So what I want to do is just take a look at that and then talk about what that means relative to the problems we have in overspending in the Federal Government.

Also, this connects to unemployment in this sense, that when the Federal Government spends too much money and is too intrusive and takes too much in taxes, all of those things destroy the jobs created by small businesses.

So let's just be completely clear. We have heard stories about unemployment and these "heartless Republicans." The problem is that if you destroy businesses, you don't have any businesses, you don't have any jobs. And that is what we have been doing. How is it we destroy businesses? One, we overtax them; two, we overregulate them with red tape; three, we make it hard from a liquidity point of view to get loans from banks, because the Federal officers are looking over the bankers' shoulders second-guessing the loans; fourth, we create an era of uncertainty because we don't know what the silly government is going to do next; and, last of all, we spend money like mad, which then makes the economy that much harder for our businesses to compete in a world competitive environment.

But let's take a look at this pie chart here, and there is something here that when you start to think about it is really a little bit on the frightening side. Let's take a look at some of the big chunks of money.

The bottom one down here is defense. The Constitution of the United States says that the Congress will provide for the national defense. It is the one main thing that Congress is supposed to do. States can't do it; locales can't do it. It is something that has to be done by the Federal Government. That is why our U.S. Constitution says even in the preamble to provide for the national defense. That is \$692 billion here in the 2010 budget. So there is defense.

This over here is the non-defense, what is called discretionary. These are the funds that Congress spends every year, and that is \$666 billion. This includes things like the Education Department, the Energy Department, the Department of Commerce. It would be jails and prisons, things like that. All of those, the Park Service, would all be in this non-defense discretionary area. So these two, kind of similar size, running in there about a little bit under \$1.5 trillion in total.

Now, the other one that I want to call to your attention, though, is all the rest of these. This is Social Security, this is Medicare, this is Medicaid. And so what these things are, a lot of times people call them mandatory spending. What does that mean?

Well, what it means is that sometime a long time ago a Congress came along, passed these laws, and the law works like a little machine and the machine spits out dollar bills whenever anybody meets certain criteria. So we call it an entitlement. These little machines are spitting out, printing out, dollars; and the Congress doesn't have to do anything at all and the Federal Government is spending lots of money. How much money? Well, Social Security, there is \$700 billion, there is another \$519 billion in Medicare, and Medicaid, \$273 billion.

Another thing that works a little bit like an entitlement is the debt. So if we sell a Treasury bill, we have to pay the interest on it; and when we do that, we get this interest. And then there is these other mandatory things which are really other kinds of entitlements. So it is not just Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. You have got SCHIP, you have got food stamps and things like that that are additional entitlements.

So these things here, when you put all of these together, this is kind of a spooky number. These things come out not too far away from a little over \$2 trillion, maybe \$2.3 trillion. And what does that mean, \$2.3 trillion? What that is, that also is the amount of revenue in a given year for the Federal Government.

So what has happened is all these entitlements now plus the interests on the debt have gotten to the point that they are chewing up all the money that the Federal Government takes in in taxes in a given year. So then the question is, well, how about defense? How about non-defense discretionary? How about these things? Do we have any money? No.

The point of the matter is you can zero this out, zero these out, and these together are using all of the money that the Federal Government is taking in in revenue in a given year. Now, that is kind of scary. What that says is that we are starting to run deficits of over \$1 trillion.

In fact, the Obama deficits for the last 2 years have been about \$1.5 trillion. That is a lot of money. That is three times a bigger deficit than President Bush's worst budget deficit. So you take his worst budget deficit, which is about \$450 billion, and we are talking the last 2 years we are running at a \$1.5 trillion deficit. So this is what is going on.

So let's take a look. If you are like an awful lot of Americans, you want to solve a problem. We have got a problem here. We are apparently spending too much money. So you say, well, what are our alternatives? How do we approach this?

I am thankful this evening also that we have got one of our very bright young freshmen Congressmen from the State of Colorado. SCOTT is here to join us, SCOTT TIPTON. SCOTT, I just want to make sure you knew, any time you want to jump in here, we could talk a little bit about this.