

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, in spite of the empty rhetoric of politicians who promise now and pay later, not even the United States Federal Government can run from the simple principles of economics. When a family continues to spend more than they make, debt will crush them. It will strain their relationships and consume their thoughts. Parents look at their children and wonder how they will afford college.

Motivated by their love, Mom and Dad pull out the checkbook, they go to the kitchen table, and they make a plan. What are we spending now? How can we spend less? Where can we make do? And how can we put us back in the black? Mr. Speaker, that's called a budget. It works in Indiana. And if it works well enough for us Hoosiers, it's good enough for the Federal Government.

Unfortunately, it's been over 800 days since the Senate even passed a budget. Both parties have their fair share in the blame for running us into the red. A balanced budget amendment, however, ought to get bipartisan support here in Washington.

Now is the time for action.

□ 1210

#### DIRTY WATER

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, today the House will take up the so-called Clean Water Cooperative Federal Act, a bill that would more aptly be named the "Dirty Water Act."

Rarely does this body so blatantly attempt to deceive and misinform than in the case of a bill that in neither spirit nor practice seeks cleaner water.

This legislation would render the EPA toothless to enforce the Clean Water Act, giving polluters more leeway to break from clean water standards and make it more difficult for the Army Corps of Engineers to receive constructive advice from environmental experts during the permit process.

Additionally, the bill would make it impossible for the EPA to adjust clean water standards accordingly if new science emerges, an appropriately anti-science provision for those who have promoted a head-in-the-sand attitude toward addressing our environmental problems. We cannot stand by quietly during this attempt to lower water quality standards under the Orwellian mantle of "clean water," and I hope this body does not fall for the "Dirty Water Act."

#### NO-JOBS AGENDA

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

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, we are now in week number 27 of the Republican no-jobs agenda.

It is apparent that after last week's disappointing jobs report, that job growth should be our number one priority. But my colleagues across the aisle seem to have not received this message.

Since January 1, not a single bill focused on job creation has come to the floor. Instead the majority has chosen to have focus on legislation that would roll back energy efficiency standards, clean water protections, and health care improvements.

Now, it seems the majority is threatening to hold the economy hostage. They are refusing to raise the debt ceiling unless we continue providing tax breaks for Big Oil and companies that ship jobs overseas. Instead of focusing on an agenda that balances the budget on the backs of America's middle class and seniors, this Congress needs to focus on a plan that will put America back to work.

My Democratic colleagues and I launched an ambitious Make It in America agenda that will rebuild our manufacturing base, create jobs, and position us for long-term economic competition. Mr. Speaker, the millions of unemployed Americans need us to work together to come up with a viable solution to job growth and rebuild our economy.

#### MAKE IT IN AMERICA

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

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I too rise today because it's obvious to all of us we need initiatives that make America more competitive.

We need to tap into the can-do spirit of Americans and out-innovate the rest of the world, all those things that made this country so great. We must be able to out-innovate, out-educate, and out-build the rest of the world.

As my colleague said, we need to Make It in America. And, yes, we can do it at the same time that we address long-term national debt. We can cut waste and balance the budget, but we also have to ensure the opportunity for growth exists.

In southern Minnesota we have a rich tradition of small businesses building from the ground up, becoming world class, like the Mayo Clinic. We are leading the Nation in renewable energy, biotech research, and ways of providing food for not only this country but the world.

We can support job creation today and in the future by encouraging businesses to make products and innovate here in the United States and sell to the world. Mr. Speaker, when we Make It in America, American families will make it too.

Let's create good-paying jobs here at home, and let's rebuild the middle class.

#### MOURNING THE PASSING OF FORMER MEMBER FRANK MASCARA

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

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep regret that I rise today to inform the House of the passing of our former colleague and my dear good friend, Frank Mascara. Frank passed away earlier this week and will be laid to rest tomorrow in his beloved Washington County in western Pennsylvania.

Frank dedicated his life to public service, serving as county controller in Washington County, followed by 15 years as a county commissioner in Washington County. He then served with distinction in this body from 1995 to 2003, where he dedicated his career to working on transportation issues important not only to his district but to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and all across the country.

Frank will truly be missed. We extend our thoughts and prayers to his wife, Dolores, and their children.

#### WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to stand this morning and simply ask the question, where are the jobs, and why have we been here for some 27 weeks and we have not been able to say to the American people we are on your side?

Let me deviate for a moment and say the debt ceiling that has consumed us is a procedural matter that has occurred over the years and decades of Presidents, Republicans and Democrats. And so let's not castigate President Obama and say a deal would not be made because he is here. Let's look at ways of finding jobs.

The energy industry, for example, has a program that says veterans to jobs, energy jobs. Let's have youth to jobs, 18-35, energy jobs, and begin to create the jobs that Democrats have been fighting for, putting on the floor of the House, job creation.

Let's have the energy industry broadly look at a tax structure that is responsible and invests back in America. And let's realize that the vulnerable cannot be the brunt of our confusion about the debt ceiling. This is not a fight that we need on behalf of the American people.

What we need to do is to say to the American people here is a job, and we are staying on this floor 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to create jobs.

Now is the time for jobs.

#### THE REPUBLICAN ANTI-JOB AGENDA AND THE BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS

(Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia asked and was given permission to address