ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side.

KEYSTONE WILL PRODUCE JOBS

(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, yesterday the President announced to the nation his support of the Keystone XL pipeline extension bill passed by House Republicans due to the inclusion of the Keystone pipeline construction. The President campaigns for jobs, but will sadly veto a jobs bill.

This fall, I was fortunate to visit Alberta, Canada, and witnessed firsthand the environmental safeguards to develop Canadian oil sands. The construction of this environmentally advanced pipeline will create at least 120,000 new American jobs without costing taxpayers a dime and will stimulate our economy.

Walter C. Jones in The Augusta Chronicle reports that refined oil products with no pipeline will be denied to South Carolinians at a north Augusta terminal. Over 13 million Americans looking for work this holiday season and supported it in separate legislation. The XL pipeline makes both energy and economic sense for our country. I hope the administration will find a way to allow the construction to commence in some States while still revisiting the route in Nebraska.

I urge my colleagues to stand in support of the over 13 million Americans looking for work this holiday season and pass a clean extension of the unemployment insurance program.

KEYSTONE PIPELINE

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

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to give thanks today to my House colleagues, who yesterday, in bipartisan fashion, moved to start construction on the Keystone XL pipeline, because it is truly a shovel-ready project that will provide good jobs and secure energy for Americans.

The Keystone pipeline will create nearly 100,000 private sector jobs once completed—20,000 of those jobs generated just to construct the pipeline, with 50 companies in Georgia benefiting from this. And once it’s finished, this pipeline will pump 700,000 gallons of crude oil a day from our friend and neighbor, Canada, a good, reliable, and secure supply of oil.

The environmental impact statements have been completed and the path for the pipeline has been determined. The only thing standing in the way is politics. President Obama has postponed his decision on whether the private sector can build this pipeline until after the next election. If it’s good enough after the election, surely it’s good enough today.

Good jobs. Secure energy. No cost to the taxpayers. It’s a no-brainer.

MAJORITY RISKING TAX CUTS

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

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the majority unwisely gambled with the economic security of the middle class. They voted on legislation that was designed to fail, fully knowing that it will be dead on arrival in the Senate and vetoed by the President. By tying the extension of the payroll tax to controversial and unrelated policies, the majority is playing a dangerous game that could result in tax hikes for 160 million workers. Moreover, by attaching the Medicare doc fix to the same divisive policy, they have jeopardized seniors’ access to their doctors.

We must support a clean extension of the payroll tax holiday and the unemployment insurance that is not paid for through increased health care costs for seniors or at the expense of public health. If we fail to pass a clean extension of the payroll tax holiday or unemployment benefits, the average...