ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, said: Mr. Speaker, yesterday the President announced his intention to veto legislation extending the payroll tax cut for a limited period, and 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.

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 this 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 Senate passed the bill, and President Obama, who yesterday announced he will veto the payroll tax holiday or unemployment insurance that is not paid for, is the one voting no fault of their own.

For those who lost their jobs through no fault of their own, has provided up to 99 weeks of support under the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program, which has provided up to 99 weeks of support for those who lost their jobs through no fault of their own.

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. They voted on legislation that will provide 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 exponentially complicated peoples’ lives and raised the prices of things they need.

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, in order to raise awareness of this problem, this week I formed the Preserving UASI Capability Caucus with Congressman STEVE STIVERS of Columbus, Ohio. I also introduced legislation to preserve the capability gains achieved by communities like Buffalo-Niagara. We have an obligation to protect this investment and the capability gains developed across the nation.

Mr. WARREN of New York. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced legislation to address the current expiration of the payroll tax holiday and the unemployment insurance program. And supported it in separate legislation. The XL pipeline makes both energy and economic sense for our country, and I hope the administration will find a way to stop the construction to commence in some States while still revisiting the route in Nebraska.

Mr. WARREN. Mr. Speaker, 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.