

American family will lose a tax break worth \$1,000 and our economy will lose \$30 billion as the unemployed will lose much needed assistance.

Now is not the time to play risky games with our economy. We must pass a clean extension of the payroll tax and continue assistance for the unemployed.

□ 1210

SUPPORT THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE PROJECT

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

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, as my colleague from west Georgia, Congressman GRAVES, just said, the House took action yesterday to boost our economy and create jobs. And I stand before you now to implore Senate Democrats and President Obama, follow suit and to support the Keystone pipeline project. The pipeline, which has been delayed for more than 3 years by this administration, would be a critical step towards energy independence and job creation in the United States.

This pipeline would transport 1.4 million barrels of oil per day from Canada down to the gulf coast refineries, drastically reducing our reliance on Middle East imports and create, yes, more than 100,000 jobs nationwide. This does include Georgia, where Keystone fuel would be shipped by existing pipelines to terminals in Atlanta, Rome, Augusta, Athens, as well as to other east coast customers.

The time to act is now, Mr. Speaker. I urge my colleagues in the Senate and President Obama to allow production to begin.

HONORING CAPTAIN JAMES HENRY

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary American, fishing Captain James Henry from the town of Mystic, Connecticut. Captain Henry has just published his first book, "In a Fisherman's Language," at the age of 98.

What's even more extraordinary is that Captain Henry was illiterate until the age of 91. But after learning the inspiring story of George Dawson, the grandson of a slave who taught himself to read and write, at the age of 98, Captain Henry began his journey to literacy. A retired East Lyme English teacher and literacy volunteer from eastern Connecticut, Mark Hogan tutored Captain Henry along his journey and helped him edit his book.

"In a Fisherman's Language" artfully weaved together the life of this lobsterman, sharing his stories from his life on his grandfather's farm in Portugal, his work on the boats, a

member of the Connecticut National Guard, a professional boxer, and a ship-fitter at Electric Boat shipyard.

What initially started as a small project has gained international attention. Selling the original 750 copies in just 2 weeks, he's been contacted by film producers, TV stations, and audio book companies, alike, who want to share his story with the world.

It has been quite a long journey from being unable to read and write to being a source of inspiration to young writers and a beacon of hope for those struggling with their own literacy.

I urge my colleagues to read this amazing book, and I salute Captain Henry for his amazing accomplishment.

REGULATIONS

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, throughout this year, House Republicans have been fighting for job creation, working to prevent the Federal Government from damaging our economy and job growth.

The present administration has tried to downplay the effect new regulations will have on companies struggling in the weak economy. Today's Wall Street Journal documents efforts of the White House Office on Information and Regulatory Affairs to muddy the waters about regulations.

The official Obama administration compilation of regulations ignores significant institutions such as the National Labor Relations Board and the Securities and Exchange Commission, yet the number of economically significant rules at all stages has risen to 149, a historic high.

Vast sections of industry are waiting to hear how the Federal Government will change the way they have to do business. How on earth can we expect them to hire new workers when they can't plan with this regulatory uncertainty?

The administration can try to manipulate the numbers, but there can be no doubt that the Federal regulatory juggernaut is holding back job growth.

THE PAYROLL TAX CUT

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

Mr. SCHRADER. Well, folks, your Congress is at it again. Republicans have been talking about debt and deficit for the last year, and here we're going to add nearly \$200 billion in new spending to the deficit. Well, we're going to use a bunch of pay-fors that we're setting aside for the original deficit.

This is the most disingenuous group of folks that I've seen in a long time; and to be honest, a little bit on our side of the aisle. We've been railing about doing anything that would re-

motely affect Social Security, yet we're willing to pass another payroll tax cut that adds to the difficulty of funding our system.

Oh, no. We're going to issue some IOUs. I don't think there is a single American out there that believes that another IOU is a good thing for Social Security. We have got to stop borrowing against our Social Security.

Not only that, the payroll tax, you get only 60 cents back for every dollar you invest. I don't think that's a very good investment. President Bush tried that in 2008, and there was no change in consumption.

What we should be doing is focusing on unemployment, where you get \$1.60 back in economic activity for every dollar you put in, just like the President asked for. And we should have a more robust doc fix that makes sure seniors and doctors get paid what they need to keep Medicare solvent.

THE MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF AND JOB CREATION ACT

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

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Last night the House passed jobs bill number 28 that is now awaiting action from President Obama and the Democratic-controlled Senate.

The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act will protect American workers from higher taxes while ensuring that resources are not taken from the Social Security trust fund to pay for this relief. Most importantly, this legislation includes a measure that will support the creation of more than 100,000 new American jobs by expediting the creation of the Keystone XL energy pipeline.

This Christmas season, Congress and the President have the opportunity to give the American people the gift of jobs and tax relief that they need without spending more money that we do not have.

It is time for President Obama to live up to his own rhetoric of "we can't wait" and put partisan politics aside and get Americans back to work.

THE ANCIENT CHRISTIAN HERITAGE IN TURKEY

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

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I am saddened to report that the ancient Christian heritage in Turkey is being threatened with extinction.

When a government compromises the right of its citizens to peaceably assemble, the right of expression, and the right of independent thought, the people of such a country are not fully free. When a government takes the property of citizens without just compensation and due process of law, the people of that country are not free. And when a