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.

**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 the current 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. It was not until his grandson, a professional boxer, and a shipfitter at Electric Boat shipyard who started teaching him how to read and write that he began to persevere, starting with the alphabet. 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 the current 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.

**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