United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2013 No. 119

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. REED).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 11, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM REED to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MOMENT OF SILENCE COMMEMORATING THE 9/11 ATTACKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House will now observe a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

Will all present please rise for a moment of silence.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

WHERE ARE THE BENGHAZI KILLERS 1 YEAR LATER?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker:

In Libya, al Qaeda cousins, as I call them, the Ansar al-Sharia, claims responsibility for the murder of our U.S. Ambassador and three others. It's no coincidence that these two attacks occurred nearly at the same time, and they both occurred on September 11.

In the past, the United States has always held and went after those that were responsible for this type of conduct. In 1998, when the Kenyan Embassy was attacked and Americans were killed, we responded. Of course, we responded on September 11. We responded after the first World Trade Center bombing. Then, in 1996, when 19 American soldiers were murdered in Saudi Arabia, we responded.

Madam Speaker, the United States must always respond to terrorists, and we must let them be reminded again and again we will respond in an appropriate manner, as we did on September 11. We must respond today, and we must respond tomorrow. I am encouraged that the President will soon address the Nation on what our response will be.

We must hold those responsible personally accountable because we must let people understand that they need to leave us alone. That is what the message needs to be. We must have justice in these terrorist attacks by these individuals against Americans because, Madam Speaker, justice is what we do.

Mr. Speaker, that was the speech I gave on this House floor 1 year ago. September 12, 2013, was when it was given. But it has been 1 year since the attack in Benghazi, Libya; and we still have no answers.

Today, as we remember those who were murdered 12 years ago on September 11, 2001, in New York, Pennsylvania, and at the Pentagon, young and old, from countries all over the world, we should also remember those four Americans murdered 1 year ago in Benghazi, Libya. We went after those first 9/11 killers—as we should. America had resolve, as it usually has had in our history. But the Benghazi killers run free today.

Mr. Speaker, it is ironic that the greatest power that has ever existed, with all our vast resources of military, CIA intelligence, the NSA intelligence, the FBI, we can't capture some killers who killed Americans in Benghazi, Libya. When the media can go and talk to them and have them on television, we can't even find them, capture them, and bring them back to justice. It's been a year. What does that tell the families, what does it tell Americans, when we haven't been able to accomplish this capture of terrorists? We know that Ansar al-Sharia was involved. I said that the day after this murder occurred last year on this House floor.

So today, I filed the Ansar al-Sharia Terrorist Designation Act of 2013. It says, ''Ansar al-Sharia is a terrorist organization, and we must use all resources available to go after these killers.'' We must label them as terrorists and deal with them appropriately.

We're not sure about United States policy today in the Middle East. We don't know what the current U.S. policy is about Americans killed overseas. All we get is a lot of words. Even the White House Press Secretary said, ''Well, Benghazi was a long time ago.'' It seems like more is said than done in the Benghazi episode.

Our enemies continue to test us because they no longer fear us, Mr. Speaker. The world no longer knows where America stands when we are attacked, either at home or abroad, not our allies, not our enemies, and not American citizens.

The President is concerned about Syrians being killed by Syrians. I wish he was just as concerned about Americans being murdered by terrorists in Benghazi, Libya. The administration needs to go after these terrorists by any means necessary and bring them to justice and restore our credibility with the American people, because justice is what we do in this country.

And that's just the way it is.

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Printed on recycled paper.

MO BROOKS OF ALABAMA VOTING ''NO'' ON ATTACKING SYRIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JOYCE). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BROOKS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, President Obama, without consulting Congress or the American people, intervened in Libya's civil war, resulting in the murder of four Americans, including our Ambassador in Benghazi, while creating yet another fertile terrorist recruiting ground. Repeating its Libya mistake, in September 2012, the Obama administration declared that America will intervene in Syria's civil war and work ''to support a Syrian opposition to hasten the day when Assad falls.''

Shortly thereafter, I stood on this floor, stated my opposition to America's intervening in yet another civil war and argued that ''America must stop spending our treasury and risking American lives for those who neither appreciate our sacrifices, nor believe in basic liberties like freedom of religion and freedom of speech.''

I have participated in classified hearings with Secretary of State John Kerry, National Security Adviser Susan Rice, and many others. I have listened to President Obama. The arguments for attacking Syria are unpersuasive.

Absent substantially different circumstances, and consistent with my 2012 opposition to intervening in Syria's civil war, I will vote against attacking Syria, if and when Congress has that vote. I reject the President's argument that the best way to keep Syrians from killing Syrians is for Americans to kill Syrians. America has peaceful options. We should pursue them more vigorously.

There is not the required public support to attack Syria. Americans oppose attacking Syria by a two-to-one ratio. In Alabama's Fifth Congressional District, 1,272 citizens have contacted my office about Syria, and 1,267 citizens oppose attacking Syria. A scant five citizens out of 1,272 support attacking Syria.

The President last night told America that there is no evidence that Syria is a security threat to America that supports preemptive military action. Yet an attack makes Syria and its allies a security threat. President Obama erred when he made Syria's chemical weapons a red line. But a President's verbal gaffes don't justify war. A Syrian war costs money America does not have. Every dollar spent attacking Syria worsens America's deficit and debt, weakens our economy, undermines our ability to pay for national security, and increases the risk of even more defense layoffs and furloughs.

An American attack on Syria aids and abets Syrian rebels. Syrian rebels have beheaded Christians solely because they are Christians. One rebel leader killed a Syrian soldier, cut open his chest, took out his heart, ate it, and then bragged about. Another rebel leader personally executed helpless prisoners of war. I question the wisdom of helping rebels who may be even more evil and barbaric than Syrian President Assad. Yet that is exactly what President Obama proposes.

The White House Syrian strategy is conflicting and amorphous. The President claims he does not seek regime change. Yet in 2012, his administration said the exact opposite. President Obama claims attacks will deter Syria's chemical weapons use, yet his Secretary of State insists that attacks will be ''unbelievably small.''

I have reservations about this administration's ability to handle a delicate foreign policy matter. This administration bungled its Fast and Furious gunrunning program, killing hundreds of innocent Mexicans and an American Border Patrol agent. This administration botched Benghazi and threw in a coverup for good measure. This administration illegally uses the Internal Revenue Service to attack political adversaries. The list goes on and on.

President Obama has cultivated cheerleaders but not players on the field whose militaries will help America attack Syria. America cannot perpetually be the world's only policeman.

In sum, I believe attacking Syria unilaterally makes matters worse, not better. Absent a major international effort to punish Syrian President Assad for his inhumane and criminal use of chemical weapons, I cannot and will not in good conscience vote on the House floor or in the Foreign Affairs or Armed Services Committees to attack Syria.

WAR, PEACE, AND THE CONSTITUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, amidst the international humiliation and farce that we've suffered with our abortive war with Syria, there are two good things the President has done, and they need to be noted. Last night, he stepped back from an international crisis that could have had catastrophic consequences by deferring to the Russian diplomatic initiative. Thank God. And last week, he stepped back from a constitutional crisis by deferring to Congress the decision over whether to go to war—as the Constitution requires.

I've been deeply troubled by suggestions from many otherwise responsible officials and commentators—from both parties—that the President has independent authority as Commander in Chief to order an attack on other countries when he deems it necessary. This cuts right to the core of our Constitution's design, and it evinces an alarming deterioration of the popular understanding of the separation of powers that keeps us free. There is nothing more clear in the American Constitution than that Congress has the sole authority to decide the question of war or peace. Only after Congress has made that decision does the President, as Commander in Chief, have the authority to execute that decision.

For centuries, European monarchs had plunged their nations into bloody and debilitating wars on whim, and the Constitution's Framers wanted to protect the American Republic from that fate. They understood that a President, for example, might someday paint himself into a rhetorical corner and feel compelled to save face by exercising force. That is precisely why they entrusted that fateful decision to the Congress.

James Madison, the Father of the American Constitution, said that its single most important feature was the provision that gave the Congress, and not the President, the authority to go to war.

□ 1015

Here's what he wrote in 1793:

> In no part of the Constitution is more wisdom to be found than in the clause which confides the question of war or peace to the legislature, and not to the executive department. The trust and the temptation would be too great for any one man.
>
> War is in fact the true nurse of executive aggrandizement. In war, a physical force is to be created and it is the executive will which is to direct it. In war, the public treasures are to be unlocked, and it is the executive hand which is to dispense them. Those who are to conduct a war cannot, in the nature of things, be proper or safe judges of whether a war ought to be commenced, continued, or concluded.

In Federalist 69, Alexander Hamilton wrote that one of the most important differences between the British King and the American President is that the King can plunge his nation into war on his command, but that the American President has no such authority.

The Constitutional Convention gave careful consideration to the clause that provides that ''Congress shall declare war.'' They chose that word carefully to make sure that the only independent war-making power of the President is to repel an attack.

The War Powers Act makes this explicit, that absent congressional authority the President can only order our Armed Forces into hostility in response to ''a national emergency created by an attack upon the United States, its Armed Forces, or its territories or possessions.'' Anything else requires prior congressional action.

The United Nations Participation Act, by which we entered the U.N., requires Congress to act before American forces are ordered into hostilities in U.N. actions. The War Powers Act specifically forbids inferring from any treaty the power to order American forces into hostilities without specific congressional authorization.

Now, some have used the past violation of this constitutional stricture—for example, in Kosova or most recently in Libya—as justification for its

violation now. That is precisely the point. If any violation of this fundamental constitutional provision can be used as justification for its outright nullification, well then any such violation must be vigorously resisted lest we lose for all time the most important check on the most momentous decision that a government can make: to go to war.

War is destruction on a massive scale. To unlawfully initiate such a thing is the highest crime that a public official could possibly commit. Indeed, if the power of impeachment were not intended for such an act as that, I cannot imagine what it would be for. The President was absolutely right not to cross that line.

ACCUWEATHER'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 50 years of talented work and ingenuity by a company that is headquartered in State College, Pennsylvania, in Centre Country, an area of central Pennsylvania that I proudly represent. AccuWeather, a content and media company that provides weather forecasting services worldwide, this year celebrates its 50th anniversary.

In November of 1962, Joel Myers, while serving as a one-man consulting firm initially forecasting the weather for just one gas utility company in Pennsylvania, laid the groundwork for AccuWeather. In 1971, AccuWeather began to serve television and radio clients, and later expanded to newspapers. Now home to the most professional meteorologists at any one location anywhere in the world, AccuWeather employs hundreds of individuals, many of whom are graduates of nearby Penn State University, at its global headquarters in State College, Pennsylvania.

Today, Mr. Myers and his team provide services to hundreds of outlets across the planet, including top-ranked newspaper publications, television networks, and thousands of other global locations.

Happy 50th anniversary, AccuWeather.

ECONOMY/UNEMPLOYMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACK) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, the latest jobs report released last week was a sad reminder of just how bad things have been in the Obama economy.

When the President's stimulus was passed in 2009, the administration predicted that our unemployment rate would have fallen to just 5 percent by now. But it hasn't. It remains stuck over 7 percent and would be closer to 10 percent if millions of Americans had not given up looking for work altogether.

In fact, this latest jobs report highlighted a deeply disturbing statistic: the percentage of Americans working or looking for work has dropped to its lowest level since the middle of the Carter administration.

What makes this situation even sadder for Americans across the country is that this does not have to be the case. The President could work with Congress to implement policies that would help our economy grow and help our Americans get back to work. The President could work with us to delay ObamaCare, which is devastating the hiring and employment practices of companies across this country and creating a Nation of part-time workers. The President could join a bipartisan consensus here in Congress and approve the Keystone pipeline that would immediately create 20,000 jobs. The President could drop his continued insistence on tax increases and work with this Congress to pass a comprehensive, revenue-neutral tax reform package that promotes economic growth.

The President has a Congress willing to work with him to help struggling Americans across this country. Whether he chooses to work with us is his decision.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MICHIGAN STATE POLICE TROOPER PAUL BUTTERFIELD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BENISHEK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to honor the life of Michigan State Police Trooper Paul Butterfield, who was tragically killed in the line of duty on September 9, 2013. Trooper Butterfield was an Army veteran who bravely served his community as a State police officer since 1999. He served at the Michigan State Police post in Manistee and in Hart.

Like all of our law enforcement officers, Paul risked everything to ensure our communities and neighborhoods were safe. He gave his life to protect us. His service and sacrifice will never be forgotten. Sadly, northern Michigan has lost a true hero.

To Trooper Butterfield's family, I am aware no words will ever match your deep sorrow. A loss this great can only be eased by the grace that is beyond all worldly powers. But I am hopeful that you will be embraced by the angels of Heaven and comforted by the knowledge that Paul is safely in the hands of God.

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan's First District, I thank Trooper Butterfield for his service and tremendous sacrifice to Michigan and our Nation.

I yield to my friend and colleague from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA).

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Thank you, Dr. BENISHEK.

As was said, Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, Michigan lost a true hero. Trooper Paul Butterfield died from a gunshot wound that he sustained while conducting a ''routine'' traffic stop in Mason County on September 9.

This senseless act of violence will no doubt shake communities throughout northwest Michigan as we wonder why this heartbreaking event ever took place, how it happened in Mason County, and how we make sure it never happens again. Trooper Butterfield's response to the situation has been described by the Michigan State Police as ''perfect'' and that he ''did everything right.''

This tragic loss of life serves as an ever-present reminder that there is no such thing as a routine traffic stop for police officers. And on this special day, September 11, we want to thank all of our first responders for the work that they do.

We must never forget or take for granted the work of the men and women who put their lives on the line for us every day as they protect our kids, our communities, and our country.

Paul, you will not be forgotten by me, the people of the Second District, or throughout Michigan. Again, my heart goes out to Trooper Butterfield's family, his fiancee, his friends, and his colleagues from the State police post in Hart as well as the State police post in Manistee.

Natalie and I and our family will keep you all in our prayers during this time of extraordinary need. And we just want to say to you: Paul, rest well, our friend. Rest well.

TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY OF ATTACK ON AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mark the 12th anniversary of the attack on America of September 11, 2001.

In lieu of formal remarks, I would like to read ''The Names,'' a poem written by then-poet laureate Billy Collins, which was read before a joint session of Congress in lower Manhattan just after the attacks.

''The Names,'' by Billy Collins:

Yesterday, I lay awake in the palm of the night.
A soft rain stole in, unhelped by any breeze,
And when I saw the silver glaze on the windows,
I started with A, with Ackerman, as it happened,
Then Baxter and Calabro,
Davis and Eberling, names falling into place
As droplets fell through the dark.
Names printed on the ceiling of the night.
Names slipping around a watery bend.
Twenty-six willows on the banks of a stream.
In the morning, I walked out barefoot
Among thousands of flowers
Heavy with dew like the eyes of tears,
And each had a name—

Fiori inscribed on a yellow petal
Then Gonzalez and Han, Ishikawa and Jenkins.
Names written in the air
And stitched into the cloth of the day.
A name under a photograph taped to a mailbox.
Monogram on a torn shirt,
I see you spelled out on storefront windows
And on the bright unfurled awnings of this city.
I say the syllables as I turn a corner—
Kelly and Lee,
Medina, Nardella, and O'Connor.
When I peer into the woods,
I see a thick tangle where letters are hidden
As in a puzzle concocted for children.
Parker and Quigley in the twigs of an ash,
Rizzo, Schubert, Torres, and Upton,
Secrets in the boughs of an ancient maple.
Names written in the pale sky.
Names rising in the updraft amid buildings.
Names silent in stone
Or cried out behind a door.
Names blown over the earth and out to sea.
In the evening—weakening light, the last swallows.
A boy on a lake lift his oars.
A woman by a window puts a match to a candle,
And the names are outlined on the rose clouds—
Vanacore and Wallace.
(let X stand, if it can, for the ones unfound)
Then Young and Ziminsky, the final jolt of Z.
Names etched on the head of a pin.
One name spanning a bridge, another undergoing a tunnel.
A blue name needled into the skin.
Names of citizens, workers, mothers and fathers,
The bright-eyed daughter, the quick son.
Alphabet of names in a green field.
Names in the small tracks of birds.
Names lifted from a hat
Or balanced on the tip of the tongue.
Names wheeled into the dim warehouse of memory.
So many names, there is barely room on the walls of the heart.

9/11

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOHO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, today, on September 11, I want to take a moment to reflect on that fateful event on the day of 2001 at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, the fields of Pennsylvania, and again in Benghazi in 2012, and ask that we always remember the resilience and strength of the greatest Nation on Earth.

Mr. Speaker, there are moments in time when we cease to be Republicans and Democrats; politics and punditry melt away, divisions close and differences fade. We come together as Americans, regardless of race, creed, or religion. September 11, 2001, and again in 2012 were and will always be such occasions.

On those days, our Nation came together. That is what makes our Nation great and unique. Not only do we come together to celebrate in triumph, but we stand together in tragedy.

□ 1030

It is in the face of adversity when our resilience is truly tested, and as Americans, time and time again, throughout history, we have passed that test.

Throughout the course of those days heroes ran into buildings and stormed a cockpit, went into burning embassies. They donated blood when it was needed and the clothes off their back.

That, Mr. Speaker, is the true America. Not partisan gridlock, not tension-building punditry, not games of ''gotcha'' or smoke-and-mirrors legislation.

The rallying cry of that day was simple in phrase but monumental in meaning: ''U-S-A.''

Country was first. Everything else was second.

As we tackle the monumental challenges that lie ahead, I ask my colleagues to remember the spirit of that day; to do what is right for America, not for one party over another.

The heroes of that day did what they did not because of any political party but because it was simply the right thing to do. It was the American thing to do.

Americans, regardless of who they voted for, feel the consequences of our decisions each and every day. Today, of all days, let us all remember to put our country first and act as true representatives for the will of all the people.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 30 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Loving and gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day and for a safe return to Washington.

Bless the Members of this assembly as they set upon the important work that faces them. Help them to make wise decisions in a good manner and to carry their responsibilities steadily with high hopes for a better future for our great Nation.

May they be empowered by what they have heard during their home district visits to work together.

On this day, which has become a day of national mourning, help us to remember as well the renewed sense of national courage and resolve that we need to work toward a better future. May we all be inspired by the heroism of so many 12 years ago to be the best that we can be this day.

May all that is done today in the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

WAR FROM TERROR IS FAR FROM OVER

(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, 12 years ago, our Nation was attacked by jihadists who sought to destroy our freedoms. Today, we remember the nearly 3,000 innocent Americans who lost their lives in New York, Washington, and Shanksville. We also pay tribute to those who have successfully fought in Afghanistan and Iraq to keep us safe by defeating terrorists overseas.

Last year, terrorists murdered Ambassador Chris Stevens along with three additional brave Americans at our consulate at Benghazi, Libya. Their efforts to promote democracy will never be forgotten.

We should recognize the war on terrorism is far from over. Conflict continues across the world.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the

11th, 2001, and September the 11th, 2012, at Benghazi in the global war on terrorism.

Todd Beamer was correct: ''Let's roll.''

9/11

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, on this very somber anniversary, we remember the lives of 2,977 innocent men, women, and children who were killed 12 years ago today.

The horrific and brutal attacks that we witnessed the morning of September 11, 2001, forever changed our country and the world. But even during these difficult hours, we also saw inspiring examples of the very best that America has to offer.

We saw first responders who worked day and night searching for survivors at the World Trade Center. We saw thousands of men and women in uniform bravely answer the call to serve our Nation in a new kind of war—a war against terrorism. And we saw Americans all across this great Nation come together united in the certainty that we would recover from this tragedy, hold the perpetrators accountable, and do everything we could to protect our Nation.

As we face a new set of challenges today, let us recall the inspiring examples that we saw 12 years ago and remember that we are all Americans united by a shared set of values and ideals. But most of all, let us honor the lives that were lost and continue to pray for the comfort and peace of all those who still mourn today.

JUSTICE FOR BENGHAZI

(Mrs. WAGNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, for the past 12 years, September 11 has been a day of solemn remembrance in America. And 1 year ago, it was a day of violence in Benghazi that ended with four dead Americans during a planned terrorist track.

Mr. Speaker, as a former United States Ambassador, I rise today in honor of Ambassador Chris Stevens, Information Officer Sean Smith, and Navy SEALs Glen Doherty and Tyrone Woods. Their families and the American people deserve answers; they deserve the truth and, more importantly, justice.

One year later, there are still so many unanswered questions: Why did we not answer the cries for greater security at the U.S. consulate? Why in the days and weeks after Benghazi did the administration lie about the terrorist attack? And who gave the standdown order?

It is shameful that the Obama administration has refused to track and punish those who attacked and murdered these four Americans. The American people deserve answers.

The Congress should convene a select committee to investigate the terrorist attack in Benghazi. The victims' families deserve the truth. The American people deserve a Commander in Chief that stands for strength, liberty, and justice.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SIROUS SADAGHIANI

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Sirous Sadaghiani, a wonderful 9-year-old boy from Dublin in my congressional district who lost his courageous battle with brain cancer this past weekend.

When he was diagnosed 1 year ago, he was given just 6 months to live. But although Sirous had been fighting for his life during the past year, he never gave up and never let his illness get in the way of his curiosity or his kindness for others. I had the privilege of meeting Sirous and his family. He was a smart, passionate boy who lit up a room.

I was so proud to see the entire Dublin community rally behind Sirous and his family with a meal train and fundraisers during this difficult time in their lives.

This month is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, and I am committed to continuing the fight for funding for cancer research so no family has to ever experience losing a child to cancer.

Despite his short life, Sirous' story will continue to inspire others. My condolences go out to his entire family—his dad, Reza; mom, Marlene; twin sister, Sima; and brother, Zachary, who were always by Sirous' side as he fought for his life.

We miss you, Sirous.

AMERICA WILL NOT FORGET

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

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I remember the morning of September 11, 2001, like it was just yesterday. The horror affected everyone in different ways, and each of us remember where we were and whom we were with on that fateful day.

I remember trying to get home from work. I remember turning on the TV. I remember the second plane hitting the second tower. And I remember my rage.

While America has begun to heal from the wounds of those cowardly and terrifying acts over the last decade, the scars remain. With each passing year, this anniversary serves as a moment for reflection and a time to remember the brave and selfless acts of our first responders and the ordinary citizens who committed extraordinary acts of heroism. Most importantly, we will never forget the thousands of innocent people who died in New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

So today, I join my fellow Americans in prayer in remembrance of those who lost their lives on that fateful day. I also will pause to remember the selfless men and women at home and abroad defending our freedoms and liberties to prevent such a horrific day ever again from occurring.

Today—and always—Americans will not forget.

SEQUESTER

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remind my colleagues that we are still operating this Nation under the ridiculous sequester budget. It has been months since these across-the-board cuts were enacted, devastating so many important programs that Americans rely on.

The purpose of the sequestration was to create a scheme of cuts so odious that Congress would do anything possible to avoid them. They went into effect, and we need to work together now to find a compromise to fully reverse these automatic, indiscriminate spending cuts. Leaving them in place will continue to hurt our economy. In fact, sequestration will cost about 750,000 jobs by the end of this year, according to the CBO.

Remember, budgets are statements of priorities; and we should not be asked to place a higher value on airline delays in lieu of Head Start, SNAP, Meals on Wheels, FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund, and public safety, to name only a few.

WE REMEMBER SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, today we pause to remember and reflect upon the heartbreaking attacks our Nation suffered on the morning of September 11, 2001.

We remember the lives lost at the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon, and the passengers on hijacked planes.

We remember the bravery of all the first responders who charged towards the flames and smoke to help their fellow Americans reach safety.

We remember the courageous service of the brave men and women in our Armed Forces and their families as they rose to the moment, responding with force to the cowardly attacks suffered by our great Nation.

We remember a proud and strong United States of America, torn apart

by terror attacks, but united by unyielding and unbending resolve.

Today we honor the determination of our Nation, which rose from the rubble to rebuild not just buildings, but our American spirit.

Mr. Speaker, on today's anniversary, we remember to honor the legacies of those we lost that day. We remember the best of the American patriotism and unity in the moments and days immediately after. And we remember to always keep our servicemen and -women in our best thoughts and prayers.

God bless the United States of America.

9/11

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was in this very building on 9/11. I was here when Members of Congress engaged in a meeting, and obviously not paying attention to the crisis around us until the instruction was given to flee. As we came out of offices and meeting rooms, we saw those who were fleeing and those who were trying to protect leadership, and others of us who were told to flee and hit the ground.

But in actuality, what we began to think of is our loved ones in our district. We thought of America. And then after the fact, we thought of the brave souls that actually were saving lives in the Pentagon as we saw the billowing smoke. We heard the rumors of the White House, the State Department. We thought of those whom we had originally seen in New York. And, as well, we thought of those very, very heroic souls in Pennsylvania.

Having gone to Ground Zero in the early stages when they were still in the recovery stage, I saw first responders still going, still pushing to be able to recognize and to find souls for their loved ones.

So today, I hope that we will honor those who lost their lives from terrorist acts. And, Mr. Speaker, if I might say that we adhere to Isaiah 40:31, no matter what our faith:

> But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint.

I hope America's future is in peace for those lost souls that we lost.

REMEMBERING CAL WORTHINGTON

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of a great Californian, a man who was known all up and down the State as ''Go See Cal''—Cal Worthington. If you're a Californian, you have probably seen his ads starting back in the fifties of Cal and his dog Spot. He was also a great hero as a World War II airman and pilot.

We know him in northern California for his ranch he has in the Orland area, the ''Big W Ranch.'' In most recent years—he never quit giving—he helped out at the Glen Medical Center with an annual event we called ''Splendor in the Valley'' that he hosted at his ranch, which was a huge success for the hospital and just goes to show Cal's big heart.

We miss him already in northern California, as does all the State, because he's just a one-of-a-kind man that you will never replace his character, his humor, and what he does to keep giving to the community.

We lost Cal the other day at the age of 92, and we will always remember him. And Splendor in the Valley will go on with its 10th anniversary this year in his honor.

I ask this place to adjourn in his memory today.

□ 1215

SYRIA

(Ms. HAHN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased with the recent diplomatic proposal to address this terrible crisis in Syria. Peace takes courage, and I am proud we have a President who is willing to embrace this diplomatic option.

The proposals by Russia and Syria have raised the possibility of a real diplomatic solution to the crisis—with Syria possibly agreeing to accept international control of its chemical weapons stockpile.

I hope that this proposal bears fruit, and that the President will do everything he can to make it a reality. But we cannot pretend that military action is a good alternative.

Violence must not be mistaken for strength, and our limited strike risks igniting a dangerously unlimited conflict.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., knew what he was talking about when he said:

> Returning violence for violence only multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars.

Let us give peace a chance to solve the problems that military strikes could not begin to address.

E PLURIBUS UNUM

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

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, peace is a fragile thing. It means more than just the absence of war. The standard for American peace is in our foundational documents: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Those values are universal. They serve as a beacon of hope in times of war and an example to a world filled with oppressors, dictators, and terrorists.

With the creation of the Bill of Rights, our Founding Fathers knew that, in this place, the world's people would come together and live in peace.

In this place, anyone with a good idea can succeed and thrive. In this place, if you can dream it you can do it.

The openness of our society serves as our Nation's greatest strength. The enemies of peace and freedom do not care what we look like, they do not care who we vote for, and they do not care in what part of town you live.

On that fateful September day they attacked us as a whole. We responded by helping our neighbors in their distress and turned lonely strangers into heartfelt friends as our Nation grieved together.

Today, in solemn remembrance of those who lost their lives working to follow their American Dream, we must also remember what we truly represent.

Out of many, one: the last, best hope of mankind.

SEQUESTER

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

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight some of the negative effects the sequester has had on the residents in my district and across the country.

Just yesterday, I met with a young cancer survivor who would not be here today without the help of critical research conducted by our Federal science and health agencies. Arbitrary, mindless cuts to the operating budgets of these agencies jeopardize lives and unfairly target many vulnerable populations.

The sequester affects more than just research. It also affects domestic jobs and puts our public safety at risk. Right in my district's backyard there is a fire raging in Mount Diablo State Park. This fire has decimated thousands of acres of land and threatens local residents. Our resources are stretched too thin, with fire crews being split between several fires around the State, including the Rim fire in Yosemite National Park. It's critical that budgets do not limit the ability of our first responders to react to these disasters.

On this 12th anniversary of 9/11, I urge my colleagues to work together to develop a rational, meaningful budget that moves America forward.

REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF SEPTEMBER 11

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

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I come here today about an hour and 20 minutes after we stood on the Capitol steps remembering the victims of the heinous attacks on September 11.

Everybody remembers, if they're of age, where they were at that time. I was sitting in my office at One Shoreline Plaza in Corpus Christi. When that second plane hit the Twin Towers, I got a feeling in the pit of my stomach that I remember from when I was told my father died when I was a child. It was a devastating moment.

But we cannot let our fear guide us. We've got to be strong, we've got to be vigilant, and we cannot let the terrorists win.

Let's take a moment right now until I'm gaveled out of time to remember and pray for those victims and their families and go forward with our life and reflect how we can do what we need to do so the terrorists don't win.

CR EXTENSION

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, this is, indeed, a sober day of reflection on the events of 9/11. Twelve years ago today, I was on the floor of the House when we got word of the first attacks.

It unleashed a series of horrific events, but those events continue to this day. There is another tragedy that is occurring in Iraq and Afghanistan—the thousands of Iraqi and Afghan nationals whose lives are at risk because they helped Americans as guides, drivers, and interpreters.

That is why we developed a special immigrant visa program—to help these people trapped in the country against those with long memories who seek revenge. But this program is seriously broken.

There are thousands of men and women on this waiting list, some who have died while they wait to have the paperwork processed. The State Department won't even tell us how many are on the waiting list. It is seriously broken. Congress can't fix it. But at least we can put in the CR an extension so that the program doesn't expire at the end of the month and their lives lost.

VOW NEVER TO FORGET 9/11

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 12th anniversary of the September 11 attacks on our great Nation. Though on that day cowardly terrorists hijacked the Islamic religion and used it to justify their murderous acts, what we will remember most is America's strength and resolve.

In the aftermath, Americans of all backgrounds and faiths united as one. Servicemembers and first responders ran toward—not away from—the wreckage. Our Nation continues to set an example to the world as a land of opportunity, tolerance, and independence, and in keeping with our founding document, the promise still of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Mr. Speaker, as we witness the construction of One World Trade Center, we see more than a building rise up through the New York City skyline. It is truly representative of the resilience of the American people, which remains unbroken despite these hardships, challenges, and unthinkable acts.

So today, and every day, we stand tall as Americans as we vow never to forget.

THE 12TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today we mark the 12th anniversary of 9/11, a day that changed America forever.

We remember those who died. We lost close to 3,000 people on 9/11, but many thousands more lost their health and many are suffering from cancer. This body passed the 9/11 health and compensation bill to help them, and I thank my colleagues.

Since that day, much has changed and much has been restored. Ten million people have visited Memorial Plaza that opened in 2011. The 9/11 museum opens next spring. The 104-story Freedom Tower opens next year.

But there are still men and women who suffer—or will suffer—from the effects of that massive toxic stew that enveloped Lower Manhattan for months.

So, on this special day, I would like to remind everyone that the final deadline to register for the benefits under the 9/11 Victims Compensation Fund is October 3. Please let everyone who is eligible know—registering will cost you nothing and may help you and your family tremendously.

THANKING THE FIRST RESPONDERS

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, today is 9/11. We've all talked about it.

When I think about 9/11 I mostly think about—I think about the victims, obviously, but the first responders who were also victims—firemen and policemen in New York City and that area who rushed into harm's way and lost their lives trying to protect others.

We appreciate it and thank those heroic fire people and police people. But sometimes I don't think we keep them in our minds like we should. They're public employees, they're middle class Americans. They're having a tough time, and we need to always appreciate the sacrifices they make to people that keep our liberty here in this country and keep us safe from crime and from horrific circumstances.

I thank the first responders. I appreciate what they did on 9/11 and what they do every day.

REMEMBERING 9/11

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, we all have extremely vivid memories of this day 12 years ago.

Personally, I remember seeing the clouds of smoke from the Pentagon through my office window and the panicked feeling I had as I searched all day for my children who live in New York City but couldn't reach.

I recently saw the emptiness that we all felt captured at Memorial Plaza. We can honor those we lost by remembering that, after the immense tragedy of that day, we rose as a Nation, united in the belief that there was no obstacle we could not overcome together.

Have we lost that spirit?

Many would say that this Congress has been stalled on the best way to lead this Nation, focusing too much on what divides us, losing sight of what brings us together.

It is my hope that we will put aside our differences and come together for the American people. Let us use the sad, traumatic reminder of today and remember that we are all Americans and we all want what is best for our families, our communities, and our country.

SEQUESTRATION

(Mrs. NEGRETE McLEOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. NEGRETE McLEOD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise asking my colleagues to join together to end the sequester.

Many constituents and many business owners have expressed this question over the last 6 months: ''What is Congress going to do about ending the sequester cuts?''

My district has military and Federal contractors that are impacted by these cuts. Head Start programs are serving fewer children, while nutrition programs that serve seniors such as Meals on Wheels are also being cut. Sequester affects our economy and the most vulnerable of our Nation.

That is why we need a balanced approach to repeal sequestration. We need to reach a compromise on a real plan and work out the differences between the House and Senate budgets to end sequester cuts.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF DERRICK LIONEL MARTIN

(Ms. HANABUSA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Derrick Lionel Martin. Derrick was a son of Hawaii, born and raised on the island of Oahu. At an early age, Derrick displayed the intelligence, integrity, and vision needed to be an exemplary American.

In 1978, he enlisted in the United States Army before becoming a member of the Hawaii Army National Guard in 1983. He served honorably until 2001, when he chose to continue his commitment to the United States as a member of the Hawaii Air National Guard. He also served as an officer in the Honolulu Police Department for 25 years.

As a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, Derrick truly understood what it meant to sacrifice for others. A true patriot, he was a man of compassion, understanding, and unwavering resolve. His wife, JoAnn, and two sons, Michael and John, are his greatest legacy and will continue to share Derrick's aloha.

On behalf of the First Congressional District of Hawaii, and the entire State of Hawaii, I would like to bid a fond aloha to Derrick and thank him for his selfless contributions to the defense of our country. As we say in Hawaii, ''a hui hou,'' Derrick—until we meet again.

□ 1230

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BOULDER WEEKLY

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Boulder Weekly—an alternative newspaper based in my hometown of Boulder, Colorado—on 20 years of publication, a challenging feat for any newspaper, even more so for a newspaper that's freely available to readers both in Boulder County, where print editions are freely distributed, as well as nationally over the Internet.

They've had a number of in-depth, incisive reports that have uncovered human rights abuses within our own prison system in Colorado. They've given detailed coverage on the impact of organic farming practices and GMOs and fracking.

It's very difficult these days to find a trusted investigative news source. The Boulder County community is very fortunate to have one in the Boulder Weekly, and I rise to congratulate them on their 20th anniversary.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2775, NO SUBSIDIES WITHOUT VERIFICATION ACT

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 339 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 339

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 2775) to condition the provision of premium and cost-sharing subsidies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act upon a certification that a program to verify household income and other qualifications for such subsidies is operational, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of Georgia). The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 339 provides for the consideration of H.R. 2775, the No Subsidies Without Verification Act of 2013. This is a critical bill as the Obama administration begins to implement and sign up people for the insurance exchanges in literally less than 3 weeks' time.

I am a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. Speaker. I can tell you that the Secretary of Health and Human Services appears ill prepared to verify that the people qualifying for the numerous government handouts and subsidies included in the Affordable Care Act actually meet the income requirements for those subsidies. Because fraud and abuse have been rampant in just about every program that is administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, including Medicare and Medicaid, a certified verification system being in place prior to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act is critical. This bill addresses this extreme deficiency in the inappropriately named Affordable Care Act.

The rule before us today provides for 1 hour of debate equally divided between the majority and the minority. Further, the rule makes a correction to the underlying bill, clarifying that the Inspector General for Health and Human Services, rather than the Secretary, which is a partisan position, is better equipped to oversee the verification process for the eligibility of subsidies. Finally, the minority is afforded the customary motion to recommit, allowing for yet another opportunity to amend the legislation.

H.R. 2775, the No Subsidies Without Verification Act, introduced by Mrs. BLACK from Tennessee, is an important piece of legislation to protect taxpayer dollars from inappropriate expenditure. With less than 3 weeks until enrollment in the health insurance exchanges and they go live, the Obama administration continues to tinker and twist the dials on the Affordable Care Act, exposing the executive branch's lack of readiness for such a massive and fundamental change of the way health care is delivered and administered in this country. In an effort to save their misguided health care takeover, the administration has significantly scaled back the original scope of the Affordable Care Act—cutting corners and delaying any piece of the legislation which becomes inconvenient or, perhaps, embarrassing to the President.

The President has chosen to delay the employer mandate included in the Affordable Care Act; yet has not given that same reprieve to everyday Americans. Why? Why should that be? Because enforcing the employer mandate was inconvenient. The President announced that he could not implement the CLASS Act portion of the Affordable Care Act. Why? Because it was inconvenient. Now the President simply will not enforce the verification requirements to prevent the fraudulent acceptance of subsidies. Why? Because, again, it is inconvenient.

Just 3 months before the exchanges are supposed to go live, on January 1, Health and Human Services decided that on July 5 of this year it would simply accept an applicant's attestation of household income without any certifiable verification. The President's strategy on the health care law is now ''trust; don't verify.''

The Secretary of Health and Human Services has made the opening of the exchanges on October 1 her central priority. However, in facing tight deadlines and daunting workloads, the administration has instead drastically lowered their standards. It's clear from the final rule issued late in the day on July 5, 2013, that the administration will allow any type of flexibility necessary to ensure that their law appears that it is being implemented as planned. Regardless of what you may believe, the administration has been very clear.

The rule states explicitly:

> The exchange may accept the attestation of projected annual household income without further verification for the purposes of the exchange's eligibility determination.

> The administration is more than comfortable with letting over $1 trillion go out the door without verifying that it's going to the correct individuals.

They even state in the final rule:

It is an ideal approach to provide flexibility in the case of many verifications.

Since it's apparently too much work to verify everyone's income, the administration has determined that it is okay with spending over $1 trillion just based on what individuals think they may make in the next year. Instead of admitting that they won't be ready on time, the administration decided that it will just spend the money anyway.

While the constant delaying and changing of the law is worrisome, what should concern all of us the most is what this new change in regulation will do. By eliminating the verification requirement, the only way the government will determine who gets Federal subsidies now is by whoever claims that they, themselves, need the subsidies. Quite frankly, with premiums rising at the rate they are across the country—and they're set to rise even more for calendar year 2015—it seems like everyone will be telling the Department of Health and Human Services that they need subsidies because, quite frankly, no one will be able to afford the President's health insurance. Maybe then it will be good that no one in the administration is checking to see who might be lying about their household income.

While the constant delaying and changing of the law is worrisome, another concern is what this new change in regulation will do. By eliminating the verification requirement, the only way the government will determine who gets Federal subsidies now is by who says they need them. This will open the exchanges to a staggering amount of potential fraud. It's also blatantly political. By doing this, the Obama administration has made it clear they want as many people to sign up for the exchanges as possible no matter their eligibility status. Taxpayers, unfortunately, will be charged with over $1 trillion over the next decade to pay for the exchange subsidies. With over $1 trillion going out the door, shouldn't the American people have the assurance that the government is sending the money to the people who actually need it?

All of this is so the President can reap the public relations benefit of talking about the popularity of exchanges, and so he can salvage his failed signature policy initiative.

I encourage my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on the rule and ''yes'' on the underlying bill. Stand up to this health insurance subsidy fraud.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. I thank the gentleman for yielding me the customary 30 minutes. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule and the underlying bill. This bill is redundant, and it's a waste of time. The Department of Health and Human Services already has a plan in place to review individual information submitted to health care exchanges and to ensure that no one is able to get health insurance tax credits that they aren't eligible for. So, instead of considering these redundant bills, let me talk about what we're not considering here today which would actually solve a problem the American people are demanding that this institution address.

The time to pass comprehensive immigration reform is now. We can do it now. Instead of debating something that's redundant here today, there is a bill that has received more than two-thirds support in the United States Senate. If this body can act on it and can send it to President Obama's desk, finally we will be able to do something to create jobs and increase our competitiveness in the global economy, lower our deficit, ensure our security, and reflect our values as Americans and prevent the undermining of the rule of law that occurs every day, for we have over 10 million people in this country who are undocumented and lack documentation. They're violating our laws. This institution can fix that now. The Senate has acted. Let the House act.

As economists across the political spectrum have found, the economic benefits of immigration reform are tremendous. According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office and the Joint Committee on Taxation, if we act now to pass the Senate comprehensive immigration reform bill, we would reduce the deficit by over $135 billion and, in the following decade, by over $600 billion. Why aren't we spending our time discussing that and passing that here on the floor of the House today? Further, the Senate bill is estimated to boost the output of the U.S. economy by 3.3 percent. It is a 3.3 percent increase to GDP and a reduction in the deficit. That's $700 billion in additional gross domestic product by 2023.

As a June Wall Street Journal article citing Stephen Goss, Social Security's chief actuary, pointed out:

The future fiscal immigration windfall is likely to exceed $4 trillion.

We can shore up Social Security and protect our seniors, and we can prevent any cuts to Social Security by passing immigration reform now. That's what the country wants us to do. Why does it shore up Social Security? Because immigration occurs at a young age. Immigration reform ensures that there are people paying into Social Security—young, healthy workers—particularly as baby boomers retire. As for immigrants, we're talking about people who are already here. Let's make sure they pay their taxes. By not taking this bill up, we are preventing people from paying into Social Security like they should and from paying their taxes like they should. They live in this country. They should pay taxes. According to The Wall Street Journal, immigration reform will result in an extra $600 billion into the Social Security trust fund and will result in over $4 trillion over 75 years.

Another urgent reason that this body should be taking up immigration reform instead of redundant measures around health care reform is our national security. We currently have a porous border; and while progress has been made—in fact, in 2011, the number of illegal border crossings was the lowest since 1972—it was still 327,000. There were 327,000 people who illegally crossed our border. What does that say about our security as a country and about our ability to enforce our immigration laws when over 300,000 people have illegally crossed the border?

There is a solution. It's ready to pass. Let's talk about it, not about redundant bills that don't do anything and aren't going anywhere. The Senate comprehensive immigration bill, while, of course, not perfect, includes unprecedented border and interior enforcement measures.

The bill includes increasing the number of full-time Border Patrol agents from 21,000 to 38,405; mandating an electronic exit system at all ports where Customs and Border Protection agents are deployed; constructing at least 350 additional miles of fencing, bringing the miles of high-tech border fencing to 700; constructing additional Border Control stations and operating bases; mandating 24-hour surveillance of the border region; using mobile, video, portable systems as well as unmanned aircraft; and deploying 1,000 distress beacon stations in areas where migrant deaths occur.

□ 1245

Look, it takes getting serious to secure the border, and this costs money. We can do it in the context of reducing the deficit by over $100 billion, such as the windfall from immigration reform that we effectively get to secure our southern border for free and reduce the deficit by $100 billion and improve the Social Security trust fund to the tune of $4 trillion, giving American seniors the security that they need in their retirement. That's what we can do by bringing the Senate immigration reform bill to the floor of the House right now.

The Senate immigration reform bill also increases American competitiveness. Immigration is the economic engine that's grown our economy for generations. Unfortunately, under our current immigration system, it's not designed to foster job creation. All too often, it undermines American workers, takes jobs away from American workers, leads companies to offshore jobs, to outsource jobs overseas.

I represent a district that has two excellent universities: Colorado State University and the University of Colorado at Boulder. They have great graduate programs in math, engineering, and the sciences. We graduate students with advanced degrees from countries all over the world such as India, Mexico, and China that have the skills that we need to keep America competitive and create jobs. Yet, the day after they

graduate, without any access to a green card, many of these talented young Ph.D.s and master's degree students have to return to their home country. Guess what? The jobs follow them back home in the information economy. The employers don't care whether they're here or there, as long as they contribute to bits and bytes. We want those jobs here in America. We want that income here in America. The bipartisan Senate bill addresses that, as well.

Another component that we have for job creation in America is a start-up visa. This is a way that entrepreneurs with ideas can come to America to start their companies here and employ Americans. For goodness' sake, do we want the great companies of tomorrow employing tens of thousands of people to be overseas just because we don't let the founders come here to start their companies? That's common sense. It creates jobs for Americans. Let's do it.

We also have improvements to the EB–5 program to facilitate in foreign investment and raising capital for American companies to grow jobs here in America.

This body should take up the comprehensive immigration reform bill now—not tomorrow and not in 5 minutes. Now. Let's do it so that we can finally move forward on creating jobs, improving border security, reducing our deficit, and shoring up Social Security.

Another reason that we urgently need to bring up immigration reform now is because the current system is simply out of sync with our values as Americans, our faith values as Jews, Christians, Muslims, every other faith in our country, as well as our American values, the values of our Founding Fathers.

Faith leaders from across the spectrum have been among the most vocal supporters of the Senate comprehensive immigration bill. Over the August recess, the Evangelical Immigration Table, a coalition of faith groups, continued the drumbeat for a vote on the Senate bill and called for an end to the ''cruelty'' perpetuated by the current immigration deportation system. It's completely arbitrary.

Young American children—American citizens, kids, 8, 10, 12 years old in my State and across the country—to our great shame, come home from school to find that their parents are in detention, their parents are not there, their parents are facing deportation proceedings. Why? Perhaps a taillight was out on their car. This is all at a cost to taxpayers of tens of thousands of dollars. They now wait in line for a costly deportation while their American child returns to a home with no parent. How does that reflect our values? As Americans, what is the solution? Pass the Senate comprehensive immigration reform bill now.

The Senate comprehensive immigration reform bill will halt more than 400,000 costly deportations, each one costing taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars, tearing families apart. The bill removes the limitations to the number of visas that legal permanent residents can request for their minor children, for their spouses, ensuring that families aren't separated for years, for generations, while awaiting legal status. It creates a process to clear the estimated 4.4 million person backlog in the family- and employment-based visa system within a decade. It replaces our broken immigration system with one that works, one that reflects our values, and one that respects the rule of law in this country.

The Senate-passed bill would help people like Gabriela, a 20-year-old woman in Colorado, undocumented, recently graduated from high school. Gabriela and her younger sister were brought to the U.S. as young children by their mother. They didn't have a say in the matter. They were brought here. Their mother was deported several years ago, leaving her two children behind. Gabriela is now homeless but has, nevertheless, taken on the responsibility for caring for her younger sister. The Senate bipartisan bill would ensure that families like Gabriela's won't be torn apart. That's not American. That doesn't reflect our values as a country, as a people.

The Senate bill would also assist the young, courageous DREAMers, individuals who were brought to this country as children, completed high school, some college, even military service, grew up in this country, know no other country, and have no pathway to legal status, young people like Javier in my district that I represent who graduated from high school in Summit County. He was the president of the student body. Javier grew up in this country, was brought here when he was young, doesn't have documentation. Javier is an Eagle Scout. Javier is the first in his family to get into a good college, a 4-year university, but his lack of status has made it difficult not only to pursue his dreams of a higher education, but to figure out how he can live his life in a way that contributes to his country, the United States of America. If only we allow him to fully contribute, he will. Young DREAMers across this country will contribute great things to our Nation and make us proud if only we let them.

It's time to stop talking about these redundant, senseless bills and bring up comprehensive immigration reform now. It's a big part of the solution to our fiscal problems: reducing the deficit, shoring up Social Security, and finally getting serious about enforcing our border and enforcing employment verification to prevent companies from hiring people illegally. It improves American competitiveness, creates jobs, and ensures that the great companies of tomorrow will be here in this country instead of overseas; that the people we need to make our economy grow, create jobs for Americans, are here and doing it legally; and to respect the rule of law in this country, rather than undermine the rule of law every day as our current travesty and broken immigration system does.

Finally, we know, Mr. Speaker, that as a people we are better than this. We need an immigration system that reflects our values, our faith values, our American values, our founding principles as a Nation of immigrants and a Nation of laws.

Mr. Speaker, today's debate is really not about the Affordable Care Act or even health care in general. It's politics. It's redundant. I would ask my friends on the other side of the aisle: Why are we not focused on fixing our broken immigration system when we have a bipartisan bill that two-thirds of the Senate has supported, that 75 percent of the American people support, that the President has expressed a willingness to sign? Let's bring that bill up, debate that bill, pass that bill, and solve a problem that the American people are crying out for a solution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Senate-passed bill, in my understanding from recent discussion with the House Parliamentarian, has not arrived in the House. The reason it has not arrived in the House is because it has an origination problem. The Senate, in its haste to rush a bill through, didn't get it right. As a consequence, that bill cannot come in the House.

We're here today to debate the rule for H.R. 2775. One of the things that I do feel obligated to point out—whether it's comprehensive immigration reform, whether it's any of the other things that people talk about—if you have an executive branch that only selectively enforces parts of laws that it wants to, why wouldn't the American people fear what might come out of the selective enforcement of a comprehensive immigration law?

Let me quote to you from the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act signed into law by President Obama on March 21, 2010. This is section 1513, section (d). This is a section that deals with the employer mandate. Section (d):

> Effective date—The amendments made by this section shall apply to months beginning after December 31, 2013.

That doesn't sound ambiguous. That doesn't sound difficult to comprehend, yet we are told that selectively the President has decided he doesn't want to enforce this, that it is inconvenient for him to enforce this, it runs counter to what some of his friends in some of the largest corporations in this country are telling him that they want—not what the American people want, but what they want—and the President simply suspends this part of the law in a blog post on July 2 of this year.

This is a fear that people have in my district: How do we trust that this President is going to enforce the laws that, under the Constitution, he is told that he must enforce? How do we trust

the Attorney General, who has sort of selectively decided what laws suit his purpose and what laws don't and selectively enforces those laws?

Why we are here today is because of the administration's selective enforcement of their law. I wasn't in favor of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. I voted against it. I voted against it in committee. I voted against it in the House version. I voted against it after it came back from the Senate. I'll vote against it every chance I get.

The fact of the matter is the President signed it into law and then decided it's inconvenient. So when the effective date reads, ''The amendments made by this section shall apply to months beginning after December 31, 2013,'' the President decides that's inconvenient and he doesn't want to do that anymore. He just suspends it, even though the law is the law. We never took a vote on that. We never said, Mr. President, we're with you or against you on this. He simply decided.

That's not the way this country is to run. That's not our constitutional Republic that our Founders envisioned for us. This is unilateral government by a ruler, which, by definition, is not allowed under our Constitution.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the rule, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the underlying bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Are we serious about border security? Is the border going to secure itself? There were 300,000 illegal crossings last year. That's almost 1,000 a day. That's 1,000 tomorrow. While Congress is sitting around discussing this stuff, that's 1,000 the next day. It's 1,000 the next day. Every day there will be 1,000 people illegally entering this country. Who knows who they are. Who knows if they represent a security risk.

There's a solution. Let's get serious. Let's increase the number of Border Patrol agents. Let's implement high-tech measures at the border. It's not rocket science.

Guess what? Our friends in the Senate have figured it out. They passed an immigration reform bill that includes provisions that get serious about enforcing our southern border that will substantially reduce—not eliminate—illegal crossings. It won't happen by itself. We have to pass it. We have to bring up that bill and pass it, rather than redundant measures that don't do anything.

Mr. Speaker, the Coalition of Evangelicals have put together an excellent statement of principles on immigration reform. The evangelical Christian leaders have called for a bipartisan solution that respects the God-given dignity of every person, protects the unity of the immediate family, and respects the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I submit this policy statement to the RECORD.

EVANGELICAL STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM

Our national immigration laws have created a moral, economic and political crisis in America. Initiatives to remedy this crisis have led to polarization and name calling in which opponents have misrepresented each other's positions as open borders and amnesty versus deportations of millions. This false choice has led to an unacceptable political stalemate at the federal level at a tragic human cost.

As evangelical Christian leaders, we call for a bipartisan solution on immigration that:

Respects the God-given dignity of every person

Protects the unity of the immediate family

Respects the rule of law

Guarantees secure national borders

Ensures fairness to taxpayers

Establishes a path toward legal status and/or citizenship for those who qualify and who wish to become permanent residents

We urge our nation's leaders to work together with the American people to pass immigration reform that embodies these key principles and that will make our nation proud.

For signatories, go to evangelicalimmigrationtable.com.

It's not only people of faith. It's every American who, as we stare in the mirror at night, a vast majority of whom know that our grandparents, our great-grandparents, perhaps great-great-great-grandparents from the Mayflower, somewhere along the line, Mr. Speaker, our predecessors, our parents and our grandparents, came to these shores seeking opportunity, hope, and freedom, just as so many immigrants do today.

□ 1300

We can create a pathway to citizenship for people who are already here and who already contribute to our country to ensure that they do so legally instead of extralegally. Of course, getting behind those who are already in line in our current legal system. There is no citizenship that becomes anybody's right through this Senate immigration reform bill. It simply creates a line, a line behind those who are already in line, but a light at the end of the tunnel to show that some day those who aspire to give back to this country, to make this country wealthier and more prosperous, those who aspire to pay taxes, those who aspire to contribute to Social Security, those who aspire to live within the rule of law, are able to do so someday.

That families are reunited now, not in 10 years, not in 20 years, and we don't have to ever again tell a young girl coming home from school, sorry, your parents have been removed over a taillight or because they were in the wrong place at the wrong time or because their workplace was raided because of an unscrupulous employer.

We can and we must do better. The urgency is now. Not only are families torn apart every day, not only are there close to a thousand people a day crossing that border illegally, which will continue until we act, but we're costing Americans jobs and opportunities every day as well. Entrepreneurs and founders and folks that are looking at where to start their great next company that will employ thousands or tens of thousands of people are turning away from our shores. We're turning them away from our shores.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon my colleagues to take up comprehensive immigration reform and pass the Senate bill now.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, let me just remind my colleagues here on the floor of the House that we are considering House Resolution 339 that provides for consideration of H.R. 2775, the No Subsidies Without Verification Act of 2013. And despite all of the tactics to distract from that debate, that is what the debate centers on today.

I would like to point out to my colleagues an opinion piece in The Wall Street Journal from today called ''Stopping ObamaCare Fraud.'' I'm going to read a little bit of the opinion piece:

Every politician claims to hate fraud in government, and the House of Representatives will have a chance to prove it Wednesday when it votes to close a gigantic hole for potential abuse in the Affordable Care Act. The Health and Human Services Department announced in July that it won't verify individual eligibility for the tens of billion in insurance subsidies that the law will dole out. Americans are supposed to receive those subsidies based on income and only if their employer doesn't provide federally approved health benefits. But until 2015 the rule will be: come on in, the subsidy is fine.

Health and Human Services will let applicants ''self attest'' that they are legally eligible. No further questions asked. The new ObamaCare exchanges will also be taking the applicant's word on their projected household income. It seems that what it calls ''operational barriers'' continue to prevent Health and Human Services from checking applications against Internal Revenue Service income data.

The administration argues that the fear of later HHS audits will keep applicants honest, though the threat of such checks has hardly prevented other fraud. The Treasury Inspector General estimates that 21 to 25 percent of earned income tax credits go to people who aren't eligible. An equivalent rate of fraud in the Affordable Care Act could mean $250 billion in bad payments in a decade. And does Health and Human Services really plan to claw back overpayments from individual exchange participants?

House Republicans by contrast will offer a vote that matters on Tennessee Representative DIANE BLACK's bill to require the administration to have a verification system in place before it hands out subsidies. Democrats have been unusually quiet in their opposition, perhaps because it is hard to justify voting in effect to give Americans subsidies to which they have no legal entitlement. Savings for taxpayers aside, the political merit of the House bill is that it puts a spotlight on a major ObamaCare failure and makes Democrats vote either to fix it or to simply go along with the failure. It also highlights another case in which with the Obama administration is refusing to enforce black-letter law. Republicans are asking that a vast new entitlement be held to the most basic due diligence, or be prudently delayed until it can. If Democrats can't support that vote, voters should know.

Again, that was from today's Wall Street Journal Review & Outlook.

Mr. Speaker, it's pretty apparent that the administration is only enforcing those parts of the law that it finds in its own best interest, and if something is inconvenient or embarrassing, it suspends the enforcement.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, my colleague says we are discussing some bill related to the Affordable Care Act or health care. It's simply not true that this House is working on health care. The Affordable Care Act is being implemented. It wasn't repealed. I know there was a candidate that ran for President against Mr. Obama that wanted to repeal it. Had he been elected, it still would have had to pass these Chambers. It didn't happen. Elections happened. The health care reforms are being implemented. I just met with some of the folks in the exchanges from my State of Colorado in my office earlier this morning. I realize the House of Representatives has voted 40 times—41 times—to repeal ObamaCare. It's just talk.

The shopping period in the exchanges begins on October 1. Coloradans, like many across the country, are rolling up their sleeves, going to work and figuring out what the Affordable Care Act means. We even had bipartisan support in my State for our law that created the exchange as well. When Connect for Colorado goes online next month, more than 817,000 Coloradans will have access to choosing a health care insurance product through the exchange, more than 80,000 people in my district.

Again, these things are just happening. I mean, this is information that I'm sharing here with the public. This has nothing to do with these bills that we're talking about, 40 repeals of ObamaCare, this redundant bill here today, where they like or don't like what the President is doing, they want to do it themselves they like what President Obama is doing so much.

I mean, these things are nothing. These things aren't going to the Senate. These things aren't being signed. They are absolutely symbolic and a complete waste of time, while this body hasn't spent 1 minute on the floor in consideration of an immigration reform bill; not 1 minute, which is why I'm taking this time, instead of talking about nothing—nothing, nothing, nothing—41 repeals of Affordable Care Act when it ain't going to happen because elections matter and have consequences—nothing—not 1 minute on something, something big: securing our border, restoring the rule of law, reducing our deficit, shoring up Social Security, improving our national security, making sure that our system is aligned with our values.

These are big deals. Not 1 minute. Not 1 minute. A lot of time on nothing, nothing, nothing, nothing. That's what we're doing today; it's what we did yesterday. I sure hope it's not what we're doing tomorrow, but, sadly, I'm not optimistic.

We need to act, Mr. Speaker, on so many pressing national issues. Surely we can spare 1 minute or 10 minutes or 15 minutes to discuss and pass the Senate immigration reform bill instead of this nothing. This nothing going nowhere, just like yesterday, just like tomorrow.

We can do better, Mr. Speaker. This Nation deserves an institution in the House of Representatives that serves the people of this country, serves the people in addressing real issues that they face; people that are tired of the undermining of our law by people working illegally, people that are tired of families being torn apart, and people that are tired of a thousand people a day illegally crossing our southern border today, and yes, tomorrow because of the refusal of this body to allow even 1 minute to discuss or debate a bill on immigration reform.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I would remind everyone in the House Chamber that seven times the House has voted to restrict, delay, defund a portion of the Affordable Care Act; seven times those have passed into law and been signed by the President.

This is an important effort. This was a massive overtaking of the country's health care system that was passed in not a bipartisan fashion but a single-party vote in March of 2010. The President has decided now even with his own law, he got everything he wanted in the law, he's going to selectively enforce. If we're going to talk about the rule of law, let's talk about the rule of law.

The bill rule before us today is a good rule. It ensures that those taxpayer subsidies are going to individuals who are deserving of those subsidies. And for crying out loud, let's stop the crooks.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. I would inquire if the gentleman has any remaining speakers?

Mr. BURGESS. The gentleman from Texas has unlimited speakers in himself; but beyond me, no.

Mr. POLIS. Okay. The hordes of people coming to speak on this bill were not apparent to me here, but I'm prepared to close, Mr. Speaker, seeing no speakers, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, despite spending hours and days of debate here on the Affordable Care Act, repealing it, defunding it, it's being implemented. That's happening. Elections have consequences. As the Speaker of this esteemed body himself has said, to paraphrase, it is unlikely we'll repeal ObamaCare with a fellow named Obama in the White House. That's simply a truism. Yet here we are today discussing something that will go nowhere and does nothing, instead of something that goes somewhere and does something.

This bill before us fails to replace our broken immigration system with one that works. If this bill before us today passes, I guarantee you that a thousand people will continue to cross illegally into the country tomorrow, the next day, and the next day. This bill does not secure our border at all. This bill does not reduce our deficit by over $100 billion. This bill does not reflect our values in our immigration system. This bill does not allow us to look in the mirror at night knowing that we are a Nation of immigrants and a Nation of laws, and we must reconcile those two.

The Senate passed a bipartisan comprehensive immigration bill last June, a bill that holds true to these principles, these principles of fiscal responsibility, reducing our deficit, shoring up Social Security, the principle of national security, of finally getting serious about securing our southern border, implementing mandatory workplace authentication to ensure that employers are following the law, the principle of job creation and competitiveness, ensuring that the great companies of tomorrow are based here and that we have access to the talent we need to be great and grow our economy as a country. The Senate comprehensive immigration reform bill would grow our GDP by over 3.3 percent. This bill will not. This bill will not.

And finally, this bill does nothing to address the concerns that have been raised by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, by the Evangelical Immigration Table, by faith-based groups in a broad coalition across this country, and by those who value our traditions and our values as Americans.

This bill does nothing to reconcile our immigration system with our values; and the Senate immigration bill does. We can take it up now. We can pass it now. The President has expressed a willingness to sign it now. I encourage my colleagues to vote ''no'' and defeat the previous question, to vote ''no'' on this restrictive rule and unnecessary bill so that finally we can bring forward the Senate immigration reform bill, pass it, and send it to the President of the United States to get serious about addressing problems the American people by an overwhelming majority actually want us to solve.

□ 1315

The Senate bipartisan bill would bring people like Javier out of the shadows, reunite Gabriella and her sister with her parents, and provide them with an accelerated 5-year path to earn permanent residence so that they can contribute to making our country even greater.

Mr. Speaker, today's debate isn't really about the Affordable Care Act, or even health care in general. What's happening is happening. Some people like it; some people don't. It's happening.

This debate is purely politics. I ask my friends on the other side of the aisle, Why are we not focused on replacing our broken immigration system with one that works?

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle, join me in voting ''no,'' defeating this rule, and defeating the previous question. Perhaps we can finally get to work on the people's business here in the House of Representatives and finally fix our broken immigration system and replace it with one that works for our prosperity, our security, and for job creation for Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Again, let me remind you why we are here today. We are here today because the President, who signed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act into law in March of 2010, on July 2 of this year decided he was not going to enforce a portion of the law. Unilaterally, the President made the decision, didn't consult with Congress, put it out in a blog post on one of their White House Web sites on July 2.

Then 3 days later, on the Friday before the Fourth of July weekend, they came out with a raft of regulations; and buried within that raft of regulations was the fact that, oh, by the way, we're not checking anybody who comes in. We'll rely on self-attestation.

They were required to do that because, by not enforcing the employer mandate that was in their law that they signed, by not enforcing the employer mandate, the data would not be collected and, in fact, there was no way to enforce that data.

So we simply don't need the data. We'll trust; people are going to be honest. If they come in and say they need a subsidy, of course they need a subsidy. We'll give it to them. And, yeah, at some point, it might even be checked against their IRS records.

How are you going to call that back from someone who doesn't have the money anymore because, after all, the dollars and the subsidy don't go to the individual; they go to the insurance company. It's not like that individual went and deposited that in a bank account. It went to their insurance company to buy their health insurance.

The money's been spent, the policy has been utilized or not, but that water is under the bridge.

I didn't ask for this debate. I didn't ask for the President to sign the health care bill into law, but he did. But then I sure didn't ask him to just delay parts of it.

If anything is inconvenient to you, Mr. President, just kind of put it away, put it to the side.

All kinds of things have fallen off the Affordable Care Act as it's bucked and burped down the road towards implementation. You may remember the debate about preexisting conditions. What about the Federal preexisting condition program?

Anyone who showed up after February 1 of this year to be covered under the Federal preexisting condition program was told, sorry, the window is closed; we're not signing up any more individuals because we're out of money. So they had to wait 11 months until the Elysian Fields of the Affordable Care Act spread out before them.

But what are they to do for that 11 months if they've got a diagnosis which is incompatible with life unless they get treatment?

But the administration didn't care about that. They simply suspended enrollment to the preexisting condition program.

Well, what about the caps on out-of-pocket expenses that an individual could incur during a year?

Under the Affordable Care Act there were caps signed in law by the President. Well, the caps were excluded because it's kind of inconvenient, and we don't want to do that anymore.

The small business health exchanges are delayed for a year. What else is going to fall off this thing as it lurches towards implementation on January 1?

I don't know. But I do know this: we have an opportunity today to vote on a rule that allows the bill to come to the floor that will require that the Department of Health and Human Services, the Inspector General, ensure that those individuals who come and say, hey, I'm eligible for a subsidy, to ensure that they are, in fact, eligible for that subsidy.

We fight all the time in committee with money going out the door at the Department of Health and Human Services, the pay-and-chase model. It clearly doesn't work.

Medicare and Medicaid, inappropriate payments, inefficient expenditures happen all the time. Let's not make that worse. Let's stop paying the crooks. We have an opportunity today to stop paying the crooks.

Mr. Speaker, today's rule provides for the consideration of a critical bill to protect taxpayer dollars from the rampant fraud inevitable in an undertaking as massive as the health insurance overhaul that is known as ObamaCare.

I congratulate my colleague from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACK) for her thoughtful piece of legislation. And for that reason, I encourage my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on the rule and ''yes'' on the underlying bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1410

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YODER) at 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on H. Res. 339; adoption of H. Res. 339, if ordered; and agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2775, NO SUBSIDIES WITHOUT VERIFICATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 339) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2775) to condition the provision of premium and cost-sharing subsidies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act upon a certification that a program to verify household income and other qualifications for such subsidies is operational, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 227, nays 196, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 456]

YEAS—227

Aderholt	Carter	Fleischmann
Alexander	Cassidy	Fleming
Amash	Chabot	Flores
Amodei	Chaffetz	Forbes
Bachmann	Coble	Fortenberry
Bachus	Coffman	Foxx
Barletta	Cole	Franks (AZ)
Barr	Collins (GA)	Frelinghuysen
Barton	Collins (NY)	Gardner
Benishek	Conaway	Garrett
Bentivolio	Cook	Gerlach
Bilirakis	Cotton	Gibbs
Bishop (UT)	Cramer	Gibson
Black	Crawford	Gingrey (GA)
Blackburn	Crenshaw	Gohmert
Boustany	Culberson	Goodlatte
Brady (TX)	Daines	Gosar
Bridenstine	Davis, Rodney	Gowdy
Brooks (AL)	Dent	Granger
Brooks (IN)	DeSantis	Graves (GA)
Broun (GA)	DesJarlais	Graves (MO)
Buchanan	Diaz-Balart	Griffin (AR)
Bucshon	Duffy	Griffith (VA)
Burgess	Duncan (SC)	Guthrie
Calvert	Duncan (TN)	Hall
Camp	Ellmers	Hanna
Campbell	Farenthold	Harper
Cantor	Fincher	Harris
Capito	Fitzpatrick	Hartzler

Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Marino
Massie
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Radel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NAYS—196

Andrews
Barber
Barrow (GA)
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Matheson
Matsui
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—9

Cartwright
Denham
Grimm
Herrera Beutler
McCarthy (NY)
Nadler
Olson
Payne
Young (FL)

□ 1437

Messrs. SIRES, McDERMOTT, GEORGE MILLER of California, CARSON of Indiana, and NEAL changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 228, nays 195, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 457]

YEAS—228

Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Marino
Massie
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Radel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NAYS—195

Andrews
Barber
Barrow (GA)
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Matheson
Matsui
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz

Waters	Waxman	Wilson (FL)
Watt	Welch	Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—9

Grimm	Nadler	Rigell
Herrera Beutler	Olson	Ruppersberger
McCarthy (NY)	Payne	Young (FL)

□ 1446

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN changed her vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2918

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent my name be removed as cosponsor on H.R. 2918.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1077

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 1077.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of an extraordinary public servant, beloved colleague, gifted statesman, and fellow Floridian, Congressman E. Clay Shaw, Jr.

Clay passed away peacefully last night, surrounded by his loving and supportive family, after struggling with lung cancer for many years. Clay was born and reared in south Florida and developed into a hardworking, remarkable man, a strong voice for his district, as well as for the entire Sunshine State.

Mayor of Fort Lauderdale at an early age, Clay quickly earned the respect of our community and cultivated the skills necessary to be elected to the House of Representatives in 1980, serving here honorably for 26 years. Clay set the bar high for a true gentleman, and all who knew him can recall his charming, old-school approach to life. He worked in a bipartisan manner, similar to Congressmen Dante Fascell and Bill Lehman, who also recently passed away.

I am honored to have served with such a remarkable man as E. Clay Shaw. He'll be remembered as a man of sterling character and high ideals, a pillar of our community and a man of this institution.

Clay is survived by his wife of 53 years, Emilie, who was always at his side. I ask for all of us here in this Chamber to take a moment of silence in recognition of the great contributions and sacrifice of a truly dedicated public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF DR. CLARENCE BROOKS

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Dr. Clarence Brooks, a man dedicated to his family, community, and friends. Dr. Clarence Brooks was a generous man who committed his life to serving the community. His legacy spans 61 years and two generations.

Dr. Clarence Brooks graduated from Howard University Medical School in 1975 at the age of 24. And as the youngest member of his class, he was recognized as the number one medical student in family practice. Dr. Clarence Brooks immediately returned to his hometown of Fort Worth and joined his family practice, Brooks Clinic, which was founded by his father and his uncle. Dr. Brooks served an average of 60 patients a day, acted as medical director of two nursing homes, delivered babies, and worked hospital rotations at two local hospitals.

In 1976, Dr. Brooks was named president of the Texas Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation and traveled the State educating communities on the disease and the benefits of being tested. He believed in giving back to the community. Dr. Clarence Brooks supported many young people in realizing their passions in medicine, music, and art. Additionally, he provided low-cost athletic physicals to high school students so they could join athletic teams. I benefited from those low-cost athletic physicals he provided.

He dedicated his medical degree and life as a resource to the benefit of the community. For over 30 years, Dr. Clarence Brooks continued the Brooks' open-door policy to treat everyone regardless of whether or not they had the ability to pay, so they could have medical treatment.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Dr. Clarence Brooks, whose kind spirit and dedicated service touched the lives of so many in Fort Worth at his clinic on Evans Avenue. He will be sorely missed.

I offer my condolences to his wife, Sonya; his two daughters, Leigh Butler and Codie Brooks; two grandsons, Caleb and Gavin Butler; his brother, Roy, and his wife, Jennifer; three sisters, Marion Bryant, Carol Brooks, and Marie Ann Washington; and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

May he rest in peace, Mr. Speaker.

CONGRATULATING JACKSON ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jackson Electric Membership Corporation on its 75th anniversary. This year, Jackson EMC will mark 75 years of providing reliable, affordable energy to homes and businesses throughout 10 Georgia counties.

The Jackson EMC has the distinction of being the largest electric cooperative in the State of Georgia and the second-largest in the United States. While Jackson EMC has grown exponentially since its founding in 1938, it continues to offer its original membership fee of only $5. Today, Jackson EMC serves more than 210,000 meters and benefits its members with rates substantially below the State and national average.

While I am sorry to miss the 75th anniversary celebration, I want to extend my congratulations and best wishes to all Jackson employees and members, which include myself. May the next 75 years bring even more innovation and continued success in providing affordable energy needed to fuel Georgia's economy.

□ 1500

THE SYRIAN CRISIS

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as the ranking member on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I want to associate myself with the remarks of President Obama last night in his speech to the Nation.

I, like everyone else, hope that a diplomatic solution can be found and that

somehow, between Russia, Syria and the United States, we can find common ground where Assad will not have his weapons of mass destruction and will be put under international control.

But if this is possible, I believe it was only possible because there is a credible threat of U.S. military might, and that causes the equation of both the Russians and the Syrians to think about the United States.

And that's why I believe so strongly that if this falls apart, we need to strike in Syria to let Assad know that it is unacceptable to gas the civilian population. It is indeed a war crime.

Many of us today watched pictures of children foaming at the mouth and dying and shaking, and it's just something that will live with me for the rest of my life.

So I think what the President's proposing is balanced; it's moderate. I will vote ''yes,'' and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DEMAND JUSTICE

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

Mr. DESANTIS. Mr. Speaker, the attacks of September 11, 2001, caused many Americans to appreciate the danger posed by Islamic-inspired terrorism. Following September 11, 2001, Americans from all walks of life resolved that we would bring swift and harsh justice to America's enemies.

The routing of al Qaeda and the Taliban following 9/11 showed that terrorists and those who harbor them would pay a steep price for their barbarism. Even when some targets, such as Osama bin Laden, remained illusive, America continued to press forward patiently until we finally exacted justice.

On September 11, 2012, 1 year ago today, four of our fellow citizens, including our Ambassador to Libya, were massacred by Islamic terrorists in Benghazi. The targeting of a diplomat breached recognized standards of civilized behavior that stretch back centuries.

And yet, one year later, justice has not been brought to our enemies in Benghazi. Have we lost our resolve?

Our enemies hide in plain sight, speaking with journalists and boasting of their crimes. The victims of the Benghazi attack deserve justice. The American people demand justice.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS TEAM

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

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my alma mater, the great University of Florida, and our incredible women's gymnastic team, who earned their first NCAA Super Six National Championship.

I'm very proud of our Lady Gators, as they proved that hard work, tireless dedication and passion lead to great things. I know that, under the direction of Coach Faehn, many of these young ladies will represent not just the Gator Nation, but our Nation, the United States of America, in the next Olympics.

Ladies, I commend you for your exceptional work ethic, your talent and drive in achieving this title. Congratulations, ladies.

And as we like to say back home in Gainesville, it's great to be a Florida Gator and part of the Gator Nation.

TODAY IS A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, this is a day of remembrance. It is a solemn day. It is a day that brings back tragic memories for all of us. And then, in some ways, it brings great hope.

We all remember where we were on 9/11/2001. And I know there are some that say, I just can't take seeing what happened that day; I don't want to see any more video. And I would only submit, it is important not to forget.

To fly planes into buildings, use them as bombs, is an act of war, just as dropping bombs in Pearl Harbor was an act of war. Even though there were no boots on the ground at Pearl Harbor, even though there were no boots on the ground in New York City or Washington, D.C., using bombs, whether planes or missiles are personally set, they're acts of war.

I wasn't aware until this past weekend that there's only been one time when article 5 of our NATO alliance has been triggered. That article of the NATO alliance is a mandatory requirement, and it requires that when any signatory to NATO, any member of NATO is attacked in an act of war, then all other members of NATO must take it as if they've been attacked in an act of war and go to war against whoever attacked one of the NATO members.

The only time that's been triggered was 9/11 of 2001 when the United States was attacked. Because of the treaty, it's not a voluntary act on behalf of the member states of NATO. It doesn't require the request of the attacked country.

But it had gone without my notice, but the countries that were part of NATO immediately, that day, 9/11/2001, were instantly at war with whatever country attacked us. The problem was we didn't know who attacked us; and, as a result, it did end up eventually causing other countries to go with us into Afghanistan and Iraq.

Actually, within about 4 months of going into Afghanistan, with less than 500 special ops and intelligence individuals, the Taliban was defeated. And then came our mistake, where we added tens of thousands of American troops and allied troops and we became occupiers instead of those that defeated the Taliban, and left the country back in the hands of those who should have had it.

But 9/11 should truly evoke the emotions that we had that day, as people were trapped 1,000 feet or so above the street surface and had to make a decision, do I want to burn up in a horrible burning death, or do I jump to my death?

I think most all of us resolved that day, including those of us who were not in Congress, that it should be our job, as a Nation, to ensure that Americans were never put to a choice like that again, ever.

Actions we knew had to be taken, and authorization of use of military force was passed. In the haste to get it passed to give the President authority to go forward, it had far too much flexibility. So we have been able successfully to rein some of that in in the past months. More work has to be done.

But in the Middle East, the question is coming up in the last few days from leaders over there who did not wish to be identified publicly, but the questions were asked:

Do the people in your government not understand that on 9/11 you had radical Islamists, Muslim Brotherhood people, al Qaeda, trained by the Taliban, but Muslim Brotherhood at the core, that attacked you?

And you went to war, you said, against al Qaeda, the Taliban, and that the Muslim Brotherhood supports them. And you're at war with them.

And then do you not remember that that's who you've been at war with?

And this administration, the Obama administration, has said they're not engaged in a war on terror. They're only at war with al Qaeda. And they mistakenly thought al Qaeda was on the run. Well, if they were on the run, it was a run toward killing more people.

And these leaders in the Middle East have asked: If you could remember that, then why did you come into Egypt and demand the ouster of your ally, with whom you had agreements, with whom you were working, with whom you were making sure, as best that you could, and the Egyptian leader Mubarak could, that he would try to maintain as much peace with Israel as possible?

So you had all these agreements with him, just like you do with us.

And then Qadhafi was a bad man. But after 2003, when you invaded Iraq, it scared him so badly that he became your ally. You had many agreements with him, he and family members, particularly family members. I remember meeting his son here, who said he was

meeting with people in the administration, was going around Capitol Hill meeting. I didn't have a meeting with him, other than just meeting him, someone introducing him. But this was Qadhafi's family here because after 2003, he had become our ally.

And as some in the Middle East have pointed out, he was doing everything he could to provide you information with who the terrorists were. He was your partner. You had agreements with him. You had signed agreements, verbal agreements. He was your partner, and you turned on him.

And even Assad, as bad a guy as most people knew he was and is, you had Secretary Clinton out there saying, oh, Assad's a reformer. He's going to be okay.

But we have watched you, with the Northern Alliance, with Mubarak, with Qadhafi, with all of these people who were your friends, your allies with whom you had agreements, and you tossed them aside and ran them out of office, only to give control to the Muslim Brotherhood.

We do not understand what you're doing; and privately we ask among ourselves here in the Middle East, Which one of us, your allies, will you turn against next?

Which one of us will you decide is a throwaway, you don't need us anymore?

We're concerned, but we don't want to tell people because we don't want them to take that as a sign they need to be coming after us and us be the ones they discard next.

That's no way to have an international policy. It's no way to be the greatest peacemaker in the world, when your allies worry because they've seen you completely disregard signed agreements, verbal agreements, pats on the back.

I mean, you know, when you see the videos of our great Secretary of State Kerry sitting with Assad, having lavish meals and meetings and then all of a sudden he's such a horrendous ogre that you've got to hurt him somehow.

And this stuff about America is the only one that can effectively hit Syria, so we have to be the ones. Why wouldn't it be someone who is in harm's way who actually could perhaps put boots on the ground, go in and destroy chemical weapons?

□ 1515

For heaven's sake, to see Vladimir Putin end up playing the high card, being the diplomat was incredible. It should have been the U.S. administration that said that we're going to do, actually, what George W. Bush did before the Iraq war. He tried every diplomatic approach he could. He went to the U.N. repeatedly. They got resolutions passed ordering Iraq to open up their weapons systems, ordering Iraq to do the right things, which they refused to do. The first reaction of the much-maligned George W. Bush administration was to go to the U.N., get agreements, get resolutions passed, and then enforce those resolutions.

So we've come to a sad day, now 12 years after 9/11 of 2001, where we're not the ones who proposed diplomacy before we come in and act like a bully in a country in which there was no national security interest, just as our Secretary of Defense Bob Gates said before the administration bombed Qadhafi, destroyed his air force, and made it possible for the rebels, including all the al Qaeda that were immersed within them, to take over Libya; and that ultimately led to a year ago, when our Ambassador, Sean Smith, Ty Woods, and Glen Doherty were killed and others wounded.

Bad decisions have consequences. Most everyone is familiar with the old adage that those who refuse to learn from history are destined to repeat it. The trouble is you cannot learn from history until you learn what the history was. So when some may be tempted to ask what difference it makes with what happened at Benghazi a year ago, it makes a difference in avoiding repeating history because we could not learn from history because the administration was hiding the truth.

I have come to meet and know surviving family members of those we lost in Benghazi. They feel like the blood of their loved ones should be enough to require truth. They would like to think if there was anything accomplished by the loss of their loved one, it could be that we could learn our lessons to be sure it didn't happen again.

Unfortunately, after two U.S. Embassies were attacked and people died in the late 1990s during the Clinton administration, the truth was not effectively and completely learned, and we didn't learn properly from those lessons. So we have to learn another lesson at Benghazi, which was a year ago today. But we can't learn a lesson when we don't know what the truth is.

And it scares our allies. They don't know if they can trust us. Members of Congress can be a big help in letting allies know that, hey, we appreciate the peace you're trying to bring. We appreciate what you're trying to do. Let us know if there's something we need to take up, hearings we need to have in Congress, an appropriation we need to get rid of because it's doing more harm than good. Let us know. It's a wonderful thing to have working relationships with people on the other side of the world that are in the hotspots.

I continue to communicate with Ty Woods' widow. Ty and Dorothy have a young son. She said he's got so much of Ty in him that he's more than a handful. Because that's an American hero. Ty and Glen were two men who heard that our people were under attack; and rather than go on planning for a campaign trip the next day or sitting down and having meals with others, casually going through conversations, whatever is done, that's not what these two former SEALs did. We knew there were two former Navy SEALs, but it's outrageous that when the names were released, this administration used the words ''they were killed while seeking cover.'' I didn't know Ty Woods and I didn't know Glen Doherty. I had never met them personally. I certainly have come to know them vicariously since. But I know enough SEALs, former and present, to know that those two former Navy SEALs did not die seeking cover. I knew it instantly when I read that. What an outrage.

When I was in the Army at Fort Benning, we were not at war. We should have gone to war with Iran over the attack, the act of war in 1979 against our Embassy. And I think if we had demanded their return within 48 hours or it would be the entire hell that America could bring to bear would come down on Iran if one hostage was harmed, and I always felt during those first few days when they kept saying the students had these hostages, that if we had had a backbone and made a demand and been willing to back it up, they would have released them. And if they had not and we had shown them we were not a paper tiger or a toothless tiger, that we would not have lost the thousands and thousands of Americans we have since. And it would not have been able to be used as a recruiting tool to recruit radical Islamists by telling them, look at what they did in Tehran. They fled Vietnam. The next incident is 1979. They did nothing. They were totally helpless, begging us to let their people go. That's all they would do.

There was a failed rescue attempt, which I would submit failed because of the leadership at the White House and the restraints that were put on them from the beginning. But there is a price when proper decisions are not made. And that weighs heavy on any President. I know it weighs heavy on President Obama. But, for heaven's sake, we have got to learn. It's been 12 years. A year ago, when it was just 11 years, our lessons had not been learned. And so more Americans die in Libya.

I know that people in this administration mean that they have love and respect and admiration for those who were killed in Benghazi; but I would humbly submit that love, respect, and admiration that leads to lies and cover-ups are not actually love, respect, and admiration. It is the lowest form of contempt. These heroes deserve better.

One of the greatest speeches I ever heard was by a man named Barack Obama. I heard the speech. It touched me deeply. We shouldn't be a red State or a blue State. We shouldn't be black or white. We should be Americans. And I want so desperately for this country to come together in that way, and I know it can happen, because I saw it happen on September 12, 2001.

I was a judge at the time, and I watched as hundreds of people came into our town square, as they did all over the country. America came together. There was no red America, blue America. There was not a single hyphenated America in this country on 9/

12. We all held hands, embraced, touched in some way, as we sang ''God Bless America'' and ''Amazing Grace'' and prayed together. And I looked around and my heart soared as I saw Americans—skin color didn't matter, creed didn't matter, national origin didn't matter, age didn't matter. We were Americans standing together. But you can't have trust, you can't stand together when you know someone next to you is not being truthful. They are being deceptive. They are covering up.

So it's heartbreaking that this article today from CBS Interactive, Inc., says:

One year after the September 11, 2012, terrorist attacks on Americans in Benghazi, Libya, no arrests have been reported but the Justice Department says investigators have made very significant process.

On down, it says:

Last month, government officials confirmed that sealed criminal charges have been filed against suspects. They're said to include Ahmed Khattala, who gave interviews in Benghazi with several news organizations, admitting he was at the scene of the attacks but insisting he was not the ringleader. Khattala also said nobody from the U.S. Government had attempted to question him.

On further, it says:

The Obama administration continues to keep a great deal of information under wraps, citing an ongoing investigation, national security, and other reasons. The secrecy is an ongoing point of contention with Republicans in Congress.

The article goes on to say:

Tuesday, the House Oversight Committee sent a letter to Secretary of State John Kerry, demanding the Benghazi survivors be made available for interviews with Congress or else they may be subpoenaed. According to the letter, the State Department told Congress on August 23 that it was not prepared to support the request for transcribed interviews. If that doesn't change within 2 weeks, Committee Chairman Darrell Issa, Republican of California, said, I will have no alternative but to consider the use of compulsory process.

The FBI, CIA, Director of National Intelligence, Defense Department, State Department, National Security Agency, have all rejected or failed to answer multiple Freedom of Information requests made by CBS News, as well as appeals of the denials. The agency cites exemptions related to ongoing investigations of national security.

There's an article today by John Sexton from Breitbart, saying:

It's been nearly a year since the attack which killed four Americans in Benghazi. During that time, various minute-by-minute accounts of the attack have been published. In addition, the administration's decisions to refuse additional security requests and to revise its talking points after the attack have been examined in detail.

Further down, it says:

The general outlines of the CIA effort have been reported. One fact which has not been highlighted is that the U.N. arms embargo of Libya, which the United States helped pass in 2011, makes shipping weapons in or out of the country of Libya a violation of international law. Indeed, the way the U.N. resolution is written, even knowingly allowing such shipments to take place may be a violation of the agreement.

□ 1530

Yet we keep hearing that guns were being shipped from Libya, perhaps to Turkey, perhaps making their way to al Qaeda rebels. Because the rumor that keeps surfacing is that the Turks that we got weapons to are the ones that decided where the weapons would go. And those did not go to people who had any abiding love or even patience with Christians, as we have seen as Christians have been decapitated, killed, maimed in horrendous ways in Syria by those this administration would have been supporting had we bombed Assad. This is all tragic. We need to learn from history, but we've got to know the truth to do that.

I love DARRELL ISSA, but the quote should not be that if the information is not forthcoming, as he says, ''I will have no alternative but to consider the use of compulsory process.'' In the name of Chris Stevens, Sean Smith, Ty Woods, and Glen Doherty, it should not be considered; it should be done. There should be a select committee to get to the truth. We should use all compulsory methods at our fingertips, including cutting off funding to any Federal agency that refuses to comply with proper oversight by Congress, because a Constitution that can be nullified by one of the three branches is a worthless Constitution. And if Congress cannot do meaningful oversight and examine what the money we are appropriating is going for, then that money should not continue to be appropriated to anyone who will not allow knowledge of how it's being spent and if it is being misused.

This has to stop. On 9/12/01, as a district judge in Texas, I was so heartened that on 9/12 we came together. On the congressional delegation trip last week in the Middle East, two Democrats I don't agree much with politically, but I got to know them a lot better, and I care deeply about them. They are very, very good people. We have the same desire for this country's freedom, liberty, peace, longevity of life—different ideas of how to get there.

I've been encouraged over the last week because of the way we can talk honestly, without impugning anyone's motives, and try to work toward answers. That's what I saw on 9/12, people wanting to work together. But I keep coming back to this fact that people in this administration need to understand, and our own Republican leadership needs to understand: we have got to get to the bottom of these matters; we have got to get the truth.

Jesus said, ''You will know the truth, and the truth shall set you free.'' He was talking about a particular truth. But sometimes the truth comes out and it hurts the person that was seeking the truth or the people who were seeking the truth. And I would humbly submit, here it doesn't matter. We just need the truth.

One of the things that people around the world, as I've talked to people around the world, even going back to my summer in '73 of being an exchange student in the Soviet Union, people have admired the way the United States would expose the truth no matter how ugly it made it appear. People admired that.

Even in the Soviet Union, when they were not getting truth, privately—they couldn't say it publicly, but privately there were college students that pointed this out, We really do admire the way you bring out truth. And your own government's embarrassed, but somehow you manage to keep going on because you deal with truth.

One, in particular, said, I am concerned about my country because we don't get the truth.

Standing and looking at an exhibit in Moscow with a couple of Russian college students, I was amazed. One of them pointed to Gagarin. And I said, wow, Gagarin, the world's first man in space. There was an account that he had been killed during test piloting a jet in the Soviet Union. I was surprised that the two Russian college students would say, Yeah, we know that didn't happen.

I said, You don't believe what your government is telling you?

And he said, No, our government frequently does not tell us the truth.

Well, I didn't know if Gagarin was killed testing a jet plane or not, but I was struck by the fact that these Soviets, college students, knew that their government lied to them routinely. And they said, You seem to get to the truth in your country—it has taken a while with Watergate, but you seem to keep working toward the truth, and we don't do that here. We just have to accept what we're told.

I believe the expression was ''there's nothing to be done.''

Well, in America, there is something to be done. We have got to get to the truth. We owe it to the heroes that have given their last full measure of devotion for this country. We owe it to those who have put their lives on the line.

That means getting to the bottom of the rule of engagement for our military as well so that we don't have situations as we just read about this summer, a lieutenant—obviously very young—in charge of a roadblock at a security checkpoint. From the account—and I do want to do further investigation to get to the bottom of it—when waving, trying to get the attention of three people on motorcycles to slow down, to stop for the security—they were going fast, with no indication of slowing down—the lieutenant ordered shots be fired above their head. They didn't slow down. Knowing there had been people killed, Americans killed by so many green-on-blue attacks, knowing that his men were at risk if they had a bomb, he finally ordered his men to fire on the motorcycle riders; two died, one lived. That lieutenant is now reported to be doing 20 years in Leavenworth. That's just wrong. That's just wrong.

I've been in Afghanistan and talked to our soldiers there—soldiers, sailors, marines—and they tell me privately, Look, we have a hard time deciding, do I want to risk just letting someone kill me or going to prison when I get home? I kind of think I'd rather die as a hero and have an NAS burial than to be an embarrassment to my family by going to Leavenworth when I get back to the U.S.

We owe the 9/11 victims, the 9/11 survivors, the Benghazi victims, the Afghanistan soldiers, sailors, and marines that we have lost, we owe those who died in Afghanistan and Iraq, we owe them the truth. We owe them good rules of engagement so their lives are not needlessly put in jeopardy because of political gamesmanship.

We are owed the truth. And when Ambassador Chris Stevens' last words to his State Department colleague and friend, Greg Hicks, were, ''Greg, we're under attack,'' everything should have stopped. The personal, hand-picked representative of the United States President was under attack. Everything should have stopped. I really think if it had and this administration had done everything they could to get help to these people, this President would have won in a huge landslide because he stood up for people, our Americans who were in harm's way.

A year later, we don't even know what he was doing. We don't know what the Secretary of State was doing. We can't talk to the CIA agents, and they keep getting polygraphed every 30 days to make sure nobody's leaking any information to Congress because apparently that would be embarrassing.

I mentioned to some people earlier today about the doctrine of spoliation. It's a legal doctrine that applies in courts of law. And whether in a court of law or in the court of public opinion, credibility always matters.

We have seen, this week, a briefing by people who may well have gotten their talking points from the same person or persons who altered the talking points a year ago, falsified them, and handed them to what I believe was an innocent Susan Rice and sent her out to unknowingly be a dupe to spread things that weren't true about a video when it wasn't true at all. How do we know what we get in a classified briefing if we don't know who it was that made true intelligence into lying intelligence a year ago? We need to know so we know we can have more faith in what Susan Rice, John Kerry, Secretary Hagel, General Dempsey, in the things they're saying. Where did your information come from? Is it somebody that created some of the lies we got in the past or is this a totally truthful source? It matters. It matters.

It matters when we have Christian Navy SEALs killed in Afghanistan and American flag-draped coffins are mixed with Afghan flag-draped coffins. And an American chaplain is not even allowed to pray in Jesus' name, even though a chaplain may be a Christian and be taught that Jesus said, ''If you ask for it in my name, it will be given.'' Being prevented—as the First Amendment said the Federal Government should never do—from freely exercising his religious beliefs, and then compounding the problem by bringing an imam in Afghanistan to stand and give a Muslim prayer over our SEALs that includes basically the words that, in the name of Allah, the merciful forgiver, the companions of hell, where the sinners and infidels are fodder for hellfire, are not equal with the companions of Heaven. The Muslim companions of Heaven are always the winners. We let an imam speak in his language, say words that, when examined, appear to be gloating over the dead Navy SEALs that should have never been allowed to take off in that chopper, that should never have been allowed to stay on after the Afghans pulled out the Afghan soldiers on the manifest and put other Afghan soldiers on that apparently were disposable to them. It should have stopped there.

There were so many places it should have stopped. But we can't get all the answers about that, how it came about, why our best and brightest were put in harm's way. We can't really get to the truth as to why a good man—I've spoken with him personally, privately; I like him very much—Leon Panetta, why he would tell people who did not have security clearances that it was SEAL Team Six that took out Osama bin Laden; why JOE BIDEN, as Vice President, I know he meant no harm to our SEAL Team Six, but when he outs a SEAL team as the one that took out Osama bin Laden. And as one SEAL called his mother and said, Mom, you've got to get my name off all of our family stuff online; we've been outed. One parent said his daughter-in-law looked out the window right after Vice President BIDEN outed his SEAL team took out Osama bin Laden, the Marines had provided her a guard because they knew what it meant. It meant this administration had exposed our valiant fighting forces, our SEALs, to danger they should never have been in.

This is a day of remembrance, but if it is not used to get to the bottom of what happened a year ago and what has happened in the 12 intervening years since then, find out where we've made our mistakes so that we can correct them so that we do not have more Boston bombings or attempts like we had in Times Square—thank God for local police and people paying attention there. And thank goodness for a sweaty rear end of a bomber that was prepared to take out a plane and was attempting to do so on Christmas.

The Divine Providence, as our Founders and George Washington so often referred to as God's overseeing, will not protect us forever when we will not protect ourselves. God is good all the time. All the time God is good. But it's time to be better friends to our friends. It's time to stand up and be better enemies to our enemies. It's time that the blood of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice was honored with the truth.

I hope and pray in the days ahead we will have the resolve, as Members of Congress across the aisle, to stand firm and say, Give us the truth. We don't care who is made to look bad, Republican or Democrat, let the chips fall where they may. The blood of our devoted, life-giving patriots cries out for truth. Let's finally get to it.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1545

LOW-WAGE WORKERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. POCAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Progressive Caucus, I am here to present a conversation that we would like to share with the American public, which is the plight of low-wage workers.

The Progressive Caucus here in Congress has worked on this issue for many years. This last month, when Members went home and worked in the district for the month, we joined many of these low-wage workers in a day of strike as a way to present their case to the American people.

Too many people are paid too little for the work they do. That harms families in this country; that depresses the economy in this country; and that makes more people have to go to government assistance because they're simply not paid enough for the work that they're doing.

We all know that economy has had a lot of tough times in the last several years, but things are getting better. The problem is they are only getting better for some.

We know that corporate profits have continued to break records, while Americans are working harder and getting paid less. We know that the stock markets are close to all time highs and corporate profits are booming. The $200 billion-a-year fast food industry is doing extremely well in this country, and our workers are more than pulling their weight to help in these successes.

Over the past 30 years, the productivity of the American worker has increased 85 percent, however, the salaries that they get paid simply haven't kept up in pace.

Mr. Speaker, why is the economy stuck? Why aren't these people making more money? Why is it that while so many who are in the top 1 percent, the top 10 percent, are doing extremely well, somehow those financial returns haven't trickled down to the rest of the economy?

We know the incomes of the top 1 percent have grown by more than 31

percent since 2009, just in the last several years—a 31 percent increase—yet incomes for the bottom 99 percent have moved less than 1 percent. That inequality is what is causing the real problem that we have.

In order to have the economy truly prosper and truly recover, we have to make sure that all people are benefiting and that all people see an additional wage. Wages have been stagnant for a generation, as the minimum wage right now in real terms is $1 less than it was in 1980. But yet the fastest-growing jobs in the economy are also those same jobs—they're the lowest paid. Fast food, retail, home health, child care, and security jobs are growing, but they don't pay enough to cover the basic necessities like food, clothing, and rent.

So how much is enough? Many of these people are working across the country at $7.25 an hour. Now, if you take that times 2,080, which is the number of full-time equivalent hours in a year, that's about $15,080 a year for a full-time worker on minimum wage. For a couple both earning that, that's a little over $30,000. If you have a family, a couple of children, you're not even close to the median income of $51,144 in this country.

But what makes this number even tougher is when you look at the actual cost of living. The Economic Policy Institute has said that the cost per year of maintaining a modest standard of living for a typical family of four—they figured that out across the country, including in my home city of Madison, Wisconsin, home of Bucky Badger—and these numbers are written in stone—this is what the costs are on average:

If you live in Madison, Wisconsin, your average costs are likely over $75,000 a year for a family of four. That's a breakdown of housing is about $10,668; food another $9,048; child care for that family $18,312; transportation $7,284; other necessities a little over $5,000; and their taxes are about $6,900.

Now, that's for Madison, Wisconsin, the middle of America. But what about other places? Well, Milwaukee, a bigger city, but still in my State, $74,000 is that expense. In New York City, it's over $94,000 for that same low-wage worker, that same minimum-wage worker. And one of the best deals for a major city across the country, Atlanta, it's still almost $62,000 a year, almost double what an average couple could make on minimum wage.

Now, I know some of the myths that are out there. People say a minimum-wage worker is someone who's living at home, probably going to school, under 18, just for pocket change, right? That's the myth. We've heard that more than enough.

Well, here's the reality. According to the Economic Policy Institute, what is that minimum-age worker actually? What's their demographic? What's the profile? Well, first of all, 88 percent are over 20 years of age—88 percent. So really it's a small token percent that is that average high school student making minimum wage. A third of them are over 40 years old. So a full third of the lowest-paid workers are over 40 years old. The average age, 35 years old. Twenty-eight percent of those lowest-paid workers have children. So when we talk about that family of four, we are talking about it because the statistics are there. Twenty-eight percent have children. Fifty-five percent of them are full-time workers. So this isn't something on the side for some extra pocket change. This is the full-time job that they have at that minimum wage. On average, over half of them earn half of their family income based on that minimum wage job. Over 43 percent of them have some kind of college education.

So that's the reality. When you look at that worker, that's the real demographic. This isn't that high school kid staying with their parents making some extra money so they can go buy another CD or some new toy. This in reality is the living sustenance for many of these workers across the country.

Yet, if you look at just one of the fast food companies, their CEO makes 580 times what that low-income worker is making at that very same company. Now, if you just raise that wage to $10.10, you would literally lift 6 million of these people out of poverty—6 million people, you could literally have a significant change in their lives.

Now, let's look at the economy and what this means. We know that while wages have been stagnant, the price of housing in the United States has doubled since the early '80s. Safe, adequate housing has become less and less affordable to someone who makes minimum wage.

But let's look at some of the consequences of that person making $7.25 an hour. First of all, it's bad for families. If you can't support your family and your children on that wage, like we just talked about—rent, food, medicine, housing—the most basic costs that you have are more than they could possibly make on that.

Second, it's bad for the deficit. Low-wage workers often qualify for food stamps and other public assistance while big profitable corporations are forcing taxpayers to subsidize their low wages and burden our economy.

In Wisconsin alone, there is one employer that has a majority of folks who are on our low-income assistance health program. A majority of folks who should be getting that support from their job instead are on our public assistance program for health insurance.

Now, thankfully, the Affordable Care Act is going to make sure that more and more people in this country have access to health care. But the reality is we are subsidizing those people right now, each and every one of us, because those big corporations that are having record profits and CEOs making hundreds of times what that low-wage worker makes are doing well and yet we are paying for it.

Also, it's bad for the economy. That means in the local economy if you don't have people spending money in this current economy, that's what's holding us back. I truly believe a rising tide lifts all boats. If we increase that wage, whether it be $9 that the President proposed, $10.10, $15, whatever wage we ultimately have a debate about, you raise that, that money that that low-wage worker has is not going to be invested, it's not going to be held in savings. It's very likely going to be spent in the economy just to get by on the day-to-day expenses. But that builds the entire economy. If they are able to occasionally go to a movie or maybe go to a restaurant, not the fast food one they work at, and have a dinner, that's going to help stimulate the economy for everyone. So, again, we hold back our economy by those low-wage workers not making more.

Finally, I think what this country really is about is opportunity. This takes away that opportunity to grow the middle class from the middle out and from the bottom up. How do we help those people get that chance, that opportunity for their family that many of us have, but they're not able to because they're stuck at that job at $7.25 an hour, yet they have the expenses we all have?

Now, at the same time, during this, CEO pay has skyrocketed. We know that the average CEO between 1978 and 2012, their compensation grew, according to an article in The Huffington Post, 876 percent. Now, during the same period, worker compensation grew 5.4 percent.

Income inequality is a huge problem in this country. If we don't address it at some point, these stagnant wages that haven't kept up with the cost of living, haven't kept up with the cost of housing, we are going to have real and serious problems for our economy for each and every person.

In fact, the average CEO right now makes 354 times what that low-wage worker makes—354 times. That fast food worker, their CEO made 580 times. But we have to make sure that everyone prospers in this country, and everyone prospers in this economy.

□ 1600

We have to make sure that families can cover their basic needs, that we can lessen the need for public assistance and help reduce our deficit. We can put more money in the pockets of workers instead of corporate CEOs and, thus, more money in the pockets of our small businesses, which are going to benefit when they're spending that additional money. We can lift up our local economies and, by doing that, lift up our local communities—having safer, better, healthier communities by people having more money.

That's why the members of the Progressive Caucus stood with those low-

wage workers in this last month, in August, when they took a day of strike. They didn't go to work for part of the day or for the whole day in order to illustrate the problems that they're facing, and we across the country stood with them to support a fair wage for a full day's work. In more than 50 cities across the country, members of the Progressive Caucus and other Democrats joined with these low-paid workers to make sure we talked about their stories. I'd just like to read a couple of quotes from people who participated in this.

One was a gentleman from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who was 45 years old, a low-paid worker, and this is what he said:

> I'm a maintenance man at McDonald's. When my grandbabies come over on the weekend, I spend on them, making sure that they eat and are comfortable. I eat McDonald's the last 2 weeks of the month because I have no food left.

Is that the America that, I think, we value; the land of opportunity so that every family can prosper?

Let me read another one. This is from a worker in New York City, and she said:

> On some days, I've been up for 48 hours straight, and McDonald's makes billions of dollars every year.

Now, think about that. That person, who very likely may have children—28 percent of those people who are making minimum wage do—was up for 48 hours straight. How do you do that? How do you make that work?

So we have tried to stand up on behalf of the low-paid workers and say it's time we address this issue. The President said we need to raise the minimum wage. Democrats have said we need to raise the minimum wage. People across the country—business owners and others—have said that it's time to increase the minimum wage. I served 14 years in the Wisconsin legislature before I was here. Every single time that we increased the minimum wage in Wisconsin we had more people enter the workforce.

As the statistics from the Economic Policy Institute said, this isn't about high school kids earning a little extra pocket change while living at home, which is 12 percent of that population. This is about getting real people into the workforce, earning money, putting it back into the economy, supporting their families, and doing exactly what we need to do with the economy.

When we did this across the country, we were very, very fortunate to have someone who has been a real role model for many of us who are progressives across the country in elected office, someone from the city of Chicago or outside the city of Chicago, but a real leader in the progressive movement in Congress and, again, someone who has been a real leader for many of us for the many years that we've been in government.

I would like to yield, Mr. Speaker, to Representative JAN SCHAKOWSKY from the Chicago area.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Thank you, Representative POCAN, for leading us in this Special Order that really talks about so many Americans who are paid poverty wages, people who simply cannot afford to support themselves or their families on the kinds of wages that they are paid, and the role of the Progressive Caucus in helping them to highlight that.

So, on August 29, I was proud at 7 in the morning to arrive at the Rock-n-Roll McDonald's in downtown Chicago. It's one of the most profitable McDonald's, certainly, in our area. I saw a growing crowd of people wearing T-shirts, saying, Strike for 15, and signs that said, We are worth more. In Illinois, the minimum wage is $8.25, so some of them were chanting, We can't survive on $8.25, and they were engaged in this 1-day strike, the demand being $15 an hour and the right to join a union, to form a union.

$15 an hour to work at McDonald's?

If you were to work at McDonald's for 40 hours a week, 52 weeks a year—and of course the average employee there works about 24 hours a week—you would at minimum wage make the lavish salary of $31,000 a year, which starts heading you toward the middle class, but it's certainly not a huge salary. Compare that with the CEO of McDonald's, a man named Donald Thompson, whose pay package last year in 2012 was $13.7 million for the year. If you divide that out, he makes an hourly wage of $6,611, and he earns more in the first 2 hours of work on the first day of the year than the workers I was standing with make all year long. Now, these weren't kids. I was out there with some people who have worked at McDonald's for 10 years, 15 years. One gentleman was still making $8.50 an hour. He had climbed up from the minimum wage to $8.50 an hour.

Unless you think that McDonald's isn't thinking about its workers, they actually put out a book, a little book, in conjunction with Visa, called ''Practical Money Skills,'' which is going to help their workers figure out how to budget. They have a budget that lists income from a worker's first job and his second job, admitting that you certainly can't plan to work at McDonald's and live on that, so you have to have a second job—so the first job and second job—all totaling $2,060 for the month.

Then they have recommended monthly expenses to help their workers budget, including $600 a month for housing. Now, I don't know about Madison, Wisconsin, or anywhere else, but in Chicago, unless you live with somebody—or with maybe a couple of somebodies—$600 a month for two jobs and budgeting that way is not going to get you a decent place to live. Remarkably, they budget $20 per month for health insurance, and that exists only in some sort of fantasy world.

These are workers who often turn to government assistance just to make ends meet. These are the people who have often been demonized by our colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle for going for SNAP programs, maybe for housing assistance, for Medicaid. Lots of wealthy Americans and even some of our colleagues suggest we ought to test them for drug use or accuse them of being lazy; but I posit today that the real welfare kings are those fast-food giants and all those poverty-wage employers who refuse to pay a livable wage, a living wage. We, the taxpayers—all the rest of the taxpayers—subsidize them because they don't pay a living wage, so their employees, who are often working their tails off, often have to come to the government for help. I would argue that it's the Walmarts and the McDonald's that really depend on these welfare programs and that, if you want to divide the world into takers and makers, those companies and those CEOs are the real takers.

If I have time, I want to give a couple more facts.

This hasn't always been true in America, these poverty wages. Between 1948 and 1973, the productivity of U.S. workers rose 96.8 percent, and wages rose 93.7 percent. They went up together. Workers benefited from increases in productivity, and that's true of the wages of the managers and bosses and CEOs as well. Wages went up. Between 1973 and 2011, productivity rose 80.1 percent, but wages rose only 4.2 percent. So you saw that, even though productivity went up, wages stayed essentially flat. Median household income today, adjusted for inflation, is at 1989 levels, and it's not coincidental that during that same time union membership dropped from about one-third of the private sector workforce to about 6.5 percent today; nor is it coincidental that almost all the growth in income—and, yes, we are richer today per capita than ever before. We are at the richest point in our country, but that growth in income has gone, really, especially to the top .1 percent, to the very richest Americans. All of that growth in income has gone to the top.

So I think this is not just bad for the workers that we were out with this summer. This is really bad for our economy. If we want to have a robust middle class, where people can go out and buy things and create demand and, thus, create jobs, they would be the real makers. They would be the people who could revive our economy. I think that the essentials here are a living wage and the rights of workers to be able to collectively bargain so that they can defend themselves together, represent themselves together and get a decent middle class life in this richest country in the world, which is at its very richest stage right now.

Mr. POCAN. Thank you, Representative SCHAKOWSKY.

In fact, when you talked about that, according to the Economic Policy Institute, the average family expense for a typical family in Chicago is $73,055.

That $600 allotment for rent is hardly enough. That $20 for health care will get you a bottle of orange juice and maybe some Band-Aids, but I don't know if I'd call that health care.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. It's like flossing and praying, and that's about it.

Mr. POCAN. You're not going to get much.

I really appreciate what you said about the fact that a business owner can benefit. I've been a small business owner for 25 years. When I opened my small business, I had hair—it's been a long time—and I can tell you that, when you treat your employees well, everyone benefits. When they make more money, that helps as they're invested in the company, and they're able to support their families. If they have health insurance, they're able to make sure that everyone is healthy in their families. If their families are good, they're good. There are many benefits. Yet when you get to the factor of almost what we'd call greed—when you get to 580 times the salary of that low-paid worker, like the CEO of McDonald's makes—that's a problem across the country.

So I really appreciate what you've brought up and specifically your example from Chicago because, in Madison, we've actually got it slightly higher, about $75,000 a year. When they broke out those expenses, they were talking housing of about $10,668, transportation $7,200, food $9,000, taxes $6,900. When you go through that, it's absolutely impossible to live on that minimum wage. Yet, as you said, you were with a bunch of people who were adults who were working at these places. Again, according to the Economic Policy Institute, 88 percent of the people are over 20 years old. The average age of a minimum-wage worker is 35 years old. So the myth that's out there about that low-income worker is simply not true.

Representative SCHAKOWSKY, I wonder if you might be able to just share a little bit more, based on the years you've been here, about exactly what some of the costs are to the local government and to the State government and to the Federal Government that come out of these workers having to come for subsidies, because, as you know, there are various programs that so often get attacked, sometimes by the people on the other side of the aisle. Like you said, there is the SNAP program that they're trying to provide an almost $40 billion cut to in the next budget if they have their way. There would be even less available for those people who need the subsidy thanks to those companies. I wonder if you could just share a little more about that.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. I'll tell you that I have three times now done the SNAP challenge, or the food stamp challenge. The average SNAP benefit is now $4.50 a day. Almost everyone on the SNAP program is on there for less than a year. It has been described to me by a former SNAP recipient as a trampoline. Nobody wants to do it, and they certainly don't want to line up at a food pantry, and those cupboards are really having a problem being filled.

□ 1615

It is hard to do. You can get the calories, but getting the nutrition and the health that you need from the food, that is really hard to do.

People are reluctant to apply for these benefits. I wish they weren't, but there's still some stigma attached to that. I want to encourage people, by the way, that if they are eligible, they should get that for the sake of their children and their own health.

States are struggling right now to meet their Medicaid budgets because there are so many people who are not getting health care through their employer or can't afford it on their own, so they are turning to State and local governments. We're finding that those governments are having to decide about fixing the roads, hiring teachers, or being able to provide these kinds of benefits.

The same kinds of decisions that individual poor people are having to make, governments are having to make right now. But if only they were paid a decent wage for all the hours that they're willing to put in to get up early and get on that bus.

Let me just tell you that I went into McDonald's with some of the workers. They had six things that they were asking for. Listen to the modest requests:

Stop requiring employees to pay out of pocket if their cash registers are short;

Two, show respect to your employees—less shouting and insulting language;

Three, air-conditioning in the kitchen;

Four, permit employees to drink water when the kitchen gets too hot. That one threw me for a big loop. They, said, ''No, they're saying, 'Get back to work. You can't have a drink of water.' '' They put it on paper. It's not made up;

Five, give raises and provide living wages;

Listen to this one: stop requiring employees to pay out of pocket for food that is returned by customers.

The whole event was very peaceful. No one at McDonald's was there to accept it, so they left these demands on the counter.

There is one other little point I want to make. This was during the week that we were commemorating the 50th anniversary of the march for jobs and freedom, the March on Washington. The march sought to ''give all Americans a decent standard of living,'' and called for a minimum wage of $2 an hour. If you adjust that $2-an-hour request from 1963, that would equal $15.26 an hour, which is just about what the workers are asking for right now.

The least that we could do here in this Congress is raise the minimum wage in this country, which hasn't been raised for a long time. You probably have that number. I don't remember how long it's been. A $7.25-an-hour minimum wage in this country just doesn't make it.

I also believe we need to do more to guarantee workers the right to organize. I believe that organized labor helped to deliver us the middle class, and I think that workers organized will be able to rejuvenate our middle class and make these just and reasonable demands a reality.

Mr. POCAN. Thank you, Representative SCHAKOWSKY, for your many years of advocacy on behalf of the low-wage worker.

When you talked about businessowners, one of the things I think about as someone who's been in business my entire adult life is just the fact that you always call us ''job creators.'' I like to think of the consumer as the job creator. When I have someone buying from my business, that allows me to be able to hire someone. If we help people have more money in their pocket, they're the job creators. Each and every one of those people are the job creators we're talking about.

Again, thank you so much.

We've been joined by another strong progressive, Representative RICK NOLAN from Minnesota. I know that he also has been an outspoken advocate when it comes to the plight of the low-wage workers, and I would like to yield to Representative RICK NOLAN from northern Minnesota.

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to begin by commending and complimenting the gentleman from Wisconsin, Congressman POCAN, for the work that you're doing here in highlighting this important issue. There's so much to be said that one is not sure where to begin. You've provided a lot of the facts and a lot of the information, as have some of the other Members here.

I'd like to just speak to the issue in a more general sense. To be sure, what's happening in this country has to be reversed. The rich are getting richer, the poor are getting poorer, and the middle class is getting crushed. Corporations and banks are sitting on trillions of dollars.

I'm a business guy. If there's a business opportunity out there, you invest in it; but if the middle class is broke, can't buy the goods and services, you're just going to sit on your cash and you're not going to invest it if there aren't customers there for your product. This is not only good for middle America and for poor people, raising the minimum wage is going to be so important for our whole economy.

When I started my entry into the employment market, the ratio of executive compensation to that of the worker was 25 to 1. I just read recently today that the ratio is 273 to 1. To my point, the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer. We've just seen some numbers on the percentage

of income that's earned by the upper 1 percent and by the upper 10 percent, and they're earning all the revenue.

I would like to suggest that everybody, if they haven't done it yet, take a look at the Bill Moyers' film that was done in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, following the lives of two families. It was quite remarkable. Hats off to Bill Moyers for his vision in understanding how valuable a film like this could be because he followed two good, hard-working families playing by all of the rules, doing everything right, going to church on Sunday, not living extravagantly, no speedboats in their driveway, living in modest housing in wonderful modest communities.

He followed them as they were entering into the employment market 22 years ago. They had good-paying manufacturing jobs in the $25 to $30 range. They had benefits and retirement. Both families, all the mothers and fathers, ended up losing their jobs, not through the failure to show up to work, but because tax and trade policies had shifted those manufacturing jobs overseas to another country. Through no fault of their own, they found themselves unemployed.

Well, they struggled, and over a period of months they managed to find other jobs. Now they were back down in the $12 to $16 range, and in many cases they had lost benefits, but they were content. They just took an extra job here and there and wherever they could. Wouldn't you know, those jobs ended up being moved overseas because of our tax and our trade policies, and this time they had an even harder time finding employment. You could see all the stresses that—because Moyers was going back and visiting these people every year or two and recording what was happening in their lives, you could see the stress that was being created.

In one of the families—oh, gosh, to see these two young kids in love in their youth and to see the young man go into a tailspin of depression at not being able to provide for his family and the conflict that ended up in divorce. He was hanging out with buddies at the end trying to pick up odd jobs here and there, and his wife is living in a spare bedroom in an apartment with a friend. The other couple, the guy is out picking up garbage. Then he showed what happened. They all lost their homes. It also showed what happened to the entire community. All the homes were boarded up. The neighborhood was in shambles because they had all been foreclosed. It was just a classic example of how we have failed these people.

In my judgment, here's what we did:

In our parents' time, at least my age group and maybe your grandparents, the average life expectancy in this country was 47; today, it's pushing 80. That is remarkable progress, especially for the two oldest guys here in the freshman class. Then we did a whole bunch of things. We looked, and the rivers and lakes were catching on fire; acid rain was destroying the forest and the lakes. I had people in my district whose lives were over. When they were 25 and 30 working in boat factories and for want of ventilation, their lungs were full of fiberglass, and so they couldn't breathe.

Anyway, we did all these things. We set up some good rules for environmental protection. We set up some good rules for health and safety. We insisted on Medicare for our elderly and workers' comp and unemployment comp and Social Security. We put a tremendous amount of burden for all of that on our business community, our manufacturing sector. I know about that. I spent the last 32 years of my life in business, manufacturing.

Then we said to all the manufacturers, Oh, by the way, now you're going to have to go compete with people in countries where they don't have to do any of that. It wasn't fair. It couldn't work. I'm not necessarily faulting corporations for moving overseas, but I am faulting the people responsible for the public policies that allowed that to happen.

The first thing that we have to do here, in my judgment, is to raise the minimum wage. It's not a cure-all, but it's a good beginning to put some money back in the hands of low-income and middle America. There are also so many other things that we need to do.

I just learned in one of our committees they were going to spend $89 billion in Afghanistan this year on infrastructure projects. I read in the Times one project was $299 million. Fifty brave young American men and women lost their lives securing the area for this hydroelectric project. And for every one that is killed, there is another six or seven that are maimed and harmed for life. Well, this project has now been abandoned because the locals kept blowing it up as fast as we could secure the area and build it.

We need to start reinvesting in our own infrastructure, our bridges, our roads, our communities, our educational system, investing in our people. We're going bankrupt here on these wars of choice, in this nation-building abroad. We're destroying what made America a great country, a middle class, a place where there was opportunity for everybody. If you showed up and you wanted to work hard, there was a job for you. I submit, in my generation, if you wanted to be a failure, hell, you had to have a plan. There were just so many jobs and so many good-paying jobs and so many opportunities. And that's what we're losing, and that's what we have to get back to in this country. I think we can start by raising the minimum wage.

I am so thrilled to be able to join you and my colleagues in urging the leadership here to bring this measure before the Congress. Let us have the debate. Let us have a vote on it. Let us see if we can't move this country forward. Let us see if we can't do something for the middle class here, and then let's follow that up with a good, healthy debate on what kind of a trade policy we are going to have. Is it going to be totally free, or is it going to be fair trade that recognizes the accomplishments that we've made here with a determination to keep moving that progress forward?

Also, let's have a good look at the tax policies, too. The fact is anyone who has examined it knows that clearly the richest and most powerful people in this country pay a much lower percentage of their income in taxes than the average person. They just did an analysis in Minnesota here a while back. The average person making between $30,000 and $50,000 pays 31 percent of their income in a variety of taxes—Social Security, income, real estate, gas taxes, the whole works.

□ 1630

The average millionaire is only paying 13 percent. Well, that's not fair. Nobody's suggesting here that we should penalize the rich for their success. On the contrary, we want everybody to be successful in this country, but we also want everybody to pay their fair share. So there's no one easy, simple solution to what we're looking at here, but we can start with raising the minimum wage, and then let's go after the tax policy and let's go after the trade policy. Let's institute some fairness in this country. Let's rebuild the middle class, let's restore the American Dream where there's opportunity for everyone—everyone who's willing to go to work, play by the rules, work hard, and go to work every day. That's the America we grew up with. That's the America that we want to leave behind when we pass on to the big country. Thank you.

Mr. POCAN. Thank you, Congressman NOLAN. Again, thank you for your many years of devotion to helping raise the economy for every single person so they can really have access to that opportunity you talk about. We have a lot to do in Congress. I think we will have a chance to talk about trade and other policies later this year. But you're right, the first and most fair thing that we could possibly do, that we have control in this room to do, is to raise the minimum wage. The President has asked for it. The Democrats have asked for it. It's time we have a vote so we ensure that you don't live in poverty working that job or working two jobs or three jobs trying to get by, because that's exactly what happens.

I would like to yield to another colleague who has spoken out in his district and across his home State of California not only on behalf of low-wage workers but also someone who is a strong environmentalist.

I yield to Representative ALAN LOWENTHAL.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. First, I want to say that I stand with you, and I'm so glad that you've raised this issue about the crisis that is occurring to working families in America, and, as was just pointed out, the tremendous crash and

burden on the middle class, who are rapidly becoming low-wage workers because of our policies in this country. I agree completely that the first step that we have to do is to raise the minimum wage and have that discussion and really provide and demonstrate that this Congress really cares about working people in America. That's our first thing.

But I'm also glad that you've given me an opportunity this afternoon to talk about one other issue that is not really directly related to this issue, and that has to do with environmental issues.

I just want to report to my colleagues that later this month the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which is the leading international climate science body with over 195 member countries, is going to be releasing a report which will predict that the planet's average global temperature will increase by more than 2 degrees Celsius over the next century. Not only does this report issue new warnings about continued warming, but it asserts that the scientific community can now claim with 95 percent certainty that the warming is a byproduct of human activity.

Yet in this House of Representatives, the majority party continues to ignore the warnings of the scientific community. Over the past 2 years, this Congress has done absolutely nothing to address climate change. Republicans in the House voted to overturn EPA's scientific findings that climate change endangers health and the environment. They voted to block U.S. participation in international climate change negotiations, and they voted to stop the agencies from even preparing for the effects of climate change.

Just yesterday, Republicans on the Energy and Commerce Committee revealed that they are preparing to introduce legislation aimed at preventing EPA from limiting the amount of CO_2 emitted from coal-fired power plants.

This is a mistake.

Mr. Speaker, we need to be moving ahead with policies aimed at encouraging alternative sources of energy, preparing for the worst effects of climate change. We need policies that are not written by the coal lobby. We must take action. And I must remind you, just as you raised these issues about the effect of the economy on our middle class and our lack of preparation of working families, that the people that are the most affected are the people that have the least ability to deal with climate change, and they are working Americans.

It is all related. We must protect working Americans, and the way we do it is to not only acknowledge some of the effects of climate change but really to give working families the tools that they need so that they can survive. And more than survive, so they can prosper in this society. That's what this is all about.

I thank you for raising this issue, and I am glad to show support.

Mr. POCAN. I thank Representative LOWENTHAL. On behalf of the Progressive Caucus, thank you for showing some of the other issues we're working on. We're fighting for equality for every single person across the country. We want everyone to have access to democracy. We need to have meaningful campaign finance reform, from the Citizens United decision to every single candidate for Congress and how we fund our campaigns.

We need to make sure every single person has the right to vote in this country, something that because of the recent Supreme Court decision isn't guaranteed.

But one thing the Progressive Caucus today really wanted to highlight, and we have made the case, why we joined so many workers across the country in the month of August who are getting paid minimum wage, who are barely getting by, who aren't being treated fairly in their workplace: we literally have too many people who are paid too little for the work they do. As Representative NOLAN said, the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer. It's not a talking point, it's a fact. It's the actual statistics that are out there.

If we're going to help people support their families, if we're going to help support the economy, if we're really going to take people off of government assistance, the very ones who are working and yet having to be on government assistance because of the low wage they make, there's a simple answer, and that's increase the minimum wage. That's what we came here to talk about today, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Progressive Caucus. We appreciate having the time to talk about the plight of the low-wage worker and why we need to raise the minimum wage.

I yield back the balance of my time.

OMISSION FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013 AT PAGE H5474

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today after 3 p.m. on account of family business.

PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT LEVELS OF ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FY 2013, 2014 AND THE 10-YEAR PERIOD FY 2014 THROUGH FY 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET,
Washington, DC, September 11, 2013.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, Office of the Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, to facilitate application of sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, I am transmitting an updated status report on the current levels of on-budget spending and revenues for fiscal years 2013, 2014 and for the 10-year period of fiscal year 2014 through fiscal year 2023. This status report is current through September 6, 2013.

The term ''current level'' refers to the amounts of spending and revenues estimated for each fiscal year based on laws enacted or awaiting the President's signature.

Table 1 in the report compares the current levels of total budget authority, outlays, and revenues with the overall limits set in H. Con. Res. 112 (112th Congress) for fiscal year 2013 and H. Con. Res 25 (113th Congress) for fiscal year 2014 and the 10-year period of fiscal year 2014 through 2023. This comparison is needed to implement section 311(a) of the Budget Act, which creates a point of order against measures that would breach the budget resolution's aggregate levels. The table does not show budget authority and outlays for years after fiscal year 2014 because appropriations for those years have not yet been considered.

Table 2 compares the current levels of budget authority and outlays for action completed by each authorizing committee with the ''section 302(a)'' allocations made under H. Con. Res. 112 (112th Congress) for fiscal year 2013 and H. Con. Res 25 (113th Congress) for fiscal years 2014 and the 10-year period 2014 through 2023. ''Action'' refers to legislation enacted after the adoption of the budget resolution. This comparison is needed to enforce section 302(f) of the Budget Act, which creates a point of order against measures that would breach the section 302(a) allocation of new budget authority for the committee that reported the measure. It is also needed to implement section 311(b), which exempts committees that comply with their allocations from the point of order under section 311(a).

Table 3 compares the current status of discretionary appropriations for fiscal years 2013 and 2014 with the ''section 302(b)'' sub-allocations of discretionary budget authority and outlays among Appropriations subcommittees. The comparison is also needed

to enforce section 302(f) of the Budget Act because the point of order under that section equally applies to measures that would breach the applicable section 302(b) sub-allocation. The table also provides supplementary information on spending in excess of the base discretionary spending caps allowed under section 251(b) of the Budget Control Act.

Table 4 gives the current level for fiscal year 2015 of accounts identified for advance appropriations under section 601 of H. Con. Res. 25. This list is needed to enforce section 601 of the budget resolution, which creates a point of order against appropriation bills that contain advance appropriations that are: (i) not identified in the statement of managers or (ii) would cause the aggregate amount of such appropriations to exceed the level specified in the resolution.

In addition, letters from the Congressional Budget Office are attached that summarize and compare the budget impact of enacted legislation during the FY2013 and FY2014 fiscal years against the budget resolution aggregates in force during those years.

If you have any questions, please contact Paul Restuccia.

Sincerely,

PAUL RYAN,
Chairman.

REPORT TO THE SPEAKER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

TABLE 1—STATUS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2013 AND 2014 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET AS ADOPTED IN H. CON. RES 112 AND H. CON. RES. 25

[Reflecting Action Completed as of September 6, 2013 (On-budget amounts, in millions of dollars).]

	Fiscal Year 2013[1]	Fiscal Year 2014[2]	Fiscal Years 2014–2023
Appropriate Level:			
Budget Authority	2,793,848	2,761,492	n.a.
Outlays	2,891,589	2,811,568	n.a.
Revenues	2,089,540	2,310,972	31,089,081
Current Level:			
Budget Authority	3,021,853	1,903,186	n.a.
Outlays	3,065,784	2,319,366	n.a.
Revenues	2,015,873	2,310,972	31,089,081
Current Level over (+) / under (−)			
Appropriate Level:			
Budget Authority	+228,005	−858,306	n.a.
Outlays	+174,195	−492,202	n.a.
Revenues	−74,667	0	0

n.a. = Not applicable because annual appropriations Act for fiscal years 2015 through 2023 will not be considered until future sessions of Congress.

[1] The appropriate level for FY2013 was established in H. Con. Res. 112, which was subsequently deemed to be in force in the House of Representatives pursuant to H. Res. 5. The current level for FY2013 starts with the baseline estimates contained in Updated Budget Projection: Fiscal Years 2013 to 2022, published by the Congressional Budget Office, and makes adjustments to those levels for enacted legislation.

[2] The appropriate level for FY2014 was established in H. Con. Res. 25, which was subsequently deemed to be in force in the House of Representatives pursuant to H. Res. 243. The current level for FY 2014 starts with the baseline estimates contained in Updated Budget Projections: Fiscal Years 2013 to 2023, published by the Congressional Budget Office, and makes adjustments to those levels for enacted legislation.

DIRECT SPENDING LEGISLATION

TABLE 2—COMPARISON OF CURRENT LEVEL WITH AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATIONS FOR RESOLUTION CHANGES

[Reflecting Action Completed as of September 6, 2013 (Fiscal Years, in millions of dollars).]

House Committee	2013		2014		2014–2023	
	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays
Agriculture:						
Allocation	−1,577	−1,503	−2,631	−2,501	−209,044	−208,556
Current Level	−106	−106	0	0	0	0
Difference	+1,471	+1,397	+2,631	+2,501	+209,044	+208,556
Armed Services:						
Allocation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level	+77	+94	0	0	0	0
Difference	+77	+94	0	0	0	0
Education and the Workforce:						
Allocation	−18,098	−7,096	−21,712	−7,430	−217,458	−198,921
Current Level	+16,870	+11,355	+14,400	+12,670	+16,770	+8,795
Difference	+34,968	+18,451	+36,112	+20,100	+200,688	+190,126
Energy and Commerce:						
Allocation	−20,137	−4,661	−22,996	−20,659	−1,604,166	−1,596,356
Current Level	+9,762	+11,695	0	0	0	0
Difference	+29,899	+16,356	+22,996	+20,659	+1,604,166	+1,596,356
Financial Services:						
Allocation	−8,562	−8,495	−11,465	−10,428	−94,439	−94,325
Current Level	+5,245	+5,245	0	0	0	0
Difference	+13,807	+13,740	+11,465	+10,428	+94,439	+94,325
Foreign Affairs:						
Allocation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0	0	0
Homeland Security:						
Allocation	0	0	−305	−305	−12,575	−12,575
Current Level	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	+305	+305	+12,575	+12,575
House Administration:						
Allocation	0	0	−34	0	−295	−130
Current Level	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	+34	0	+295	+130
Judiciary:						
Allocation	−8,490	−594	−11,506	−637	−47,461	−45,809
Current Level	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference	+8,490	+594	+11,506	+637	+47,461	+45,809
Natural Resources:						
Allocation	−460	−229	−900	−632	−17,995	−17,225
Current Level	+259	+596	0	0	−5	−5
Difference	+719	+825	+900	+632	+17,990	+17,220
Oversight and Government Reform:						
Allocation	−8,146	−8,113	−11,758	−11,758	−165,996	−165,996
Current Level	−9	−9	0	0	0	0
Difference	+8,137	+8,104	+11,758	+11,758	+165,996	+165,996
Science, Space and Technology:						
Allocation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0	0	0
Small Business:						
Allocation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transportation and Infrastructure:.						
Allocation	−36,626	−9,354	−78	−47	−116,444	−951
Current Level	+6,588	+6,200	0	0	0	0
Difference	+43,214	+15,554	+78	+47	+116,444	+951
Veterans' Affairs:						
Allocation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Level	−36	−36	0	0	0	0
Difference	−36	−36	0	0	0	0
Ways and Means:						
Allocation	−5,970	−8,211	−22,567	−21,667	−1,298,202	−1,291,946

TABLE 2—COMPARISON OF CURRENT LEVEL WITH AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATIONS FOR RESOLUTION CHANGES—Continued

[Reflecting Action Completed as of September 6, 2013 (Fiscal Years, in millions of dollars).]

House Committee	2013		2014		2014–2023	
	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays
Current Level	+23,031	+23,031	0	0	0	0
Difference	+29,001	+31,242	+22,567	+21,667	+1,298,202	+1,291,946

TABLE 3—DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013—COMPARISON OF CURRENT STATUS WITH APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATION AND APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE 302(b) SUB ALLOCATIONS AS OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2013

[Figures in millions] [1]

	302(b) allocations (H. Rept. 112–465)		302(b) for GWOT		Current status as of August 1, 2013		Current status GWOT		Current status less 302(b)		Current status GWOT less 302(b)	
	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA	19,405	22,759	0	0	20,531	22,910	0	0	+1,126	+151	0	0
Commerce, Justice, Science	51,129	62,853	0	0	50,210	62,708	0	0	−919	−145	0	0
Defense	519,220	573,770	88,480	48,420	517,632	572,413	87,226	48,044	−1,588	−1,357	−1,254	−376
Energy and Water Development	32,098	40,682	0	0	36,744	41,350	0	0	+4,646	+668	0	0
Financial Services and General Government	21,150	23,939	0	0	21,453	24,370	0	0	+303	+431	0	0
Homeland Security	44,598	45,194	0	0	51,385	46,785	254	203	+6,787	+1,591	+254	+203
Interior, Environment	28,000	31,058	0	0	29,827	31,583	0	0	+1,827	+525	0	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education	150,002	162,699	0	0	157,355	167,544	0	0	+7,353	+4,845	0	0
Legislative Branch	4,289	4,381	0	0	4,284	4,315	0	0	−5	−66	0	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs	71,747	79,069	0	2	71,930	79,400	0	2	+183	+331	0	0
State, Foreign Operations	40,132	48,569	8,245	2,454	42,093	49,660	11,203	3,510	+1,961	+1,091	+2,958	+1,056
Transportation, HUD	51,606	115,161	0	0	51,817	115,117	0	0	+211	−44	0	0
Full Committee Allowance	2	0	0	249	0	0	0	0	−2	0	0	−249
Total	1,033,377	1,210,134	96,725	51,125	1,055,261	1,218,155	98,683	51,759	+21,883	+8,021	+1,958	+634

Comparison 302(a) and Total Appropriations [1]	BA	OT	BA	OT
302(a) Allocation	1,033,377	1,210,134	96,725	51,125
Total Appropriations	1,055,261	1,218,155	98,683	51,759
302(a) Allocation vs. Total Appropriations	+21,884	+8,021	+1,958	+634

Memorandum	Amounts Assumed in 302(b)		Emergency Requirements		Disaster Funding		Program Integrity	
Spending in Excess of Base Budget Control Act Caps for Sec. 251(b) Designated Categories	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA	0	0	224	72	0	0	0	0
Commerce, Justice, Science	0	0	363	97	0	0	0	0
Defense	0	0	88	42	0	0	0	0
Energy and Water Development	0	0	1,889	327	0	0	0	0
Financial Services and General Government	0	0	811	430	0	0	0	0
Homeland Security	5,481	274	6,693	283	11,779	1,453	0	0
Interior, Environment	0	0	1,443	153	0	0	0	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education	0	0	827	108	0	0	483	430
Legislative Branch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs	0	0	261	24	0	0	0	0
State, Foreign Operations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transportation, HUD	0	0	29,070	588	0	0	0	0
Totals	5,481	274	41,669	2,124	11,779	1,453	483	430

[1] Spending designated as emergency is not included in the current status of appropriations shown above.

TABLE 3—DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014—COMPARISON OF CURRENT STATUS WITH APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATION AND APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE 302(b) SUB ALLOCATIONS AS OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2013

[Figures in millions] [1]

	302(b) allocations (H. Rept. 112–465)		302(b) for GWOT		Current status as of August 1, 2013		Current status GWOT		Current status less 302(b)		Current status GWOT less 302(b)	
	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA	19,450	21,300	0	0	19,450	21,294	0	0	0	−6	0	0
Commerce, Justice, Science	47,396	58,700	0	0	47,396	58,700	0	0	0	0	0	0
Defense	512,522	543,685	85,769	42,994	512,510	543,674	79,741	41,051	−12	−11	−6,028	−1,943
Energy and Water Development	30,426	38,363	0	0	30,414	38,369	0	0	−12	+6	0	0
Financial Services and General Government	16,966	19,711	0	0	16,966	19,707	0	0	0	−4	0	0
Homeland Security	44,617	45,961	0	0	44,617	45,961	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interior, Environment	24,278	25,207	0	0	0	12,537	0	0	−24,278	−12,670	0	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education	121,797	133,809	0	0	24,642	104,421	0	0	−97,155	−29,388	0	0
Legislative Branch	4,124	4,085	0	0	3,233	3,385	0	0	−891	−700	0	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs	73,320	76,204	0	0	73,320	76,204	0	0	0	0	0	0
State, Foreign Operations	34,103	36,308	6,520	5,016	34,103	41,824	6,520	2,182	0	+5,516	0	−2,834
Transportation, HUD	44.100	114,931	0	0	44,100	114,928	0	0	0	−3	0	0
Full Committee, Allowance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	973,099	1,118,264	92,289	48,010	850,751	1,081,004	86,261	43,233	−122,348	−37,260	−6,028	−4.777

Comparison 302(a) and Total Appropriations [1]	BA	OT	BA	OT
302(a) Allocation	973,099	1,118,264	92,289	48,010
Total Appropriations	850,751	1,081,004	862,610	43,233
302(a) Allocation vs. Total Appropriations	122,348	−37,260	−6,028	−4,777

Memorandum	Amounts Assumed in 302(b)		Emergency Requirements [1]		Disaster Funding		Program Integrity	
Spending in Excess of Base Budget Control Act Caps for Sec. 251(b) Designated Categories	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commerce, Justice, Science	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Defense	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Energy and Water Development	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Financial Services and General Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Memorandum Spending in Excess of Base Budget Control Act Caps for Sec. 251(b) Designated Categories	Amounts Assumed in 302(b)		Emergency Requirements [1]		Disaster Funding		Program Integrity	
	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Homeland Security	5,626	281	0	0	5,626	281	0	0
Interior, Environment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Legislative Branch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State, Foreign Operations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transportation, HUD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	5,626	281	0	0	5,626	281	0	0

[1] Spending designated as emergency is not included in the current status of appropriations shown above.

TABLE 4—2015 ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS PURSUANT TO H. CON. RES. 25 AS OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2013

[Budget Authority in Millions of Dollars]

Section 601(d)(1) Limits	2,015
Appropriate Level	55,634
Enacted Advances:	
Accounts Identified for Advances:	
Department of Veterans Affairs:	
Medical Services	0
Medical Support and Compliance	0
Medical Facilities	0
Subtotal, enacted advances [1]	0
Section 601(d)(2) Limits	2,015
Appropriate Level	28,852
Enacted Advances:	
Accounts Identified for Advances:	
Employment and Training Administration	0
Education for the Disadvantaged	0
School Improvement Programs	0

TABLE 4—2015 ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS PURSUANT TO H. CON. RES. 25 AS OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2013—Continued

[Budget Authority in Millions of Dollars]

Special Education	0
Career, Technical and Adult Education	0
Tenant-based Rental Assistance	0
Project-based Rental Assistance	0
Subtotal, enacted advances [1]	0
Previously Enacted Advance Appropriations [2]	2,015
Corporation for Public Broadcasting	445
Total, enacted advances [1]	445

[1] Line items may not add to total due to rounding.
[2] Funds were appropriated in Public Law 113–6.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 9, 2013.

Hon. PAUL RYAN,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2014 budget and is current through September 6, 2013. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of H. Con. Res. 25, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2014, as approved by the House of Representatives and subsequently revised.

Since my last letter dated June 20, 2013, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the following act that affects budget authority and outlays for fiscal year 2014: the Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–28).

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF.

FISCAL YEAR 2014 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT THROUGH SEPTEMBER 6, 2013

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted: [a]			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	2,310,972
Permanents and other spending legislation	1,848,718	1,778,493	n.a.
Appropriation legislation	0	504,662	n.a.
Offsetting receipts	−707,692	−707,792	n.a.
Total, Previously enacted	1,141,026	1,575,363	2,310,972
Enacted Legislation:			
Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act of 2013	14,400	12,670	0
Total, Enacted Legislation	14,400	12,670	0
Entitlements and Mandatories:			
Budget resolution estimates of appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs	747,760	731,333	0
Total Current Level [b]	1,903,186	2,319,366	2,310,972
Total House Resolution [c]	2,761,492	2,811,568	2,310,972
Current Level Over House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Current Level Under House Resolution	858,306	492,202	n.a.
Memorandum:			
Revenues, 2014–2023:			
House Current Level	n.a.	n.a.	31,089,081
House Resolution [d]	n.a.	n.a.	31,089,081
Current Level Over House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Current Level Under House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Source: Congressional Budget Office.
Note: n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = Public Law.
[a] Includes the following acts that affect budget authority, outlays, or revenues, and were cleared by the Congress during this session, but before adoption of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2014 (H. Con. Res. 25): an act to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the FEMA for carrying out the National Flood Insurance Program (P.L. 113–1), the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (P.L. 113–2), the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act of 2013 (P.L. 113–5), the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (P.L. 113–6), and the Reducing Flight Delays Act of 2013 (P.L. 113–9).
[b] For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the House, the resolution, as approved by the House of Representatives, does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, current level does not include these items.
[c] Periodically, the House Committee on the Budget revises the totals in H. Con. Res. 25, pursuant to various provisions of the resolution:

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Original House Resolution:	2,769,406	2,815,079	2,270,932
Revisions:			
Pursuant to section 603 of H. Con. Res. 25	−14,089	−4,100	40,040
Adjustment for Disaster Designated Spending	5,626	281	0
Adjustment for Technical Correction to the Budget Control Act Spending Caps	549	308	0
Revised House Resolution	2,761,492	2,811,568	2,310,972

[d] Periodically, the House Committee on the Budget revises the 2014–2023 revenue totals in H. Con. Res. 25, pursuant to various provisions of the resolution.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, September 9, 2013.

Hon. PAUL RYAN,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2013 budget and is current through September 6, 2013. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of H. Con. Res. 112, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2013, as approved by the House of Representatives and subsequently revised.

Since my last letter dated June 20, 2013, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the following act that affects budget authority and outlays for fiscal year 2013: the Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–28).

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF,
Director.

Enclosure.

FISCAL YEAR 2013 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT THROUGH SEPTEMBER 6, 2013

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted [a]			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	2,293,339
Permanents and other spending legislation	1,869,081	1,818,079	n.a.
Appropriation legislation	0	553,169	n.a.
Offsetting receipts	−729,799	−729,799	n.a.
Total, Previously enacted	1,139,282	1,641,449	2,293,339
Enacted Legislation:			
Authorizing Legislation:			
Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (P.L. 112–121)	0	0	1
Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (P.L. 112–114)	8,795	9,439	2,291
Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act (P.L. 112–144)	−16	−16	0
Honoring American's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012 (P.L. 112–154)	−36	−36	0
An act to amend the African Growth and Opportunity Act . . . and to make technical corrections to the Harmonized Tariff schedule . . . for the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement, to approve the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes (P.L. 112–163)	0	0	−59
FDA User Fees Corrections Act of 2012 (P.L. 112–193)	0	−195	0
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (P.L. 112–239)	−33	−16	0
American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (P.L. 112–240)	57,428	49,804	−279,700
Medicare IVIG Access and Strengthening Medicare and Repaying Taxpayers Act of 2012 (P.L. 112–242)	3	3	0
An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to make clear that accounts in Thrift Savings Fund are subject to certain Federal tax levies (P.O. 112–267)	0	0	1
An act to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the National Flood Insurance Program (P.L. 113–1)	5,250	5,250	0
Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act of 2013 (P.L. 113–28)	14,290	8,080	0
Total, Authorizing Legislation	85,681	72,313	−277,466
Appropriations Legislation:			
Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (P.L. 112–175) [b]	423	423	0
Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (P.L. 113–2) [c]	8,840	1,479	0
Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (P.L. 113–6)	1,867,246	1,426,973	0
Reducing Flight Delays Act of 2013 (P.L. 113–9)	0	203	0
Total, Appropriations Legislation	1,876,509	1,429,078	0
Total, Enacted Legislation	1,962,190	1,501,391	−277,466
Entitlements and Mandatories:			
Budget resolution estimates of appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs	−79,619	−77,056	0
Total Current Level [d]	3,021,853	3,065,784	2,015,873
Total House Resolution [e]	2,793,848	2,891,589	2,089,540
Current Level Over House Resolution	228,005	174,195	n.a.
Current Level Under House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	73,667
Memorandum:			
Revenues, 2013–2022:.			
House Current Level	n.a.	n.a.	28,846,212
House Resolution [f]	n.a.	n.a.	28,957,333
Current Level Over House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Current Level Under House Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	111,121

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

Note: n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = Public Law.

[a] Includes the following acts that affect budget authority, outlays, or revenues and were cleared by the Congress in 2012, but before adoption of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2013 (H. Con. Res. 112): the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (P.L. 112–95), the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (P.L. 112–96), and an act to apply the countervailing duty provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 to nonmarket economy countries, and for other purposes (P.L. 112–99).

[b] Sections 140(b) and 141(b) of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 provided $423 million for fire suppression activities, available until expended.

[c] Pursuant to Section 314(d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, amounts designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall not count for purposes of Title III and Title IV of the Congressional Budget Act. The amounts so designated for 2013, which are not included in the current level totals, are as follows:

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013	41,667	2,122	n.a.

[d] For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the House, the resolution, as approved by the House of Representatives, does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, current level does not include these items.

[e] Periodically, the House Committee on the Budget revises the totals in H. Con. Res. 112, pursuant to various provisions of the resolution:

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Original House Resolution	2,793,848	2,891,589	2,293,339
Revisions:			
For the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012	0	0	−203,799
Revised House Resolution	2,793,848	2,891,589	2,089,540

[f] Periodically, the House Committee on the Budget revises the 2013–2022 revenue totals in H. Con. Res. 112, pursuant to various provisions of the resolution.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, September 12, 2013, at 9 a.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the second quarter of 2013 pursuant to Public Law 95–384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Jaime Herrera Beutler	5/10	5/12	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
	5/12	5/14	United Arab Emirates		485.48						485.48
Misc. Delegation Expenses									212.91		212.91
Commercial Airfare							11,905.10				11,905.10
Part Military Air							(3)				
Return of Unused Per Diem					−74.18						−74.18
Hon. Chaka Fattah	5/27	5/30	Ireland		2,082.32						2082.32

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Misc. Embassy Expenses									146.36		146.36
Misc. Transportation Costs							590.47				590.47
Commercial Airfare							3,467.90				3,467.90
Hon. Kay Granger	5/24	5/27	Jordan		1,141.71						1,141.71
Misc. Delegation Expenses									312.50		312.50
Commercial Airfare							8,506.40				8,506.40
Misc. Transportation Costs							229.00				229.00
Committee Total					3,691.33		24,698.87		671.77		29,061.97

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Part Military air transportation.

HON. HAROLD ROGERS, Chairman, July 30, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Visit to United Arab Emirates, Afghanistan, April 1–6, 2013:											
Hon. Mike Rogers	4/2	4/4	United Arab Emirates		732.00						732.00
	4/4	4/5	Afghanistan		17.00						17.00
Commercial Transportation							12,843.70				12,843.70
Tim Morrison	4/2	4/4	United Arab Emirates		744.32						743.32
	4/4	4/5	Afghanistan		17.00						17.00
Commercial Transportation							12,843.70				12,843.70
Leonor Tomero	4/2	4/4	United Arab Emirates		742.88						742.88
	4/4	4/5	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
Commercial Transportation							12,843.70				12,843.70
Delegation Expenses	4/2	4/4	United Arab Emirates						1,718.94		1,718.94
Visit to Mali, Niger, Nigeria, April 18–23, 2013:											
Hon. Mac Thornberry	4/18	4/20	Mali		306.18						306.18
	4/20	4/21	Niger		181.50						181.50
	4/21	4/22	Nigeria		780.64						780.64
Commercial Transportation							10,129.00				10,129.00
Peter Villano	4/18	4/20	Mali		354.18						354.18
	4/20	4/21	Niger		181.50						181.50
	4/21	4/22	Nigeria		848.64						848.64
Commercial Transportation							10,129.00				10,129.00
Paul Arcangeli	4/18	4/20	Mali		354.18						354.18
	4/20	4/21	Niger		181.50						181.50
	4/21	4/22	Nigeria		848.64						848.64
Commercial Transportation							10,129.00				10,129.00
Mark Lewis	4/18	4/20	Mali		354.18						354.18
	4/20	4/21	Niger		181.50						181.50
	4/21	4/22	Nigeria		848.64						848.64
Commercial Transportation							10,129.00				10,129.00
Visit to United Arab Emirates, Afghanistan, Bahrain, April 18–23, 2013:											
Hon. Rob Wittman	4/19	4/19	United Arab Emirates								
	4/19	4/21	Afghanistan		43.00						43.00
	4/21	4/22	Bahrain		124.00						124.00
Commercial Transportation							10,709.60				10,709.60
Hon. Madeleine Bordallo	4/19	4/19	United Arab Emirates								
	4/19	4/21	Afghanistan		43.00						43.00
	4/21	4/22	Bahrain		124.00						124.00
Commercial Transportation							10,709.60				10,709.60
Hon. Joe Courtney	4/19	4/19	United Arab Emirates								
	4/19	4/21	Afghanistan		43.00						43.00
	4/21	4/22	Bahrain		124.00						124.00
Commercial Transportation							10,709.60				10,709.60
Hon. Jackie Walorski	4/19	4/19	United Arab Emirates								
	4/19	4/21	Afghanistan		43.00						43.00
	4/21	4/22	Bahrain		124.00						124.00
Commercial Transportation							10,709.60				10,709.60
Hon. Bill Enyart	4/19	4/19	United Arab Emirates								
	4/19	4/21	Afghanistan		10.00						10.00
	4/21	4/22	Bahrain		57.00						57.00
Commercial Transportation							10,709.60				10,709.60
Ryan Crumpler	4/19	4/19	United Arab Emirates								
	4/19	4/21	Afghanistan		43.00						43.00
	4/21	4/22	Bahrain		124.00						124.00
Commercial Transportation							10,709.60				10,709.60
Brian Garrett	4/19	4/19	United Arab Emirates								
	4/19	4/21	Afghanistan		10.00						10.00
	4/21	4/22	Bahrain		100.95						100.95
Commercial Transportation							10,709.60				10,709.60
Delegation Expenses	4/19	4/20							488.75		488.75
Visit to Jordan, Israel, Egypt, April 28–May 5, 2013 with STAFFDEL Karem:											
Roger Zakheim	4/29	4/30	Israel		522.00						522.00
	4/30	5/2	Jordan								
	5/2	5/5	Egypt								
Commercial Transportation							9,717.47				9,717.47
Michael Casey	4/28	4/30	Israel		394.00						394.00
	4/30	5/2	Jordan								
	5/2	5/5	Egypt								
Commercial Transportation							8,947.47				8,947.47
Visit to United Arab Emirates, Afghanistan, May 9–14, 2013:											
Hon. Martha Roby	5/10	5/12	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
	5/12	5/14	United Arab Emirates		485.48						485.48
Commercial Transportation							11,905.10				11,905.10
Hon. Susan Davis	5/10	5/12	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
	5/12	5/14	United Arab Emirates		300.48						300.48
Commercial Transportation							11,905.10				11,905.10
Hon. Kristi Noem	5/10	5/12	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
	5/12	5/14	United Arab Emirates		485.48						485.48

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Commercial Transportation							11,905.10				11,905.10
Hon. Niki Tsongas	5/10	5/12	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
	5/12	5/14	United Arab Emirates		485.48						485.48
Commercial Transportation							11,905.10				11,905.10
Hon. Tammy Duckworth	5/10	5/12	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
	5/12	5/14	United Arab Emirates		485.48						485.48
Commercial Transportation							11,905.10				11,905.10
Jaime Cheshire	5/10	5/12	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
	5/12	5/14	United Arab Emirates		422.86						422.86
Commercial Transportation							11,905.10				11,905.10
Debra Wada	5/10	5/12	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
	5/12	5/14	United Arab Emirates		422.86						422.86
Commercial Transportation							11,905.10				11,905.10
Delegation Expenses			United Arab Emirates						1,916.20		1,916.20
Visit to Kosovo, Germany, Qatar, Afghanistan, United Arab Emirates, May 26–June 1, 2013:											
Hon. Joe Wilson	5/26	5/27	Kosovo		147.95						147.95
	5/27	5/28	Germany		205.08						205.08
	5/28	5/29	Qatar		225.77						225.77
	5/29	5/31	Afghanistan		24.00						24.00
	5/31	6/1	United Arab Emirates								
Commercial Transportation							11,826.45				11,826.45
Hon. Peter Gallego	5/26	5/27	Kosovo		194.95						194.95
	5/27	5/28	Germany		267.08						267.08
	5/28	5/29	Qatar		339.77						339.77
	5/29	5/31	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
	5/31	6/1	United Arab Emirates								
Commercial Transportation							11,826.45				11,826.45
Craig Greene	5/26	5/27	Kosovo		194.95						194.95
	5/27	5/28	Germany		267.08						267.08
	5/28	5/29	Qatar		339.77						339.77
	5/29	5/31	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
	5/31	6/1	United Arab Emirates								
Commercial Transportation							11,826.45				11,826.45
Catherine Sendak	5/26	5/27	Kosovo		194.95						194.95
	5/27	5/28	Germany		267.08						267.08
	5/28	5/29	Qatar		339.77						339.77
	5/29	5/31	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
	5/31	6/1	United Arab Emirates								
Commercial Transportation							11,826.45				11,826.45
Delegation Expenses	5/31	6/1	United Arab Emirates						639.46		639.46
Committee total					16,542.75		303,320.74		4,763.35		324.626.84

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. HOWARD P. ''BUCK'' McKEON, Chairman, July 31, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. George Miller	5/23	5/23	Kuwait				11,509.60				11,509.60
Delegation Expenses	5/23	5/23	Kuwait						292.18		292.18
	5/25	5/29	Bangladesh		1,160.00						1,160.00
Delegation Expenses	5/25	5/29	Bangladesh						838.04		838.04
Richard Miller	5/23	5/23	Kuwait				12,647.80				12,647.80
Delegation Expenses	5/23	5/23	Kuwait						292.18		292.18
	5/25	5/29	Bangladesh		1,160.00						1,160.00
Delegation Expenses	5/25	5/29	Bangladesh						838.04		838.04
Committee total					2,320.00		24,157.40		2,260.44		28,737.84

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JOHN KLINE, Chairman, July 30, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Dan Kildee	4/2	4/4	United Arab Emirates		527.91						527.91
	4/4	4/5	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
	4/5	4/6	United Arab Emirates		12,257.70						12,258.70
Hon. Denny Heck	5/26	5/27	Kosovo		194.95						194.95
	5/27	5/28	Germany		231.29						231.29
	5/28	5/29	Qatar		225.77						225.77
	5/29	5/31	Afghanistan		24.00		(3)				24.00
	5/31	6/1	United Arab Emirates				11,826.45				11,826.45
Committee total					1,231.92		24,084.15				25,316.07

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

HON. JEB HENSARLING, Chairman, July 31, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Matt Salmon	4/28	4/29	Argentina		567.00		5,376.98				5,943.98
	4/29	5/2	Brazil		1,181.00		(4)				1,181.00
	5/2	5/5	Colombia		1,172.00		(4)				1,172.00
Hon. Trey Radel	5/2	5/5	Colombia		1,212.00		2,008.60				3,220.60
Hon. Albio Sires	4/28	4/29	Argentina		567.00		5,679.98				6,246.98
	4/29	5/2	Brazil		1,181.00		(4)				1,181.00
	5/2	5/5	Colombia		1,172.00		(4)				1,172.00
Mark Walker	4/28	4/29	Argentina		567.00		5,505.98				6,072.98
	4/29	5/2	Brazil		1,181.00		(4)				1,181.00
	5/2	5/5	Colombia		1,172.00		(4)				1,172.00
Leah Campos	4/28	4/29	Argentina		567.00		2,742.22				3,309.22
Ramon Zertuche	4/28	4/29	Argentina		567.00		5,679.98				6,246.98
	4/29	5/2	Brazil		1,181.00		(4)				1,181.00
	5/2	5/5	Colombia		1,172.00						1,172.00
Hon. Lois Frankel	5/26	5/27	Kosovo		147.95		11,826.45				11,974.40
	5/27	5/28	Germany		230.98		(4)				230.98
	5/28	5/29	Qatar		225.77		(4)				225.77
	5/29	5/31	Afghanistan		24.00		(4)				24.00
	5/31	6/1	United Arab Emirates				(5)				
Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	5/24	5/27	United Arab Emirates		583.00		13,065.00		[6] 2,153.20		15,801.20
	5/24	5/26	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Hon. Joseph Kennedy	5/24	5/27	United Arab Emirates		581.00		16,874.00				17,455.00
	5/24	5/26	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Hon. Ami Bera	5/24	5/27	United Arab Emirates		581.00		2,203.10				2,784.10
	5/24	5/26	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Eddy Acevedo	5/24	5/27	United Arab Emirates		683.00		13,065.10				13,748.10
	5/24	5/26	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Golan Rodgers	5/24	5/27	United Arab Emirates		733.00		13,065.10				13,798.10
	5/24	5/26	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Brent Woolfork	5/24	5/27	United Arab Emirates		756.00		10,087.10				10,843.10
	5/24	5/26	Afghanistan		5.00		(3)				5.00
Hon. Tulsi Gabbard	4/2	4/3	United Arab Emirates		946.00		12,142.00				13,088.00
	4/4	4/5	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Thomas Hill	5/28	5/31	Turkey		986.00		13,764.00				14,750.00
	5/31	6/3	Jordan		1,122.00		(4)				1,122.00
Evan McMullin	5/28	5/31	Turkey		986.00		13,273.00				14,259.00
	5/31	6/3	Jordan		1,122.00		(4)				1,122.00
Robert Marcus	5/28	5/31	Turkey		986.00		13,764.00				14,750.00
	5/31	6/3	Jordan		1,122.00		(4)				1,122.00
Leah Campos	5/26	6/1	Mexico		1,452.00		1,034.30				2,486.30
Ramon Zertuche	5/26	6/1	Mexico		1,381.69		1,431.49				2,813.18
Paul Berkowitz	4/27	5/1	Russia		2,384.00		4,344.74				6,728.74
Naz Durakoglu	4/27	5/1	Russia		2,270.00		4,379.74				6,649.74
Nilmini Rubin	4/28	4/30	Nigeria		792.00		8,814.80				9,606.80
	4/30	5/2	Ghana		602.00		(4)				602.00
	5/2	5/4	Liberia		450.00		(4)				450.00
Worku Gachou	4/28	4/30	Nigeria		758.00		8,814.80				9,572.80
	4/30	5/2	Ghana		592.00		(4)				592.00
	5/2	5/4	Liberia		530.00		(4)				530.00
Jaqueline Quinones	4/28	4/30	Nigeria		798.00		8,814.80				9,612.80
	4/30	5/2	Ghana		642.00		(4)				642.00
	5/2	5/4	Liberia		560.00		(4)				560.00
Eric Williams	4/28	4/30	Nigeria		798.00		8,814.80				9,612.80
	4/30	5/2	Ghana		642.00		(4)				642.00
	5/2	5/4	Liberia		560.00		(4)				560.00
Hon. Dana Rohrabacher	5/28	6/3	Russia		3,531.00		11,573.32		[6] 16,780.81		31,885.13
Hon. Paul Cook	5/28	6/3	Russia		3,211.00		15,555.32				18,766.32
Hon. Bill Keating	5/28	5/30	Russia		1,196.00		7,586.30				8,782.30
Paul Berkowitz	5/28	6/3	Russia		3,145.00		13,871.92				17,016.92
Naz Durakoglu	5/28	6/3	Russia		3,530.00		11,695.62				15,225.62
Hon. Steve Chabot	4/28	4/30	South Korea		655.00		11,689.60				12,344.60
	4/30	5/2	Japan		728.00		(4)		[6] 3,521.71		4,249.71
	5/2	5/3	Taiwan		306.00		(4)		[6] 1,537.31		1,843.31
Kevin Fitzpatrick	4/28	4/30	South Korea		650.00		11,689.60				12,339.60
	4/30	5/2	Japan		713.00		(4)				713.00
	5/2	5/3	Taiwan		311.00		(4)				311.00
Priscill Koepke	4/28	4/30	South Korea		595.00		11,689.60				12,284.60
	4/30	5/2	Japan		723.00		(4)				723.00
	5/2	5/3	Taiwan		335.00		(4)				335.00
Hon. Karen Bass	5/24	5/26	Ethiopia		2,962.50		7,461.52				10,424.02
Committee total					63,250.89		309,384.86		23,993.03		396,628.78

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.
[4] Commerical transportation.
[5] Not applicable.
[6] Delegation costs.

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE, Chairman, July 31, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Peter Welch	4/28	4/30	Turkey		517.20						517.20
	4/30	5/1	Pakistan		362.85						362.85
	5/1	5/2	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	5/2	5/3	Germany		194.00						194.00
Hon. Blake Farenthold	5/24	5/25	United Arab Emirates		526.00						526.00
	5/25	5/26	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	5/26	5/27	United Arab Emirates		407.00						407.00
Commercial airfare							5,759.00				5,759.00
Hon. Michael R. Turner	5/24	5/26	Romania		490.65						490.65
	5/26	5/28	Turkey		495.83						495.83
	5/28	5/29	Azerbaijan		373.00						373.00
	5/29	5/30	Turkey		294.00						294.00
	5/30	6/2	Ireland		1,299.00						1,299.00
Delegation Expenditure									2,178.00		2,178.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Commercial airfare							3,590.40				3,590.40
John Cuaderes	5/24	5/26	Romania		490.65						490.65
	5/26	5/28	Turkey		495.83						495.83
	5/28	5/29	Azerbaijan		373.00						373.00
	5/29	5/30	Turkey		294.00						294.00
Commercial airfare							4,447.60				4,447.60
Committee total					6,669.01		13,797.00		2,178.00		22,644.01

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA, Chairman, Aug. 9, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JEFF MILLER, Chairman, July 30, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Darren Dick	4/1	4/3	Middle East		708.36						
	4/3	4/4	Asia		473.00						
Commercial airfare							14,786.60				15,967.96
Bryan Smith	4/1	4/3	Middle East		708.36						
	4/3	4/4	Asia		473.00						
Commercial airfare							14,786.60				15,967.96
Chelsey Campbell	4/1	4/3	Middle East		708.36						
	4/3	4/4	Asia		473.00						
Commercial airfare							14,786.60				15,967.96
Linda Cohen	4/1	4/3	Middle East		708.36						
	4/3	4/4	Asia		473.00						
Commercial airfare							14,786.60				14,599.96
Michael Baher	4/1	4/3	Middle East		708.36						
	4/3	4/4	Asia		473.00						
Commercial airfare							11,914.60				13,095.96
Hon. Mike Rogers	4/29	4/30	Middle East		317.00						
	4/30	5/1	Middle East		383.00						
	5/1	5/2	Middle East		356.00						
	5/2	5/4	Middle East		476.00						
Commercial airfare							10,807.47				12,339.65
Hon. C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger	4/29	4/30	Middle East		317.00						
	4/30	5/1	Middle East		383.00						
	5/1	5/2	Middle East		356.00						
	5/2	5/4	Middle East		476.00						
Commercial airfare							10,807.47				12,339.65
Darren Dick	4/29	4/30	Middle East		317.00						
	4/30	5/1	Middle East		383.00						
	5/1	5/2	Middle East		356.00						
	5/2	5/5	Middle East		952.00						
Commercial airfare							10,807.47				12,339.65
Heather Molino	4/29	4/30	Middle East		317.00						
	4/30	5/1	Middle East		383.00						
	5/1	5/2	Middle East		356.00						
	5/2	5/4	Middle East		476.00						
Commercial airfare							10,807.47				12,339.65
Hon. Michele Bachmann	4/24	4/24	Caribbean								
Kathryn Wheelbarger	4/24	4/24	Caribbean								
Hon. Frank LoBiondo	5/24	5/25	Europe		295.22						
	5/25	5/27	Africa		497.00						
	5/27	5/29	Africa		461.72						
	5/29	5/31	Africa		663.45						
Commercial airfare							11,125.00				13,042.39
Frank Garcia	5/24	5/25	Europe		295.22						
	5/25	5/27	Africa		497.00						
	5/27	5/29	Africa		461.72						
	5/29	5/31	Africa		663.45						
Commercial airfare							11,125.00				13,042.39
Carly Scott	5/24	5/25	Europe		295.22						
	5/25	5/27	Africa		497.00						
	5/27	5/29	Africa		461.72						
	5/29	5/31	Africa		663.45						
Commercial airfare							11,125.00				13,042.39
Hon. Michele Bachmann	5/27	6/3	Eurasia		2,392.00						
Commercial airfare							716.16				3,108.76
Chelsey Campbell	5/27	5/29	Africa		768.41						
	5/29	5/30	Africa		443.00						
	5/30	5/31	Africa		395.93						
Commercial airfare							16,876.12				18,483.46
Kathryn Wheelbarger	5/27	5/29	Africa		768.41						
	5/29	5/30	Africa		443.00						
	5/30	5/31	Africa		395.93						
Commercial airfare							16,876.12				18,483.46
Michael Bahar	5/27	5/29	Africa		768.41						
	5/29	5/30	Africa		443.00						

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
	5/30	5/31	Africa		395.93						
Commercial airfare							16,876.12				18,483.46
Committee total											222,644.71

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MIKE ROGERS, Chairman, July 30, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2013

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Christopher H. Smith	6/9	6/11	Ukraine	Hryvnia	538.51		3,578.00				4,116.51
Hon. Steve Cohen	5/28	6/3	Russia	Rubble	3,049.00		6,536,42				9,585.42
Hon. Robert Aderhold	4/14	4/15	Denmark	Krone	419.00		4,107.70				4,526.70
Mark Milosch	6/9	6/11	Ukraine	Hryvnia	632.75		3,578.00				4,210.75
Robert Hand	4/14	4/16	Denmark	Krone	718.00		1,634.90				2,352.90
Committee total					5,357.26		19,435.02				24,792.28

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, Cochairman, Aug. 21, 2013.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2801. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of 3 officers to wear the authorized insignia of the grade of major general or brigadier general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2802. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a letter of notification to authorize a 90% guarantee on a supply chain finance facility for JPMorgan Chase & Co. of New York, New York; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2803. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Turkey pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2804. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Update of the Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets for the Lancaster 1997 8-Hour Ozone Maintenance Area [EPA-R03-OAR-2013-0058; FRL-9841-8] received August 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2805. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Texas; Victoria County 1997 8-Hour Ozone Section 110(a)(1) Maintenance Plan [EPA-R06-OAR-2006-0356; FRL-9842-6] received August 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2806. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Tennessee; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Lead National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R04-OAR-2012-0582; FRL-9845-2] received August 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2807. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; Alaska; Fairbanks Carbon Monoxide Limited Maintenance Plan and State Implementation Plan Revision [EPA-R10-OAR-2013-0420; FRL-9844-8] received August 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2808. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Disapproval of State Implementation Plans; State of Utah; Interstate Transport of Pollution for the 2006 PM2.5 NAAQS [EPA-R08-OAR-2012-0350; FRL-9844-9] received August 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2809. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Disapproval of State Implementation Plan; Infrastructure Requirements for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard; Montana [EPA-R08-OAR-2010-0298; FRL-9843-2] received August 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2810. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Reconsideration of Certain Provisions of New Source Performance Standards [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0505; FRL-9844-4] (RIN: 2060-AR75) received August 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2811. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Partial Disapproval of State Implementation Plan; Arizona; Regional Haze Requirements [EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0913; FRL-9843-7] received August 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2812. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Propylene Glycol; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0901; FRL-9394-5] received August 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2813. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2013-0399; FRL-9393-4] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received August 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2814. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Topramezone; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0262; FRL-9388-9] received August 6, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2815. A letter from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's report entitled, ''Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences: Fiscal Year [FY] 2012'', pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5848; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2816. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting a report on the agencies' use of the Physicians' Comparability Allowance Program for fiscal year 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5948(j)(1); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2817. A letter from the Human Resources Specialist, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2818. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting three reports pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2819. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2820. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2821. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, ''Sufficiency Certification for the Washington Convention and Sports Authority's (Trading as Events DC) Projected Revenues and Excess Reserve to Meet Projected Operating and Debt Service Expenditures and Reserve Requirements for Fiscal Year 2014''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2822. A letter from the Director, Office of Public Affairs, American Chemical Society, transmitting the Society's Annual Report for 2012; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2823. A letter from the Clerk, Court of Appeals, transmitting an opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, C.A. No. 12-2711, U.S.A. v. Zavkibeg Ashurov (August 12, 2013); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2824. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Premerger Notification; Reporting and Waiting Period Requirements (RIN: 3084-AA91) received August 10, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2825. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting a report entitled, ''Geothermal Heat Pump Research, Development and Demonstration''; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

2826. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Certain Transfers of Property to Regulated Investment Companies [RICs] and Real Estate Investment Trusts [REITs] [TD 9626] (RIN: 1545-BI84) received August 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2827. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Mixed Straddles; Straddle-by-Straddle Identification Under Section 1092(b)(2)(A)(i)(l) [TD 9627] (RIN: 1545-BL04) received August 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2828. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Reimbursed Entertainment Expenses [TD 9625] (RIN: 1545-BI83) received August 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2829. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the annual report on the Medicare and Medicaid Integrity Programs for Fiscal Year 2011; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

2830. A letter from the Board, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the Board's 2013 annual report on the financial status of the railroad unemployment insurance system, pursuant to 45 U.S.C. 369; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 2481. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to codify and improve the election requirements for the receipt of educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; with amendments (Rept. 113–207). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CONAWAY: Committee on Ethics. In the Matter of Allegations Relating to Representative John Tierney (Rept. 113–208). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. SHUSTER (for himself, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. GIBBS, and Mr. BISHOP of New York):

H.R. 3080. A bill to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, Ways and Means, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 3081. A bill to amend the Missing Children's Assistance Act to better enable law enforcement to identify, locate, and recover child victims of sex trafficking; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. YOHO, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. PITTS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. KING of Iowa, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 3082. A bill to require a report on the designation of the Libyan faction of Ansar al-Sharia as a foreign terrorist organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SIMPSON:

H.R. 3083. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to the operation of longer combination vehicles on the Interstate System in Idaho, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself and Mr. JONES):

H.J. Res. 60. A joint resolution to amend the War Powers Resolution; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H.J. Res. 61. A joint resolution to prevent further use of chemical weapons in Syria; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. FUDGE (for herself, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. BORDALLO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KIND, Mr. WATT, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. BASS, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. CHU, and Ms. DELAURO):

H. Res. 341. A resolution expressing support for designation of September as National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. SHUSTER:

H.R. 3080.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause I (related to general Welfare of the United States), and Clause 3 (related to regulation of Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian tribes).

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 3081.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. POE of Texas:

H.R. 3082.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 10, 11, and 15

By Mr. SIMPSON:

H.R. 3083.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 3 (relating to the authority to regulate commerce among the several states).

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.J. Res. 60.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H.J. Res. 61.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. I, Section 8, clause 11: ''The Congress shall have Power . . . To declare War''

Art. I, Section 8, clause 18: ''The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 12: Mr. ENGEL.

H.R. 30: Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 32: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HIGGINS, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. HORSFORD.

H.R. 61: Mr. DESANTIS.

H.R. 138: Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 141: Mr. ENGEL.

H.R. 292: Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 310: Ms. JENKINS.

H.R. 318: Mr. MEEHAN.

H.R. 411: Mr. FOSTER and Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 437: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 485: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California.
H.R. 494: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 509: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 510: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 511: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 543: Mr. ENGEL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. ENYART, Mr. HORSFORD, and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 562: Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 688: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 713: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CLAY, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. RUNYAN.
H.R. 720: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 721: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.
H.R. 728: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 842: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 855: Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 863: Ms. CLARKE and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 898: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 919: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 921: Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 938: Mr. REICHERT, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. COOK.
H.R. 949: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 961: Ms. ESTY.
H.R. 981: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 1015: Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 1020: Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 1041: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 1077: Mr. MULVANEY.
H.R. 1101: Mr. ISRAEL.
H.R. 1186: Mr. DUFFY, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 1250: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 1331: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.
H.R. 1339: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. COOK, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 1343: Mr. PAYNE and Ms. CLARKE.
H.R. 1387: Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS.
H.R. 1395: Mr. HORSFORD.
H.R. 1505: Mr. ISRAEL.
H.R. 1518: Ms. JENKINS.
H.R. 1521: Mr. TIERNEY.
H.R. 1528: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 1573: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 1630: Mr. CLAY and Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 1661: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 1666: Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. COOK, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 1698: Ms. ESHOO, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 1731: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 1732: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 1733: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 1748: Mr. VEASEY and Mr. CARNEY.
H.R. 1780: Mr. FLEMING, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. FLORES, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, and Mr. HENSARLING.
H.R. 1787: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.
H.R. 1814: Mr. CARNEY.
H.R. 1816: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 1827: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 1830: Ms. BROWN of Florida.
H.R. 1998: Mrs. CAPPS.
H.R. 2000: Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. CHU, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. LABRADOR.
H.R. 2019: Mr. YOUNG of Indiana.
H.R. 2030: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 2055: Mr. CRAMER.
H.R. 2059: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 2090: Mr. YOHO.
H.R. 2134: Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mr. GIBSON, and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 2174: Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 2189: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 2250: Mr. MATHESON.
H.R. 2283: Ms. BASS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. TERRY, and Mr. LANCE.
H.R. 2302: Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. REICHERT.
H.R. 2305: Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 2375: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. MAFFEI, and Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 2399: Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 2415: Mr. SCHOCK.
H.R. 2417: Mr. MILLER of Florida.
H.R. 2424: Mr. POCAN, Mr. KIND, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. SPEIER, and Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 2452: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 2483: Ms. BROWN of Florida.
H.R. 2512: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 2536: Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 2607: Mr. DESJARLAIS and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 2632: Ms. DEGETTE and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 2638: Mr. OLSON, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. PERRY, and Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.
H.R. 2682: Mr. RIGELL.
H.R. 2689: Ms. ESTY.
H.R. 2703: Mrs. NOEM.
H.R. 2715: Mr. GIBSON.
H.R. 2753: Mr. COLLINS of New York.
H.R. 2771: Mr. NEUGEBAUER and Mr. ROHRABACHER.
H.R. 2797: Ms. BORDALLO.
H.R. 2800: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 2805: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 2870: Mr. NEAL.
H.R. 2887: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 2907: Mr. STIVERS, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. JONES, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. ROE of Tennessee.
H.R. 2947: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 2994: Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. TIERNEY.
H.R. 3043: Mrs. NOEM.
H.R. 3065: Mr. RIBBLE and Mr. YOHO.
H.R. 3067: Mr. OLSON.
H.J. Res. 41: Mr. COFFMAN.
H.J. Res. 56: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.J. Res. 58: Mr. AMASH, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. FLORES, Mr. POSEY, Mr. YOHO, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. GARRETT, and Mr. PITTS.
H. Res. 36: Mr. LOBIONDO and Mr. RUNYAN.
H. Res. 89: Mr. BACHUS.
H. Res. 101: Mr. CICILLINE.
H. Res. 281: Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. SIRES, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MATHESON, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. FORBES, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. DOYLE, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. MOORE, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. WELCH, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. MARINO, and Ms. DELAURO.
H. Res. 301: Mr. KING of New York, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BISHOP of New York, and Mr. GERLACH.
H. Res. 308: Mr. KENNEDY.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 1077: Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 2918: Mr. BUCSHON.