

error messages and Americans being unable to successfully purchase insurance. We have learned that security risks to the ObamaCare Web site were “limitless” long before the Web site’s official launch.

Worse, the Obama administration knew of these risks before the October 1 planned launch. Rather than fixing the problem, they consciously allowed Americans to put their personal information at risk by using this deeply flawed Web site.

As someone who has worked in the technology sector, I know that if a private company launched a Web site with these kinds of issues, the company might have gone under, or at least people would have been fired.

The administration’s failure to secure this Web site in advance of its launch is wholly unacceptable. That is why I am proud to support the Health Exchange Security and Transparency Act, which requires HHS to notify Americans if their personal information has been stolen or unlawfully accessed through an ObamaCare exchange.

The American people deserve to know if the ObamaCare Web site jeopardized their privacy. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in support of this bill.

□ 1230

THE CONTINUING WAR ON POVERTY

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in marking the 50th anniversary of President Johnson’s declaration of a war on poverty. This war was being won for 16 years, but since President Reagan’s election 34 years ago, the free-marketeters and their Republican Party proponents have pressed the war on the war on poverty. The results are heart-wrenching. The rich are getting richer, while millions of middle-income families have been thrown into poverty.

In my State of Georgia alone, almost 17 percent of households are food insecure, according to the Half in Ten Education Fund. Eighteen percent of people in Georgia earn less than \$23,492 for a family of four.

Republicans blame the poor for being poor, and even worse, Mr. Speaker, they blame the 27.2 percent of children, Mr. Speaker, who are living below the poverty line in Georgia.

Republicans who ignore the desperate pleas to extend SNAP and unemployment insurance programs are hurting the people I represent in Georgia and millions more throughout this great Nation. It is a shame.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SERGEANT GALE STAUFFER

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

Mr. NUNNELEE. Mr. Speaker, on December 23, in my hometown of Tupelo, Mississippi, two of our police officers, Sergeant Gale Stauffer and Patrol Officer Joseph Maher, were shot while attempting to apprehend a bank robber.

Thankfully, Officer Maher survived very serious wounds, and he is currently recovering.

Tragically, Sergeant Stauffer died of those wounds. Gale, as he was known to his friends and family, spent his entire adult life in service to his country. He joined the U.S. military and bravely served his tour of duty in Iraq as a Sergeant in the Louisiana Army National Guard.

After returning home, he settled with his family in Tupelo, where he is known for his Cajun cooking, his love of the outdoors, and his passionate support for LSU Tiger football.

Above all, those who knew Sergeant Stauffer knew him as a man completely devoted to his wife and two children.

I will be submitting letters of support for both of these brave men’s nomination for the Congressional Badge of Bravery.

Ronald Reagan once said: “Those who say that we are in a time where there are no heroes, they just don’t know where to look.”

By their actions, Sergeant Stauffer and Officer Maher have showed there are still heroes among us.

EXTEND EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

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

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on Speaker BOEHNER to allow the House to vote to extend emergency unemployment compensation, a program that is critical to thousands of my constituents in Ventura County struggling to find work.

We also need to extend unemployment insurance for the more than 20,000 veterans who were cut off while they make their transition to the civilian work force. We need to extend unemployment insurance for the nearly 2 million children whose families need it for food, clothing, and shelter.

Mr. Speaker, it is also an economic imperative. Extending unemployment insurance to nearly 214,000 unemployed Californians who will use it to buy groceries, put gas in their cars, or keep the lights on, would save over 46,000 jobs in my State.

Mr. Speaker, it is both a moral and economic imperative that we extend unemployment insurance, and that we do so without delay.

NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTIONS FOR CONGRESS

(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, as Americans are making their New Year’s resolutions, I think it is time that Congress makes a few New Year’s resolutions of its own.

Congress will resolve itself to stop asking for money and higher taxes from the American people to pay for more bureaucracy and more bloated Federal programs.

Congress will actually try to balance its budget, something the rest of the American people have to do.

Congress will resolve itself to stop the onslaught of rules, regulations, and mandates on our constituents that slow down the economy and kill jobs.

Congress will focus more on programs that create jobs and less on programs that create government dependency.

Congress will stop allowing the Federal Government to spy and read the emails of innocent Americans.

Congress will resolve itself to live under the same laws it passes for everyone else with no special health care or retirement benefits.

Lastly, Congress will resolve itself to spend more time listening to the American people and working together, Republicans and Democrats, to solve the problems our Nation faces.

Mr. Speaker, these are a few New Year’s resolutions for Congress that we would be well-served to follow.

HIPPOCRATIC OATH FOR CONGRESS

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

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, if there were a Hippocratic oath of legislating, it would prescribe that we, above all else, should do no harm, but we have a habit of violating that foundational precept.

We have allowed unemployment insurance to 1.3 million Americans to expire, and that will not help our economy and will cost 200,000 jobs.

In 1 month we face the recurring hostage-taking ritual that has become raising the debt limit. These debt limit showdowns have a real cost to our economy.

The Government Accountability Office found that delayed action in 2011 resulted in \$1.3 billion in higher borrowing costs. We can avoid that cost by enacting permanent reforms to the process like the ones employed in the recent debt limit adjustments.

I introduced last year H.R. 233, which would permanently shift the role of Congress to disapproving debt ceiling increases instead of approving them and allows the debt limit to be raised

unless a supermajority of Congress votes to block the increase.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in pursuing these permanent and necessary reforms. Avoid the replay of the hostage-taking and brinksmanship of last year, and take the steps to avoid doing any more unnecessary harm to American families.

AMERICA'S WAR ON POVERTY

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

Mr. SOUTHERLAND. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 50th anniversary of America's war on poverty. While this war may have been launched with the best of intentions, it is clear we are engaged in a battle of attrition that has left more Americans in poverty than at any point in America's history by number.

That fact is staggering, considering the \$15 trillion and counting that has been spent on fighting this War on Poverty. The status quo simply isn't working. In fact, it is hurting many, many vulnerable families.

We have a moral obligation to do better for the people of Florida's Second Congressional District and across this great Nation, and for the 46.5 million Americans overall who are living in poverty.

As chairman of the Republican Study Committee's Anti-Poverty Initiative, I look forward to working on things going forward, on new, forward-thinking solutions that do several things: strengthen two-parent families; improve effective educational opportunities; create long-lasting job growth, producing fulfilling careers; and restore people's God-given opportunity for earned success.

THE WAR ON POVERTY

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago today President Johnson launched the war on poverty, giving rise to some of the most successful antipoverty programs in our history, including Medicare, Medicaid, food assistance, and Head Start.

Five decades later, eradicating poverty remains a moral imperative. It encompasses health and well-being, education, employment, and access to opportunity.

We have made progress. In 1967, nearly 26 percent of Americans lived in poverty. Today that number is 16 percent. Programs such as the Earned Income Tax Credit, which gives working Americans a ladder into the middle class, have helped us make that progress.

Today, in Congress, our commitment to ending poverty is in question. Because of Republican opposition, more than 18,000 Kentuckians and 1.3 million Americans are without a critical safety

net as they continue to search for work. As a result, our economy lost \$400 million last week alone.

Unemployment insurance is one of the most effective ways to transition those who lost jobs back into the workforce. In 2012, it helped 2.5 million Americans work their way out of poverty.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to recommit themselves to eradicating poverty and support an immediate extension of unemployment insurance.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

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

Mrs. CAPPs. Mr. Speaker, I rise to give voice to the many out-of-work Americans whose unemployment insurance was allowed to expire.

James, from Santa Maria, California, wrote the following:

I started working at the age of 16 because our father had died. I had, up until April 2012, gone to work every day. I am no slouch. I am a citizen, a taxpayer, a U.S. Army veteran.

But now, his unemployment insurance benefit is gone. For James and for millions of Americans like him, we must act.

Unfortunately, House leadership has ignored this plight and, in doing so, these hardworking Americans will lose the means to keep job searching.

We must extend this lifeline for the long-term unemployed, their children, for our local economies, which gain \$3 of economic benefits for every \$2 invested in the program. The Senate is on the verge of doing just that. With bipartisan support, we must follow their lead.

James signed his letter to me in bold, capital letters: "PLEASE HELP." I urge House leadership and my colleagues to do just that.

EXTENDING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, last year, as many have said, ended on a somber note. Over 1 million of our fellow Americans lost a vital economic lifeline, the temporary insurance that helps them get by while searching for a new job.

Louise, a constituent of mine from San Diego, recently wrote me to explain what losing such benefits means to her. She is 60 years old, and she has been looking for work since she was laid off a year ago from a stable job that she had held just for about 15 years.

And as she mentioned:

It is very scary to think that effectively, on January 1, I won't have any income. So what am I to do? I will have a roof over my

head for a short time, but I won't have the funds to pay for utilities.

And she went on to say:

By cutting extended unemployment, all that will be accomplished is more people being on welfare or living on the streets homeless. And that, that helps us? How?

Her story reminds us of our duty to lend a hand to those in need. Any of us could be in her shoes.

Extending unemployment benefits is not only the right thing, but it is also good for our economy.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

□ 1245

CLEAN AIR ACT AMENDMENT

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 724) to amend the Clean Air Act to remove the requirement for dealer certification of new light-duty motor vehicles.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 724

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REMOVAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR DEALER CERTIFICATION OF NEW LIGHT-DUTY MOTOR VEHICLES.

Section 207(h) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7541(h)) is amended—

- (1) by striking paragraph (1); and
- (2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials into the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be the lead sponsor of H.R. 724, along with my colleague, Congressman GARY PETERS of Michigan. This bipartisan bill, which has 106 cosponsors, repeals an obsolete regulatory requirement that no longer