

WAGING WAR ON COLSTRIP, MONTANA

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

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, Colstrip, Montana, is a town that runs on coal. Hundreds of hardworking Montanans depend on jobs in Colstrip's coal-fired power plant and its coal mines to provide for their families, but one antiole energy consultant said that Montanans "should plan for life without Colstrip," due, in part, to job-killing regulations proposed by the Obama administration.

EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy recently met with a group of Democrat Senators who commended the Agency's efforts on these emissions rules.

I urge Administrator McCarthy to get out of Washington, D.C., and speak with the Montana families who will be directly and negatively affected by these regulations and to explain to them why the Obama administration is waging a war on their livelihoods and their town. He is waging a war on the middle class.

NATIONAL OCEAN POLICY

(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 in support of the National Ocean Policy.

Later today, we may consider an amendment to the Energy and Water Appropriations bill to undermine this important policy. The amendment would promote inefficiency in ocean management. It would harm coastal communities.

We depend on the marine environment for many important uses, like food, tourism, and the transportation of goods. These diverse interests often conflict, which is why the National Ocean Policy provides a forum for local stakeholders and Federal agencies to talk to each other and work things out.

Efforts to cripple the National Ocean Policy will prevent local ocean users from deciding what issues are most important for their local communities, and that makes no sense.

Improving the coordination between Federal agencies and local ocean stakeholders is a bipartisan idea that was first suggested during the Bush administration. It should still have bipartisan support.

I urge my colleagues to support the National Ocean Policy and to reject efforts to undermine this commonsense idea.

CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I stand to address the crisis occurring along

our southern border, which is a direct result of the President's failure to uphold the laws of our Nation.

Illegal aliens apprehended in Texas are being shipped and flown to California, which is my home State, as well as to other States, on the taxpayers' dime. Allegations state that approximately 420 Central American illegal aliens, mostly women and children, were on the first three flights into San Diego.

Flooding our State with these illegal aliens not only creates a humanitarian crisis that must be dealt with, but it crosses a line that the American public will not and should not tolerate.

We cannot continue to stand by and allow this administration to continue to pick and choose what laws will be enforced. These policies have resulted in what we are facing now—unlawful immigration, especially children and their families. They are getting a mixed message and a mixed signal from this administration, that of believing they may receive some form of amnesty from this administration or will at least have a chance to stay in this country, regardless of the laws of our Nation.

Unless this present administration starts upholding the laws of the land and ensuring our border is secure, this crisis will continue to get worse and worse, affecting our children and our economy very detrimentally.

The President's demand—the solution he is proposing—of \$3.7 billion in additional funding isn't a solution at all. It does nothing to address the border problems we have in the enforcement of the border.

We need to find real solutions, and this flood of illegal immigration is just going to be a bigger detriment to our Nation.

PASS EXTENSION OF THE HIGHWAY ACT

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, while we were on break, the 58th anniversary of the interstate highway system was celebrated, and while there is a lot of discussion here in the House about different issues, there is nothing more important for this Congress to do than to create jobs for the American public. The best way to create jobs is to pass an extension of the Highway Act—infrastructure bills.

President Eisenhower was a President who knew we needed a strong infrastructure and a highway system. When he needed a sponsor in the Senate, it was Albert Gore, Sr., from Tennessee—a Democrat—who sponsored that bill.

We need bipartisanship the way we had it with Eisenhower and Gore in order to come up with a highway extension. If it is a gas tax—whatever it is—we need to do it. We need to put Americans back to work, and we need

to put our infrastructure first. Those should be the responsibilities of this House.

I pledge to support transportation efforts to get a bill passed and to make America proud about its infrastructure again—bridges, runways, and roads.

DEPLOY NATIONAL GUARD TO SECURE OUR BORDER

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

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, we have a very sad human tragedy going on at our border, with many thousands of children coming to the U.S. from Central America.

Americans are the most generous, compassionate people in the world, but if we don't secure our borders, we will destroy America as we have known it. There are probably several hundred million people who would come here in a short time, if we simply opened our borders.

We must have a legal, orderly system of immigration, and it must be enforced. Our entire infrastructure—our schools, our hospitals, our jails, our sewers, and so forth—just cannot take in hundreds of millions more people in a short time.

We need to immediately deploy our National Guard to secure our border, and we need to immediately change the laws, so that every unaccompanied child does not require a court hearing.

This is an emergency situation, Mr. Speaker. It does not require more money. It requires immediate action with funds that are already available.

□ 1230

EFFECTS OF AMERICA'S WAR ON DRUGS

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I spoke about the flood of unaccompanied minors crossing our borders to escape drug and gang violence caused by America's war on drugs.

Today I want to speak about the effect of that drug war on young people trapped in the inner cities of America on this side of the border. Take Chicago, for instance: 58 shot, 14 killed over the July Fourth weekend; most involved drugs, if not all.

Politicians cracked down on drug crime in the eighties and nineties, but look at the impact that it has had. It is a failed war on drugs that has become a war on urban youth. Many boys on the streets of Chicago or Atlanta can barely cross the street without bullets streaking past their heads.

The war on drugs and its impact on our youth needs to end now.

NUCLEAR NEGOTIATIONS WITH IRAN

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

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern for the administration's nuclear negotiations with Iran.

This administration has a questionable track record on diplomacy. Just 3 weeks ago, it put five Taliban commanders back on the battlefield. We are witnessing an unraveling of our hard-fought gains in Iraq because of the administration's inability to negotiate a status of forces agreement before our withdrawal of troops. Syria is in flames; al Qaeda is on the move; the Taliban are resurgent in Afghanistan as we talk about a drawdown. And the list goes on, Mr. Speaker.

The administration has, time and time again, demonstrated terrible judgment when it comes to foreign policy. There are real concerns by experts who have testified in front of the Foreign Affairs Committee that the deal in regard to Iran's nuclear weapons not just leaves the region, but the United States, less safe.

Mr. President, put down the pool cue, pick up the map, find your way to Capitol Hill, and let's work together to make sure we don't have a nuclear Iran.

LET'S BE CLEAR ON IMMIGRATION POLICY

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise out of an overwhelming concern for young people and children in Central America.

President Obama has a habit of saying to Americans, "Let me be clear." I wish desperately he would be clear with the thousands of Central American families who have not yet tried to cross our border.

In 2012, the President announced he would not enforce the law with regard to 800,000 young people who crossed our border illegally. Predictably, families and dangerous smugglers got the message.

Detention centers in our Southwestern States are overflowing. The photos and stories of the traveling and living conditions of these kids is heart-breaking to see and to hear.

Tragically, the administration doubled down on Sunday, when Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson promised more executive action and refused to say new arrivals would be returned. This ambiguous approach created the crisis in the first place. Without clarity, more suffering will assuredly follow.

Mr. Speaker, I wish the President would consider the consequences of his

disregard for the rule of law and be clear with would-be legal immigrants.

FOREST SERVICE GROUNDWATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, recently I joined fellow lawmakers in sending a letter to the U.S. Agriculture Secretary concerning the U.S. Forest Service's proposed groundwater resource management directive.

Similar to a large number of other proposals stemming from this administration, the directive seeks to further federalize water resources at the expense of State authority and private property rights. Additionally, it will unnecessarily interfere with State and private water rights, along with other activities.

Furthermore, the directive was proposed without State or local input, which will encourage litigation and potentially interfere with the adjacent State, local, and private land and water rights.

In Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest, 93 percent of the subsurface rights are privately owned, which means the consequence of this directive could even be more complicated and threatening to private property and water rights.

Mr. Speaker, the mission of the Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests. Unfortunately, this policy will achieve little or no environmental benefit while it, at the same time, undermines the agency's statutory obligation to manage these lands.

The Forest Service should withdraw this ill-timed and punitive directive.

NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF EXCESSIVE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AUDITS

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

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the excessive audit system that exists for our medical equipment providers that provide essential medical equipment for our seniors across this country. It is negatively affecting them and their businesses. These businesses provide essential services and education to our seniors and Medicare patients.

It is important to point out that this practice was put in place because of the fraud and abuse that existed within the system; but rather than targeting fraudulent practices, they are targeting people playing by the rules and are being punished because of the bad actions of a few of the bad actors.

One example is a business in my community that provides essential health

care to Medicare and senior patients, providing oxygen and hospital beds, which are essential, basic equipment. They have been audited 50 percent of the time.

This is a practice that has to end; and I am introducing legislation tomorrow that will address this issue, reform the system, and get to the point of really addressing the fraudulent practitioners that need the reform.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5016, FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015, AND PROVIDING FOR CON- SIDERATION OF H.R. 4718, BONUS DEPRECIATION MODIFIED AND MADE PERMANENT

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 661 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 661

Resolved, That (a) at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5016) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. Points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 or clause 5(a) of rule XXI are waived except for section 627.

(b) During consideration of the bill for amendment—

(1) each amendment, other than amendments provided for in paragraph (2), shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent and shall not be subject to amendment except as provided in paragraph (2);

(2) no pro forma amendment shall be in order except that the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate; and

(3) the chair of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read.

(c) When the committee rises and reports the bill back to the House with a recommendation that the bill do pass, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4718) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and make permanent bonus depreciation. All points of order