

vocal minority of extreme environmental groups.

Mr. Speaker, the President's decision yesterday is a giant leap backwards on a road to energy independence, effectively saying "no" to the creation of over 40,000 American jobs and lower energy prices for businesses and families.

Mr. Speaker, President Obama had the opportunity to stand up and show true leadership, but unfortunately, he chose to, once again, hide behind political motives.

□ 1215

ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR NEVADA

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, just this morning, Nevada Attorney General Laxalt testified before the House Judiciary Committee, claiming that the implementation of DAPA and extension of DACA would cause undue economic hardship for our State. Well, I would like to see his evidence, because data show that granting administrative relief to qualified undocumented immigrants would actually contribute to economic growth.

Thanks to these executive actions, the legal workforce will expand, and average wages for all workers will increase by \$170 a year. The Federal deficit will be reduced by \$25 billion, and GDP will grow from \$90 billion to \$210 billion over the next decade. Furthermore, it is estimated that expanding DACA and DAPA will increase Nevada's GDP from \$700 million to \$1.7 billion over the next 10 years and lead to \$21 million in additional tax revenue for the State over the next 5 years.

So, in short, General, not implementing the President's actions is not only morally indefensible, but also economically foolish. And, I might add, holding up DHS funding for this purpose is a shameful political act that puts Americans at risk.

M-855 AMMO BAN

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

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand up for the rights of law-abiding Americans to protect their homes, and I am standing in opposition to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' unreasonable proposal to ban entire classes of ammunition.

As an American, I personally use this ammunition to defend my home and my family, and that is my constitutional right. I find it ironic that the President of the United States continues to say, well, if we would just arm the people of other countries, then ISIS wouldn't exist, while he uses each and every means possible to violate our Second Amendment right to protect ourselves.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to set the record straight, and I look forward to meeting with the ATF and discussing their budget and making sure that they don't have the legal authority or the funding to take away Americans' constitutional rights to keep and bear arms and ammo.

DHS SHUTDOWN

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

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, in 3 days, the Department of Homeland Security will needlessly run out of funding—yes, 3 days. Shutting down the Department of Homeland Security will jeopardize local disaster relief grants. It will stall critical safety training for firefighters and first responders and will force thousands of Border Patrol agents, Active Duty Coast Guard servicemembers, and airport security screeners across the country to work without pay.

House Republicans are threatening the safety and security of our Nation and our families by refusing to pass a clean security funding bill, instead, pushing for anti-immigration amendments. This is unwise, this is unnecessary, and this is wrong. We should not play partisan politics when our Nation's security is on the line.

We must pass a funding bill that does not include harmful provisions, so that our Nation remains safe and secure. That is why I ask unanimous consent that the House bring up H.R. 861, the clean Department of Homeland Security funding bill that would keep the Department open so it can carry out its mission of keeping the American people safe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair previously advised, that request cannot be entertained absent appropriate clearance.

STRENGTHENING TAX-FREE 529 COLLEGE SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

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

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 529, a bill I have co-sponsored that strengthens tax-free 529 college savings accounts. The cost of higher ed has increased by more than 500 percent since 1985, yet the President recently proposed a tax hike on 529 savings of students and middle class families.

There is a big difference between being able to afford college and being able to pay for it. The 529s help bridge that gap for millions of working Americans who make too little to cover tuition but just enough to be ineligible for financial aid.

Our Nation's long-term prosperity depends on our ability to prepare the next generation for success. Let's start now by passing H.R. 529.

DHS SHUTDOWN

(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 today to demand that a clean, straightforward Department of Homeland Security funding bill be brought to the House floor for a vote immediately. After today, there are only 2 more days until the entire Department of Homeland Security is shut down, 2 days until the men and women who work to protect our national security stop receiving a paycheck, 2 days until the doors are shut at the Department responsible for ensuring America's safety.

If my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to debate the merits of immigration reform, then bring an immigration bill to the floor. We would welcome that debate. We are ready to work on a comprehensive bill to fix a broken system. In the meantime, don't play games with our national security.

Again, I urge the House leadership to bring a clean funding bill. It is H.R. 861. We need to keep the Department of Homeland Security open so it can carry out its mission of keeping the American people safe, and we need to be able to move forward to work on the pressing matters facing our country.

DHS SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, the American people expect us to deliver solutions and to fix problems; they expect us to act responsibly and govern. We can do this by working together and averting a shutdown at the Department of Homeland Security.

Let me be clear: shutting down the Department of Homeland Security should not be an option, and I am adamantly opposed to letting this happen.

Our first and foremost responsibility, Mr. Speaker, is to protect our Nation. Ever since the attacks of September 11, 2001, the need for the Department of Homeland Security became clear, and the Department of Homeland Security has proven vital to keeping the American people safe amid an ongoing war against terror.

Terror threats do not just go away until Washington is able to come to a compromise. There is certainly broad disagreement, Mr. Speaker, in this country over the President's executive actions. By shutting down DHS, it only makes us more vulnerable to attacks. It is absolutely the wrong approach to addressing this disagreement. There is no room for political brinkmanship when the security of the American public is at stake.

SELMA VOTING RIGHTS

(Mr. CARNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1