sewer or water mains without lasers to help us align them so that they are in the proper location.

Today, you can go into novelty stores and buy lasers for $15. Children play with them, cat lovers use them to have cats chase the little red dot around. They are ubiquitous. And out of that small investment from the United States Government in that research, which I would estimate was roughly $10 million or less, today we have a multibillion dollar industry in the United States.

The problem this Nation faces is that that research is not being supported by this Nation the way it was in the past and we are in danger of losing our leadership because of that. I deeply, deeply appreciate the leadership of President George Bush in announcing in his State of the Union speech the American Competitiveness Initiative, which will help restore our lead in research in this world. It will help provide the education our children need so that they can be leaders in the world.

I strongly urge this Congress to provide the funding that the President has requested so that we can not only maintain, but increase, our leadership in the world and maintain our economic competitiveness and continue to be the giant in the world that we have been so that our people will have jobs and we won't be shipping them abroad.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today supporting H. Res. 541, legislation honoring the 2005 winners of the Nobel Prizes in Physics and Chemistry.

The Nobel Prize represents the pinnacle of achievement in any academic area.

The 2005 Prize in Physics was awarded to three scientists in the field of optics.

Dr. Roy Glauber was awarded half of the Prize for his theoretical description of the behavior of light particles.

Drs. John Hall and Theodor Haensch share the other half of the Physics Prize for their development of laser-based precision spectroscopy.

The work has enabled the determination of the color of the light of atoms and molecules with great precision.

The 2005 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was shared by Drs. Yves Chauvin, Richard Schrock and Robert Grubbs for their work in the area of metathesis.

Metathesis is important to the chemical industry, mainly in the development of medicines and of certain types of plastic materials.

The Nobel Laureates' work has enabled chemical synthesis to be simpler, more efficient, and more environmentally friendly.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the recipients of the Nobel Prizes in Physics and Chemistry and urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 541.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 541 commends the great American ingenuity and level of excellence represented by our National Laboratories, particularly the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), whose work is so consistently stellar that it is often taken for granted.

American John Hall, who is one of the three scientists sharing the Nobel Prize for Physics, is the third NIST scientist to win a Nobel Prize. He is sharing the Prize for Physics with American Roy J. Glauber and German Theodor W. Haensch. Their studies reversed the earlier belief that the quantum theory of the behavior of particles did not describe the behavior of particles of light. These scientists, in fact, have changed the modern understanding of the behavior of light. Their discoveries could allow better GPS systems, better space navigation, and even better digital animation.

The 2005 Nobel Prize for Chemistry was won by American Robert H. Grubbs, from Southern California's California Institute of Technology, American Richard R. Schrock, and Frenchman Yves Chauvin. They made great breakthroughs in their work with olefin metathesis. This is a chemical reaction describing the changing of bonds between atoms.

Their work has great commercial potential in areas like pharmaceuticals, the biotechnology industry, and the foodstuff industry. The great work that these scientists produce contributes to our competitiveness and to our great standard of living.

I want to commend all of these outstanding scientists for their contributions to physics and chemistry and to the Royal Swedish Academy of Scientists for their recognition of their achievements, and to NIST and its laboratories who have supported research that strengthens our global competitiveness through the development of groundbreaking technologies.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WESTMORELAND). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 541.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMUNICATION FROM SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT OF HON. SAM FARR, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Troy Phillips, Senior Legislative Assistant of the Honorable SAM FARR, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC., April 5, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a grand jury subpoena for testimony issued by the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

TROY PHILLIPS,
Senior Legislative Assistant.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable J. GRESHAM BARRETT, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC., March 30, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a civil subpoena, issued by the Court of Common Pleas for Anderson County, South Carolina, for testimony.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

J. GRESHAM BARRETT,
Member of Congress.

PARTY OF THE 1 PERCENT

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

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, it is budget week. Over the past 5 years, the number of Americans falling on hard times has soared. A new analysis of major Federal Government programs by USA Today confirms the gut-wrenching truth.

Republicans in the White House and the Congress have wielded their political power like a club on America's low income and America's middle class. The single largest increase came in Medicaid, which added 15 million Americans on the President's watch from 2000–2005. Medicaid is the health care program for the poor. It speaks volumes about how the Republican Party has treated low and middle income Americans during this administration.

All but the wealthiest Americans have been left behind by the Republican Party and the Republican budget. This is a party of the 1 percent. The Republican Party deals with what is good for the 1 percent at the top, not what is good for everybody else.

This is not conjecture, it is a grim statistic. Despite this administration's watch, the poverty rate has grown dramatically, as has the budget deficit. Over the last 5 years, the very rich got very much richer. At the same time, the Republicans were giving millionaires new $100,000 tax breaks, the poverty rate in the United States was climbing to 12.7 percent.