

by brave men and women who will stand in the way of violence even at the cost of their own lives.

Detective Gibson and Officer Chestnut died in the defense of our democracy just as surely as those in harm's way in Iraq and Afghanistan and in other trouble spots of the world.

Detective Gibson and Officer Chestnut deserve every tribute they've been given: Lying in honor under the Capitol dome; yesterday's words dedicated to their memory; today's moment of silence at 3:40. But we know that what they did, every member of the Capitol Police and every law enforcement officer throughout our land stands ready to do as they rise in the morning and put on a badge, either on their uniform or in their wallet or on their hip, and they attach a gun, perhaps, as well, prepared to defend and keep the peace.

We honor Detective Gibson and Officer Chestnut not because they were unique in their sacrifice, which, however, they were, but because their willingness to sacrifice was so typical, typical of all of the best in those who wear the badge.

Edmund Burke wrote that "Good order is the foundation of all things." It is certainly the foundation of everything that happens in this building. Without peace and good order, democracy could not survive.

Let us thank those men and women who risk their lives to give us order, safety, freedom from fear, and let us keep their families in our thoughts today and every day.

God blesses America with men and women ready to defend our freedom, our country, and our Capitol. Without them, the work of this Capitol and the work of our democracy would not prevail. We thank their families, we remember them this day, and may God grant them continued peace.

#### DRILL ON THE ANWR SPECK

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

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, as our "Drill Nothing" Congress continues to ignore viable energy options such as drilling in ANWR, I thought a chart would best illustrate where these drilling locations are.

Madam Speaker, this is Alaska, this is ANWR, and this little bitty red speck is where the proposed drilling in ANWR is to be. It takes glasses to see it because it's only 3 square miles. To put it in perspective, the Houston Intercontinental Airport is five times the size of this speck. Disney World is 15 times the size of this speck, and the King Ranch in Texas is 500 times this proposed drilling location.

Madam Speaker, it's time for Congress to stop using the distortions of the elites in the environmental fear lobby as an excuse not to take care of

ourselves. America needs to take care of Americans and not be held hostage by OPEC and handcuffed by the Drill Nothing Congress.

And that's just the way it is.

#### PASSAGE OF THE HOUSING BILL

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor to acknowledge the bipartisan work of this Congress and the Bush administration on the housing bill that the House passed yesterday. This legislation is in the best interests of the American people, and it was the product of honest negotiation and compromise between the administration and this Congress.

At the beginning of the 110th Congress, I had hoped that this type of work between the legislative and the executive branches would take place regularly. Unfortunately, it has been a rare occurrence. I'm optimistic that the next administration will be prepared to put forth ideas and to work collaboratively with the Congress instead of resorting to tired rhetoric and dragging their feet on policies that are supported by Americans.

I'm glad that we had a positive breakthrough and bipartisan negotiations with this important housing bill. It will provide needed assistance to homeowners, to communities, and Main streets across the Nation. And I look forward to the Senate's swift passage of this legislation to enhance the economic future of the United States.

#### PUT ALL ENERGY OPTIONS ON THE TABLE

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

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, earlier this week I had the opportunity to meet with patients at the Jackson Dialysis Center in Jackson, Michigan, and discuss transportation issues. I heard from patient after patient about how high gas prices are negatively affecting their lives and their health.

I also visited the American Red Cross branch in Jackson and learned that service volunteers, men and women who help fire and accident victims, are now using their own money to pay for gasoline because the Red Cross cannot afford to reimburse.

I heard about situations in my district and across the Nation like this, yet Congress continues to do nothing. High gas prices demand action from Congress and we need to put all energy options on the table. Just as with the Manhattan Project and the race to the Moon, breaking our dependence on foreign oil should be a national priority.

Americans are being stretched to the max, and it is time their elected representatives act on their behalf.

I urge my colleagues to sign on to my discharge petition to bring the No More Excuses Energy Act to a vote. So I say to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, Madam Speaker, let's join together and vote to immediately increase American energy production, bring down the price of gas and make American energy independent.

#### THE MIDDLE CLASS IS GETTING SQUEEZED

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, yesterday the Wall Street Journal reported that the richest 1 percent are doing better than ever under President Bush. According to the Wall Street Journal, the income of the richest 1 percent, people who earn above \$1 million, are at a 19-year high. At the same time, their average income tax rate is at an 18-year low. And if they're doing so well, simple question, how are the other 99 percent doing?

Median household income has dropped \$1,200 under George Bush and the Republican Congress. Household expenses are up \$4,600. College costs have doubled. Health care costs have doubled. Gas prices have more than doubled, and yet median income has dropped by \$1,200. These are sobering statistics. The middle class is simply getting squeezed in this country.

After 7½ years of the administration policies, it's not a surprise 99 percent are getting hurt and the top 1 percent are doing better than ever. And now JOHN MCCAIN is offering an economic plan to cut taxes to this top 1 percent by \$127,000.

It is time for a new direction.

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EXELON

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, Exelon, an energy company which provides electricity to my district in Pennsylvania, recently announced a voluntary goal of reducing, offsetting, or displacing more than 15 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions per year by 2020. This is more than the company's current annual carbon emission total and is equivalent to taking nearly 3 million cars off American roads and highways.

The campaign, called Exelon 2020, will pursue three broad strategies: first, reduce or offset Exelon's carbon emissions by reducing energy consumption and operating to the highest environmental standards; secondly, help