

We want to make sure that they have the opportunity to fix the bill.

□ 1530

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to recommit be amended by substituting the term "promptly" with the term "forthwith."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will recognize only the proponent of the motion for such a request.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker and Members, our majority leader just put before us a motion that I think we should all support. It is unreasonable for us to think that somehow we are going to not give this House the opportunity to provide leadership on crime.

There are Members on the opposite side of the aisle who would identify themselves as being law and order people, of wanting to get rid of guns and crime. Well, this is an opportunity to show where you stand. Do you stand with us to keep Americans safe? Do you stand with us to make the rules on Federal property, or are you going to vote us down?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's time has expired.

Pursuant to section 2 of House Resolution 974, further proceedings on H.R. 3521 are postponed.

#### HONORING ANTHONY "TONY" EUBANKS

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

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Anthony "Tony" Eubanks, professional basketball player, collegiate basketball record holder and two-time All American, during Black History Month, I would like to recognize his efforts as a mentor to our Christian youth in South Carolina.

Through his professional basketball career, Tony was able to travel to the Middle East, Europe, and Argentina. This travel led him to work with youth as a volunteer for Young Life, FCA, and other ministries.

Currently, he now serves as the captain of the Clemson Tigers football team and volunteers with FCA on the Clemson campus.

South Carolina is proud to have this citizen who is so truly dedicated to strengthening youth faith. Each day, he contributes to pregame chapels, coaches' Bible study and graduate assistants' Bible studies, and other ministries that continue to make a difference in the lives of athletes, coaches, and the community.

Tony is not only a leader for our youth, but also a strong role model for athletes. He is a true athlete for Christian Ministries.

#### PASS PROTECT AMERICA ACT NOW

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, the men and women in our intelligence agencies are facing uncertainty. They are telling us this, and that is posing a very real national security risk to us in our homeland.

Today I rise to encourage this House to close the terrorist loophole for good by passing a bill that would permanently update the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

The Senate passed this bipartisan bill with 68 votes. The House leadership will not bring it to the floor. They had another opportunity today, and they passed on that opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, time has run out. The Protect America Act has expired. The Democratic leadership of the House has had more than 6 months to tackle this problem. They continue to delay. Let's not delay another day. Let's bring our intelligence capabilities into the 21st century. Let's pass the Protect America Act now.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KLEIN of Florida). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### REINVESTING TAXPAYER SUBSIDIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will vote to reinvest taxpayer subsidies from the most profitable oil companies in the world to the American people in the form of lower gas prices, lower home heating oil costs, and new jobs in clean, renewable technologies.

For 6 years under Republican management, we attempted a strategy to reduce our dependence on foreign oil and to lower gas prices. The strategy was to provide \$14 billion in industry subsidies to the largest oil companies in the world, the most profitable oil companies in the world. So \$14 billion to them, and at the same time the Bush administration submitted budgets to this Congress that actually reduced funding for renewable energies, for energy efficiency, for weatherization, for solar, for hydrogen, for other renewable technologies.

And so what was the result? The result was this: Gas prices doubled; home heating oil prices tripled; oil company profits quadrupled, but the average

American was now faced with an additional \$1,500 in gas prices. And at the same time as oil company profits went up and as pocketbooks got lower and lower, the wallets of the American people lost more and more value, we actually increased our dependence on foreign oil. This year we are actually importing 1.6 million barrels of oil a day more than we were before the energy policy that the prior Congress passed and that the President signed.

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So we're actually more dependent on foreign oil, and the American people are less well off. Oil companies did very, very well. But we did nothing to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, and the American people lost \$1,500 in the process.

Well, we're going to change that. We have the opportunity to change that this week. We're going to pass, I hope on a bipartisan basis, a new approach, a new strategy, a fundamental change in energy policy. And we're going to redirect those subsidies from oil companies to the pocketbooks of the American people. We're going to create as many as 3 million jobs in renewable technologies. We're going to invest those subsidies in the creation of new green jobs in solar and hydrogen and wind and geothermal. We're going to create those new jobs and regain our manufacturing capacity and capabilities.

Mr. Speaker, it troubles me that here we are, the country that defeated the most monumental threat of the 20th century in Nazi Germany and Japan, and we're now behind Germany and Japan in solar technologies. Of the top 10 wind companies on Earth, only one is American. Iceland, Denmark, now making great strides in geothermal and wind. We're not. Seven out of every 10 cars in Brazil are fuel flexible. We're not.

We can regain our capacities. We can regain our skills, we can regain our competitive edge in the world. We can regain our manufacturing strength in the world by leapfrogging ahead of them in renewable technologies. To do that, we've got to make investments in the American people, not the bottom line profits of oil companies.

When we gave those oil companies the opportunity to make those investments in the American people, what did they do? They made those investments in the oil companies' CEOs. One cashed out with about \$60 million.

We believe that it's time to make those investments in the American people, in American jobs, in renewable energy. And by doing so, we can reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

We have created a paradigm, Mr. Speaker, where, with a \$9 trillion debt, we are borrowing money from China to fund our defense budgets to buy oil from the Persian Gulf to fuel our military to protect us from China and the Persian Gulf. It makes no sense.