

had seen “mothers about to give birth that walk up to the hospital still wet from swimming across the river in actual labor, dirty, wet, cold, here to have a child in the United States.”

Mr. Riley’s hospital alone is forced to provide uncompensated care worth more than \$200 million each to cover the cost of nearly the 3,000 illegal alien births that take place there annually. Even more startling, that equates to about 50 percent of all the births in that hospital, meaning doctors are delivering almost as many children for illegal aliens as they are for American mothers. In California alone, by the way, the cost for illegal alien health care, not just for the births of illegal alien children, but the cost of health care for illegal aliens is over \$1 billion a year; one State, over \$1 billion a year.

With statistics like that, Mr. Speaker, it should come as no surprise that many American hospitals are on the verge of collapse—some, in fact, have gone that way—and that billions of taxpayer dollars are being squandered on illegal aliens that are taking advantage of the health care program.

It’s time we yank back the illegal alien welcome mat, eliminate perverse incentives for illegal immigration like birth right citizenship and taxpayer services for illegal aliens.

#### TIME FOR AN OIL CHANGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, Friday, President Bush will visit Saudi Arabia to meet with King Abdullah and other key Saudi leaders. According to the White House, the President’s visit will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the formal establishment of U.S.-Saudi relations.

Of course the underlying reason for the trip to Riyadh is to beg the Saudis to produce more oil. Faced with \$4 a gallon gasoline—it was \$3.99 this week in Ohio, and already exceeding over \$4 in many parts of our country—a prospect which the President recently questioned would even happen, now the President is reduced to begging the Saudis, who literally have us over a barrel.

Record-high gasoline prices are hurting American families, American truckers and American businesses. The average price of gasoline has more than doubled since this President was placed in office. Fuel costs now account for 10 percent of the average family’s budget. It is especially hard for people who have to drive to work, such as people in rural areas. It’s hard for farmers and truckers who have seen diesel prices spiral way out of control.

And still we have no real leadership on a new energy policy from this White

House, no policy for making our great Nation less dependent on undemocratic theocracies such as Saudi Arabia, and no policy to move away from the carbon-based economy and ease the pressure on our fragile planet. Under George W. Bush, America has gone backwards.

Last year, the United States imported 1.45 million barrels of crude oil from Saudi Arabia every single day of the year. Can you imagine that? 530 million barrels in 1 year. In fact, since this President has taken office, we, as a country, are importing a billion more barrels a year, a billion more barrels a year. Less independent, more dependent.

It just so happens America is the world’s number one importer of crude and Saudi Arabia is the world’s number one exporter. Fourteen percent of our Nation’s oil addiction is supplied just by dealers in Saudi Arabia. That doesn’t count Kuwait and all the surrounding countries, like Bahrain, et cetera.

Last year, we imported \$237 billion worth of crude oil, one-third of a trillion dollars. That’s when the average price per barrel was \$64. This year, that number will probably top \$300 billion, and rising.

For the first 3 months of this year, our crude oil imports totaled \$76 billion, which is 63 percent above where it was a year ago. How much longer can this continue? I think the American people know how to answer that question: No more. They’re saying no more.

This week, we will see another episode of this pitiful drama of the vice-grip relationship between Saudi Arabia and the United States. The House of Bush, represented by our President, will beg the House of Saud, represented by King Abdullah, to increase production as a short-term fix for America’s growing energy deficit.

We ought to be bringing those dollars back here at home and have the same kind of commitment as we did when we landed a man on the Moon. We can do this as a country, we just need better leadership.

At every step, this Democratic Congress has tried to make a difference. In the Price Gouging Prevention Act, the Renewable Energy Act, the Strategic Petroleum Reserve Suspension Act, the Consumer Protection Act, and of course H.R. 6, to try to help launch energy independence for this country. But yesterday, our House passed a farm bill with a billion dollar title to bring in bioenergy as an important part of the solution for the future.

As this lame duck Presidency fades, hopefully the next President of the United States will negotiate in earnest and help America develop an agenda for our own independence, not continued subservience to human rights violators and undemocratic nations like Saudi Arabia.

This country is long overdue for a change, and it’s definitely due for an oil change.

#### SUNSET MEMORIAL

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

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker I stand once again before this House with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is May 15, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That’s just today, Mr. Speaker. That’s more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,897 days since the tragedy called Roe v. Wade was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them, Mr. Speaker, died and screamed as they did so, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, no one could hear them.

And all of them had at least four things in common. First, they were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone, and each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps it’s time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said, “The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government.” The phrase in the 14th Amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution, it says, “No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law.” Mr. Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the clarion declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core, self-evident truth.

It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. Mr. Speaker, it is who we are.

And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard this