

We cannot keep laying the current financial burdens on our children and our grandchildren. They can't afford it, and we can't afford it. Let's pass a budget. Reduce spending, rein in, and get ourselves back in control.

□ 1230

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEVASTATING FLOODS OF 2008

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

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago, Iowa experienced the worst natural disaster in our State's history as a result of the great flood of 2008. We have made amazing progress, but 2 years later there is still damage in small and large communities like Oakville, Columbus Junction, Palo, Cedar Rapids, and Iowa City. Many homeowners are struggling to recover still, and many small businesses have been unable to access relief programs because of red tape, all this on top of an economic downturn. Government-wide, we need to cut down on red tape and approve efficiency. I think we can all agree with that. With disaster relief, this is even more important because effective assistance is absolutely critical to communities' ability to recover.

Communities are also trying to mitigate future flooding through a variety of structural and nonstructural means. I will continue to work with city leaders, homeowners, and businesses to ensure that we reduce inefficiency and the chances of another devastating flood like the one we experienced in Iowa 2 years ago.

PARTIAL DRILLING IN LOUISIANA

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

Mr. CAO. Mr. Speaker, the oil disaster in the Gulf of Mexico has caused great economic impact to my district. Hundreds of businesses have closed and thousands of people are out of work. The moratorium imposed by the administration potentially can also cost Louisiana thousands of jobs, yet there is a very simple solution to allow the administration the time that it needs to review the safety and to implement procedures for the deep oil industry and at the same time preserve the jobs in Louisiana: Allow the oil companies to do partial drilling; allow them to drill, but do not allow them to tap into the reservoir.

Modern technology allows companies to know exactly where the oil is. What this partial drilling does is preserve the jobs in Louisiana during a time when we need the amount of revenue that the State needs to sustain its economy to help the people to bring about the livelihood.

RECORD-BREAKING DEFICITS MEAN CONGRESS SHOULD PASS A BUDGET

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, someone once said, If you can't budget, you can't govern. Those words came from my distinguished colleague from South Carolina, the current chairman of the Budget Committee. He uttered them in 2006 as ranking member of the committee. The question is, What does that mean for this Congress?

Today, we face a budget deficit five times larger than the one that Congress faced in 2006 of \$1.4 trillion, and here we are 2 months past the budget deadline and there is no budget. Unprecedented spending, unprecedented debt, and no budget.

It is only 8 months into the current fiscal year and the Federal Government has racked up close to \$1 trillion in new debt. Mr. Speaker, it's time for this Congress to prove it can govern and debate a budget. If today's record-breaking deficits aren't reason enough to debate a budget, then I don't know what is.

WHERE'S THE BUDGET?

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, suppose your family is deeply in debt, bills are piling up, your credit card interest is eating you alive, and finally you seek the help of a financial counselor. What's the first thing that debt counselor is going to say? He's going to say, the first thing we've got to do is sit down and sketch out a family budget. We all know that. It's hard work, it's painful, but it's absolutely necessary if you're going to get your finances back under control.

Mr. Speaker, our national debt is fast approaching the size of our entire economy, yet while this House has all the time in the world to consider the most trivial matters, it can't spare the time to develop a national budget at the very moment in the life of our Nation when we need one the most, before we bury our children in debt.

Churchill once spoke of a locust generation. I wonder if that's what we've become.

DOES THE ADMINISTRATION FAVOR GOVERNMENT WORKERS?

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, with no budget or overall spending plan, the administration apparently wants at least another \$25 billion to save the jobs of local government

workers; yet at the same time, the administration's space plan would destroy 30,000 jobs, many of them scientists and engineers who are working in the private sector who would cost this government nine times less. Is there any kind of wonder why so many people watching what we're doing in Washington suffer from policy whiplash? It's almost as if this administration is saying, If you are a government worker, we'll bend over backwards to help you, but if you're in the private sector, especially a scientist or engineer, you'd better be hoping that Wal-Mart is hiring.

BUDGET

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Congress received a surprise Saturday night. Late in the evening, President Obama sent a letter to Republicans and Democrats requesting an additional \$50 billion in emergency stimulus funds. After justifying his new spending request, President Obama expressed a newfound interest in fiscal responsibility. He urged Washington to "establish a fiscally responsible budget path, discipline the budget process, and ensure a sustainable and responsible long-term budget." I have just one question: What budget?

For the first time since 1974, Democrats in the House have failed to even outline a budget. Similar to the family budget, a Federal budget provides guidance and transparency for how the government spends the American people's hard-earned money. With the U.S. national debt at \$13 trillion—and rising—I agree that Congress needs to discipline the budget process. Unfortunately, President Obama's spending request does not reflect his rhetoric.

SPILLED OIL ROYALTY COLLECTION ACT

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

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, last week I introduced legislation to make sure that BP pays royalties on all of the oil from the Deepwater Horizon disaster. The Spilled Oil Royalty Collection Act, H.R. 5513, will ensure that BP pays royalties on every gallon of oil spilled without the administration having to determine whether BP was negligent or violating MMS regulations. Royalties on oil drilled at offshore locations are paid to the Minerals Management Service, MMS, in an effort to compensate taxpayers for the use of publicly owned resources. Under current regulations, leaseholders like BP are only obligated to pay royalties on gallons of oil sold. This legislation is part of responding to the disaster in the gulf and holding BP accountable.

We need to clean up and repair the gulf, holding BP accountable for its oil spill, enact stronger environmental, technological and spill response standards, and invest in an American clean-energy future.

BP CEO was on television saying that his company will "make it right," but we should have more than just a television commercial to go on. We need the force of law to make sure they pay every penny they owe to us. I hope you will join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

AMERICANS DEMAND A BUDGET

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

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, as I travel around America's First District, I hear unanimously from folks out there, and they ask this question: ROB, what's happening in Washington about our budget? Why do we continue to deficit spend? We are on an unsustainable path. When are we going to reduce the national debt?

I was just in Heathsville, Virginia, on Sunday. There folks asked, ROB, when is Congress going to adopt a budget? Why aren't you adopting a budget? We, as family members, have to adopt a budget. We have to make sure that we're responsible in spending. Why isn't Washington doing the same thing? Well, I ask the majority the same question, Why aren't we adopting a budget? Why aren't we on a path of sustainable spending, reducing this deficit and addressing this national debt?

Folks, it's incumbent for this country to do that; it's a responsibility of this Congress to do that. I challenge the majority to do their duty, put a budget on the table. Let us get to work for the American people.

BUDGET

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

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the American people who deserve an answer about the out-of-control spending policies coming out of Washington. For the first time, the House has failed to produce a budget. There is no plan for how the majority will spend the American taxpayers' hard-earned money for fiscal year 2011.

For American families, if they don't get a budget and pay the bills, there are real consequences. Unfortunately, the majority continues to turn a blind eye to future consequences as they push spending to a record \$3.8 trillion in fiscal year 2011 and widen the deficit to a record \$1.5 trillion this year.

House Republicans stand ready to make tough choices in order to rein in spending. Recently, we introduced a

measure on the House floor to freeze Federal civilian pay, which will save about \$30 billion over 10 years. The program was selected by the American people through the innovate YouCut initiative. The American people have spoken: stop the spending frenzy, budget for the future, and return fiscal sanity to Washington.

WHERE'S THE BUDGET?

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

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, each and every year since passage of the Budget Reform Act of 1974, this House has managed to produce a budget resolution, a document necessary for responsible governing—each and every year except this one.

What's the problem? In addition to outlining spending for the year ahead, budget resolutions include plans for multiple years, laying out anticipated spending and revenue and calculating anticipated deficits and surpluses. If the House were to pass a 2011 budget resolution, it would establish an official House policy that we will run enormous deficits for as far as the eye can see, but several Democrats here are reluctant to associate themselves with such an irresponsible document. Of course it's theoretically possible that the current House majority could propose a budget resolution mapping a path back to balanced budgets. But no. Substantial numbers of the Democrats here think we should be spending more, not less.

With Members in the majority party pulling in opposite directions, the majority leadership appears to have given up on finding the votes necessary to pass an official budget whether big spending or responsible. This is a failure of mammoth proportions.

□ 1245

DISASTER RECOVERY IN THE GULF

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

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I spent this last Friday on Grand Isle, South Louisiana, which is at the epicenter right now of this battle against the oil which is coming into our marsh. The anger and frustration I heard from official after official on the ground was that they are spending more time fighting the Federal Government and BP than they are fighting the oil. This is unacceptable.

It still goes on day after day, 57 days in, and the President continues to refuse to lead on this crisis. He has let BP be the gatekeeper for our local officials who have plans to protect our

marsh. Yet they now have to go through BP instead of having the President have a real command structure that holds people accountable.

The latest plan by the President is to actually have this ban on offshore drilling that actually punishes everybody—people who haven't done anything wrong and who have much safer records than BP. Now, over 40,000 people are going to be put out of work by the President's arbitrary ban, which actually goes against the recommendations of his own scientific panel. So now he is placing politics in front of science.

When is the President going to meet his obligations under the law to lead and to be responsible for the disaster recovery with BP's paying the bill instead of allowing BP to call the shots on the ground?

WHERE IS THE BUDGET?

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

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, for some time now, my colleagues have come to the floor to ask the question: Where are the jobs? Now, in addition to asking that question, I am also asking: Where is the budget?

With our national debt standing at over \$13 trillion, we must enact a plan to curb wasteful and reckless spending. Although Democrats in this House have not undertaken the hard work of compiling a budget plan, House Republicans have.

Under the Republican plan, we reduce the 10-year deficit by \$3.3 trillion. The Democrats have no plan to do this.

Under the Republican plan, we borrow 3.6 trillion fewer dollars than the administration does. Congressional Democrats have no plan.

Under the Republican plan, we spend \$4.8 trillion less than the President's bloated budget. Once again, congressional Democrats have no plan.

I call on the majority today to produce a budget so that we can have a debate on improving our fiscal condition.

DAY 57 OF THE DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL

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

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 57th day of the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill. It is estimated that up to 40,000 barrels of oil may be flowing into the Gulf of Mexico each and every day.

At this point, it is nearly impossible to even calculate the impact this spill will have on Florida's economy as well as on the other Gulf States. Oystermen, charter captains, restaurants, and