

has reached into the financial industry across this country and has scared the financial industry to death, some with fairly good results, but the fact of the matter is it's more government control.

And now he wants to take over the energy industry. The long socialist arm of the President is reaching out and trying to take over every area of the private sector. He believes in total government control over the economy. And if you don't believe it, all you have to do is look at the record over the last year and a half.

The thing that bothers me is the detrimental effect it's having on the American people. Unemployment is still close to 10 percent. We're now seeing a tragedy in the gulf, as the gentleman from Texas talked about. And instead of really solving that problem, what he's doing now is compounding it by saying no drilling down there for 6 months. And all these people, as Mr. POE said, are going to lose their jobs if the ruling of the court today is reversed when it goes to a higher court.

The thing that really is funny about this is we just sent \$2 billion to Brazil so they could do offshore drilling. I guess we don't care much about the environment down there. And we're certainly going to have to buy oil from them because we're going to lose the oil that's going to be produced down in the gulf. We're going to be more dependent on Saudi Arabia, on Africa, on Venezuela, Mexico, and probably Brazil, because we want to clean up the environment by using windmills and solar panels and geothermal energy sources.

We've got the energy here in the United States to solve these problems. We don't need to be sending Mr. Soros money in Brazil so he can make more money by doing offshore drilling with our taxpayers' money. We don't need to be sending those jobs down there. As Mr. POE said, those jobs are going to go down there. They're going to go someplace else because they can't keep those rigs moving in the gulf if they're not producing. So those people who are entrepreneurs are going to take those rigs and they're going to move them someplace else. Along with them will go the jobs, and possibly the impact could be as many as 150,000 Americans will be out of work.

This administration is on the wrong track. They have been on the wrong track since the Obama administration took office. The President believes in socialism. He really believes in it. And so he's trying to put the government in control of everything, and himself at the head of the government is going to be the person pulling the strings.

The American people, I hope, are going to realize that, and I hope in the November elections they're going to say that we've got to change that and give us a House and a Senate that can stop his runaway socialistic agenda.

The way to solve our economic problems is, as I said earlier tonight in a 1-minute, the way Ronald Reagan did it, listening to Mr. Laffer, and that is to cut taxes, to get the burden of government off the backs of the businessman and the individual citizen. And if you do that, you can unleash the power of the free enterprise system and make this economy grow, cut taxes, give people more disposable income, cut business taxes, give business more money to invest, and create an environment where people can buy more because they have more money to spend.

Instead, at the end of this year the Democrats want to let all the tax cuts we put in place expire. That in effect is a tax increase. And then they're talking about additional taxes. Mr. HOYER today gave a speech saying we have to increase taxes because the deficit is so large. They've made it so large—into the trillions and trillions and trillions of dollars. And now they're saying we have to raise taxes, take more blood out of the American taxpayer, to pay for their mistakes. That's only going to compound the problem, because if you take money out of their pocket, they won't have it to spend; and if they don't have it to spend they won't buy and there will be more unemployed. Whereas, if you do the opposite and give them more of their tax money to spend and reduce the taxes, they'll be able to buy more and the economy will flourish. Reagan knew it, Art Laffer knew it, and we had 20 years of economic expansion because of it. But these guys and the President want control of everything.

The American people have to wake up, Mr. Speaker. They have to realize what's at stake. Not only the future that we face but the future our kids face and our posterity. They're going to have a worse form of life, a worse quality of life, if we don't reverse what we're doing right now.

SALUTING DYSTONIA SUFFERER MILAGROS (MILLIE) MUNOZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise in solidarity with a wonderful and determined South Florida woman, Millie Munoz. Millie has dystonia, a little-known movement disorder that causes a person's muscles to contract and spasm involuntarily. The trademark of this disorder is repetitive, patterned and uncontrollable movements. It resembles opposing muscles competing for control of a body part. There are over a dozen forms of dystonia, and it is a symptom of many major diseases and conditions. Dystonia affects men, women and children of all backgrounds, all ages, and does not discriminate. And there is no cure.

Millie was born in Miami and had exhibited symptoms of dystonia since childhood. Each symptom was treated separately. She wore a brace on her right leg to help with walking and attended speech therapy classes throughout her school years. Other symptoms were neglected entirely, and Millie was told to do the best she could with the pain. She went from doctor to doctor, and was often told that it was all in her head. About 6 years ago, she started exhibiting other symptoms, only to be given one misdiagnosis after another. Millie had pain in her neck, her shoulders, her wrists, her hips, and she fell constantly.

Finally in the summer of 2006, she was diagnosed with generalized dystonia, a condition where all of the muscles of her body are impacted. Shortly thereafter, Millie's life as she knew it came to an end. In a short period of time she went from climbing the Great Pyramid in Egypt to being in a wheelchair and bed bound. She was constantly in excruciating pain with chronic fatigue and involuntary movements of her arms, hands, neck, mouth, face and eyes.

Luckily, in 2008, she had deep brain stimulation surgery, which provided some relief. But she had yet another battle to fight. Her ability to swallow and eat were impacted to the point that she was on her deathbed, people thought.

Well, through her personal strength, through her resolve, Millie pulled through and she survived. Today, Millie has a feeding tube and braces on her legs, but she is as resilient and as determined as ever. She came to see me here in D.C. in my congressional office, lobbying all of the Members of Congress to be more knowledgeable about her disease dystonia.

Dystonia is a silent, brutal disease. The constant tug of war of muscles forces people to live in constant, severe pain and exhausted. But not Millie. Much of the time the body's struggles are all internal, hiding from an outside observer that the struggle with dystonia encompasses each and every moment. Those with dystonia often say that the disorder "robs you of the freedom to move." It is as terrible as it is debilitating, yet the vast majority of people with dystonia have no negative impact to their intelligence or perceptions. These individuals live their lives imprisoned by the uncontrollable actions of their body in conflict with the will of their minds.

Dystonia is unknown to most Americans, or at best misunderstood. Without proper awareness and diagnosis, the limited therapies that can help people like Millie will never be applied. Together, we must raise awareness of this disorder and support the research that can help find a cure to this silent internal storm.

Millie, I praise you. I congratulate you for your will and determination in

the face of this terrible disorder. The challenges that dystonia has presented to you are exceeded by the promise and the hope that your survival has demonstrated. May your resolve, Millie, be a beacon to the hundreds of thousands of Americans who suffer from dystonia.

I welcomed you to the U.S. Capitol and I hope that you come back very soon, Millie. You are going to find a cure because you are determined to do so.

Congratulations, Millie, and carry on.

HONORING DEWAYNE STAATS, VOICE OF THE TAMPA BAY RAYS

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dewayne Staats, the iconic voice of the Tampa Bay Rays. Broadcasting major league baseball for over 30 years and calling games for the Rays since their inception, Dewayne will call his 5,000th major league ball game tonight when the Rays play the San Diego Padres at St. Petersburg's Tropicana Field. In fact, I think they just got started this evening. Baseball fans all across Tampa Bay and Florida have watched and listened to games called by Dewayne as the Rays have grown from an expansion team to American League champions and one of the best teams in major league baseball. I think the best.

Prior to joining the Rays, Dewayne spent years calling play-by-play for ESPN in a variety of sports, including major league baseball and NCAA baseball, basketball and football, as well as for several other major league teams, including the Houston Astros, the Chicago Cubs, and the New York Yankees. Dewayne began his career as a sports reporter while a student at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, and at the time became the youngest active broadcaster when he began calling major league games in 1976.

Remarkably, he has called six no-hitters, Wade Boggs' 3,000th base hit, and the game in which Pete Rose tied Ty Cobb's major league hits record. Among many accomplishments of an outstanding broadcast career, Dewayne Staats has been honored as one of baseball's all-time top 101 broadcasters by author Curt Smith.

Aside from masterfully calling Rays' games from the broadcast booth, Dewayne and his wife Carla are pillars in the Tampa Bay community, actively supporting the Veteran Employment Transition Foundation and Quantum Leap Farm, a therapeutic and recreational facility for wounded warriors and disabled adults.

Again, I congratulate Dewayne on the occasion of his 5,000th major league broadcast, and I look forward to hearing him call many more Rays wins.

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THE SPACE PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate being recognized for this hour. I am real pleased to be joined by several of my colleagues.

I want to raise an issue that is of real concern to the people of the State of Texas, the State of Alabama, the State of Florida, those who have, for now, generations almost, been invested in and proud of that great American accomplishment of our space program.

We are an exceptional people, and there is an awful lot of people these days that seem to be ashamed of our exceptionalism. But one of the things that we have been exceptional in since its inception is our space program. I can remember, as a young teenager, when the Russians put Sputnik bleeping over the top of my house in Houston, Texas. And we all stood out in the backyard and watched that thing with its little flashing light going across and thought, Oh, my Lord, the Russians are in space and we are not there. What are we going to do?

But being the exceptional people that Americans are, we put our nose to the grindstone and our brains to work, and in a very short time we met the pledge that President Kennedy made that we would put a man on the Moon in the next decade. So we went from behind the eight ball and watching the Russians have the first satellite in space to manned spaceflight and a trip to the Moon on multiple occasions. In fact, we have had a movie about one of the Moon trips that almost ended in disaster.

We've been open and obvious that we have taken the greatest minds that we could put together in our space program. And at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, we all in Houston, Texas, and in the State of Texas have been proud of the fact of our space shuttles, of our space station that we, along with the new free enterprise Russians, have put together in outer space. Amazingly enough, we have just finally completed the space station the way it was conceived as it was started. It's all been done in small portions, putting it together. Now it's finished.

And now we have a new administration who has decided that they are no longer interested in manned space travel. And they have basically started to say we are going to do away with manned space travel and the Constellation program, which was the next phase of manned space travel, and we are going to let some friends of ours start some new businesses and try to go and let private industry go out

there and do the shuttle service and launch our satellites. And basically, they have turned over the funds that would go to NASA for the manned space program and they have plans to turn it over to a few private individuals, amazingly enough, most of whom have been fairly large campaign donors of the Democrats and the Obama administration.

In fact, I think I can make an argument—we talk about earmarks in this Congress and all these terrible earmarks that people make—this has the potential, over the next few years, to be around 6 billion, with a B, dollars that the White House is going to earmark for certain individual companies, all of whom seem to have been involved in the success of that administration. Not that there is anything in a payoff in the way. Who knows?

Just a coincidence, I suppose, but we are canning manned space under our NASA program. We are going to lay off thousands of NASA workers and those contractors that work with NASA, and we are taking a new position that we are going to let new start-up companies start over and build a space program. I'm a privatization guy. I believe in privatization in everything we do, but this smacks of some strangeness, and I think that strangeness is what we are going to talk about here tonight.

I am joined by my friend Mr. HALL from Texas. I am joined by Judge POE, and I am joined by my good friend ROB BISHOP, who really informed me a lot about the immigration issue the last time we were together, and I am sure he has great insight.

So I will first recognize Judge POE for such time as he may wish to consume.

Mr. POE of Texas. Thank you, Judge CARTER. I appreciate you yielding a few moments on this very important issue.

Of course being from the Houston area and growing up with NASA, I have seen the success of this wonderful program. And like you and many others, as a mere child in 1969, I watched Neil Armstrong set foot on the Moon. And, of course, the first word when man landed on the Moon was "Houston," because that is where NASA was at the time and still is headquartered.

A lot has come from space travel. A lot of our technology, our electronic technology, our computer technology, scientific knowledge, medical knowledge, all has come because America went to space. And as you mentioned, Judge CARTER, we did so in just a few years with the challenge laid before us by President John F. Kennedy. Back in the sixties and the seventies and even in the eighties, and before that, Americans, when determined to do something, they could do it. And that is why we went to space, because nothing was going to get in the way of America going to space and landing people on the Moon.