

lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today just a few weeks in advance of the 75th anniversary of Social Security. This bedrock promise, earned with a lifetime of hard work, should be available for our Nation's seniors and future generations. However, my friends on the other side of the aisle are once again attempting to privatize Social Security.

Returning to previously rejected ideas, Republicans want to create a casino economy and play Russian roulette with your hard-earned benefits. If they had succeeded, for instance in 2005, seniors would have lost trillions more in the stock market meltdown of the Bush recession. Instead, nobody lost a penny of Social Security.

In the area that I represent, many people are hurting. Families and seniors are facing uncertainty and anxiety ranging from their mortgage payments, to credit card bills, and more. Let us not add to that anxiety by returning to failed ideas of the past. We must keep America moving forward.

There is a very clear choice here. We can hand the Social Security system over to Wall Street and continue raising anxiety, or we can strengthen the current system. I stand with our Nation's seniors to strengthen Social Security for the years to come.

PAKISTAN DISLOYAL ALLY?

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I heard from a Texan yesterday who was mad about why taxpayers are shelling out another \$500 million for Pakistan. Americans are already giving Pakistan \$1 billion a year. And Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said officials in Pakistan know where Osama bin Laden is hiding. Well, why don't they tell us where the terrorist of the desert, Osama bin Laden, is?

Isn't Pakistan supposed to be with us in this war in Afghanistan? And if they're not our ally, why are we giving them billions of taxpayer dollars? Now, in light of the illegal release of classified documents, Pakistan also appears to be taking our money and supporting our enemy, the Taliban. Maybe Pakistan isn't the loyal ally we pay them to be.

We should not be giving money we need here at home to countries that

are friends in public and thieves behind closed doors. As my colleague LOUIE GOHMERT says, "We don't have to pay these people to hate us. They will do it for free."

And that's just the way it is.

GUN LEGISLATION PRIORITIES

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, this week Congress will vote on the Protecting Gun Owners in Bankruptcy Act of 2010 under suspension of the rules. This bill permits individuals filing for personal bankruptcy to exempt firearms from the claims of creditors. Really?

Today, there is a House bill sponsored by 109 Members of Congress that would close the gun show loophole and keep guns out of the hands of terrorists, felons, and the mentally ill. Today, there is a bill sponsored by 37 Members of this Congress that would prohibit those on the terrorist watch list from purchasing firearms. Each bill is supported by mainstream America. Each bill would save lives. Have we called either bill to the floor for debate? No.

Yet Congress stands at the ready to enact new policy that would require a bankruptcy judge to sort assets into two piles: one pile for guns, one pile for all other personal belongings. We need to reassess our priorities and regain our common sense. It's a time to stop pandering and start acting responsibly.

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S JOB KILLING MORATORIUM ON AMERICAN ENERGY PRODUCTION

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

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I rise to highlight what the President's capricious and arbitrary moratorium on American energy production is doing to families.

The wife of a rig worker forwarded a letter to me that she sent to the President and to Secretary Salazar saying that while they may not need regular work, she and her family cannot keep going without jobs. Her family has bills to pay which are now 3 months behind, and they will lose almost everything they've ever worked for as a result of this arbitrary moratorium on energy production.

Her husband relies on rig exploration jobs, and even sent copies of their bills. She said her bank will not wait out the moratorium to receive her mortgage payment of over \$3,000 past due. She said her family will probably lose their cars. They won't even have a car to live in if this thing persists.

Due to the moratorium, her husband lost a 30-day exploration job that would pay \$732 a day, a total of \$21,960

for 30 days. This is an arbitrary and malicious moratorium, and it needs to end.

WAKE UP, AMERICA

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Wake up, America. WikiLeaks' release of secret war documents gave us 92,000 reasons to end the wars. Pick one.

Wake up, America. Main Street is falling apart, businesses have closed, bankruptcies abound, people are losing their jobs, their homes, losing their retirement security, the middle class is falling apart, workers' rights are not being protected, the government's out of money. There's not even money for childhood nutrition.

Wake up, America. There's unlimited money for war, money for a corrupt government in Afghanistan. When U.S. money is not going to the Karzai mob's personal use, it goes to help the Taliban kill our troops. There's money for a corrupt government in Pakistan, which helps the Taliban in Afghanistan kill our troops. Meanwhile, our troops are committing suicide in record numbers.

Wake up, America. How can we solve the world's problems if we can't solve our own problems here at home?

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WE MUST FIGHT AGAINST THE COMING TAX INCREASES

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

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. The update of the President's budget estimates released Friday shows Washington still has not gotten the message. Dangerous economic and fiscal policies are not helping our country. They're resulting in deficit, debt, and an economy which continues to struggle.

Now after 18 months of government takeovers, Congress is positioned to allow the largest tax increase in history on American families and small businesses to take effect next year. January 1, 2011, every single tax bracket will increase. That means if a small business in Grand Island, Nebraska, paid 35 percent in Federal taxes this year, next year it will have to pay nearly 40 percent. When Times Square celebrates a new year, Americans who own a farm or ranch will see death taxes rise from 0 to 55 percent.

We cannot tax and spend our way back to a healthy economy. I urge my colleagues to join me against any tax increase on working families, small businesses, and farmers and ranchers before they wake up on January 1 to a brave new world.

HONORING MRS. MARGARETE
HOLM

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mrs. Margarete Holm, the widow of U.S. Army Captain Arnie Holm, a Waterford, Connecticut, native who went missing in the jungles of Vietnam 38 years ago.

Last Thursday, Margarete and Captain Holm's sister, Meg Brewster, who have been heroic in their efforts to search for Captain Holm, traveled to Crystal City, Virginia, for a family update conference organized by the Department of Defense.

During the conference, which took place during votes in this House, members of the U.S. Army presented Mrs. Holm with a POW/MIA commemorative medal to honor the next of kin for those Americans who are missing or unaccounted for in Southeast Asia. Although authorized by Congress in 1983, Mrs. Holm did not receive her Medal until last week.

For Margarete, who has tirelessly supported the cause of POW/MIAs locally in Connecticut and across the country, this medal is a long overdue recognition of her loss. Although I was unable to be with her during the presentation, I spoke to her last night to let her know how important she and all of those who are still waiting for their loved ones to return home are to me and my colleagues in this House.

To Margarete, Meg, and to all those still waiting for their loved ones to return home, please know that as the POW/MIA flag says, "you are not forgotten"—not by the Members of this Congress, not by the men and women of our military, and certainly not by our fellow Americans.

WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

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

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise again today because southwest Missourians keep telling me that they're expecting us to keep our eye on the ball. The most important thing they want us working on in the House is jobs—that's J-O-B-S, Madam Speaker. But most of the bills we've considered here on the House floor have exactly the opposite effect.

Southwest Missourians know the difference between good policies that put people back to work and the tax-raising, job-killing agenda of the majority in Washington.

Madam Speaker, there is and has been a bipartisan resistance to this extreme agenda, but the majority does whatever is necessary to pass these bills. With government control of health care and the House-passed national energy tax of cap-and-trade, costs go up and jobs go down. Despite

promises that the \$862 billion so-called stimulus bill would keep unemployment below 8 percent, here we are today, Madam Speaker, with an unemployment rate of over 9 percent per month.

Our top priority must be job creation. The government can't create private sector jobs, but it sure can pursue smart policies that help create those jobs.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. BACA. This August marks the 75th anniversary of Social Security here in America. And our seniors say thank God we have the Social Security system. Over 5 million Americans currently rely on Social Security every year, including retirees, disabled Americans, who we just honored yesterday as well for serving here, and the survivors of deceased workers.

Unfortunately, on the 75th birthday, Social Security again faces a threat from congressional Republicans who want to privatize, I state, who want to privatize and dismantle our current system. From our Republican colleagues, it's the same failed policies of the past.

President Bush and the congressional Republicans pushed Social Security privatizing and benefit cuts in 2005. Now, in 2010, we must tell them "no." If Republicans had been successful in 2005, seniors would have lost trillions more in the stock market meltdown of the Bush administration.

Hardworking Americans simply cannot afford the same old failed Republican policies of the past. We must continue to fight and move our economy forward.

REPEAL HEALTH CARE BILL

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

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, now that Washington leftists have forced socialized medicine down the throats of Americans, the British are about to abandon it.

According to a recent report, a large part of the British health system is being dismantled by the new government because of skyrocketing costs and widespread rationing of care that has long plagued the system and its patients. This radical reorganization would essentially abolish the 150 bureaucracies who decide who gets health care in the system, restoring that decision to its rightful place between the doctor and the patient.

Madam Speaker, as the new British Government prepares to move away from government-controlled rationing of health care, President Obama and the liberals in Congress are taking our country further down the road of socialism. I urge my colleagues to take a

lesson from the British and work to repeal this disastrous legislation which inserts Washington between patients and their doctors.

EXTENDERS BILL

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

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, in December and again in May, this House passed legislation to extend a popular set of expiring tax provisions providing billions of dollars in relief to millions of American families. That tax bill passed the House and has been stymied in the other body where only two Republican Senators have stood up against their party's own filibuster against these tax cuts.

Let me tell you who's suffering in the meantime: 42,000 families in Kentucky cannot deduct \$108 million in college tuition fees; 86,000 families in Arizona cannot deduct \$166 million in tuition fees; 304,000 families in Texas cannot deduct \$708 million in college tuition fees. Nationwide, more than 4 million families cannot deduct \$10.5 billion in college expenses.

A college degree means a better job for your kid. I urge our colleagues on the other side of the aisle to contact their Senators and tell them that Tax Extenders means jobs.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, one of the most important social programs of our times is nearing its 75th birthday, and I am so pleased to come to the floor today and speak on the vital role of Social Security.

Our economy has indeed seen signs of rebirth. However, millions of Americans are feeling the impact, and programs such as Social Security are playing an important role in ensuring these individuals and citizens are able to have their needs met. It aggravates me daily to hear the other side continue to threaten to cut these or to once again focus on privatization.

I'm committed to working across the aisle on real solutions when problems arise, but the claim that Social Security is paying out more than it is taking in is simply untrue. The trust fund has reserves of \$2.6 trillion, which continues to earn interest and will pay out benefits until 2037.

Again, I will continue to work for the American people and ensure this important program is here now and for future generations.

WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

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