

over the weekend. The Postal Service, who delivers mail through rain or shine or any other difficulty, are the working people of America.

That is why I ask the U.S. Postal Service to give every single postal worker gloves and surgical masks as the science dictates, to provide free testing and free treatment and free drugs if necessary to treat them as it relates to the anthrax scare. These are difficult times and America needs to invest in its people. That is why I will vote “no” for this special interest economic stimulus package that stimulates no one but corporate America. And yes, I will vote to help postal workers, and I will vote to federalize the airline security system because what America wants is a secure Nation for the working people of America and all the people of America, not a special interest economic stimulus package that serves no absolute purpose.

GOOD NEWS REGARDING MARS SPACE PROGRAM

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, we have gone through some extraordinary challenges over the past several weeks and I think it is important for us when we have some good news to point to that. We all know that this is the greatest Nation the world has ever known, and further evidence of that came this morning when we saw that the *Odyssey* entered the orbit of Mars. I want to extend congratulations to the wonderful people at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory that my friend the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) and I have the privilege of representing. I see the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) here in the Chamber. I know she has many constituents who work up there. They have gone through some very tough times over the past 2 years in dealing with the Mars program. This sign of success is a further demonstration of the greatness of the United States of America and the people who are working on the very important space program.

STIMULUS PACKAGE MARKS RETURN OF PARTISANSHIP

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

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the so-called economic stimulus package, a bill that truly marks the return of partisanship to our Chamber. Congress should be helping workers in need due to the aftermath of the terrorist attacks. These workers are my constituents, the hardworking men and women who make their living off the tourism industry which provides so much to our district.

Our workers want Congress to strengthen homeland security, to put

money in the pockets of unemployed workers, and to ensure our long-term economic confidence. That is exactly what the Blue Dog plan would do. Our plan deals with immediate economic concerns without damaging the Nation's fiscal health or long-term economic recovery. It would ensure resources for vital security needs, provide critical relief for laid-off workers, and maintain the fiscal discipline needed to restore long-term economic confidence and keep interest rates low.

The Republicans are putting special interest tax cuts ahead of the workers of America.

ANNOUNCING A NEW ILLINOIS POWER PLANT

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, in the days and weeks of bad news, I would like to come to the floor with some good news. On Monday, I attended an announcement of a collocated coal mine and power plant that is being planned and developed in Washington County, Illinois. Generation is planned for 2003. Construction of this facility will create approximately 1,500 jobs and then for the operation of the coal mine and the power plant another 500 jobs. These will be high-paying union jobs. This is what we and the administration hoped for in a national energy plan.

I applaud the State of Illinois for their assistance and I look forward to low-cost, reliable, clean energy for Illinois and this Nation.

AIRLINE SAFETY

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, it is a shame that we are now 42 days after the attack of September 11 and this House has done not a single thing for airline safety. Nothing. Zilch. Not one additional element of airline security. When you get on your planes next Friday to go home, it will be with the sure knowledge that 90 to 95 percent of the bags that go into the belly of your airplane are not screened for explosive devices. Those bags go in there with nothing to screen them from keeping C-4 explosives in them.

Yesterday at the airport, or 2 days ago, I got on an airplane and they took the nail clippers away from the guy next to me and that is great. But we have not done a single thing to keep C-4 explosives out of the bags. Instead, the majority party is bringing this alleged stimulus package that is going to stimulate nothing except campaign contributions. It is really too bad that we are paying more attention to the corporate financial security and no interest in airline passenger personal security.

ANTHRAX AND ECONOMIC STIMULATION

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

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to congratulate the leadership on the Democratic side and the Republican side for dealing with this anthrax issue in the House of Representatives and in the Senate. It has called for cooperation on both sides to deal with this very complicated issue. And, yes, it is affecting our legislative process. It is slowing it down. We are not able to move as fast as we want to.

On the economic stimulus package, it is not everything that any of us want. I will say this, though, that this stimulus package provides \$9 billion to States to help them respond to economic hardship in the wake of the September 11 attack. It also provides \$3 billion in fiscal 2002 to help States provide health care coverage for unemployed workers who today do not have any health care coverage.

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Obviously there are some aspects of it we do not like, but hopefully we can work those out with the Senate in the conference. So I think that this economic stimulus package is reasonable and we can work out differences with the Senate.

CORPORATE ORGY

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, the Republican Economic Security Act being voted on today is not economic stimulus; it is a corporate orgy. It is not temporary, as most economists would recommend, but a permanent corporate party at the expense of the average taxpayer.

The Republican plan does not help small and mid-sized businesses that cannot weather the storm on their own, but it does help special interests. The Republican economic plan not only provides a tax break for corporations, but a corporate tax bonus going back to 1986. Displaced, laid-off workers get no guaranteed assistance; and if they get anything, they get chicken feed.

The Republican plan is nothing but a shameless raiding of billions of dollars from the public treasury for private profit, with \$20 billion in tax benefits alone for overseas corporations of financial services companies. At a time of national urgency, when we should be here providing for the security of the American people, we should not in fact be fleecing them, and that is what this Republican plan does.

PROVIDE ECONOMIC STIMULUS TO PEOPLE WHO NEED IT

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, let us just talk the facts about this particular bill, the economic stimulus bill that the Republican leadership is bringing to the floor. Most Americans got a \$300 tax rebate not so long ago. Now we understand where the Republican leadership is really coming from. This bill on the floor today will give a \$1.4 billion rebate to IBM, \$1.4 billion; it will give a \$833 million rebate to General Motors; it will give a \$671 million rebate to General Electric, and on down the line. It gives \$2.3 billion to the Ford Motor Company.

My friends on the Republican side of the aisle call this "economic stimulus." These are good corporations. They are strong corporations. They do not need a rebate of taxes they have paid since 1986.

What we need in this country is an economic stimulus package that goes to people who will spend it, not \$25 billion to the largest American corporations.

FEDERALIZE AIRLINE SECURITY

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

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I visited the airport in my State over the last weekend, and there were many new security measures in that airport put in place, and the National Guard was greatly appreciated in terms of their presence. But we can do a lot better when it comes to security. We should match all bags with passengers, we should federalize airline security, we can require overseas airlines to disclose passenger lists before they arrive in the United States, and we can require all luggage be X-rayed for bombs.

The Senate has acted 100 to nothing. We do not have a bill on the floor. We need a bill. We need a bill now. It is absolutely unacceptable that we are not working on airline safety.

HOUSE GIVEN CHOICE ON ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGES

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot this morning about the opposition on the other side of the aisle opposing the stimulus package that is being presented on the floor today for a vote. But the way this works, there will be an opportunity for the opposition to present their version of a stimulus package, so we will have a choice here today.

The Republican version does help companies, small businesses, because those are the institutions that hire people. In Kansas, four out of five jobs are in small businesses. There is busi-

ness expense and depreciation that will help small businesses in this stimulus package. One of the largest corporations in the Nation is the Boeing Company; but in Wichita, Kansas, they are laying off workers. They need help. They need a stimulus package. There is something in here to help them hire back those people.

We act like the great villains are the businesses in America. The people in business provide the jobs so that taxes will be paid by individual workers. That is in the Republican version, and that is a very good part of it.

Now, the opposition is going to present their version, and what it does is it raises taxes. It starts new programs.

I urge my colleagues to accept the Republican version.

FEDERALIZE AIRPORT SECURITY

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

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, my district in Massachusetts has been very hard hit by the events of September 11. Twenty-eight families in my district have been devastated, with 28 victims who were on flights, a vast majority of them, on American and United Airlines.

As I met with families who have been devastated, overwhelmingly they say to me, if you do nothing else, please make airports and airplanes in this country safe. If you do nothing else. Overwhelmingly they say to me, federalize security at the airports. They say to me, we noticed the other body voted 100 to nothing to federalize airport security. Why can the House of Representatives not do the same?

I do not have an answer for those families. Apparently, there is somebody on the other side of the aisle that does not want to federalize security at airports.

On behalf of the families who have been devastated in my district, I urge the leadership of this House to bring that airport security bill down to the floor of the House of Representatives that passed 100 to nothing in the other body. Let us get it done this week.

CONGRESS MUST DO BETTER ON ECONOMIC STIMULUS PLAN

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the President and our congressional leadership have suggested that we are in this effort for the long haul. They have pointed out that we are in the equivalent of war, that we were attacked on September 11, not unlike Pearl Harbor. We have been urged, I think, in our efforts to reach out to the American people.

I am saddened that we are today turning our back on the bipartisanship, on working together, in terms of doing our best that these times demand.

My colleague just pointed out the lunacy of the proposal that is brought before us, that is too big for the White House in economic stimulus. It has very little direct aid to those most in need. It has huge benefits for a few corporate giants, with no requirement that this be tied back to economic stimulus.

But my concern is why are we settling in this time of urgency for a return to partisanship and divisiveness? This bill is not our best. I urge Congress to not give up so soon.

POLITICAL PROFITEERING ON STIMULUS BILL

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the Republican-leaning USA Today writes about the so-called stimulus bill. They write, "The House takes up today a special wartime stimulus bill that is little more than good old-fashioned special interest giveaway. The Republican House has decided to repay corporate patrons for their years of campaign support. The House lavishes tax benefits," USA Today says, "on just about everyone with a lobbyist. Companies get 70 percent of the tax cuts in 2002, and some of these breaks are permanent. These are times," USA Today says, "that require everyone to put aside petty self-interest and everyday horse trading for the country's good. Yet House Republican leaders showed an unwillingness to do that with the refusal to consider federalizing the Nation's airport security system. Now they are at it again with their brazen attempt to use the current crisis to please well-heeled special interests."

Mr. Speaker, excessive partisanship at this difficult time in our Nation's history is bad enough, but this kind of political profiteering by House Republicans is down right shameful.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now resume proceedings on postponed questions, as follows:

First, on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 3162;

Second, on approving the Journal.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for the second electronic vote in this series.