

not contained now, we are going to have to be paying for those tomorrow.

We need to invest in America. We need to stop outsourcing. We need to make sure that our children and our families are taken care of.

I would ask for all Americans to take a second look at this recovery that the President is proposing. I would ask for all of us to join together and make our resources felt here at home.

RESPONSIBILITY WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 20, 2004, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) is recognized during morning hour debates.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will take up two bills that, in addition to strengthening our economy and improving the quality of American family life, will send a very real message of accountability to two industries not lately known for it.

Opponents of the Personal Responsibility in Food Consumption Act and the Broadcast Decency Enforcement Act may dismiss them as meaningless symbols, but American families know better.

The American families know that the raw greed that fuels both abusive lawsuits and vulgar broadcast programming has punctured the boundaries of reasonable tolerance. People have tired of hearing about yet another loopy scam cooked up by predatory trial lawyers to sue some unsuspecting company for some imaginary offense; and at the same time, people have grown weary of the junk that comes across our television screens.

For years we have chastised Hollywood, cajoled Hollywood, and begged Hollywood to shape up. Yet in both cases, the entertainment industry and trial lawyers, either out of arrogance or ignorance or both, have chosen to ignore these pleas.

Mr. Speaker, this week the House will send a very clear signal to one and all: enough is enough. Predatory lawsuits undermine our economy; offensive television programming undermines the moral imagination of our children; and both undermine the fundamental human value of personal responsibility.

Lawyers and broadcasters may not care about their moral responsibilities, Mr. Speaker; but under these bills, if they do not at least start to fake it, they are going to pay.

Under the Personal Responsibility in Food Consumption Act, Congress will declare, as if we should have to, that restaurants are not responsible for the tummy aches that their customers suffer when they eat too much.

Under the Broadcast Decency Enforcement Act, television broadcasters who have thumbed their noses at the FEC's maximum obscenity fine of \$27,500 per offense will soon have to reassess the actions of their respective thumbs and noses in the face of maximum fines of \$500,000 per offense.

So after years of trying the American people's patience, predatory trial lawyers and irresponsible broadcasters are going to be held accountable for their actions. It is Responsibility Week here in the House, Mr. Speaker; and thankfully for the viewers at home watching C-SPAN, there will not be a half-time show.

JOB NUMBERS FOR LAST MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 20, 2004, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, we got another reality check as to how, after 3 years in the White House, President Bush still has not figured out how to create jobs for Americans here in the United States. The February job numbers illustrate how the economic policies of President Bush and the Republican Congress still are not creating jobs.

Last month, only 21,000 jobs were created by the American economy. That is 21,000 jobs. The Labor Department also revised its numbers for both December and January, stating that 23,000 less jobs were created during those 2 months than when it was first reported; and this means employers have added an average of 61,000 jobs per month since August, well below the 150,000 new jobs economists said were needed to keep pace with population growth.

If the jobs recession does not end soon and the economy does not create 2.1 million jobs this year, then President Bush will be the first President since Herbert Hoover to preside over an economy in which he did not create one net job; and yet the President continues to say that the best way to create more jobs in the upcoming month is for Congress to make permanent all his tax cuts, the tax cuts that overwhelmingly benefit our Nation's wealthiest Americans.

I would just like to know, Mr. Speaker, when is the President going to learn? Congressional Republicans cut taxes year after year, and the jobs they predicted would be created have never become a reality. Last year, when the President was touting another round of tax cuts benefiting our Nation's wealthiest elite, the White House predicted the cuts would create more than 2.1 million new jobs in the 7 months after its passage. And what actually happened during that period? Only 296,000 jobs were created, 1.8 million short of the President's predictions.

Now President Bush says he is going to create jobs, but he is about as good at predicting job creation as he is in advancing policies that create those jobs. He is not very good at it, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps that is why President Bush and some of his leading economic advisers are now backing away from their own "Economic Report of the

President," in which the administration predicted that 2.6 million jobs would be created this year. Just one week after release of that report, Treasury Secretary John W. Snow and Commerce Secretary Donald Evans refused to embrace President Bush's own economic projections.

One would think the Bush administration would be concerned about the job losses, but last month we learned that President Bush and his economic advisers view the movement of American factory jobs and white collar work to other countries as a positive transformation that will, in the end, enrich our economy.

The President's chief economist, Gregory Mankiw, made national headlines when he said, "Outsourcing is just a new way of doing international trade. More things are tradeable than were tradeable in the past, and that's a good thing." President Bush supported this view in his annual economic report in which he wrote: "When a good or service is produced more cheaply abroad, it makes more sense to import it than make or provide it domestically."

Mr. Speaker, how can we have economic success if we send jobs overseas, but do not create enough new jobs with comparable wages here in the United States?

I think it is about time that the Bush administration realizes that shipping jobs overseas and cutting taxes for the wealthiest elite in our country will not create jobs. President Bush and congressional Republicans have had 3 years to turn this jobs recession around. They have totally failed. It is time for Congress to pass measures that will encourage companies to keep jobs here in the United States, and it is time we level the playing field and protect American jobs here rather than exporting them overseas.

EXTENDING OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 20, 2004, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, my friend, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE), just talked about the new economic statistics, that some 21,000 jobs were created last month in this country. The President had predicted 250,000 jobs. The Wall Street Journal had predicted 150,000, something like that; 21,000 were actually created. Of those 21,000, actually every one of those jobs was a government job, many of them in education, productive, important jobs; but actually there was no private sector job creation, period. There was actually a loss of private sector jobs.

This is where it really matters to people. There were 760,000 American workers whose unemployment benefits have expired in December, January,

and February. That is 760,000 workers whose unemployment has expired who cannot find jobs. That is 760,000 families, many of whom have children, who have lost their unemployment compensation, have no income, cannot find jobs.

My friend on the other side of the aisle, the President and the Republican leadership, even though a lot of Republicans want to support it but the President and the Republican leadership will not bring it up, have said no to extending unemployment compensation for those 760,000 workers, those 760,000 families.

Last week, I visited a group of about 50 or 60 machine-shop operators in Akron in my district, in the city of Akron, Ohio. Right before I spoke, a man walked forward and put just a plastic bag full of brochures like this in front of me, and what they are is a bag of about five times this size.

□ 1245

He had gotten several hundred of these every month. These are auction notices he receives in his company, his machine shop, where he employs 10, 15 workers, something like that. Most of the companies represented there last week when I talked to them, were small manufacturers, 10, 20, 50, 100, maybe one company was 150. Most of them were very small manufacturers. But they said they were getting these auction notices from companies all over the United States, and they are basically fire sales, get out of business sales.

This is an auction notice from Houston, Texas. Large capacity fabricating and machine shop closing. They are selling their capital equipment to anyone who will buy it. This is from a company in Springfield, Ohio. Surplus to the ongoing operation of this small manufacturing company. They are selling their surplus equipment. They do not have customers so they are laying off workers. This is another one. Plant closed, everything sells. This is another one. This one is from Cincinnati, Ohio, another company which says excess equipment due to corporate outsourcing.

This one is from Medina, Ohio, just south of my district. Fax facility closed. All must go. This is from Anderson, Indiana. Assets no longer required in the continuing operations because of foreign competition and outsourcing. This is one from Portland, Maine. This is from Newfoundland, New Jersey. This is one from Warrenton, Pennsylvania, a company going out of business. Willoughby, Ohio. Kent, Ohio.

Companies all over this country, Mr. Speaker, are going out of business, laying off 10 and 20 and 50 and 100 workers. Manufacturing jobs. One out of six manufacturers jobs in my State has been lost since George Bush became president. His answer to every single bad piece of economic news is more tax

cuts for the richest people in our country and more trade agreements like NAFTA that will ship jobs overseas; that will hemorrhage jobs to Mexico and China.

Here is the result of the President's economic policy. It is plant closing after machine shop closing after downscaling and downsizing because of outsourcing, because of foreign competition, because of the fact that this President has no manufacturing policy whatsoever. One out of six manufacturing jobs in my State of Ohio has simply gone away in the last 3 years.

As the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) said, George Bush will be the first President since Herbert Hoover to have lost jobs during his time in office to the tune of about 3 million jobs, it looks like.

Going back to those 760,000 workers who have seen their unemployment expire. While Members of Congress get paid \$3,000 a week, \$3,000 a week, this body has absolutely failed, just failed, just ignored, just brazenly, callously been disdainful of those workers who have lost their jobs, cannot find work, and had their unemployment benefits expire.

This is not welfare, this is unemployment. It is called unemployment insurance. It is insurance in case you are laid off. These are 760,000 workers whose unemployment has expired. This Congress is too callous and too hard-hearted to help those 760,000 families while our economic policies continue to fail.

TRIBUTE TO THE GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA AND THE GIRL SCOUTS OF GUAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURNS). Pursuant to the order of the House of January 20, 2004, the gentleman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, as the Girl Scouts of America celebrate their 92nd anniversary this Friday, March 12, and the Guam Girl Scouts celebrate their 69th anniversary, I would like to take this time to commend the organization for its continuing commitment to improving the lives of young girls in America and abroad.

The Girl Scouts have fostered the individual talents of the young girls they serve through learning activities focusing on education, health, physical fitness, community service, and cultural exchange. The Girl Scouts have helped instill strong leadership and decision-making skills in millions of young girls.

Through its U.S.A. Girl Scouts Overseas, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. serves approximately 16,000 girls in more than 81 countries. Guam Girl Scouts is one of the longest-serving community organizations on Guam. They have served thousands of young girls, including myself, since 1935.

Last week, representatives from our local Girl Scouts organization, along

with Girl Scouts from across the Nation, journeyed to Washington, D.C. to speak to Members of Congress about issues affecting the program and our society today.

I was visited by Monica Pido, President of the Board of Directors of the Guam Girl Scouts, and Vickie Fish, Executive Director of Guam Girl Scouts. I was impressed by the range of programs that they are undertaking to increase girls' safety, promote math and science education, and improve girls' health and fitness. Preventing youth violence in communities and ensuring girls feel emotionally and physically safe is one of the latest proactive efforts of our Girl Scouts.

Their P.A.V.E. the Way youth violence prevention initiative is an innovative way to improve the safety of girls and communities throughout our Nation.

Girl Scouts provide a structure and stability to girls between the ages of 5 and 17 years old, teaching them lessons and building character that will last a lifetime. Girl Scouts really make a difference, one girl at a time.

Today, with more than 50 million women across the Nation having been involved in girl scouting as a child, the difference Girl Scouts make is enormous. As a former girl scout, I can attest to the quality and success of these programs.

I congratulate Girl Scouts as they celebrate their anniversary and hope that they will continue to be a part of many girls' lives in the years to come.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 53 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TERRY) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

We will praise You, Lord, with open hearts. We will recount all Your wonders. We will rejoice in You and be glad, just judge of heaven and Earth.

You are enthroned on high overseeing every nation and all peoples. You hold the just in Your balance and destroy the wicked. You take up the cause and interests of this government as all others. You will guide the course of events here in Congress. In the end, its accomplishments will be measured and its failures will not be overlooked. For You are a stronghold for the oppressed and will judge everyone with truth.