

them what they want, if you look at our competitiveness agenda that we have, investments in research and development, R&D funding has stayed flat under the President's watch, and it is way below what it was 20 years ago. If we are going to be competitive, we have to make some investments in research and development. We are blowing money by giving subsidies to the energy companies when we should invest it in basic research.

I was in Israel in November. They are doing some fantastic things with venture capital and business incubators and research and development, and the Israeli companies have just surpassed Canada on the NASDAQ, and I asked one of the top dogs over there, what do we need to do in America to try to imitate what you are doing here?

He said the biggest mistake you are making in the United States is not making investment in research and development, because of the tremendous impact that has leading to new innovations. So cutting this funding, flat-lining the research and development funding is the wrong thing to do, where the Democrats are saying we need to make targeted investments into research and development, targeted investments in education, targeted investments into broadband penetration. Everybody in the country should have access to broadband in the next 5 years.

The President wants to do alternative energy, and he says we are going to become energy competitive, and this is typical of the kind of leadership we are getting from this President. We are going to make this country energy-independent by 75 percent in the next 20 years.

It is like, come on, Mr. President, let us go. We want to get things rolling in the country. We want to get things moving. We need your help, we need your leadership, and the country is dying for an alternative energy program; not to say we are going to be 75 percent in 2025. That is not the kind of leadership we need.

Democrats have a plan to do it in 10 years. This is the broadband penetration I was talking about that is going on. These are broadband subscribers per 100 inhabitants as of January 1 of last year. This is Korea, almost 25 percent; Hong Kong-China, almost 21 percent; Iceland, 15.5 percent; U.S., only 11 percent.

If we want every child to have an access to education, we need to make sure that they are not getting left behind technologically, which is what happens in many of these neighborhoods and many of these rural areas. Kids and families who do not have access to these kinds of things.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Again, I want to highlight where words did not match deeds. The candidate President George W. Bush said before the election that we would have "universal, affordable access to broadband technology by the year 2007." Well, the Bush administration has had no national policy to

develop a universal broadband access even though building a robust, nationwide network would expand employment by 1.2 million new permanent jobs in our country.

This is the House Democrats' innovation agenda, which is available on HouseDemocrats.gov. We have a plan laid out how, which includes how we would get to universal broadband access within 5 years, and that we would make sure that we grow the math and science and engineers that we need in this country and make sure that we can match our rhetoric with action.

DEMOCRATIC AGENDA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CAMPBELL of California). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) is recognized for the remainder of the time until midnight.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, we again want to thank Leader NANCY PELOSI for the opportunity to talk about the things that are important to the American people. Again, we have laid out our vision for America's competitiveness into the future and how we can keep America number one and actually match rhetoric with what the President laid out in his State of the Union with action and deeds. You can get a copy of this, you can peruse a copy of our innovation agenda, which was developed not in Washington, not sitting around a conference table in a hearing room in the Nation's Capital, but out in the country, in the high-tech centers around this country, with bipartisan input, with the leaders and CEOs of some of the major technologically advanced corporations across this country that can be viewed at HouseDemocrats.gov. That is our Web site where you can get a copy of this.

Again, in addition to broadband access, we are the ones that laid out our commitment to growing a new generation of innovators. We committed in this document to educate 100,000 new scientists, engineers and mathematicians in the next 4 years by proposing a new initiative by working with States, businesses, and universities to provide scholarships to qualified students who commit to working in the fields of innovation.

But the Republicans could not say that they were going to do that because in every successive budget, they have cut student financial aid. You cannot make sure that you expand access to higher education in the math and sciences and in areas that are significantly underrepresented now unless you provide the aid that these students are going to need.

It is not that we do not have the students in these programs because there is a bumper crop of wealthy kids that are just not going into the math and sciences; it is to make sure that we go into the communities across this country and encourage and nurture the de-

sire from the smallest children and the youngest ages and across the cultural and ethnic spectrum to ensure that people of all colors, of all economic walks of life choose to pursue math and science and engineering.

I read something earlier this morning that talked about China graduating 600,000 engineers. I think the number is right, that we graduated 50,000. I believe that it is that drastic a difference in terms of the proportion.

We have always been known as the innovators in the world. Every major accomplishment scientifically, at least in my lifetime, in our lifetime, has been achieved by Americans. But we are slowly but surely not going to be the leaders in those areas of science and math unless we go back to our traditional financial commitment to ensuring that kids can get access to education.

□ 2310

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Absolutely.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. One of the interesting things when I was over in China in August, they were talking about the engineers. And they have this tremendous advantage on us as far as numbers go. And so we were asking what is the advantage that the U.S. engineers have. And they were saying, well, U.S. engineers they are just the best in the world, they are the most creative in the world, and they work in teams better than any other engineer, any other country. And it is funny, because this week, and we have talked about this before, but this week we had the school board associations down here. And wouldn't you know, the programs that are getting cut because of lack of funding. No Child Left Behind, the burden that is being pushed, the bonds that need to be noted and the funding that needs to be gathered at a local level in order to fund the local public schools across the country, the programs that are being cut are those programs that teach our kids how to be more creative and how to work in teams better.

You hear a lot about the art programs getting cut, the music programs getting cut, the visual arts getting cut, the performing arts getting cut, language arts getting cut in a lot of these schools because they do not have the resources they need, or the school districts or the school systems are not organized the way they need to be organized.

And then you also see a lot of pay-to-play: \$350. Well, a lot of families do not have an extra \$350 to get their kids in activities. And if you have two or three kids, you are talking about a thousand bucks. That is a lot of money, I hate to break it to a lot of our friends on the other side who do not seem to understand this. So the very advantage that we have, we are cutting off our nose to spite our face. And those are the kinds of investments that we need to make,

not only invest, but restructure and reorganize the way that our education system runs today. And I think if we do a couple of these things and have the courage to lead, I think we are going to be able to do it.

Part of this, too, we need the parents involved; we need the parents to be accountable. We need the parents to be there with their kids. We need to make sure that the parents know that their kids have to do the homework. This is going to be a team effort. This is going to be us doing our job, the parents doing their job, the local school district doing their job, everybody coming together if we are going to be competitive in the 21st century. That is the only way this is going to happen.

And I think it is important, one final point here. I think it is important that if we are going to ask kids to get involved in the math and science and engineering and chemistry and all these things and areas of studies that we need them to get involved in, there needs to be a goal. And I think, really, the goal for the next generation is what Mr. BARTLETT was talking about a little while back, about what are we going to do with the alternative energy realm; who is going to develop the new and the latest technologies? Is this going to be a national effort? Not in 2025, Mr. President. Now.

You know, we went to the Moon in less than a decade. And it is going to take us 20 years to figure out how we are going to become energy independent so we can get out of these entanglements that we find ourselves in in the Middle East and in other countries.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. And I mean, forgive me. But, come on, am I the only one that felt it was a little disingenuous to hear from this President that America is addicted to oil and we need to end that addiction? I mean, come on. Where has the commitment to that been? In the two energy bills that we were asked to vote on in the last year since I have been here, where we were basically giving away the store to the energy and oil companies? I mean, where is the financial commitment? Where has it been to exploring alternative energy sources? Has there been a miraculous transformation in the White House that I am not aware of?

I just do not understand how the administration could not see that you have to, in order to get the American people to believe what you say and to have faith and restore their confidence and belief in you, you have to do what you say you are going to do. And that just does not seem to happen on almost any score, particularly not when it comes to energy independence and exploring alternative energy sources.

And you know, I am proud to be a member of the Democratic Caucus, because when we say something, we mean it. But when we lay out a goal, we back it up with how we might do it were we in charge. You know, we would make a

funding commitment to exploring alternative energy resources. We would invest our energy and effort into the Midwest so that not only can we become foreign-oil independent, we can become independent from oil, period.

You know, I am from a State where I do not want to see drilling off the coast of my shoreline. None of my constituents want to see it either. So we need to explore other ways of generating energy in this country that are not dedicated solely to the production of oil, whether it is developed here or in another country. But we actually have to have a plan that would do that, and have Members who actually cast votes in favor of that plan, which just has not happened by any stretch of the imagination here that I have seen.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. No.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, we spent a great deal of time tonight talking about the challenges that are facing our country, and the thing that I have noticed that is the most frustrating for me, Mr. RYAN, is in the short time that I have been here, you know, I was hopeful that just like when I was in the Florida senate, I was able to work effectively across the aisle and on the major issues that were important to our State, just like I was hopeful that we would be able to do here for the important issues in our country.

I was hopeful that I could come to the Congress and sit down, and I was ready to continue to work with Members on the other side on the major issues, not the issues on the margins, because, you know, you are able to find individual Members who you can work with one on one or in small groups on various issues, but on the hot-button issues, on education, on health care, on energy, on prescription drugs, on any of the issues that are really significant to the American people.

It is like those issues are radioactive somehow, and there seems to be an impenetrable wall around the Republican Conference, where it is virtually impossible to get any Member from the other side of the aisle to sit down with a group on our side of the aisle and try to hammer out compromise.

I just do not come from a place where I was used to dealing with my-way-or-the-highway rules of engagement. And you know, maybe now that there is new leadership in the Republican Conference, things will change. Certainly we are hearing words to that effect. It remains to be seen whether those words will be backed up by action. And I look forward to that possibility. I know you do too.

Do you want to talk about the Web site and tell people how they can get in touch with us and reach out to us?

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Absolutely, I do.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. We have a new Web site, Mr. RYAN. We revamped it, and it has a lot of new cool bells and whistles.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Yeah. We are getting really high-tech here.

Www.housedemocrats.gov/30something. The innovation agenda that you mentioned will be available so you can hear the new ideas that the Democrats are coming up with. And I think if you look through this, I mean, this is exciting stuff. And you know, I am not just toeing the party line here. I am very, very excited about what we are offering and what we get to talk about over the course of the next year. As we ask the people of this country who put us in charge of the House of Representatives for oversight purposes, with the war, and everything else that is going on, we need to make sure that there is balance in government, and I think that the folks at home and the folks, Members of Congress and their offices, will be able to come to the Web site, see what we are talking about.

Www.housedemocrats.gov/30something. You go to the bottom, you can see all the posters that we have up. You can see our innovation agenda. We have got a lot of really good things going on, and we are going to keep plugging away over the course of the next year to try to let the people know at home that we have good ideas that we want to help move this country forward.

And one final point that I would like to make regarding all of this is that the country of China has 1.3 billion people. The country of India has over a billion people. And we have 300 million in this country. The Democratic agenda, whether we are talking about energy, investments, education, health care, we are about pulling our country together as a community, as a family and moving forward and knowing that you cannot compete against that many people and not be unified. And what the Democratic innovation agenda, our agenda on health care, energy independence, whatever it may be, is about pulling everybody together, making sure that every kid in the country has a quality education, has health care, has an opportunity to live and work and create wealth in the United States and live the American Dream as they see it. So, again, www.housedemocrats.gov/30something.

Got to give a shout out to our guy from Florida who was not able to make it here tonight, Mr. MEEK. It is never the same without him. Sometimes it is never the same good, sometimes it is never the same bad.

□ 2320

But we miss him here tonight.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you. We do miss our good friend from the great State of Florida, who is in the neighboring district next to me.

I do want to point out to people who might have seen this tonight that they not only can find all of the posters that we use usually on the next day once we have first introduced one on the floor, but they can also submit questions and comments to us through our Website. We want to make this as interactive as possible and get their feedback and

input, and we want to know what their concerns are.

The leader has given us this opportunity to speak to the American people, and our generation is often under-represented in terms of the things that we care about in this country. And it is a privilege to serve in this body with you, Mr. RYAN, and under the leadership of NANCY PELOSI.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ACKERMAN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. BLUMENAUER (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. COSTA (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. HINCHEY (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of illness.

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. STUPAK (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Ms. WOOLSEY (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of illness.

Mr. WAMP (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today and the balance of the week on account of family illness.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SOLIS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WYNN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MALONEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GINGREY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. OSBORNE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MACK, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GINGREY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. FOXX, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, February 14.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, February 14 and 15.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mrs. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill

of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 4636. An act to enact the technical and conforming amendments necessary to implement the Federal Deposit Insurance Reform Act of 2005, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1932. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 202(a) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006 (H. Con. Res. 95).

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 332, 109th Congress, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CAMPBELL of California). Accordingly, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 332, 109th Congress, the House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2006.

Thereupon (at 11 o'clock and 21 minutes p.m.), pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 332, the House adjourned until Tuesday, February 14, 2006, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

[Omitted from the Record of February 7, 2006]

6080. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of General Lance W. Lord, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

6081. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Philip R. Kensinger, Jr., United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

6082. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of Colonel John D. Johnson, United States Army, to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

6083. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of Major General Gary D. Speer, United States Army, to wear the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

6084. A letter from the Legal Advisor to the Bureau Chief, MB, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Wheatland, Rock River, Lusk, Gillette, Moorcroft, Pine Haven, Upton, Wyoming, and Edgemont, Custer, Murdo, Wall and Ells-

worth AFB, South Dakota) [MB Docket No. 05-98] (RM-11187; RM-11252; RM-11253) received January 20, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6085. A letter from the Principal Deputy General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Accounting and Financial Reporting for Public Utilities Including RTOs [Docket No. RM04-12-000; Order No. 668] received January 17, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6086. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Food and Drug Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Requirements on Content and Format of Labeling for Human Prescription Drug and Biological Products [Docket No. 2000N-1269] (formerly Docket No. 00N-1269) (RIN: 0910-AA94) received January 24, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6087. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergency Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process that was declared in Executive Order 12947 of January 23, 1995, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

6088. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a six-month report prepared by the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security on the national emergency declared by Executive Order 13222 of August 17, 2001, and continued on August 14, 2002, August 7, 2003, and August 6, 2004 to deal with the threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

6089. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11958, a copy of Transmittal No. 01-06 which informs of an intent to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the United States and the United Kingdom concerning Joint U.S./UK Sea-Ballistic Missile Defense Studies, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

6090. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction that was declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

6091. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

6092. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

6093. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of