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ENERGY POLICY FOR A NEW DIRECTION

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, Members of the House, for too long this Nation has been held hostage and has been dependent upon Middle East oil. For too long this Nation has been held hostage and been dependent on the automakers of this country in terms of determining whether kind of transportation we will have in the United States.

Today, just an hour or an hour and a half ago, this House voted overwhelmingly and on a bipartisan basis to break that dependency and to become free again, to become free of Middle East oil, to become free of the automakers who have prevented us from having more efficient automobiles, getting better miles per gallon, and greener, to save our environment.

By that vote, this House spoke for the independence of this country. By that vote, this House spoke for the American people who have been demanding for us now for many years to have automobiles that were more efficient, less polluting, that serve their needs. For many years, they have told us that they have been worried about our national security, about our foreign policy, when we are driven to decisions based upon the dependency of Middle East oil, based upon the dependency of foreign oil, based on the dependency of not having our own energy house in order so we can make those decisions.

When they have seen time and again American lives and treasure lost to secure sources of oil, they have asked for a new direction. They have asked for a new day in American energy policy. Just a couple of hours ago, the House of Representatives delivered to the American people that new energy policy and that new direction. It's a policy that is based in the future, it's a policy that is based in American ingenuity, talent and skills. It's a policy that is based in innovation and discovery, the things that America has been great at since this country was founded, that real talent and the strengths of this Nation being pulled together for the new technologies of wind energy, of biotech energy, of ethanol, and the other alternative fuels that are available, to the alternative sources of electricity, whether it's wave energy, solar energy. That is what America does best. We have wasted 8 years while we have refused to embrace the future.

This bill over the next few years will generate 3 million jobs in every geographic sector of this Nation as utilities seek out alternative energy sources for the generation of electricity. That means the people will be going to work in solar facilities, people will be going to work in wind facilities,

people will be going to work in biofuel facilities, in ethanol facilities, in all kind of new technologies, new production, new manufacturing, the next generation of manufacturing, the next generation of innovation.

When we were working on our Innovation Agenda, which this Congress passed a couple of months ago and was sent to the President, passed overwhelmingly on a bipartisan vote, signed by the President of the United States, when we were working on that Innovation Agenda with the leaders in biotech, in high-tech, in the venture capital community, people who are betting real money on the future of this country, they told us to give them a new energy policy that would drive a next generation of technology in the computer industry, in the telecommunications industry, in the biotech industry; that would drive the next generation of investment in energy and in the future of this country; that would drive the next generation of discovery and innovation.

Today, the House of Representatives delivered that energy policy to the American companies so they can go to work in discovery and innovation and creating jobs here in America in the new industries surrounding the new energy future and the new energy policy.

I am very, very proud this day to be a Member of the House of Representatives, casting this vote for a new energy future for America.

TRAGEDY AT THE WESTROADS MALL IN OMAHA, NEBRASKA

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

(Mr. TERRY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness, for yesterday, at about 2 p.m., a tragedy occurred in my hometown, where eight people were killed, gunned down, some of them employees at Von Maur, others just shopping for the Christmas holidays. To those families, those eight families who lost a loved one so senselessly, my thoughts and my prayers go out to you. I can't imagine what you're going through today.

Our whole community across Nebraska, eastern Nebraska, western Iowa, not just Omaha, is scarred by this tragedy. A very disturbed 19-year-old man walks into this mall and this store and begins randomly shooting at people.

The victims of this terrible tragedy, this massacre: Gary Scharf, who was shopping, a resident of Lincoln, Nebraska; John McDonald, a customer, resident of Council Bluffs, Iowa. By the way, his daughter was an associate attorney for me. I have been communicating with her. To her, Suzanne Sheehan, and your family, my deepest condolences.

Also killed were six Von Maur employees: Angie Schuster, Maggie Webb, Janet Jorgenson, Diane Trent, Gary Joy, and Beverly Flynn, all of Omaha. Some of these were only 10 minutes from their shift being over and would be out of this store. Some of them are young mothers, leaving small children. There were others who were seriously injured, like Fred Wilson and Michelle Oldham. Others were also injured, like Jeff Schaffer and Brad Stafford.

Now just to put this in context, the first 911 call went out, and within 6 minutes our emergency response, our EMS, and our Omaha Police were in that store. But it was all done and over with by the time they could get there. The damage was already done. But they immediately began working on those that were injured and securing the mall for the other thousands of shoppers that were there.

I want to thank publicly our first responders from not only the city, but Douglas County, Sarpy County, the State Patrol, for their heroic efforts given in this tragedy. Now a tragedy of this scope and scale is just unthinkable. It's hard to get my mind around this. There's no way for us to understand this senseless act of violence, and I ask the entire country to pray for peace and healing during this difficult time for these families in our community.

God bless.

TRAGEDY IN OMAHA, NEBRASKA

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

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, LEE TERRY, from the Second Congressional District, my neighbor. I, too, Mr. Speaker, want to extend my heartfelt sympathies to the families and friends of this senseless act of violence. Sometimes we are shocked by just how brutal the world can be and that came home to rest yesterday in Nebraska, where people, joyfully going about their holiday season, shopping, having time with loved ones, people wrapping gifts, all of a sudden being punctuated with this horrific act of violence that left eight people dead and in turn the perpetrator of the crime killed himself.

Mr. Speaker, Nebraska prides itself on being a wonderful place to live and to work and raise a family, and Omaha is truly a good community. I think if we have won consolation here, it will be that the community will pull together and will heal together.

On a personal note, as well, as Congressman TERRY mentioned, one of the victims of the tragedy was from my district and in fact had been a personal acquaintance and friend of mine, Gary Scharf. He was active in civic affairs. I knew he took great pride in the son that he had. I too wish to extend my deepest heartfelt sympathies to his family as well.

CONDOLENCES TO OMAHA VICTIMS

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

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise also with a heavy heart to express my condolences to the families of the victims that were tragically gunned down yesterday in Omaha. It is amazing, as Mr. FORTENBERRY pointed out, how cruel the world can be, and I only hope that we will come together and look at the root causes of these sources of violence, as we look at the violence that affects basically a rural area of our country, the Heartland, as many would call it, that none of us can escape some of this violence.

As we pull together, I know that perhaps we can learn from what happened yesterday. But, again, I want to especially express the condolences that I feel for these many victims who actually have roots across Nebraska.

With that, I yield my time to Mr. KING of Iowa.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nebraska for yielding. I stand here also with a heavy heart in joining with my colleagues from the west side of the Missouri River, and as we often stand together on policy and on issues that matter to the country and matter to our region, today we stand together in expressing our sympathies to the families of all of those involved in this tragic shooting.

As we move towards the Christmas season and the anticipation that brought people together in the Von Maur store, it's tragic that that was what was interrupted in such a brutal way, by such an act of insanity. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the families of all involved; the families of

the victims of those who were killed, the families of those who were wounded, those who were wounded, obviously, and also to the family of the shooter who committed that act of insanity, who must be going through an even more heightened sense of agony today and yesterday, and throughout, and perhaps the rest of their lives, an added measure of agony to those who have already suffered the incomprehensible loss of such a tragic incident.

I lost a constituent and had one wounded, and it has reached into the lives of the families on the Iowa side of the river. It is also true for each of the three Members of the Nebraska delegation, having lost at least one person that they represented here in Congress. We know that all families are affected.

And so we ask to stand here together and we will remember you all in our prayers throughout our holiday time, throughout this Christmas season. We will stand together for the rule of law, we will stand together for sanity. We are going to look to try to find a way to reach out, and perhaps, just perhaps there will be some key, some knowledge gained from this tragedy that we can better use to protect and maybe prevent future tragedies.

□ 1715

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

(Mr. WYNN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. FOXX addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

REVISIONS TO ALLOCATION FOR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, under sections 308 (b) (1) and 309 of S. Con. Res. 21, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for fiscal year 2008, I hereby submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a revision to the budget allocations and aggregates for fiscal year 2008, and the period of 2008 through 2012 for several House Committees. These revisions represent an adjustment to blouse committee budget allocations and aggregates for the purposes of section 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended, and in response to a further House amendment to the Senate Amendment to the bill H.R. 6, The CLEAN Energy Act of 2007. Corresponding tables are attached.

Under section 211 of S. Con. Res. 21, this adjustment to the budget allocations and aggregates applies while the measure is under consideration. The adjustments will take effect upon enactment of the measure. For purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended, a revised allocation made under section 211 of S. Con. Res. 21 is to be considered as an allocation included in the resolution.

BUDGET AGGREGATES

[On-budget amounts, in millions of dollars]

	Fiscal Year 2007	Fiscal Year 2008 ¹	Fiscal Years 2008–2012
Current Aggregates: ²			
Budget Authority	2,250,680	2,350,996	n.a.
Outlays	2,263,759	2,353,954	n.a.
Revenues	1,900,340	2,015,841	11,137,671
Change in the Energy Independence and Security Act (H.R. 6):			
Budget Authority	0	181	n.a.
Outlays	0	179	n.a.
Revenues	0	137	3,243
Revised Aggregates:			
Budget Authority	2,250,680	2,351,177	n.a.
Outlays	2,263,759	2,354,133	n.a.
Revenues	1,900,340	2,015,978	11,140,914

n.a. = Not applicable because annual appropriations Acts for fiscal years 2009 through 2012 will not be considered until future sessions of Congress.

¹ Pending action by the House Appropriations Committee on spending covered by section 207(d)(1)(E) (overseas deployments and related activities), resolution assumptions are not included in the current aggregates.

² Excludes emergency amounts exempt from enforcement in the budget resolution.

DIRECT SPENDING LEGISLATION—AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATIONS FOR RESOLUTION CHANGES

[Fiscal Years, in millions of dollars]

House Committee	2007		2008		2008–2012 Total	
	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays
Current allocation:						
Energy and Commerce	–1	–1	366	362	–59	–63
Natural Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transportation and Infrastructure	0	0	125	0	1,525	0
Ways and Means	0	0	532	532	37	37
Change in the Energy Independence and Security Act (H.R. 6):						
Energy and Commerce	0	0	63	64	589	582
Natural Resources	0	0	0	0	1,886	1,886
Transportation and Infrastructure	0	0	3	0	42	0
Ways and Means	0	0	115	115	575	575
Total	0	0	181	179	3,092	3,043