

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

JAMES L. OBERSTAR,
EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,
ELLEN O. TAUSCHER,
BRIAN BAIRD,
BRIAN HIGGINS,
HARRY E. MITCHELL,
STEVE KAGEN,
JERRY MCNERNEY,
JOHN L. MICA,
JOHN J. DUNCAN, Jr.,
VERNON J. EHLERS,
R.H. BAKER,
HENRY E. BROWN, Jr.,
JOHN BOOZMAN,

From the Committee on Natural Resources, for consideration of secs. 2014, 2023, and 6009 of the House bill, and secs. 3023, 5008, and 5016 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

NICK RAHALL,
GRACE F. NAPOLITANO,
CATHY MCMORRIS
RODGERS,

Managers on the Part of the House.

BARBARA BOXER,
MAX BAUCUS,
JOE LIEBERMAN,
TOM CARPER,
HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON,
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG,
JAMES M. INHOFE,
JOHN WARNER,
GEORGE V. VOINOVICH,
JOHNNY ISAKSON,
DAVID VITTER,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

DEMOCRATIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THIS CONGRES- SIONAL SESSION

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, over the last 7 months, the new Democratic Congress has amassed an impressive record of accomplishment, making real progress on issues important to the American people.

Last week, thanks to our efforts, the minimum wage was increased for the first time in a decade. We also sent to the President's desk one of the most important bills of the new Congress, legislation that will make America safer by finally enacting the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission.

Last week, the House also passed a farm bill that reforms our Nation's farm policy by committing more resources to nutrition and conservation programs, while also addressing the needs of our Nation's family farmers.

And our efforts continue this week. Today, we will live up to our promise to change the way business is done here in Washington when we pass the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act. Tomorrow, we will strengthen the health care safety net programs essential to our children and seniors. And then on Thursday we will pass a comprehensive energy bill that reduces our dependence on foreign oil and fights global warming.

Democrats are delivering results and doing it in a new way.

□ 1015

THE LIGHT BULB ENERGY POLICY

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, oh, how we talk and pontificate about making the United States independent from foreign energy. But still little has been done. The new energy bill does not promote energy, but punishes energy use. For example, new energy legislation regulates the type of light bulbs Americans use.

Some in the House want to go after the U.S. oil companies and punish them by taxing them more. Of course, more taxes will simply be passed on to us, the consumers, and will not increase energy, but decrease it.

You see, when you tax something, you get less of it. More taxes will encourage U.S. oil companies and refiners just to move someplace else where there are fewer taxes and regulations. Some want to mandate and subsidize corn-based ethanol, which not only drives gasoline prices up, but raises the price of food at the same time.

A real energy bill would allow safe drilling for oil and natural gas off our shores and in ANWR. A real energy bill would advance nuclear power. A real energy bill would work with all types of U.S. energy companies and not make them out to be the enemies.

A real energy bill would do more than require us to use certain light bulbs that, by the way, are only made in China.

And that's just the way it is.

A STRATEGY DESERVING OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S SUPPORT

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

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, our intelligence agencies have confirmed that America is more vulnerable now than it was 6 years ago before the 9/11 attacks. That is because Osama bin Laden has gained strength, gained recruits and gained experience in the meantime.

It didn't have to be that way. We had him cornered and crippled in Tora Bora, but then we outsourced the job of capturing him. Then, to make matters worse, we poured our military and financial resources into Iraq, where al Qaeda was nonexistent, thereby giving Osama bin Laden his most effective recruiting tool.

The President keeps referring to al Qaeda in Iraq. It is not the Iraqis who are planning on how to attack America. It is al Qaeda in Waziristan. We need an intelligence strategy to go after bin Laden in Waziristan with our Special Operations working with the tribal chiefs who want to rid themselves of this pest. That is what we need to do.

Mr. Speaker, that is the only strategy that is deserving of the sacrifice of our military families. We need leadership that is deserving of the American public's support.

THE BROADCASTER FREEDOM ACT

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, despite the fact that the so-called Fairness Doctrine was rescinded by the FCC nearly 20 years ago, some of the most powerful voices in Congress are calling for a return of this outright censorship of the broadcast airwaves of America. In response, we introduced the Broadcaster Freedom Act, legislation that would ensure that no future President could return to the Fairness Doctrine without an act of Congress.

I am pleased to report, Mr. Speaker, that more than 140 Members of Congress have cosponsored this legislation to date. Last week, the current chairman of the FCC wrote to say that there was "no compelling reason to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine." Its predecessor from 20 years hence said that reimposing the Fairness Doctrine would be a "colossal mistake."

Mr. Speaker, let's say yes to the freedom of the press. Let's say yes to the freedom of the American people to choose when and how and where they get their information on government. I urge all of my colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, to join me in cosponsoring the Broadcaster Freedom Act this week.

HOUSE DEMOCRATS ARE STRENGTHENING THE CHIP AND CHAMP PROGRAM

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

Mr. WILSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will vote on the CHAMP Act, a bill that reauthorizes our Children's Health Insurance Program. This program will provide millions of children new health coverage and, through this program, protects Medicare for America's seniors.

Passing the CHAMP Act will reauthorize the vital CHIP program, which is set to expire September 30 of this year. Currently 6 million vulnerable American children receive health care benefits through the CHIP. If CHIP did not exist, these millions of children would not have access to quality health care. The CHAMP Act also provides protection for our seniors. It ensures that they continue to have access to the doctors of their choice by stopping a 10 percent payment cut to the doctors and encourages them to seek preventative health care benefits by eliminating copayments and deductibles.

Mr. Speaker, in one bill, this House is addressing the health care needs of our children and our seniors.

DON'T OUTSOURCE AMERICAN JOBS TO IMPORT LESS OIL

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let's talk just for a moment about what the impact would be if the Democrats' plan to arbitrarily impose draconian fuel standards on our domestic automobile industry were to be enacted. First of all, our cars would get smaller, less safe, more expensive and more likely to be built in foreign countries.

Because American automobile companies lose money on every American-built small car, these vehicles would have to be built in low-wage foreign countries like Mexico, China, Korea or Japan. More American automobile workers will lose their jobs. In order to meet the new Federal regulations, experts suggest prices will be going up by more than \$6,000 per vehicle.

The Democrats' CAFE proposal is nothing more than a stealth tax on American families and businesses. It will put smaller, less safe cars on our roadways, increasing traffic injuries and deaths, and the efforts to reduce our dependence on foreign oil will be outsourced to cheap foreign labor. Does that sound like a good plan to you?

DEMOCRATS DELIVER ON PROMISE TO CHANGE THE WAY BUSINESS IS DONE IN WASHINGTON

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

Mr. HALL of New York. Mr. Speaker, when Democrats took control of Congress in January, we vowed to make some changes around here. The American people were rightfully disgusted by several examples of unethical behavior that made this entire institution look bad. The Senate and House have now reconciled differences between two different lobbying reform bills passed earlier this year. Today, the House will give final approval to the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act.

The bill requires greater transparency of lobbyists so they are more accountable to the American people. Specifically, the bill requires lobbyists to file their lobbying activities in an electronic database that is accessible to the public. It also ends the K Street Project by prohibiting Members of Congress and their staff from attempting to influence employment decisions in exchange for political access.

Mr. Speaker, congressional Democrats said we were going to change the way business is done here, and today we will deliver on that promise by

passing the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act.

FREE TRADE CREATES PROSPERITY FOR ALL

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

Mr. CALVERT. Since 2000, foreign trade has increased by more than 20 percent. During that same time, more than 7 million new jobs have been created. Simply put, free trade works.

I strongly urge Congress to move forward with passing the recently negotiated trade agreements with South Korea and Colombia. These agreements will bring down barriers in two of the fastest growing markets in Asia and South America. American business sectors such as automobiles, agriculture, textiles and services will be allowed unprecedented access. In addition, favorable trade environments will be created for intellectual property, telecommunications and workers.

As Congress continues to examine its trade policy, we should not forget to take a close look at what we can do here at home to maximize the benefits of free trade while minimizing its impacts.

Mr. Speaker, since 2000, southern California has seen a 40 percent increase in container traffic on road and rails. This is causing serious transportation problems for both businesses and constituents in my district. The Nation must address this concern so that businesses can receive their goods efficiently and Americans are not overwhelmed by increased freight traffic. Fortunately, free trade affords us the resources we need to address its infrastructure impacts so that the prosperity it creates is shared by all.

PROVIDING COST-EFFECTIVE HEALTH INSURANCE FOR UNINSURED CHILDREN

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

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Mr. Speaker, last week, House Democrats unveiled the Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act, a bill that reauthorizes CHIP, ensures millions of children receive the health benefits they need, and protects Medicare for American seniors. The bill comes a week after the National Governors' Association, made up of both Democrats and Republicans, called for urgent action to reauthorize the CHIP program.

Unfortunately, while strengthening CHIP has broad bipartisan support from our Nation's Governors and the U.S. Senate, the Bush administration and congressional Republicans oppose efforts to strengthen the program so it does not continually run out of money.

As a professional social worker, I recognize the threat to America's children, and I must protest. Instead, they

are proposing to underfund the program significantly, which would cause millions of children to lose coverage, including children in my own State of New Hampshire and States across the country.

Mr. Speaker, ensuring America's children have affordable health care costs less than \$3.50 a day to cover a child. House Democrats are committed to passing this cost-effective health coverage for millions of uninsured children.

CONGRATULATING KATIE KNOPF ON HER MAYOR FOR A DAY ESSAY

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

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to an outstanding program in my congressional district, the Sixth District of Illinois. It is the Mayor for a Day Essay Contest hosted and sponsored by the Character Counts in Elmhurst Coalition in Elmhurst, Illinois.

This year's winner, a winner from among 1,000 entries of first through eighth graders, is Katie Knopf. When asked the question, what should a person living in Elmhurst do and what should their responsibility be, she said to work as much as she possibly can on her schoolwork, to do volunteer work to contribute to the community. "It is my responsibility," she said, "to set a good example for the younger children in my neighborhood. All in all, I need to be a good and caring person."

Indeed, Katie. Well done. Good advice for us all.

HOUSE DEMOCRATS ADDRESS HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF AMERICA'S CHILDREN

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago, the Children's Health Insurance Program, better known as CHIP, was created as a partnership between the States and the Federal Government to ensure that more children would have access to health insurance. Over the last decade, it has been received as a strong, bipartisan effort.

The success of the program is not questioned. Thanks to CHIP, the number of uninsured children has decreased every year for the last decade, except for this past year when the number of children actually increased.

This week, the House will vote on the CHAMP Act, a bill that strengthens the Children's Health Program so that it reaches nearly all of the children that are eligible for the program. Currently, CHIP reaches 6 million, but there are 6 million kids that aren't insured yet.

Today, there is simply not enough funding to enroll more children. But that is going to change this week,