

This is an old idea. If we took all of the oil out of ANWR, it would drop, economists say, the cost at the pump by one to two pennies per gallon, and that would take place 10 or 20 years from now. Furthermore, there is no guarantee whatsoever that the companies bringing the oil out of ANWR would deliver it to the United States citizens. It may go to Japan or to Europe or to the highest bidder. So ANWR and drilling, burning and burning is not the solution.

What is going on in our marketplace? Recent investigations and testimony here in the House and in the Senate have shown that there is a concentration where pension funds are now beginning to invest more and more since the year 2000 into our commodities futures market. So it is now time to ask the question: Isn't it appropriate that we ask you, if you're buying oil, to take possession of what you buy?

FRANKLIN L. "JAKE" FLAKE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) for 2 minutes.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, flags at the State Capitol in Arizona are flying at half-staff this week to honor the life of Jake Flake.

Jake leaves behind a legacy of service from school boards to irrigation districts to hospital governing boards to the Boy Scouts of America to the Farm Credit Association to countless other organizations. You name it; Jake Flake ran it; raised money for it; rescued it or improved it.

But it was in Arizona's State legislature that he became best known and loved across the State, particularly during his term as Speaker of the House. One of Arizona's last genuine cowboy legislators, his perspective, his insight and his counsel is simply irreplaceable.

To his wife, Mary Louise, Jake was a loving husband. To his 13 children, he was a devoted father. To his 55 grandchildren, he was an adoring grandfather. To his church, he was a faithful servant. To his community, he was a loyal advocate. To his beloved State of Arizona, he was a statesman.

To this lowly Congressman, he was a caring uncle and mentor, and I will miss him dearly.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 10 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California) at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

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

Lord God, Your provident love is revealed today as it was revealed in the scriptures and in the early days of this Nation's history. Lord, after Your servant Moses had died, You spoke again to Your people and Joshua, the son of Nun. You said, "Prepare now to cross the Jordan with all the people. Enter the land I stretch out before you. No one can stand against you as long as you live in My presence. I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not leave you nor will I forsake you."

In this millennium, we as a Nation need to cross over some turbulent waters and enter into a new terrain. Lord, we must face a new environment with a need for resourceful energy as we seek economic security and global peace.

Give us Your confidence as we once again hear Your words of promise: Be firm and steadfast so that you may lead this people to the secure and prosperous land which I promised to your ancestors. I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not leave you nor will I forsake you, now or forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. HALL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HALL of New York led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

DOMESTIC OIL DRILLING

(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. Madam Speaker, over the weekend, gas reached the \$4 national average for the first time in our Nation's history. The majority in Congress has worked to combat these prices by advancing new energy solutions and efforts to protect consumers. The standard refrain from the oil companies and their allies is, "We need to drill for more oil here at home." I would ask them, "Who is stopping you?"

The oil company myth is that we need to open up the Arctic refuge and give the oil company a free hand to go wherever and whenever they want to

chase oil. The reality, however, is that about 75 percent of the oil in the United States is on land that is already open for production, but less than one-third of that land is actually being used by the oil companies.

They are literally sitting on 10,000 permits and millions of acres of leased land that would let them start pulling more oil out of the ground here at home. So I say to the oil company advocates, start drilling for more domestic supply. Start drilling on the lands that are already open, and stop posturing while American drivers are in pain at the pump.

REDUCE THE PRICE AT THE PUMP

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, you know that the price at the pump is what everyone is talking about. And in my district in Tennessee, moms are now spending over \$100 more to fill up the tanks than they were when the Democrats took the gavel in both the House and the Senate. It costs over \$100 a month more to fill up the tank of an average minivan. We have seen the price of a gallon of gas go from \$2.26 to \$4 a gallon.

Madam Speaker, there is a reason for this. And we on the Republican side have solutions for this problem. It is time to waive the gas tax. It is time to waive the ethanol mandates. It is time to waive the requirements for boutique fuels. And it is time for Americans to explore for American energy on American soil.

There is a way to address this. There are bills that are filed. There is action that can be taken. I encourage my Democrat colleagues, encourage your leadership to rise to the challenge, reduce the price at the pump.

BIG OIL NEEDS TO DRILL WHERE THEY HOLD LEASES

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

Mr. SIREs. Madam Speaker, President Bush and congressional Republicans continue to blame today's record gas prices on our refusal to open more land up for drilling. They claim that if we allowed big oil to drill more, gas prices would fall. What Republicans neglect to say is that the number of drilling permits increased dramatically over the last 5 years from 3,800 permits in 2002 to 7,500 last year.

That's right. Big oil is actually getting access to more land to drill, but is doing nothing to bring down the price of gas. Big oil has access to millions of acres of Federal land. But for some reason, they have yet to do any drilling. According to a new Natural Resources Committee report, oil and gas companies hold leases to nearly 68 million

acres of Federal land that they are not currently drilling. If big oil really wants to drill more, why aren't they drilling?

Madam Speaker, Washington Republicans are wrong again to rely on big oil to bring down the prices at the pump. After all, while American consumers battle these record prices, big oil is laughing all the way to the bank.

THE CURE FOR PUMP PANIC

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

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, with all the gloom, doom and despair about the high gasoline prices, there is a remedy to this pessimistic pump panic. Before we start passing out bicycles to the multitudes or start going to Dr. Phil for therapy, we can and should obtain more crude oil here in America. Crude oil will still be the driving energy of this Nation for the foreseeable future until we find some alternative. And we don't need to line the pockets of OPEC and Third World dictators by begging them for more crude. We already give them \$425 million a day!

The U.S. Geological Survey has released a report that says the "sweet crude" oil find in the Williston-Bakken Basin is larger than first believed. It is enormous. According to the report, it is over 500 billion barrels, and it is located in the Dakotas. It is 15 times larger than the oil in the Alaskan North Slope.

America needs to take care of America. We need to remove the silly restrictions that prohibit drilling. We need to drill in the Badlands of the Dakotas; remove the offshore drilling ban; drill in Alaska; and we can cure this pump panic disease.

And that's just the way it is.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR THE FLOOD AND TORNADO VICTIMS IN IOWA

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

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere sympathy for residents in my district and around Iowa who are currently experiencing severe flooding at record setting levels.

Just this weekend I went to two neighborhoods to help sandbag and protect homes. I spoke with a man who pointed to his home and said, "This is the only thing I have." It was a very emotional setting. I was touched by the intensity and good spirits of many of the residents and volunteers despite the circumstances, and I commend them for their perseverance.

The Governor of Iowa has already issued emergency proclamations for many of Iowa's counties, and four counties have been declared Presi-

dential disaster areas. I understand that the National Guard has been activated to assist in the flood control efforts. I am grateful for their assistance. I continue to stand ready to help my fellow Iowans in any way possible.

SOLUTIONS EXIST FOR HIGH GAS PRICES

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I feel sympathy for the folks paying these high gas prices. Here is a problem: On average, \$3.98, take in climate change 50 cents and we'll be paying \$4.48 a gallon.

Here is the solution: Outer Continental Shelf, which is off-limits by appropriation bills; moving coal-to-liquid technology, which has been blocked here on motions to recommit; expanding renewable fuels, which has been helpful, but still is not the panacea.

The New York Times, which is not one of our best supporters, says the counties where motorists spend the highest percentage of their income on gasoline tend to be poor, rural areas, which is what I represent. That is why I am on the floor monthly now talking about gas reaching \$4 a gallon, refinery expansion delayed because of environmental attacks, the clean gas, \$4 increase in price of natural gas bills.

Our consuming public cannot stand these high prices any more. Our manufacturing base cannot. We have to bring on more supply.

THE PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

(Ms. SPEIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, 45 years ago today, President Kennedy signed a law to end what he called the "unconscionable practice of paying female workers less wages than male workers for the same job."

When President Kennedy signed the law, women earned 60 cents for every dollar earned by a man. In 2006, the woman's share is 77 cents. While we have made some progress in 45 years, it is scant at best. Since 1963 the ratio has narrowed by less than one-half cent per year. At this rate, my 13-year-old daughter will be close to retirement by the time President Kennedy's order is realized.

That is why I am cosponsoring H.R. 1338, the Paycheck Fairness Act, which adds teeth to previous laws.

Equal pay for equal work is as American as a principle can be. This is not about men versus women, but basic fairness. And its ramifications affect everyone. Paying women less hurts men who aren't hired because hiring a woman is cheaper. It hurts families by devaluing the work of women and mothers who are already paying out of

pocket for child care so they can pursue a career. In short, it hurts all of America, and it must end right here, right now.

YOU CAN'T GET OIL FROM A DRY HOLE

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, more smoke and mirrors that we are hearing this morning from the majority party about, oh, there is plenty of land to drill in, the big oil companies just aren't drilling. Let me just straighten that out just a little bit. Ninety-seven percent of the Federal offshore drilling sites are off-limits. Ninety-four percent of the federally owned onshore areas are off-limits. Fifty-two percent of the area that oil companies drilled in between 2002 and 2007 were dry holes. We need to allow these oil companies to drill in areas where there actually is oil.

I don't know the economics that the majority party has, but if there is no oil, why would you drill there? That does not make sense. If the government would sell companies leases that have oil in them instead of selling them places that turn out to be dry holes, then we would have more oil produced in this country. We imported over 600 million gallons of gasoline last year. We need to add to our refinery capabilities, also.

□ 1015

ANOTHER MONTH OF JOB LOSSES: CONGRESS SHOULD EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, every month this year our economy has shed more jobs than it has produced. Last month was no exception; 49,000 jobs were lost nationwide and unemployment rose from 5 percent in April to 5.5 percent in May. That is the largest 1 month increase in 20 years.

As job losses continue on a monthly basis, it is becoming increasingly difficult for the unemployed to find jobs, and it is expected to get even worse. That is why last month this Congress passed legislation to extend unemployment benefits for an additional 13 weeks.

Today, more than 1 million people have exhausted all of their benefits. Washington should provide these workers some additional relief as they continue to pursue a job through these rough times. Yet President Bush and congressional Republicans oppose the unemployment insurance extension, even though they supported a similar extension in 2002 when economic conditions were not nearly as hard as they are today.