

oil was about \$23. This morning, the price of a barrel of oil is almost \$138. The policy did not work.

Then, before their policy was enacted, the average price of a gallon of gas was about \$1.46. This morning, at the Commack Mobil station in my district, the price of a gallon of regular gas is almost \$4.29, almost tripled. The policy did not work.

I am not saying that anybody is committing wrongdoing. I am just saying that people have pursued policies that have not worked.

Today we will try again to get to the President's desk Congressman BART STUPAK's anti-price gouging bill. Today we present another solution, a different idea, a better way to bring down gas prices. I urge my colleagues to support it on a bipartisan basis, I urge the other body to support it, get it to the President's desk, and let's start protecting pocketbooks rather than oil company profits.

GUANTANAMO HISTORY LESSON

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, in light of last week's Supreme Court decision giving enemy terrorist detainees at Guantanamo habeas corpus rights, I thought I would offer a brief history lesson as described by my friend Gary Bauer.

On June 13, 1942, four armed German spies came ashore on the beaches of Long Island, New York. Four days later, four more spies came ashore at Jacksonville, Florida. All were sent to sabotage American defense sites. All eight were quickly captured, tried by military tribunal, not civilian courts. Less than a month later, their cases began, and by August 4, all were convicted.

Sixty-six years later, almost to the day, the U.S. Supreme Court in a 5-4 decision declared that foreign terrorists captured on foreign soil possess more rights under our Constitution than those Nazi spies sent here to ambush our domestic defenses.

I believe history will no doubt judge that this flawed Supreme Court decision has left the United States less safe as a result.

RECORD HIGH GAS PRICES AT THE PUMP

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

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, over the last couple months, House Democrats have been working with real solutions to lower pump prices for the American people, smart legislation that invests in renewable energy and temporarily halted the sending of oil to the Strategic Petroleum Oil Reserve.

This week, we will continue with real solutions to give relief to people across

this country. We will consider legislation today to prevent price gouging by unscrupulous companies. Later in the week, we plan to take up a bill that will tighten the Enron loophole that allows speculators in the dark markets in places like Dubai to drive up oil prices without having any oversight. Rampant speculation is estimated by most economists to be driving up oil \$30 a barrel.

And on Thursday, the House will consider legislation that tells Big Oil to either use it or lose it. This bill would bar oil companies from this fictionist red herring of saying they need more land. They have 68 million acres of the public land that they are choosing not to drill on even though oil is under it. These bills deserve and need to have bipartisan support to truly help the American people.

NO MORE EXCUSES

(Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I stand to talk to the American people today. The American people are hurting. Young families are hurting, senior adults are hurting, those that are on fixed incomes are hurting, small businesses are hurting, all because we don't have an energy policy that actually includes energy. Let me tell you about one such person.

Over the weekend I met with a young family. The gentleman's name was Vern Long from Jefferson City, Tennessee. Vern told me he makes \$8 an hour. He has to drive to work to Knoxville, Tennessee. It costs him \$90 a week to drive to work. Vern told me that he may not be able to continue working; he may have to go on welfare, because we don't have an energy policy that has American energy.

This has to stop. It is time for no more excuses. Vern doesn't want to go on welfare. Vern is a United States veteran. He spent time in Iraq. We owe people like Vern Long a better future for he and his family. We need an energy policy that uses American energy now.

No more excuses. It is time for us to pass a policy where we drill for American oil, natural gas, and use clean coal technology. The time is now. No more excuses.

BIG OIL DOES NOT NEED MORE LAND TO LEASE TO DRILL DOMESTICALLY—THEY SHOULD USE IT OR LOSE IT

(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, American families and businesses are indeed reeling from record gas prices, the results of 7 years of missed opportunities and a 19th century energy policy this White House has allowed oil

companies to write. President Bush's policy is only working for one group, the oil companies themselves.

Rather than looking for new solutions, Washington Republicans say that Big Oil needs access to more land and more water so they can drill for more oil. What my friends across the aisle refuse to acknowledge is that 68 million acres of oil reserves on 10,000 separate leases are already acquired by the oil companies for development and are ready for the drill bit to go into the ground. Permitting has been finished, and the oil companies are holding off.

Why are they holding off drilling on these 68 million acres of reserves? If they are really interested in drilling more at home, let's have them do that first before we give them access to the Alaskan Wildlife Refuge or our Atlantic and Pacific coasts. All they need to do is drill is on these 68 million acres they have already acquired. If they don't, I believe they should use it or lose it.

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HIGH GAS PRICES ROUND II

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

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to drive home the fact that the U.S. needs an energy policy now.

In my home State of Alabama, gas prices have risen over 10 cents a gallon in the last 2 weeks. This just can't continue. Not only does this affect how much folks can afford to drive, but it also raises the prices on everyday necessities like food and clothing. Congress needs to act now.

Increased domestic energy exploration is part of the solution, but Congress also must invest heavily in home-grown biofuels and bioenergy.

Imagine pulling up to the service stations of the future, and you can see all sorts of fuels—hydrogen, natural gas, ethanol, and biodiesel. But we won't get there without strong support from Congress now. The same holds true for initiatives like solar and wind power. No one fuel will power our future, but we all know that Congress must do whatever it takes to help get us there now.

So let's act now to make our country energy independent. Let's pass a bill to open ANWR and the Outer Continental Shelf, and let's invest heavily in alternative fuels and new technology to increase efficiency and conservation.

TROOPS AND VETERANS FIRST IN GI BILL

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

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, last weekend marked the 64th anniversary of the signing of the original GI bill by President Franklin Roosevelt, which

honored the service and sacrifice of our World War II veterans and launched millions of families on a course to prosperity.

Last week, this House supported a new GI bill for the 21st century that will provide the same hopes and dreams to our troops fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This bill is long overdue because the current GI bill fails to cover the full cost of a public education. The new GI bill restores the promise of a full 4-year college scholarship for veterans, and at a time when many of our troops are in the midst of multiple redeployments, we must keep our commitment to provide them the very best educational opportunities when their service is completed.

This bill is a promise to our veterans today and tomorrow that their service to this country will continue to be honored.

MOTHER NATURE IS NUMBER ONE OIL POLLUTER

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, the number one polluter of oil off our coast is Mother Nature. Crude oil seeps to the surface, and Mother Nature causes 62 percent of the crude oil pollution off our coast.

So the way we resolve this problem and get even with Mother Nature is we ought to drill where Mother Nature has that oil, take it out from the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico, and use it to take care of America.

But there is a problem with that. We don't drill anywhere except off my native Texas coast, off Louisiana, Mississippi, and part of Alabama. The rest of this, where it is red on this chart, is prohibited.

It is time for Congress to take the handcuffs off of this inaction and allow leasing off these shores.

Now they say that the oil companies have enough leases; why don't they drill there. The problem is when they drill there, they get a dry hole. And common sense says when they get a dry hole, they quit drilling even though they must continue to pay for those leases.

So it is time to let America take care of America. It is time to let our oil go and take care of ourselves, otherwise this red area that we see here will remain off-limits, and it should be drilled for the crude oil to take care of our country.

And that's just the way it is.

NO ROOM FOR RECKLESS TALK

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

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have often said that the terrorists won't check our party registration before they blow us up. Security has been my

focus since coming to Congress seven terms ago. I have served on almost every security committee here, including 8 years on the Intelligence Committee.

Our security policy must not be partisan, and that is why last week's compromise on FISA was so meaningful. And that is why Charlie Black's comments in an upcoming Fortune magazine interview that another terrorist attack on U.S. soil "certainly would be a big advantage" to his candidate and that the Bhutto assassination "helped us" were so outrageous.

Yes, he and Senator McCain have apologized; and they should have. Another attack here or the assassination of a democratic political party leader anywhere harms all of us.

Seven years after 9/11, Osama bin Laden is still at large. The Taliban is resurgent in Afghanistan, and young kids still want to be suicide bombers. These are tough challenges, and there is no room for reckless talk.

OIL EVERYWHERE, NOT A DROP TO DRILL

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, there is an old saying that goes: Water, water everywhere, but not a drop to drink.

Well, what we have in the United States is oil, oil everywhere, and not a drop to drill. That is the slogan of the Congress led by our friends on the other side of the aisle.

If you look at this map, you will see we have made off-limits some of the most potentially productive oil reserves and natural gas reserves not only in this country but in the world. It makes no sense whatsoever.

This week, instead of us addressing the problem this way, our friends on the other side of the aisle are going to bring us sue, sue, sue laws. That is, we are going to not drill our way out of this problem, we are going to sue our way out of the problem. The American people understand that's not the way to get us going.

Let's use American ingenuity, American creativity and technology to safely drill off our shores here in the United States so that we can become energy independent.

As we are coming up close to July 4, let's strike a blow for independence. Let's do something meaningful.

LEFT OVER THE BARREL

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

Mr. OLIVER. Mr. Speaker, the cornerstone of the Bush-McCain plan to lower gas prices is to open every acre of the Outer Continental Shelf between 50 and 200 miles offshore to oil leasing, drilling and production. That plan is a sure-fire failure.

You can bet your house and your children's college education as well that the most promising areas would be leased for long terms at bargain prices, but there is no guarantee that those new leases would be producing a drop of oil even 10 years from now. That's been the history.

The Minerals Management Service estimates 66 billion barrels of oil are recoverable on already-leasable areas of the continental shelf. Sixty-six billion barrels equals 10 years of America's need without any foreign oil at all. Yet less than a quarter of the area actually leased is in production. The oil companies are simply banking their cheap, long-term leases for future higher prices and profits. And we, the Congress and the country, will really be left over the barrel.

EXPLORE AVAILABLE ENERGY RESOURCES

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, let's talk about being put over a barrel of oil. In 2001, a barrel cost \$23. When this majority came in, it was at \$58, and now it is over \$136. The trend line is bad.

I don't understand why we want to limit our ability to explore all the available energy resources. Why not go after the leases we have. Why not open new leases. Why not go in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Here is the OCS, off-limits by our mandate. We did it. The Congress said we can't go on the west coast. The Congress said we can't go on the east coast, and the Congress said we can't go on the east gulf. That is foolish at today's prices.

Let's use America's natural resource of coal. In Illinois alone, we have as much Btu as Saudi Arabia has in oil. Let's encourage coal-to-liquid technologies. Let's use solar and wind, and all of the above energy sources, man-made energy resources with American energy and U.S. jobs.

TITLE IX IS SLAM DUNK

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

Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, a player dunked in a Sunday night basketball game. Most Americans might not think that's news, but when you tell them the player was the WNBA's Candace Parker, only the second woman to dunk in WNBA history, you get a different reaction.

Parker's slam dunk is just one more sign that title IX is a slam dunk. At its core, title IX is a one-sentence law that bans sex discrimination in Federally funded education programs. Title IX tore down the quotas in law and medical schools that would often limit the enrollment of women to 15 per year.

Today, more women than men are attending college. And in law schools,