

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. The price of gasoline has spiked up \$2 since the Democrats took control of the Congress in just January 2007. Americans want Democrats and Republicans to work together to find commonsense solutions to the skyrocketing cost of gasoline.

The United States must become energy self-sufficient. Oil, gas, coal, nuclear, solar, and wind, all of it. To bring down the price of gasoline, we must focus on increasing America's energy supply. Congress needs to act now to increase exploration and boost America's refinery capability.

Americans are ready for action. They want an up-or-down vote on energy independence. A Democrat aide is quoted in *The Hill* newspaper as saying, "Right now, our strategy on gas prices is drive small cars and wait for the wind."

If those are their only ideas, then, as the astronaut said when they were in orbit, Houston, we have a problem.

THIS CONGRESS HAS A RECORD TO BE PROUD OF IN SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS AND VETERANS

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

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, nobody can dispute that this Congress has a record to be proud of in support of our troops and our Nation's veterans. When we learned of the disgraceful treatment of our servicemen and women at Walter Reed, we took immediate action to provide the funding and oversight necessary to hire more case workers and improve the setting and treatment for our brave wounded warriors.

We acted quickly and decisively to provide the largest funding increase in the 78-year history of the VA, and we provided for increased screening and treatment of traumatic brain injury at every VA health care facility in this country.

We modernized and increased the benefits for the GI bill, and we provided additional loans and capital for small business owners who serve our Nation through the Guard and Reserve.

Madam Speaker, this Congress has a record to be proud of in supporting our troops and assisting our Nation's veterans.

CHILDHOOD OBESITY

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

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the serious problem of childhood obesity. Two out of three adults in the United States are overweight. One out of three children are overweight. Childhood obesity rates have tripled since 1980.

We're now seeing children diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and depression.

I approach this subject with a great deal of optimism and hope as someone who has lost 100 pounds over the past year. I have seen firsthand the power of healthy habits. As parents, experts tell us that there are three healthy habits our children should follow every day. First, never skip breakfast; second, play outside 1 hour a day; third, eat five servings of fruits and vegetables every day.

The good news is that no matter what has happened in the past, all of our kids can enjoy healthy and happy lives in the future.

FREE AMERICA'S OIL

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, Americans all over the country want us to do something about gas prices, and every Member in this House wants us to do something about gas prices, too. The Republicans have one strategy. It would bring relief at the pump about 20 years from now, a couple of pennies a gallon. That's their approach.

Democrats have a different approach. We want to free America's oil. We can release oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. We now have 700 million barrels of oil in that. We don't need them. We can drive the price down in the market. We can force the gas companies, the energy companies, as we have tried to do already, to drill on the 68 million acres worth of leases they already own to produce oil.

Finally, we can open up the 23-million-acre Alaskan National Petroleum Reserve area where there are proven oil reserves and where they are eligible for drilling right now. We have the tools at our disposal immediately to drive down gas prices. We ought to take advantage of them.

Free America's oil.

IRAQ URANIUM SHIPMENT NOW IN SAFE HANDS

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, more good news out of Iraq. The AP recently reported that U.S. forces, in cooperation with Iraqi authorities, have just completed a top secret operation that involved shipping 550 metric tons of uranium yellowcake out of Iraq from a cache discovered there. This stockpile of concentrated natural uranium, which is a seed material for higher-grade uranium enrichment, was shipped out of Iraq aboard U.S. cargo planes, then shipped across two oceans, finally arriving in Canada where it will be used by a Canadian firm for nuclear power.

The operation was an important step in ridding Iraq of the last vestiges of Saddam Hussein's one-time nuclear program, and it removed the uranium from the possibility of falling into the hands of insurgents or smugglers crossing into Iran to sell it for use in producing nuclear weapons. This issue certainly has not received much attention in the mainstream press, but it is important news the American people should know.

THE THREE E'S TO GAS RELIEF: EXPLORE, ELIMINATE, AND ENCOURAGE ALTERNATIVES

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

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Good morning, Madam Speaker. And you know, I have been listening to the complaints by the Republicans about gas prices, but with two oil men in the White House, is it any wonder that oil per barrel has gone from \$30 dollars to almost \$150 driving gas prices through the roof? The question is, what are we going to do about it? And I would say it's the three E's.

The first "E" is explore and extract from the 68 million acres that are under lease today in the United States. That's more oil than anything up in Alaska or in ANWR. So let's explore and extract.

The second "E" is to eliminate the gouging and the speculating and the hoarding that's going on in the marketplace.

And the third "E," the most important "E," is encourage alternatives and efficiency. We cannot be hooked to one commodity forever. We've learned our lesson. It's time to pursue alternatives. So this democratic Congress is doing just that, those three E's: exploring, eliminating, and encouraging alternatives.

OPEN UP AMERICAN SOURCES OF OIL SUPPLY

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

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, we hear a lot about energy. I know I do as well. And the one thing that we know is that we're at a refreshing point of clarity in the energy debate. The reason for that is because the Democrat response has now become very clear.

A leadership aide said this week that the Democrat plan is to have the American people drive small cars and wait for the wind. That is one plan. If the Democrats want the American people to drive less and pay more, that's one plan.

Another plan that the Republicans have been pushing is to make sure that we open up Americans sources of supply. Our goal is to see the American people paying \$2 a gallon or less. It's entirely possible. Congress created this

problem, Congress can solve this problem. Open up American sources of supply and fast-track the permitting process, take away the artificial timelines; we can begin drilling immediately, which is what the American people are demanding, and we can get gasoline prices back down to \$2 a gallon or less and get the economy moving.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1286, WASHINGTON-ROCHAMBEAU REVOLUTIONARY ROUTE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL DESIGNATION ACT

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1317 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1317

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1286) to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill modified by the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment, the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except

one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. During consideration in the House of H.R. 1286 pursuant to this resolution, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to such time as may be designated by the Speaker.

□ 1030

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS). All time yielded during the consideration of the rule is for debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 1317.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 1317 provides for consideration of H.R. 1286, the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail Designation Act, under a structured rule.

The rule provides 1 hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources.

The rule makes in order two germane Republican amendments that were submitted for consideration and are printed in the Rules Committee report.

The rule also provides for the adoption of a germane Rules Committee amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report to clarify that the bill does not in any way limit access for hunting, fishing, trapping, or recreational shooting along the trail.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill, except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI.

And, finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Madam Speaker, the bill before us today, H.R. 1286, amends the National Trails System Act to designate the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail.

The trail extends approximately 600 miles, spanning nine States and the District of Columbia, tracing the routes taken by the armies under the command of General George Washington and French Count Rochambeau on their march from Newport, Rhode Island, to face the British forces under General Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia.

After meeting in Philipsburg, New York, the combined armies traveled through New Jersey, Pennsylvania,

Delaware, Maryland, and the future District of Columbia before arriving in Virginia.

With a French fleet blocking the Chesapeake, barring British reinforcements from New York or a sea escape for Cornwallis' troops, the combined Continental and French armies' 3-week siege at Yorktown ended with General Cornwallis' surrender to General Washington on October 19, 1781.

Historians regard the Battle of Yorktown as one of the most decisive events in bringing an end to the American Revolution and the beginning of a new and independent Nation known as America.

H.R. 1286 is the carefully considered result of years of study by the National Park Service, which found that the trail is suitable and feasible for designation as a national historic trail.

I would add that H.R. 1286 includes specific language protecting private property rights, prohibiting the Federal Government from acquiring any land or interest in land without the consent of the owner.

In fact, the Park Service study found that "no Federal acquisition of lands or interests in lands is proposed or anticipated."

H.R. 1286 also states that nothing shall prohibit or hinder the development, conveyance, or transmission of energy along the trail.

Finally, there is a Rules Committee amendment to the bill that would clarify that Federal designation of the trail has no impact on State and local laws governing hunting, fishing, or trapping, or recreational shooting. This language is nearly identical to language that has already overwhelmingly passed the House of Representatives.

I would like to commend Chairman RAHALL and Mr. HINCHEY for bringing this widely supported legislation to the floor today so we can ensure that America's history is protected for future generations.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my good friend from California (Mr. CARDOZA) for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

(Mr. HASTINGS of Washington asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, last week on July 4, our country celebrated its 232nd birthday, and this week the liberal majority in the House of Representatives marks the worst record in our country's entire history when it comes to allowing open debate, following the rules, treating each Member with respect, and acting in an honest way.

When control of the U.S. House changed a year ago last January, Democrat leaders promised, they promised, Madam Speaker, the American people that they would run the most open and honest House in history. They've not