

CONGRESS MUST NOT ADJOURN BEFORE VOTING ON MORE ACCESS TO AMERICAN OIL RESERVES

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, the American people deserve more access to American oil. And now that the President has lifted the ban on offshore drilling, Congress must not adjourn until the American people get a vote on more domestic drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf.

In a day when some in this body say it is their duty to “save the planet,” I prefer the words of Daniel Webster that are chiseled on the wall behind me. He said a century ago, “Let us develop the resources of our land, call forth its powers.” And so I add to my colleagues, let us develop the resources of our land. Let us give the American people more access to American oil.

Americans won’t get a vacation from high gas prices, so Congress should not take a vacation until we vote to lessen our dependence on foreign oil.

Madam Speaker, do not adjourn this Congress until we give the bipartisan, pro-drilling majority a vote on more access to our oil reserves.

THE TRUTH ABOUT OFFSHORE DRILLING

(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. Well, Madam Speaker, now we know the truth, that the television ad that the Republican Presidential candidate is using to impugn the patriotism of his Democratic opponent is a complete fabrication. So I guess we shouldn’t be too surprised when the same camp is trying to convince the American people that offshore oil drilling is going to reduce the price of gas. Sure, it will—in more than a decade, by two to four cents. In fact, the Bush/Cheney administration’s own Energy Information Administration has said that ending the Federal moratorium “is certainly not going to make a difference in the next 10 years.”

In fact, the Big Oil companies already have access to more than 34 billion barrels of offshore oil they’re not even drilling. All it’s going to do is give more profits to these oil companies by being able to have publicly-owned reserves on their balance sheets, increasing the value of the oil shares.

The fact is, though, that lies and half truths say far more about the people uttering them than the people who are targeted by them.

GIVE ARKANSAS WHAT THEY DESERVE: A VOTE ON ENERGY

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, frustration is mounting in the Third District of Arkansas because of the high cost of gasoline. This stack of emails which I have with me is just a small portion of the comments my constituents have sent me. And several of them have offered their own ideas of what needs to be done to resolve this energy dilemma and help increase the American energy supply and provide relief at the pump.

The ideas they’ve proposed are ones we’ve heard before: We need to increase our production of American energy in a clean, efficient way through wind, solar and hydrogen, as well as tapping into the vast majority of natural resources we have available.

I agree with my constituents that we need to use an “all of the above” energy strategy. That’s why I cosponsored the American Energy Act. This encompasses the ideas many of my constituents have been writing me about, increasing our American-made energy supply in an environmentally friendly way, encouraging energy conservation, and promoting renewable and alternative energy technology. We need to act.

WE NEED A BOLD ENERGY POLICY

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

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I appreciate some of my Republican colleagues’ discussion of some alternative energy, but it hasn’t been an “all of the above” voting history for them; it has been a “none of the above” voting history when it comes to the vast sources of energy.

We know America is a bold country, not a timid country. But an energy policy that revolves around exclusively offshore drilling is a timid policy. The large swaths of energy we need are not off the coast, they are in the sunshine falling on our land, the wind blowing in the Midwest, the geothermal below our feet, the wave and tidal power; these are the vast swaths of energy.

Yesterday, right around this building, I drove a plug-in electric hybrid car. That is the future, using electricity driven by the sun. And I wish my Republican colleagues would just take a look at the USA Today newspaper yesterday that talked about the enormous strides being made in solar energy. We need a bold policy that can truly get us out of this pickle. That’s one based on energy sources, not the timidity of the Republican Party.

H. RES. 1206, COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY REFORM PLAN

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

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it was a privilege to travel with Leader

BOEHNER and my fellow Republican colleagues on the American Energy Tour to Colorado and Alaska.

Our mission encompassed the “all of the above” energy policy our constituents have demanded. We’ve expanded our knowledge of renewable and alternative energy in addition to getting the hard facts on domestic exploration and recovery of our natural resources.

After hosting multiple town hall meetings and speaking with constituents throughout my district, it is clear that they, along with the majority of the American public, support the House Republicans’ “all of the above” plan.

This plan calls for nuclear, clean coal technology and a responsible effort to safely explore and recover our domestic natural resources while expanding wind, solar, hydrogen, ethanol and biofuels. This plan is similar to the resolution I introduced on May 15, House Resolution 1206, which is a five-point comprehensive energy reform plan.

We must enact comprehensive energy reform. And until Congress does, our constituents and the economy will continue to suffer.

IRAQIS CALL FOR WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN TROOPS IN 2010

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

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, congressional Democrats have repeatedly urged President Bush to bring our troops home from Iraq honorably, responsibly, safely, and soon.

After rejecting 18 months of attempts by the Democratic majority to adopt redeployment timetables, the President now proposes a vague general time horizon that falls far short of a commitment to ending involvement in Iraq. The Iraq Government was more direct. For the second time this month, Iraqi officials have indicated their support for the withdrawal of U.S. combat forces by the end of 2010.

Maybe these statements served as a wake-up call to the Bush administration. It appears they are finally getting the message that the war in Iraq cannot go on indefinitely. Perhaps President Bush should pass the message along to Senator MCCAIN, who continues to believe that our commitment in Iraq will last 50 to 100 years.

Madam Speaker, we need a new direction in Iraq that allows our troops to come home and allows us to focus on the war on terrorism in Afghanistan and around the world.

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RED BIRCH CANOLA BIODIESEL PROJECT

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

Mr. GOODE. Madam Speaker, high energy prices are a top concern of farmers, small businesses, and citizens across the Fifth District of Virginia. I wish the House would consider a comprehensive measure like the American Energy Act to increase the supply of American-made energy, improve conservation, and promote renewable and alternative energy technologies such as Red Birch Energy's Canola Biodiesel Project in Bassett Forks, Virginia.

Red Birch Energy converts the oil from crushed canola seeds grown by local farmers into a clean-burning, efficient biodiesel fuel that is less efficient than ordinary diesel fuel. Canola provides a great seed for biodiesel production, since the seed's 44 percent oil content is higher than that of soybeans and corn, yet not affecting food prices. The grand opening of their impressive new facility is scheduled for August 25.

I commend Red Birch Energy for their efforts to develop a clean alternative fuel that reduces America's dependence.

WELCOMING MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT FROM INDONESIA, KENYA, MACEDONIA, AND UKRAINE

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

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Here in the gallery today are 23 members of Parliament from Indonesia, Kenya, Macedonia, and Ukraine. They are visiting the House of Representatives this week as guests of the House Democracy Assistance Commission. HDAC, chaired by Representative DAVID PRICE, partners with legislative bodies in 12 countries. They are each moving steadily towards democratic governance. The four countries represented here today are among the most promising participants in this important congressional initiative.

The MPs, many of whom are committee chairs, will work directly with Members of Congress to learn how we conduct committee business in the U.S. House. They will take this information back to their respective legislatures and use these concepts and procedures to strengthen their legislative process and, as a result, strengthen their democracy.

I ask that the House give these distinguished guests a warm welcome and offer our strong encouragement for the work that we are doing together. By building relationships with our fellow parliamentarians in emerging democracies and sharing their aspirations for their future, we can promote the safety and security of our own Nation and encourage stability around the world.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. TAUSCHER). Members are reminded to refrain from referring to people in the gallery.

GUILELESS MAN—A COMMITTED DEFENDER OF TRUTH

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

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Archbishop Raymond Burke who, for the last 4 years, has served as the head of the archdiocese in St. Louis. Recently, Archbishop Burke was appointed to the position of the Prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura in Rome.

During his short tenure in St. Louis, Archbishop Burke helped to revitalize the Catholic community. Under his leadership, the seminary has continued to flourish with respect to the enrollment of the archdiocesan seminarians. I have no doubt that any man with Archbishop Burke's firm convictions and leadership capabilities will flourish wherever he goes.

I congratulate Archbishop Burke on his recent appointment to the position of the Prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura. It's my hope that St. Louis will always be a place he can call home.

Those of us who know him personally know him as a guileless man and a committed defender of truth. Very best wishes, Archbishop Burke, in your new position.

HOUSE DEMOCRATS PROTECT CHILDREN AND CONSUMERS WITH NEW LEGISLATION SCHEDULED FOR TODAY

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

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, the Consumers Union dubbed 2007 the Year of the Recall. This year, product recalls are happening at an even swifter rate. After dangerous toys led to injuries and deaths, the Democratic Congress worked hard to protect our children and families.

This week, will be bringing a final bill to the floor that will strengthen the Consumer Product Safety Commission and ensure that families are protected from dangerous toys. The legislation bans lead beyond small amounts in products intended for children under the age of 12 and prohibits the use of dangerous materials in children's toys.

The bill bans industry-sponsored travel by the Consumer Safety Commissioners and staff in order to eliminate any conflicts of interest. It also provides a significant budget increase for the CPSC so that it has the resources to test more toys. No longer will there only be one tester per toy.

Madam Speaker, let's protect our children today by once again passing legislation with strong bipartisan support.

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY TO COE HAMLING

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor a dear friend and a special American on the occasion of his 90th birthday. Worthy Coe Hamling was born on August 5, 1918, on the plains of South Dakota. Armed with nothing more than the dogged determination, rugged individualism, and an unbending family loyalty, forged by a birth attended only by his mother and God, Coe embodies the greatest qualities of America.

It was at Hamlin University in Minnesota where he met his loving wife of 66 years, Betty. His embrace of freedom, family, and the sanctity of every human being is balanced by his unyielding sense of responsibility and self-reliance.

Living in Roswell, Georgia, Coe proudly anchors a family of five children, ten grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I know the entire House of Representatives joins me in extending a hearty, happy 90th birthday to Coe Hamling, an American treasure.

DEMOCRATS CONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOWER PRICES AT THE PUMP

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

Mr. PALLONE. While Americans suffer pain at the pump, Republicans and President Bush insist on the same old energy policies that put us on this dangerous path to record high gas prices. Instead of looking towards the past, Democrats have been exploring both immediate and long-term solutions to America's energy crisis.

To help consumers suffering right now, this House has passed legislation cracking down on price fixing and price gouging by retailers. We also forced the President to suspend sending oil to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. This week, House Democrats will bring a bill to the floor that will end rampant speculation that is driving up gas prices by closing the Enron loophole. These are all solutions that should help lower prices today.

But we have also passed landmark legislation that will lead to more efficient vehicles when we enacted the first new vehicle fuel efficiency standards in 32 years. These new standards will help drivers with up to \$1,000 a year in gas when it's fully enacted.

Madam Speaker, House Democrats are proposing both short- and long-term solutions to high gas prices, and it's time for congressional Republicans to join us in our efforts.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair