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COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PLAN

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, there is a real difference between the Democratic and Republican plans when it comes to energy. The comprehensive Democratic plan is an American-owned, 21st-century energy plan, and the Republican plan is not.

The Democratic plan lowers prices for consumers and protects taxpayers, expands renewable sources of energy, and increases our security by freeing America from the grip of foreign oil. Perhaps this is the problem with the objection to the Democratic plan: it requires Big Oil to pay what it owes taxpayers. It ends subsidies to Big Oil companies. Maybe some people don't like that. And it creates good-paying jobs here in America.

The Republican bill is more of the same old Bush-CHENEY, two oilmen in the White House energy policy written by and for the oil companies. It is time to end that policy.

ENERGY BILL WITH NO ENERGY

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

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, this is an extremely disappointing day for me, and I assume for America. Today is the day when we finally have an energy bill, except it doesn't have energy in it. And America wants us to work together, the Republicans and Democrats to work together, so that we have a comprehensive American energy plan that makes us independent of foreign oil where we can have price stability.

But unfortunately, as Republicans repeatedly reached out to the Democrat leadership to be involved in this process, we were totally shut out. The only negotiations occurred within the Speaker's office, and no Republican was allowed. We didn't even see the bill until late last night. This is not a true energy bill. If she would have included some of us, we could have made this hoax of a bill a lot better for the American public.

For example, they say that they open up 12 percent of the resources, but then put conditions on it that really can't be met. So even that 12 percent of the coastal waters are not going to be opened up while they pass a permanent moratorium on 88 percent.

This is a hoax, and America needs to see it for what it is.

COMPREHENSIVE AMERICAN ENERGY

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, there are real differences when we talk about the Democratic and Repub-

lican energy plan. We are talking about expanding renewable sources of energy, and we are talking about creating good-paying jobs here in the great United States of America.

Since January alone, 90,000 Americans lost their jobs; 16,000 of those Americans were from the great Hoosier State of Indiana. The Center for American Progress just released a report saying if we invest \$100 billion into a comprehensive plan, we will be able to create 2 million green jobs in 2 years. We have already spent trillions of dollars in Iraq. We can invest \$100 billion in a comprehensive plan that can employ Americans. Eighty percent of Hoosiers are without college degrees; 70 percent of Americans are without college degrees. This is an opportunity to help Americans pull themselves out of poverty by investing in the green movement.

ENERGY PROPOSALS

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

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, today we have a stark contrast between the Republican approach to solving the energy crisis in our country and the liberal Democrat and the radical environmentalist approach to solving the energy crisis in our country.

We are going to look at two different pieces of legislation, the American Energy Act written by Republicans and some of our friends on the Democratic side, and the Democrats and radical environmentalist no-energy plan that we will have to vote on today.

Because it might not be easy to see this chart, I am going to go down this chart.

Real offshore exploration for new energy: Republicans say yes; Democrats say no.

Renewable energy without raising your taxes: Republicans say yes, Democrats say no.

Real oil shale exploration to find new energy: Republicans say yes; Democrats say no.

Drilling off the Arctic coastal plain: Republicans say yes; Democrats say no.

Emission-free nuclear energy to help us find new electricity and power: Republicans say yes; Democrats say no.

Clean coal technology: Republicans say yes; Democrats say no.

Increasing our refinery capacity in our country: Republicans say yes; Democrats say no.

The Democratic energy plan is a sham. Vote it down.

DEMOCRATS PROVIDE RELIEF AT THE PUMP

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, when it comes to gas prices, Republicans don't have a record to be proud of. For 8

years, Washington Republicans have favored profits for Big Oil while America is paying record prices at the pump.

House Democrats know this country needs comprehensive energy legislation to bring down gas prices and invest in the energy sources of the future.

This week we will vote on comprehensive legislation that invests in renewable energy sources and responsibly increases domestic supply by opening portions of the Outer Continental Shelf for drilling.

In New Jersey, we want this energy package which will provide real relief for consumers at the pump, help end our dependence on foreign oil, create millions of new jobs, and help transition America to a cleaner, renewable energy future.

Mr. Speaker, just talking about an all-of-the-above plan won't help consumers who are pumping hundreds of dollars into their gas tanks every day. We need to pass a Democratic all-of-the-above plan that will help us solve our energy problems.

AMERICA HAS TO HAVE OWN RESOURCES

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

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, the American people know who the Republicans are. We are the party that for decades the Democrats, backed by the radical left, have accused of wanting to do nuclear power. We are the party that for decades the environmental movement has fought because we wanted to drill for oil and natural gas in America.

Mr. Speaker, we are the party that has this energy bill that is not being considered, while your party, headed by NICK RAHALL, GENE GREEN, GEORGE MILLER, and JOHN DINGELL, is claiming to have a bipartisan bill that is yours which does nothing.

Mr. Speaker, there is no Republican in your bipartisan. That is a new definition even for this Democrat Congress.

Mr. Speaker, back in 1998 I called for our California coast to be opened for exploration so we would have a strategic reserve we could tap in time of need. Guess what, BARBARA BOXER and the radical left attacked me. I lost that election. I haven't changed my position since then; I never will. America has to have its own resources. We are the party that you know has wanted to do that, and you are the party that has been blocking it.

RELIEF AT THE PUMP

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

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, it really troubles me that the United States is borrowing money from China to buy oil from Saudi Arabia to put in cars from Japan.

We have been working hard to pass legislation that will bring down prices at the pump and help America end its dependence on foreign oil.

We signed into law the first vehicle fuel efficiency standards in three decades which will save drivers approximately \$1,000 a year. We passed an historic commitment to American biofuels which are keeping gas prices 15 percent lower than they would be otherwise. And House Democrats pressured Mr. Bush to stop sending oil to the government reserve, which put more oil on the market to fight rising gas prices.

This Democratic-led Congress has also passed legislation to curb excess speculation to prevent price gouging and to expand tax incentives for renewable energy.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for us to stop being partisan and try to move toward progress.

ENERGY PLAN

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

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, America is the greatest Nation in history with the greatest economy in history, a \$14 trillion annual economy. To remain the number one economy, we need a real energy plan, not a sham. To help families across this country, we need a real energy plan, not a sham.

Here is the Democrat plan: no real offshore drilling; no drilling in ANWR; no nuclear power; no lawsuit abuse reform; no revenue sharing with the States. But you know what is in the plan, tax increases. Think about that. At a time when we want our economy to grow, they are raising taxes. At a time when we need more oil, they are going to tax the very people who produce the oil.

This is a terrible plan. It doesn't help our economy stay number one. It won't help American families, and that is why we should vote "no" on the Democrat plan and support the Republican plan that does the right things for our country.

MCCAIN NOT AN EXPERT ON ECONOMY

(Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week it was difficult to tell President Bush and Senator McCain apart. On the day when the stock markets fell 500 points, President Bush described it as nothing more than an "adjustment," while Senator McCain declared the "fundamentals of our economy are strong."

Are President Bush and Senator McCain serious, or are they out of touch? What about the millions of Americans who have lost their jobs and are having trouble finding a new one simply because the Bush-McCain econ-

omy has shed 600,000 more jobs this year than they have created? What about middle class families who are worse off today than they were 8 years ago? They have seen their real wages fall over 8 years by \$300.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to economic issues, there is no difference between President Bush, Senator McCain, and former President Herbert Hoover.

AMERICA UNDERSTANDS WE ARE NOT DEVELOPING AMERICAN ENERGY

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

Mr. AKIN. America by this time understands that we have not been developing American energy. There are three things required to develop American energy. First, you have to have natural resources. America is blessed with a great supply and diversity of natural resources.

The second thing you have to have to develop American energy is the technology to be able to develop energy in a scientific and an environmentally friendly way. We are very clever with our technology. We have that in America.

And the third thing that you need is political will, the desire to develop American energy; and in that regard this Congress has failed. The Pelosi Congress refuses to put the gears in motion and take action.

Now, I can understand if you like \$4 a gallon gasoline, you prefer to see it go to \$6, that is a political policy. If that is what the Democrats want to do, if that is what PELOSI wants, fine.

But what we have on the floor today is a sham. It pretends to be an energy bill and pretends to say it is going to drill, and it doesn't. It has nothing in there for clean nuclear and nothing to allow real drilling in Alaska. We have 748 sites to drill, every one blocked by a lawsuit. There is no reform in this bill. This is a sham.

AMERICA DESERVES BETTER

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

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, every day on the floor and across America today, we are hearing people talk about being bipartisan. They come to the floor when they have drafted a bill improperly or they have ethics charges against them, and they plead with us with tears almost that we need to be bipartisan.

But when it comes to one of the most significant issues facing America today, energy, they don't want to be bipartisan.

Mr. Speaker, it is one thing to cut the microphone and the lights off against Republicans; but what this bill does is cut it off against scientists and

engineers and analysts who will never have an opportunity to analyze this bill and tell America what it does because it was filed last night and we will vote on it today.

When they do, this is what they are going to tell Virginians. They are going to tell Virginians that it pulled away the revenues that they could have gotten from oil drilling. They will tell Virginians that it has increased their electricity bills enormously, and it puts \$18 billion more taxes across America.

But that is okay because off the camera they are going to put their arm around us and say don't worry about it because this bill will never become law because it is just designed to give us cover in the election.

Mr. Speaker, America deserves better.

DEMOCRATS ARE TIRED OF THINKING

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

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, finally a Democrat bill.

Will Rogers once said a conclusion is a place where you finally got tired of thinking. It looks like the Democrat leadership has gotten tired of thinking.

They just got back from a 5-week vacation, while gas prices prevented many of their constituents from taking a vacation. I joined my Republican colleagues here in Washington, D.C. We were here every day of the week during those days with no lights, no cameras, no microphone, and no Democrats.

Last week, the first week we were back, we worked just 3 days, just 3 days, and they did not give us an energy bill.

I come from the energy State of Montana. We have oil, gas, coal, wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, and ethanol. We are part of the solution. But the Democrats are standing in our way.

Allow us an opportunity to drill for oil and dig our coal. It is time we pass a bill. After 5 weeks of vacation, another week of no energy votes, they finally come up with a 290-page energy bill that doesn't create any energy. We can only conclude the Democrats are tired of thinking.

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COMPREHENSIVE ALL-OF-THE-ABOVE ENERGY PLAN

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

Mr. KLINE of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, for 5 weeks, all during the month of August and September, Republicans were on the floor of this House with the microphones off and the cameras off demanding a comprehensive all-of-the-above energy plan. We were demanding that we have open debate and