

jobs and the economy. I'm proud of the work that Congress has done to bolster the economy and create new jobs across our country. In Ohio, we continue to see new funds awarded and released every week. Communities across the State and my district have been positively impacted by these funds. To date, over \$225 million of recovery funds have been announced to counties I represent along the Ohio River, ranging from improvements in technology investments to education funding, substantial things for our future.

Just last week, \$75 million in recovery money was announced in Ohio. These funds include \$8.6 million for water projects in 10 of my 12 counties. That investment represents jobs for our workers and clean water for our residents. I'm proud to work for the results that these investments have accomplished. With more than half the money to be spent, I look forward to more of these improvements throughout the State of Ohio as we put America back to work.

HONORING MIAMI-DADE POLICE DIRECTOR ROBERT PARKER

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I rise today to extend my sincere thanks to a distinguished south Floridian and a faithful public servant, Miami-Dade Police Director Robert "Bobby" Parker. After 33 years of serving our community, it is truly with great sadness that we see such a fine and dedicated police officer retiring.

In 2004, Bobby's long and successful career with the Miami-Dade Police Department culminated in the directorship of the department. Under his leadership, the department saw the implementation of unique and cutting-edge programs such as the Mortgage Fraud Task Force and the Gun Bounty Program. Bobby's foresight and hard work have consistently had a profound and positive impact on all of south Florida. He has always made his greatest efforts for the benefit of others and will be greatly missed by both the department and our community.

It is with pleasure that I join Bobby's family, friends, and peers as they honor the many accomplishments of his outstanding career. Bobby's lasting legacy will certainly be inspiring to countless officers to match his selflessness and performance.

I thank my good friend, Miami-Dade Police Director Bobby Parker, for all that he has done for our community in south Florida, and I truly wish him all the best in his years to come.

BRINGING A STRONG JOBS BILL

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

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, since our economy bottomed out in

late winter and Democrats took bold and decisive action, the stock market has risen 4,000 points and America experienced its first positive GDP growth in 15 months. But more can be done and more must be done.

So as we recover from one of the most severe recessions in our Nation's history, Democrats will focus on helping Americans on Main Street, not Wall Street. We will build upon the momentum we have created for positive growth in our economy and bring to the House floor strong legislation to create jobs. American families are depending on their leaders to focus their attention on job creation and make the difficult decisions necessary to curb employment and begin growing our job force once again. Americans expect nothing less, and House Democrats are committed to bringing to the floor a strong jobs bill and work to turn around our Nation's economy.

HONORING KEVIN LEE MITCHEM OF MATHEWS COUNTY, VIRGINIA

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

Mr. WITTMAN. I rise today to pay tribute to Kevin Lee Mitchem. Kevin Mitchem was a proud Mathews County resident and a fervent supporter of public education, and he was committed to lending his time and knowledge to youth in the community. Kevin was a devoted husband to his beloved wife, Sara, and a dedicated father to their two children, Rachel and Daniel. As the owner of Mitchem Seafood, Kevin was a staunch supporter of watermen and the seafood industry.

At the time of his passing, Kevin Mitchem was the chairman of the Mathews County Board of Supervisors, and prior to the chairmanship he served for 12 years as a board member. Additionally, he served on the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission.

Kevin was deeply involved in his community and dedicated much of his time and effort to serve the residents of Mathews County. Kevin Lee Mitchem was a true friend to all who knew him and will be greatly missed. He touched many people's lives and the work that he did for his community will never be forgotten. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

JOBS SUMMIT

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

Mr. BACA. Recently, a single parent in my district called my office for help. He lost his good-paying job and the health benefits that went with it. Sadly, he is not alone in this problem. More Americans than ever before are losing their jobs, their livelihood, and their homes. In California, the unemployment rate is 12 percent. In my area, the Inland Empire, unemploy-

ment is a staggering 14 percent. We continue to have one of the highest rates of foreclosure in the Nation. The hardworking men and women in my district and throughout the Nation deserve a good-paying job; quality, affordable health care; enough food to put on the table; and a good quality of life.

I commend President Obama for hosting a jobs forum. We need to create jobs so that people can put food on the table and keep their homes and live the American Dream. Instead of pointing fingers and calling names, this is a time when we all need to be working together to find real solutions in creating jobs for the American people right here in the United States and not outsourcing those jobs outside of here.

For my part, I will host a jobs summit to hear from the private industry, nonprofit organizations, and labor organization and educators.

DISPELLING HEALTH CARE MISINFORMATION

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

Mr. GOHMERT. I need to dispel some of the misinformation that's been put out about the health care bill that we passed in this House. For one thing, some have said, Well, States require you to have insurance on your car, so of course we can mandate that people buy health insurance. The bill we passed is not going to provide health insurance. It's going to mandate—it does mandate—that you buy it, and if you don't, if you're above the poverty line, it won't be provided. In fact, you have an extra income tax if you don't buy the Cadillac insurance the government mandates.

If you want to know about the comparison, first of all, to States requiring car insurance, not one single State in the country requires that a car—your own car—be insured. They require that you buy insurance to ensure against hurting another car or damaging another car. This is a whole different thing. We're mandating that you buy insurance on your own car, your own vehicle, your own body. And that's not constitutional.

WIDER WAR NOT A PATH TO PEACE AND SECURITY

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, I agree with so much of what President Obama said last night, but not so much what he would do. The path to peace and security will not be found through a wider war. Troop escalation by 40 percent, then de-escalation, all within 18 months, is totally unrealistic. We have been fighting in Afghanistan on the installment plan: a few more troops, a few more months, and many more billions. 2011 will not mark the

end of this war. It will just mark the beginning of the next installment in what is a deteriorating 8-year war whose elusive end is always just over the horizon.

The better exit strategy is to have fewer troops. With some allies already preparing to depart as we expand, most of the blood spilt will remain American. We should honor the sacrifice of those courageously serving by putting fewer of them in harm's way. It shouldn't take 100,000 Americans to defeat 100 al Qaeda. All this effort props up a corrupt Karzai government that just stole over a million votes. Afghanistan can consume as many lives and as many dollars as we're willing to expend there, and leave our families no safer.

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STIMULATING OUR ECONOMY THROUGH ANOTHER JOBS BILL

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

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, to form a government requires positive steps, and it is much less about what one is against than about what one is for. Who can forget that sense of free-fall in our economy last fall when we weren't sure, those of us who had money in money market accounts, that we were going to get 100 pennies back on the dollar that we put into a bank. Who could forget the sense of free-fall in March or April when it wasn't clear where our economy was ever going to go?

But this Congress and the administration stepped up to the plate. We passed a stimulus bill that cushioned the loss of jobs and is beginning to bring jobs back. More than half the Recovery Act money is still going to be spent into our economy. We passed a new unemployment extension benefit that will take effect and cushion the blow for working families.

But American families that have lost their jobs know that we need to do more, and we are going to do more. In contrast, Republicans have offered nothing. They voted "no" on creating jobs. We are going to say "yes," and we're going to pass another jobs bill and stimulate our economy.

ENFORCE TRADE LAWS TO SAVE JOBS

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

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Madam Speaker, many hardworking Americans are losing their jobs because of this recession. We must use every tool in our arsenal to help stop the loss of jobs and put Americans back to work.

Yesterday, I testified in front of the International Trade Commission, urging them to strictly enforce our anti-dumping and countervailing duty laws

to protect American workers against unfair subsidies of steel tube products from China.

My constituents depend upon the ITC to enforce our laws and ensure that our trade partners play fair. As we look for more ways to create and save jobs, it is imperative that both the Congress and the Federal Government remain vigilant in our enforcement of our strong trade policies. We cannot allow any foreign producer to have an unfair advantage over U.S. workers. We owe it to our constituents to protect their jobs and enforce the laws that we have on the books.

CREATE JOBS BY CUTTING TAXES

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I get a big kick out of my Democrat colleagues, for whom I have the highest respect. They're talking about how they're going to come up with a jobs bill. They've increased the debt this year by \$1.4 trillion. They're pushing through a health care bill, trying to ram it through, that's going to cost \$1 trillion to \$3 trillion. They're trying to push through a cap-and-trade bill that's going to cost millions of jobs. And now, because they're worried about whether they're going to get reelected or not, they're coming down here and saying that they're going to come up with another jobs bill.

What that means is another stimulus bill. The first stimulus bill did not work. It cost over \$1 trillion when you include interest, and now they're going to do it again. The way to create jobs is to take the heavy weight off the back of the American people by cutting their taxes and cutting business taxes like John F. Kennedy did and like Ronald Reagan did. If you do that, you'll start seeing economic recovery—but not by blowing more money.

THE STIMULUS PLAN IS WORKING

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, despite mountains of evidence to the contrary, our Republican friends persist in saying "Bah, humbug" whenever you talk about the stimulus effect. In fact, my constituent, Senator MITCH MCCONNELL, yesterday on the Senate floor called the Recovery Act a failure.

Well, obviously he has been too busy obstructing the work of the Congress to go home and see what's happening in his own community, because he ought to tell the people at GE's Appliance Park that it's a failure when 400 new jobs are coming back from China because of stimulus money; or the hundreds of people who are now working on renovating our interstate system, \$30 million worth of work, courtesy of the American Recovery Act; or the 80

people who will be employed at the new maintenance center; or the 150 teachers who are still in the classrooms in Jefferson County Public Schools because of Recovery Act dollars.

Yes, we have plenty of work to do. There are too many people that are out of work, and we are committed to doing that, instead of saying, Bah, humbug, no, no, we won't do anything. That's the message we're getting from the other side, but we will continue to work for the American people.

NATIONAL EPILEPSY AWARENESS

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, there is a condition in this country that affects more than 3 million people and sees 200,000 new cases every year; 25 percent are children. It's epilepsy. It's the third most common neurological disorder after Alzheimer's and stroke. The cause is unknown in two-thirds of epilepsy cases. It can develop at any age. It can be a result of genetics, stroke, head injury, and other factors.

Earlier this year, I met a spirited 9-year-old from my district. Since the age of 7, Chad has been living with epilepsy and faces daunting challenges in school because of various misconceptions. Despite major progress in diagnosis and treatment, epilepsy is often misunderstood and overlooked. Contrary to belief, it is not contagious. Some believe epilepsy is curable with medication or treatment when, in fact, over 30 percent of patients suffer uncontrollable seizures despite treatment.

This is why raising awareness is so important. It will dispel myths and empower millions affected by this condition. I urge my colleagues to support further research, awareness, and education as we work together to find a cure for epilepsy.

A NATIONAL HOME RETROFIT PROGRAM WILL CREATE JOBS NOW

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

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, America faces two very serious challenges today. The first is an economy that continues to struggle. Too many Americans who want to work are out of work. The second is an energy policy that is failing. It's not clean, it's not sustainable, and it's not affordable. We can address the jobs issue by taking on the challenge of a clean energy economy. We can create jobs. We can save homeowners money on their energy bills, and we can reduce our contribution to climate change. We can do that by investing in a national energy efficiency retrofit program.