

1,000 Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) deterrent patrols.

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 105 (adopted April 13, 1989), as amended by S. Res. 149 (adopted October 5, 1993), as amended by Public Law 105-275 (adopted October 21, 1998), further amended by S. Res. 75 (adopted March 25, 1999), amended by S. Res. 383 (adopted October 27, 2000), and amended by S. Res. 355 (adopted November 13, 2002), and further amended by S. Res. 480 (adopted November 21, 2004), the Chair announces, on behalf of the Majority Leader, the appointment of the following Senators as members of the Senate National Security Working Group for the One Hundred Eleventh Congress:

The Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) as Democratic Co-Chairman.

The Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) as Democratic Co-Chairman.

The Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) as Democratic Co-Chairman.

The Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN).

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN).

The Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN).

The Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) as Majority Administrative Co-Chairman.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS

(Mrs. CAPPs asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAPPs. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak to the need for raising awareness about deep vein thrombosis, commonly known as DVT. Two million Americans are affected by DVT every year. That is more than breast cancer and AIDS combined.

However, many Americans are not aware of what DVT is, or how to recognize its signs and symptoms. We may see people wearing pressure stockings following surgery or on long plane flights.

The tragic loss of our former colleague, Congresswoman Jennifer Dunn, to DVT demonstrates how close to home this disease can be for all of us. Not only is DVT killing too many Americans every year, it is also taking a toll on our Nation's hospital systems, costing approximately \$860 million annually.

That is why I am so proud to join with my colleague, Representative CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS, in introducing a resolution recognizing Deep Vein Thrombosis Awareness Month and National DVT Screening Day. I hope

we can count on all of our colleagues to join us in supporting this resolution and in raising awareness about this disease.

OBAMA BUDGET

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I returned to Washington yesterday from my weekly visit home, and had the privilege of spending time with many of my constituents. They asked that I carry back a message to Washington, a simple message: stop the spending binge.

Right now families across the country are hurting. Many have lost their jobs, and many more worry they will be next. Families are tightening their budgets and small businesses are cutting expenses. The American people are making the sacrifices necessary to weather this storm. And yet they hear on their local news that it is business as usual in Washington. It is more spending and more taxes from the Democrat Congress and from President Obama, who promised a new direction.

The people in my district know we cannot borrow and spend our way back to a healthy economy. Let's follow the example set by the American people. Let's make the tough choices that are necessary to get our economy back on track. Let's start putting fiscal restraint and the American people first.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today and know that this Congress has started tackling the issue of health care reform in a real, meaningful way. Already this Congress has passed legislation that will provide health insurance to millions of uninsured children, bring health care into the 21st century with new health information technology, and start us on the path of providing high-quality care at a lower cost.

My home State of Minnesota has been a leader in this. In my district, the Mayo Clinic, in particular, is a renowned medical institution that has always been at the forefront of efforts to reform and improve health care. They helped pioneer the use of electronic medical records. Electronic medical records reduce the time patients spend in waiting rooms filling out forms, and they also let doctors access a patient's history immediately, reducing errors. They cut down on administrative costs, saving our entire system billions of dollars. In addition to leading the way on medical technology, Mayo has been a leader in providing high-quality care.

As we move forward on health care reform, we need to acknowledge our current rewards quantity over quality. We can look to Mayo, which has been

lauded for its ability to produce the highest quality outcomes at the lowest possible cost.

I am proud to represent my district, and I think we can lead the way to meaningful reform.

DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS

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

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of a good friend, a mentor, and someone who proudly represented the great State of Washington, former Representative Jennifer Dunn. She tragically died of a pulmonary embolism in 2007.

Today, my colleague and I, Congresswoman LOIS CAPPs, are introducing a resolution marking the second Tuesday in March as the National DVT Screening Day. It is appropriate that we do so because deep vein thrombosis is killing about 300,000 people in the U.S. today. It is common, but preventable. It is time to make screening a health priority, and urge health care providers and patients to be aware of this silent killer.

Jennifer had an unwavering commitment to women and families in America and around the world. Let us remember her and others as we recognize the risks and treatment for DVT.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, last month the Department of Homeland Security reported that over 100,000 parents of U.S. born children were deported between 1998 and 2007. And the Homeland Security inspector stated that these figures are incomplete because the agency does not keep track of how many children each parent has.

This past Saturday, I hosted an event in my district for families to come and share their stories about how they have been impacted by the broken immigration system. The audience on several occasions had to hold back their tears as they heard the stories of how families, like the Serrano family from Bloomington, California, have been separated from their parents.

Children like those in the Serrano family are the real victims of this outdated immigration system that separates families.

As Speaker PELOSI said this morning at a meeting with Latino leaders, "We must immediately end raids that separate families."

I urge my colleagues in the House and the Senate and President Obama to work with CHC toward comprehensive immigration reform.

OIL AND GAS LEASE SALES

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, the Interior Department is going forward with the oil and gas production lease sale in the central Gulf of Mexico. I welcome the Interior Secretary to my home State of Louisiana this March.

While visiting our great State, I would like to remind Secretary Salazar that although it is a positive gesture to move forward with this lease sale, the benefit of these leases will greatly be diminished under tax hikes—that is removal of exploratory incentives that are included in this administration's budget proposal.

This \$30 billion tax increase could devastate an industry that directly and indirectly employs over 300,000 Louisianans. This tax increase will wreak havoc on small independent producers and third-party services. It will also continue to perpetuate the cycle of high fuel prices and our addiction to foreign sources of energy who want to see our democracy fail.

In short, this proposed budget does nothing to solve our energy needs. If anything, it will lead to more cost and massive job loss for many Americans, especially in Louisiana, who are suffering in this economic recession.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, we have had a change in America. We have gone from a previous President who for 8 years didn't believe in regulation and believed in tax cuts, which led us to the greatest economic crisis which we have faced in this country in 76 years, to a President who believes in regulation and believes in stimulating the economy.

There are two ways you can help get the economy moving. One is monetary policy and the other is fiscal. Right now the only way we can do it is fiscal because monetary has gone down to about zero. We have done all we can do with monetary. So the stimulus package, the Recovery Reinvestment Act, is what America needs. Some would suggest we haven't done enough. Mr. Krugman suggests that. I tend to agree with him. But the fact is we can only get three Republican votes in the Senate, one vote more than we needed for the bill in the Senate, so you get what you can get from the Senate.

I support my President because he has a policy and a program that will get us out of this recession and move America forward to being the great national and international leader that we need to be in the 21st century, and we can only do that by supporting our President with a stimulus package.

CARD CHECK

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, there is an effort underway in Washington to take away the right of the secret ballot vote from American workers.

Colleagues on the other side of the aisle will introduce today a bill misnamed Employee Free Choice Act, also called the Card Check bill.

This is a bill that would allow for the establishment of a union not by secret ballot vote, but simply if the majority of employees at a company sign a card lending their support. This process, called "card check," opens employees up to coercion and intimidation.

The secret ballot is a fundamental principle of American democracy. If individuals want to join a union, they are entitled to that right. They can show their support with their vote. But if workers do not want to pay union dollars to be used to advance a political agenda they disagree with, they should also be afforded the same right, to cast their vote free of coercion and intimidation in a secret ballot election.

Card check is an assault on the principles of our Nation and would be a job killer during a time when we cannot afford to lose more jobs.

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LIFTING THE BAN ON STEM CELL RESEARCH

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud President Obama's executive order lifting the ban on Federal funding of embryonic stem cell research.

I join scientists across the country, especially researchers at the University of Louisville, who are excited about the opportunities that expanded research presents.

But as we all know, there is another dimension to this issue, and it involves moral questions about the use of discarded embryos for scientific purposes. I fully respect the views of those who raise moral objections to embryonic stem cell research; their convictions are just as valid and unassailable as the scientific arguments made about the potential of stem cell research. On the other side, however, are equally valid and, to my mind, unassailable moral arguments that support President Obama's decision this week. They are analogous to the arguments made in support of organ donation and transplantation. Here, human material that has the potential to save life is not being squandered.

Like those who raise moral objections to stem cell research, I would have problems with the production of embryos for scientific purposes, but to me, the destruction of embryos that can be used to advance science in the

service of life raises similar moral problems.

I congratulate President Obama on his action.

VETERANS PASS ACT

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

Mr. REHBERG. Here in Washington, D.C., we are always reminded that freedom isn't free. Whether it's the self-reflective Vietnam War Memorial or the solemn Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, the freedom we Americans enjoy today was paid for by the blood and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform.

While our veterans have paid this price with their sacrifices, there is another price they must pay which we can now alleviate. I have introduced the Veterans Pass Act, which will provide veterans an annual National Parks and Federal Lands pass at a sharp discount of \$10, down from the normal cost of \$80. I encourage my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this legislation.

The majestic beauty of our Nation's national parks are just as fitting a monument to the sacrifices of our soldiers as is a monument made of marble. We should make visiting these living monuments easier for our veterans. Please join me in cosponsoring the Veterans Pass Act.

HEALTH CARE

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

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, health care reform is an essential component to our Nation's economic recovery. The expansion and reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program that was passed by this Congress and signed into law by President Obama expands health insurance to an additional 4 million children, covering 11 million children in all, including dental coverage and mental health parity.

The \$20 billion investment that we have made in health information technology in our Recovery and Reinvestment Act will modernize the health care system, saving money, reducing medical errors, improving quality, and creating health care jobs across all sectors.

The recovery package's \$87 billion in funding to the State Medicaid programs is a significant boost to our State's economy in Maryland. It is a budget gap filler for our State.

And finally, the President's budget, with an over \$630 billion down payment, prioritizes health care reform. At long last, the nearly 50 million people without health care will finally get their health care for all, quality, affordable, accessible health care for all. And I thank the President and this Congress for their leadership on health care.