

DAWN JOHNSEN

(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, President Obama's appointment to head the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel is truly from the far left radical fringe.

Dawn Johnsen, a former attorney for one of the radical abortion groups, is a step back for a President who has claimed he would like to find common ground on the abortion issue. Ms. Johnsen's own quotes speak for her radical views. She has equated pregnancy to slavery when she said that laws restricting a woman's abortion choice "are disturbingly suggestive of involuntary servitude." She has likened pregnant mothers to "no more than fetal containers." She has likened pro-life advocates to "terrorists," calling them "remarkably similar to the Ku Klux Klan."

Her appointment is a slap in the face to all fair-minded persons, not just pro-life Americans. The President should withdraw her nomination or else the Senate should reject it.

□ 1015

WE MUST PASS THIS BUDGET

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

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, today I rise to speak to middle-class families facing job loss or shrinking incomes. They may feel left out of the bailouts. That is why I am happy to report that the President's budget will help them by making the \$800 Make Work Pay tax cut permanent; by expanding the child tax credit for millions of families with children; by making college more affordable by making the \$2,500 American opportunity tax credit permanent; by permanently protecting millions of middle-class families from being hit by the AMT; by expanding the earned income tax credit; by expanding the current tax credit for saving for retirement and providing for automatic enrollment in IRAs and 401(k)s; and by eliminating capital gains on small businesses.

The President's budget cuts taxes for 95 percent of Americans, while the budget invests in programs that create jobs, makes education affordable, and encourages clean American energy. It helps the middle class, which is why we must pass this budget.

BUDGET

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

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, the President's budget is going to cost Americans trillions of dollars. How does he want to pay for it? By taxing small businesses, the very people who

are responsible for creating 7 out of every 10 jobs.

Many small business owners file their taxes as individuals. So let's be honest about who we're asking to pay for this unprecedented expansion of government. Every dollar we take from small business owners is a dollar that cannot be used to reinvest in their businesses or hire more workers.

The President and his friends in Congress act like they know the needs of small business owners. The President's announcement last Monday to "help" small businesses with SBA loans was a clear example of just how out of touch the President is. According to a recent survey of small business owners, 90 percent of owners said they have never even applied for an SBA loan.

Congress must reject the President's budget which spends too much, borrows too much, and taxes our Nation's hard-working small business owners.

Our job here in Congress is to put the American people back to work, not grow government.

HONORING SERGEANT MATTHEW W. ECKERSON

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

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the service of U.S. Army Sergeant Matthew W. Eckerson from my hometown of Erie, Pennsylvania

I have a picture of Sergeant Eckerson. While serving in Sadr City, Iraq, this 24-year-old was injured after a roadside bomb hit his tank on April 24, 2004. Sergeant Eckerson was no stranger to these kinds of attacks. While serving overseas, he has experienced five other roadside bombings while in a tank or Humvee, attacks which left him with traumatic brain injuries from the blasts. His bravery earned him four Army Medals of Commendation, as well as the Purple Heart.

Sergeant Eckerson is now medically retired from the Army after 6 years of active duty, a total of 33 months served in Iraq from 2004 to 2008. He is currently enrolled at the University of Phoenix, seeking a degree in business management with a concentration in politics.

Madam Speaker, I am so grateful to Sergeant Eckerson for his patriotism and service to our country. This war has affected me personally, and I do not take his service for granted.

My nephew and his wife have served four and three tours in Iraq, respectively, and my foster son served in Iraq and came home suffering from PTSD.

Thank you to Sergeant Eckerson, and God bless all the other brave men and women in uniform for their service to our country.

TAXES ON AMERICAN-MADE ENERGY ARE TAXES ON ALL AMERICANS

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

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, last night the President tried to make a case for his \$3.6 trillion budget. He suggested that more than \$30 billion in new taxes on America's energy producers would not cost American jobs.

I represent a number of America's small energy producers and the support companies, service workers, and others who responsibly provide the energy powering America. The President's budget would force them out of business and send their work and their jobs overseas.

But this is what the President failed to tell those listening last night. His new energy taxes would hit every single American. The new taxes in his carbon program would increase electricity prices, the price at the pump, and home heating oil costs.

Republicans believe we must be good stewards of the environment, and Louisiana workers prove every day that we can produce energy in an environmentally responsible way.

Let's work together to create jobs and keep energy costs down.

The President's plan to hike taxes on Americans who are already struggling with a slow economy is just the wrong way to be going. Let's make America competitive again and get Americans working. That's the kind of stimulus Americans and our economy really need.

TAMPA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FUNDING

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

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, last month when we worked with President Obama to adopt an economic recovery plan, our intent was to put people back to work. Well, the recovery plan is just now starting to work, and I'm very pleased to report that this week I joined the director of the Tampa International Airport to announce that \$8 million from the recovery plan will come to the Tampa Bay area to reconstruct our fabulous airport. In particular, we are going to reconstruct a taxiway and begin construction on a new north terminal.

Now, this is absolutely vital because the unemployment rate in my hometown now is about 10 percent. So when we can put folks back to work, the utilities, especially in the hard-hit construction sector, rebuilding this fabulous economic engine in my community, I know that it is going to have a ripple effect throughout my local economy.

This is what's happening all across America. So as we recover and put people back to work, America will be stronger than ever before.

CAP-AND-TAX

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, today's Los Angeles Reuters article states, "U.S. electricity prices are likely to rise 15 to 30 percent if a national cap on carbon dioxide emissions is instituted, according to a report by Moody's Investors Services."

You've heard us talk a lot about a cap-and-tax. The burden of this carbon regime will be a tax on carbon use, pushing the cost on us, the middle class, the poor. And the debate here is we, on our side, we do not want to cap our economy and trade away our jobs. And that's what this regime will do.

This was after the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments. A mine in my district, Peabody No. 10 in Kincaid, Illinois, because of the Clean Air Amendments, well, it was actually 1,200 miners lost their jobs.

This is what will happen if we pursue a cap-and-tax regime that caps our economy and trades away our jobs. We will fight this to the end.

BARRING DALAI LAMA FROM PEACE CONFERENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is a shame and a disgrace that the Dalai Lama will not be permitted to attend a peace conference in South Africa this week.

How could a nation, once a symbol of the power of reconciliation, be so wrong today? How could the home of Albert Lituli and Nelson Mandela and other men and women of courage deny their brotherhood with one simple man of peace?

Madam Speaker, I am afraid that this says something very troubling about the leadership of South Africa. It says that they are willing to sacrifice the cause of justice on the cross of trade and monetary gain with China.

Today, I stand with former President F.W. de Klerk, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and others around the world who condemn this unnecessary act.

THE BUDGET AND THE PRESIDENT'S NEWS CONFERENCE

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

Mr. PENCE. Yesterday, the President of the United States took to prime time television in defense of a budget proposal that spends too much, taxes too much, and borrows too much, and the American people know it. Our Nation is beginning to understand that the President's proposed the most fis-

cally irresponsible budget in the history of our Nation.

It comes at such a difficult time for our country. I recently met firsthand with families in my district who are facing these difficult times with courage and sacrifice.

The leaders of Rushville, Indiana, were sitting down around a kitchen table at a farm last week, practicing the kind of fiscal restraint and determination necessary to make it through these difficult times, and the people in all of our Nation want Washington to do likewise. They want us to put our fiscal house in order with fiscal responsibility and a commitment to grow.

The President's budget increases spending and raises taxes on almost every American household and small business, and invites record deficits, and adds roughly \$1 trillion to our national debt every year for the next 10 years.

The American people know there's a better way. In the coming hours, Republicans will unveil a better solution to pass a budget bill based on fiscal responsibility and the principles of growth.

TAX CUTS

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

Mr. BOCCIERI. Madam Speaker, to my colleagues here on the floor, give me a break. That's exactly what the American taxpayer has asked for, and that's what this Congress has delivered.

Over the last 3 months that I have been here in the Congress, here in the United States Capitol, we have made permanent the \$800 Making Work Pay tax cut for American middle-class families. We've expanded the child tax credit. We've made the investment into alternative energy, the tax cuts that are going to help grow green energy jobs here in the United States and in my district in Ohio. We've made those part of our package that we've rolled out.

This stimulus package and economic recovery bill that was passed by this Congress provides the largest tax cut for American middle-class families and for small businesses in this country. This was the right step. We can already begin to see the signs of economic recovery on the horizon.

We've got a long way to go, but the package we introduced and passed in this Congress is going to be the right track, and we need to put our country back on track. That's what the American taxpayers have asked for, and that's what we're giving them, a break.

THREAT FROM IRAN IS REAL

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

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, the threat from Iran is real. It endangers Israel, our greatest ally in the Middle East, many of our NATO allies in Europe, and indeed, the United States of America herself.

The President has said that Iran with nuclear weapons would be a "game changer," and last week he sent a video message to the people of Iran. What was contained in the message was not as striking as what was left out.

The President did not call on the Iranian Government to give up uranium enrichment. He did not insist that the Iranian Government stop arming Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza. He did not insist that the Iranian Government stop threatening Israel.

What he did do was call for a "new beginning," without saying much more. Israeli President Shimon Perez also appealed to the people of Iran before making clear that the country would be run by religious fanatics.

I urge the President to rely more on our friends in the Middle East, who deal with Iran on a daily basis, and less on Youtube and sports metaphors.

The United States must make clear that we support Israel, their President, and their new prime minister in their continuing struggle with Iran and its misguided leaders.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 146, OMNIBUS PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2009

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 280 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 280

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 146) to establish a battlefield acquisition grant program for the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI, a single motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Natural Resources or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendments. The Senate amendments and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question.

□ 1030

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Maine is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

For the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the