

Mr. Wilson of Ohio, Ms. Dahlkemper, Mr. Grayson, Ms. Kosmas, Mr. Peters.

(8) COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS.—Mr. Moore of Kansas, Mr. Shuler, Ms. Dahlkemper, Mr. Schrader, Ms. Kirkpatrick of Arizona, Mr. Nye, Mr. Michaud, Ms. Bean, Mr. Lipinski, Mr. Altmire, Ms. Clarke, Mr. Ellsworth, Mr. Sestak, Mr. Bright, Mr. Griffith, Ms. Halvorson.

(9) COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS.—Ms. Corrine Brown of Florida, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Michaud, Ms. Herseth Sandlin, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Hall of New York, Ms. Halvorson, Mr. Perriello, Mr. Teague, Mr. Rodriguez, Mr. Donnelly of Indiana, Mr. McNerney, Mr. Space, Mr. Walz, Mr. Adler of New Jersey, Ms. Kirkpatrick of Arizona, Mr. Nye.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, reserving the right to object, could the gentleman please tell us the committees. Is it just the Committee on Agriculture, Madam Speaker?

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman. As I indicated, this is a privileged resolution from the Democratic Caucus, and the Committees are on Agriculture, Budget, Education, Foreign Affairs, Judiciary, Natural Resources, Science and Technology, Small Business, and Veterans' Affairs.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I withdraw my reservation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON)?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE FINAL BAILOUT FUNDS MUST BE USED TO ADDRESS FORECLOSURE CRISIS

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, let's discuss our system of checks and balances.

Congress writes hundreds of billions of checks to the banks, and the banks, it turns out, don't know their own balances. Banks are not lending the money Congress gave them because most banks don't know their own balance sheets. We throw in countless dollars into a bottomless pit, and we're wondering why new lending is not happening.

Our Nation's motto is "In God we trust," not "In banks we trust." We must verify what the banks are doing with the money we gave them. We must get concrete assurances that the rest of the bailout funds be used to address the center of the financial crisis in America: That's foreclosures. Foreclosures are devastating the American families. A 41 percent increase in foreclosures in the past year.

We must get concrete assurances from the new administration that the final bailout funds will be used to address the foreclosure crisis and help keep millions of Americans in their homes. We must help Americans save their homes.

A DOZEN FUN FACTS ABOUT THE HOUSE DEMOCRATS' MASSIVE SPENDING BILL

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, much is being said about the proposed "stimulus" package that is being considered by the Democrats right now, but I think we need to talk a little bit about the facts of the matter.

As others have said, the government, in this case the Federal Government, cannot give to anyone anything that it does not first take from someone else. So here are some of the facts about the proposed stimulus:

It will cost each and every household in America \$6,700 in additional debt paid by our grandchildren and children. This legislation will spend about \$275,000 per job if the stimulus package creates or saves 3 million jobs. The average household income in the United States is \$50,000 a year. The House Democrats' bill provides enough spending, \$825 billion, to give every man, woman, and child in America \$2,700.

There are many more facts about this bill that need to be presented, and we will be doing that in the next few days.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE SERVICE OF THE CINCINNATI POLICE DEPARTMENT IN THE INAUGURATION

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

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the service of the Cincinnati Police Department in yesterday's inaugural celebration. The men and women of Cincinnati proudly served as a security detail for yesterday's events, as did thousands of officers from across the United States.

As one traveled the streets of Washington yesterday, the presence of our police and military was reassuring. They were courteous, respectful, and extremely professional as they assisted millions of visitors to our Nation's Capital.

Let this be a reminder to all of us of the tremendous dedication of our men and women in uniform serving our communities here at home as well as those serving abroad. It is their dedication and commitment to service that ensures our freedoms, the freedoms celebrated yesterday in the inauguration of our 44th President.

Let these brave officers be a model for all Americans as we heed the call to service and renew our democracy.

COMMUTATION FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS RAMOS AND COMPEAN

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, as a final act by President Bush, border agents and political prisoners Jose Compean and Ignacio Ramos were granted a commutation of their harsh prison sentence.

Thanks to the work of many Members of Congress, some in the media, and, most importantly, the American people, this case would just not go away. The agents were relentlessly prosecuted for doing their job on the violent Texas-Mexico border when they tried to stop a drug smuggler from escaping after bringing in \$750,000 worth of drugs. They received 11 and 12 years in the penitentiary while the drug dealer was given immunity.

But this case is not over. President Obama will be asked by some Members of Congress to grant a full pardon. Also, legislation will be introduced to make it clear to Federal judges and rogue prosecutors that the requirement to add additional prison time to a person that carries a weapon in a crime shall not apply to peace officers because they have to carry weapons. Also, justice will not occur until the American people find out why our government was on the wrong side of the border wars and prosecuted this case in the first place.

And that's just the way it is.

STRONG AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR BIKE/PED-ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, last week the Republican leader went on CBS to state that the American people don't want beautification projects or bike lanes in the economic stimulus program. Instead, Mr. BOEHNER felt American families want larger and expanded highways.

He's just wrong on the facts. A 2009 survey by the National Association of Realtors and Smart Growth America reported that three-quarters of Americans believe that smarter development and improved public transit are better long-term solutions for reducing traffic congestion, better than building new roads. An overwhelming 80 percent believe it's more important to repair existing highways and public transit rather than build new highways.

The transit, bike, pedestrian and road repair work are more labor intensive and are ready to go in all 50 States, supporting local engineering and construction firms.

The Republican leader is wrong; the American public is right. Bikes, transit, fixing-it-first projects make communities more livable, put more people to work faster, and make our families

safer, healthier, and more economically secure.

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THANK YOU, PRESIDENT BUSH

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, yesterday we witnessed an achievement of democracy, the peaceful transfer of power and welcoming our new President, Barack Obama. I want to congratulate President Obama and wish him well.

I wish to thank President George W. Bush for his service to this Nation and, most importantly, his support of our brave soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines, along with their intelligence services and first responders. As a veteran and father of four military sons, I believe President Bush should always be appreciated for defeating terrorism overseas to protect American families at home. The Bush success is clear today. We have not been attacked in the last 7 years.

Today I look forward to working with President Obama as we have a respectful debate on the future of our Nation. We must work together for prosperity and security for all Americans.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th. My deepest sympathy to the family of the late Camilla Knotts Williams, 100 years of age, of Orangeburg, South Carolina.

TRUTH LIES SOMEWHERE IN THE MIDDLE

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

Mr. KRATOVIL. Madam Speaker, I come to Congress as a career prosecutor, someone whose job it has been to sort through facts in search of the truth. In my career, I have found that usually the truth lies somewhere in the middle. Running for Congress gave me the opportunity to meet with people with divergent opinions.

But what I found was that as differing as their opinions may have been, more often than not they shared the same goals for their families and communities. Most wanted more financial stability. They wanted to send their children to college, and they wanted a government that didn't interfere with their small business, but provided incentive and opportunity to grow. People agreed that a clean and healthy Chesapeake was vital to our region, whether they valued the bay for sport, commerce or tourism, and they wanted a Congress that applied oversight to every penny they appropriated.

The long and short was that my constituents there were just as different, they shared the same goals. In my first

days as a Member of Congress, I found the same to be true of my colleagues. I pledged to my constituents that I would work with both sides of the aisle in order to help accomplish these common goals, and that is the same promise I make to my colleagues. No party has a monopoly on good ideas, and, as always, if we work in a bipartisan manner, we will find that the truth is somewhere in the middle.

PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER

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

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, yesterday we once again witnessed the greatest of American traditions, the peaceful transfer of power from one democratically elected President and leader of our Nation to another.

Whether in times of peace or prosperity or war and economic difficulty, this great Nation has never wavered from its commitment to democracy and to the power of the American people to choose our leaders. This model of how a free people govern themselves is truly America's greatest gift to the world.

At a time of great challenges facing our Nation, our new President was met with a sense of hope and an outpouring of support from the ever optimistic American people. And whether you consider yourself a Republican or a Democrat, Barack Obama today is a President for every American.

It is now time for us, in this Congress, to work together to help our new President govern through these troubled times. Throughout our Nation's history, Madam Speaker, we have proven that united we can overcome any hardship and defeat any foe.

I extend best wishes to our new President and my colleagues as we work together to do our best on behalf of the American people.

HONORING HOUSTON METRO POLICE OFFICER ELIOT SWAINSON

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, yesterday the theme "One America" rose to the highest mountain tops as we celebrated the inauguration of President Barack Obama and Vice President BIDEN. There were many great heroes yesterday, those in the audience and those working for us.

I rise today to congratulate one of my own, Houston Metro Police Officer Eliot Swainson, who, with his quick reaction, saved a 68-year-old woman who fell on a train station. With his attention to detail, seeing the Red Line train coming very fast, he directed the woman to get under a cove area and remain there because they could not pull her up in time.

Officer Swainson exhibited quick service, a quick attitude and a great deal of hope, and I am grateful that there were many from my community who were here to observe and congratulate Officer Eliot Swainson, a 15-year Houston Metro Police veteran. They were Rev. Samuel Smith, Rev. Harvey Clements, Bishop James Dixon, Rev. Lightfoot, Rev. Marcus Crosby, Rev. Kirby John Caldwell, Rev. Edwin Davis and many others who are so very proud of the idea that we are, in fact, our brothers' and sisters' keeper.

Thank you, Houston Metro Police Officer Eliot Swainson. We wish you well, and we wish you the continued attitude that in America we are all our brothers' and sisters' keepers.

MEDIA'S DOUBLE STANDARD ON INAUGURATION COSTS

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, yesterday we witnessed the hallmark of democracy of the peaceful transfer of power. And, like President Obama, we all wish our country a prosperous future.

Although the national media strongly criticized President Bush for the cost of his inauguration in 2005, such criticism has been predictably scarce for President Obama, even though his inauguration was more than twice as expensive as President Bush's. For example, a New York Times editorial in 2005 suggested that the war in Iraq should dictate restraint for President Bush's inauguration.

We now face two wars and serious economic challenges, yet the Times offered no similar criticism of yesterday's event. Expensive inaugurations are nothing new, and I am sure many who faced traffic congestion and long lines yesterday wished even more had been spent on this year's celebration.

But we need the media to be evenhanded in its treatment of Republican and Democratic inaugurations, not guilty of a double standard.

SEIZE THIS MOMENT IN TIME

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

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, some among us believe that government holds the keys to our prosperous future. Some have argued that only government can solve our challenges.

I beg to differ. Our freedom, our liberty, indeed, our ability to live as free people and thrive is directly proportionate to the limiting of government in our lives and in our pocketbooks.

We established a Constitution to "secure the Blessings of Liberty." Our country was founded on the principle of limited government.

Let us not mistake the need for a more promising economic future as an