

know what? We may need \$1.2 trillion to really get the American economy going. Do you know why that triggered something special in me? It is because, I know, I asked for the numbers, the amount of money that the American individual taxpayers paid per year this last year is right at \$1.2 trillion in individual income tax. Wow. Can you imagine? Can you get your mind, Mr. Speaker, around the thought of not paying income tax for a whole year? Can you imagine if the American public were told, do you know what? We had wanted a \$1.2 trillion stimulus package to try the best we can to get the economy going. But then it hit us. Do you know the American people are not as stupid as we have characterized them as being? So let's let the American public have that \$1.2 trillion for this year. They won't pay any income tax for the whole year. It would be the same thing. No individual income tax or giving Washington \$1.2 trillion and let them try to spend their way into helping the American public. Well, the American public is not as stupid as this town has cast them as being. They can figure out good ways to spend the money that they earned and getting this economy going.

Because what are they trying to do? Well, we want to help Detroit. We want to help with jobs. Can you imagine if everybody in America had their own withholding and FICA withholding for a year, the cars that would be bought, the stock that would be bought, the homes that would be bought, the homes that would be built and the businesses that would be built with their own money? They don't need some arrogant bureaucrat in Washington saying, give me \$1.2 trillion, and I will try to spend it the right way to get the economy going.

If you let the American people have \$1.2 trillion with no individual income tax for a year, this economy would explode. It would be going so good, people would want to rush back into America with these jobs, because this is where it's all happening.

So, I'm still holding out great hope, because one of the things, and Mr. Speaker, I know, I feel sure that President Obama inspires you as he does me, I sat there listening to that inaugural address. And I was inspired. And I know there are critics out there who say, well, I was expecting a better speech from him. I really was. That was a great speech.

□ 2145

The problem that President Obama has is he is so good at speech making, people have come to set the bar so high

that he can give a great speech and people are not impressed. Well, I was impressed. Of course he talked about Washington, and that struck a chord with me. When he said: "With hope and virtue, let us brave the icy currents," well, I agree with him. With hope, we have got that. Virtue, well, we just approved a new Treasury Secretary that wasn't virtuous enough to pay his income tax, but apparently we are going to overlook that kind of virtue requirement. Yes, we have some conflict of interest problems with some other appointments. Maybe we will just go forward with hope because we are losing the virtue issue here with some of the recent appointments.

But I am hopeful that this President will understand some of the things that some of the people around President Bush did not, and that is the American people are not as stupid as this town has cast them. They are smart enough to know how to spend their own money, smart enough to get the economy going if we let them have their own money to do it. I am still holding out hope. As the poet says, there is the hope that springs eternal in the human breast. I have got it and I know you guys have it too, Mr. Speaker. We have that hope that springs eternal, but we need to recognize that the arrogance in this town, the arrogance of this capital is much too pervasive and that the hope for this country does not arrive on Air Force One, but we need to take responsibility. We need to let the American public get the economy going with their own money, cut the arrogance and recognize the American people for the backbones of this country that they are. I appreciate the opportunity to vent a little bit from my friend, Dr. BURGESS.

Mr. BURGESS. I thank the gentleman. This proposal that you've put forth is terribly intriguing, and I suspect we will get a lot of interest. I know we have to direct our comments to the Chair and not to the cameras, but I would be curious if the gentleman has a bill to that effect.

Mr. GOHMERT. The bill is H.R. 143. It is a two-month tax holiday that lets people keep all of their own withholding and all of their FICA for two months. And all it takes is passage and the next paycheck, it is not six months down the road, it is all of their withholding in the check as soon as we pass the bill. That is what H.R. 143 is about. I hope people call the White House and say President Obama, you have inspired me so please, let us have our own money. H.R. 143 is the way to do it and the way that the President can keep his promise.

Mr. BURGESS. I thank the gentleman for that insight. Am I recorded as a cosponsor on H.R. 143?

Mr. GOHMERT. The gentleman is. The gentleman has been a confidante and adviser and has been here longer than I have. I have greatly appreciated the advice and wisdom of Dr. BURGESS.

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. I also would like to inquire if I too am a cosponsor of that excellent piece of legislation.

Mr. GOHMERT. Dr. GINGREY is a cosponsor and trusted confidante and adviser.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. RODRIGUEZ (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of travel delays.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. COURTNEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. COURTNEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MALONEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BURTON of Indiana) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. CALVERT, for 5 minutes, January 27 and 28.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today, January 27 and 28.

Mr. OLSON, for 5 minutes, January 28.

Ms. FOXX, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, January 27, 2009, at 10:30 a.m., for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for speaker-authorized official travel during the fourth quarter of 2008 pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, MARIAH SIXKILLER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN DEC. 17 AND DEC. 19, 2008

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Mariah Sixkiller	12/17	112/19	Pakistan		75.00		13,900.00				13,975.00
Committee total											13,975.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

MARIAH SIXKILLER, Jan. 14, 2009.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO POLAND, GEORGIA, AND ICELAND, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN DEC. 15 AND DEC. 20, 2008.

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Allyson Schwartz	12/16	12/20	Poland, Georgia, Iceland		1,495.00						1,495.00
Hon. David Dreier	12/16	12/20	Poland, Georgia, Iceland		1,495.00						1,495.00
Hon. Donald Payne	12/16	12/20	Poland, Georgia, Iceland		1,495.00						1,495.00
Hon. Adam Schiff	12/16	12/20	Poland, Georgia, Iceland		1,495.00						1,495.00
Hon. Bill Shuster	12/16	12/20	Poland, Georgia, Iceland		1,495.00						1,495.00
John Lis	12/16	12/20	Poland, Georgia, Iceland		1,495.00						1,495.00
Kay King	12/16	12/20	Poland, Georgia, Iceland		1,495.00						1,495.00
Brad Smith	12/16	12/20	Poland, Georgia, Iceland		1,495.00						1,495.00
Margarita Seminario	12/16	12/20	Poland, Georgia, Iceland		1,495.00						1,495.00
Rachael Leman	12/16	12/20	Poland, Georgia, Iceland		1,495.00						1,495.00
Tommy Ross	12/16	12/20	Poland, Georgia, Iceland		1,495.00						1,495.00
John Sherry	12/16	12/20	Poland, Georgia, Iceland		1,495.00						1,495.00
Committee total					17,490.00						17,490.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ, Chairman, Jan. 12, 2009.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2008

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Grace Napolitano	11/9	11/11	Spain		713.00		(³)				713.00
Hon. Henry Brown	11/9	11/11	Spain		734.40		(³)				734.40
Hon. Grace Napolitano	11/11	11/12	United Arab Emirates		517.00		(³)				517.00
Hon. Henry Brown	11/11	11/12	United Arab Emirates		517.00		(³)				517.00
Hon. Grace Napolitano	11/12	11/14	Qatar		731.00		(³)				731.00
Hon. Henry Brown	11/12	11/14	Qatar		772.71		(³)				772.71
Hon. Grace Napolitano	11/14	11/16	Italy		995.00		(³)				995.00
Hon. Henry Brown	11/14	11/16	Italy		995.00		(³)				995.00
Julia Hathaway	11/17	11/25	Morocco		2,307.00		3,137.00				5,444.00
Committee total					8,282.11		3,137.00				11,419.11

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation

HON. NICK RAHALL, Chairman, Jan. 8, 2009.

(AMENDED) REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON RULES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2008

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Muftiah McCartin	10/26	10/31	China	14,746.67	2,155.00		11,880.48				14,035.48
Hon. James P. McGovern	11/8	11/13	Ecuador		1,223.00		2,333.23				3,556.23
Cindy M. Buhl	11/8	11/13	Ecuador		1,223.00		2,333.23				3,556.23
Committee total				14,746.67	4,601.00		16,546.94				21,147.94

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER, Chairman, Jan. 9, 2009.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. AND DEC. 31, 2008.

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL, Chairman, Jan. 12, 2009.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

239. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program and Average Crop Revenue Election Program (RIN: 0560-AH84) received January 21, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

240. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Emamectin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0261; FRL-8397-9] received January 13, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

241. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Extract of Chenopodium ambrosioides near ambrosioides; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0528; FRL-8396-2] received January 7, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

242. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's "Major" final rule — ENHANCED DISCLOSURE AND NEW PROSPECTUS DELIVERY OPTION FOR REGISTERED OPEN-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES [Release Nos. 33-8998; IC-28584; File No. ST-28-07] (RIN: 3235-AJ44) received January 21, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

243. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report for fiscal years 2005 to 2006 on the Family Violence Prevention and Services Program, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 10405, section 306; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

244. A letter from the Assistant Secretary Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Investment Advice — Participants and Beneficiaries (RIN: 1210-AB13) received January 21, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

245. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Concentrating Solar Power Commercial Application Study: Reducing Water Consumption of Concentrating Solar Power Electricity Generation," pursuant to Public Law 110-140, section 603(b); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

246. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report outlining the status of the Exxon and Stripper Well oil overcharge funds as of September 30, 2007, pursuant to Senate Report 108-341 and the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

247. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Finding of Failure to Submit a Required State Implementation plan Revision for 1-Hour Ozone Standard, California--San Joaquin Valley — Reasonably Available Control Technology [EPA-R09-OAR-2008-0862; FRL-8763-5] received January 15, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

248. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Nevada; Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program [EPA-R09-OAR-2008-0705; FRL-8748-7] received January 15, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

249. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Quality: Revision to Definition of Volatile Organic Compounds — Exclusion of Propylene Carbonate and Dimethyl Carbonate [EPA-HQ-OAR-2006-0948; FRL-8763-7] (RIN: 2060-AN75) received January 15, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

250. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Finding Failure to Submit State Implementation Plans Required for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard; North Carolina and South Carolina [EPA-R04-OAR-2009-0043; FRL-8764-8] received January 15, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

251. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Oil Pollution Prevention; Non-Transportation Related Onshore Facilities [EPA-HQ-OPA-2008-0546; FRL-8764-9] (RIN: 2050-AG49) received January 15, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

252. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Spiromesifen; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0262; FRL-8398-8] received January 15, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

253. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Operating Permit Programs; Flexible Air Permitting Rule [EPA-HQ-OAR-2004-0087; FRL-8764-1] (RIN: 2060-AM45) received January 15, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

254. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; West Virginia; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference [WV102-6039; FRL-8750-1] received January 7, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

255. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Finding of Failure to Submit State Implementation Plans Required by the 1999 Regional Haze Rule [FRL-8762-7] received January 13, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

256. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Utah's Emission Inventory Reporting Requirements [EPA-R08-OAR-2007-1031; FRL-8754-7] received January 13, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

257. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection

Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Arkansas; Emissions Inventory for the Crittenden County Non-attainment Area; Emissions Statements [EPA-R06-OAR-2007-1153 FRL-8762-4] received January 13, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

258. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Texas; Approval of the Section 110(a)(1) Maintenance Plan for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone Standard for El Paso County [EPA-R06-OAR-2006-0357; FRL-8761-4] received January 13, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

259. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Washington; Interstate Transport of Pollution [EPA-R10-OAR-2007-0110; FRL-8760-7] received January 7, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

260. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Nonattainment New Source Review (NSR); Aggregation and Project Netting [EPA-HQ-OAR-2003-0064, FRL-8762-8] (RIN: 2060-AL75) received January 13, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

261. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

262. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Performance and Accountability report for fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

263. A letter from the Acting Director, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — National Security Personnel System (RIN: 3206-AL75) received January 21, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

264. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2007-013, Employment Eligibility Verification [FAC 2005-29, Amendment-1; FAR Case 2007-013; Docket 2008-0001; Sequence 2] (RIN: 9000-AK91) received January 21, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

265. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary — Human Capital, Performance, and Partnerships, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's report on their competitive sourcing efforts for fiscal year 2008, pursuant to Public Law 108-199, section 647(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

266. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, transmitting notification that the Service intends to follow the advisory guidelines set forth in the No Fear Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

267. A letter from the Deputy Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting notification that the Foundation intends to follow the guidelines set forth by the No Fear Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.