

can deal with other issues that are very important, but it certainly seems to me that we ought to deal with that issue directly.

Unfortunately, as you know, when Mr. DAVIS introduced that bill, a majority of your party, an overwhelming majority of your party, Mr. DAVIS being of your party, a leader in your party, did not support that bill.

There is no doubt that the amendment that was added in the Senate complicates its consideration here, which is why it hasn't come to the floor a long time ago. But we are trying to figure it out.

Mr. CANTOR. My question was not to get into the substance of the D.C. bill, but just to make sure that those of us who are ardent supporters of the Second Amendment rights would see that actually the citizens of the District of Columbia could enjoy those rights as well.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask the gentleman about the omission of the cap-and-trade bill in his discussion for the schedule for the next several weeks. The reports have indicated that Chairman WAXMAN has now committed to bringing that bill that has been debated, at least, in subcommittee, forward, or at least beyond that subcommittee, to the full committee instead of the discussion in the subcommittee.

It has given some of our Members some cause for alarm because, you know, this is a significant shift in policy. Some of us are very opposed to what this bill would do and have the consequences in mind of what this bill would do.

If we look, Mr. Speaker, at Members on our side of the aisle who are on that subcommittee who would like to have a say in the crafting of any legislation, especially in the area of energy, somebody like JOHN SHIMKUS who has a district that is very rich with coal, very, very concerning to him in terms of the economy and jobs. People like, on your side of the aisle, the gentleman from Louisiana, CHARLIE MELANCON on that subcommittee, very interested in industry; BARON HILL of Indiana, who also has big concerns on the coal issue; RICK BOUCHER, from my own State of Virginia. Southwest Virginia is abundant with coal and natural resources. It would devastate that region if such a bill were to go forward.

All of these Members, Mr. Speaker, do have a desire, I am sure, to be a part of the debate.

I would ask, is it the leader's intention that this is a good move? He is the leader. And his chairmen, one of them has decided to move the bill beyond the subcommittee. Is that something he supports?

And then is it the intention, I would ask of the leader, to bring the bill directly to the floor once, I assume, it passes the full committee?

Mr. HOYER. First of all, I want to say to the gentleman, the reason it's not on the calendar for the next 2

weeks, it was never intended to be on the calendar over the next 2 weeks. The intention, as I have articulated all along, and the chairman's intention, was to have a target of marking up the bill in committee prior to the Memorial Day break. So there was never any intention that a bill would be on the floor prior to the Memorial Day break.

Secondly, I would tell the gentleman, I don't know that the chairman has made a decision on whether to mark it up in subcommittee or mark it up in full committee.

I do know that it's going to be marked up in committee and open to an amendment in committee, open to debate and open to a vote. Now, whether it's in subcommittee or full committee, that determination, as I understand it, has not been made. But it will be, certainly, marked up in committee and subject to full debate.

Mr. CANTOR. Returning to next week's agenda, Mr. Speaker, for a moment, he mentions that the war supplemental will be coming to the floor, and it provides us with a chance, I know he agrees, to accomplish one of the most important things that we have to do here as a Member of Congress, which is to provide for the national defense of our country.

And as the gentleman knows, many of us, most of us, if not all Republicans, stand with this President in support of his strategy in Afghanistan and the general region, and Pakistan, Iraq, and we stand with the President in his support of our troops there.

I know that there have been, Mr. Speaker, some agreements on the gentleman's side of the aisle as far as the issues having to do with timetables, the issues of having to do with cutting off funding, of transfer of detainees from the Guantanamo Bay detention center facility.

So I assume, and maybe it's an improper assumption, Mr. Speaker, and I would ask the gentleman if he could comment, if he believes that he will need the help and bipartisan support to pass this bill that we are interested on this side in helping pass for our troops, is it his intention that we will have an opportunity to address some of these concerns on the floor, specifically if he could tell us whether an amendment such as that proposed by Mr. TIAHRT from Kansas and the Appropriations Committee banning any further appropriations being allowed in the area of transferring detainees from the Guantanamo Bay facility?

Mr. HOYER. The markup was just concluded. I have not reviewed the Tiahrt amendment, nor have I had discussions with the chairman regarding the rule and what amendments would be asked for or what amendments would be made in order.

Very frankly, I will tell my friend, it's not the majority that needs your help in passing this bill; our troops need your help in passing this bill, our country needs your help. And I appreciate your comments that you support

the President in his efforts in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

□ 1600

We are confronted with an extraordinarily difficult situation, destabilizing situation, dangerous situation, and this supplemental obviously is directed at making sure that our troops have the resources they need to pursue the objectives that we and the President have given to them. We look forward to having that bill passed with bipartisan support.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman. Mr. Speaker, I would say that, just to reiterate my point, my sense is—and I'm not the one that counts votes on his side of the aisle, but as a former whip, I know he knows that there is some difficulty, and it is my hunch that without the support of Republicans that the American people wouldn't see the money flow to their troops.

But I'd like to at this time, Mr. Speaker, if I could, yield to my colleague from Illinois (Mr. KIRK).

Mr. KIRK. The majority leader is correct: the committee just finished consideration of this legislation and the Tiahrt amendment. During our debate, Congressman WOLF highlighted reports that he had received from law enforcement that three terrorists from the East Turkmenistan Islamist movement were scheduled to be released in McLean, Virginia, last Friday. But for his objection, that might have happened.

And so it gave an urgency to the Tiahrt amendment, since former Chairman WOLF, now Ranking Member WOLF, had received this report from local law enforcement in his district and was concerned that things were moving much quicker than otherwise we would have thought.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman. Again, I would say to the majority leader, I think that that underscores the importance of a bipartisan effort here on this bill and, frankly, if he were to see coming forward a rule that would allow for us to have the disposition of these issues on the floor, I do believe the American people would be better served, and certainly our men and women in uniform.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, MAY
11, 2009

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2009, for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

BUDGET OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-3)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I have the honor to transmit to you the *Budget of the United States Government for Fiscal Year 2010*.

In my February 26th budget overview, *A New Era of Responsibility: Renewing America's Promise*, I provided a broad outline of how our Nation came to this moment of economic, financial, and fiscal crisis; and how my Administration plans to move this economy from recession to recovery and lay a new foundation for long-term economic growth and prosperity. This Budget fills out this picture by providing full programmatic details and proposing appropriations language and other required information for the Congress to put these plans fully into effect.

Specifically, this Budget details the pillars of the stable and broad economic growth we seek: making long overdue investments and reforms in education so that every child can compete in the global economy, undertaking health care reform so that we can control costs while boosting coverage and quality, and investing in renewable sources of energy so that we can reduce our dependence on foreign oil and become the world leader in the new clean energy economy.

Fiscal discipline is another critical pillar in this economic foundation. My Administration came into office facing a budget deficit of \$1.3 trillion for this year alone, and the cost of confronting the recession and financial crisis has been high. While these are extraordinary times that have demanded extraordinary responses, it is impossible to put our Nation on a course for long-term growth without beginning to rein in unsustainable deficits and debt. We no longer can afford to tolerate investments in programs that are outdated, duplicative, ineffective, or wasteful.

That is why the Budget I am sending to you includes a separate volume of terminations, reductions, and savings that my Administration has identified since we sent the budget overview to you 10 weeks ago. In it, we identify programs that do not accomplish the goals set for them, do not do so efficiently, or do a job already done by another initiative. Overall, we have targeted more than 100 programs that should be ended or substantially changed, moves that will save nearly \$17 billion next year alone.

These efforts are just the next phase of a larger and longer effort needed to change how Washington does business and put our fiscal house in order. To

that end, the Budget includes billions of dollars in savings from steps ranging from ending subsidies for big oil and gas companies, to eliminating entitlements to banks and lenders making student loans. It provides an historic down payment on health care reform, the key to our long-term fiscal future, and was constructed without commonly used budget gimmicks that, for instance, hide the true costs of war and natural disasters. Even with these costs on the books, the Budget will cut the deficit in half by the end of my first term, and we will bring non-defense discretionary spending to its lowest level as a share of GDP since 1962.

Finally, in order to keep America strong and secure, the Budget includes critical investments in rebuilding our military, securing our homeland, and expanding our diplomatic efforts because we need to use all elements of our power to provide for our national security. We are not only proposing significant funding for our national security, but also being careful with those investments by, for instance, reforming defense contracting so that we are using our defense dollars to their maximum effect.

I have little doubt that there will be various interests—vocal and powerful—who will oppose different aspects of this Budget. Change is never easy. However, I believe that after an era of profound irresponsibility, Americans are ready to embrace the shared responsibilities we have to each other and to generations to come. They want to put old arguments and the divisions of the past behind us, put problem-solving ahead of point-scoring, and reconstruct an economy that is built on a solid new foundation. If we do that, America once again will teem with new industry and commerce, hum with the energy of new discoveries and inventions, and be a place where anyone with a good idea and the will to work can live their dreams.

I am gratified and encouraged by the support I have received from the Congress thus far, and I look forward to working with you in the weeks ahead as we put these plans into practice and make this vision of America a reality.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 7, 2009.

JASON'S LAW

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

Mr. TONKO. As I have previously stated on this House floor, tragically, on March 5, 2009, one of Schoharie County's citizens from my district, Jason Rivenburg, pulled his truck into an abandoned gas station frequently used by truckers in South Carolina as a rest stop, and was then and there violently and senselessly shot and murdered, robbed of a meager \$7.

At the time of his death, Jason was a mere 12 miles from the destination

that he was to arrive at, but was unable to make his delivery because he was too early.

Jason Rivenburg was 35 years old, leaving his wife Hope and son Josh behind. They had just moved into a new home. As if that stress was not enough, shortly after his death, Jason's widow delivered two healthy twins—a boy named Hezekiah, after his grandfather, and a girl named Logan.

Rivenburg's death sparked outrage and an outpouring of support for the family across our country. Truckers and family members are demanding that the government do more to protect truckers who risk their lives following rules that require that they pull over and rest after a certain amount of driving time.

There are few resources telling truck drivers, who are often unfamiliar with the local area, where a safe place to rest might be. Moreover, there are few safe places to rest in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, we must do more to support these incredibly important men and women. That is why trade groups such as the American Truckers Association, the Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association, the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, and the American Moving and Storage Association, and so many more, support H.R. 2156, Jason's Law.

Moving freight and goods is essential to keeping this country and our economy progressive. We must ensure that we move on H.R. 2156, Jason's Law, and support this measure by honoring a great man.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. GIFFORDS. I'm honored today to be here to celebrate May as National Jewish American Heritage Month. A little history lesson: in 1654, 23 Jewish refugees traveled from Brazil to present-day New York and founded the first Jewish communal settlement in North America. It really wasn't until 100 years earlier that the Spanish Inquisition descended upon the inhabitants of New Spain, where Jews decided to flee to Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, and that really marked the beginning of a rich heritage of Jews in the Southwest.

The Jewish community in southern Arizona today is strong and vibrant and we have a tremendous amount of history. During Arizona's territorial years, Henry Lesinsky, a Jewish immigrant from Europe, immigrated to southern Arizona and spearheaded the copper mining business in southern Arizona, and really, Bisbee of today is a legacy of his. Another pioneer, Isadore Solomon, a Jewish banker, founded Valley National Bank, which today is known as BankOne.

This week we are also recognizing the 61st anniversary of the State of