

Res. 532) providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 1256) to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, to amend title 5, United States Code, to make certain modifications in the Thrift Savings Plan, the Civil Service Retirement System, and the Federal Employees' Retirement System, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

CONGRATULATING THE MOORESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS LACROSSE TEAM

(Mr. ADLER of New Jersey asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all Burlington County residents, I rise today to congratulate the Moorestown High School girls' lacrosse team for winning their 10th straight New Jersey State Championship.

As a father of four boys, I understand the importance of having sports and extracurricular activities in a young person's life. It encourages teamwork, a sense of pride and accomplishment, and responsibility. The Moorestown High School girls lacrosse team embodies all those attributes.

Led by senior captains Karli Tobin and Alyssa Ogle, Moorestown High School beat Mountain Lakes High School 11-8. Junior Katrina Martinelli led the team in scoring with four goals and two assists, while Alyssa Ogle scored three goals, including the game winner.

Head coach Deanna Knobloch has been with the team for 18 years. Winning 10 straight championships is no easy task, and I applaud her and her assistants, KC Knobloch, Julie Catrambone, and Courtney Legath. This championship marks the 210th win over New Jersey opponents over a full 10 seasons.

Moorestown moves within one State title of tying the longest State championship winning streak. Again, congratulations to Moorestown High School girls lacrosse team, especially those seniors. I look forward to seeing you break that record.

Go Quakers.

□ 1700

INTRODUCTION OF REPEAL THE STIMULUS ACT

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year the Obama administration told us the stimulus bill was the salvation to our economic woes. They predicted, if passed, unemployment would top out at 7 percent and claimed jobs would be created or saved immediately.

It was passed, but yesterday's promises are in stark contrast to what we see today—unemployment is at 9.4 percent, and just this morning CNN reported that America saw \$1.3 trillion of wealth vaporize in the first quarter of 2009.

Despite massive government spending, foreclosures continue, car dealerships are closing, layoffs continue, and the stock market and home values continue to decline. The government is borrowing money it does not need and making promises it cannot keep. Taxpayers don't understand why so much money is being wasted so quickly with nothing to show for it.

I understand. This week I offered a simple solution. Rescind unobligated money from the stimulus bill and save the taxpayers over \$250 billion. That's money we won't have to borrow from the Chinese. Unfortunately, the amendment failed on a party-line vote.

Today I am introducing the Repeal the Stimulus Act of 2009, and I urge my colleagues to join with me to repeal the stimulus bill and the spending schemes of the current administration and cut back on the amount of money we have to borrow from China.

SUPPORTING LEGISLATION TO HELP AUTOMOBILE DEALERSHIPS STAY IN BUSINESS

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, the bankruptcy filings of both GM and Chrysler are threatening local auto dealers as both companies are able to bypass State franchise laws that are designed to protect small dealerships. Shutting the doors on these small businesses will mean more job losses at a time when we can ill afford them. It's incredible to many of us here in Congress that these decisions can be justified if it isn't saving a single job and is, in fact, eliminating jobs.

That's why I'm cosponsoring legislation that was introduced this week that would protect these jobs by restoring the franchise agreement between the auto dealerships and GM and Chrysler. Mr. Speaker, this would ensure that the dealers themselves, not the government or the big automakers that are controlled by the government, are able to decide the future of their operations. Let's pass this legislation and help local entrepreneurs keep the businesses they've worked so hard to build.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETERS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentle-

woman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SUPPORTING A SOLAR CARVE-OUT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. GIFFORDS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. GIFFORDS. Mr. Speaker, our Nation today is facing many great challenges, but there are three in particular that specifically I think are of great concern to the American people: Achieving energy independence, addressing climate change and stimulating our economy. These are all significant challenges, but they also present great opportunities. As we confront these issues, we have the chance to make our world stronger, safer and more prosperous.

One of the best ways to do this is by deploying renewable energy. Renewable energy sources, especially solar, our Nation's most abundant renewable energy source, offers a real solution to these challenges I just mentioned. Our solar resource is vast, it's domestic, and it's free. It is clean, and it generates electricity without greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, the solar power industry is growing and creating good-paying jobs. For all of these reasons, solar is important to America.

This is why I'm concerned about the way that solar power is treated in the energy and climate bill that recently emerged from the Energy and Commerce Committee. I commend Chairmen WAXMAN and MARKEY and their committee colleagues for their persistence and skill in moving the legislation forward. However, I have to express my deep concern that this bill does not do nearly enough to promote solar power, one of the best solutions for our Nation's energy and climate challenges. The current Waxman-Markey legislation would establish a Federal renewable electricity standard, or RES, of 20 percent by 2020, and that's a good goal. The State of Arizona is 15 percent by 2025. However, the bill fails to establish a carve-out for any specific type of renewable like solar; and in my view, this constitutes an enormous missed opportunity. The primary reason to establish a RES is to create an assured level of demand for renewable electricity. This assured demand allows renewable technologies to increase production, learn by doing and bring their prices down. This allows them to become cost competitive with traditional energy sources. However, without carve-outs for different resources, the RES will fall short of its own potential. Instead of creating demand for all renewables, it's going to give preference to those that cost the least, and currently that is wind and biomass. Without assured demand, solar will miss out on an opportunity that the RES was designed to create. It

will not grow as fast as it otherwise could, and it will not become as cost competitive as quickly as it needs to.

Now I have nothing against wind and biomass. But if we develop these resources at the expense of a more diverse portfolio, we will lose our opportunity to stimulate our domestic solar industry that can compete in a global marketplace. I understand the reluctance to pick technology winners and losers. In fact, I agree with that. But I'm not talking about picking a technology. I'm talking about picking a resource, and that is a big difference. It is impossible to imagine a future powered by renewables that does not include a significant amount of solar energy. We may not yet know what that best type of solar technology will ultimately be, but we do know and the rest of the world knows that we want it to come from the sun, and we want it to be solar. Therefore, it's in our national interest to ensure that the U.S. solar industry is the strongest in the world, and we should do so by continuing to promote and innovate. Solar power, yes, is in its infancy today; but we need to make sure that in the future it really drives America.

Thank you for the opportunity, Mr. Speaker. And as we work towards implementing solar technology in our legislation, I just want to thank my colleagues for spending time to learn about this important resource.

To do that, we should establish an effective incentive in the form of a 20 percent solar carve-out within the RES.

A couple weeks ago, researchers at the University of Arizona in my hometown of Tucson were awarded a \$15 million grant to create an Energy Frontier Research Center. They are working to develop ultrathin solar panels that use dyes to create electricity from sunlight. This project is tremendously exciting, but as we invest in these technologies, we must ensure we are creating a market to use them.

In the race to become the global solar leader, the clock is ticking and the competition is fierce. America does not have time to waste with poorly designed policies. This is why I call on my colleagues to support a solar carve-out within the RES. It is a proven mechanism to develop a truly diverse renewable portfolio that includes solar power.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

STATE OF THE UNION'S FINANCES: A CITIZEN'S GUIDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, in the past couple of weeks, two of our colleagues, FRANK WOLF of Virginia, a Republican, and JIM COOPER of Tennessee, a Democrat, sent this booklet around to all of the Members. We get a lot of correspondence and a lot of books and leaflets; but I would just like to say to my colleagues tonight, I hope you read this. It doesn't take very long, but it's extremely important because it deals with not only today but with our future and our kids' future and our posterity. What it talks about is the debt that we have in this country and where we're going.

In the last 10 years, we've gone from \$5.5 trillion in debt to over \$11 trillion in debt, and the debt is escalating at a very rapid rate. In fact, right now the projected deficit in the future is up to \$56 trillion. The reason for expected expenditures is for the programs that have been proposed and have been passed into law by this body and the other body. Right now explicit liabilities include publicly held debt, military and civilian pensions, and retiree health benefits, plus other things, that's \$12.2 trillion; \$1.3 trillion is for Federal insurance loan guarantees, leases and so forth; and then the big one, \$42.9 trillion, is Medicare hospital insurance, which is \$12.7 trillion; Medicare outpatient, \$15.7 trillion; Medicare prescription drugs, \$7.9 trillion; and Social Security, \$6.6 trillion, for a total of \$56.4 trillion. And that does not include what's going on today. We're going into debt right now at about \$1 to \$2 trillion a year, and it's going to continue like that because of the programs we're talking about.

Over the past few months since this new administration has taken office, we have seen proposed a socialized medicine approach to health, a national health care program. Lord only knows how much that's going to cost, but it's going to be in the billions and billions and probably the trillions of dollars. Much of that will be added to the national debt because we don't have that money. The auto industry—there's been bailouts of the auto industry, and it hasn't really worked. They still had to file chapter 11, and over \$50 billion went to the auto industry.

The banking and financial institutions. There was a big bailout of those in the TARP bill, I believe it was. And then the energy bill that they're talking about, the cap-and-trade, is going to cost a tremendous amount of money to the taxpayers not only from the tax money we get here, but also what they are going to have to spend in their homes for higher electric bills and everything else in the future.

Let me just say, Mr. Speaker, this is something my colleagues really ought to read. It talks about our future, our kids' futures and our grandkids' futures. If we continue down the path we're on, there's no doubt in my mind that this country will go bankrupt, and

we'll go the way of great civilizations that we have seen in the past, like Rome. There's just no question about it in my mind. Right now the debt that's held by China, Japan, England and other countries is out of sight. They don't want to buy our debt anymore because the value of the dollar has been plummeting because we're printing so much money. Right now we're talking about printing trillions of dollars more because they won't buy our debt, and we don't have that money. When that printing press gets out of control like it is right now, down the road we're going to see very high inflation, very high taxes and an economy that's unsustainable.

So I hope my colleagues will read this. The book is called *State of the Union's Finances: A Citizen's Guide*, put out by my good friends FRANK WOLF and JIM COOPER, and it is from the Pete Peterson Foundation. It's on your desk. I hope all of you will read it.

ECONOMIC TROUBLES IN THE 17TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF OHIO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise today to speak about an issue that is important to our community in Northeast Ohio, specifically, the city of Warren and the city of Youngstown dealing with the auto task force and the bankruptcies that have been going on in the auto industry. The community that I come from has been adversely affected not just over the past few months or few years but really over the past 30 years. We've seen the loss of a tremendous amount of jobs. The home of Delphi, the original Delphi, the original Packard Electric, started many years ago by the Packard brothers; a General Motors plant in Lordstown; steel mills, all have been adversely affected over the past 30 years, but specifically over the past few months and few years, given the new problems in the auto industry.

And every day that we wake up, and we read *The Warren Tribune* or *The Youngstown Vindicator*, we've been getting bad news about layoffs—Severstal Steel goes idle, 1,000 jobs; General Motors plant takes off the third shift, takes off the second shift, few left on the first shift. Delphi went from 15,000 employees 20 or 30 years ago down to just a few today. A group that has also been adversely affected with maybe not as much attention as it should have been given are the Delphi salaried employees, who many have spent two-thirds of their careers working for Delphi, working under the General Motors umbrella; and helping with the engineering, the designing, the running of this company, have spent their lives, spent a lot of their time, missed a lot of baseball games, missed a lot of