

We've got to stop trying to run the whole world. It's not isolationist to say that because I believe in trade and tourism, and cultural and educational exchanges, and I believe we should help during humanitarian crises. But we can't keep spending hundreds of billions of dollars in other countries, whether it's done by the Defense Department—and of course, it's also being done by every other department and agency in the entire Federal Government.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1177, THE FIVE FIVE-STAR GENERAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, before I get my chart and bring it up, if they'd bring it up for this situation, I just might respond to the previous speaker. He forgot to mention that they handed this mess to this new administration just a matter of a few months ago and went through 8 years of borrow and spend. So I hope the people take that with a grain of salt.

What I, Madam Speaker, would like to speak to you a few moments about today is to highlight an institution of great importance to our national security and to myself, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College located at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Most Americans are probably unaware of the role that this fine institution plays in keeping our Nation safe by training future generations of military leaders. The Command General Staff College plays a vital role, giving our Nation's Army commanders the advanced technical and tactical education they need in order to effectively lead soldiers in battle. They have been doing so since its founding in 1881, and during the past 128 years, it has provided a first-rate military education to thousands of accomplished men and women who have defended our freedom. I'd like to commend the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College on its commitment to excellence, throughout history, in support of our military.

I'd like now to draw your attention, if I may, to a particularly distinguished group of alumni. The five war heroes you see beside me, Generals George Marshall, Douglas MacArthur, Dwight Eisenhower, Henry Arnold, and Omar Bradley, served our country with valor and distinction during the Second World War and became household names through their renowned accomplishments.

It is a little-known fact, of which we are all proud, that these great men all were graduates of the Command General Staff College where they received their unique training and education needed to excel in leading our brave servicemembers into battle.

Since then, the college has continued to improve and adapt its training in re-

sponse to the ever-evolving challenges of war. Though the specifics of the instruction may have changed, the honorable mission has not. I, too, am a graduate of, and a former instructor, at the U.S. Army Command General Staff College. Madam Speaker, I speak from personal experience of the pride and the satisfaction that comes from knowing that I received the best military leadership education our Nation has to offer and stood in the footsteps of these great men.

General George Marshall was the Army Chief of Staff under President Roosevelt and one of the chief architects of victory for our Greatest Generation and later served as the third Secretary of Defense.

General Douglas MacArthur bravely led our forces to victory in the Pacific theater.

General Dwight Eisenhower, our past President, was the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe and directed the D-day operation, whose anniversary was just celebrated, before going on to lead our Nation through some of the most trying times during the Cold War.

General Henry Arnold commanded the Army Air Corps in Europe and remains the only person ever to hold the title of General of the Air Force.

Last, but certainly not least, General Omar Bradley commanded the Allied forces on their march to victory in North Africa and became the first to hold the position of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs.

At this point, I'd like to make mention of an organization that provides invaluable support to the U.S. Army Command General Staff College, which is the U.S. Army Command General Staff College Foundation. This organization is funded by private donations, and its mission is to enrich the academic experience of the college by providing resources in areas not covered by appropriations.

Since its inception, this foundation has established a number of awards for academic excellence for students of the college in recognition of their achievements in the fields of tactics, logistics, and military arts. It has supported professional development at the Harvard Business School for college faculty members. The Foundation has also sponsored the Colin Powell Academic Lecture Series, which began in April of 2008. General Powell is also an alumni of the college. Indeed, it is hard to overstate the degree to which the Foundation has enriched the experience of both students and staff at the college.

Its board of directors comprises retired officers, business and community leaders, all of whom have a keen interest in improving the quality of the education provided by the college. I would like to commend the Foundation's board and, in particular, its CEO, Colonel Robert Ulin—who is in the gallery I do believe—U.S. Army-Retired, for the invaluable work that he does to enhance the college and its future mili-

tary leaders. Colonel Ulin is also a graduate and instructor of the college.

It is with this Foundation and the Command and General Staff College in mind today that I would like to mention H.R. 1177, the Five Five-Star General Commemorative Coin Act. This bill would authorize the U.S. Treasury to mint a series of commemorative \$5, \$1 and half-dollar coins bearing the likeness of these distinguished five generals. These coins would honor the historic contributions these men have made in defense of justice and freedom. Americans young and old could admire and collect them, and the stories of these great men might be reinforced in the popular imagination, perhaps even inspiring some to follow their lead.

This bill will honor the great soldiers of the past. Please sponsor H.R. 1177.

CAP-AND-TAX IS GOING TO BE NOTHING MORE THAN A NATIONAL ENERGY TAX

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, one of the issues that we've been talking a lot about on this floor and across this country has been about cap-and-tax, and cap-and-tax is nothing more than it is going to be a national energy tax.

Now, I have a very unique district in the Fifth Congressional District of Ohio. It's interesting in that I represent not only the largest manufacturing district in the State of Ohio, but I also represent the largest agricultural district in the State of Ohio.

I know we've been talking about this and there's been a lot of information that's being put out there by a lot of different groups. But I think it's interesting to point out that the Heritage Foundation and just last week the Brookings Institution has also put out how many jobs are going to be lost by this. The Heritage Foundation is estimating that you're looking at anywhere from over 1.5 million jobs being lost; carry out to the end date with the Brookings Institution, about 2.5 percent. We can't afford to have this happening in the United States.

When you look at what the Heritage Foundation did, they did a very interesting study. They did what they call a manufacturing vulnerability index. They took all 435 districts across the Congress. They said, What was the amount of energy that you use and what type of energy it was? In my case in the State of Ohio, 87 percent of our energy is coal-generated. Next door to my west is Indiana. They get 94 percent.

So they ranked all these districts together. The question was, Okay, where did you stand? And this is one of those times where you don't want to be at the top of the list. Of the top 20 districts in the United States, according to this manufacturing vulnerability index, 16 of the top 20 were from Ohio and Indiana. Unfortunately, in my case, I came in number three.

Number three, What's that going to mean? It means it's going to be tough to get jobs in northwest Ohio, north-central Ohio, and people are having a tough time right now because we have a manufacturing district. If we don't have those jobs and we don't have that electricity that we can turn on in the morning, make sure that those plants can run, we're not going to have people working.

It's not like it's just going to affect the folks on the industrial side and the manufacturing side. As I said, I also have the largest agricultural district in the State of Ohio. And one of the things that's tough out there is there are a lot of farmers in my district that not only farm full time, but they have a job also full time off the farm, and they have to balance the two together. They're working long, long hours, especially if they're on the livestock side. So these folks are worried about not only having to turn on the energy at the workplace but also the workplace on the farm.

And as we've seen some of these numbers being calculated as to what it might cost for a family of four with cap-and-tax, you're talking about in some cases right off the bat, \$1,500 additional for a family of four and all the way up in the out-years being calculated at up to \$4,800.

Let's also put this in context of what it's going to do on the farm income side. It's estimated by the Heritage Foundation that by the year 2012 you're going to see a drop of about \$8 billion in farm income; in 2024, \$25 billion; and in 2025, \$50 billion. So you're seeing decreases in farm income of 28, 60, and 94 percent respectively. You're going to see a total decrease from 2010 to 2035 of 57 percent and a total decrease in the baseline for farm income out there.

The question is, How is a farm going to survive in this country? It's going to be tough. Ag construction costs are estimated, because of cap-and-tax, they're going to go up 10 percent by the year 2034. By 2035—and here's a real tough one for farmers because of course, everything you're doing is out there in the field—gas and diesel prices are going to go up 58 percent; electricity costs on the farm, 90 percent. So when you're already out there struggling right there to make a living on the farm, it's going to be very difficult with these numbers to do it.

Then we have to think about this. Where are these young farmers going to go? We're going to try to get more younger people out on these farms, but we all know right now equipment costs are high. We all know that land prices are high. But then when you add all these costs up and you put these electricity costs and you put the energy costs and you put the fertilizer costs in, all these are all driven by energy costs. It's going to hit home real quick. We're going to have fewer and fewer people out on the farm. It's estimated we have less than 2 percent of Ameri-

cans farming today, less than 2 percent. In Ohio, it's under 1 percent, but they're feeding us all, and we should be thankful for them.

The co-ops in my district and across not only my district but the State and the country are very fearful about this. These electric co-ops out there are worried because if they have to buy more green energy, those costs would have to be passed on to the end user. That's the farmer, the manufacturer, the senior, the family, and they are all worried about it.

But who's our competition? You know, last week, we had the Ag Secretary before us in the Agriculture Committee, and we asked questions about China. And China is not going to abide by cap-and-tax, and in fact, the day that we had that hearing, they said that they were not going to abide by cap-and-tax. I would ask that this legislation be defeated.

THE NEED FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of long overdue health care reform. We've been talking about health care reform since the administration of Harry Truman. It's time for action.

Among the Jeffersonian rights enumerated in the Declaration of Independence, the first was the right to life. And yet, today, with health costs spiraling out of control for millions of Americans, that right to life becomes more and more difficult to manage.

While the need for some level of reform is clear, whatever reform the Nation agrees upon must respect the right of the individual to continue to select their own physician. Assisting some Americans in accessing health care must not come at the expense of restricting health care access to others. We cannot have a government-imposed regime. We must respect people's right to maintain control over their current health care access and health care insurance.

Having said that, America currently has the most expensive health care system in the world. In 2006, we ranked first at 15.3 percent of our gross domestic product in expenditures for health care. Runner-up was Sweden with a socialized health care system. It was at 11.3 percent.

On a per capita basis, we spend the most in the world, \$5,267 for every man, woman, and child in America; and yet, if you look at our outcomes, we are in the middling ranks of industrialized countries in terms of outcomes. We rank 50th out of 224 Nations in the world in terms of life expectancy. As a Nation, we are spending more on health care than everybody else, but we're not necessarily getting the outcomes we need.

Our challenge is to make health care costs obviously more affordable. A re-

cent USA Today poll showed 21 percent of Americans struggling with health care costs, being able to manage it, significantly up from what it would have been a decade or 2 decades ago.

Those who currently have, and like their existing health care coverage, still nonetheless often lament the rapidly increasing costs of premiums and recognize that we all pay a cost for emergency room treatment for those without health care coverage. In fact, it is estimated that that costs everybody \$1,000 per capita per year because of our fellow 46 million Americans who lack health care coverage.

As we debate the various proposals, Madam Speaker, for reforming health care, I would like to propose five principles that certainly will guide me and I think many others as we move forward various proposals.

The first is, every child in America should have access to health care. No child should go in this country without having access to health care. We know that, for example, a child without health care who develops appendicitis has five times a negative outcome in terms of losing his or her life than a child with health insurance. That's unacceptable, it seems to me, as Americans.

Secondly, nobody should be financially destroyed due to a catastrophic illness. It's challenging enough to combat a deadly medical condition, but tremendous expenses incurred can wipe out a family's savings and, indeed, cost them their livelihood and their home.

Third, insurance companies should not be allowed to cherry pick, and I'm a proud cosponsor of a bill that would prescribe that. The whole point of having health care insurance is to share the risk. Previous existing conditions affect 45 percent of all Americans today, and indeed, if we all live long enough, every one of us is going to end up with a previous existing medical condition. The health insurance companies shouldn't be allowed to disqualify people in that case.

Fourth, we must respect the right of our fellow citizens to choose the health care insurance and provider they want.

Fifth, we must move toward universality of health care coverage. Everyone in America should have access to health care in this wonderful country of ours.

Ultimately, we must address health care reform for a number of reasons: to provide broader coverage for those currently uninsured; to bring down the increasingly difficult costs to businesses, especially small businesses, families, and sole proprietors; to reduce the growing strain of health care costs on our Nation's deficit; and to improve the overall health of our Nation.

Fiftieth place is nothing to be proud of, Madam Speaker, and I hope all of my colleagues will join me in supporting a health care reform program that will reposition America as a competitive, successful, and healthy society.