

need the government in the exam room.

#### ENERGY: WALL STREET'S NEXT BUBBLE

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, Europeans have had a market-based cap-and-trade system on greenhouse gas emissions for 4 years, and it has failed. The last recorded year, \$60 billion in trades, that is added costs, and higher greenhouse gas emissions.

Now the House of Representatives wants to bring that European system here to the United States of America, despite its failures. Why? Well, the market-based approach is only a failure if your objective is meaningful and predictable real reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Perhaps something else is afoot.

Europe already has a carbon offset futures derivatives market, complete with credit default swap insurance. Is it AIG and mortgages all over again but now with carbon? We are going to bring that here to the United States. Wall Street is tingling with excitement. A trillion dollars speculative market.

Listen to this: Carbon will be the world's biggest commodity market, and it could become the biggest market overall, Louis Redshaw at Barclays. Oh, Wall Street loves this so much. A brand new Wall Street bubble on something as essential as energy. Deja vu all over again.

#### CONGRATULATING CAROLINE COUNTY

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

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere congratulations to Caroline County, Virginia, recipient of the 2009 All-American City Award for its outstanding civic accomplishments. This recognition is well deserved, and rightly honors Caroline County, which has long been dedicated to meeting the needs of its community.

Established by the National Civic League in 1949, the All-American City Award recognizes localities for community projects involving grassroots civic engagement and cooperation between public, private, and nonprofit sectors that best illustrate community-based problem solving. Each year, the National Civic League honors 10 communities throughout the country for effectively addressing the most critical challenges facing America's communities.

Caroline County submitted three community-based projects, including the Dawn Rehabilitation Project, the Caroline Library, and the Caroline

Dental Program. These projects blend public, private, and civic resources to address specific challenges of the community.

I am proud to see our citizens and local government work in concert to meet community needs. Caroline County was the only city or county from Virginia in a field of 32 finalists from across the country. The Caroline County delegation traveled to Tampa, Florida, to present the challenges and solutions for its community to a panel of national experts, and I am proud to recognize Caroline County as a wonderful and unique community of Virginia's First Congressional District for receiving the 2009 All-American City Award.

#### AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT

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

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the American Clean Energy and Security Act. We are on the verge of an historic step that we have a responsibility and an opportunity to take for the health of our environment, our economy, and our Nation.

Opponents simply don't comprehend the magnitude of the problem of global warming or the opportunities that come with the solution. The U.S. is currently losing clean energy jobs and market share to Germany, China, and Korea. U.S. consumers continue to send \$400 billion a year to places like the Middle East and Venezuela every time we fill up our gas tanks.

Madam Speaker, we have a responsibility to enact swift and strong climate change legislation. It is absolutely false to suggest that this legislation will cost Americans. It will cost us more if we don't act.

With the consumer protections and increases in efficiencies that this bill puts in place, American families will save hundreds of dollars each over the next decade. Saving consumers money is hardly a tax. Saving businesses money is hardly a tax. Allowing American technology to stagnate while we pollute and pay to address that pollution, that is a tax that the American people are tired of paying and have paid for far too long.

The Democratic plan declares energy independence and puts America on a path to economic recovery.

#### TAXING AMERICAN FAMILIES IS NOT THE ANSWER

(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, House Democrats plan to vote on their national energy tax legislation this week. It defies common sense when the American people are

faced with losing jobs and families are making hard decisions about how to weather this tough economy. The Democrats' priority is to impose a new tax. This cap-and-tax proposal will lead to job losses, higher gas prices, and increased electricity rates on American families with \$3,128 of new taxes for each family each year. Moreover, it is also unnecessary when there are positive alternatives to promote clean energy technology.

An all-of-the-above energy policy would achieve the goals of a cleaner environment while promoting oil and natural gas exploration in America, invest in innovative new technologies and encouraging conservation and smarter energy use. Above all, it would be no new tax on American families nor would it punish small businesses. Taxing American families is not the answer to our energy needs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

#### GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES

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

Mr. WALZ. Madam Speaker, reforming Medicare formulas so that they reward quality and value is one of the changes that must be part of any discussion on health care reform.

The Congressional Budget Office recognizes the problem of a simple fee-for-service payment system regardless of the quality of care our patients receive. That means we pay doctors for doing more tests and ineffective treatments.

In my home district of southern Minnesota, the Mayo Clinic is a model of providing high quality care at low prices. But because of the way Medicare payments are figured today, the Mayo Clinic is penalized for that. We must reward those that save money and at the same time provide the highest quality of care. This can be done by creating an index within the Medicare physician fee formula to simply measure quality.

I urge my colleagues to support the inclusion of this sort of provision in the final health care reform package.

#### AVOID EUROPEAN ENERGY MODEL

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, this administration and the Democrat Congress are pushing us towards European socialism through more government control. This week it is the energy economy. We are scheduled to consider the Waxman-Markey cap-and-tax scheme that will cap our growth and tax all of us.

In 2005, the Europeans implemented the emissions trading scheme, or ETS. ETS has increased household energy

costs by 16 percent and industrial energy costs by 32 percent in just 4 years with no measurable effect on greenhouse gases.

The Heritage Foundation projects the Waxman-Markey impact on America will be a 74 percent increase in gasoline prices, a 90 percent increase in electricity prices, and at least 850,000 jobs lost every year. The energy bill for the average American household will go up over \$3,000 per year. That is exactly what the authors want. President Obama recently stated that the only way a cap-and-tax scheme will work is for higher energy costs. They have to "skyrocket."

I urge my colleagues to reject this bill that is all economic pain and no environmental gain and, instead, join me in supporting the American Energy Act that promotes and develops domestic energy sources, encourages conservation, and advances renewable technologies while pursuing America's competitive edge.

#### COMMENDING BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES P. COMBS

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, today I come to the floor to honor an individual who has sacrificed over 42 years of his life for this great Nation.

Brigadier General James P. Combs has proudly and gallantly served his country on foreign soil in the countries of Vietnam, Afghanistan, and Iraq. He was appointed Commander of our Joint Forces Training Base in Los Alamitos, California, on November 1, 2005. General Combs retired from Federal service on October 1, 2007, at which time Governor Schwarzenegger assigned him in a State active duty position to remain as the base commander.

On July 4, 2009, in just a little over a week, General Combs will retire from the United States Armed Forces. And on behalf of those who have had the honor to serve with him and a grateful Nation, I commend him on his numerous accomplishments, his outstanding leadership, and his incredible military career.

Brigadier General James P. Combs will always remain a soldier's soldier and a true American hero.

#### CAP THE TAXACRATS AND TRADE THEM FOR OFFSHORE RIGS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, this country has lost nearly 3 million jobs just this year. That's over a million more than the 2 million men, women, and children, including illegals living within the fourth largest city in the United States, namely, Houston, Texas.

We are still buying oil from dictators who don't like us because the enviro-elites are dead set on their none-of-the-above energy plan. No oil, no gasoline, no oil shale, no clean coal, no nuclear, no drilling, and that means no natural gas. Just what do they expect to use to power the Nation's cities and industry?

The taxacrats' plan is simple: tax energy consumption. And because of these new taxes and higher energy costs, even more jobs are at risk.

According to the National Black Chamber of Commerce, the national energy tax will cost another 2.5 million jobs in America. America cannot afford any more of this change. The cap-and-trade bill will cost jobs, raise taxes, raise the cost of energy, and, according to the Congressional Budget Office, won't even significantly help the climate.

The bill is bad for everybody except the enviro-elites who get more government control over the rest of us. What we need to do is cap the taxacrats and trade them for some offshore rigs in the Gulf of Mexico.

And that's just the way it is.

#### COMMENDING TULAROSA HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. TEAGUE. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Tularosa High School in Tularosa, New Mexico, for receiving a bronze medal in U.S. News and World Report's annual report of the best high schools in America.

This award shows that Tularosa High School is serving all of its students well regardless of their backgrounds. Also, this means that the school is performing well on a broad range of indicators, not just one or two, and that the students learning there are getting the training that they need to do well in college. Tularosa High School not only performed well against its peers in New Mexico, but competed admirably with schools across the United States.

Schools like Tularosa High School achieve such great distinctions because of the hard work and dedication of the teachers, staff, and administration. Their students also deserve to be commended for fully taking advantage of all of the opportunities provided to them at Tularosa High School. It takes a team of hardworking folks to make this type of progress.

I am honored to have schools like Tularosa High School in my district. I commend their achievement and wish them luck in replicating it again.

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#### IRANIAN ELECTIONS: WHERE'S THE PROOF?

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

Mr. STEARNS. Good morning, Madam Speaker.

My colleagues, it is vital that the elected officials in the United States express their solidarity with those who peacefully advocate for freedom in Iran.

It is clear that the votes in the Iranian elections were manipulated. An analysis by the London-based Chatham House, a British think tank, found that the turnout in two provinces exceeded 100 percent, along with other fraudulent activities. How could they count 40 million votes in 4 hours, many of them paper votes?

Let's see a list of registered voters and voter turnout by province and how these elections compare with earlier Iranian elections. These are crucial questions and considerations in determining the validity of these elections.

I agree with the President that the disputed elections are a matter for the Iranians to resolve themselves. However, as a leader of the Free World, the President should have stepped up earlier in support of the pro-democracy demonstrators and in condemning the attacks on them. And he should ask, Where is the proof? Where is the proof in the Iranian elections?

#### RECOGNIZING OUTGOING OFFICIALS OF THE EIGHTH DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

(Ms. BEAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BEAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding contributions of the outgoing village presidents and mayors from the Eighth District of Illinois.

In April, following municipal elections and retirements, many of our local leaders left office, including Bill Gentes from Round Lake, Scott Gifford from Deer Park, Keith Hunt from Hawthorn Woods, Dick Hyde from Waukegan, Tom Hyde from Island Lake, Cindy Irwin from Fox Lake, Dorothy Larson from Antioch, Catherine Mechert from Bartlett, Ted Mueller from Hainesville, Rita Mullins from Palatine, Tim Perry from Grayslake, Virginia Povidas from Lakemoor, Salvatore Saccomanno from Wauconda, and John Tolomei from Lake Zurich. Their long-standing service embodies what leadership is all about.

Our mayors often serve as the voice of our local communities and are the closest contact for many residents on government issues. I thank them all for actively representing their cities and in their dealings with my office on Federal issues. I have enjoyed working with each and every one of them and wish them the best of success. They have assisted our office in better serving our communities and all Illinois families.