

spending slumps and more families find themselves with a breadwinner without work.

What we need to get us out of this slump are policies aimed at helping employers create jobs. When employers create jobs and start hiring, the unemployed can get back to work and rejoin the ranks of the workers that make our Nation great.

And what kind of policies encourage employers to create jobs? Policies that reduce the burden of government mandates and keep the tax man from dipping too deep into the pockets of those who create jobs: small business owners. What we are talking about is cutting back the jungle of red tape and keeping taxes low for the entrepreneurs who always lead the way to economic recovery.

In 1802, Thomas Jefferson put it this way: "If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people, under the pretense of taking care of them, they must become happy." He was voicing a common insight into the tendency of government to quickly put burdensome mandates on entrepreneurs and job-creating small businesses under the guise of lending a helping hand. Today we know this syndrome as big government.

Unfortunately for the real engines of job creation in America, the Ways and Means Committee Democrats floated a massive tax hike in the past few days that will fall squarely on small business owners and entrepreneurs. Sure, they will market their \$540 billion tax increase as "a surtax" on "the wealthy." And you can bet your last dollar that anyone who dares to question this tax will be called a defender of the wealthy.

How about defending the small businesses that will help pull us out of the recession? How about looking out for innovators and risk takers whose ideas and products create jobs and grow our economy. These are the people who will be shelling out for this new \$540 billion tax. And they are the very same people who could be hiring the unemployed and creating jobs if we just give them the breathing room they need instead of hiking their taxes one more time.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, Eternal Lawgiver, we bless and praise You. Your very laws of nature form a balance of power and an orderly pattern for the study of science.

The blessed people of this Nation are those who choose each day to be law-abiding citizens, in business, in matters of justice, and even in traffic. Freedom is found and served when obeying the law is seen as preserving the common good and choosing a higher good rather than self-interest.

Good laws not only embody standards of behavior and ideals for us, they also unite us in an orderly pattern of living together and become a common endeavor for each of us to model freedom and responsibility for the rest of the world.

Therefore, Lord, guide and protect the lawmakers of this Nation. Preserve them from all illusions tied to their hopes and free them from prejudice which blinds anyone from equal justice.

By Your Spirit, work in and through the Members of the House of Representatives, that seeing their good work, all may give You glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BOOZMAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 13, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, The Capitol,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 13, 2009, at 9:14 a.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment, requests a conference with the House, and appoints conferees H.R. 2892.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

REPORT ON H.R. 3183, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Mr. OBEY, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-203) on the bill (H.R. 3183) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

HONORING ALLBRITTON COMMUNICATIONS FOR ITS GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

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

Mr. BOOZMAN. I rise today to honor the Joe L. Allbritton family, the Allbritton Communications Company, and the Little Rock, Arkansas, ABC affiliate KATV for their generous contribution of an extensive video collection of historical events to the University of Arkansas.

Through a partnership formed between Allbritton Communications and KATV with the David and Barbara Pryor Center for Arkansas Oral and Visual History, KATV's video library, the largest in the State and one of the largest in the Nation, will be a treasure that all Americans can enjoy.

This Master Cassette Recording Library contains more than half a century of KATV news coverage, including more than 26,000 hours of Arkansas history collected over the past 50 years. The bulk of this video footage has never been made available to the public, and with the additional funds from this gift, the Pryor Center will be able to offer this footage online.

Arkansans and all Americans will be able to benefit from this great historical database that depicts the history of The Natural State.

CONGRESSIONAL "CREDIT CARD" REFORM

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, the Democrats on the House Ways and Means Committee announced their intention to finance a Washington takeover of health care by raising taxes. For those of you keeping score, the Democrats' economic plan has been to spend billions of new dollars on programs that generated no economic activity in a stimulus package, increase regular appropriations spending at a rate that is sure to increase inflation, implement a national

energy tax, and now, create a tax on those the Democrats call wealthy but who you and I call job creators and entrepreneurs. While I'm no economist, I'm pretty certain that no one in their right minds would call this a "pro-growth" agenda.

Remember earlier this year when Congress cracked down on abusive practices by credit card companies? Supporters argued this plan was needed because too many saw credit cards as a license to spend with little or no financial repercussions. Well, maybe we need a congressional "credit card" reform. While there are some in this Chamber who use the U.S. Treasury like a credit card with no limit, our children and grandchildren will be paying for this shortsightedness.

Let's start by rejecting this trillion-plus-dollar fiasco being billed as health care "reform."

POSITIVE SOLUTIONS NEEDED

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, our Nation is enduring one of the most troubling economic periods in its history: 3.5 million Americans have been laid off since this Congress began. Unemployment is approaching 10 percent.

Americans are looking for leadership and real solutions to promote economic growth and create good jobs, but the Democrats in charge only offer more borrowing and spending that's delaying recovery and job growth. Americans have lost confidence and trust in this majority to lead us to recovery.

Republicans have positive solutions that the American people support: in the economy, to encourage small business, the job creation engine of this Nation; in the area of energy, an all-you-can-create energy policy that would make us independent from foreign oil; and in the area of health care, no government takeover, but putting patients and their families, along with doctors, in charge.

Positive solutions are needed, and we ask all House Members of reason to work together for these positive solutions.

RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY

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

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution of inquiry directing the Attorney General to transmit to the House information in his possession relating to the attempted transfer of detainees held at Guantanamo Bay into the United States.

I have respectfully asked Attorney General Holder on three occasions—March 13, April 23, and May 13—for specific information about his intentions with regard to the transfer of detainees

to the U.S. and how he would protect the communities surrounding detainees held in the U.S. I do not believe these were unusual, unreasonable requests.

After waiting 118 days for a response, I received only a cursory letter from the Justice Department's Office of Legislative Affairs last Thursday that failed to address a single question. Worse, the information included was nothing more than a summary of press releases.

The Attorney General's failure to respond to legitimate congressional inquiries is a disservice to the President and the American people.

This resolution would hold the Attorney General to the President's public commitment to transparency and accountability.

DAMAGING EFFECTS OF CAP-AND-TRADE

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. I know there was a pause in the cap-and-tax debate last week, but don't worry, for my colleagues on the other side, we're going to continue to talk about the damaging effects of cap-and-tax. Why? Because jobs will be lost.

The 212-219 vote was a victory for us who were opposing the cap-and-tax bill. In fact, it was a bipartisan "no" vote. It was a bipartisan "no" vote against job loss.

This is a picture of miners who lost their jobs in the last Clean Air Act amendments; 1,200 in this one mine alone.

What's our solution? An all-of-the-above strategy that opens up the Outer Continental Shelf for revenues for renewable fuels, coal for electricity and fuel, wind and solar, nuclear power, renewable fuels.

Those are the job-creating engines that will help us get out of this economic recession. We can't do that by raising energy prices. We can only do that by lowering it. That's the all-of-the-above energy strategy that we have brought to the floor as Republicans. We have to vote against the cap-and-tax bill.

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S RESIGNATION ADDRESS

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

Mr. GOHMERT. We heard our President say that we're not a Christian Nation—and he may be right, but for those like the President whose education was lacking a great deal in the fullness of our history, I wanted to refer to the greatest resignation of all times.

When George Washington led the military in the Revolution, he did what no man has ever done before or since—won the Revolution and resigned and went home.

In his resolution, the last paragraph on this document said, "I now make it my earnest prayer, that God would have you, and the State over which you preside, in His holy protection, that He would incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow citizens of the United States, and particularly for the brethren who have served in the field; and finally, that He would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind, which were the characteristics of the divine author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy Nation."

That was George Washington.

NEED FOR FISCAL DISCIPLINE

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

Mr. PENCE. As most Americans know, in February of this year, this Democrat Congress and this administration passed a \$1 trillion stimulus bill, with the promise that we would see immediate relief. Even at the Web site for the Recovery Act there is the statement, The Recovery Act is providing immediate fiscal relief, et cetera, et cetera. But the facts tell a different story, Mr. Speaker.

The administration said that if the stimulus bill was passed, that unemployment wouldn't pass 8 percent. It's 9.5 today. Almost 2 million Americans have lost their job since the stimulus was passed.

Remarkably, this administration continues to argue that the stimulus is working. The President of the United States actually said the stimulus had "done its job," and in fact told CNN over the weekend that the stimulus was "working exactly as we anticipated."

His own Treasury Secretary said that the country was "going through a necessary and healthy adjustment." A healthy economy, a stimulus bill that had done its job?

Mr. Speaker, the American people know better. What we need in this Congress is not another big, old giveaway stimulus bill. What we need is fiscal discipline for Washington, D.C., and tax relief for working families, small businesses, and family farms. That's the Republican prescription for a real recovery, and we ought to get on with it.

□ 1415

THE ELITIST VIEW OF CAP-AND-TRADE

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission