

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

to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, we voted on cap-and-trade, or cap-and-tax, here in this House; and a lot of people are wondering what the American people think about it, what does the rest of the country think about it, and what does the world think about it. Well, the votes are in from the elitists. We've just heard from Great Britain's Prince Charles who tells us unless the rest of the world follows us, we only have 96 months until basically the end of this planet. He says, We ought to stop this idea of consumerism, and we've got to stop the little people from being able to advance themselves. Oh, only the elites. Then there is Vice President Gore; and he, appearing across the pond, said, The passage of cap-and-trade is the best step towards global governance that we've ever seen.

So you may wonder what the people in Detroit think. You may wonder what the people out of work in my district think. But we know what the elites think, Thank God for cap-and-trade so we can keep the little people where they belong. They don't deserve any advancement in the economy. But let the princes of the world continue lecturing the rest of us.

HOLD CONGRESS ACCOUNTABLE FOR HEALTH CARE VOTES

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, last week I offered House Resolution 615 which, paraphrased, says, Members of Congress who vote for a government-run health care option agree to opt out of the current congressional exchange of private insurance choices and accept the same government-run program for themselves. The people are tired of this body making laws and crafting programs without having to face the consequences of the votes cast for them. So I challenge Members to cosponsor my resolution and publicly pledge that they will use the same government-run plan they vote for to care for themselves and their families. If it is good enough for American families, it should be good enough for families of Members of Congress. Furthermore, I challenge the American people to hold their Representatives responsible for their actions in this regard by urging their Representatives to support this resolution. The American people deserve health care that is affordable but does not allow the government to interfere with the sacred doctor-patient relationship.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend—

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has not recognized for that motion. There is no question before the House at this time.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may state his inquiry.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. When I stood up, the Speaker, if I'm not mistaken, recognized me. Is that not correct?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. That is not correct.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. When I said, "Mr. Speaker," you said, "The gentleman from Georgia," and then I made my motion. You didn't ask why I was standing. You just recognized me, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The announcement that the gentleman from Georgia seeks recognition to offer a motion to adjourn does not render such a motion pending. Until the Chair has actually conferred recognition for the motion it cannot become the pending question.

As stated by the Chair under similar circumstances on October 28, 1997, when no question is pending, the Chair may declare a recess pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There being no question pending at this point, pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1802

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. CAPPS) at 6 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.

RESIGNATION AS LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL AND APPOINTMENT AS LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as Legislative Counsel of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL,
Washington, DC, July 6, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I hereby submit my resignation as Legislative Counsel of the United States House of Representatives, effective at the close of business July 13, 2009.

It has been a great honor and privilege to serve as Legislative Counsel.

Sincerely,

M. POPE BARROW.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. With great regret the Speaker accepts the resignation of the distinguished Legislative Counsel, M. Pope Barrow, Jr., effective July 13, 2009.

Pursuant to section 521 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970 (2 U.S.C. 282), the Speaker appoints Sandra L. Strokoff as legislative counsel of the United States House of Representatives to succeed M. Pope Barrow, Jr., resigned.

EXPRESSING THE GRATITUDE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE SERVICE OF M. POPE BARROW, JR.

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I send to the desk a resolution and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 635

Whereas M. Pope Barrow, Jr., was appointed to the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House of Representatives in 1968;

Whereas M. Pope Barrow, Jr., has provided 40 years of service to the House as a member of the Office of the Legislative Counsel under eight successive Speakers;

Whereas M. Pope Barrow, Jr., has served as the Legislative Counsel for 12 years, following his service as the Deputy Legislative Counsel for 4 years;

Whereas M. Pope Barrow, Jr., has been the principal drafter over the past 30 years of Federal laws that protect the environment, preserve public lands and waterways, and promote the production and efficient use of energy resources;

Whereas M. Pope Barrow, Jr., has provided exemplary leadership in undertaking significant programs to modernize the operations of the Office of the Legislative Counsel and the House; and

Whereas M. Pope Barrow, Jr., has provided steady guidance in continuing the professional, nonpartisan service to which the Office of the Legislative Counsel is dedicated: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives expresses its gratitude to—

(1) M. Pope Barrow, Jr., for his 40 years of service to the House; and

(2) the Office of the Legislative Counsel for its more than 90 years of assistance in the drafting of legislation considered by the House.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 minutes for purposes of debate only to my good friend, the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN).

Madam Speaker, I yield to myself 4 minutes.

Madam Speaker, this a great institution in which we all take great pride in serving. And it is that because of the great Constitution, but also because of the Members who have served here over so many years. And we can be proud of