

exports by implementing the three free trade agreements that we've already negotiated. That way, we show that America keeps its commitments. And we need to lower the corporate tax rate so that our U.S. companies can compete against foreign competitors.

These are commonsense policies that will lead to U.S. competitiveness, job growth, and economic growth.

BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO DAY

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on April 21, 1836, 174 years ago today, Texas forces led by General Sam Houston dealt a decisive blow to General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna and his oppressive government.

Several weeks after signing the Texas Declaration of Independence in March of 1836, roughly 900 members of the Texan army overpowered a much larger Mexican Army in a surprise attack. Some 700 Mexican soldiers were killed and 730 captured, while nine Texans died.

The Texas army quickly and silently moved toward Santa Anna's camp. They were able to get very close because General Santa Anna was still pleased with his victory at the Alamo and failed to post men to watch the Texans' actions. At close range, the "Twin Sisters" drawn by rawhide thongs, were wheeled into position to begin unloading shells at the napping Mexican Army. The cannons were gifts from the people of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Texas soldiers followed the bombardment and yelled and shouted "Remember the Alamo" and "Remember Goliad" stopping only a few yards from the Mexican soldiers to open fire in a surprise attack.

The Mexican soldiers were better trained than their Texas opponents. They were caught off guard. It was a bold attack in broad daylight.

Texas General Sam Houston, former Member of this Congress from Tennessee, future President of the Republic of Texas, future U.S. Senator and Governor of Texas, had two horses shot out from under him and was shot and his ankle was shattered.

Santa Anna was captured that day and held prisoner and signed peace treaties to give Texas independence.

The battle is memorialized along the San Jacinto River with a monument in our district in La Porte, Texas. A panel on the side of the monument states: "Measured by its results, San Jacinto was one of the decisive battles of the world. The freedom of Texas from Mexico won here led to annexation and to the Mexican War, resulting in the acquisition by the United States of the States of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, California, Utah and parts of Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas and Oklahoma. Almost one-third of the present area of the American Nation, nearly

one million square miles, changed sovereignty."

That's what we're commemorating today.

NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE

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

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of the National Day of Silence. April 16 was the 14th year we've commemorated the National Day of Silence, a time when students across the country remain silent for the whole day to draw attention to discrimination toward their LGBT peers.

Every day students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered, as well as those who are perceived to be LGBT, are subjected to harassment, bullying, intimidation and violence. These actions are incredibly harmful to students, and they also damage our educational system.

In addition to supporting the National Day of Silence, I'm also proud to be cosponsor of H.R. 4530, the Student Nondiscrimination Act. This act is necessary because bullying and discrimination are the norm for so many LGBT young people. These youth face unique challenges in their physical and mental health. Last weekend a group of constituents hosted a Queer Youth Health Summit in Santa Cruz, California.

This group also works to identify mental and physical health needs and promote safe and healthy lifestyles for queer and questioning youth in the region. It's unfortunate a summit like this is necessary, but I commend these students for responding so compassionately.

Though many lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender advocates and their straight allies were silent last Friday, we in Congress should never be. Our job is to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

BRAZILIAN COTTON ISSUE

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

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, April 6, 2010, marks the date that our farm subsidies—these are programs that, on a good day, are out of step with reality—took an unprecedented leap into the absurd. On that day the administration hatched an agreement on Brazil trade litigation that includes the U.S. paying Brazil \$143.7 million a year for "technical assistance and capacity building." Because our subsidies violate WTO rules, we're now paying millions to subsidize Brazilian agriculture.

Let's think about that for a minute. Our subsidies for U.S. farmers are out of step with the WTO. So what do we do in response? We subsidize our trade partners elsewhere in the world. So your tax dollars are not only going to pay subsidies for U.S. agriculture, but

now to pay subsidies for our trade partners in other countries.

We have got to stop this, Mr. Speaker. It's Congress' responsibility to reform our cotton program and our agriculture subsidies.

WALL STREET REFORM

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

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of Wall Street reform. With 8 million jobs lost at the hands of Wall Street tycoons recklessly gambling on the financial futures of our constituents, enough is enough.

This Democratic Caucus has made great progress in pulling our economy back from the brink of disaster, yet the hard work remains. It's my hope that we, in a bipartisan manner, can see that reforming Wall Street is not a political issue. It is an issue that will shape the financial security of all Americans and prevent future economic disasters.

When we enact this bill, it will end bailouts by helping ensure that taxpayers never again are on the hook for Wall Street's risky decisions. It will protect families' retirement funds, college savings, home and business financial futures from unnecessary risks, protect consumers from predatory lending abuses, fine print and industry gimmicks. It will inject transparency and accountability into the financial system which has run amuck.

Mr. Speaker, I say to opponents of this bill, enough is enough. It's time to vote in favor of Main Street all across this great country and against the Wall Street that has run roughshod over the future of too many American families.

WE MUST REIN IN WALL STREET BANKS

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago our Nation suffered one of the greatest economic meltdowns in history when the financial markets nearly collapsed and sent the country into the deepest recession in a generation, one that my State of Nevada is still working to pull itself out of.

The hardworking people of southern Nevada have paid a steep price for the greed and dangerous under-regulation of Wall Street that created a foreclosure crisis resulting in far too many families losing their homes. Seniors lost their retirement nest eggs, and parents lost their savings to pay for their children to go to college.

It's time to ensure that the proper safeguards are in place so that we can prevent a crisis of this magnitude in the future. We must rein in Wall Street

banks that gave their executives obscene bonuses while steering our economy into the ditch. We must close regulatory loopholes and strengthen oversight enforcement so that government agencies cannot fall asleep at the wheel.

The House has already passed this important legislation that will permanently end taxpayer bailouts and hold Wall Street accountable. I urge the Senate to do so.

TAX RELIEF

(Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, while we are beginning to see signs of recovery, hardworking families and small business owners are still contending with the worst economic downturn in decades. Creating jobs and helping to get Arizona back on track remains my top priority.

Washington can serve those goals by providing much needed tax relief for middle class households and entrepreneurs. It will be the American people, not the government alone, who will get our economy moving again. This Congress needs to support them by helping them keep more of their hard-earned money.

That's why I fought for the largest middle class tax cut in American history. According to a report by Citizens for Tax Justice, 99 percent of working Arizonans benefited from that package on tax day, saving an average of over \$1,000 each.

Tax relief is putting money back into our local economies, spurring job creation and growth. I am proud to be standing up for this effort every step of the way.

□ 1030

WALL STREET

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

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, I understand that one of the biggest issues facing American families today is the cost of living and our economic future.

I'm disappointed that the health of our Nation's financial institutions has come into question as a result of unscrupulous lending and mortgage practices, preceded by years of inadequate regulation of the financial services industry. Republicans and Democrats alike, for too long, have failed to hold unscrupulous financial institutions accountable, and hardworking families across the country are paying the price.

At the same time, I know that many local banks have not engaged in the risky and irresponsible lending practices that led to the economic meltdown that we saw last year. The House-

passed reform bill is about cleaning up that irresponsibility and protecting consumers, not about burdening local banks that play by the rules.

I have witnessed firsthand the valuable impacts that small- and medium-sized community banks make on the daily lives of New York's families, helping them buy their first home, finance their small business, and send their children to college. In these tough economic times, it is critical that Congress hold financial institutions to a higher standard while allowing local banks to continue to be able to invest in their communities.

HIDTA AWARDS

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

Ms. GIFFORDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Arizona Region of the National High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area task force, also known as HIDTA. The HIDTA mission is to reduce drug trafficking in the areas of our Nation that are most impacted. This is done through a team effort among Federal, local, and State authorities.

At the recent HIDTA conference here in Washington, D.C., the Arizona HIDTA was honored for its interdiction successes and its financial investigations.

In 2009, the Arizona region completed a 4-year investigation which led to a \$93 million settlement with Western Union. And the Southwest Border HIDTA, which includes Arizona, was named the national HIDTA region of the year. The Southwest HIDTA region covers the drug trafficking corridors through which more than 90 percent of the drugs that are brought into this country flow through.

I commend the men and women who carry out these essential and dangerous drug interdiction efforts. Thank you to the service these men and women give to our Nation. Thank you for helping us secure our borders.

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 the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

CAREGIVERS AND VETERANS OMNIBUS HEALTH SERVICES ACT

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1963) to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide assistance to care-

givers of veterans, to improve the provision of health care to veterans, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. References to title 38, United States Code.

TITLE I—CAREGIVER SUPPORT

Sec. 101. Assistance and support services for caregivers.

Sec. 102. Medical care for family caregivers.

Sec. 103. Counseling and mental health services for caregivers.

Sec. 104. Lodging and subsistence for attendants.

TITLE II—WOMEN VETERANS HEALTH CARE MATTERS

Sec. 201. Study of barriers for women veterans to health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Sec. 202. Training and certification for mental health care providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs on care for veterans suffering from sexual trauma and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Sec. 203. Pilot program on counseling in retreat settings for women veterans newly separated from service in the Armed Forces.

Sec. 204. Service on certain advisory committees of women recently separated from service in the Armed Forces.

Sec. 205. Pilot program on assistance for child care for certain veterans receiving health care.

Sec. 206. Care for newborn children of women veterans receiving maternity care.

TITLE III—RURAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENTS

Sec. 301. Improvements to the Education Debt Reduction Program.

Sec. 302. Visual impairment and orientation and mobility professionals education assistance program.

Sec. 303. Demonstration projects on alternatives for expanding care for veterans in rural areas.

Sec. 304. Program on readjustment and mental health care services for veterans who served in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sec. 305. Travel reimbursement for veterans receiving treatment at facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Sec. 306. Pilot program on incentives for physicians who assume inpatient responsibilities at community hospitals in health professional shortage areas.

Sec. 307. Grants for veterans service organizations for transportation of highly rural veterans.

Sec. 308. Modification of eligibility for participation in pilot program of enhanced contract care authority for health care needs of certain veterans.