

Himes	McGovern	Salazar
Hinchey	McHenry	Sánchez, Linda
Hinojosa	McKeon	T.
Hirono	McMahon	Sanchez, Loretta
Hodes	McMorris	Sarbanes
Hoekstra	Rodgers	Scalise
Holden	McNerney	Schakowsky
Holt	Meek (FL)	Schauer
Honda	Meeks (NY)	Schiff
Hoyer	Melancon	Schmidt
Hunter	Mica	Schock
Inglis	Michaud	Schrader
Inslee	Miller (FL)	Schwartz
Israel	Miller (MI)	Scott (GA)
Issa	Miller (NC)	Scott (VA)
Jackson (IL)	Miller, Gary	Sensenbrenner
Jackson Lee	Miller, George	Serrano
(TX)	Minnick	Sessions
Jenkins	Mitchell	Sestak
Johnson (GA)	Mollohan	Shadegg
Johnson (IL)	Moore (KS)	Shea-Porter
Johnson, E. B.	Moore (WI)	Sherman
Johnson, Sam	Moran (KS)	Shimkus
Jones	Moran (VA)	Shuler
Kagen	Murphy (CT)	Shuster
Kanjorski	Murphy (NY)	Simpson
Kennedy	Murphy, Patrick	Sires
Kildee	Murphy, Tim	Skelton
Kilpatrick (MI)	Myrick	Slaughter
Kilroy	Nadler (NY)	Smith (NE)
Kind	Napolitano	Smith (NJ)
King (IA)	Neal (MA)	Smith (TX)
King (NY)	Neugebauer	Smith (WA)
Kingston	Nunes	Snyder
Kirk	Nye	Souder
Kirkpatrick (AZ)	Oberstar	Space
Kissell	Obey	Speier
Klein (FL)	Olson	Spratt
Kline (MN)	Olver	Stark
Kosmas	Ortiz	Stearns
Kratovil	Owens	Stupak
Kucinich	Pallone	Sullivan
Lamborn	Pascrell	Sutton
Lance	Pastor (AZ)	Tanner
Langevin	Paulsen	Taylor
Larsen (WA)	Payne	Teague
Larson (CT)	Pence	Terry
Latham	Perlmutter	Thompson (CA)
Latta	Perriello	Thompson (MS)
Lee (CA)	Peters	Thompson (PA)
Lee (NY)	Peterson	Thornberry
Levin	Petri	Tiahrt
Lewis (CA)	Pingree (ME)	Tiberi
Lewis (GA)	Pitts	Tierney
Linder	Platts	Titus
Lipinski	Poe (TX)	Tonko
LoBiondo	Pomeroy	Towns
Loeb sack	Posey	Tsongas
Lofgren, Zoe	Price (GA)	Turner
Lowey	Price (NC)	Upton
Lucas	Putnam	Van Hollen
Luetkemeyer	Radanovich	Velázquez
Luján	Rahall	Visclosky
Lummis	Rangel	Walden
Lungren, Daniel	Rehberg	Walz
E.	Reichert	Wamp
Lynch	Reyes	Wasserman
Mack	Richardson	Schultz
Maffei	Rodriguez	Waters
Manzullo	Roe (TN)	Watson
Marchant	Rogers (AL)	Watt
Markey (CO)	Rogers (KY)	Waxman
Markey (MA)	Rogers (MI)	Weiner
Marshall	Rohrabacher	Westmoreland
Matheson	Rooney	Wilson (OH)
Matsui	Ros-Lehtinen	Wilson (SC)
McCarthy (CA)	Roskam	Wittman
McCarthy (NY)	Ross	Wolf
McCaul	Rothman (NJ)	Woolsey
McClintock	Roybal-Allard	Wu
McCollum	Royce	Yarmuth
McCotter	Ryan (OH)	Young (FL)
McDermott	Ryan (WI)	

NAYS—2

Paul Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—21

Ackerman	Dicks	McIntyre
Aderholt	Gohmert	Polis (CO)
Barrett (SC)	Grijalva	Quigley
Cleaver	Jordan (OH)	Ruppersberger
Conyers	Kaptur	Rush
Davis (AL)	LaTourette	Welch
Dent	Maloney	Whitfield

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1250

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2194, IRAN REFINED PETROLEUM SANCTIONS ACT OF 2009

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TITUS). Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees on H.R. 2194:

From the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BERMAN, ACKERMAN, SHERMAN, CROWLEY, SCOTT of Georgia, COSTA, KLEIN of Florida, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Messrs. BURTON of Indiana, ROYCE, and PENCE.

From the Committee on Financial Services, for consideration of sections 3 and 4 of the House bill, and sections 101–103, 106, 203, and 401 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. FRANK of Massachusetts, MEEKS of New York, and GARRETT of New Jersey.

From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of sections 3 and 4 of the House bill, and sections 101–103 and 401 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. LEVIN, TANNER, and CAMP.

There was no objection.

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 1914

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered to be the first sponsor of H.R. 1914, a bill originally introduced by Representative Deal of Georgia, for the purposes of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

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

There was no objection.

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 4336

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered to be the first sponsor of H.R. 4336, a bill originally introduced by Representative Deal of Georgia, for the purposes of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

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

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 4717

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 4717.

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

There was no objection.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland, the majority leader, for the purpose of announcing next week's schedule.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the Republican whip for yielding.

Madam Speaker, on Monday, the House will meet at 12:30 p.m. for morning-hour debate and at 2 p.m. for legislative business, with votes postponed until 6:30 p.m. On Tuesday, the House will meet at 10:30 a.m. for morning-hour debate and at 12 p.m. for legislative business. On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for legislative business. On Friday, no votes are expected in the House.

We will consider several bills under suspension of the rules, including the very important H.R. 3393, Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act of 2009, introduced by Representative PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania. The complete list of suspension bills will be announced by the close of business tomorrow.

In addition, we will consider H.R. 5013, Implementing Management for Performance and Related Reforms to Obtain Value in Every Acquisition Act of 2010, and H.R. 2499, the Puerto Rico Democracy Act of 2009.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman.

Madam Speaker, the House will be in session for five more weeks prior to the Memorial Day district work period. I would like to inquire of the gentleman what legislation he expects the House to consider prior to that district work period in addition to the items he just mentioned for next week.

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As the gentleman knows, our number one priority has been and continues to be the progress on the creation of jobs. Last month's report was a positive report. We gained 162,000 jobs, and the economy is showing signs of very substantial improvement as a result of the Recovery Act and of other actions that we've taken to get Americans back to work. So that will continue to be our focus.

Having said that, we also have passed already the HIRE Act, which we think

will have a very substantial, positive effect, which includes payroll tax forgiveness for the hiring of new employees who have been unemployed for some period of time. If they are kept on for 52 weeks, there will be a \$1,000 additional payment, which we hope will encourage employers to hire new people. Additionally in that bill, we gave an extension of the Highway Trust Fund to allow for continued and increased investment in infrastructure and the Build America Bonds legislation, as well as giving a boost to small business growth in terms of expensing.

In addition, the House passed the Small Business and Infrastructure Jobs Act, which is pending in the Senate. We hope that it is coming back to us this work period. We would like to build on our record of job-creating legislation with additional relief to small businesses.

The President has proposed, as the gentleman knows, the Small Business Lending Fund that would take \$30 billion of TARP funds, which was obviously designed to try to get our economy moving again, and provide capital infusion to local banks, and provide assets of \$10 billion or less to incentivize small business lending.

Also, we hope to complete action with the Senate on a long-term extension of unemployment insurance, COBRA benefits and tax extenders for businesses, large and small. Obviously, those pieces of legislation have passed the House.

I expect the House will also take action this work period on the COMPETES Act, which is relatively non-controversial, but invests in growing our economy, particularly in technology innovations, math, and science.

Other items on our agenda for this work period are budget resolution, defense acquisition reform, which I announced we would do next week, defense authorization, the Afghanistan/Pakistan supplemental, the Haiti supplemental, and of course the Iran sanctions conference report, which I hope to have done. As to the resolution that you and I just voted for, the motion to instruct, I urge that that be reported back by the Memorial Day break.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman.

I would say to the gentleman that I am heartened to hear about his continued insistence that this body continue to focus on the number one priority of the American people, which is getting this economy going again and getting Americans back to work.

Madam Speaker, I would say that most Americans agree that what we ought to be doing is containing and limiting government spending. Many of the programs that the gentleman just pointed out indicate that we, perhaps, are going to keep heading down the same road that we have been in order to try and create an environment for jobs.

I would say to the gentleman, although there was some job growth last month, he, himself, I think, would

admit that that is just not enough. In fact, if we were to look back at the times of very high employment in prior years, there is probably a need for over 400,000 jobs to be created each month for us, over a period of several years, in order to accommodate for the growth in population as well as to return us to that kind of low unemployment.

□ 1300

We have got a lot of work to do, in other words, Madam Speaker, and I know the gentleman knows that. And I think it is fair to say that, in fact, we need to create 434,000 jobs per month for 2 years to make up for the job losses that we have experienced. That is going to take some significant commitment on the part of this Congress to stop the government spending and, frankly, to lower taxes on small businesses.

As the gentleman knows, his constituents just like mine, everyone I talk to knows someone out of work, and it is high time for us to focus on small business, and that is to provide the tax relief for small business and to stop the government programs of spending. And I would hope that the gentleman can commit to trying to change the route that we have taken to finally begin to grow this economy again.

With that, Madam Speaker, I would ask the gentleman when—

Mr. HOYER. Before the gentleman asks another question, would you yield so I might comment on the comments that the gentleman made?

Mr. CANTOR. I yield.

Mr. HOYER. The gentleman indicates that we want to stop spending. Every economist from his side of the aisle to our side of the aisle said that if we did not spend money last year that we wouldn't have grown the economy. In fact, Ben Bernanke, the Republican-appointed Chairman of the Federal Reserve by President Bush; and Secretary Paulson all said you had better invest or you are going to go into a depression, not a recession.

The gentleman talks about job creation, and it is very interesting because, generally speaking, he wants to return to the policies of the Bush administration. And the Bush administration, of course, was the worst job-performing administration since Herbert Hoover. I know the gentleman knows that because those statistics are pretty clear. It created 19,400 jobs per month. You talk about 400 and some odd thousand jobs. I agree with the gentleman. We need to create that level if we are going to get the jobs that your economic program lost, 19,400 jobs, and you need 100,000 to stay even. That was average over 96 months of the policies that were pursued during the Bush administration that my friend supported.

Very frankly, if you will remember, during the Clinton administration, in an economic program that your party didn't support to a person—everyone

voted against it—we created 216,000 jobs per month. Now, there's no secret as to where those jobs were lost. If you create 10 percent of the number of jobs you need to stay even, you're going to go behind and we have a real deficit.

The CBO says that the program that was adopted that, of course, your party opposed, created 2 million new jobs or retained jobs in our economy. Over the last 5 months, we have had a net positive growth in jobs. We grew 162,000 jobs last month. The gentleman is absolutely correct, not nearly enough, but much better than the 779,000 jobs that were lost in the last month of the Bush administration or the average 726,000 jobs that were lost in the last 3 months of the Bush administration.

We are now in the pluses. We are starting to grow. We need to do much, much more. And that's why I responded to the gentleman, when he asked me what we were going to do, we're going to continue to focus on bringing jobs back to America and to our people.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman.

Madam Speaker, I would say this: Always the gentleman likes to talk about the prior administration, and I would just like to point out that during the prior administration, the last 2 years of that, his party was in control of Congress and, certainly, if we look at the numbers, did contribute to some of the problem that we have got today. And I would say there's plenty of blame to go around. But what we are trying to do is to learn from perhaps mistakes having taken place and go forward in a constructive manner.

It is my sense, Madam Speaker, that this Nation is at a crossroads. We have serious challenges facing this country. Last Thursday was Congress's deadline for passing a budget, and it is my strong belief that we must act, and the gentleman indicates that we are going to act, but because of the critical nature of the challenges that we face, Madam Speaker, I believe that we have got three reasons to act swiftly and properly in passing a budget because it is at the heart of the lack of confidence of what the American people feel towards this body, and if we can rebuild that confidence somehow, we can see a return to growth in this economy so people can get back to work.

First, Madam Speaker, since the 1974 Budget Act passed, the House has never failed to pass a budget resolution. American families and small businesses are not given the luxury of avoiding a budget somehow because maybe it's too difficult, and neither should we. And the gentleman in his own words has said before that it is difficult to pass budgets in election years because the budgets reflect what the fiscal status is. And again, Madam Speaker, I point out never since the passage of the Budget Act in 1974 has this House failed to pass a budget resolution.

Secondly, Madam Speaker, as to the urgency for this body to act in this critical time, CBO Director Doug Elmendorf recently remarked that the

Nation's fiscal path is unsustainable and without a more aggressive approach to spending than the President took in his budget proposal, the debt will rise from currently 53 percent of GDP to 90 percent of GDP at the end of the decade. We all know, Madam Speaker, that is unacceptable.

Finally, I would say to the gentleman, Madam Speaker, the President in his remarks consistently refers to pending tax increases as the expiration of the Bush tax cut. And, Madam Speaker, I would say the American people believe that erasing a tax cut is a tax increase. This Congress has a responsibility to the people that we represent to inform them, the families, the small businesses, of its intention on whether we are going to increase taxes on the small business people and working families of this country.

So I would ask the gentleman if he could give us some sense of when we could expect this body to act on a budget.

I yield.

Mr. HOYER. Well, I hope that we act on a budget certainly before the end of this work period. I think it's important to pass a budget. I have said that. I am working towards that end.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman for that and for his commitment to ensure that we right the ship, so to speak, and stop the spending.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield on that?

Mr. CANTOR. I yield.

Mr. HOYER. The gentleman would like to pretend that the Bush administration didn't exist. He doesn't like to look back. He doesn't like history. He doesn't like to learn from our mistakes. I notice he doesn't outline the mistakes that the Bush administration made and that he made in supporting the Bush economic policies, but presumably he believes they existed, which led to such a disastrous performance of our economy. The turning of a \$5.6 trillion surplus that the Bush administration inherited, which allowed it to do some of the things that it did without paying for them because they inherited surpluses, unfortunately, they left a \$5 trillion deficit to this administration. They left a deep, deep, deep hole that we have been trying to dig out, without much help, frankly, from your side of the aisle, I will tell my friend. And we are getting out of that hole. Almost every indicator indicates that, including a growth in jobs. Not nearly to where people are feeling it. So we need to make sure that we continue to create jobs and create an economy that is working much better than it worked during the Bush administration.

The gentleman mentions that we were in charge of Congress in 2007. Yes, in 2006 the American public said we don't like the policies that the Bush administration and the Republicans in Congress are pursuing; we want a change. We did change. But the gentleman well knows that no veto of

President Bush was overridden to change the economic policies you were pursuing, period. We couldn't do that. We couldn't do it until such time as January of 2009 occurred. When it occurred, unfortunately and tragically for the American people and the millions, 8 million-plus, to be exact, lost their jobs, a financial system that was suffering from egregious regulatory neglect and had, as a result, put many, many taxpayers, millions of taxpayers, to the responsibility of trying to stabilize the ship of state. And we have done that.

The good news is that money is being paid back. And the good news is that in terms of the bill that you and I both supported but two-thirds of your party did not, we did stabilize, at the request of the Bush administration, the financial community.

So when the gentleman says that we need to grow jobs, we do. But very frankly, if the gentleman is proposing the same policies that were pursued for 8 years under the Bush administration, then that won't get it and didn't get it. And that's why it is important to learn, not to place blame, but to learn, as I said the other day, from those failures and not repeat them, to invest in the growth of our economy.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman. Madam Speaker, I would say back if he is so intent on comparing the budgets and the outlook under the Bush administration to this one, I would say this: If we compare the 2011 budgets of President Bush and President Obama, President Bush's outlook and budget for this year was \$2.9 trillion. The 2011 budget of this President is \$3.6 trillion. We could simply cut the deficit by 50 percent if we just lived within President Bush's 2011 budget.

Madam Speaker, I would say to the gentleman if you cut out all of the emergency spending caused by the recession and just look at discretionary spending, since Congress votes on that every year, President Obama will increase discretionary spending by \$319 billion over President Bush's budget for 2011.

So, Madam Speaker, I would say, again, we have got to do better. The American people are waiting for this body to step up in a responsible way to stop the spending, which brings on the need for yet even more debt, which ultimately will lead to higher taxes, despite what the gentleman says, that there's been enough tax relief, and get back to a fiscal path that makes sense so we can see small business grow again.

I yield.

Mr. HOYER. First of all, the gentleman does this often. I never said there has been enough tax relief. What you just said I said, I never said that. Nobody heard me say that.

Mr. CANTOR. I thought that the gentleman, Madam Speaker, had said that there has been so much tax relief under the current administration that it seems that all we need to do is keep spending.

Mr. HOYER. If I can, I think you anticipated what the facts are as you know. I didn't say that but you anticipated I might say it.

Mr. CANTOR. I will apologize—

Mr. HOYER. Ninety-five percent of the American public, 95 percent of the American working people, got a tax cut, as you recall, in the legislation that you voted against, \$280 billion in tax relief. That went into the pockets of Americans, helped them get through some very, very tough times which we inherited, did not create, which we inherited, and moving forward.

Now, with respect to the tax increases that you referred to earlier, they are going into effect because of a policy that I voted against but I think you voted for. You were here in 2001 and 2003. And why did you do that? You talk about budgeting. You did it because you couldn't conform to your budget requirements. So what you simply did was you did the artifice, with all due respect, to saying, well, they will expire in 2010. So what is projected to happen in 2010 is a direct result of the budget and the policies that you promoted and voted for, I tell my friend.

Mr. CANTOR. I will say to the gentleman again if he is so intent on comparing the two, let's go back to the Bush budget, which would allow us to cut the deficit by 50 percent, if he is so intent on saying how bad things were. Let's stop the spending.

But I would say to the gentleman as far as tax relief is concerned, that tax relief to 95 percent of the public, 25 percent of the tax relief went to entities and individuals that don't even pay taxes. Now, in the minds of most Americans, that is not a tax cut; that's a handout. And that is why we have got to start getting back to basics, Madam Speaker, and insist that the kinds of things that we do here are actually constructive to job creation because that is what we need to be about.

Now, we can go through the litany of things in this President's budget and what the majority has done over its term in office this session to demonstrate taxes have gone up significantly over this period.

It is time to stop taxing, stop spending, and stop borrowing.

So, Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for—

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield on that?

Mr. CANTOR. I yield.

Mr. HOYER. When you say taxes have gone up in this period, what period are you referring to?

□ 1315

Mr. CANTOR. Well, I can say this year, this year, Madam Speaker, taxes have increased \$670 billion, \$316 billion of which comes at the expense of the middle class, breaking the President's promise.

Mr. HOYER. And what were those taxes?

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I would say, if you look at the health care bill that was just passed—

Mr. HOYER. The health care bill has not gone into effect. You're saying this year taxes have been increased.

Mr. CANTOR. The health care bill that has just passed, as long as this economy and the players in this economy understand that actions are being taken now to facilitate adopting to a very high tax environment.

Now, if the gentleman wants to join us, if he wants to join us in sending the signal to the public that we're not going to continue business as usual, then let's step up, send the signal we're not going to allow taxes to increase any further, and that starts with differing from the President's budget, which calls for \$2 trillion of tax hikes over the next 10 years.

So I'll say to the gentleman, you can say all day long that you have sat here and provided enough middle class tax relief. It's just not true. The public doesn't understand that. The public sees Washington spending money in unprecedented ways and having to borrow to pay for that. And, ultimately, people understand that it is about raising their taxes, reducing their take-home pay in order to pay for that.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CANTOR. I yield.

Mr. HOYER. The gentleman perhaps believes if he says it enough that I said there's been enough tax relief maybe people will believe it. I have never said that on this floor or any other place. So I wish the gentleman would stop mischaracterizing what I say.

Now, very frankly, what I have said is the policies we pursued were not working demonstrably when we took over the Presidency of the United States, and could change policy, which we did. We changed policy consistent with, frankly, what Senator McCain said ought to be done during the course of the election, not the same way, but that we had to invest in our economy. Mark Zandi, Senator McCain's economic adviser, along with others, said we needed to do what we did.

Now, the gentleman voted against it. But it has, I tell you, worked demonstrably, 2 million new jobs according to the CBO—not new jobs, retained or created. In fact, over 2 million jobs; 162,000 jobs created last month. Not enough. He is correct.

But to ignore the fact that we are making some progress, I don't know whether you saw Larry Kudlow, he said, you know, stop talking down the economy, stop saying that things aren't getting better because the psychology of the economy is very important. And, in fact, whether it's the stock market indication going up, they have confidence, whether it's the growth in our economy from a 6.4 percent decline in the economy that we took over from the Bush administration, to now, a 5.6 percent growth, that figure doesn't mean anything to anybody unless they get jobs. I understand that. We need to get jobs.

What it does mean, however, with the economy growing, that jobs will follow. And that's important.

So please don't put words in my mouth. We need to cut taxes for the American public. In fact, as you know—I want to remark on something that you said. Ronald Reagan was a supporter of the earned income tax credit. Why was he a supporter of the earned income tax credit? Because he thought making sure people had enough money to get by on, buy some food for their family, buy some clothes for their kids to go to school and pay their mortgage payment, was an important thing to happen.

That's the difference, frankly, between our two parties. We don't believe that was a handout. It was a hand up in a very difficult economy. We said—and they don't pay taxes. Why don't they pay taxes, I ask my friend rhetorically. The reason they don't pay taxes is they're not making enough money to pay taxes.

Under your tax program, I would suggest to you, you did that, we supported it. They didn't pay taxes. But what we said is, they've got to live, their kids have to eat, they have to get by. And to the extent that they have some assistance in doing so and spend that money, as every economist will tell you, and you know this to be the case, it will help the economy grow. Yes, we help those people as well.

Maybe you think that was simply a handout and that we shouldn't have done it. But we did it, and it is the difference between our parties in many instances.

I yield back.

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I reclaim my time. Madam Speaker, now, see, this is when the politics of attack kick in. For anyone to sit here and say that Republicans don't care about people, that's just not true, and he knows it. It's a definitional question.

If the gentleman differs with my characterization it's not a handout, it's a hand up, okay. But what we're talking about was tax relief. It was not a tax cut. If you don't pay taxes, you can't get a tax cut.

But what I'd say to the gentleman is this: times are different right now, Madam Speaker. The American public understands the crossroads this country is at, that we are on a path to fiscal ruin.

And the gentleman likes to continue to defend the stimulus bill as having been a success. Well, I would say to the Speaker, I'd say, Madam Speaker, to the gentleman, no one, not very many people in America think the stimulus bill was a success at generating jobs, and that's just almost a unanimous fact among most Americans. So if we know that, why would we continue to advocate the same policies?

And instead, Madam Speaker, I would say again I hope the gentleman would join us in advocating tax cuts for small businesses so that we can grow jobs in this economy.

The gentleman did ask what tax cuts, or what tax hikes, occurred over the last, over this session. And during the gentleman's party's majority rule, we know that there was a \$65 billion tax increase on tobacco products. There was an almost \$7 billion tax increase under the stimulus law repealing guidance allowing certain payers to claim losses of an acquired corporation. There was another almost \$23 billion of surtaxes extended for the Federal unemployment program. And there was also, Madam Speaker, as the gentleman knows, a delay of rules reducing double taxation of American foreign nationals to the tune of almost \$6 billion. Those are the tax hikes that have occurred, in addition to the overwhelming billions and billions of dollars inside the health care bill.

So, Madam Speaker, it is not accurate for the gentleman to represent that, number one, this Congress has not raised taxes on the middle class. We know differently. And, number two, to sit here and hide behind the notion that there aren't going to be tax increases at the end of this year, and the fact that that realization is not impacting job growth or the lack thereof, that's not being completely accurate, Madam Speaker.

And I would say to the gentleman, times are different now. It is time for us to own up to the obligations that we face as a country and work together to try and put this country back onto a growth path.

So with that, Madam Speaker—

Mr. HOYER. Will my friend yield one more time?

Mr. CANTOR. I yield.

Mr. HOYER. It is a new time. We're paying our bills. Now, we had to borrow a lot of money because we were in a very deep hole. And everybody said if you didn't, all economists, Marty Feldstein, conservative adviser to Ronald Reagan, said you need to put more money back into the economy.

We didn't have any money. You had a \$5.6 trillion surplus that you inherited. We inherited a \$5 trillion deficit. So we had no money. Your administration spent it all.

But you didn't pay for things you bought. You didn't pay for your tax cuts. Very nice to give tax cuts, but if you don't pay for them and they create deficits, then who's going to pay for them? Our children. And that's what happened.

We went to war. One was absolutely essential. We went to another war that some say was of choice, that is, in Iraq. We somewhat abandoned Afghanistan when we went to Iraq, and we didn't succeed in Afghanistan; but we didn't pay for either one of those wars.

Who are we expecting to pay for those wars? Our children.

You adopted a drug prescription program which, very frankly, we made better in the health care bill. We made seniors more secure in getting their prescription drugs. But you didn't pay for it.

Your economy that you left us, very frankly, is responsible for 38 percent of that deficit to which you referred; 90 percent-plus of the deficit that confronts this country are direct results of the policies pursued in the last administration. Just as when Roosevelt inherited from the Hoover administration a very substantial downturn, it took him time to turn that economy around.

So I say to my friend, we are prepared to work together, but we're not prepared to pretend that—when you say times are different, they are different. They are very different. The difference between a \$5.6 trillion surplus and a \$5 trillion deficit, the Bush administration inheritance and our inheritance. And that has made it tough. It's made it tough on us, tough on the American people. And we're trying to get out of this. I think we are.

And again I repeat to my friend, Larry Kudlow gave you some good advice, very conservative guy, on television. You know him; I know him. We appear on his program. And he urged those of you on the conservative side of the ledger, don't deny the facts. That's what Larry Kudlow said. Don't deny the progress that has been made because if you deny it and people believe that denial, they won't think things are getting better and they won't act accordingly. And that's not going to be good for our economy. It won't be good for our country.

So I caution my friend to, when things are positive, have the ability to say, yes, we've made some positive progress from where we were before this administration came into office.

I yield back.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman. And in trying to close this colloquy, Madam Speaker, I would say the gentleman knows good and well that when we had a positive job growth report last month, I was the first one to speak out and acknowledge the fact that, yes, growing jobs is a good thing. We've got a long way to go.

The gentleman admits that we are at a different time now, and he points to the deficits; and I point to the fact that the old administration, he alleges, didn't pay its bills, and that perhaps we, in the majority, spent too much. Okay. Fine.

But it doesn't give this majority and this Congress and this administration any better or more license to go and bankrupt this country by continuing on the spending path, and that is my point.

We are at a crossroads, Madam Speaker. I would tell to the gentleman, we have tremendous challenges before us; and as the American people know, if we don't stop the reckless policies of this town, it may very well lead to the fact that our kids and their kids will not enjoy the same freedoms and opportunities that we do.

So I continue to tell the gentleman we stand ready to work with him to try and address this extremely critical time in our Nation.

I yield back.

Mr. HOYER. If the gentleman will yield, I'll simply say, I agree with the gentleman. And I agree with the gentleman, and certainly want to join together in this effort. And the gentleman will observe, that's why we have adopted, readopted statutory PAYGO. We think that will constrain spending. That's why we've created a commission to look at spending and make recommendations to get a handle on the spending in this country and bring our deficit in line as it was in the nineties.

And that is why the President has submitted a budget that freezes discretionary spending at last year's levels. So we agree with you that we need to move in that direction and, in fact, we are.

I thank the gentleman.

Mr. CANTOR. And I'd say, final closing, Madam Speaker. I'd say that in order to get a handle on spending, just stop. And that is why we shouldn't allow for discussion of hiking taxes. It allows this body, this Federal Government, to have yet even more of the taxpayer dollars to decide how to spend.

It's time for us to stop and practice fiscal discipline and get this economy back on track.

I yield back.

□ 1330

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2010

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning-hour debate.

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

There was no objection.

INVESTIGATE GOLDMAN SACHS

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, this week the Securities and Exchange Commission alleges, in a rather unusually constructed civil case, Goldman Sachs committed fraud. But there is growing concern that evidence presented in this case could be excluded from any subsequent criminal case that might be filed by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Thus, I invite my colleagues to join me and several dozen Members in signing onto a letter to Attorney General Holder asking him to investigate Goldman Sachs and other related cases to ferret out and fight fraud in our financial system. Legal maneuvering to thwart justice should not be allowed through those who harmed our Republic so maliciously.

In addition, I urge my colleagues to sign onto H.R. 3995, which enhances the FBI's, SEC's, and Department of Jus-

tice's capabilities to investigate and prosecute fraud and other financial crimes. Our citizens demand justice. Those who committed financial crimes must be brought to justice. Our letter and H.R. 3995 lead exactly in that direction.

RECOGNIZING AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize April as Autism Awareness Month and call for increased research into and treatment for this leading developmental disorder. Autism impacts more of our children every day, and it is becoming exceptionally prevalent in our American society.

The number of American families who must learn to cope with autism is growing every day. An estimated one in 110 children born in the United States are now diagnosed with autism. We must invest in the research that will allow us to better understand and treat this serious disorder.

For individuals already living with autism and those children who will be diagnosed this year, we must make this our priority. Autism's hold on our families, our children, and our country must be broken.

I look forward to the day when children diagnosed with this developmental disorder can live full and healthy lives.

CONGRATULATING ANGEL RAY GUERRERO

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

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, Angel Ray Tudela Guerrero is a teenager in the Northern Mariana Islands who, despite facing health problems in his own life, has found ways to improve the lives of other young people.

At age 12, Angel Ray was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor. But Angel Ray did not let his disease control his life. Instead, he used his experience to empower himself to help others.

During his year-and-a-half long stay in a Hawaii hospital battling cancer, Angel Ray found that time passed more comfortably because of the playroom there. But Angel Ray knew that kids back home in the Commonwealth Health Center in the Northern Mariana Islands had no playroom. So Angel Ray partnered with Hawaii Representative Glenn Wakai and with Reach Out Pacific, a nonprofit organization. Together, they organized donations of toys and books to create a playroom at the Marianas Hospital.

Angel Ray Guerrero is an inspiration to us all, an individual who took the