

ANSWERS AND ACTION TO THE TRAGEDY IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico is an ongoing tragedy, and the American people deserve action to protect our gulf, and they deserve answers.

The American people deserve to know what happened on April 20, and Congress should investigate it thoroughly. The American people deserve to know why the administration was slow to respond, why the necessary equipment was not immediately on hand in the area, and why the President did not fully deploy Cabinet-level Federal officials until he spoke at the White House on April 28.

Lastly, the American people deserve answers for a pathway toward energy independence. There would be those in this country who would exploit this ongoing disaster to deny the American people more access to American oil, but the American people know better. The pathway toward energy independence is an environmentally responsible expansion of domestic drilling for oil and natural gas. It is more wind and solar and nuclear and more conservation.

Republicans are determined to give the American people the answers about what happened on April 20 and about the slow Federal response, and Republicans are determined to give the American people answers and a pathway toward energy independence that uses all of the above.

THE NEED FOR COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to live up to a challenge that has been put before us by the people of our country, by the people of Arizona, and by the people of my State. That is the challenge to replace our broken immigration system with one that works.

As I've traveled across my district, I haven't found a single constituent on the left or on the right who is happy with the state of immigration today in this country. There are over 10 million immigrants in this country who are working illegally, who are frequently undermining wages for working families, and who are taking away jobs from Americans.

We need to pass comprehensive immigration reform to ensure that this number doesn't grow to 15 or 20 million and so, in fact, we have no one who resides in this country illegally. We will require registration and will make sure that people follow the law. We will restore the rule of law to this Nation.

I am a proud cosponsor of the House comprehensive immigration reform bill, which will accomplish that. I call upon my colleagues in the Senate to introduce a bill based on the 25-page outline that they released last week, which would ensure, once and for all, that we will hear the voice of the American people come together to solve our immigration problem.

SUPPORTING A LOCAL JOBS BILL

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, right now, our unemployment rate in the United States hovers around 10 percent. It's a little bit lower than that, but when you think about all of the people who are unemployed in some sectors, it is twice that. In some parts of our country, it is much more than that.

The fact is that we need a jobs bill, a real jobs bill that will put Americans to work. I propose that we support a local jobs bill that will help provide not only jobs for working Americans but will also provide vitally needed services to our cities. All over America, we have districts that are looking at laying off teachers and that are looking at laying off firefighters, police officers, and public works officials. We need these vital services to keep our cities moving properly.

Local officials around this country know that the Federal Government should be responding to these difficult shortfalls and cuts that are resulting in service cuts all over this Nation. We have work that needs to be done, and we have people who are ready to do it. It is time for Congress to step forward with a real local jobs bill.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DRIEHAUS). Pursuant to Executive Order 12131, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the President's Export Council:

Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ, California;
Mr. WU, Oregon;
Mr. SCHAUER, Michigan.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on the Judiciary:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 5, 2010.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER, I am writing to notify you of my resignation from the House Judiciary Committee, effective May 5, 2010. It was an honor to serve you and Chairman Conyers on this prestigious committee.

I look forward to continuing to serve on the Appropriations Committee and the Select Intelligence Oversight Panel in the 111th Congress.

Sincerely,
DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

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.

HAITI ECONOMIC LIFT PROGRAM ACT OF 2010

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5160) to extend the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, to provide customs support services to Haiti, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5160

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Haiti Economic Lift Program Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) On January 12, 2010, Haiti was hit by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake, the worst earthquake to affect Haiti in recorded history. Aftershocks from the earthquake, measuring up to 6.0 on the Richter scale, continued for days afterwards.

(2) The earthquake has devastated Haiti's infrastructure, including homes, offices, factories, roads, ports, communications, and other facilities. The loss of life attributable to the earthquake was massive.

(3) Even before the earthquake, Haiti was the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, ranking 149 out of 182 countries according to the United Nation's Human Development Index.

(4) In recent years, however, the Government and people of Haiti had taken important steps forward to promote economic growth and development, including making strides towards establishing a competitive apparel sector.

(5) United States trade preference programs, including the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (as amended by the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act of 2006, and the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act of 2008), which extend duty-free tariff treatment to certain apparel produced in Haiti, have made an important contribution to Haiti's economic development efforts.

(6) However, the Haitian apparel sector has been hard hit by the January 12, 2010, earthquake. A number of apparel factories based

in and around Port-au-Prince have been heavily damaged, including the collapse of one major apparel factory that had employed nearly 4,000 workers.

(7) The Port-au-Prince seaport that had served the apparel trade has been badly damaged. And extensive damage to roads has made it difficult to transport apparel to the Dominican Republic for shipment from ports in that country.

(8) According to estimates by the Department of Commerce, imports of apparel articles from Haiti to the United States in 2010 have decreased by 43 percent as compared to the same period in 2009.

(9) The earthquake has increased significantly the costs and uncertainty of doing business in Haiti. A strong and unequivocal commitment from the United States is needed to help Haiti offset these costs and preserve the gains made under United States trade preference programs, and to encourage buyers and investors to stand with Haiti through this crisis.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF CARIBBEAN BASIN ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACT.

The Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 213(b)—
(A) in paragraph (2)(A)—
(i) in clause (iii)—

(I) in subclause (II)(cc), by striking “September 30, 2010” and inserting “September 30, 2020”; and

(II) in subclause (IV)(dd), by striking “September 30, 2010” and inserting “September 30, 2020”; and

(ii) in clause (iv)(II), by striking “8” and inserting “18”; and

(B) in paragraph (5)(D)(i), by striking “September 30, 2010” and inserting “September 30, 2020”; and

(2) in section 213A(h), by striking “September 30, 2018” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

SEC. 4. APPAREL AND OTHER ARTICLES SUBJECT TO CERTAIN ASSEMBLY RULES.

(a) CERTAIN OTHER APPAREL ARTICLES.—Section 213A(b)(3) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(F) CERTAIN OTHER APPAREL ARTICLES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Any of the apparel articles described in clause (ii) that is wholly assembled, or knit-to-shape, in Haiti from any combination of fabrics, fabric components, components knit-to-shape, or yarns and is imported directly from Haiti or the Dominican Republic shall enter the United States free of duty, without regard to the source of the fabric, fabric components, components knit-to-shape, or yarns from which the article is made.

“(ii) ARTICLES DESCRIBED.—Apparel articles described in this clause are apparel articles in the following category numbers that fall within the following statistical reporting numbers of the HTS (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this subparagraph):

“Category Number	HTS Statistical Reporting Number
334	6101.90.9010 6112.11.0010 6103.22.0010 6113.00.9015

335	6104.22.0010 6104.29.2010 6112.11.0020	6101.90.9030 6103.23.0036 6103.29.1010 6112.12.0010 6112.19.1010 6112.20.1010 6112.20.1030 6113.00.9025
336	6104.49.9010	
338	6103.22.0050 6105.90.8010 6112.11.0030	
339	6104.22.0060 6104.29.2049 6106.90.2510 6106.90.3010 6110.20.1031 6110.20.1033 6112.11.0040	635 6102.30.0500 6102.90.9015 6104.23.0026 6104.29.1010 6104.29.2014 6104.39.2030 6112.12.0020 6112.19.1020 6112.20.1020 6112.20.1040 6113.00.9030
342	6104.22.0030 6104.29.2022 6104.52.0010 6104.52.0020 6104.59.8010	
350	6107.91.0040 6107.91.0090	636 6104.49.9030 6104.44.2020
351	6107.21.0010 6107.21.0020 6107.91.0030 6108.31.0010 6108.31.0020	638 6103.23.0075 6103.29.1050 6105.90.8030 6110.30.1050 6110.30.2051 6110.30.2053 6112.12.0030 6112.19.1030
433	6103.23.0007 6103.29.0520 6103.31.0000 6103.33.1000 6103.39.8020	639 6104.23.0036 6104.29.1050 6104.29.2055 6106.90.2530 6106.90.3030 6110.30.1060 6110.30.2061 6110.30.2063 6112.12.0040 6112.19.1040
434	6101.30.1500 6101.90.0500 6101.90.9020 6103.23.0005 6103.29.0510	
435	6102.30.1000 6102.90.9010 6104.23.0010 6104.29.0510 6104.29.2012 6104.33.1000 6104.39.2020	651 6107.22.0010 6107.22.0015 6107.22.0025 6107.99.1030 6108.32.0015
438	6103.23.0025 6103.29.0550 6104.23.0020 6104.29.0560 6104.29.2051 6105.90.1000 6105.90.8020 6106.20.1020 6106.90.1010 6106.90.1020 6106.90.2520 6106.90.3020 6110.11.0070 6110.12.2070 6110.12.2080 6110.19.0070 6110.19.0080 6110.30.1550 6110.30.1560	“(iii) CATEGORY DEFINED.—In this subparagraph, the term ‘category’ has the meaning given that term in paragraph (2A)(E) of this subsection.”. (b) MADE-UP TEXTILE ARTICLES.—Section 213A(b)(3) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)(3)), as amended by subsection (a), is further amended by adding at the end the following: “(G) MADE-UP TEXTILE ARTICLES.— “(i) IN GENERAL.—Any of the made-up textile articles described in clauses (ii) and (iii) that is wholly assembled, or knit-to-shape, in Haiti from any combination of fabrics, fabric components, components knit-to-shape, or yarns and is imported directly from Haiti or the Dominican Republic shall enter the United States free of duty, without regard to the source of the fabric, fabric components, components knit-to-shape, or yarns from which the article is made. “(ii) ARTICLES DESCRIBED.—Made-up textile articles described in this clause are articles in the following category numbers that fall within the following statistical reporting numbers of the HTS (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this subparagraph):
633	6103.23.0037 6103.29.1015 6103.33.2000 6103.39.1000 6103.39.8030	
634	6101.30.1000	

“(iii) AUTHORITY TO REDUCE QUANTITATIVE LIMITATION.—If, in any 1-year period with respect to which the President extends preferential treatment as described in this paragraph, the Commissioner reports to the President pursuant to clause (ii) regarding unlawful transshipments, the President—

“(I) may modify the quantitative limitation under this paragraph as the President considers appropriate to account for such transshipments; and

“(II) if the President modifies the limitation under subclause (I), shall publish notice of the modification in the Federal Register.

“(E) CATEGORY DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term ‘category’ means the number assigned under the U.S. Textile and Apparel Category System of the Office of Textiles and Apparel of the Department of Commerce, as listed in the HTS under the applicable heading or subheading (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this paragraph).”.

SEC. 6. EARNED IMPORT ALLOWANCE RULE.

Section 213A(b)(4)(B)(ii)(I) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)(4)(B)(ii)(I)) is amended by striking “three” and inserting “two”.

SEC. 7. EXTENSION OF VALUE-ADDED RULE.

Section 213A of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a), as amended by this Act, is further amended—

“During:

the initial applicable 1-year period	1 percent.
each of the succeeding 11 1-year periods	1.25 percent.”;

and

(iii) in the flush text, by striking “the last day of the fifth applicable 1-year period” and inserting “December 19, 2018”.

SEC. 8. WIRE HARNESES.

Section 213A(c) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703A(c)) is amended by striking “5-year period” and inserting “10-year period”.

SEC. 9. CUSTOMS SUPPORT SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) RAPID RESPONSE TEAM.—The Commissioner responsible for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (in this section referred to as the “Commissioner”) shall, in consultation with the United States Coast Guard, the Drug Enforcement Agency, and other Federal agencies, as appropriate, seek to send a rapid response team to Haiti—

(A) to assess the short-term and long-term technical, capacity-building, and training needs of the authorities of the Government of Haiti responsible for customs services; and

(B) to provide immediate assistance, as warranted, particularly with respect to—

(i) reestablishing full capacity for commercial port operations at the seaport at Port-au-Prince;

(ii) facilitating trade between the United States and Haiti under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as amended by this Act;

(iii) preventing unlawful transshipment of goods through Haiti to the United States; and

(iv) otherwise strengthening cooperation between the customs authorities of the United States, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic with respect to trade facilitation and economic development, customs compliance and law enforcement, and efforts to combat unlawful trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 75 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) INITIAL APPLICABLE 1-YEAR PERIOD.—The term ‘initial applicable 1-year period’ means the 1-year period beginning on December 20, 2006.”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “an applicable 1-year period” and inserting “the initial applicable 1-year period and any 1-year period thereafter”;

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in clause (i)—

(I) by striking “any applicable 1-year period” and inserting “the initial applicable 1-year period and any 1-year period thereafter”;

(II) by striking “the applicable 1-year period” and inserting “that 1-year period”;

(ii) in clause (iv)(II)—

(I) in the subclause heading, by striking “APPLICABLE”;

(II) by striking “In each of the second, third, fourth, and fifth applicable 1-year periods” and inserting “In any 1-year period after the initial applicable 1-year period”; and

(III) by striking “applicable 1-year period” each place it appears and inserting “1-year period”;

(iii) in clause (v)(I)—

(I) in item (aa), by striking “, the second applicable 1-year period, and the third appli-

cable 1-year period” and inserting “and the succeeding 8 1-year periods”;

(II) in item (bb), by striking “the fourth applicable 1-year period” and inserting “the 1-year period beginning on December 20, 2015, and the 1-year period beginning on December 20, 2016”;

(III) in item (cc), by striking “the fifth applicable 1-year period” and inserting “the 1-year period beginning on December 20, 2017”;

(iv) in clause (vi)—

(I) in subclause (II)—

(aa) by striking “any applicable 1-year period” and inserting “the initial applicable 1-year period or any 1-year period thereafter”;

(bb) by striking “applicable 1-year period” each place it appears and inserting “1-year period”;

(II) in subclause (III)—

(aa) in item (aa), by striking “an applicable 1-year period” and inserting “the initial applicable 1-year period or any 1-year period thereafter”;

(bb) by striking “applicable 1-year period” each place it appears and inserting “1-year period”;

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by striking “applicable 1-year periods” and inserting “1-year periods”;

(ii) by striking the table and inserting the following:

the corresponding percentage is:

1 percent.
1.25 percent.”;

the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives a nonconfidential report summarizing the results of the assessment required by paragraph (1)(A), including—

(A) a description of the short-term and long-term technical, capacity-building, and training needs of the authorities of the Government of Haiti responsible for customs services, including a prioritization of immediate infrastructure needs;

(B) a multi-year plan for supplying technical, capacity-building, and training assistance to those authorities, including specific responsibilities to be undertaken by the support team authorized by subsection (b); and

(C) a statement of the amount and purpose for which any funds were expended by the rapid response team in Haiti to administer the provisions of this section, including any expenditure of funds authorized to be appropriated pursuant to subsection (c)(1).

(b) SUPPORT TEAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner shall, in consultation with other Federal agencies, as appropriate, seek to establish a support team in Haiti for the purpose of helping to meet the short-term and long-term technical, capacity-building, and training needs of the authorities of the Government of Haiti responsible for customs services, as described in this section.

(2) TERMINATION.—The support team authorized by paragraph (1) shall terminate on September 30, 2020.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency, to remain available until expended—

(A) \$100,000 to help meet the immediate infrastructure needs of the authorities of the Government of Haiti responsible for customs services for the purpose of facilitating trade between the United States and Haiti under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as amended by this Act; and

(B) \$750,000 for each of the fiscal years 2011 through 2020 for the purpose of maintaining the support team authorized by subsection (b).

(2) SUPPLEMENT AND NOT SUPPLANT.—The amounts authorized to be appropriated by paragraph (1) shall supplement and not supplant any other funds authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Homeland Security.

SEC. 10. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) REGIONAL COOPERATION.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States Trade Representative should seek to enter into consultations with representatives of countries with which the United States has a trading relationship for the purpose of encouraging those countries to establish bilateral trade preference programs with respect to textile and apparel articles produced in Haiti.

(b) TRANSSHIPMENT.—It is the sense of Congress that the Commissioner responsible for U.S. Customs and Border Protection should, in consultation with the United States Trade Representative and the Secretary of Commerce, seek to enter into consultations with representatives of countries with which the United States has a trading relationship for the purpose of preventing the unlawful transshipment of textile and apparel articles from those countries through Haiti.

SEC. 11. CUSTOMS USER FEES.

Section 13031(j)(3) of the Consolidated Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(j)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “May 14, 2018” and inserting “November 10, 2018”;

(2) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “June 7, 2018” and inserting “August 17, 2018”.

SEC. 12. TIME FOR PAYMENT OF CORPORATE ESTIMATED TAXES.

(a) SHIFT FROM 2015 TO 2014.—The percentage under paragraph (1) of section 202(b) of the Corporate Estimated Tax Shift Act of

2009 in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act is increased by 0.75 percentage points.

(b) SHIFT FROM 2016 TO 2015.—The percentage under paragraph (2) of section 561 of the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act is increased by 0.75 percentage points.

SEC. 13. BUDGET COMPLIANCE.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, first, I want to yield myself 30 seconds and then yield more time if I might.

I first want to yield to the lead sponsor of this bill, Mr. RANGEL. Our colleague, CHARLES RANGEL, has devoted his life to fighting for underdogs wherever they are in this country and beyond, and he has devoted so much time to the people of Haiti.

He is the lead sponsor, and it is my privilege—and I think all of us join in this—to yield such time as he shall consume to the gentleman from New York, CHARLES RANGEL.

Mr. RANGEL. Thank you, Chairman LEVIN, and it is good to be here with my friend DAVE CAMP.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good day for Americans, especially for those of us in the United States Congress.

As we listen to the partisanship as it relates to the capture of terrorists, as we listen to the partisanship as it relates to oil spills, and as we listen to the partisanship as it relates to trying to repair our economic work on Wall Street, it just seems to me, if we all took a deep breath, we would recognize that, as a people, we are more than Republicans and Democrats—we are Americans. We do recognize that. When there is a crisis, the whole world looks to us, not just for goods and services, but for leadership and compassion.

There is an unlimited number of people whom we could thank for coming to the floor today. One has to be DAVE CAMP. You don't have to say what the problem is. When you ask, “What can we do to help?” it is just a question of

Members and staff coming together, seeing what they can do to be of some assistance to the people who have tried so hard to rebuild their country, their families, and, indeed, their government.

□ 1045

When we had initially the HOPE legislation, there was some opposition because what did it mean? It meant that a country that had a very bad infrastructure, poor education, lack of opportunities in employment was able to get their act together, to hope, to dream, to bring their families together, and to produce textiles. And America said, Hey, we will work with you on tariffs. We will open up our doors to your goods and services. And further than that, we think it's such a good deal that our President, our Secretary of State, our Secretary of Commerce, our Ambassador of Trade will encourage other people to invest in Haiti so that one day she can share a prominent spot in terms of democratic countries that believe in hard work.

And then what happened? Just when production was doubling, she was struck by an earthquake. Haitians still went to the factories hoping and dreaming. Many were killed. And, of course, people made economic decisions that Haiti wasn't the place to invest a lot of money.

But again the world responded, former President Clinton, investors, in saying what little can we do? What small thing can we do? And we got to work, and staff I want to publicly thank found out ways. All we said is we've got to do more. We have to do more. And more was done by this bill in our committee. Under the leadership of SANDY LEVIN, Republicans, Democrats got together to do what? To do more to give hope to these people who had more than their share of economic despair.

This is the poorest country that we have in the hemisphere, but with our help, our leadership, our encouragement to investors, have Haitians know that, sure, this has been a tremendous setback with the earthquake, but America will once again provide the leadership to make certain that people don't give up, don't give in, and certainly don't give out.

So I thank once again SANDY LEVIN, who is always there when people, no matter what country is in trouble, you can depend on his leadership, and I personally and politically appreciate it.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank the distinguished gentleman from New York for his comments and also for his effort and leadership on this legislation, as well as my colleague from Michigan.

I want to echo these comments and also place in the RECORD a letter that we each received from both President Clinton and President Bush supporting this effort today.

I rise in support of this legislation. The images of the devastation caused by the January earthquake that ravaged Haiti and its people were difficult for all of us to watch. And while those stories may no longer be splashed across the evening news, we know the Haitians continue to need help in rebuilding.

The legislation before us today is the example of how the process should work. Bipartisan, bicameral cooperation, and working closely with all stakeholders has allowed us to craft a bill that provides meaningful assistance to Haiti. These benefits will encourage the long-term investment in Haiti that Haiti desperately needs for its economic recovery and future stability. I am convinced that the bill will promote trade and investment in the region and create a strong hemispheric partnership with U.S. interests.

This legislation builds on the short-term assistance that Congress provided earlier this year to accelerate the tax benefits for charitable donations to the Haiti relief effort. And I am pleased to have participated in both of these bipartisan efforts.

This legislation also supports U.S. textile manufacturers and their workers by providing a long-term extension of the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act. The CBTPA program provides strong incentives to our trading partners throughout the region to use fabric and inputs produced in the United States, supporting American exports and American jobs. That is why this legislation is supported by the American textile industry. And I have a letter from the American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition that I will insert into the RECORD supporting this legislation.

The success of this bill also demonstrates the benefits of tailoring our preference programs to the needs of a specific country or region. Congress is able to provide these expanded benefits to Haiti because they are customized to its specific needs and limit any negative impact on the U.S. textile industry. The careful balance of interests this legislation represents is unique to Haiti and wouldn't be possible if we tried to expand it to all of our preference programs in a one-size-fits-all approach.

I hope we can build on this bipartisan success and continue this policy of economic integration by working together to find a path that will enable Congress to bring pending trade agreements with Colombia and Panama to the floor for a successful vote. Like the legislation before us today, these agreements will promote economic development both here at home and for our trading partners as well.

AMERICAN MANUFACTURING
TRADE ACTION COALITION, NATIONAL
COUNCIL OF TEXTILE ORGANIZATIONS,
April 26, 2010.

Hon. SANDER M. LEVIN,
*Acting Chairman, Committee on Ways and
Means, House of Representatives, Wash-
ington, DC.*

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
*Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and
Means, House of Representatives, Wash-
ington, DC.*

DEAR ACTING CHAIRMAN LEVIN AND RANKING
MEMBER CAMP: As representatives of the
United States textile industry, we are writing
in regard to the Haiti Economic Lift Pro-
gram Act of 2010, a bill to provide enhanced
market access for apparel products manufac-
tured in Haiti.

After lengthy negotiations with your
staffs, we are pleased that we were able to
reach an acceptable compromise on this im-
portant legislation. While the bill provides
Haiti with a path forward for long-term eco-
nomic recovery in the wake of its dev-
astating earthquake, it also takes into ac-
count various sensitivities from the perspec-
tive of the U.S. textile industry.

For example, the bill grants significant in-
creases in duty free treatment through a sys-
tem of Tariff Preference Levels (TPLs) but
also institutes sub-limits on highly sensitive
products that can be exported under the
TPLs. The sub-limits were a key priority for
the domestic industry and will prevent over
concentration of exports in one or two key
areas that could be particularly damaging to
U.S. producers. In addition, the bill extends
the current Caribbean Basin Trade Partner-
ship Act (CBTPA) through 2020. This exten-
sion will help to provide long-term certainty
for a program that is of significant value for
U.S. and Western Hemispheric trading part-
ners.

Obviously, we take very seriously the im-
pact that additional duty free imports may
have on U.S. producers and workers as well
as our Western Hemispheric customers. Not-
ing those concerns, we also recognize that
the devastating circumstances in Haiti pro-
duced an exceptional case that motivated
Congress to develop a quick response and
have worked with the Committee to develop
a package that strikes an acceptable bal-
ance. We must stress, however, that this
package does not set a precedent for any fu-
ture trade preference legislation.

For all these reasons, we are encouraging
our Congressional members that represent
the nearly 500,000 U.S. textile and apparel
workers to approve this legislation in an ex-
pedient manner under suspension of the
rules in the House and by unanimous consent
in the Senate.

Sincerely,

AUGUSTINE D. TANTILLO,
*Executive Director,
American Manufac-
turing Trade Coali-
tion (AMTAC).*

CASS M. JOHNSON,
*President, National
Council of Textile
Organizations
(NCTO).*

CLINTON BUSH HAITI FUND,
April 13, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington,
DC.*

Hon. STENY HOYER,
*Majority Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

Hon. SANDER LEVIN,
*Acting Chairman, House Committee on Ways
and Means, Washington, DC.*

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
*Republican Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
*Ranking Member, House Committee on Ways
and Means, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER, LEADER HOYER,
LEADER BOEHNER, MR. LEVIN, AND MR. CAMP:
We write to you today about Haiti: As we
build upon our shared commitment to pro-
vide more Haitians with the tools they seek
to lift themselves from poverty and reduce
their dependence on international aid, we be-
lieve the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity
through Partnership Encouragement (HOPE)
Act can be amended in two specific ways to
encourage greater growth in Haiti, with posi-
tive impacts for the United States.

On March 22, we visited Haiti and met with
citizens from all sectors of society. While
there remains an urgent need for food, water,
shelter, and sanitation, Haitian leaders and
communities are looking to the future in
hopes of developing the modern nation they
have long imagined and deserved. We know
that Haitian households are eager to return
to work, and we are confident that the tex-
tile industry can offer significant opportuni-
ties for future job creation.

As you know, the existing HOPE program
has had a significant impact on this indus-
try. From 2006-2009, HOPE enabled the ex-
pansion of apparel manufacturing and the
growth of the sector's employment from
12,000 to more than 25,000 workers. HOPE II
subsequently assisted the apparel industry in
attracting business and in reopening dor-
mant manufacturing operations. These re-
sults have been encouraging, but there is
much more we can do. The nation's apparel
sector once employed more than 100,000
workers, and we should work toward stabi-
lizing and further empowering this industry.

We suggest two immediate modifications
to HOPE that have the potential to help cre-
ate tens of thousands more jobs in Haiti.
First, we recommend increasing the HOPE
trade preference level (TPL) quotas for knit
and woven fabrics to 250 million square
meter equivalents each. Second, we suggest
extending the duration of the legislation
from 8 to 15 years.

These amendments can generate tangible
results. During our recent visit, we learned
that three major Korean apparel manufac-
turers are exploring investments in Haiti,
each capable of employing 10,000-30,000 Hai-
tian workers. This investment could double
the employment levels in the Haitian appa-
rel sector. Furthermore, because the
project would also require new industrial
space and infrastructure, it would create
thousands of construction jobs in Haiti. Ulti-
mately, countless more jobs would be pro-
duced by the small- and medium-sized enter-
prises necessary for supporting the needs of
these new workforces.

Unfortunately, the Korean manufacturers
are reluctant to invest in Haiti. A single Ko-
rean firm could consume the current TPL of
70 million. In effect, none of the firms will
commit if they believe their investment
could be jeopardized by potential competi-
tion for TPL allocations in the future. Fur-
thermore, the firms will not consider work-
ing in Haiti if their investments could be
jeopardized by the expiration of the HOPE

program before they are able to recover their
investment.

These amendments would not increase the
total amount of clothing imported by the
United States. Instead, the modifications
would shift the composition of the imports
and increase the proportion coming from
Haiti. In fact, over time, greater production
capacity in Haiti would likely provide a new
and nearby market for American cotton
farmers, thereby uplifting incomes in the
United States.

We firmly believe that amendments to the
HOPE program would offer a win-win situa-
tion for both the Haitians and the U.S. com-
munity. We encourage you to build on the
hemispheric leadership of the United States
since the earthquake. With your support, we
can expand economic opportunity both in
Haiti and here in America.

We would be pleased to provide any addi-
tional information.

Sincerely,

BILL CLINTON.
GEORGE W. BUSH.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of
my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is now
my privilege to yield 2 minutes to my
colleague on Ways and Means, the gen-
tleman from Massachusetts (Mr.
NEAL).

Mr. NEAL. I want to thank the chair-
man for yielding this time.

Mr. Speaker, we have had an oppor-
tunity over the course of the last many
months to witness the unprecedented
goodness and kindness of the American
people. Time and again in rising above
the petty differences that frequently
keep us in dispute within this institu-
tion, we have asked no question of po-
litical party or affiliation. We have
watched former Presidents of the
United States who sharply might dis-
agree on a host of issues to lead an ef-
fort to help the people of Haiti to get
through this difficult time caused by
the consequences of this devastating
earthquake.

But throughout all of these meas-
ures, you're struck by de Tocqueville's
notion of what set America apart from
the rest of the world. And de
Tocqueville, as you know, in finding it
challenging to describe what it was
that differentiated America from the
rest of the world, he simply described
it as a "habit of the heart." And today
I think this institution with this pro-
posal that's in front of us embraces
again that American notion of the de-
cency of habits of our heart.

This Haiti-HELP Act provides crucial
additional trade preferences to help out
our Haitian friends to rebuild their
economy and lives in the wake of this
devastating earthquake.

I want to particularly commend the
trade staff and industry for quickly
collaborating on this legislation, which
also provides important protections for
sensitive domestic products while im-
proving existing preference provisions.
It also provides a long-term extension
for the Caribbean Basin and HOPE pro-
grams that are key boosters to the Car-
ibbean-U.S. relationship.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation deserves
our full support, and I look forward to
improving the economic and cultural
ties with Haiti in the years ahead.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY).

Mr. MCHENRY. I want to thank the ranking member, Mr. CAMP, for his leadership on the Ways and Means Committee and for yielding time this morning.

Well, as we well know, we've seen the devastation of the earthquake in Haiti, the loss of life, the suffering. It's tragic, and certainly the American people rally to the Haitian people.

But what we have before us today is not just about Haiti; it's about jobs in the United States. And, unfortunately, there's a provision here within the bill that will hurt jobs here in the United States. This legislation will allow for duty-free access to yarns and fabrics produced in other Third World countries, and Haiti will simply be more of a location for transshipment than other nations.

Bad trade deals like this one have devastated my district in western North Carolina and devastated manufacturing in the United States. Counties in my district have unemployment rates of up to 16 percent, some that my colleagues here can relate to in their regions of the country, but certainly devastating in western North Carolina. And it's a time when our people need jobs. Our families are hurting. And this bill is simply giving away some of those jobs. In a time when we should help small businesses, this is hurting them, specifically in my district.

In the past, Haiti has had tremendous success producing apparel using U.S. yarns and fabrics. We should be strengthening that partnership, not turning Haiti into a stopping-off point for more transshipment of goods from Asia and around the globe. Our government should represent its people and the best interests of its people. Unfortunately, this Congress is not, this leadership is not, and unfortunately, this bill with this provision is not. Charity is one thing, but giving away our jobs is a completely different matter.

With that, I would oppose this bill.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the very distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), who has been so actively involved in this legislation and related efforts.

Ms. LEE of California. Let me first thank Chairman LEVIN for your support for Haiti and for your leadership on this issue and so many issues.

The Haiti Economic Lift Program, or HELP, Act of 2010 is critical in Haiti's recovery and reconstruction. And let me thank Chairman RANGEL, as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, for your vision in crafting this legislation. As one of the founders of the Congressional Black Caucus, you have been a longtime leader on issues related to Haiti. Chairman RANGEL has been a strong ally of the Haitian people throughout his career, and we want to once again thank you for your con-

sistent work on behalf of the CBC and on behalf of the entire Congress.

The CBC does have a very long history of working with Haiti, the Haitian people, and the Haitian American communities. And many of us have traveled to the country several times. I was there just over a month ago and saw firsthand the extent of the devastation and the challenges of moving forward. And many people asked about this bill.

During the current crisis, the CBC has and will continue to work closely with the Obama administration, our Speaker, Chairman LEVIN, and our NGOs to provide whatever assistance we can to provide for support, relief, reconstruction, and recovery efforts.

I would also like to thank Chairman LEVIN and also Ranking Member CAMP for their bipartisan work in bringing this bill to the floor today and for their commitment to supporting the people of Haiti as they rebuild their lives and their nation. This is not a partisan issue, and I am glad to see the commitment to the Haitian people within this Congress.

That commitment, as many of us know, cannot and it should not be limited to foreign aid. Emergency assistance is vital to any humanitarian operation. However, it cannot form the sole backbone of a long-term recovery strategy for promoting reconstruction and development. It is about many, many initiatives, including debt relief, which another member of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS so valiantly—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield the gentlewoman 1 additional minute.

Ms. LEE of California. Thank you.

Such strategies must take a whole-of-government approach to foster homegrown economic growth. That is exactly what the HELP Act aims to do. It expands upon the successes of existing trade preferences to spur investment and empower the private sector to take the mantle of rebuilding along with the government. The trade preferences provided in this legislation are certainly not a cure-all, but they offer powerful incentives to spur significant job creation, one of the surest ways to promote development and to reduce poverty.

So I call on all of my colleagues to join Chairman LEVIN, Chairman RANGEL, and Ranking Member CAMP to support this measure and to express our steadfast solidarity once again and our continued partnership with the resilient people of Haiti.

Thank you again. Thanks for the time.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to say a few words about the nature of this legislation.

I want to start off by saluting the bipartisanship in this House. I want to

salute the work of our staffs, working with USTR.

□ 1100

I would like also—and I think others would join me—in saluting Presidents Clinton and Bush, who have devoted their energy and their time to the needs of the people of Haiti, expressing on behalf of all of us that there is a mutuality in terms of the response to the horrible, horrible events in the earthquake. I also want to salute industry and the labor movement.

We have tried in these last months with our leadership to begin to craft a new trade policy—a trade policy that takes into account the needs of this country to try to make sure that trade is two-way; to try to make sure that it is mutually beneficial; and to be very sensitive to the impact of trade agreements on American industry and American workers. We very much took that into account as we designed this legislation—and it succeeded. It has that mutuality. That's why the two main textile organizations in this country who have a deep stake in the continued health of this industry in this country sent, as Mr. CAMP indicated, a letter to him and to me in support of this legislation. I just want to read a few lines so it's clear, and I quote from this letter from AMTAC and NCTO: "After lengthy negotiations with your staffs, we are pleased that we were able to reach an acceptable compromise on this legislation. While the bill provides Haiti with a path forward for long-term economic recovery in the wake of its devastating earthquake, it also takes into account various sensitivities from the perspective of the U.S. textile industry. For these reasons, we are encouraging our congressional members that represent the nearly 500,000 U.S. textile and apparel workers to approve this legislation in an expeditious manner under suspension of the rules in the House and by unanimous consent in the Senate."

I would also like to salute the workers and also the American labor movement. In the original legislation—and it's very much continued in this legislation—we have been very sensitive to the needs for Haiti to abide by the international rights of workers. In 2009, the ILO established a monitoring program required under the HOPE II legislation. It was certified by USTR. Under the program, the ILO has a country director and staff in Haiti committed to conducting unannounced factory level inspections as to whether factories are meeting core labor standards—these are international basic standards—issuing biannual public reports naming factories that are not in compliance, and helping the factories remedy any problems. The ILO has conducted its first round of factory inspections. It had already done so at the time of the January 12 earthquake and was set to issue its first report on April 21. However, the collapse of the U.N. headquarters in which the ILO was located

and the subsequent evacuation of ILO personnel in Haiti disrupted the process. All ILO personnel are now back in Haiti and expect to produce the first public report regarding factory conditions shortly. So we have taken into account the needs here and tried to find ways to respond to the needs in Haiti—and I think we have succeeded.

And so I close with this. I think all of us want to salute the people of Haiti. The earthquake was unprecedented. The damage was hard to imagine. The sacrifices being made by the people of Haiti under these circumstances are really hard to describe. This is an effort in a mutual way for us to respond. We did this carefully. We did it also with a sense of purpose. I urge all of us to unite to support this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that there is and has been strong, bipartisan support for this legislation. This legislation certainly deserves that support. I do want to note that I think it's important as we move forward that we not seek to establish a trade framework or a trade policy framework that requires standards for other countries that could exceed our own U.S. law and that this legislation in that respect not be a precedent for other preferences as we move forward.

This legislation, I think, is important. It will help a devastated country through investment and begin to create more economic activity. I urge my colleagues to build on this success from this legislation; to work together in a bipartisan fashion; to take the steps necessary to further the economic benefits that come from increasing U.S. exports to our partners not only in this hemisphere but other hemispheres as well by bringing the pending trade agreements with Colombia and Panama to the floor for a successful vote.

With that, I urge a "yes" on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I will close very, very briefly.

There needs to be a general framework for trade policy, and we have been working to spell that out. A trade policy, as we expand trade, as we must, does so in ways that are mutually beneficial; that expand the benefits of trade. Within that framework, each trade agreement must stand on its own feet—and this trade bill does exactly that. It responds to needs. It does so in a way that takes into account the very crucial needs within Haiti and also the needs of American industry and workers. It achieves not a compromise, really, but a balance—the kind of balance that should be a hallmark of our approach to trade. I very much urge that we support this bill. It's excellent both in its letter and in its spirit.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on January 12, 2010, Haiti experienced one of the worst earthquakes in their history. I believe that our

trade policy can play a key role in rehabilitating the Haitian economy. As such, I rise in support of my friend Congressman CHARLES RANGEL's timely legislation, The Haiti Economic Lift Program, HELP, Act of 2010, which will extend trade preference programs, expand market access for Haitian goods, and ensure fundamental worker labor rights for Haitian workers.

Expanding trade with Haiti is an important step in creating economic stability and sustainability. The HELP Act will enhance and strengthen our trading relationship, where 78.2 percent of Haitian exports are directed to the United States, by extending trade preference programs such as the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act and the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act through September 30, 2020. Both laws are credited with increasing Haitian apparel exports to the United States from \$420 million to over \$512 million and creating impressive economic growth from 2007 to 2009.

It is imperative we help foster burgeoning industries within Haiti that will ultimately attract investment and provide jobs during and after their reconstruction efforts. The HELP Act expands the list of products that can be shipped duty-free. It has been noted that new jobs in Haiti creates multiplier effects which supports families and others who are in need.

Mr. Speaker, as a long supporter of worker rights, I am pleased that today's legislation will continue the International Labor Organization's labor monitoring program to ensure that fundamental core labor rights of their workers are followed by factories benefiting from the HELP Act.

The United States and its citizens, which have had a long tradition of helping allies in their time of need, have given unprecedented amounts of foreign aid and donations to the people of Haiti in the weeks after the earthquake. Today's legislation extends the reach of this aid by increasing trade between the countries, which will ultimately provide jobs and a better future for Haitians. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5160 introduced in the House of Representatives by my friend and colleague, Representative RANGEL. H.R. 5160 is an important piece of legislation to extend the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act to provide custom support for the Haitian apparel sector.

On January 12, 2010, Haiti, one of the poorest countries in the world and the poorest in the western hemisphere, was hit by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake. The earthquake killed thousands of people leaving Haiti's capital partially destroyed. Homes, offices, factories, roads, ports, communications, and other facilities were reduced to ruins. As a result, millions of people have lost their livelihood.

Prior to the earthquake, the Haitian government was implementing a number of measures to promote economic growth and the growing apparel sector was a promising success story. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, however, this sector was devastated by the earthquake.

Through its preference trade programs, including those under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act and the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act of 2008, "HOPE II Act", the United States has been an important contrib-

utor to Haiti's economic development initiatives by providing duty-free tariff treatment to certain apparel produced in Haiti.

In this time of great need for Haiti, I am proud to support H.R. 5160 which would extend duty free treatment to any apparel entering the United States directly imported from Haiti and the Dominican Republic. This measure would dramatically assist Haiti in rebuilding their economy.

I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation to show Haitians' the United States' strong commitment to their recovery, development and prosperity.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5160, the Haitian Economic Lift Program Act. This bill will provide real economic benefits to Haiti to help it recover from the devastating earthquake on January 12 that claimed so many lives and shattered the already struggling Haitian economy.

The bill also provides trade benefits to Haiti and other Caribbean nations through a long-term extension of the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, a program that also supports the American textile industry.

I am firm believer that expanded trade can produce sustainable economic development and create jobs.

By providing increased duty-free access to the U.S. market, the bill creates the investment incentives desperately needed in Haiti to keep existing apparel production in the country and encourage even more development in the future. These investments will create badly needed jobs and encourage stability in local communities.

The long-term extension of the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act will continue important incentives that have attracted apparel producers to Haiti and throughout the region to use fabric and other inputs produced in the United States. The U.S. exports generated by these incentives will support American jobs. This is why the long-term extension of the Caribbean Basin Act has been such a priority for the U.S. textile industry.

In addition to these important economic benefits, this legislation demonstrates America's commitment to the region. It has long been America's policy to strengthen economic ties through trade and investment with other countries in the Western Hemisphere.

President Reagan followed that policy by starting the Caribbean Basin Initiative, which forms the foundation of the programs we are extending today.

Presidents and Congressional leaders on both sides of the aisle continued this policy by enacting NAFTA, the Andean Trade Partnership Act, the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, CAFTA, HOPE, the Peru Trade Agreement, and now the legislation before us today. I hope we can add to this progress and create the means to bring the pending agreements with Colombia and Panama to a successful vote.

In addition, this legislation shows again that Congress can and will adjust and expand U.S. trade preference programs as necessary to ensure that they are working properly and providing the maximum benefits possible.

Mr. Speaker, this bill really does get it right: it provides real economic development assistance to Haiti; it supports U.S. jobs; and it demonstrates that carefully balanced, regionally focused U.S. trade preference programs can bring our trading partners, development

experts, and U.S. manufacturers together to support pro-trade legislation. For these reasons, I urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, as an original cosponsor of H.R. 5160, I rise in support of this bipartisan legislation and urge its immediate enactment to support the ongoing recovery efforts in Haiti.

In January, a massive earthquake struck the country of Haiti, killing hundreds of thousands of people and displacing millions more. The quake devastated the country's infrastructure which continues to make the delivery of humanitarian assistance difficult. It is well known that Haiti is the poorest, least developed country in the Western Hemisphere and that the vast majority of Haitians earn less than \$2 a day. Helping Haiti permanently recover from this crisis while also strengthening an already struggling Haitian economy will require more than humanitarian assistance—the Haitian people will need jobs. The bill we consider today is an effort to aid job promotion in the country's important textile industry.

This measure extends the trade benefits Haiti enjoys under the Caribbean Basin Trade Promotion Act and increases Haitian admission quotas on apparel destined for U.S. markets. This effort, when combined with the Haiti Debt Relief Act which passed in March, should help relieve some of the economic burden on the Haitian people and give them the freedom and the tools they need to begin rebuilding their nation.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5160, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR PROMPT RESPONSE TO ATTEMPTED TERRORIST ATTACK IN TIMES SQUARE

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1320) expressing support for the vigilance and prompt response of the citizens of New York City, the New York Police Department, the New York Police Department Bomb Squad, the Fire Department of New York, other first responders, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Bridgeport Police Department, Detective Bureau, Patrol Division, and other law enforcement agencies in Connecticut to the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square on May 1, 2010, their exceptional professionalism and investigative work following the at-

tempted attack, and their consistent commitment to preparedness for and collective response to terrorism, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1320

Whereas on Saturday, May 1, 2010, an individual drove a vehicle loaded with explosive materials to Times Square in New York City and attempted to detonate a car bomb;

Whereas on the same day, two alert citizens, Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson, notified the New York Police Department about a suspicious vehicle that was parked on 45th Street in Times Square;

Whereas on the same day, New York City Police Officer Wayne Rhatigan, while patrolling on horse, responded to the reports of a suspicious vehicle and acted swiftly with his colleagues in the New York Police Department and the Fire Department of New York to thwart the detonation of the car bomb;

Whereas New York City first responders safely evacuated hundreds of people from Times Square and responded in a prompt and effective manner, as the result of extensive terrorism preparedness efforts that are supported, in part, by the Department of Homeland Security; and

Whereas in response to the Times Square incident, the Transportation Security Administration has enhanced ongoing efforts to increase security on various transportation modes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the actions of Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson for promptly alerting appropriate authorities about the suspicious vehicle in Times Square on May 1, 2010;

(2) urges all Americans to remain vigilant about potential terrorist or suspicious activity within their own communities and report such activity to the appropriate authorities;

(3) recognizes the New York City Police Department, in particular Police Officer Wayne Rhatigan of Mounted Unit Troop B, the Fire Department of New York, the New York Police Department Bomb Squad, led by Lieutenant Mark Torre and other first responders, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Bridgeport Police Department, Detective Bureau, Patrol Division, and other law enforcement agencies in Connecticut for their consistent commitment to preparedness for and collective response to terrorism;

(4) recognizes the exceptional professionalism and investigative work by the New York Police Department, the New York Police Department Bomb Squad, the Fire Department of New York, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Bridgeport Police Department, Detective Bureau, Patrol Division, and other law enforcement agencies in Connecticut in apprehending a suspect only 53 hours following the attempted bombing; and

(5) urges all Federal agencies to continue to work with State, local, and tribal partners to bolster preparedness for and prevention of terrorism.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. PASCRELL. I rise in support of this resolution, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution with my very good friend from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT) honoring and expressing support for the vigilance and prompt response of the citizens and the law enforcement agencies in New York and Connecticut as well as all the Federal authorities and agencies to the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square on May 1, 2010, their exceptional professionalism and investigative work following the attempted attack, and their consistent commitment to preparedness for and collective response to terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, I have long said that real homeland security starts on our streets, not in the halls of Washington, D.C. That's never been a truer statement than today. This shows yet again why we need to support our local first responders—police, fire, EMTs. Another example. They were first to respond before any Federal agencies got involved. That's how it usually always is, be it a manmade catastrophe or a natural catastrophe. These are the individuals who are the first on the scene long before those Federal authorities show up. These are the people who are the eyes and ears of our national security.

Fifty-three hours and seventeen minutes. This is what it took, Mr. Speaker, for the Federal law enforcement agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security, to identify and find and apprehend Faisal Shahzad, the prime suspect for this attempted act of terror on American citizens. In these 53 hours and 17 minutes, the New York Police Department, working with Federal and State law enforcement agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and others, unraveled the tangled web that eventually led to Shahzad's arrest. I thank them. We all thank them.

We acknowledge, however, a few people and groups. First, the alertness and awareness of Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson for "seeing something" on the streets of New York which were out of order; for "saying something" to law enforcement; and not hesitating to do so. If it were not for these men, many others could have been hurt and