

for Wall Street lobbyists is here, which is the removal this week of the dissolution fund. I made sure that this dissolution fund was included in the House bill. It was intended to act much like your car insurance by discouraging risky behavior.

Let's say that a bank like Goldman Sachs drove a new Ferrari down the road with little regard for traffic or public safety. It would then be assessed more in fees to the fund than a bank that drives safely and observes all the posted signals.

Think again. Under the new plan in the Senate, Goldman can drive its Ferrari any way it wants, and when it crashes, the American public will have to pay.

59TH CELEBRATION OF OUR NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, today is the 59th celebration of the National Day of Prayer.

Like most Americans, I believe that the effective and fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much, and what is true of individuals is also true of nations.

The truth is that America has always been a Nation of prayer. Pilgrims relied on prayer during their first and darkest winter. Our Founding Fathers prayed during the Continental Congress in 1776. President Lincoln offered his famous proclamation for humility, fasting, and prayer at the height of the Civil War, and President Truman named the National Day of Prayer in 1952.

Sadly, voluntary prayer has been under attack of late. It has been driven from our public schools and from our graduation ceremonies by activist courts. Just last month, a Federal court declared this National Day of Prayer to be unconstitutional. That ruling ignored our history, our traditions, and it should be overturned.

During these days of challenge for American families at home and abroad, on this National Day of Prayer, let it be said now more than ever: we are a Nation of prayer.

SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS AND THE ARC LEGISLATION

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

Mr. WILSON of Ohio. Madam Speaker, this week, I introduced the Appalachian Veterans Outreach Improvement Act to improve access to services and benefits for veterans in Appalachia. My legislation would authorize a cooperative agreement between the Secretary of the VA and the Appalachian Regional Commission, or ARC.

In rural districts like mine, veterans often lack the access and resources

necessary to receive the benefits and services that they have earned. Veterans in Appalachia encounter difficult obstacles, like having to travel great distances to get service. This legislation would highlight ARC's unique understanding of the Appalachian region, and it would allow the VA to work with the ARC to provide technical assistance to our veterans.

I urge my colleagues to join me in standing up for this rural veterans act.

NICOLE—KIDNAPPED

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, Brazil has become a haven for stolen children from the United States. There are over 50 kidnapped children in Brazil.

Fox News 26 in Houston, Texas, first brought attention to the story of one little girl who was stolen from her father—my friend and constituent, Marty Pate. Marty lives in Crosby, Texas, and he has not seen his daughter, Nicole, in 4 years. Her mother, Monica, is a native of Brazil. She took Nicole on a trip there in 2006, and she never came back.

Legal documents from Texas give Marty joint custody, and international law requires Brazil to return Nicole to America. Marty wants to see his daughter and have her visit her family in the United States, but officials in Brazil are still stonewalling and are ignoring their legal duty.

Our State Department must pressure Brazil to follow its international treaty obligations, and Brazil must stop sanctioning the kidnapping of American children.

Marty has the right to be reunited with his kidnapped daughter, Nicole. And that's just the way it is.

GULF OF MEXICO OIL SPILL

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, it is painfully clear that BP's gulf oil spill could dwarf any environmental disaster in our Nation's history.

This tragedy has claimed 11 lives. It has contaminated the water with millions of gallons of oil, and it is impacting the livelihoods of all who make their living from the gulf's resources. But this disaster will be all the more tragic if we fail to learn from it.

The first steps, of course, are to stop the leaks, to contain the spill, and to attend to the devastating consequences of the explosion and of its aftermath. The Obama administration swiftly responded to the BP disaster from day one. It mobilized the government's resources to minimize the harm on the health, economy, and the environment of the coast. Now it is time to ensure the complete scrutiny of this horrible environmental disaster.

Today, I am introducing legislation to establish an independent commission to examine the causes of the BP disaster and to make recommendations to prevent future tragedies. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort to make sure a disaster like this never happens again.

SUDAN

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

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, Sudan—genocide—killing. Many of the household names once engaged on Sudan have moved on to the next cause while the refrain “never again” echoes faintly, but the desperation in Darfur's camps is still a reality.

The CPA which ended Khartoum's brutal 20-year civil war with the south where 2.1 million perished—and where mainly Christians died—hangs in the balance. Against this backdrop, the administration's policy is languishing.

There is an immediate need for renewed, principled leadership on Sudan at the highest levels—leadership which is clear-eyed about the history of the internationally indicted war criminal at the helm in Khartoum. These are the people who gave safe haven to Osama bin Laden from 1991 to 1996.

President Obama must empower Secretary Clinton and Ambassador Rice to take control of this faltering policy. Time is running out. Lives hang in the balance. A stalemate policy in Sudan is not an option. President Obama must act.

TAX EXTENDERS/RAIL

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

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, improving our rail infrastructure isn't just about getting people and goods from here to there faster and more efficiently. It is the heart of regional economic development, connecting communities, businesses, consumers, and producers to foster the kind of economic growth and job creation we as a Nation need.

Our short line railroads are at the center of this, but because the Tax Extenders Act of 2009 has not been enacted into law, they have been unable to plan vital maintenance work this construction season. The section 45G short line railroad tax credit included in this bill generates 6.9 million work hours of rail maintenance-of-way each year—the equivalent of more than 3,300 full-time jobs nationwide, not to mention the tens of thousands of jobs in America's steel and timber industries that make railroad ties and steel rail.

Our short line railroads are too important to our economic recovery to neglect them any longer. It is time for both the House and the Senate to come

to an agreement so we can put Americans back to work and so we can keep our railroads operating smoothly.

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AMERICANS SUPPORT IMMIGRATION LAWS

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, after days of a national media pounding the new Arizona immigration law and highlighting demonstrations against it, guess what? The number of Americans who describe illegal immigration as a serious problem actually increased; and 78 percent feel that the Federal Government should do more to stop illegal immigration, according to a New York Times poll.

Another recent poll found that 84 percent of Americans are concerned that illegal immigrants burden schools, hospitals, and government services; 77 percent say that illegal immigration drives down wages; and 89 percent, 89 percent, feel it is important to halt the flow of illegal immigrants, a USA Today poll found just a couple of days ago.

So despite the media bias against immigration laws, the American people still overwhelmingly want to secure the border, save jobs for those in the country legally, and reduce the burden of illegal immigration.

DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, the Secretary of Defense has asked Congress not to repeal Don't Ask, Don't Tell until the Pentagon has another year to review the policy.

With all due respect, we've been reviewing the policy since its implementation in 1993. To paraphrase the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, here are some reasons why we can't wait:

Another year of dismissals will add to the 13,500 who have already been fired under the law since 1994. Another year will reduce the ranks of mission-critical troops and linguists, harming our national security. Another year will mean we will continue to allow young patriots to lose their lives for us but not allow them to live the lives they choose.

Our troops agree, our allies agree, and leaders of our Nation agree we must repeal this policy now. Dr. King wrote: "The time is always right to do what is right."

Madam Speaker, that is why we can't wait.

THE COOKIE LADY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to ad-

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, while they are courageously serving our great Nation overseas, America's brave men and women in uniform are receiving sweet treats from South Carolina's Ms. Janet Cram, the Cookie Lady.

Ms. Cram, a Hilton Head Island resident, has organized Treat the Troops, a baking program to send delicious cookies to troops in harm's way.

She doesn't act alone in this endeavor. Her friends, also known as Crumbs, help her prepare the packages and batter. Baking over 2 million cookies for our troops, Jeanette and her Crumbs started this process in 1990 during the gulf war.

America is in a new era in which our soldiers are working around the world protecting American families at home by preventing additional acts of terrorism. It is uplifting to know that individuals like Jeanette and her Crumbs are doing their part to help our troops and sweeten their days.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

Congratulations on the success of the National Day of Prayer. Welcome, Franklin Graham, to Capitol Hill.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5019, HOME STAR EN- ERGY RETROFIT ACT OF 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1329 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1329

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5019) to provide for the establishment of the Home Star Retrofit Rebate Program, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each

such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. All points of order against such amendments are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. The Chair may entertain a motion that the Committee rise only if offered by the chair of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or his designee. The Chair may not entertain a motion to strike out the enacting words of the bill (as described in clause 9 of rule XVIII).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from California is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous materials into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 1329 provides a structured rule for consideration of H.R. 5019, the Home Star Energy Retrofit Act. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill, except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI, and provides that the bill be considered as read.

The rule waives all points of order against the bill itself. The rule makes in order the eight amendments printed in the Rules Committee report and waives all points of order against those amendments except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The rule provides that the Chair may entertain a motion that the Committee rise only if offered by the chair of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or a designee. The Chair may not entertain a motion to strike out the enacting words of the bill.

Madam Speaker, I rise this morning in strong support of the rule for the Home Energy Retrofit Act and the underlying bipartisan legislation.