

Mr. CANTOR. That is correct, I would say to the gentleman. I am referring to that.

And so while we are on that subject, we know very well there has been no indication whatsoever that the ability for entrepreneurs to continue to experience an atmosphere that is conducive to their investment and assumption of risk will continue, because we are facing the largest tax hike in American history at the end of this year and the majority has been unwilling to say that is not coming. That is hanging over this economy as a veil of uncertainty.

And I would say to the gentleman, if he is so excited about the positive results that he indicates, largely due to the fiscal policies in place that will be not in place after the end of this year, I would say that maybe we should consider extending the rate cuts and cap gains and dividends and marginal rate reductions that are in place now.

I would also say to the gentleman, listen, we have been now for weeks and months through this: Your fault, our fault. Your fault, our fault. The public and the American people are upset. They don't want blame games anymore; they want to stop the spending. And just next week, the gentleman is talking again about bringing more spending. He indicates that all economists supported the stimulus bill. He knows that is not true. But, like a good lawyer, he is going to present his case. But what I would say to the gentleman, let's stop the spending now.

That is why we have started and launched the You Cut program. And, if he alleges incremental modest steps, fine. Join us in that. But let's stop the spending, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. HOYER. I don't want to get too personal on this, but what do you think about cutting the spending for the high-speed rail between Richmond and Washington?

Mr. CANTOR. Well, I would say to the gentleman, I have always, way before we have even encountered that stimulus bill, supported job-generating projects. The studies in the metropolitan area from which I come and represent indicate that Virginia could grow 165,000 jobs with that kind of investment.

Mr. HOYER. Is that a "no"?

Mr. CANTOR. That has always been my position.

But when we are looking at some of the items that we are discussing here on the You Cut options, these are items that are niceties. They may be well-intentioned; but if we are worried about job creation and we are worried about deficits growing, we ought to begin to take action now.

I would ask the gentleman, he mentioned the tax extenders bill for next week, and I wonder if he could tell us the content of that bill. Will there be a markup on the bill? Reports have indicated, and perhaps the gentleman has said, that the bill will be nearly \$200 billion. And what kind of rule, whether it be open or not, would he expect?

Mr. HOYER. I don't think I mentioned a figure on the extenders. I am pretty sure I did not, not today or, frankly, any other day, because it hasn't been finally completed by the Ways and Means Committee. As you know, they are working with the Senate Finance Committee as well, and working with Republicans. As you know, this was a bipartisan bill when it came from the Senate, Republicans supported it, and we hope it is a bipartisan bill as it leaves here.

But let me say the fact is what the Senate sent us, we are working on. The process that we will consider it has not yet been finally determined, so I can't tell the gentleman exactly what that will be. But some of the things I have already mentioned will be in it, UI and COBRA, FMAP, Build America Bonds for local infrastructure programs, summer jobs programs so we can get young people to work this summer so that they will have some livelihood and can help their families who are in distress.

□ 1345

We also, as I said, are going to deal with the SGR to ensure seniors can keep their doctors. We'll conclude provisions to close tax loopholes, crack down on outsourcing of jobs overseas and protect American jobs here at home. Those are all the things that I think will be in it. That's not necessarily an exclusive list, but that is certainly a bill that we think will be pro-business, and confirming many of the tax benefits that are given to businesses, as you well know, that we regulate, continue, including the investment tax credit so that we can encourage businesses to grow and invest and to create jobs.

So that is an outline of it. This process has not yet been decided. I'm sure there will be discussions about that tomorrow with our Rules Committee chair and with the committee. Perhaps we can know at a later date.

Mr. CANTOR. Again, just to clarify, Mr. Speaker, does that mean that the bill will not go through committee?

Mr. HOYER. I think, as you know, there was a bill over from the Senate, which was bipartisan in nature, and I think that we need to move this bill before Memorial Day. I think that the committee is going to have to decide how to get that done in the fastest way possible so that many of the expiring issues do not expire, which would be very detrimental to docs and to many other people.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman and I have been working together for some months now on the Iran sanctions bill. And also crucial to the national security of this country is the war supplemental. He has indicated before that the Iran sanctions conference report and the war supplemental will be coming to the House floor prior to the Memorial Day recess. I'd ask whether that still is the case.

Mr. HOYER. I'm sure everybody listening now will be glad to hear that

there is some cooperation and agreement. The gentleman and I are both strong supporters of the Iran sanction legislation. We believe that not only is the Middle East region at risk, but the international community is at risk as long as Iran is pursuing its intent to arm itself with nuclear weapons.

I tell the gentleman that I have been working very closely with Mr. BERMAN, and it is my hope and expectation that this conference report will be reported back to us before the Memorial Day break, and it is my intention to work towards having that sent to the President before we leave here for the Memorial Day break.

Mr. CANTOR. And I would ask, Mr. Speaker, would the same be for the supplemental as well—before the Memorial Day recess?

Mr. HOYER. I don't think the same would be because of both the Senate and the House. I'm hopeful that we will pass the supplemental through the House, but it won't be in the same position because we haven't had a conference on the supplemental. The Senate is working on a bill, as the gentleman knows. We're working on a bill. I have talked to the chairman, and he is trying to get the matter together for the committee. And I am hopeful that we will pass it through the House. My urging is that we pass it through the House prior to the Memorial Day break. But, obviously, the gentleman knows we will not have effected a conference by that time. But we want to do so very shortly because, clearly, we need to make sure the resources are available for our men and women in harm's way in both Iraq and Afghanistan and in other troubled spots of the world.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I look forward to continuing to work with the gentleman in a fiscally responsible manner, which starts with passing a budget blueprint for this year, just like American families have to do.

I thank the gentleman once again for his time, and I yield back.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO DECLARE A RECESS ON THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2010, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING IN JOINT MEETING HIS EXCELLENCY FELIPE CALDERON HINOJOSA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Thursday, May 20, 2010, for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Excellency Felipe Calderon Hinojosa, President of the United Mexican States.

The Speaker pro Tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, 2010, for morning-hour debate.

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

There was no objection.

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

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of William "Bill" Elkins, Jr., who was born January 20, 1920, to William and Virginia Elkins. He, sadly, passed way on May 12 of this year.

Mr. Elkins was born and raised in Los Angeles, California, where he was known for his civility, loyalty, discretion, diplomacy, and dedication to civil rights. He was the right-hand man of the late Mayor Tom Bradley for 40 years—before, during, and after the mayor's four times in office—as the first African American to hold that high post and as the elected official who held it the longest to date.

Mr. Elkins met the future mayor while they attended Lafayette Middle School in South Los Angeles. Their friendship strengthened in subsequent years of study in college and work for the City of Los Angeles.

A graduate of Jefferson High School, young Bill Elkins left college to serve his country by enlisting in the Army and was assigned for 4 years to Italy during World War II. He returned to earn his bachelor's degree in political science at UCLA, where he and Tom Bradley pledged Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity together. He worked for the county as a probation officer and earned his juris doctorate from Southwestern University Law School, once again taking classes with LAPD Officer Tom Bradley, who was the best man at his wedding in 1945.

He then became the director of Teen Post. It was an inner-city after-school youth program. He rose to be the general counsel right next to our mayor, Tom Bradley.

He became the Mayor's point-man on affirmative action and was more responsible than any other single individual for remedying the exclusion of people of color and women from employment in responsible positions for the City of Los Angeles. He was also Mayor Bradley's liaison to Washington, DC, and was responsible for several citywide programs, including the city's Area Agency for Aging and multiple youth programs.

After Mayor Bradley left office, Elkins served on the board of the Thomas Spiegel Family Foundation as that philanthropy's vice president, until he retired a few years ago. Elkins

was also a member of Second Baptist Church for more than 70 years.

Mr. Elkins leaves to cherish his memory his wife Eleanor, to whom he was married for 65 years, their sons Bill and Larry, two grandchildren, and a host of family, friends and colleagues.

We honor Mr. Elkins today—a good and decent American whose deeds in life and record of public service deserve to be acknowledged and commemorated.

May God rest his soul.

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to the majority leader—the Democrat majority leader's comments about the accomplishments that have been made by this Congress. I would just like to say briefly this: the American people don't want to hear this hyperbole. They don't want to hear these long dissertations about what's being accomplished around here. What the American people want is to cut spending and to get this economy moving again and create jobs. And blowing money like the Democrats are doing and creating a debt that our kids will never be able to deal with is not the answer.

And so I'd like the next time that they have this discussion back and forth for 45 minutes that they cut to the chase and say, We're going to do this to cut spending. We're going to do this to create jobs. And we're going to cut taxes like Ronald Reagan did to get this economy moving again, instead of all this other stuff that's going on.

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor today to congratulate Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on their decision to start proximity talks. I believe the United States' national security interest is directly linked to the resolution of this long-standing conflict. I also believe that, like other seemingly intractable conflicts, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can be resolved, especially with the active and even-handed leadership of the United States. Congratulations to President Obama and Envoy Mitchell, who got right to work on Middle East peace right after the President's inauguration and, despite huge hurdles, have both been persistent.

I hope the President continues to encourage all parties to negotiate seriously and in good faith and to move from proximity talks to direct negotiations to reach agreement on final and

permanent status issues. The world needs a secure Israel and it needs an independent, viable Palestinian state. However, simply declaring support for one side or the other does not really help either side. Both sides benefit from peace. We need to build a constituency for peace, and that means support for each side to make the necessary concessions.

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the new Supreme Court pick, Elena Kagan, has never been a judge. News reports say she doesn't have trial court experience as a lawyer. As a lawyer, she never questioned a witness or made an argument before a jury. She's never been a trial judge so she never had to make a constitutional ruling in the courtroom in the heat of trial. She's never heard a civil case. She's never heard a criminal case. She's never even heard a traffic case. She's never ruled on the rules of evidence like the exclusionary rule. She's never instructed a jury on reasonable doubt or sentenced a convicted criminal.

Why should Elena Kagan be confirmed to a lifetime appointment to the most powerful court in the world? She'd be judging trial lawyers and trial judges who've been through the mud and the blood and the beer of courtroom trials. A trial—maybe something she's never even seen. She's an academic elitist that's never tried a case. That's like putting someone in charge of the brain surgery unit that's never done an operation.

And that's just the way it is.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, philately, or stamp collecting, is a hobby that teaches history, art, geography, and even heraldry. As stamps have branched out into film and iconic figures, there seems to be no limit to the subjects they cover, from Elvis to dinosaurs to Laurel and Hardy.

I rise today to honor Stamp Camp USA as it celebrates its 15th year in Elkland, Pennsylvania. The camp is the brainchild of Cheryl Edgcomb, who is the local postmaster in Nelson, Pennsylvania. Her camp introduces stamp collecting from basics, like sorting and handling, up to beginning exhibiting using both creative 3-dimensional and traditional formats.

As the children learn, they earn "stamp camp cash," which they use to purchase supplies for their hobby. There is a whole network of supporters of the camp, including 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, YMCA, YWCA, public libraries, Experience Works, AmeriCorps