

it is now estimated to be costing American taxpayers over \$1 trillion including interest. Not only should Congress produce a budget, but I am a strong supporter of several measures that promote the establishment of a balanced budget and the elimination of wasteful government programs, including a constitutional amendment that I introduced which requires the Federal Government to balance its budget. Congress must steadfastly hold the line on government spending, which is why I have consistently voted for the tightest budgets offered each year. But maybe not this year. No budget is offered.

As elected officials and stewards of the taxpayers' money, we have a responsibility to put together a sustainable budget and stick to it. The Congress must continue to work to rein in spending and put to practice a spending approach that many Americans already live by: If you don't have it, don't spend it.

Madam Speaker, where's the budget?

1,000 AMERICANS DEAD IN AFGHANISTAN IS FAR TOO MANY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, a suicide bomber deliberately crashed his minivan on a street in Kabul during one of the busiest times of the day. According to The New York Times account, and I quote them, "The blast blew bodies apart. Limbs and entrails flew hundreds of feet, littering yards and walls and streets. In a passenger bus, an Afghan woman lay dead in her seat, cut in half, with her baby still squirming in her arms. Fifty yards away, a man's head lay on the hood of a truck." It was the most devastating strike seen in the Afghan capital in some time, Madam Speaker. It served as a kind of "welcome home" from the insurgents to President Karzai, just returning home from his visit to the United States, who was getting ready to brief reporters at the Presidential palace, just a short distance away from the site of the explosion.

Aside from the gruesome civilian casualties, this attack is also significant because it claimed the lives of five of our soldiers, which brings the total number of U.S. troop fatalities in the war in Afghanistan to over 1,000. This tragic milestone should fill us with horror, Madam Speaker. It should keep every one of us awake at night.

For years, the failure to make progress in Afghanistan flew under the radar as the war in Iraq grabbed most of the attention and headlines. But more than 100 months into the Afghanist conflict, the mission is clearly floundering. More than half of those 1,000 deaths have occurred just since September of 2008. The decision to send more troops has only intensified the violence and emboldened the militants,

doing nothing to bring lasting stability to Afghanistan and to its people.

This war has not accomplished any of its stated goals. Here we are, 8½ years after we supposedly drove out the Taliban, and lo and behold, the Taliban is resurgent, poised to fill the power vacuum in districts and villages where we've done nothing to build strong and legitimate governing institutions. Remember the reportedly successful military offensive over the winter in Marja? A few months later, it turns out, the residents are fleeing in droves because the Taliban has reasserted itself. One U.S. official now calls Marja "a work in progress but not trending in the right direction." And this is one of the places where we had declared victory.

We have been patient, Madam Speaker. We have given the strategy a chance to work. It failed. It has failed at nearly every turn, and 1,000 deaths is far too many. Before the number grows, let's bring our troops home.

□ 1715

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POLIS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AMERICA'S FAILED TRADE POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, how many millions more jobs have to be outsourced before Washington wakes up? The U.S. Chamber of Commerce this week released a report claiming that U.S. trade agreements have support 5.4 million jobs. More than 90 percent of the jobs, according to the Chamber, can be attributed to NAFTA and our NAFTA trading partners, Mexico and Canada. Are we talking about the same country in the same continent?

In the United States I know and the district I return to every weekend, the battering effects of NAFTA and NAFTA-like trade agreements are still being felt: lost jobs, shuttered factories, and beleaguered communities. I can't help but wonder if the Chamber of Commerce is some sort of cruel joke: 5.4 million jobs? No way. Try 1 million jobs lost due to NAFTA. Try 2 million manufacturing jobs lost because of all of the off-shoring that has gone on in this country in the last quarter cen-

tury. Or how about 12,000 to 20,000 service-sector jobs lost every month, many of which have simply been outsourced overseas.

In Ohio, employment just in the manufacturing sector has declined by a third. Companies like Silgan Holdings, Delphi, Georgia Pacific, General Motors, Dixon Ticonderoga, Champion Spark Plug, all have moved to Mexico. Things are not much better in Mexico. By the 10th anniversary of NAFTA, The Washington Post reported that 19 million more Mexicans were living in poverty than 20 years ago; 2 million peasant farmers alone were dispossessed from their land with no adjustment inside that country. So guess what they are doing. They are seeking to live anywhere, including crossing our border because they simply have no other choice. NAFTA didn't take care of them in their home country.

Now over half of the Mexican population is considered poor, while one in four is considered extremely poor and unable to even afford adequate food. The illegal drug trade has swept across that country and locked in fully at our border and across our country. Remember when NAFTA was held out as the ticket to the promised land with millions of new jobs and a rising standard of living? Right here in this very Chamber, Members voted to outsource America's job to a low-wage country with a state-managed economy.

Ross Perot was right: NAFTA has been a giant sucking sound of jobs leaving our country, leaving us behind with a NAFTA trade deficit of over \$1.3 trillion since 1994. The deficits from NAFTA and NAFTA-like trade agreements have caused the great manufacturing that our Nation knew to wither as we saw our companies compete against state-managed capitalism in places like Mexico, China, Japan and so many others. Trade deficits are at the heart of our economic challenge. They destroyed jobs, millions and millions and millions of good jobs. We will never get our economy out of the ditch without fundamental changes in our trade policy.

When trade accounts began their downward spiral, America's economy started to deteriorate. Do you remember the last time we had a balanced trade account? It was 1974 when we had a thriving middle class.

Is it any wonder that our Nation is paying the price of economic policies that led to the current deep recession that Brad DeLong estimates has put a third of our Nation in depression. This was no accident. It is the direct result of over a quarter century of outsourcing U.S. jobs to penny-wage environments and of allowing other nations to keep their markets closed through managed trade practices, substandard environmental systems, and many undemocratic political systems able to exploit their workforces for the benefit of a few owners.

In essence, our market capitalism is forced to compete with state-managed

capitalism. From Mexico to China to Japan, it is just not a fair fight. These unfair trade agreements have been draining the economic lifeblood of our Nation, and every single American knows it to be true. Free trade among free people should be a bedrock principle on which any trade policy is based. And without it, our workers and companies stand no chance.

It is time to wake up, stand up for this country, and renegotiate those trade agreements that keep moving jobs offshore and take more and more and more of our jobs every single year. The same countries block access of our goods into those countries. It hurts our workers, it hurts our communities, and it has hurt this country deeply.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

WHERE'S THE BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, during the 5-minute speeches just a few minutes ago, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) was showing all of us this poster that he graciously made up: Where's the budget? That is what we will be talking about tonight because we have seen in this Congress this year that the leadership of the Congress is failing its responsibility, failing its duty, failing to bring us a budget.

Now, we saw the President put together a budget that he presented to Congress several months ago. We will talk about that a little bit. But under the Constitution of the United States—and I carry a copy in my pocket because I believe in this document as it was intended by the Founders, the people who wrote this document. One of the prime responsibilities of Congress is to pass a budget. From the original intent of our Constitution and what it says in the Constitution, the Congress should be making the budget, not the President.

Article I lays out all of the premises of the Congress of the United States. Section 1 says all legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2 goes on and talks about how the House is made up.

Section 3 is about the Senate.

Section 4 talks about the times and places and manner of holding elections for the same.

Section 7 starts off: All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the

House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills. That is the first sentence of article I, section 7.

So all bills for raising revenue should start in the House. All budgets should be started in the House. And that's what our Founding Fathers meant to happen.

Section 8 lists the 18 things that Congress can pass laws about. There are only 18, folks. Obviously, we are passing laws about many more things than 18. In fact, in this little booklet, the Constitution of the United States, article I, section 8, starts right here and it goes to right here. It is one and three-quarter pages. That's all Congress has the constitutional authority to pass laws about.

And the 10th Amendment of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, says, and I want to read it to get it very clear so the American people can understand. It is basically one sentence. It says: The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

In other words, Congress is only supposed to be doing the 18 things in article I, section 8. We specifically have enumerated powers. That is what limited government is supposed to be all about. It is supposed to be enumerated powers that we are given by the people. The Constitution starts off with very three powerful words: we the people. "We the people" is the most powerful political force in this country under our Constitution.

But "we the people" is not acting as strongly as it should have been. And one of the things that Congress is supposed to be doing is passing a budget. In fact, families all over this country, State and local governments all over this country, pass a budget. If we don't have a budget, how do we know how to set out bills proposing revenue? How do we know how to spend the money, the taxpayers' money that we take from them through taxes?

Madam Speaker, we are doing a lot of things here in Congress that we shouldn't be doing. But one thing that we should be doing is passing a budget. It is critical. Mr. GOODLATTE said during his 5-minute speech that he has introduced a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. I have done the same. Mine is a little different. There are three balanced budget amendments that Republicans have introduced. But how can we balance the budget if we don't have a budget? I believe very firmly that the Federal Government should not be spending any more money than it takes in year to year. We should be balancing our budget.

My State of Georgia has to live under a balanced budget. In fact, the general assembly just dismissed a couple of weeks ago because they were desperately trying to balance their budget, which they eventually did, in this

economic downturn. They were having tremendous struggles about how to cut the size of State government in the State of Georgia.

But the Federal Government should be doing the same, and the American people need to demand a balanced budget. Republicans are going to be offering a balanced budget. We have done it over and over again. In 1995, a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution passed the U.S. House of Representatives. It lacked one Republican vote in the U.S. Senate from being law today. Unfortunately, we could not get one Republican more to vote for a balanced budget amendment. We wouldn't be spending our grandchildren's future, as we are doing today. The outrageous spending that Congress is doing has to stop. The American people need to demand a balanced budget, but we need to demand from our elected representatives a budget.

It puzzles me why almost at the end of May, Congress still has not enacted a budget resolution and has totally disregarded the April 15 deadline. The deadline. We have missed that deadline, as we miss a lot of things around here.

But we have seen over and over again big bills, big spending bills, a stimulus bill that has been an abject failure. It has stimulated government; it has not stimulated jobs in the private sector but very minimally. Most of those are temporary jobs. We see unemployment recently was reported at 9.9 percent; but that doesn't tell the whole story. Over 50 million people, workers in America, are out of work today. We have had a rise in the unemployment rate, but the 9.9 percent does not tell the true story.

I was talking to one of the county commission chairmen in my district just a few weeks ago. And he said: PAUL, in our county the unemployment rate today is 10.7 percent; and 1 year ago it was 14.3 percent.

I said: Man, that is great. Where did the jobs come from? Where did you create all of the jobs in this county?

He said: PAUL, sadly, there are no jobs. We have not created new jobs here. People have just fallen off the rolls. They have gotten discouraged and are not on the unemployment rolls any more. In Georgia, we have furloughed teachers. At the University of Georgia that I represent in Athens, Georgia, we have furloughed a lot of the employees of the university. Teachers all across the State of Georgia are going to be put out of work because the State of Georgia just does not have the money in this economic downturn to continue to hire and continue to employ the teachers that we so desperately need.

□ 1730

We just had a resolution that we all voted on, almost unanimously, to honor teachers. Teachers hold the future of our Nation, because what they teach our children is critical for the