



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 156

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2010

No. 86

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PASTOR of Arizona).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

June 9, 2010.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ED PASTOR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Great are Your judgements, Lord our God. Beyond all description are the ways You lead Your people. Your mercy extends from one generation to the next.

In every age You have exalted Your people and made them glorious, as long as they were attentive to Your Word. You created a road through the sea and opened a path through the desolate land to lead Your people to the awareness of lasting freedom.

Be with this Congress and this government of the people and for Your people. In our day lead this Nation to a new and glorious day.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs.

MALONEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. MALONEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

JOBS AND THE ECONOMY

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, John Adams once said, "Facts are stubborn things, and whatever may be our wishes . . . they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence."

Well, when it comes to the economy, the facts are on our side. It's a fact that Bush's economic policies created the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression. It's a fact that Republicans produced a recession with nearly 800,000 job losses each month and almost doubled our national debt. It's a fact that 8 years of tax cuts for the rich and trickle-down economics only left the American people hosed.

And it's a fact that this Congress ended those flawed policies and enacted tax cuts for working-class families and small businesses across America. Democrats created nearly 200,000 jobs a month this year, cut over \$800 billion in taxes, and we're about to cut almost \$300 billion more.

Democrats are rebuilding consumer demand, creating new jobs, and getting our economy back on track. And that's a fact, no matter how stubborn the minority wants to be.

THE NEED TO PRODUCE A BUDGET

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

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, with all due respect to the gentlewoman who just stood here, the fact remains the Democrats are not introducing a budget. One of the fundamental principle things that this Congress should do is introduce a budget. This Congress should be embarrassed that they haven't introduced a budget that we can debate and discuss. It's one of the things that's lacking in this so-called leadership here.

They may want to talk about Bush, but the reality is the Democrats have the House and Senate and the Presidency, and they owe it to the American people, they owe it to this institution to produce a budget so that we can debate and discuss it in the United States Congress. It's one of the fundamental things we should do.

This Congress should be embarrassed that it has yet to produce a budget.

HEALTH OF OIL SPILL CLEANUP WORKERS

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, the BP oil spill has caused a great emergency along our gulf coast. I hope as the response to it continues, we never forget the lessons of the Ground Zero workers.

In the wake of 9/11, thousands of men and women labored tirelessly. Driven by a sense of urgent purpose, safety precautions were not taken and assurances were given that proved to be false. The health of far too many of those who worked on that toxic pile, they suffered long-term health consequences.

Now, in the gulf, men and women are once again being exposed to a toxic sea

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H4249

of elements. After just 40-some days, there are already reports that workers have suffered from exposure to the oil. And this cleanup will go on for years.

The time to address the issue of the health of the cleanup workers is now, before they lose it.

DUBOIS BUSINESS COLLEGE

(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, the DuBois Business College started teaching courses in DuBois, Pennsylvania, 125 years ago. They pride themselves on a small student-to-teacher ratio and a stellar success rate for students. From legal assistants to clinical medical assistants, the college has spent decades helping to move people into careers with a future and a good paycheck.

In 1996, the college opened branches in the nearby communities of Huntingdon and Oil City. Then, in 2001, a core group of eight veteran instructors and working administrators purchased the college and committed themselves to continuing the college tradition of excellence.

The college will be celebrating its anniversary throughout the year, but this weekend they'll hold an open house and tours of their newly remodeled facility and new student annex as a commemorative celebration.

In an area where there are no community colleges, DuBois Business College has filled a need over its history and continues to offer quality and affordable education in the fields of accounting, business management, medical, legal, information technology, graphic arts, computer applications, and even movie making.

It is my pleasure to congratulate this institution on its anniversary and to wish them continued success and growth.

AMERICA IS RECOVERING

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the research by USA Today shows that Americans are paying the lowest tax rates since the 1950s—not the 1990s, not 2001 or 2002, but since the 1950s. The Democrats' tax cuts for middle class and small businesses are helping this economy. The economy continues to move in the right direction and it is being sustained. Unemployment is going down in 90 percent of our metropolitan areas.

And the President is attacking the BP oil spill in the right way. But as I represent the gulf region where fishermen and oystermen are, as well as oil workers, we've got to ensure that we continue to save jobs. That means the industry has to reform itself. No permit should be issued unless there is a

defined recovery plan that is approved and vetted by experts that are independent of the government and the industry.

We are saving and creating jobs, but we are as concerned about safety and security. This is the right path. Democrats reduced taxes. The President is in charge. We're going to be able to see America recover.

REALITIES BEHIND HEALTH CARE TAKEOVER

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the administration held a town hall by telephone with seniors across the country to promote a health care takeover bill that costs more by the minute. Seniors need more than a sales pitch. They need to know the facts about this bill.

Fifty percent who depend on Medicare Advantage could lose this coverage. The impact of the bill could be devastating. In Texas, 300 doctors have already stopped seeing seniors. Seniors' loved ones will be deeply impacted by the takeover bill with a \$2,100 hit. This is the amount the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has predicted that early retirees, the self-employed, small business workers, and millions of others who buy family coverage in the individual market will pay more for their health insurance.

Instead of spending time selling a broken product, lawmakers need to repeal it and offer seniors a patient-centered health care plan that lowers costs and expands access.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the global war on terrorism.

PART D DOUGHNUT HOLE

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, there's great news for seniors, and I think that they'll be receiving it in the mail soon. The notorious doughnut hole is going to be closed. And starting this week, the part D doughnut hole where seniors have to pay for their drugs at an immense amount that hurts them will start to be filled because of the health care bill we passed in this House without a single Republican vote that made it law. The Democrats did it.

And \$250 one-time rebate checks will go out as early as this week to seniors who are in the doughnut hole. They will start to be mailed out tomorrow, June 10. Seniors who fall into that hole can expect a \$250 tax rebate check in their mailbox to help them cover those costs, part of the Democratic bill that reformed health care that didn't have a single Republican vote to help it become law. There were 217, 218 Democratic votes up to make that law.

Eventually, the doughnut hole will be eliminated, but we start with these \$250 checks. And I am proud to have voted for it, proud to have supported it, and pleased to give seniors relief from drug bills that are hurting them every day.

WHY WE HAVE NO BUDGET

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, here's one way the American people can tell that it's an election year. After racking up record deficits, congressional Democrats are now trying to run away from the truth about their out-of-control spending.

Last fiscal year, Democrats in Congress tallied a record \$1.4 trillion of deficit spending. Through the first 7 months of this year, they've already overspent by \$800 billion.

So it's no wonder, with elections coming up in just a few months, that they don't want you to know how much deficit spending they plan to do next year. That's why we have no budget.

House Democrats are not putting a budget on the table. They don't want to own up to their numbers. They don't want you to see another trillion dollars added to the deficit. So they'll just leave the books open without a plan and spend without restraint.

About the only thing that will stop them is if the American people speak up and say this is not acceptable. We sent you to Congress to lead; so write a budget.

GOVERNMENT MUST ENFORCE POLLUTION LAWS

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, this morning the Sustainable Energy and Environment Caucus had a meeting with Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson, and she told us something that I thought was encouraging, which is that the United States Federal Government has insisted that British Petroleum drill a second relief well to make sure that we've got a relief well that can ultimately stop this horrific spill in the gulf coast.

And it's encouraging because the Federal Government has to be the ultimate decider to make sure this job gets done. BP only wanted to do one well, but the President and his administration insisted that they do two wells to make sure that we get one that works.

But there's a disturbing effort now going on in the U.S. Senate to deprive the EPA of the ability to clean up the industry that is now putting pollution in the air as well. We've got to preserve the Federal Government's ability to enforce our air pollution and clean water laws. The American people deserve that. We ought to stand strong to