

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POLIS. This last weekend, I was part of a delegation to Campeche, Mexico, as part of the U.S.-Mexico parliamentary exchange. This was the 49th annual U.S.-Mexico parliamentary exchange, and I rise today to emphasize the importance of the U.S.-Mexico relationship.

Our topics included three major areas:

We talked about border security, what we need to do on both sides of the border to improve security, to reduce the flow of drugs from Mexico into the United States, and reduce the flow of weapons from the United States into Mexico;

We talked about how to expand our economic partnership to create jobs in both nations. Mexico, depending upon how you measure it, is our second or third largest trade partner, and we continue to grow our trade;

And finally, we talked about immigration. However frustrating it is for the United States to deal with this issue, it's even more frustrating for Mexico to see many of their best and brightest fleeing northward. And the Mexican Government resolves to take action on this issue. Likewise, it's critical for our country to replace our broken immigration system with one that works for the United States.

PASS A BUDGET

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, we have heard today some comments from our friends on the other side of the aisle about fiscal responsibility and about creating jobs, but the one thing we haven't heard from them is anything about the budget.

If they were from Hollywood, they would be up here saying, "We don't need no stinkin' budget." If they were involved in, oh, Presidential politics a few years ago, they would say, "Where's the beef? Where's the budget?"

Fiscal responsibility starts with knowing where you are and where you are going. Every family in America adopts a budget, but I guess we are too big to fail. We are too big to create budgets because we can just print money after money after money. The fundamental proposition is, as stated by the chairman of the Budget Committee a couple years ago, if you can't budget, you can't govern.

They've told us they can't budget. They're proving to us they can't govern. The problem is this is not a game; this is not a Hollywood movie; this is real life, and real people are hurting.

Let's get down to the business of helping people by being responsible here, and let's start with a budget. Everybody understands that, perhaps, except the Democratic leadership.

PASS WALL STREET REFORM

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

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Speaker, Americans deserve a financial system that protects their savings and their money. Until this Congress passes the Wall Street reform package, America's families and small businesses are at risk. By supporting reform, we support the kind of financial stability that supports job creation.

Regulation, effective regulation, is the unbiased referee that protects us as we compete. Everyone benefits when Americans' savings are protected and small businesses can get loans. Yesterday's laws do not protect us today.

I commend Chairman FRANK and Senator BAUCUS for their hard work going on right now to get a final version of Wall Street reform before this Congress for the American people.

AMERICANS WILL BE FORCED TO CHANGE THEIR HEALTH CARE PLAN

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, the selling of ObamaCare to the American public has been trademarked by one empty promise after another. On September 9, 2009, President Obama infamously promised Americans, and I quote, "If you are among the hundreds of millions of Americans who already have health insurance through your job, nothing in this plan will require you or your employer to change the coverage or the doctor you have." Yet yesterday, in an ironic twist, the Obama administration released draft regulations indicating that up to 69 percent of employer-provided plans may be forced to change their health plans when the new health care law's mandates and requirements begin.

Speaker PELOSI was quoted as saying that we will have to pass this bill to find out what's in it. As the fine print is being placed, we are learning bad news daily about this unpopular law.

Mr. Speaker, I again ask: How many promises will ObamaCare have to break with the American people before we repeal this disastrous legislation?

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PRESCRIPTION DRUG DOUGHNUT HOLE

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. About 80,000 senior citizens and people with disabilities have already fallen into what we call the doughnut hole. What is that? That is a gap in Medicare prescription drug coverage and is a result of—you know, we just heard criticism of so-called ObamaCare—but the Republicans passed a bill called Medicare part D.

But what it says is that Mrs. Jones, after a certain amount of money that has been spent on her prescription drugs stands in line at the drugstore and says, I'm ordering a refill of my prescriptions.

And the druggist says, Well, Mrs. Jones, that will be \$100.

She says, What do you mean, I thought I was insured?

They say, Oh, no, you've gone over the amount of money that the government will give you, and now you're going to have to pay \$3,000-plus out of pocket in order to get covered again.

Well, we finally have done something about that, and checks are going to start going out this week to people, the 80,000 that have fallen into the doughnut hole, of \$250 to try and help them pay for that, and we're going to ease out the prescription drug doughnut hole.

LEADERSHIP REQUIRES MAKING TOUGH DECISIONS

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

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, you know, America is broke, and it's time for us to start making tough decisions. Continuing debt spending is actually the easy choice. Leadership requires making tough decisions, and yet we stand here today as Members of Congress with the majority not even sending up a budget.

Now, the Obama administration did propose a budget. It was \$3.8 trillion funded with revenue that totaled \$2.2 trillion. The majority doesn't even seem to want to address the budget. Now, when we were in the majority, JOHN SPRATT said, If you can't forward a budget, you can't govern, and yet today we don't see a budget.

All across this country, American families have had to readdress their budget, make tough decisions in their family households. That's what you do during difficult times. Businesses have had to make tough decisions, and yet this Congress is refusing to make the tough choices. Instead we continue the deficit spending, tacking on debt to the next generation.

America deserves better. Our children and our grandchildren deserve better than continued deficit spending.

STAND UP FOR HARDWORKING AMERICANS

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

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on Members of Congress and the Wall Street reform conference committee to stand up for hardworking Americans and send us a strong bill that protects the interests of those on Main Street who have been continuing and will continue to pay the price for Wall Street excesses.

Over the past few weeks, I've been meeting with small business owners, like Joe Lorentz of Myles Lorentz Trucking Company in Mankato, Minnesota. Community leaders, like Owatonna Mayor Tom Kuntz, Waseca Mayor Roy Srp, and New Ulm Mayor Joel Albrecht, and all of them have delivered a very simple message: We must end too big to fail by ensuring large financial firms are allowed to fail without burdening the taxpayer. We must protect Main Street businesses and consumers from the negative effects of greed run amuck. And we must not penalize Main Street institutions that work, community banks, credit unions and auto dealerships.

So on behalf of Main Street Minnesota, I urge my colleagues to send us a tough bill that restores transparency and accountability to America.

FISCAL YEAR 2010 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL AND FISCAL YEAR 2011 BUDGET

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

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better from their elected leaders. Vital funds to protect our troops are being held hostage, and serious proposals to deal with our soaring national debt aren't even being discussed in this body.

The brave men and women fighting our enemies overseas have been waiting for Congress to approve an emergency funding bill critical to their operations since February. Over 4 months later, still nothing. Only broken promises and missed opportunities for bipartisanship. Not only has the majority party repeatedly failed to deliver funds for our troops in harm's way, they've bypassed regular order to tack on billions more in unnecessary deficit spending. No committee deliberations, no markups, no offer of amendments, and no input from the minority. It's a national disgrace.

I urge the Congress to act to support our troops.

SMALL BUSINESS LENDING FUND ACT

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

Mr. BACA. This week, the Chamber will consider H.R. 5297, the Small Business Lending Fund Act. This bill will create a small business loan fund and provide capital to American small businesses. This bill also includes a boost to State lending programs, providing \$2 billion in funding to new and existing programs across the country.

Small businesses are the backbone of the American economy and create two out of three jobs in this country. Our economy has begun to show signs of growth and recovery, and our largest

financial institutions are stabilized, but it's time to assist local and community banks that provide the bulk of the capital to small businesses.

Job creation needs to be the number one priority forward, and legislation like this will help accomplish our goals and restore the public faith in our economy.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 5297 when it comes before us.

WE MUST HAVE A BUDGET RESOLUTION

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

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, it's now official. We're now a full 2 months behind the congressional deadline with no budget resolution in sight. In the past, this would be just another failure by the majority to meet a technical responsibility. But this year is different.

This administration's enormous government spending increases have driven our annual budget shortfall to \$1.4 trillion. That's the deficit. We're spending \$1.4 trillion more than we're bringing in. The accumulation of all our past budget deficits, the national debt, last month rocketed past \$13 trillion, and media reports last week predicted that it would balloon over \$15 trillion by 2015.

And how do we finance this debt? When American families and businesses find themselves short of cash, they cut their spending. When the Federal Government finds itself with a record deficit, we borrow money. From whom? The Chinese, the Japanese, from the Saudis, and we pay interest on that debt, hundreds of billions of dollars each year.

We can do better. We must do better. We must have a budget resolution. We must cut spending.

MONEY IN THE STIMULUS BILL WENT TO THE RIGHT PEOPLE

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

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I ran for Congress 4 years ago because I had watched the Republicans use the power that they had accrued here to turn our government over to their friends in the oil industry and the insurance industry, the drug industry and the banking industry, and so I wonder what kind of stimulus bill they would have written last year were they still in charge.

It would have been very different than the one that's on the ground today in Connecticut, one that has put funds in a small solar company in Bethel, Connecticut, Apollo Solar, creating jobs in renewable energy; a stimulus bill that just opened up a new early Head Start program in Danbury, Connecticut, employing 20 people im-

mediately and creating a lot of job opportunities for the parents who now have child care. It would have been very different than the bill that gave millions and millions in tax credits to middle- and lower-income individuals in Connecticut that have allowed them to go out and start to create a retail resurgence.

The stimulus bill would have been done very differently under the Republicans. Democrats in charge, the money went to the right people.

KYRGYZSTAN

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, this week, violence flared up in Kyrgyzstan, prompting tens of thousands of Uzbeks to flee their homes and places of birth to seek refuge in neighboring countries. Innocent people, including women, children and the elderly, are suffering with over 100 killed.

Just 2 months ago, the people deposed the authoritarian President Bakiyev, who promptly fled to Belarus and the protection of the Lukashenko government. Approval of a new constitution and general elections were proceeding smoothly until the recent violence, which was prompted by forces supportive of the deposed president and other lawless elements.

Even with the present chaos, the interim Kurdish government is insisting that the date of elections will remain unchanged. For many years, I've worked with the nations along the old Silk Road in central Asia, and it pains me to see the Kyrgyz fleeing violence in their homeland.

The U.S. wants to keep our Air Force base in Kyrgyzstan, but we have shown little interest in helping the people of this nation build a republic that respects human rights free of corruption. Even China and Russia are lending their support with humanitarian aid flights. We need the State Department and President Obama to offer the support of America to a nation struggling to create democracy and freedom to strengthen their independence and sovereignty.

Without action on the part of the U.S., violence will continue, and then more than just a military base will be lost.

DON'T LET AN OIL SPILL RUIN YOUR VACATION

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

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as co-chair of the Congressional Tourism Caucus to remind this Nation that we should not let an oil spill ruin our vacation. Disasters drive people away from wherever there is a disastrous incident. In the Gulf States, local tourism is suffering from it. It's suffering