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THE WHITE HOUSE JOBS PROBLEM

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. A recent New York Times poll indicates 54 percent of the public believe the President does not have a clear plan for creating jobs. Clearly, the failed \$1 trillion stimulus plan created to keep unemployment below 8 percent shows the President's inability to lead. The dismal numbers come as the Democrats neglected to produce a budget and the majority leader announced the Democrats will raise taxes to pay for more government spending. I say: Cut government spending so you don't have to raise taxes.

While they should be focused on creating jobs, the Democrats have proven the only thing they can do well is tax and spend. Here's a novel idea that the American people know from personal experience: Stop spending money you don't have.

CONGRATULATING BRYCE HARPER

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

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate my constituent Bryce Harper on being selected by the Washington Nationals as the first overall pick in the Major League Baseball draft.

Harper, a native of southern Nevada, who is just 17 years old, led the College of Southern Nevada and the Scenic West Athletic Conference in virtually every offensive category. In recognition of his outstanding performance, he was the SWAC 2010 Player of the Year and was named to the First Team AWC All-Conference team. During the 2010 season, he set a CSN school record for home runs. He belted 31, shattering the previous record of 12.

So, Madam Speaker, I look forward to welcoming Bryce to Washington and watching him play just down the street as he stars for the Nationals for years to come.

STOP PLAYING POLITICS WITH TROOP FUNDING

(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. The House should stop playing politics with troop funding. The money is being held up by liberal lawmakers so they can add billions of dollars to the so-called "stimulus" funds and special interest moneys to the troop funding package.

Partisan special interest moneys and a hodgepodge of wasteful spending has no place in a true funding bill. We need a clean bill that will pass easily so our

military operations will not be disrupted. Secretary Gates has warned us not to hold up this essential spending or else defense spending will suffer, meaning our troops will be at risk.

As a veteran with four sons in the military, nothing is more important to me than making sure our troops on the front lines receive the funding they need. With two counterinsurgency operations going on in Afghanistan and Iraq, it's highly irresponsible to hold this up any longer.

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

SAFETY OF CENSUS WORKERS

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

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, we should all be greatly concerned for the safety of our U.S. census workers. According to the Census Bureau, there have been 379 incidents involving threats and abuse towards census employees so far this year. That's more than double the violence that occurred during the last census in 2000, and there are still 3 weeks remaining in this year's census taking.

The reported incidents have consisted of robberies, assault, violent threats, being held against their will, and carjacking. They are doing very important work and getting paid very little for it. They should not be subjected to this kind of abusive treatment. Ironically, it is the work of census takers that will ensure that each American receives their fair share of Federal resources. They are performing a very important public service.

I'm afraid that this abuse may be directly tied to some of the antigovernment rhetoric that is coming from some people in this body and the Republican noise machine; in other words, Rush Limbaugh, Glenn Beck, and countless other so-called "shock jocks." Rather than disparaging Federal employees, this body should be applauding the excellent and courageous work that they are performing.

HONORING SERGEANT FIRST CLASS ROBERT FIKE AND STAFF SERGEANT BRYAN HOOVER

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

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor two sons of southwestern Pennsylvania who gave their lives to their country. While on patrol in Afghanistan, Sergeant First Class Robert Fike and Staff Sergeant Bryan Hoover were killed by a suicide bomber. They became the 35th and 36th members of the Pennsylvania National Guard to be killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Sergeant Fike was described as "one of those guys you just liked instantly."

He graduated in 1989 from Penn-Trafford High School, joined the National Guard in 1993, and served in Panama, Italy, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq. His experience in military as well as a State prison guard made him an excellent leader of the younger troops. It was said of him that the guys respected everything he said. They trusted and liked him.

Staff Sergeant Hoover graduated from Elizabeth Forward High School in 2000, where he was a standout athlete in track, football, and wrestling. He enlisted in the Marines and served in Iraq and then served in the Army Reserves before joining the National Guard. Back home, Bryan Hoover was an assistant track and cross country coach at Elizabeth Forward High School. He also volunteered to coach low-income children at the YMCA. While he is no longer with us, Bryan left a mark on his students. One described him as an "inspirational coach."

These two guardsmen were friends, having served together with the 28th Military Police Company in Iraq in 2007 and 2008. It was also their shared commitment to community and country that led them to join the military, where together they protected the reconstruction teams, building schools and infrastructure for the people of Afghanistan.

Hundreds gathered to pay their respects this past week for Sergeant Fike and Staff Sergeant Hoover as they were laid to rest. As we mourn with these families, we know there are two more heroes keeping watch over us from above. On behalf of a grateful Nation, we thank them for their service and sacrifice. May God bless their families and the country they loved.

WAR IN AFGHANISTAN

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. A great deal of attention has been focused on the recent Rolling Stone article which resulted in the resignation of General Stanley McChrystal. But even more troublesome to me than the general's inappropriate remarks were the comments by senior military officials about the state of the war and the future of our involvement in Afghanistan, which seem to contradict what the Obama administration has told us. "If Americans pulled back and started paying attention to this war, it would become even less popular," a senior military adviser said. Another said, "Instead of beginning to withdraw troops next year, as Obama promised, the military hopes to ramp up its counterinsurgency campaign even further."

Madam Speaker, the American people and our troops deserve to know the truth about what we are doing in Afghanistan. We need clarity. We should have clarity before we bring up any war supplemental appropriations bill.

OIL SPILL PREVENTION ACT

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

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, this week, I introduced the Oil Spill Prevention Act of 2010. This Deepwater spill is the worst environmental disaster in U.S. history. My bill would prevent future disasters from happening.

Number one, we want to reform the Interior Department by separating revenues—a structural separation of revenues in leasing from inspections. In other words, we've got people that are doing the leases on the revenue side cutting deals on environmental exemptions.

Second, strengthen the oversight of inspections. Sixteen inspections were missed with BP. That's got to stop with BP and the industry. We need to reschedule and make sure every safety inspection is done.

Three, eliminate the liability caps on major oil spills. Today, it's at \$75 million. That's a joke. This is going to be tens of billions of dollars to fix.

We need to act now. I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support my bill and we'll eliminate spills.

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HOLDING BIG OIL ACCOUNTABLE

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, the Gulf coast catastrophe underscores the need for comprehensive energy and climate reform to rein in Big Oil and reduce our reliance on dirty and foreign fuels. For too long under the Bush administration, Big Oil was able to operate with complete disregard for safety; and instead of standing up for the people, businesses and the environment, House Republicans continued to side with Big Oil.

The Democratic-led Congress is moving America in a new direction for energy independence, working to lower costs for consumers, making America more secure, and launching a cleaner, smarter, more cost-effective energy future that creates millions of clean energy jobs and reduces global warming.

HONORING MARINE LANCE CORPORAL TIMOTHY G. SERWINOWSKI

(Mr. LEE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LEE of New York. I rise today to honor a great man, Marine Lance Corporal Timothy G. Serwinowski. Just 21 years old, Lance Corporal Serwinowski was killed in action while serving in southern Afghanistan this past Sunday. A native of Tonawanda, New York, and a 2007 graduate of North Tonawanda High School, Tim enjoyed sing-

ing and playing the guitar. He played football throughout high school and was honored by his coaches during his senior year for his "excellence and leadership," and he took those traits to the marines.

When asked why he wanted to enlist with the marines, he said, "If you're going to do it, you go with the best." Tim strove to be the best, and his life was taken far too soon. Both Tim and his family—some who I know personally—have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country, and we owe it to them our renewed commitment to bring our men and women home as soon as possible. Tim served our Nation with valor and with honor, and he will be deeply missed by the many whose lives he has touched.

PASS A JOBS BILL BY PUTTING PARTISAN POLITICS ASIDE

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

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, it's time to put partisan politics aside and pass a jobs bill that would do the following: extend unemployment benefits to the thousands and thousands of our fellow citizens that find themselves unemployed due to no fault of their own, that would protect the health of our seniors dependent on Medicare by restoring a 21 percent cut in Medicare reimbursement to our doctors, and extend tax credits and benefits essential to the American people.

Surely there are three Republican Senators that are willing to break with their partisan beliefs and stand up with the American people so that those that are unemployed can get their benefits and take care of their families; the doctors can continue to take care of Medicare patients; our seniors will continue to see their doctors; and we can provide the necessary tax credits and benefits that the American people are demanding and asking for.

I ask everybody to think of the American people instead of their own narrow interests. Let's get this thing done.

PROTECT FREEDOM OF POLITICAL SPEECH FROM THE DISCLOSE ACT

(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, in a few minutes, we're going to start talking about a rule and then go into the substance of a bill called the DISCLOSE Act. The DISCLOSE Act supposedly talks merely about disclosure of political speech, but what it really does is affect the First Amendment to the Constitution which says, Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech. It does not say, Congress will pass laws which allow some people to speak but

not others, and yet that's what the bill does that's being brought to us.

If you happen to be a big organization, a large special interest with a lot of money and have been around a long time, you are exempt from the disclosure requirements. But if you happen to be somebody like, oh, the tea party or a smaller group or you don't have all the money or you haven't been around for 10 years, you have the imposition of the burden of disclosure which, in some cases, will make it impossible for you to exercise free speech.

You know, the First Amendment talks about speech. My friends on the other side of the aisle love to talk about how it protects, oh, nude dancing or something like that. How about talking about political speech.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5175, DEMOCRACY IS STRENGTHENED BY CASTING LIGHT ON SPENDING IN ELECTIONS ACT

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1468 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1468

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. 5175) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit foreign influence in Federal elections, to prohibit government contractors from making expenditures with respect to such elections, and to establish additional disclosure requirements with respect to spending in such elections, 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 House Administration. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on House Administration now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules. Each further 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