

Mr. HEINRICH. Last night, I hosted a telephone town hall with thousands of New Mexicans to discuss what we've been doing to reform Wall Street and to protect and empower consumers in the marketplace. During the town hall, several constituents contacted my office for help with their own financial problems like unfair spikes in their credit card interest rates. Just like these callers, all New Mexicans have been negatively impacted by the years without accountability for Wall Street banks and big corporations that caused the financial hardship that we're dealing with today.

Our working families and our small businesses deserve better. That's why I was proud to vote for the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act yesterday. This legislation will rein in the Wall Street banks and their big bonuses and put an end to taxpayer bailouts and the idea of "too big to fail." I'm hopeful the Senate will quickly pass this bill so that Wall Street banks will again be held accountable. Hard-working New Mexicans deserve no less.

#### MAIN STREET ON THE HOOK FOR MANHATTAN'S WALL STREET

(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 House passed a financial regulatory bill, which shows Washington liberals once again how out of touch they are with the needs of hardworking Americans. Small business owners and community bankers across South Carolina will be adversely impacted by this bill.

Justin Strickland, president of Southern First Bank in Cayce, and father of former House floor page Justin Strickland, Jr., said that "this bill adds 30 new regulations that will severely limit the ability of small banks to extend credit to South Carolinians." Hal Stevenson, CEO of Grace Outdoor in Columbia, explains that this big bank bailout discourages lending to small businesses and reduces job creation. Calling this a reform bill is insulting when it fails to address the giants in the financial collapse, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Failing to tackle these two cancerous entities is like going in for surgery and keeping the giant tumor in place.

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

#### POSSIBLE LAWSUIT AGAINST ARIZONA'S NEW IMMIGRATION LAW, SB 1070

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

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I am troubled by recent press reports suggesting that the Justice Department has decided to sue to block Arizona's

new immigration law, SB 1070. I believe this is the wrong direction to go. I believe the administration's time and efforts would be much better spent securing the border and fixing our broken immigration system. If there's one message that Washington should receive from the enactment of SB 1070, it is that Arizonans are fed up with waiting for the Federal Government to address this vitally important issue.

A lawsuit won't solve the problem. It won't secure the border and it won't fix our broken immigration system. Neither will boycotts, which are shortsighted and detrimental to our economic recovery. The only thing that protracted litigation will do is once again demonstrate to Arizonans that Washington just doesn't get it. It will embolden those on all sides who prefer to grandstand and score political points, instead of working toward real solutions. Arizonans are tired of grandstanding and tired of waiting for real help from Washington.

#### KYRGYZSTAN CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM

(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, a couple of weeks ago, there was ethnic violence occurring in the emerging Republic of Kyrgyzstan. Today, there is good news about how that nation is progressing towards democracy. On Sunday, the people of Kyrgyzstan held a referendum on the new constitution. Ninety percent voted to establish a new parliamentary government. This would make Kyrgyzstan the only nation in the region to shift its balance of power from an authoritarian style of government to representative democracy.

Despite the recent violence, the interim government was able to conduct the referendum as scheduled and undertook heroic efforts to include as many citizens as possible, with two-thirds of the eligible voters participating. Election officials visited hospitals and refugee camps to ensure that the injured and displaced were not denied the right to a ballot.

The government faces many challenges before the general election this fall and much to be done for Kyrgyzstan to establish a stable government that protects the rights of all its citizens. But the referendum is a good start, and the United States should stand by with assistance and support.

#### OILSPILL MEANS NEED TO DEVELOP ALTERNATIVE FUELS

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

Ms. SCHWARTZ. As a result of the BP Deepwater Horizon blowout, tens of millions of gallons of oil have polluted

the gulf coast. This is the worst environmental disaster in U.S. history. It is also a clarion call to action—an urgent call to develop alternative sources of energy. Without a determined commitment to alternative fuels, we will never end our Nation's addiction to oil, which demands drilling in deeper and more dangerous locations, increasing the potential for other devastating consequences. I've introduced legislation with bipartisan support to encourage the next generation of biofuels—fuels made from living matter like plants and algae. Along with incentives to expand other alternative energy sources and promote energy efficiency, this proposal is exactly what the renewable fuel industry needs to get biofuel facilities built in the United States. New bio-refineries will produce clean energy and create new jobs here at home. The Biotechnology Industry Organization estimates that direct job creation from cellulosic biofuels will create over 200,000 jobs in the next decade. By working with the private sector to advance the next generation of fuels, we can and we should put our Nation on a path to safer, cleaner, domestically produced energy.

□ 1010

#### MISGUIDED FINANCIAL REGULATORY REFORM

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

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my profound disappointment that yesterday, the House passed an ill-advised conference report for the financial regulatory reform bill. This legislation will create a permanent bailout fund for financial institutions. It neglects to reform or place any safeguards on two of the main culprits in this ongoing mess, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac; and the Federal Government guarantees more than \$1.7 trillion of their debt.

This misguided bill would create a new government bureaucracy providing unelected Federal bureaucrats the power to determine the types and terms offered by financial products. I have severe reservations about such an action, as it will simply serve to make obtaining credit more unavailable. Finally, this act would be paid for in part by redirecting \$11 billion in TARP funds. Unspent TARP funds must be used to pay down the national debt. Instead, this Congress is attempting to utilize these moneys for further increased spending at times when Americans continue to struggle to make ends meet.

I urge the Senate to vote "no" on the conference committee report.

#### HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR

(Mr. KLEIN of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor all American veterans and especially those who served in the Korean War. Although it's too often mischaracterized as "the forgotten war," we will never forget the sacrifice of the 294,000 Floridians who put on the uniform and served our country in that conflict. This year we are marking the 60th anniversary of the Korean War which provides us another opportunity to say "thank you" to those who fought for the freedoms that we all enjoy.

Once again, our community in south Florida has come together to honor the veterans of the Korean War, and we are dedicating a new memorial in Palm Beach County to make sure these servicemembers and the war they fought are never forgotten. I would personally like to thank Joe Green, the president of our local chapter of the Korean War veterans, for his tireless dedication. Without his hard work, this memorial would not have become a reality; and we owe him a great deal of gratitude.

I personally wake up every day committed to serving those who served our country. Standing with our local veterans is a top priority, and today I am honored to ask the House to remember those who served in the Korean War on the occasion of its 60th anniversary.

#### SHOTS ACROSS THE BORDER

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the violence continues to spill across our southern border with Mexico. This week, seven shots from gunfire hit City Hall in downtown El Paso, Texas, in more cross-border violence. City Hall is over a half mile from the Rio Grande border with Mexico. The El Paso Police said stray bullets came from a drug cartel shoot-out in Juarez, Mexico.

In 1911, 99 years ago, stray bullets rained down on Americans from across the border when revolutionary Pancho Villa seized the city of Juarez, Mexico. Those stray bullets wounded Americans and damaged American properties. Bandits raided ranches and attacked border towns. There was lawlessness on the border frontier. History is repeating itself.

But in 1911, President Taft took swift action. He deployed the Cavalry from Fort Bliss to the border and to the areas along the border. They stopped the violence on American lives and property. But today, this administration is missing in action on the border. Meanwhile, the border war continues.

And that's just the way it is.

#### DANGERS ON THE ROAD

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

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the coming Inde-

pendence Day holiday, I note with sadness that more American teenagers are killed in auto accidents over the July 4 weekend than any other time of the year. From 1995 to 2006, over 76,000 Americans between 15 and 20 years of age died in motor vehicle crashes, an average of 122 teenage deaths per week.

Parents can't always be in the passenger seat; but we, as a Nation, can help our teens drive safely through graduated driver's license programs which allow young drivers time to develop their skill and road awareness before they receive a full unrestricted license. Graduated driver's license programs save lives. California saw a 40 percent drop in passenger deaths and injuries resulting from crashes involving 16-year-old drivers in the first 3 years after adopting a graduated driver's license program, and other States have seen similar results.

I have introduced bipartisan legislation that would require States to introduce graduated driver's licenses informed by best practices from existing State programs, and I urge my colleagues to support it. I also urge all Americans, especially teenagers, to make an effort to drive safely this weekend.

#### CONGRATULATING DAVIE COUNTY'S WHIT MERRIFIELD ON GAME-WINNING RBI IN COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Whit Merrifield of Advance, North Carolina, who brought in the winning run in the 11th inning for the University of South Carolina to win the NCAA's College World Series over UCLA. Merrifield's game-winning hit capped a two-game sweep of UCLA for South Carolina and helped the Gamecocks capture their first-ever College World Series title. The team's coach called his historic game-winning hit "the biggest hit of his career," and I couldn't agree more.

Merrifield, who is the son of Bill and Kissy Merrifield, comes from a family of North Carolina athletes. He played for Davie County High School, was on the 2007 South Carolina/North Carolina All-Star Select Team, hit .400 his senior year at Davie High and .464 his junior year, and was a two-time all-State selection. And after his history-making RBI for the Gamecocks, his family, friends and the people of Davie County, North Carolina, are proud to call him their own.

#### OBAMA FAILS TO PROTECT AMERICAN JOBS

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, an Associated Press poll found that only

36 percent of Americans approve of the President's handling of immigration, and only 42 percent approve of the way he is handling employment. This is no coincidence. Illegal immigration and unemployment are directly linked. There are 15 million unemployed Americans in the United States and 8 million illegal immigrants in the labor force. We could cut unemployment in half simply by reclaiming the jobs taken by illegal workers.

President Obama is on the wrong side of the American people when it comes to immigration. The President should support policies that help jobless citizens and legal immigrants find the jobs they need and deserve rather than not enforce immigration laws.

President Obama has failed to protect American jobs.

□ 1020

#### LOUISIANA SEAFOOD IS SAFE

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

Mr. MELANCON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of thousands of Louisiana families that have worked tirelessly in the seafood industry to deliver shrimp, oysters, crab and countless varieties of fish to restaurants and markets across this country.

While the news coverage of the BP oil spill is constantly reminding us that we are facing the largest environmental disaster in our Nation's history, it is imperative that we prevent another disaster from developing, that of the death of the Louisiana seafood industry.

I come to the floor today to let you know that Louisiana seafood on the market is safe to eat. There's daily testing, as never before, of all seafood catches, by local, State, Federal experts and scientists.

To aide in this oversight, Congressman BOYD of Florida and I sent a letter to the President requesting that a seafood safety task force be assembled. Their mission would be to further ensure the safety and wholesomeness of gulf-harvested commercial seafood products that are being presently gathered.

Some areas of our coastline are now closed to fishing. These closures are necessary and should underscore our steadfast commitment to consumer safety. But the world must know that approximately 40 percent of our oyster areas are open and harvesting, and 70 percent of our coast remains open to commercial and recreational fishing.

#### THE COSTS OF THE IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN WARS ARE TOO HIGH

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, according to both the Congressional Research