

over a lifetime of their careers. That is why it is outrageous, at least from my perspective, to hear some of my colleagues propose to cut Social Security as a mechanism to reduce the national deficit or to pay for the war in Afghanistan.

This is irresponsible, shortsighted, and overwhelmingly reckless; and I personally won't stand for it. Social Security is one of the only Federal programs that has a dedicated source of revenue, what we pay into that has paid for itself in full for over 75 years now without contributing to the national deficit. In south Florida and around the country, seniors rely on Social Security as a stable, guaranteed source of income in their retirement years, particularly in these tough economic times.

I adamantly oppose and will work to defeat any attempts to weaken America's retirement security and pay down national debt unrelated to the Social Security program—all on the backs of our Nation's seniors.

□ 1310

UNCERTAINTY—THE ENEMY OF JOB CREATION

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, with the U.S. unemployment rate steadily hovering around 10 percent, Americans continue to ask, "Where are the jobs?" The answer to this crisis from congressional Democrats and the Obama administration is, higher taxes, increased government spending, and more government regulation.

The passage of ObamaCare, cap-and-trade in the House, and financial regulation has created an atmosphere of tremendous uncertainty, especially among small businesses, which employ over half of all the private sector employees. Uncertainty, as we all know, is the enemy of growth, investment and job creation.

The way out of this recession and towards job creation is enact policies that free up capital, reduce uncertainty, and restore confidence in our economy. We cannot do this if the administration and Congressional Democrats continue to impose costly regulations, higher taxes on job creators, and create uncertainty in the marketplace.

SOCIAL SECURITY IS A SACRED TRUST

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, for 75 years, Social Security has lifted millions of seniors and disabled Americans out of poverty. That is why I can't believe that Republicans would cut Social Security benefits and make it

harder for people who worked all their lives to get benefits.

Social Security is a sacred trust. It is a trust between the American government and the American people. It is a trust between parents and children, between those working and those in retirement. It is the greatest example of the beloved community in America.

We will not allow anyone to cut Social Security. We will hold this sacred trust for generations yet to come.

NO END IN SIGHT

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

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I want to talk to you about jobs. I come into this Chamber often and hear my Democrat colleagues talk about how bad things were under the past administration, how much better off we are under this President.

Well, I'll tell you one thing President Bush gave us that this President can't give us, and that's jobs. In 2003 we passed the second largest tax cuts in American history, and we had 55 consecutive months of job growth in this country, the longest period of job growth in American history.

This President came into office, said, if you'll give me nearly \$1 trillion in a stimulus bill, I'll make sure unemployment doesn't go over 8 percent. Well, we're at 10, we've been here for most of his Presidency, and we see no end in sight.

Well, now we're talking about the unemployed. We've got 10 percent of the people hurting. They're in pain. They need our help. They need unemployment benefits, and we want to give them to them.

The President says, and Speaker PELOSI says, well, the Republicans are standing in the way. They're cold-hearted.

No, the problem is, they can't get the Democrats to vote for it because they want to borrow the money.

We've said we want to vote for unemployment benefits, we just want to pay for them. We've told the President, just reach into your stimulus bill, unfunded stimulus funds, and pay for them there. He doesn't want to do that because that's a political trust fund.

He's using the unemployed as a political football, and if that doesn't make you mad, it ought to.

NO PRIVATIZATION OR CUTTING OF SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. It's always good to go back to the district. I was there over the weekend. Among the many things was a family wedding.

My 89-year old mother came up to me and said, John, does that Republican leader really mean to cut Social Security to pay for the war?

And I said, well, apparently that's what he means. But I'll tell you this, Mom, and to every other mother and father out there that's on Social Security, no way, no how will the Republicans get their way, either privatizing Social Security, or cutting it to pay for the war. That's not going to happen.

The Democrats have been for Social Security since 75 years ago when it was first established, and we remain strong to that commitment. It is there. It is the fundamental opportunity for retirees to have a foundation. No privatization and no cutting of Social Security, despite what the Republican leader might say.

QUIT BANKRUPTING AMERICA AND PAY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

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

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, under this administration and this Congress, we have now seen the largest deficits in history, the largest national debt in history, the failed stimulus plan, the health care takeover, cap and energy tax, a permanent Wall Street bailout, all of which has led to the loss of millions of jobs, near double-digit unemployment, the highest in a generation. So, unfortunately, under their policy, yes, we do need another extension of unemployment.

But here's the difference. The Democrats want to borrow 43 cents on the dollar, mainly from the Chinese, and send the bill to our children and grandchildren. That's unacceptable.

Republicans say pay for it. And almost every week we come to the floor under the YouCut program and offer spending reductions to do just that.

The second difference is, Democrats actually believe more unemployment leads to more employment. The Speaker of the House has said, unemployment checks create jobs faster than almost any other initiative you can name.

Mr. Speaker, give me a break. Republicans know that Americans want paychecks, not more unemployment checks. Quit bankrupting America and pay for this unemployment insurance.

GOING FORWARD

(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, one thing good about our country, we always go forward, not backwards. And we are not going to go backwards to allow the privatization of Social Security. We are not going to go backwards to allow the removal of important protections against Wall Street, abuses of the U.S. economy. We're going to go forward.

And we're not going to go backward on environmental protection. I'll say

why this is important. This morning we were doing our investigation of the BP oil spill. We had President Bush's Secretary of the Interior, Gail Norton, testify. And you know what we discovered?

During the Bush administration's rapid ramp-up of offshore drilling, they learned that 50 percent of the blow-out preventers that were supposed to be the fail-safe system to prevent these massive oil spills, 50 percent of them didn't work. But they refused to do anything about it.

They learned that they had a problem with their own investigators, that the wells weren't being cemented appropriately, but they refused to do anything about it.

We are not going to let folks go backwards on Social Security, go backwards on Wall Street reform, or go backwards on environmental protection. This is a country that goes forward.

NO BUDGET THIS YEAR

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

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, it's official. In late June the majority leader confirmed what we've known all along and suspected: There will be no budget this year.

Yes, for the first time since 1974, the House will not even consider a budget resolution that's necessary to begin the appropriations process beginning October 1.

Now, this may sound like inside baseball or congressional housekeeping, but it's much more than that.

Over this past month, I've met with hundreds of constituents who have the same question, "Where are the jobs?"

My colleagues, we should be spending this summer working to improve our financial outlook, positioning our Nation to create an environment for private sector job growth and opportunity.

Instead, the majority has chosen to increase domestic spending by 84 percent since the President took office on inefficient programs that have succeeded only in adding to the public debt. To finance this spending binge, we're borrowing more and more money from nations like China, Japan, and Saudi Arabia.

The people of New Jersey and people across the Nation know that we spend too much, tax too much, and we borrow too much. It's got to stop.

□ 1320

EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

(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, this past weekend I went door

to door in Waterbury, Connecticut, where unemployment today is 14.1 percent. Guess what everybody wanted to talk about? They wanted to talk jobs. People in Waterbury never shied away from hard work. This is the Brass City. It's due to its rich history of manufacturing, making things from Boulder Dam in Colorado to munitions for World War II and Korea.

And today the unemployed in Waterbury aren't just sitting on their hands waiting for a job to drop in their lap. And unlike some on the right try to suggest, they're not looking for a hand-out either. They just need some help getting through this recession.

Outside the city limits of D.C., patience is running thin with the Republicans who are playing politics with people's ability to buy groceries and simply make ends meet during tough times.

We can come out of this recession stronger than ever, but Congress needs to do the right thing and extend unemployment benefits for people in Waterbury and all across this country.

THE UNARMED NATIONAL GUARD WILL GUARD COMPUTERS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the administration says they will be sending 1,200 National Guard troops to the southern border region on August 1. But they're not going to the actual border. They'll be far behind the lines, guarding computers. And the National Guard will be unarmed while they are guarding the computers.

The Border Patrol welcomes the National Guard at the border. They appreciate the help. But the Border Patrol agents made it real clear they need armed National Guard to help them stop the criminal cartels at the border. Further, the Border Patrol will need to guard the National Guard. Now, how does that make sense?

Mr. Speaker, we have 15 million unemployed Americans already. We should hire some of those 15 million unemployed to do the technical work behind the lines, and the National Guard should be armed and on the front lines of the border doing what they're trained to do: Protect the country. We need the National Guard with boots on the ground on the border, not rebooting computers somewhere behind the border.

And that's just the way it is.

SOCIAL SECURITY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. HALL of New York. Mr. Speaker, Republicans in Congress are talking about dismantling our Social Security system. They want to privatize this important program, raise the retire-

ment age, and make our seniors pay for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. This is simply unacceptable.

Seventy-five years ago our Nation made a promise to our seniors. We promised to help them through their golden years. This promise has served our Nation well, allowing those who built this great country an opportunity to enjoy the fruits of their hard work. Social Security is one of the most important, successful programs in the United States' history, an invaluable program that helps more than 50 million seniors and disabled Americans.

Our seniors depend on their monthly checks to put food on the table and a roof over their heads. Without this critical help, many of them would fall into poverty. Social Security should not be privatized, and must remain intact for America's future generations.

ECONOMY AND JOBS—MORATORIUM

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, as Americans ask, Where are the jobs, we see the job creation of one family at risk thanks to the President's ill-conceived offshore drilling moratorium.

Sunbelt Machine Works Corporation was founded 32 years ago by Frank and Mary Scantlin. While Frank ran the shop, Mary served as secretary and a truckdriver to help out. Their children grew up sweeping the floors and learning the business, working their way up in a company that today employs 70 people in the district that I represent.

The President's moratorium will cause Sunbelt to lay off people soon if production doesn't restart quickly. Jobs have already headed overseas, as two rigs have left the gulf. The CEO of one of those rigs' owners apologized for the "loss of U.S. jobs" because of the moratorium.

Mr. Speaker, we must lift this job-killing moratorium now. Americans are tired of asking, Where are the jobs?

PRESIDENTIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

Mr. BACA. The American people know that we cannot go back to the failed policies of the Bush administration and the Republicans in Congress. Their lack of accountability and oversight caused 8 million Americans to lose their jobs and led to the worst economic conditions since the Great Depression.

Thankfully, President Obama has led our efforts to rebuild a strong economy for the middle class and expand new job creation for Americans. With his leadership, we have enacted laws, created millions of jobs, given 98 percent of the working families a tax break, increased