

JOBS AND THE ECONOMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 days to revise and extend their remarks in the RECORD on this topic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus, the CBC, is proud to anchor this hour on jobs and the economy.

Currently, the CBC is chaired by the Honorable BARBARA LEE from the Ninth Congressional District of California. My name is Congresswoman MARCIA L. FUDGE, and I represent the 11th Congressional District of Ohio.

CBC members are advocates for the human family, nationally and internationally, and have played a significant role as local and regional activists. We continue to work diligently to be the conscience of the Congress, but we understand that all politics are local. Therefore, we provide dedicated and focused service to the citizens and to the congressional districts we serve. The vision of the founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus to promote the public welfare through legislation, designed to meet the needs of millions of neglected citizens, continues to be a focal point for the legislative work and political activities of the Congressional Black Caucus today.

I would now yield to our leader, our chairwoman, the Honorable BARBARA LEE from California.

Ms. LEE of California. Thank you very much.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Let me thank the gentlelady, Congresswoman FUDGE of Ohio, for yielding and also for, once again, anchoring the Congressional Black Caucus' Special Order tonight. We are talking about job creation and how to turn this economy around, and I want to thank her for her consistent leadership and for her really taking so many issues she knows so well and for bringing them to the forefront so that the country can recognize and realize the work that the Congressional Black Caucus continues to do. I thank her for the way she represents her district, which has been hard hit by the economy, by the foreclosure crisis and by all of the issues that we all know so well. So thank you very much, Congresswoman FUDGE, for once again, on Monday night, anchoring this Special Order.

We are trying to again bring some attention to some of the most pressing issues confronting our country that often don't make headlines. As the chair of the 42-Member-strong Congress-

sional Black Caucus, I rise this evening to continue sounding the alarm about the urgent and vital need to create jobs in America, especially in those communities that have been disproportionately hit, which are suffering the brunt of this economic crisis and which, as a result, are in desperate need of targeted, concrete and meaningful opportunities.

□ 1950

The statistics are staggering. While the national unemployment rate is about 9.5 percent, way too high, it is close to 16, 17 percent in the black and Latino communities. For young people, the national average is about 25 percent. Yet for black and Latino youth, it is nearly 40 percent; unacceptable for anyone.

For many months now, the Congressional Black Caucus has been and continues to be laser focused on stimulating the economy and creating jobs, especially for the chronically unemployed. We have sought to engage the Obama administration, House and Senate leaderships, committee chairs and our coalition partners to develop a legislative strategy to address the needs of millions of Americans who are struggling in this tough economic environment.

During this period, the House of Representatives has passed a series of bills that would move our economy from recession to recovery. However, Senate Republicans have consistently and flagrantly stymied passing similar measures. Just last week, 40 out of 41 Republican Senators voted to block extending unemployment benefits for 1.2 million Americans. Fortunately, there were enough votes in the United States Senate to pass this measure, which was followed the next day by the House of Representatives approving a similar measure once again.

But for several weeks, Republican Senators prevented Congress from providing necessary relief for the unemployed. The nonpartisan Economic Policy Institute recently released a report on the economic benefits of unemployment insurance. The report concluded that expanded unemployment benefits have added 1.15 million American jobs since 2007, promoted spending resulting in longer work hours for the employed, and resulted in a 1.7 percent boost in GDP. Economists have pointed to the economic value of unemployment insurance benefits. For every dollar we invest in unemployment insurance, there is a \$1.60 return in economic output.

But people can't survive forever on unemployment. That is why the goal, of course, is to create jobs, workforce training programs, so that people who don't have the skills for the jobs of the new industries that we are creating these jobs for have the requisite skills and experience to get these jobs.

Fortunately, though, during the unemployment debate, we were really able to break the impasse and develop

a proposal and extend unemployment so that many Americans now are receiving some relief. But let me just say, Republican Senators continue to block the \$1 billion summer jobs program. Now, of course, it's the youth employment program because summer is almost over. These kids need to work for the rest of the year. We have \$2.5 billion in emergency assistance for needy families working in the public and private sectors. Also, we want the Senate Republicans to really look at how to fund—and we found the pay-fors for \$1 billion—for the National Housing Trust Fund, which will provide communities with funds to build, preserve and rehab rental homes that are affordable for low-income families.

I can't tell you how shocked and disappointed I am that so many Republican Senators with high rates of unemployment in their States are blocking legislation that will create jobs. The members of the Congressional Black Caucus went to the Senate several weeks ago to deliver letters laying it out. We wondered if they knew how many people in their States were unemployed, so we broke it down by unemployment rates. We told them where the unemployment rates were in their States, and we tried to convince them that these bills that are in the Senate now, which are languishing, will put their constituents back to work. We weren't sure if they really got that and so we wanted to make sure it was documented. We took it over to them. We don't know if they read the letters or not. We don't know if they really believe it or not, but it's really crucial that the United States Senate act swiftly and pass this legislation. It's appalling that they are opposed to providing jobs for their constituents, for millions of Americans, in these tough economic times.

The Congressional Black Caucus continues to fight for summer jobs and employment programs for young people. We want to keep teachers in classrooms. Of course the House passed in the emergency supplemental bill to keep 140,000 teachers in classrooms throughout the country. That still hasn't been voted on in the Senate. We want to increase lending to small businesses. We passed a bill that would make \$30 billion, mind you, available to loans for community banks at a 5 percent rate which allows community banks to lend to small minority-owned, women-owned businesses that create jobs. We still can't get any movement in the Senate on that.

There are many pieces of good legislation that are really just sitting there. Madam Speaker, it's really shameful. It's really a shame and disgrace. It's hard to even explain why the Senate won't move when there are so many Americans who are hurting and need our help and we can do something and we can do it now.

I am urging everyone to call their Senators and to tell them to pass these bills so that we can get America back

to work. It's clear that we have a lot of work to do to get the economy revived again. The legislation and many other bills that are sitting over there need to be passed. Of course, this week local officials are here, thank goodness, advocating for the Local Jobs for America Act, the Miller bill, a comprehensive approach to creating jobs which the Congressional Black Caucus has worked on in a big way. Local government investment in transportation, water, sewer, and communications infrastructure provides excellent vehicles and ways to create jobs as well as helping to leverage the private sector by reducing private sector costs and creating opportunities for additional investment.

Madam Speaker, as I close, I just want to say thank you again to Congresswoman FUDGE and to the Congressional Black Caucus and to all of our colleagues and allies for staying vigilant on this, because it's going to be a hard road ahead of us if we don't figure out now how to create jobs for people who are unemployed. We're talking about opportunities. We're not talking about welfare or public assistance. We're talking about creating jobs. If you don't create jobs in this country, then what are we doing in terms of shattering really the American Dream for millions of Americans?

I think every member of the Congressional Black Caucus wants to see every member of our society live the American Dream, and you have to do that by creating jobs.

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I would very much like to thank the gentlelady from California, who has been a tireless advocate for the jobless, the homeless, the helpless, the hopeless. This caucus is better for her being a member.

At this time I would like to yield to my colleague from the great State of Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON).

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Thank you, Congresswoman FUDGE. It is indeed an honor to serve in Congress with you ladies who are all champions of regular working people and poor people of this country, regardless of geographical boundaries, and I salute you, in this age of women that we are living in.

I remember, Madam Speaker, just within the last 17 months, the leader of the Republican Party said publicly that he hopes that President Obama fails. Do y'all remember that? It was well publicized. It was not coming from Minority Leader BOEHNER of the House, and it was not uttered by Senator MITCH MCCONNELL, the minority leader in the Senate. It was uttered by the true leader of the Republican Party, and that is my good friend, Rush Limbaugh, who for every day, 5 days a week, 3 or 4 hours a day, sends that same message out to Americans who are hooked on that show, he sends it out to them relentlessly, and they remember it and they act on it.

But they are not the only ones who have acted on it. It has been the fol-

lowers in the Senate who have acted upon it, and it has been the followers here in the House of Representatives on the other side of the aisle who have followed his leadership, and they have embarked upon this strategy of obstruction: Just say no. I don't care who it hurts. If it hurts the unemployed, fine.

□ 2000

We won't let it happen where they can get some relief. If it happens to a small business man or woman, we don't care on the other side of the aisle, because what we want is failure.

And why do the folks on the other side of the aisle in both the House and the Senate feel so strongly about that? It's just simply the naked grab for power. They want to resume control of the House of Representatives and the Senate, and they want to retake the White House so they can continue to do all of the things that ran this economy into the ditch; those things being characterized by trickle-down economics, the old Ronald Reagan trickle-down economics plan. And trickle-down economics resulted in eventually, over the last 10 years, 8 million jobs lost in America, 495,000 of those jobs in manufacturing sent overseas due to tax policies to benefit the rich and the wealthy.

So when President Reagan said it's morning in America, he was not referring to the working men and women in this country. He was referring to the gilded, the upper crust, the royalty, if you will. He wasn't referring to all of the little people. He was talking about his friends. And that policy has been followed relentlessly, and it has had a devastating effect on the men and women who try to work for a living in this country. So as a result, our economy has gone into, I don't want to say a ditch, but in a deep, dark hole. And it didn't take us long to get there, but it's taking us some time to climb out of.

That's why this discussion that we're having tonight is so important. Jobs for the American people, closing tax loopholes that benefit the rich and the wealthy and incentivize their movement of jobs offshore; those things must come to an end.

I know we have additional time, but I am going to yield back now to our anchor, the Honorable MARCIA FUDGE.

Ms. FUDGE. Thank you so much, my friend and colleague, Mr. JOHNSON, who is always on top of issues. I so much appreciate you joining us this evening. It is always a pleasure to hear your views on the various topics that we cover. Thank you so much.

Madam Speaker, I would now like to take an opportunity to, as well, yield to a person who has been very active in discussing the issue of jobs, who understands very, very well some of the legislation that has been passed by this House.

My friend and colleague from the State of Maryland has been active in

every single issue that we have addressed in this body to deal with jobs and on the economy. And it's just, indeed, a real pleasure for me to yield some time to her this evening, because she is always very, very prepared and very knowledgeable, and I think very informative.

At this time, I would yield to my friend and colleague, the gentlelady from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS).

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. I thank the gentlelady.

Madam Speaker, I have to tell you, it really troubles me to be here this evening because once again we have to point to action by House Democrats to bring jobs to the American people and inaction by our Republican colleagues, particularly those who sit in the United States Senate, who have failed to deliver on the promise of jobs to the American people.

Now, when President Obama came into office, I think that month, Madam Speaker, we lost something like 750,000 jobs that one month, after having hemorrhaged for over a year thousands and thousands of jobs, not creating a single job in this country. And so then the President comes in and we have to deal with a financial crisis, also inherited from the previous administration. Still, Americans are without jobs.

But this Congress didn't stand still. The Democratic leadership in this Congress didn't stand still. We passed significant jobs legislation. First, the stimulus package that created jobs across this country, saved or created 3.5 million jobs around this country in every single State, in every single congressional district, so that Americans could continue working.

But we said that wasn't enough. We need to be on the progress of building up our economy and creating more jobs for the American people, creating jobs that are about the 21st century, making sure that Americans don't just get extended unemployment benefits, which I agree we ought to have done. It was the right thing to do.

And it was wrong for Republicans to say that people who receive unemployment benefits don't deserve that because somehow that keeps them from looking for a job. Those aren't the Americans that I know. The Americans that I know get up every single day. They want to work hard, and they do work hard to take care of themselves and their families. And our job as Members of Congress is actually to deliver on that promise.

So what have we done in this Congress? We have delivered.

Democrats in the House of Representatives, almost without any Republican votes, have delivered jobs for the American people. But where is it? Sitting over in the Senate. At least five jobs bills that I can think of, and I know that there are more. Jobs for veterans, jobs for teachers, jobs for first responders, jobs in the 21st century economy and the green economy, all of these sitting over in the United

States Senate because Senate Republicans are standing in the way of job creation for this country.

I will tell you, Madam Speaker, it's not that they're standing in the way because these aren't good ideas. They're standing in the way because they have let politics get in the middle of whether Americans should have jobs or not. And so here we go. It's time for the Senate Republicans to actually deliver a paycheck and a payday for the American people, to stop standing in the way of job creation, to make sure that Americans can get paid an honest day's wages for an honest day's work, because Americans want to work.

Now, here we have bill after bill. We have House Resolution 5297, passed on June 17; 5019, passed May 26, May 28, March 21. I mean, it's been days and days and days since we have passed major jobs legislation that sits to this day in the United States Senate. It is not right. It's not right for the American people, and it's time for Senate Republicans to stop standing in the way and filibustering jobs for the American people because they believe in politics and not a paycheck.

So, Madam Speaker, let me just tell you something. We've done a lot of things in this Congress, but we have to draw attention to this. And I'm asking the American people, Madam Speaker, that they turn on their television screens at 2 o'clock in the afternoon to make sure that they know that House Democrats will be waiting on the Senate floor, waiting moment by moment, 2 o'clock every single afternoon this week so that we can bring jobs to the American people.

It's time for the Senate to get out of the way. It's time for Senate Republicans to stop standing in the way of a paycheck for the American people and to deliver the jobs that House Democrats have created over in this body. And we need to move them forward over in the other one.

So, Madam Speaker, I would say to you it is time that we deliver a paycheck for the American people, millions of jobs and a paycheck for the American people, that we stop standing in the way of job creation.

Madam Speaker, here's what we've done. It's really payday for the American workers. Small Business Jobs and Credit Act for small businesses and tax incentives. Home Star Jobs, incentives for energy-efficient homes and cutting energy bills and delivering jobs. America COMPETES. That's about what we do in the 21st century. It's about whether we're going to be competitive globally by creating jobs in this new economy. Jobs for Main Street, so we can boost small business, build highways, and hire and retain teachers, police, and firefighters.

You want to tell me that there are not police and firefighters and teachers who need jobs in every single State in this country, whether that State is led by a Senate Democrat or a Senate Republican? Of course they need jobs.

And finally, Madam Speaker, I'll tell you, the other side does a lot of talking about small business and infrastructure, but here we've passed H.R. 4849, small business and infrastructure that we know are going to create jobs, and who's sitting on that? Those Senate Republicans sitting on jobs, playing politics with the American people.

□ 2010

The American people want a job. American workers want to work, and it's time for us to deliver that work. Thank you.

Ms. FUDGE. Thank you so very much.

Again, as I expressed before you began your remarks that you are always informative and very accurate as to the situation we find ourselves in the House. It is certainly always a pleasure to work with you and for you to continue to fight for the American people because indeed they do deserve a payday. And I thank you.

I will now yield to my good friend and colleague, the dean of the Ohio delegation, a delegation of which I'm a member. It's always a pleasure to see you. I will now yield to the gentlelady from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. Congresswoman FUDGE, I want to thank you very much for organizing this Special Order this evening, and especially from the Buckeye State, being down here every week, using your voice, using your talents to fight for the American people, particularly those who are out of work. And don't we know that well in our beloved State of Ohio.

In fact, there was a billboard that was put up, paid for by anonymous donors in Ohio, that read as follows: Recession. Your self-worth is more important than your net worth. And what is happening around States like ours where the unemployment rate is above even the horrendous national unemployment rate, where we have 20 million people out of work, directly out of work, those who have run out of benefits or those who are working part time when they really want to work full time. This is an enormous amount of people.

And Congresswoman EDWARDS, who was down here a while ago, was talking about the fact that with the help of the Obama administration Congress has begun to dig out of this deep job-loss hole that the last administration left us. But the percents really don't tell the full story.

Where people finally say, I just simply can't find work. They send out 400 resumes—nothing back. They're told by some of our friends on the other side of the aisle, Well, you can't find a job? Start your own business. Create your own job. Where are they supposed to go for capital? How are they supposed to do this when they can barely feed their families at this point?

I mean there's a certain unreality and cruelty that attends those who are consistently voting against even ex-

tending unemployment benefits, which all of the studies show provide immediate consumer buying power and are the biggest bang for the buck that the Federal Government can actually provide out there in communities across this country to spur purchasing and to allow people to hang on to their homes, to make their car payments—barely, and to try to put food on the table for their families.

The situation in States like ours is very, very precarious. One of the communities that I represent has had a string of shootings that I have no doubt when the crimes are solved will probably point to a number of young people who just simply are idle.

There could be choices for them. There could be constructive work that they could be doing. But instead, they're getting caught up in the old expression, I guess, the idle mind and the idle hands are the devil's workshop. And it's important for us to think about that.

In the major city that I represent, we have had a string of arsons and fires—another one last night—across our community. Innocent lives threatened as these abandoned homes are burned down. Imagine if those who are doing this could be put to constructive ends. It isn't so complicated because all of the destruction takes money, in one way or another. And yet we could do something to help people reposition in this very difficult economy.

I favor all of the programs, as a member of the Jobs Now Caucus with my dear colleague BOBBY RUSH of Chicago and Congresswoman CANDICE MILLER of Michigan, all of those programs that we can't get through here dealing with the re-creation of a Civilian Conservation Corps so any person who'd want to make a positive contribution to our country would be given that opportunity. They wouldn't make wages like the head of those big banks on Wall Street. Nothing close to it. But they would get a living wage. They could at least, like Peace Corps, like VISTA, they could get a wage and maybe opportunity for education beyond. And they could do something constructive.

One of the last images I had this morning as I drove through Toledo, Ohio, we have a Mission right in the downtown area that tries to help people who are just falling out of regular society. And right next door they've now built an education and training center. It's small, but they're dealing with some of the most challenged human beings that are residing in our community now. But they're saying we're not giving up on anybody because everybody counts. Everybody has self-worth. Everybody should have self-worth. It isn't net worth, it's self-worth. And America, after all, isn't that what we're supposed to be as a country? We're supposed to be a place where every person matters.

Now I wanted to say on the jobs programs that are stalled over in the Senate—and it was embarrassing to watch

the laborious effort that the Senate had to go through just to pass extended unemployment benefits—which the people earned. These are benefits they worked for. This is no manna from heaven. I mean, this is something that people paid for.

In addition to the troubles they had over there, I'm getting a little bit worried about the trade agreements that we hear rumblings about. If we look back to agreements like NAFTA, China, we outsourced so many jobs to foreign places. If every label in America read "made in America" again, we'd have so many jobs we wouldn't know what to do. We would be so full up with production, with purchasing.

But we keep handing off jobs to all of these other countries where people work for slave wages. I just had another business person tell me yesterday that he will no longer go back to certain parts of Asia because he has to have a lot of protection when he goes there, and that the products that people are making are of more inferior quality, but they can't afford to buy what they make. Certainly in China, certainly in Malaysia, certainly in Indonesia.

How can we as a country make lasting friends in these other places when that stuff is sent over here, they don't even make a decent wage there. And they undercut our markets, these companies, by outsourcing our jobs and paying the people over there nothing. That doesn't seem like a long-term recipe for success for our country as a Republic as it makes its way felt in the world.

So I wanted to say to my dear colleague from Cleveland, we know what Mr. Coffee's loss of jobs in Cleveland meant. We know what the loss of jobs in Sandusky, Ohio, and Dixon Ticonderoga's move to Mexico, we know what that means. We know when Whirlpool jobs are outsourced to Mexico, we know what that means for Ohio's workers. And the list is endless of all of these products and services that we've outsourced.

This Congress should be renegotiating trade agreements. We should not be approving other trade agreements until we fix what's wrong with the ones we already have. And that's part of the jobs agenda as well because this year America will exact a \$1 trillion trade deficit with the world. All of those jobs gone. Somebody else making what we used to make here. And this is costing us dearly.

So I want to thank the gentlelady for allowing us to put on the record the number of unemployed, the difficulty we've had in trying to get the Senate to pass its bills, the bills that we've sent over there, the impact of the job loss on people's self-worth and what that means to us as Americans. And finally, what this trade deficit means, over a long, long, period of time with the continued outsourcing of jobs and the efforts that we as a Congress are going to put forward even more for made-in-America again.

I think the American people will cheer for that coast to coast because they know that needs to be done.

So I want to thank the gentlelady for allowing us to convene this evening. And I know the Cleveland area and Parma and areas that you represent are just as challenged as those over in northwestern Ohio and northern Ohio, the parts that I represent. And our people deserve more fair treatment by their own government.

Thank you for allowing us this time this evening.

Ms. FUDGE. I absolutely agree with you 100 percent. If we don't start to make things again in this Nation, we may, in fact, have a permanent underclass of people who will never work again, people who grew up in blue collar communities like mine who work with their hands and by the sweat of their brow. It is going to be very difficult if we don't start to make things again.

□ 2020

It's going to be very difficult to come out of this recession if we don't start to look at some of the mistakes we've made in the past and try to correct them. We know how to create jobs. I know in the 8 years of the Clinton administration we created over 20 million jobs, less than 2 million under the Bush administration. We know what we're doing, if they would just allow us to do the work that the people have sent us here to do. I thank you so much.

Ms. KAPTUR. If the gentlelady would yield one second, there is one figure I could put on the record, that is, during the first 18 months of the Obama administration, we have already created more jobs than in the entire 8 years of the Bush administration, 18 months versus 8 years. We're digging ourselves out of that hole, not as fast as we would like in Ohio, but the damage was so great. We're moving in the right direction, and we need to keep your shoulder to the wheel; and I thank the gentlelady for yielding me the additional time.

Ms. FUDGE. I thank you because we are making the right steps. We're moving in the right direction, and it's going to take some time; but we know that we're doing the right thing. So I thank you so much for being here.

I would now yield to my friend and colleague who joins me just about every week, who sheds new information and sheds light on things that sometimes the rest of us don't quite think about, and that is my dear friend, the gentlelady from Texas, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, let me thank the gentlelady from Ohio, and I'm very glad to follow on the theme that Congresswoman KAPTUR of Ohio spoke to and the note that she ended on, recognizing that we have to do more.

There is pain out there, but to actually say to the American public that our President, President Obama and

this administration with this Democratic Congress has created more jobs in the last 18 months than were created in the tenure of the last administration, I don't know how many times we have to say that, but allow me to say it one more time, that this administration, President Obama's administration with this Democratic Congress, has created more jobs than the last administration in their entire tenure, and that was 8 years.

Let me also cite for my colleague and let me as well express my appreciation in joining the Congressional Black Caucus special hour that we have participated in and educated really the American public, and I thank you for your leadership.

Chairman Bernanke spoke last week in a number of hearings—and I think it's important to note—I know that many of our colleagues are either at hearings or they see the hearings. We try to twist and turn on our questions. If we don't like the answer, we try to throw it back at the witness. But the chairman of the Federal Reserve was very, very definitive when he said: It is important to invest in the economy, and if you want to use the term "stimulus," I'd like to use the word "investment," is the way to go, and all of those who are concerned about deficit, all of us we want to keep a balanced budget in our own personal homes. He said: The most important thing is to keep this economy churning and to not be so concerned about deficits as opposed to investing in our economy.

That investment has caused a churning of the economy, such that we see the growth of jobs. We see the private sector working, but yet we have obstacles. Those obstacles concern me, and that's why we've come to the floor of the House to let everyone know that the Congressional Black Caucus is fighting still on the cause of expanding job opportunity.

It baffles me how long we had to work to get the unemployment extension to be passed by the other body. Clearly, unemployment insurance is not a handout. It is a trust that is established with a working American. When they work and they fall upon hard times, they are due an unemployment insurance to carry them over the bridge of difficulty.

This bill that we passed was focused on the unemployment extension that finally got passed after constant advocacy by this caucus, after meeting with Senate leaders over a period of time by Chairwoman BARBARA LEE, after calling and prompting, that bill was passed. However, the component that would have added extra jobs, the component that would have provided youth jobs or summer jobs—and what date is it today, July 26. It saddens me; it saddens me. I remember us standing in the heat of summer in the month of June, standing with the constituents of Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, teenagers from this region, standing with us and making a simple plea, put us to work, let us work.

The other body has stood as an obstruction. When I say that, let me clarify. The Senate Republicans have been very, very challenging.

But what we just had a chance to pass involved providing tax relief to businesses and State and local governments to help them invest and create jobs, provide important tax cuts to put money back in the pockets of working families to help restore the flow of credit to enable small businesses to expand and hire new workers by extending the small business loan program; extending eligibility for unemployment insurance, COBRA, health care tax credits and others; and close tax loopholes for wealthy investment fund managers and foreign operations of multinationals.

Work still to be done, and that kind of work will really provide for enhanced opportunities for our small businesses.

Our colleague from Maryland was saying that why can't we pass this small business lending bill that would make a huge difference coming out of the summer months, getting our small businesses ready to be the backbone of America and hiring those who need it.

But let me speak to the emotion of what is going on, if I may, to my friend and colleague from Ohio, and if I may, Madam Speaker, just comment a moment because it troubled me how long it took for the unemployment insurance.

People actually fell off the flat Earth. They literally fell off, 2.5 million, before we were able to pass this insurance; but more importantly, can you imagine as they were counting their dollars and they were not getting any word that we had passed it, can you imagine the stress that anyone who was having to be responsible for family members and children felt, the pressure, the intensity. I don't know why anyone doubts that people are looking for work.

Eight thousand people came to a job fair that I held last year; 10,000 came to another one that I held. But these are just pictures of everyday Americans around America who have been standing in line for jobs, for jobs. Does anyone have any sense that there is a need out there, that people are not serious, that we shouldn't have extended the unemployment as well as extend dollars to small businesses and provide them with lending opportunities? Does anyone not see that this is a serious issue when people are standing in the hot sun for long hours when there is a job fair?

Many people will tell us that there are thousands that come out when anyone has a job fair, when anyone has it; and what I focused on was the government opportunities because in many instances we're hiring, but let me just give some numbers that are so frightening.

The Houston Crisis Center is seeing a startling increase in the number of suicide-related calls this year. The econ-

omy and job losses are among the top reasons people say they need help. The Crisis Intervention Center of Houston noticed more calls were coming in, many of them related to unemployment. The executive director says they compared calls from January to June of 2010 to the same time period last year, 2009, and that it has been a 220 percent increase of suicide-related calls, 1,446 suicide-related calls this year, people saying I don't know where to turn.

Unemployment insurance that we fought so hard for, that could have been passed over a month ago, the realism of them understanding that people are impacted because they don't know how they're going to pay their mortgage, their rent, their food, college education for those whose children may still be in college, or other needs that they may have, medical bills.

Let me just add this: according to foreclosure crisis on July 1, online publication, the people are stressed out from layoffs, actual or feared, and underemployment with salaries being slashed. The foreclosure crisis has taken a toll on the mental health of the people in no certain way.

□ 2030

Take the story of Deanne Ross, for example, who was working full time, and she was a counselor dealing with the unemployed and helping them address their mental health situation. She was working with the national alliance dealing with mental illness and was a field operator, but she lost her job. Since that time, Ms. Ross, who is in her early forties and suffering from bipolar disorder, is battling urges to withdraw from social contact.

We found this story on a foreclosure crisis Web site. Apprehensions about becoming homeless are haunting her, anxiety is crushing down upon her. She has five children to care for. All her life she has been hardworking and managing things, even with the physical challenge that she has had, and, therefore, now she finds herself unemployed. Does anyone get it?

We need to pass a jobs bill to complement the hard work that you have already seen by this Congress and this administration in creating jobs. This is a public and private partnership. The private small businesses and large corporations who now are restraining themselves need to have confidence to invest in making and creating jobs.

How do they do it? With the help of the Federal Government, by focusing on what we Democrats will be leading with, making it in America, emphasizing manufacturing, and that expands to other markets to allow people to not be in foreclosure, to not be without rent money. This is the way to go.

Finally, Dan McCarthy of Magellan Health Services said, for many American workers, this financial stress, uncertainty, and anxiety can be significant, and it is important that they have places to turn for guidance and

support. The services focus on managing benefits related to mental health.

My key point is to dispel the myth that these are people who don't care, are not looking for work, don't need any resources. These are hardworking Americans, and it is important to note that they should look for support systems. Don't go this alone. Don't be alone when you are struggling to pay bills. There are many support systems in your own community, from the faith community to United Way, to various mental health associations, to your State unemployment offices. Don't handle this alone. Don't go it alone.

But while you are working to survive, we in the United States Congress should do so.

Let me close, Madam Speaker, by suggesting that there is much work left for us to do: creating public job initiatives involving the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, the Corporation for National and Community Service, locally directed programs for youth summer jobs.

To my disappointment, it is almost an embarrassment to stand on the floor of the House. This House passed it, and we cannot get the Senate that doesn't understand that the families of youth are standing in unemployment lines, and we can't pass a simple summer youth program or youth jobs of a billion dollars to put young people to work who may be providing for some extra income to these desperate families, locally directed funding, as I indicated, for our summer youth; enforcing the minority contracting requirements under the National Significance and National Corridor grants in an extension of the SAFETEA-LU; and strengthening apprentice and training programs, which I am working with in the city of Houston; expanding unemployment insurance, which we have done, and COBRA benefits; providing access to capital and technical assistance for capital for small businesses from SBA and MBDA.

There is work to be done, and I would simply say that this effort tonight is important to educate our colleagues to call upon our Senate Republicans to think about people and to care about those who desperately need our help.

I hope that we are inspiring our colleagues to be renewed in their vigor to fight for the jobless, and I hope that we are challenging Senate Republicans to recognize that they have a responsibility as well to the thousands and millions of individuals who are calling out to get jobs.

Ms. FUDGE. I want to thank my friend for being here. She always does bring a different view. Just to see those photographs says an awful lot, you know. They say a picture is worth a thousand words, and it's just important for people to understand that these are real people that we are talking about.

You talked about we need a jobs bill. We just don't need one; we need it now.

So I thank you for saying to our colleagues in the other body, especially the Republican Senators, it is time for them to understand that the American people need them now more than ever, and I thank you so much for being here.

Madam Speaker, in the fall of 2008, our economy was in its worst shape since the Great Depression. Predatory and subprime lending were at an all-time high. The housing bubble had just burst and many of our largest financial institutions had gone bankrupt. Retirement and savings accounts were cut in half, forcing many to stave off retirement and continue working well into their golden years. Over 200,000 American workers were being laid off each month. In the State of Ohio, unemployment was growing rapidly, quickly approaching double-digit numbers. In my district, the unemployment rate was even higher.

In October of 2008, I arrived in Congress with the goal to help struggling Americans. My number one priority has been to promote policies that create jobs and spur economic development. I have consistently advocated for such policies. The Congressional Black Caucus and the Democratic leadership made it our duty and our responsibility to advocate for jobs.

Earlier this year, the House passed H.R. 4213, the American Jobs and Closing Congress Tax Loopholes Act. In Ohio alone, Madam Speaker, this legislation would have extended unemployment and COBRA benefits to 86,000 workers. It would have provided college tuition deductions to 153,000 students and allocated over \$42 million for youth summer jobs.

For the Nation, H.R. 4213 would have provided \$500 million to restore credit to small businesses, the same small business that are creating most of the jobs in this Nation. It would extend the research and development tax credit. And, finally, it would have granted \$25 billion in bonds for infrastructure development. However, Madam Speaker, there has been no action on the part of the Senate while Americans continue to suffer.

In May of 2010, the House Appropriations Committee drafted a war supplemental that included necessary funding that protected our soldiers abroad and our workers at home. This thoughtful legislation included \$23 billion to save jobs for teachers, \$5.7 billion for Pell Grants, \$1.2 billion for COPS grants, and \$500 million to save firefighter jobs. However, once again, Madam Speaker, the Senate passed the legislation without any of these necessary job creation measures. The Senate must act now to help hardworking Americans.

The Congressional Black Caucus and the House Democratic leadership fought to keep creation and job-saving measures in this bill. We fought back and sent legislation that included \$10 billion to save teachers' jobs, almost \$5 billion for Pell Grants, \$4.6 billion for

settlements of the Pigford and Cobell discrimination cases. On Thursday, this past Thursday, the Senate once again rejected these measures.

I have always believed that it is the job of government to help its people. If we are not helping the people that we represent, I don't know why we are here.

I asked the Senate, Where is your job creation legislation? What are you doing to help teachers, to help police officers and firefighters? What are you doing to get the American people back to work?

We cannot allow American families to suffer through these difficult times any longer. They are counting on job creation measures, and we cannot let them down. I urge the Senate, Madam Speaker, to move quickly to help create jobs to get Americans back to work.

If we do not allow Americans to go back to work and make people believe that because you are unemployed you are lazy, to make people believe that because you are unemployed that you don't want to work, it is the most ridiculous thing I have ever heard in my life. The people I meet in my district every day, every weekend that I am home, they talk about wanting jobs. They talk about how they have been laid off. They talk about wanting to get jobs for the young people.

Do you know, this may be the first summer in history where young people's jobs may, in fact, be feeding their families, but yet we can't pass a jobs bill that will allow young people to work for the summer. If young people have things to do, maybe we wouldn't have the kinds of issues that Marcy Kaptur talked about.

We have to find a way to say to the American people that we do, in fact, hear you; that we do, in fact, know that you are our neighbors, our friends; that we know that you are the people who are in most need.

If we can't help those who need it the most, we really are a group of people who has lost sight of what our role is. I mean, yes, there are people doing very, very well here. Corporations have made more money in the last year, I think it's something like 43 percent, their profits are running 43 percent higher than they did the year before, but yet we can't take care of the everyday person on Main Street? They are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer, and something needs to be done.

□ 2040

And so I would, at this time, Madam Speaker, yield back my time with the caveat that I expect that the Senate will do its job because certainly those of us in the House will continue to do ours.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, thank you very much, for allowing us the opportunity to give a statement on this very important issue this evening. I am very glad to be joined by a number of col-

leagues over the next hour to discuss the importance of putting Americans back to work. Unfortunately, we cannot override the devastating consequences that followed eight years of Republican with a simply snap of a finger. However, the Democratic Caucus is on its way to restoring this country's economic well-being.

I think it is very appropriate that we commence this Special Order hour in the midst of an incredibly important and critical debate about the short and long term economic future of this country. This evening we will address the fact that the economy has been on a downward spiral long before the crisis of this past summer. Millions of once financially sound American families and businesses—small and large—have been teetering on the edge of poverty and bankruptcy.

Prior to the Obama administration, our economy was set on a path of destruction never experienced by this generation. We were losing over 700,000 jobs a month and most families were struggling just to pay their bills. But, yes, what a difference a year has made.

This Democratic Congress, working with President Obama, has chartered a new direction. Americans are now paying the lowest amount of tax rates since the 1950s, deductions on property taxes are available, States are receiving help with bonds to rebuild critical infrastructure such as hospitals and sewers, students are receiving tax relief for tuition and teachers are eligible for tax deductions for their out-of-pocket expenses. Finally, we must protect our coasts and increase the oil spill liability trust fund.

The newest job numbers indicate that over 419,000 jobs were created last month. According to a recent Associated Press release, Texas has the greatest amount of job creation in 2010.

Texas employers expanded payrolls by 43,600 during the month of May, making it the State's largest monthly gain in more than three years. Companies like American Airlines, AT&T, and Texas Instruments are creating jobs in my district because North Texas is a good place to do business.

This Spring, the House passed the Small Business and Infrastructure Jobs Tax Act. This legislation will create 160,000 jobs and extends successful Build America Bonds for schools, roads and bridges. We also passed the Summer Jobs Act which creates 300,000 summer job opportunities for our youth. We have seen an increase in GDP, an increase in manufacturing, and a significant increase in economic indicators. As President Obama said, this is the Nation where anyone with a good idea and the will to work hard can succeed. Dallas, my hometown, is no stranger to good ideas, hard work, or small businesses. I commend Dallas' small businesses which have created hundreds of jobs, provided valuable goods and services, and helped drive our local economy.

Madam Speaker, on May 28, 2010, the House of Representatives passed the America COMPETES reauthorization Act of 2010, which authorizes nearly \$86 billion over the next five years to strengthen our nation's competitiveness in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Our Nation is being outpaced by our competitors in graduating scientists and engineers. It is so important to invest wisely in programs

that truly make a difference in the achievement of our young people. It's about ensuring we are taking the right steps towards increasing American competitiveness and innovation.

We have an obligation to the future of our Nation to assure every segment of our population has equal access and opportunity to pursue careers in Science and Math. According to the Census Bureau, 39 percent of the population under the age of 18 is a racial or ethnic minority. Yet, in 2003, only 4.4 percent of U.S. science and engineering jobs were held by African Americans and only 3.4 percent by Hispanics. Further, women represent only little more than one quarter of our science and technology workforce.

As a senior Member of the committee on Science and Technology, I have attended hearings where recommendations were made to rapidly increase the number of federal undergraduate and graduate scholarships to persons from underrepresented groups in the sciences. Jobs created in the fields of science and engineering are the fastest growing and the highest paying. These are the jobs of the future.

I want to commend the Congressional Black Caucus for working with me to include many provisions authorized in America COMPETES which strives to achieve social and economic justice.

As a country, we are getting stronger and stronger, but we still have a long way to go. We must continue to invest in American businesses and in the American people. I urge my colleagues both in the House and Senate to come together to enact policies that create and encourage sustainable job creation for America's workforce.

JUSTICE FOR ALL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MARKEY of Colorado). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, NANCY PELOSI became the first elected female Speaker of the House in the history of the United States. On November 16, 2006 she stated, "This leadership team will create the most honest, most open, and most ethical Congress in history." She still serves as our Speaker and she also sits in the position in line to, in case of some horrible disaster, she is actually third in line to the Presidency.

The President of the United States said, "I campaigned on changing Washington and bottom-up politics. I don't want to send a message to the American people that there are two sets of standards, one for powerful people and one for ordinary folks who are working every day and paying their taxes." President Barack Obama said this to CNN on February 3, 2009. So that was the stage that was set for the Democratic administration in this House and for the Democrat administration in the White House.

I've been on the floor of this House now for about 18 or 19 months talking about lots of things, about how we have rules for a reason, and we believe, as

Americans, in the rule of law. It is as sacred as anything that there is of a secular nature in this country, that we believe that law and fairness is so important to us that we have laws, and that each person is treated fairly under those laws. And there are no exceptions. And as the President said, we want a world that we live in that says everybody in this country is not only created equal but is going to be treated equal under the law. And we've had lots of examples where that didn't happen, and that's part of the turmoil that has moved around this Nation for over 200 years. But the average American citizen down deep in his soul, in his heart, he wants that world, she wants that world, the American citizen wants the world that says the law treats everybody equally and fairly. And when we go to our court systems under the rules that we operate under, we expect others to follow those rules the same way, and we expect that those who are in a position of enforcing those rules are seeing that that conduct is policed up when those rules are broken. We expect them to treat everybody equally and accordingly.

We've got a volume of rules for this House of Representatives that's about that thick, and it is written in such fine print that you have to have reading glasses to read it, even when you're young—and when you're my age, you certainly need bifocals and trifocals just to read the fine print. But we also have people that have served in this Congress for decades and dealt with these rules. And they understand them, they know these rules, the Speaker being one of them. And when we make a promise to this House that we will have the most honest, open, and ethical Congress in the history of the Congress, that kind of promise is important to the American people because that's exactly what they were looking for from this Democratic administration.

Many times I stand here all by myself on the floor of the House talking about these things, occasionally somebody comes forward and joins me. But I think the Members of this House in their souls expect that. I think every American citizen expects that. And we are now at a point where after I've been talking for 18 or 19 months almost every week about the former chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Charles Rangel, and the issues that he had, we have finally, finally reached a point where the Ethics Committee has moved off high center and launched forward in this case. But just so we get an idea of why I've been standing up here, why my colleagues come and join me and stand up here, let's just go through the timeline that we're dealing with and how long it's been going on.

September 24, 2008: The House Ethics Committee votes to open an investigation into soliciting funds for the Charlie Rangel Center for Public Service, occupying rent-stabilized apartments,

soliciting donations on congressional letterhead, and not disclosing or paying changes on rental income from a Dominican villa. September 24, 2008.

November 6–9, 2008: Mr. RANGEL leads the Citigroup-funded congressional junket to the Caribbean.

December 9, 2008: The Ethics Committee expands the investigation to include RANGEL's efforts to preserve tax breaks to a donor to the Rangel Center.

January 28, 2009: Representative CARTER, Republican from Texas, introduces the Rangel rule, a bill to eliminate all IRS penalties and interests for paying taxes past due, the reason for that rule being that's the way the IRS treated the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and I took the position that that was only fair.

August 12, 2009: RANGEL amends his financial disclosure forms for 2002 to 2006, effectively doubling his wealth that he now acknowledges to the country.

October 6, 2009: Representative CARTER introduces a resolution demanding that RANGEL step down as the Ways and Means chairman.

October 8, 2009: The Ethics Committee expands the Rangel investigation to all 2009 financial statements.

February 26, 2010: The Ethics Committee admonishes RANGEL for accepting the Caribbean trip.

March 3, 2010: RANGEL steps down as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee after Representative CARTER prepares to introduce another privileged resolution.

July 22, 2010: The Ethics Committee announces that its subcommittee investigating RANGEL alleges House rules violations and that they will be made public on July 29.

So from September 24, 2008 to July 29, 2010, this House dealt with the issues concerning Mr. RANGEL. What's not on this board and should be is that on the floor of this very House—and really what launched us into realizing this was going on—was Mr. RANGEL stepped before the House and told us every one of these things, every one of them, and said he had turned himself in to the Ethics Committee. Well, I'd like to explain that those of us that deal with the law have a saying, "justice delayed is justice denied." And that's one of the reasons why we have speedy trial acts in many of the jurisdictions in this country because justice delayed is justice denied.

Now, when we're talking about justice, we're not talking just about justice for the individual defendant, we're talking about justice for everyone involved.

□ 2050

If it's a criminal case, we're talking about the kind of justice where the State, representing the people of a State or of this country, is desiring justice on behalf of the people, and the defendant is desiring justice on behalf of the defendant. It doesn't really matter who it is or who is being denied this