

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1614.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4785, RURAL ENERGY SAVINGS PROGRAM ACT

Mr. ARCURI, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-594) on the resolution (H. Res. 1620) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4785) to amend the miscellaneous rural development provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make loans to certain entities that will use the funds to make loans to consumers to implement energy efficiency measures involving structural improvements and investments in cost-effective, commercial off-the-shelf technologies to reduce home energy use, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

IN MEMORIAM: USMC STAFF SERGEANT MICHAEL A. BOCK

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

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, he was called "a young man of integrity and respect," "a great marine who loved the Marine Corps," "a loving husband and father." This is how the late Staff Sergeant Michael A. Bock was remembered by those who knew him.

Staff Sergeant Bock was conducting combat operations in the Helmand province in Afghanistan when his patrol came under fire. He died from those injuries on August 13. He had served four deployments in both Iraq and Afghanistan and was awarded the Purple Heart, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and the Combat Action Ribbon.

He was raised in Springfield, Nebraska, and attended Elkhorn's Mount Michael High School, where he met his future wife, Tiffany. Tiffany and Michael also had a 3-year-old son, Zander. Zander's birth, Michael said, was the happiest moment of his life. While in Afghanistan, he watched online as his son blew out three birthday candles; and for Valentine's Day, he recorded a message and sent it to his young son. Now I'm certain that Zander will always carry his father's voice in his heart.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Nation, I offer my condolences to the

Bock family. May God bless Staff Sergeant Bock and grant eternal life unto him.

FALLEN SOLDIER—ARMY SPECIALIST CHAD CLEMENTS

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, Army Specialist Chad Derek Clements, 26 years old, died on Monday, August 30, 2010, while serving his country in Afghanistan. He was one of my constituents.

He was born on March 16, 1984, in San Diego, California. After he graduated from Huntington North High School in Huntington, Indiana, he decided he wanted to proudly serve in the U.S. Army. Upon his graduation from basic training, Chad reported to the 1st Armored Battalion at Fort Carson, Colorado; and he was deployed shortly after to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

During Chad's distinguished career, he received multiple awards for his service: the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the NATO International Security Assistance Force Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, and the Combat Action Badge.

He has also recently been posthumously promoted from private first class to Army specialist. His expertise and enthusiasm for his job in the United States Army was insurmountable.

To the citizens of the State of Indiana, to his fellow troops and to the countless people that he touched, Chad will forever be remembered as a hero.

He was preceded in death by his father, Daniel, and our thoughts, prayers and deepest condolences go out to his mother, Anne; to his stepfather, Eddie; to his sister, Danielle; to his stepbrother, Cory; and to his stepsister, Heather.

These are some of the things we hate to talk about on this floor, Mr. Speaker; but, unfortunately, war brings us to these kinds of conclusions. We just wish that all of those like Chad will never be forgotten for the service they gave to our country.

IN HONOR OF THE HEROIC EFFORTS OF RESOURCE OFFICER CAROLYN GUDGER

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the heroic efforts of Kingsport, Tennessee, Sullivan Central High School Resource Officer Carolyn Gudger and the efforts of all the officers and staff who acted quickly to keep all students and faculty safe from a gunman on August 30, 2010.

A gunman entered the school and immediately aimed a handgun at the school principal. Officer Gudger moved herself between the principal and the gunman and then managed to lure the gunman to a more isolated area of the school. Two deputies responding to the call shot the gunman after he refused to release his weapon.

These actions, thankfully, prevented the gunman from killing or injuring anyone. Too often we've seen situations exactly like this end in a tragic fashion. That is precisely why we should commend and honor Officer Gudger and everyone involved in responding to that incident.

Most especially, I would like to thank my good friend, Sheriff Wayne Anderson, who is in charge of these officers. All of these individuals make our community proud, and I salute them for their courage and good work that they do each and every day.

□ 1710

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KISSELL). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE) is recognized for 5 minutes. (Mr. ETHERIDGE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CALLING FOR EXTENSION OF TAX CUTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BRIGHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, after traveling my district over the August work period, it is clear that my constituents' top concern are jobs and the economy. These are the same concerns they have raised for nearly 2 years since I have been in Congress, indicating that not enough has been done to get Americans back to work.

They also expressed deep worry that the tax relief passed in 2001 and 2003 will soon expire. In an economy still struggling to recover, allowing taxes to increase on nearly all Americans is unacceptable.

Though many in Washington seem to have just awakened to the idea that tax cuts are going to go up next year unless action is taken, I took the lead as far back as January in calling for the current tax rates to be extended for 2 years as a way to ensure economic stability.

Our economy is in trouble. We need to stabilize it and give it some opportunity to get back on its feet and move forward. There is widespread, bipartisan consensus for some of these tax

breaks to be temporarily extended. Instead of using the issue to score political points, let's come together and find a way to extend these tax breaks for 2 years and revisit the issue when the economy is on better footing. It is the least we can do to provide economic stability in an otherwise unstable time. We need to work for America for a change, not for party labels. You can't tell me that all Republicans are right and all Democrats are wrong. We need to come together as Americans and stabilize our economy for the long-term benefit of our country as a whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

TRAGEDY IN SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday September 9, 2010, at a few minutes before 6:30, life changed forever in San Bruno, California. The first view from my district office led one of my staffers to believe a plane had crashed in the hills. After all, San Francisco International is in my district and airline jets fly over nearby San Francisco International Airport routinely passing over San Bruno every day.

The flames shot up over 100 feet in the air. But after 15 minutes, the flames didn't subside. It was as if a giant torch had been placed on what is normally a verdant hillside.

This was a distant view of the PG&E natural gas pipeline explosion. Closer up, the scene was horrific. Four confirmed dead. Scores of people hospitalized with second- and third-degree burns, some over 50 percent of their bodies. And 6 days after this tragedy, three people are still missing. Thirty-seven homes were completely destroyed—nothing but concrete pads left, or a weeping chimney, indicating what once had been. Twelve homes were standing shells and another 10 were damaged.

We are at day six. The smoke has cleared. The ash has settled. And one thing is really very clear: the community of San Bruno rose together. Mayor Jim Ruane, City Manager Connie Jackson, Police Chief Neil Telford and Fire Chief Dennis Haag all showed extraordinary leadership and courage in bring-

ing this community together and securing the flames within a box so that more homes were not destroyed and more lives destroyed as a result.

But on other fronts, questions remain—in fact they are multiplying—about the causes of this immense pain and suffering that has been visited upon San Bruno and surrounding areas. But no question—I repeat no question—has been more penetrating to me than asked by Sue Bullis a day after the explosion. I walked into the center that was set up to establish relief and support for the families and sitting at a table by herself looking distant was this woman. She looked at me and said she couldn't locate her mother-in-law, she couldn't locate her husband, she couldn't locate her son. Six days later, they still have not been found.

The explosion was so hot that glass windshields on cars melted. Bones have been found. The blast epicenter functioned as a crematorium. And through it all, hour after hour, Sue Bullis, who lived at 1690 Claremont, is hoping and praying for an answer. She lost her house. All her documents. She has nothing but hope. And now that hope will have to be converted to inner strength if she is to go on.

I will help Sue get her documents, her insurance payments from PG&E, and I will try to ease her pain just as thousands of others are helping to ease the pain caused by this explosion. But nothing is going to relieve the pain that she has coping with the loss of three of her family members.

On Friday, we will bury Jacqueline and Janessa Grieg. Ironically, Jacqueline Grieg worked at the California Public Utilities Commission in the gas pipeline area. Her daughter Janessa was an eighth grader at St. Cecilia School in San Francisco. She was also the student body president of that grammar school. On Saturday, we will bury Jessica Morales, the fiancée of a young man who is now in intensive care with 50 percent of his body burned. Jessica was just coming into her own, finding her way, finding work and employment and opportunities at school. We have just found out that Elizabeth Torres, an 81-year-old mother who has two family members still in the burn unit, has passed away, and she too will be remembered as well.

People are anxious to return to their homes, to retrieve those belongings that remain. Some may want to rebuild. A few may not. We face months and months of hard work, but at this moment, this very moment, I bow my head in silence for the family of Sue Bullis, Jacqueline Grieg, Janessa Grieg, Jessica Morales, and Elizabeth Torres.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GOHMERT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SHATAVIA ANDERSON—MURDER VICTIM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. In early August, August 7 to be exact, in Houston, Texas, right after the sun had gone down, about 9 o'clock p.m. on a hot summer night, a young girl was walking home. Shatavia Anderson. She went by Ta. And she was walking down the street not far from where she lived in a very modest community; 14-year-old, happy, spirited child.

She was confronted by two individuals who ambushed her, who taunted her, who robbed her, and as she tried to get away, one of them shot her in the back and murdered her not far from where she lived. This is who Ta was. This is her in the pink. She is next to her mother, Keisha Lambert. She's a real person, Mr. Speaker, a real victim of criminal conduct, died in the early teenage years. Ta's father, Leroy Anderson, said that his beautiful daughter loved life. And you can tell by looking at her that she is a happy, spirited child.

□ 1720

It could have been any of our children.

Over the years in my career as a judge in the courthouse in Houston, Texas—22 to be exact—I've seen a lot of criminal cases, tried a lot, came across many victims, but this case has bothered me a great deal. I don't know the reason, maybe it's because I have four children—three of them are girls—eight grandkids—five of them are girls, but this one has bothered me a lot just by looking at who this young lady was. Ambushed by two individuals that were caught by the Houston Police Department, Melvin Alvarado, he was the cowardly shooter who shot her in the back. It is not his first experience with the criminal justice system in business Texas. He likes to drink and drive. It turns out, of course, like some others, he was illegally in the United States. He had been deported twice before to his native country of El Salvador, but that didn't make any difference to him. He came back to Houston and committed this crime and robbed this precious child of not only some money, but he stole her life when he came back and shot her in the back not far from where she lived.

There was another individual, Jonathan Lopez-Torres, the getaway driver of the car as they snuck away in the darkness of the night after murdering this beautiful child; he's from Honduras, although he was legally in the United States. He had been arrested for auto theft. The Houston Police Department said when these criminals were arrested they showed no remorse, no sadness, almost arrogant in the crime that they committed here in the United States. Melvin Alvarado confessed to this crime and told the police what he had done.