

as I speak tonight is that this nation, which our founding fathers intended to serve as the brightest and most moral beacon of hope and enlightenment for all mankind, is in danger of losing its energy and its luster. It's not lights out time, but the light is dimming. Confidence and optimism is giving way to pessimism and cynicism.

The fact that we can't even see our way through to funding the Federal Government is an example of what I'm talking about. Many in today's Congress have said they will not vote to fund our Treasury obligations when we hit our national debt ceiling in a matter of weeks. The seed corn for our future growth—education, Head Start, research and development, roads, rails, clean water infrastructure, environmental preservation, the arts and humanities, are all being cut into the bone in the pending HRI Appropriations Bill.

I'm in this job because I believe deeply in my heart in the American dream and I believe in the essential role of the Federal Government in the fulfillment of that dream.

Government can't and shouldn't try to solve every problem, right every wrong, or even rectify every inequality. Its job is to be a catalyst and a gap-filler and the option of last resort. To do the things that the private sector can't or won't.

For example, the private sector alone can't afford the kind of basic research that DARPA and the National Science Foundation invested in that produced the internet, GPS, the human genome, and cures for so many of our diseases. And if we want to unravel the mysteries of what lies under the sea and above the sky, if we want to find a permanent cure for Alzheimer's and cancer and autism, and if we're going to secure clean, sustainable sources of energy, then the Federal Government needs to be seen as a partner worth the trust and the investment of the American people and its politicians.

The private sector can't finance all our interstate roads and high-speed rail and mass transit systems. The private sector can't fund the infrastructure to separate storm water from drinking water or salvage Puget Sound or the Chesapeake Bay or the Great Lakes. And neither the private sector nor most of the parents of this country can take on the task of educating our future workforce.

Those are inherently governmental responsibilities and we ought not shrink from them.

If we truly believe in the future of this country then we have to be willing to make the investments necessary to ensure that brighter future. That means you don't cut corners on research opportunities, you don't shortchange your transportation systems, and you don't lay off more than 200,000 teachers, as we've done over the last two years, while the number of students has increased by 750,000.

Of course, we have to reduce the deficit and ultimately balance our budget—but you can't fight two wars, expand Medicare and invest billions in our homeland's security with two deep tax cuts.

We're bringing in revenue today that amounts to 15% of GDP. We've never had a strong, stable, modern economy without investing at least 20% of our GDP in military security and in our domestic physical and human infrastructure. But, as the Bowles/Simpson Commission emphasized, spending at 25% of GDP is just as unsustainable as taxing at 15%.

Our tax code has got to be made simpler and fairer. Warren Buffet is right to ask why his secretary pays 25% of her income while he only pays taxes on 10% of his wealth. And it's fair to ask why Exxon Mobil, GE, NewsCorp, Bank of America, and dozens of

other multinational corporations are paying zero taxes to the U.S. during some of their most profitable years, while other corporations with much less profit are paying 35%.

It's not their fault. It's ours in the Congress.

We lose a trillion dollars a year in so-called tax expenditures, much of which can only be justified in a political context. And while I'm an ardent capitalist, I don't think we should be taxing those making \$250,000 a year at the same rate as we tax those making \$25 million a year.

We also have to rein in health care costs. They're crippling our economy. Medicare and Medicaid spending has doubled over the last 25 years as a percent of GDP. It doesn't make sense that we should be living shorter, less healthy lives, while spending twice what any other country is spending on its health care. The reason is that we reimburse for the quantity of services provided, rather than the quality of care needed. Hopefully, the health care reform bill that was fought over so vehemently will fix that.

A couple other things I have come to realize over the last 20 years is that the best social program is a good job and the key to economic prosperity and social stability is a strong middle class. Neither a survival of the fittest society nor a winner-take-all economy is in anyone's long-term best interest.

Carrying on the theme of societies functioning very much like individuals, I think we all have kind of a burning flame inside of us. Some call it our soul or the human spirit, but it does seem as though when we look the other way from the poor, shut our doors to the homeless, close our consciences to the sick and needy, that flame burns less bright, and eventually goes out. . . . I think that can apply to our nation as well.

And in that regard, let me say a word about immigration. I just came from a ten-day trip to Colombia, Panama, Guatemala, and Mexico City. The Chinese, Canadians and Europeans are all filling the gap in Colombia and Panama left by our inability to reach a deal with them—a free trade deal that primarily lowers their tariffs on our goods and services.

But in Guatemala, fully half the population is stunted from malnutrition and crime is so pervasive a young person is more likely to be shot in a crime than to study in a college. In Mexico, 97% of the crimes committed are never prosecuted. The kids go to school for only four hours a day, but only 13% of their teachers can pass a high school equivalency exam.

What would you do as a parent in a situation like that? I think I know what you would do, because it is exactly what I would do for my own children—you would risk everything to pursue your dream of a better life for your kids. And that's exactly what the bravest, boldest and most entrepreneurial do.

And it is because people from all over the world have made that decision to come to America for the same reasons our ancestors did, that we've been able to constantly renew and reinvigorate our population and our workforce. That's why I'm a cosponsor of a bill that makes the highest achieving children of immigrants eligible for college, regardless of their parents' status and why I support the bill that requires English fluency, civics knowledge, paid-up back taxes, and no criminal record to get in the back of the line for citizenship. That's what they say amnesty is all about. I think it's what America is all about.

And finally—Libya. Who among you, if you saw a well-known bully beating up on defenseless people with a tire iron, wouldn't grab that tire iron out of his hands?

Gaddafi is not Mubarak of Egypt or King Hussein of Jordan, or President Saleh of

Yemen or the Khalifa family of Bahrain. He's a truly bad guy. He's using foreign mercenaries to torture and kill his people, who I believe just want some semblance of dignity, opportunity and human rights. Human rights that their peers throughout the Middle East are now willing to risk their lives for. President Obama has done the right thing by leveling the playing field.

The reason we've made the extraordinary investments we've made to create the strongest, smartest military in the world is to make this a better, safer world for everyone, and in so doing, to insure a more peaceful world for ourselves.

And when we seize the moral high ground, we will always win not just the battle, but the war of ideals and values. Those same values and ideals motivated my father to serve in World War II and to take advantage of the GI Bill and to save and sacrifice to get all seven of his children through college, and it's why I'm so genuinely humbled by the idea that I've been able to serve in the U.S. Congress for the last 20 years—and why I am so deeply grateful to all of you for affording me that opportunity.

Thank you.

CONGRATULATING EMERSON
KAMPEN

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Emerson Kampen and the rest of the Butler University men's basketball team. America watched as the Bulldogs demonstrated hard work and personal sacrifice throughout the NCAA tournament and achieved what many said was impossible. The Dawgs epitomize what the word "team" is all about, and although they did not take home the trophy, they made their state and Bulldog fans across the nation proud. As Andrew Carnegie said, "teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to obtain uncommon results."

Emerson Kampen is one of the Bulldogs I am proud to say is from my district. Emerson starred at Yorktown High School where he was named Honorable-Mention to the Indiana Basketball Coaches Association All-State team as a senior. There is no doubt Emerson's talent helped advance the Dawgs to the final game of the NCAA tournament. I echo the pride of Hoosiers across the state on Butler's strong performance. And I especially congratulate Emerson on his leadership and strength of character throughout the tournament.

HONORING LIEUTENANT
GOVERNOR JENNIFER CARROLL

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the impressive accomplishments of Florida's 18th Lieutenant Governor, Jennifer Carroll. Lieutenant Governor Carroll is married to Nolan Carroll of Miami and they have three children, Nolan II, Nyckie and Necho. She was a state legislator for over seven years, a small business owner, former

Executive Director of Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs and a Navy veteran.

Lieutenant Governor Jennifer Carroll was born in Port of Spain, Trinidad West Indies. She emigrated to the United States as a young child and served her adopted nation honorably and with distinction. Lieutenant Governor Carroll has always possessed an adventurous spirit and harbored a desire to expand her horizons and explore the possibilities of the world around her. Lieutenant Governor Carroll enlisted in the United States Navy in 1979 rising from the ranks of an enlisted jet mechanic to retire as a Lieutenant Commander Aviation Maintenance Officer after 20 years. During her time in the Navy she was awarded numerous awards that include: Navy "E" Good Conduct Ribbon, Meritorious Service Medal, two Navy Commendation Medals, two Navy Achievement Medals, two Sea Service Ribbons, National Defense Service Medal, two Coast Guard Special Operation Ribbons, and an Expert Pistol Medal.

In the years that followed, this bright and determined woman worked tirelessly to graduate from the University of New Mexico with a B.A. in Political Science and received her M.B.A. from St. Leo University. Bold and fearless, Lieutenant Governor Carroll moved to Florida in 1986 and started a business named 3N. & J.C. Corp. She ran for the Florida House of Representatives in 2003 and after winning she became the first African American female Republican elected in the Florida Legislature's history. A documented trailblazer, she was appointed Deputy Majority Leader from 2003–2004 and served as Majority Whip from 2004–2006. She chaired the Finance Committee from 2006–2008 and chaired the Economic and Development from 2008–2010. She was awarded the Florida Chamber of Commerce Honor Roll consecutively since 2004, Faith and Family Award from the Christian Coalition of Florida Committee, 2005 and 2008, Florida Veterans Service Officers Association, Legislator of the year 2009 and Federated Retail Association Representative of the Year 2010.

It is unquestionable that Lieutenant Governor Carroll's career successes, including her recent ascension have come with much sacrifice, but have been well-deserved. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Lieutenant Governor Jennifer Carroll. I wish Lieutenant Governor Jennifer Carroll continued success for the future.

HONORING JOHN C. KOSTOLANSKY, SR.

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of former Corning Mayor John C. Kostolansky, Sr., who passed away on March 27.

John began working at Corning Glass Works in 1940, a company with whom he stayed until his retirement in 1988. During this time, he also served on the Corning Painted Post School Board, spending 2 years as President and 4 years as Vice-President.

John was no stranger to Capitol Hill. He served my district honorably as Treasurer to

U.S. Representative Amo Houghton for 8 years. John then served as Mayor of Corning from 1989 to 1991, where he was responsible for appointing a Blue Ribbon Commission to bring the city out of its deep financial problems. His vision and ability to make tough decisions should be an example to all public servants.

John was one of the most hardworking men I knew. There really was no part of the Corning community he didn't touch. He was involved in so many organizations, groups, and causes, I could not possibly name them all.

Because of his active role in making Corning the wonderful place it is today, he will be sorely missed by all of us who call Corning home.

I thank John for his service, and the precious mark he has left on the 29th Congressional District of New York.

CONGRATULATING ZACHARY HAHN

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Zachary Hahn and the rest of the Butler University men's basketball team. America watched as the Bulldogs demonstrated hard work and personal sacrifice throughout the NCAA tournament and achieved what many said was impossible. The Dawgs epitomize what the word "team" is all about, and although they did not take home the trophy, they made their state and Bulldog fans across the nation extremely proud. As Andrew Carnegie said, "teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to obtain uncommon results."

I am proud to say that many of the Bulldog players hail from my district. One such young man is Zachary Hahn. He was a star player at Chrysler High School in New Castle, and he helped lead his team to victory in the Indiana Class 3A state championship. There is no doubt that his talent also helped advance the Dawgs to the final game of the NCAA tournament. I echo the pride of Hoosiers across the state on Butler's strong performance. And I especially congratulate Zachary for his leadership and strength of character throughout the tournament.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010–2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—KAITLYN HEBIG

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform the Members of the United States House of Representatives that the students of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council, CYAC, from the Third District of Texas have completed a total of 500 community service hours, fulfilling and far-surpassing the requirements of their assigned CYAC in the Community service project.

This year 46 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 10 through 12 made their voices heard by joining CYAC. As the Third District's young ambassadors to Congress, these bright high school students met with me on a quarterly basis to discuss current events and public policy. These impressive young people recognize an important truth: the heart of public service is found when giving back to the community. CYAC students volunteered their time and talents with over 30 organizations including Adopt-A-Highway, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Teen Court, and the USO, to name a few. As one student shared, "CYAC in the Community has allowed me to realize my calling to serve those in the U.S. Armed Forces." I am beyond thrilled that CYAC has helped students unleash their full potential and chase their dreams.

President George H. W. Bush once said, "A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see; who can feel what most do not feel. Often, such gifted persons do not think of themselves as volunteers, but as citizens—citizens in the fullest sense: partners in civilization."

With this statement as a benchmark, I am proud to congratulate the members of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council for showing themselves to be outstanding young citizens of this nation. It is my privilege to submit summaries of their work to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to be preserved for posterity and antiquity. To these young public servants, thank you, and keep up the great work. I salute you.

A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

For the CYAC in the Community Service Project, I participated in 3 separate projects for a total of 13 hours. My first project was on Thanksgiving morning for 6 hours. My brother, dad, and I arrived at the Meals on Wheels center at 7:00 a.m. We packed and distributed coolers of food. For the leftover coolers, my dad and I drove a route and delivered them. My next service project was Adopt-A-Family at Jesuit. My family was assigned an underprivileged family to buy Christmas gifts for and we were asked to wrap them. The family we were assigned was 6 people total and it was our job to help them out and buy gifts off their Christmas lists to make their holiday special. Buying the gifts took weeks but once they were all collected, we met at Jesuit and wrapped all of the gifts. My last service project was for the Notre Dame School of Dallas, a school for kids with mental disabilities and/or social disorders. Jesuit hosted a dance for them and I helped set up, dance, then clean up for 3 hours. It was great to see the smiles on the faces of the people I helped out and I had fun doing my service projects.

—Kaitlyn Hebig

INTRODUCTION TO H.R. 1443, H.R. 1444, AND H.R. 1445

HON. PAUL C. BROUN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced H.R. 1443, H.R. 1444, and H.R. 1445, which would protect our Second Amendment rights and expand hunting and fishing access for all Americans.