

in the middle of a recession that has shown no mercy to the poor and the middle class, I guess there will be no mercy from this body's leadership either.

I left health for last on this stopgap measure where I count over \$460 million in cuts in these 2 weeks. Close to \$400 million of that comes from the agency that provides services, treatment, and trains health professionals. And if the cuts to WIC and Maternal and Child Health were not enough in H.R. 1, children's programs have again been the targets of cuts, including programs in special education. And there would be a \$6 million cut from the Administration on Aging.

I don't understand it. If we're not placing a priority on taking care of our children and elderly, what kind of country are we?

So I say to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: This country's in trouble. It's time to end the politics and do not only what the economists tell us we ought to do, but, more importantly, we need to come together and do what is right. These cuts are not right—not for 2 weeks and not for the rest of this year.

We really need to put the welfare of the American people in our country ahead of party politics. The times require it, and our people expect it.

You know, I think we ought to change the word "spending" and call it "investment," because that's what it really is. Investment is something that's understood and supported, and it's what is on the chopping block.

Investing, not just spending for spending's sake, is what Democrats began to do in the last two Congresses—to invest in health for all Americans, in equal opportunity to a quality education; investing in restoring jobs and building a healthier economy; investing in cleaning up a polluted and unhealthy environment; investing in a better future for us and our children and in a better, stronger, more competitive United States in this world.

We want to win the future.

The Republican agenda looks to the past, not the future. It looks to the past to continue the economic policies that ran our economy into the ground in the first place. It looks to the past to focus on the programs they have long hated: EPA regulations, health care reform that is finally making it possible for many to become insured and secure in that insurance, community programs that help poor areas of our country have a fair shot of just surviving, programs that lift our spirits and call forth our better selves—the arts, the humanities, public broadcasting.

And believe it or not, they're cutting programs like WIC, Head Start, and Maternal and Child Health. We had to fight for these programs every year during the administration of George W. Bush, and so it's no accident that we're fighting for them again.

This whole agenda is not about cutting spending at all. It's a facade for what they are really trying to do; that is, gutting the programs they and their supporters love to hate. And in pursuing this agenda, they are putting the slow recovery that still has to reach urban and rural Main Street in jeopardy, putting us in jeopardy of reverting back to where we started earlier this year, to where their policies took us in 2009, a place that no one wants to go back to.

And my friends, not one thing has this Republican majority done about the biggest crisis facing our country and its families: the economy and jobs.

Talk about the job-killing act of 2011. Well, that was not health care reform, which is actually the biggest job creator we have passed in recent years. The winners in that category clearly are the CR that was forced through this Congress 2 weeks ago and this 2-week stopgap that would cut the Federal budget by \$4 billion.

What we need is a clean CR at 2010 levels to the end of this fiscal year so that we can begin to focus on the 2012 budget, which is the more appropriate place to look at deficit reduction and which is due in less than 2 months.

Let me say a word about what their Governors are doing. It doesn't take 20/20 vision to see that this is a coordinated effort. Unions, which created our middle class in the first place, have always been one of the Republicans' targets. The war against the poor and middle class is not just being fought in Washington, my friends, but also in the States by Republican Governors.

□ 2010

Lastly, please don't let our Republican colleagues fool anyone into thinking that Social Security or Medicare needs to be addressed as part of our need to reduce the deficit. They do not. But they too have always been in their bull's-eye. We need to do what is necessary to protect them for the future generations.

But colleagues on the other side of the aisle, we have seen some of your plans to weaken these vital programs. But seniors, the disabled, and we Democrats want to make sure that the tea party and the Republicans keep their hands off Social Security and Medicare.

Black history is not just the commemoration of how far African Americans have come, but also how far this country has come. Most importantly, it is a reminder that we both still have more to do and further to go. Today's Republican agenda for this country threatens to erase all of the gains we celebrate this month, to put up roadblocks in our road to progress, roadblocks to a better future for all Americans, and to ensuring that this country we love regains and retains its number one position in the world. It's time to stop the madness and time to work together to continue to build a stronger America, one child, one family, one community at a time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker I rise today to honor Black History Month.

In February of each year, we recognize the many contributions of African Americans throughout this Nation. It brings to life a rich and vibrant history that was all too often left untold.

Although African Americans were an integral part of the founding of this Nation, it was not until the 20th century that they gained any respectable recognition in our history books. Prior to Carter G. Woodson's passionate efforts to write African Americans into the history of the United States, books largely ignored the African American population except in the context of slavery. That is why it is so important that the full history of African Americans continues to be taught and preserved in order that future generations from all reaches of America will understand our rich heritage.

African Americans have made significant contributions throughout history, and it is clear that we continue to build that rich legacy today. As our nation moves forward, we must never forget the great pioneers of scientific innovation, writing, music, philosophy, and politics. Honoring these contributions through Black History Month has allowed us to expand educational opportunities, enhance economic stability, workforce advancement and training, and community involvement.

Today, we find ourselves facing economic uncertainty. However, we must not lose sight of our current accomplishments and continued progress. The current budget proposal led by Republicans seeks to cut spending without any regard to our economy or the needs of the American people. The proposed budget diminishes our investments in education, job creation, and future innovation. I believe that we can and must do better to serve all Americans. We must fight against immoral and unwise cuts to our budget in order to preserve the heritage of African Americans as well as the United States as a whole.

Black History Month has not only set a precedent by honoring the achievements of African Americans, but it has also paved the way for other nationwide celebrations honoring the contributions of other important races and cultures. Now, we must look to our youth to carry on our history and to create their own legacy.

Long before the election of more than a hundred African Americans to the U.S. Congress, African Americans made a large contribution to our Nation's Capitol by building the Capitol itself as slaves.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HANNA (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

Mr. JONES (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of illness.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today and March 1 on account of attending the wake and funeral of a fallen police officer.

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE
RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL
SERVICES FOR THE 112TH CONGRESS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, February 25, 2011.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Herewith, I am submitting the rules of the Committee on Financial Services, as favorably adopted, on January 25, 2011.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or Natalie McGarry of my staff should you need anything further.

Sincerely,

SPENCER BACHUS,
Chairman.

RULE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) The rules of the House are the rules of the Committee on Financial Services (hereinafter in these rules referred to as the "Committee") and its subcommittees so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are privileged motions in the Committee and shall be considered without debate. A proposed investigative or oversight report shall be considered as read if it has been available to the members of the Committee for at least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such day).

(b) Each subcommittee is a part of the Committee, and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and to its rules so far as applicable.

(c) The provisions of clause 2 of rule XI of the Rules of the House are incorporated by reference as the rules of the Committee to the extent applicable.

RULE 2. MEETINGS

Calling of Meetings

(a)(1) The Committee shall regularly meet on the first Tuesday of each month when the House is in session.

(2) A regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with if, in the judgment of the Chairman of the Committee (hereinafter in these rules referred to as the "Chair"), there is no need for the meeting.

(3) Additional regular meetings and hearings of the Committee may be called by the Chair, in accordance with clause 2(g)(3) of rule XI of the rules of the House.

(4) Special meetings shall be called and convened by the Chair as provided in clause 2(c)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

Notice for Meetings

(b)(1) The Chair shall notify each member of the Committee of the agenda of each regular meeting of the Committee at least three calendar days before the time of the meeting.

(2) The Chair shall provide to each member of the Committee, at least three calendar days before the time of each regular meeting for each measure or matter on the agenda a copy of—

(A) the measure or materials relating to the matter in question; and

(B) an explanation of the measure or matter to be considered, which, in the case of an explanation of a bill, resolution, or similar measure, shall include a summary of the major provisions of the legislation, an explanation of the relationship of the measure to present law, and a summary of the need for the legislation.

(3) At least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of

legislation, the Chair shall cause the text of such legislation to be made publicly available in electronic form.

(4) The provisions of this subsection may be waived by a two-thirds vote of the Committee or by the Chair with the concurrence of the ranking minority member.

RULE 3. MEETING AND HEARING PROCEDURES

In General

(a)(1) Meetings and hearings of the Committee shall be called to order and presided over by the Chair or, in the Chair's absence, by the member designated by the Chair as the Vice Chair of the Committee, or by the ranking majority member of the Committee present as Acting Chair.

(2) Meetings and hearings of the committee shall be open to the public unless closed in accordance with clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

(3) Any meeting or hearing of the Committee that is open to the public shall be open to coverage by television broadcast, radio broadcast, and still photography in accordance with the provisions of clause 4 of rule XI of the Rules of the House (which are incorporated by reference as part of these rules). Operation and use of any Committee operated broadcast system shall be fair and nonpartisan and in accordance with clause 4(b) of rule XI and all other applicable rules of the Committee and the House.

(4) Opening statements by members at the beginning of any hearing or meeting of the Committee shall be limited to 5 minutes each for the Chair or ranking minority member, or their respective designee, and 3 minutes each for all other members.

(5) To the extent feasible, members and witnesses may use the Committee equipment for the purpose of presenting information electronically during a meeting or hearing provided the information is transmitted to the appropriate Committee staff in an appropriate electronic format at least one business day before the meeting or hearing so as to ensure display capacity and quality. The content of all materials must relate to the pending business of the Committee and conform to the rules of the House. The confidentiality of the material will be maintained by the technical staff until its official presentation to the Committee members. For the purposes of maintaining the official records of the committee, printed copies of all materials presented, to the extent practicable, must accompany the presentations.

(6) No person, other than a Member of Congress, Committee staff, or an employee of a Member when that Member has an amendment under consideration, may stand in or be seated at the rostrum area of the Committee rooms unless the Chair determines otherwise.

Quorum

(b)(1) For the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence, two members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(2) A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of reporting any measure or matter, of authorizing a subpoena, of closing a meeting or hearing pursuant to clause 2(g) of rule XI of the rules of the House (except as provided in clause 2(g)(2)(A) and (B)) or of releasing executive session material pursuant to clause 2(k)(7) of rule XI of the rules of the House.

(3) For the purpose of taking any action other than those specified in paragraph (2) one-third of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Voting

(c)(1) No vote may be conducted on any measure or matter pending before the Committee unless the requisite number of mem-

bers of the Committee is actually present for such purpose.

(2) A record vote of the Committee shall be provided on any question before the Committee upon the request of one-fifth of the members present.

(3) No vote by any member of the Committee on any measure or matter may be cast by proxy.

(4) In addition to any other requirement of these rules or the Rules of the House, including clause 2(e)(1)(B) of rule XI, the Chair shall make the record of the votes on any question on which a record vote is demanded publicly available for inspection at the offices of the Committee and in electronic form on the Committee's Web site not later than one business day after such vote is taken. Such record shall include in electronic form the text of the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition, the name of each member voting for and each member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, and the names of those members of the committee present but not voting. With respect to any record vote on any motion to report or record vote on any amendment, a record of such votes shall be included in the report of the Committee showing the total number of votes cast for and against and the names of those members of the committee present but not voting.

(5) POSTPONED RECORD VOTES.—(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the Chairman may postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving any measure or matter or adopting an amendment. The Chairman may resume proceedings on a postponed request at any time, but no later than the next meeting day.

(B) In exercising postponement authority under subparagraph (A), the Chairman shall take all reasonable steps necessary to notify members on the resumption of proceedings on any postponed record vote;

(C) When proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

Hearing Procedures

(d)(1)(A) The Chair shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any committee hearing at least one week before the commencement of the hearing, unless the Chair, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, or the Committee by majority vote with a quorum present for the transaction of business, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, in which case the Chair shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date.

(B) Not less than three days before the commencement of a hearing announced under this paragraph, the Chair shall provide to the members of the Committee a concise summary of the subject of the hearing, or, in the case of a hearing on a measure or matter, a copy of the measure or materials relating to the matter in question and a concise explanation of the measure or matter to be considered. At the same time the Chair provides the information required by the preceding sentence, the Chair shall also provide to the members of the Committee a final list consisting of the names of each witness who is to appear before the Committee at that hearing. The witness list may not be modified within 24 hours of a hearing, unless the Chair, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, determines there is good cause for such modification.

(2) To the greatest extent practicable—

(A) each witness who is to appear before the Committee shall file with the Committee