

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHWARTZ. I rise today to offer some truth on the Republican spending bill. Over 300 economists believe the Republican bill to cut \$61 billion in midyear would eliminate 700,000 American jobs and shrink economic growth by 2 percent just this year. These are shortsighted cuts that could threaten our economy and our economic competitiveness. Our goal should be job creation, not job destruction.

Our Republican colleagues only care about cutting, without regard to where the cuts come from, how they negatively affect American families, or how detrimental they could be for our economy. This is not governing. Spending cuts should not be politically motivated or economically harmful.

We do need to cut spending to reduce our deficit, but these cuts must be targeted, and they must be responsible. They shouldn't cut into our core obligations to our seniors, to our safety, or to our future. Our Nation's economy and our economic growth depends on investing in education, infrastructure, and innovation, all critical to private sector competitiveness. Balancing spending cuts with sound investments is the only way to ensure job growth and new jobs. It's time for the Republicans to move beyond political rhetoric to actions that really work to grow our economy.

MEDICAID COSTS

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, in the coming years the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will have to find \$2 billion additional to pay for ObamaCare's mandated Medicaid increases. There is little flexibility in State budgets this year, and Pennsylvania, like many States, will have to make up a significant budget gap this year. The entire State budget is only \$29 billion. Adding \$2 billion more means significant cuts in services or significant tax increases.

Pennsylvania is not alone. According to a new report released yesterday, this expansion will cost States \$118 billion additional. That is twice what was just recently estimated by CBO. We want to provide good health care, but we also want to educate our children, keep citizens safe, and maintain our rails and roads. Our State governments must be more than just health care providers. We must provide governors with the flexibility to determine the needs of their States.

Under ObamaCare, Medicaid is more rigid and more expensive, and an even greater burden on States struggling to balance their budgets.

NO GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Mr. CARNAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I voted for a 2-week compromise to keep our government's most vital programs running while we negotiate an agreement to cut the deficit without hurting our fragile economic recovery. Why? Because a government shutdown would profoundly hurt all Americans, and we need time to work together to avoid that.

Fifteen years ago, a hyperpartisan Congress shut down our national government for ideological reasons and furloughed over 8,500 jobs in my hometown of St. Louis. And just this morning, the St. Louis Post Dispatch reported that a shutdown could put as many as 38,000 people out of work in our region.

Let's have a serious and spirited debate about cutting redtape and duplication and finding common sense solutions. Let's focus on the priorities of the American people: creating jobs and cutting the deficit. We should do so by looking at three principles. Will it create jobs? Will it help the middle class and working Americans and our retirees? And finally, will it lower the deficit?

I hope my colleagues will join me in passing a funding resolution that meets these essential goals. Our constituents deserve no less.

REPEAL THE 1099 REPORTING REQUIREMENT

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

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to fight for the job creators in my district. Small businesses and family farms in upstate New York are already struggling to survive in these tough economic times. We in the Congress can help by attacking the impediments to their profitability: high taxes, onerous regulations, and spiraling health care and energy costs.

Today I rise in support of the repeal of the 1099 reporting requirement that was included in the government-centric health care bill passed last year. This new government mandate is set to require our small businesses to issue detailed tax information for each vendor with whom they do business beyond \$600. Some of our small business owners have hundreds of these vendors, and this new onerous requirement is absolutely unnecessary and would add more burden to an already stressed bottom line.

I look forward to standing with the small businesses and farms in my district tomorrow by casting a vote to repeal the 1099 provision.

□ 1210

SUPPORT PUBLIC WORKERS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this 1-minute is from the heart, and it disturbs me and baffles me for a country that I love. I don't believe there is anything more precious than for Members to stand up and pledge allegiance to this great Nation and to be taught as children about the American Dream.

That's why Democrats have focused their life journey on creating jobs for Americans. That's why we don't want to engage in frivolous budgeting that causes us to lose jobs.

But why are Governor Walker of Wisconsin, Governor Kasich of Ohio and Governor Daniels of Indiana demonizing the American Dream, demonizing workers, teachers, transit workers, police and firefighters? Does anyone know that Wisconsin public workers offered \$100 million last year to be able to help the State and have already committed to helping them this year? But, no, union busting is not union busting. It is quashing the American Dream, making it a crime to organize workers.

What is America? I beg of them to stand against this kind of dastardly act. Democrats are fighting for jobs. Where is the American Dream?

NATIONAL FRAGILE X FOUNDATION ADVOCACY DAY

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

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I am thrilled today to welcome over 125 advocates from 40 States with the National Fragile X Foundation to Capitol Hill.

Today the fragile X community will visit their Members to promote awareness, improved research and more efficient treatments for fragile X-associated disorders. This disorder is linked to a mutation on the X chromosome and is the most commonly inherited form of intellectual disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, as you may know, this is a very personal and emotional issue for my family, as my 21-year-old son, Livingston, has fragile X syndrome. I am honored to have Livingston with me today in Washington to help me share our family's story about this condition.

While we understand the challenges facing Congress, we ask you to continue to support Federal investments in fragile X-specific research, discovery and public health priorities.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION AND JOB LOSS

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

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, Republicans have been in charge for 8 weeks, and this Chamber has taken 154 votes, yet we still see no signs of job creation or a jobs plan.

With 14 million Americans still looking for work, I ask my colleagues on the other side, Where are the jobs? Where is the plan? In this House we have talked about repealing health care reform and instructing committees, but nothing about a jobs plan.

And, now, as we approach the deadline for government funding and the looming threat of a crippling government shutdown, House Republicans are focusing on irresponsible budget plans than actually threaten job creation. In fact, the Republicans' proposed long-term CR not only fails to create jobs or spur the economy, it would actually cause more job losses and depress economic growth.

Economists have discovered that their plan would destroy around 700,000 jobs through 2012. Mr. Speaker, as the impending funding deadline approaches, my Republican colleagues should negotiate in good faith and fund the government in ways to support job creation and economic growth, not cause greater job loss or economic damage.

RED TAPE

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I am here to talk today about red tape, specifically the 1099 form.

It's a relatively short, seemingly harmless form. Yet when we require every business in this country to file a 1099 form for every business transaction over \$600, it is far from harmless. In reality, this requirement is an enormous burden that takes time, energy, resources away from growing their businesses.

The 1099 provision is one of the many backbreaking regulations included in the Democrat's health care overhaul that I opposed when it passed the House in 2010. Repealing this requirement would be a victory for America's small businesses, families, and individuals.

Florida's businesses deserve economic solutions that will let them keep more of what they earn so that they can innovate and grow. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4 and repeal this 1099 provision.

BREATHE CLEAN AIR

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, one thing we share on a bipartisan basis is Republicans and Democrats like to breathe the clean air. We don't want to see our kids exposed to aggravated asthma problems.

That's why it's very disappointing that the Republicans are trying to threaten a government shutdown if they don't get to pass their dirty air act. Now, their dirty air act is a bill

that they want to pass, and I am not making this up. They want to pass a bill that would make it illegal for the Environmental Protection Agency to enforce the provisions of the Clean Air Act that will reduce air pollution.

This is amazing to me. You want to shut down government, if you don't shut down government in enforcing pollution. Now, I always thought that the American people thought that that was a really bad idea.

I want to share my colleagues' proof of this. In polls done in 19 congressional districts recently, including the Speaker's own district in Ohio, 68 percent of Americans said that we should move forward with the EPA in this; 6 out of 10 said the Republicans' dirty air act is a really bad idea.

We need to keep the government to keep this clean air. Reject the Republicans' threat of a government shutdown.

HONORING THE MEADOWS OF NORTH SMITHFIELD, RHODE ISLAND

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Meadows, an affordable senior housing community in my congressional district located in North Smithfield, Rhode Island.

The Meadows excels as an elderly community by providing individual living with enhanced social services and high-quality care to approximately 100 Rhode Island seniors. The Meadows was built using a smart combination of Federal, State, local, and private funding. It has a green design which includes geothermal heating, Energy Star appliances, and energy-efficient lighting.

For the commitment to providing our seniors a quality standard of living, I congratulate the Meadows. I proudly join the National Affordable Housing Management Association in honoring The Meadows as a "community of quality" for exemplary development for our seniors.

Thank you for your work. Congratulations on your achievements, and thank you for your commitment to Rhode Island's seniors.

TAX HIKES FOR WORKING MIDDLE CLASS AMERICANS

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

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, in 2010 the Republicans promised smaller government and fewer taxes. They even signed a pledge, a pledge not to raise taxes. Yet here we are, 56 days after assuming control of the Congress, and Republicans are proposing to do exactly that, tax hikes for working middle class Americans.

Their bill, H.R. 4, would repeal the onerous reporting provisions on small

businesses, but on the backs of hard-working middle class American families. Those watching the debate are probably thinking "say it ain't so, Joe," but despite Republicans' claims that it isn't a tax increase, it is a tax increase.

If it isn't, why did the Joint Committee on Taxation say it is? If it isn't, why do Republicans block a vote on my amendment that would prohibit any section of H.R. 4 from kicking in if it did, indeed, raise taxes on middle-class families?

It took only 56 days to break their pledge. Republicans are raising taxes on working people. Say it ain't so, GOP. Say it ain't so.

BLAME FOR OUR NATION'S FISCAL PROBLEMS

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it's hard not to get angry when watching the news or reading the newspaper about Wisconsin.

We are trying to recover from the biggest financial crisis since the Depression, and who is getting the blame for our Nation's fiscal problems? Teachers. Teachers certainly aren't the people who caused the Great Recession. It was a group of Wall Street executives who brought about the financial crisis which led to the budget shortfalls in the States.

Blaming teachers or cutting their pay is wrong. Working to strip them of the basic American right to collectively bargain because some greedy Wall Street executives made huge mistakes and went too far, well, that's absolutely also wrong. Of course, Wall Street executives have gone back to collecting big bonuses while teachers and public workers are collecting the ridicule.

It's time to quit blaming hard-working and dedicated teachers and let them get back to focusing on their students.

□ 1220

OUR NATIONAL DEBT

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, our national debt, as we all know, is approaching \$14 trillion, with a capital "T." It's clear that we can no longer afford to continue the partisan bickering and short-term thinking that too long has consumed our Nation's capital. While kicking this can down the road may have been in vogue at one time, it can no longer be afforded by our Nation.

The staggering debt was not created in a day, and we can't dig ourselves out of this hole overnight, but we must stop digging. In order to tackle our