

I look forward to attending the Capitol Hill premiere tonight and urge all to see *The Barber of Birmingham: Foot Soldier of the Civil Rights Movement*.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES WE FACE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, as always, it's an honor to speak here in the House of Representatives.

I heard Democratic friends mention earlier that what we need to do to get the economy going is start spending on infrastructure because our grandchildren will really appreciate the dollars that they have to pay years from now that we spent on infrastructure.

The only thing is, that's exactly what our friends across the aisle were saying in January of 2009 when they wanted an \$800 billion stimulus package that turned out to be maybe \$900 billion or \$1 trillion. It was going to be for infrastructure. And many in the American public said, yeah, that's a good idea. It turned out that only around 6 percent or so, 6 to 7 percent may have been for infrastructure.

Okay. Fooled us once, shame on you. Fool us twice, shame on us.

The thing is, some of us weren't fooled even back then. We had already seen things that were said that would be done that were not done. So I voted against that so-called "porkulus" stimulus, or whatever you want to call it, bill. I voted against TARP because in America we're not supposed to just give one man \$700 billion and say, go do whatever you want with all this money; we don't care, just fix things. Because he certainly didn't fix things, although he did engorge his buddies at Goldman Sachs.

Nonetheless, we do face economic difficulties. And within the last 2 weeks there were six of us, a bipartisan group, in Turkey. Their economy seems to be going very well, and we were seeing things growing and doing well in Istanbul. And they don't understand sarcasm very well and so, but I, nonetheless, said to some of their economic leaders, business leaders, so you must have had many huge stimulus packages to get the economy going. They looked at me like I was crazy because they don't understand sarcasm very well in another language I guess. But they spoke good English.

Nonetheless, they didn't use stimulus packages. But they did say they had dropped their corporate tax rate that was much too high down to 20 percent, and now businesses have been coming in. That works. It works whenever it's been tried.

But let me get to another point. Credibility is always relevant. In my

days as a judge and chief justice that was one of the rules of the court. Credibility is always an issue. It's always relevant. So when this country makes promises to people and doesn't keep them, or they're stupid promises to people we know will not keep their word to us, we lose credibility.

We found out now that this administration is negotiating with the Taliban; basically, you know, just let us out. We're negotiating with the Taliban? Did Hoover negotiate with Dillinger, and Bonnie and Clyde?

Did Robert Kennedy, as Attorney General, negotiate with the Mob?

When people are involved and they're criminals and they're murderers and they're engaged in criminal activity and they've never kept a promise, do you really want to be making that deal?

Now, I know it seems like we should have learned a lesson from the Clinton administration. When North Korea was trying to build nukes, the Clinton administration sends Madeleine Albright, and she comes in, hey, hey, how about dropping pursuing nuclear weapons? We'll build you a nuclear power plant if you'll just—you'll build us a nuclear power plant if we just tell you we won't pursue it? Sure, we'll tell you that all day long.

□ 1230

So they cut a deal. We built them a nuclear plant, and that has been used to develop nuclear weapons, just like anybody should have figured it would. When you deal with criminals, with lying thugs, you can't trust that agreement.

For us to be negotiating with the Taliban is a blight on those who have given their lives there. I attended a funeral this weekend of Brad Gaudet, who went down in a helicopter accident on June 5. We owe those people who have given their lives fighting against those who want to destroy our way of life better than cutting a deal.

Let's rearm the Northern Alliance, the people that originally defeated the Taliban—just give them the advisers, the trainers, all that they need, and let them whip the Taliban for us again. Let's not negotiate with Dillinger. It makes no sense and we lose credibility.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Loving and gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We ask today that You bless the Members of this assembly to be the best and most faithful servants of the people they serve. Purify their intentions, that they will say what they believe and act consistent with their words.

Help them, indeed help us all, to be honest with themselves, so that they will not only be concerned with how their words and deeds are weighed by others, but also with how their words and deeds affect the lives of those in need and those who look to them for support, help, strength, and leadership.

May all that is done this day in the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. FLEISCHMANN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FLEISCHMANN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

NLRB KILLING JOBS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, Congressman DARELL ISSA conducted a field hearing in North Charleston, South Carolina. A witness who really brought home the consequences families will face as a result of the NLRB's job-killing complaint was Cynthia Ramaker, who is currently employed at Boeing.

Bringing a human face to the complaint, she explained how the NLRB is denying her right to work. She explained that Boeing's new 1.1 million square foot building is already completed. Manufacturing is to begin this summer, with over 1,000 jobs already, and up to 3,800 more jobs could come. With construction and suppliers, ultimately 9,000 jobs could be created.

Boeing was attracted to South Carolina because of the trained world-class workforce, a welcoming pro-business climate, right to work laws, and a pro-business government of Republicans and Democrats. The job-killing action

of the Obama administration is a threat to American workers.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO SAVE \$50 MILLION FOR TENNESSEE TAXPAYERS

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

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, today I will introduce my first piece of legislation since taking office, and I am proud that it saves the taxpayers of my home State of Tennessee an estimated \$50 million.

The unfunded mandate put in place by the new standards of the Federal Highway Administration is an undue burden on States when they can least afford it. That is why I am joining Congressman DESJARLAIS and Senators ALEXANDER and CORKER to allow local governments to meet these new standards at the end of a road sign's natural lifecycle, and not on the accelerated timetable put forth by the Federal Highway Administration.

While this administration and their departments might have the mindset of tax, borrow, and spend, local governments cannot do the same. At a time when we are working to be fiscally responsible and balance our budgets, the Federal Government is telling them to spend money they don't have.

Washington politicians should take a clue from their local and State officials and get to work on balancing the budget instead of telling States how to spend their money.

REPUBLICAN PLAN FOR AMERICA'S JOB CREATORS

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

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, since President Obama was elected, 2½ million more of our fellow citizens have lost their jobs. Unemployment has now been above 8 percent for 28 straight months, the longest stretch since the Great Depression, and if you look at the underemployment numbers and those who have simply given up, the situation is far worse. The top three credit rating agencies have now all issued warnings about our spending-driven national debt. A recent report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics says that new business startups are at a 17-year low.

Mr. Speaker, we have got to get this Nation back to work. America is experiencing a deficit of jobs because job creators have a severe deficit of confidence in the President's economic policies. Washington cannot help the job seeker by punishing the job creator with massive debt and massive regulations.

House Republicans have a plan for America's job creators which will put

the Nation on a fiscally sustainable path, make our Tax Code more competitive, help create more American-made energy, and take the burden of regulation off our job creators' backs so America can go back to work.

REAL RECOVERY AGENDA

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, last Friday marked 1 year since President Obama promised the American people a recovery summer. But looking at the latest grim economic reports, it is clear that recovery couldn't be further from the truth. Consumer confidence slid to a 6-month low; unemployment rose to 9.1 percent, the highest rate since December; the stagnant economy created only 54,000 jobs, less than half of the 125,000 many economists predicted; and housing prices fell to new depths in April.

Mr. Speaker, it is painfully clear that President Obama's policies of excessive spending, borrowing, and regulation are failing. The American people are paying the extremely high price, and they are demanding changes—an end to the spending and borrowing, and more pro-growth, pro-job policies. That is why we are working hard on a real recovery agenda that will create jobs, cut spending, and restore our Nation to fiscal health.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 5:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 5:30 p.m.

□ 1731

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) at 5 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

SERGEANT CHRIS DAVIS POST OFFICE

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 1632) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5014 Gary Avenue in Lubbock, Texas, as the "Sergeant Chris Davis Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1635

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5014 Gary Avenue in Lubbock, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Sergeant Chris Davis Post Office".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Sergeant Chris Davis Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FARENTHOLD) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FARENTHOLD).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1632, introduced by the gentleman from Texas, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5014 Gary Avenue in Lubbock, Texas, as the Sergeant Chris Davis Post Office. The bill is cosponsored by the entire Texas delegation; and, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be an original cosponsor myself.

Mr. Speaker, it is altogether fitting and proper that we name this post office in Lubbock for Army Sergeant Davis to honor a true American hero and his service to our country.

Sergeant Davis was born on October 25, 1971, in Lubbock; and according to his sister Margaret, he was always helping people and serving, even from a young age. She recalled that "he was always helping and serving and always thinking of someone else. That was Chris."

With his passion for service, Chris joined the Army in 1999 and was eventually assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, based out of Fort Benning, Georgia.

While deployed in Iraq, Sergeant Davis was tragically killed on June 23, 2007, when his unit was attacked by insurgents using an improvised explosive device and small arms fire in Baghdad. He was 35 years old and left behind his wife, Debbie, and two children.