

in energy, in education will not only create jobs; it will pay back dividends in the future. That's because putting Americans back to work, supporting their families, boosting productivity, and, yes, paying taxes is the government revenue raiser Republicans should join Democrats to get behind without delay.

REPUBLICANS HAVE A PLAN

(Ms. JENKINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JENKINS. Madam Speaker, the question on everyone's mind in this Nation today is: where are the jobs? And, more importantly, what is Washington going to do about it?

Well, Republicans have a plan. We want to open new markets to exports, make the Tax Code fairer and flatter, rein in regulations, and reform government spending.

But when we look across the negotiation table, what do we see? Nothing. We hear a lot of speeches and that a lot of things are on the table; but, of course, there is no plan from the Democrats. No plan to read, to score, or to negotiate.

To this point, the director of the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office recently said: "We don't estimate speeches."

So, Mr. President, where is your plan?

I implore my friends across the aisle and across the Rotunda to get off the stump. Give us a plan. Compile those nice words into legislation so we can get Americans back to work.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATION

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, the Financial Services appropriation soon due on the floor will be contentious; but one section should be a piece of cake because it only requires Members to vote on the local budget of a city, the District of Columbia, already voted on and locally funded by the only elected officials accountable to voters and the only officials who have familiarity with that local budget.

I ask my colleagues to give the local budget of my city the same respect you demand for yours. Please do not tell local people how to spend local money. According to the Republican Study Group, its 10th Amendment task force intends, and I quote, "to disburse power from Washington back to re-

gions and States, local governments and individuals."

Your principle, please honor it.

□ 1230

SUPPORT THE FREE SUGAR ACT OF 2011

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

Mr. DOLD. Madam Speaker, our government should not be in the business of picking winners and losers. Yet, when it comes to our Nation's sugar policy, Washington has decided to implement price controls, which cost our country jobs. According to a Commerce Department study, for every job Washington protects by its antiquated sugar policy, three American manufacturing jobs are lost.

At a time of record unemployment, the last thing that we should do is maintain an outdated policy that hurts job creation here at home. In my district, the 10th District of Illinois, we have confectioners, family bakeries, family restaurants, and food makers who are forced to pay higher prices for sugar because of government price controls. If Washington removed these price controls, it would lower the cost of sugar and allow small businesses and confectioners to lower the price of goods and to hire more workers.

Today, I am asking that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle join me in supporting the Free Sugar Act of 2011. This bipartisan bill will end Federal price controls on sugar and help to create jobs here at home.

TO REALIZE THE AMERICAN DREAM ONCE AGAIN

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

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, the best way to deal with this country's debt is to put people back to work. We've heard it from both sides of the aisle.

At the end of Bill Clinton's administration, this country had a surplus. Revenues exceeded expenses. There was job growth: 23 million people. But then, with George Bush, we lost 8 million jobs. We went into a huge deficit.

The best way to deal with that is to put people back to work. The President does have a plan, and we Democrats have a plan: innovate, educate and manufacture. Make it here in America. We will put people back to work.

Folks need to be able to realize the American Dream again, and that's what we are going to fight for every single day. We want to put people back to work. That will help take care of the debt.

REVIVING THE ECONOMY

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YODER. Madam Speaker, we all know that the Federal Government is spending too much money, that our national debt is too large and that we must make serious reductions to get our budget under control.

As our Nation's leaders continue today to debate the national debt, some in the Washington establishment are calling for greater Federal revenue by asking more Americans to sacrifice by sending more of their hard-earned money to the Federal Government in the name of higher taxes. Yet we all know that greater taxes on small business owners and families will not help the economy grow and will not put Americans back to work.

Tax, borrow, and spend policies do not create jobs. We cannot tax our way out of this debt. At a time when we continue to see record unemployment, taking more money from our job creators to pay for Washington's spending disease cannot be an option.

What we need, Madam Speaker, is a growing economy to bring in new revenue. By pursuing policies that reduce spending, keep taxes low and reduce regulatory burdens, we can help revive the economy and stabilize our Federal budgets.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in our efforts to protect senior citizens and Social Security.

Over the past few weeks, I have received hundreds of phone calls and letters from my constituents, urging me to protect Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

I have a question: What will happen to the millions of senior citizens and people living in poverty who rely on these programs?

It seems like the Republicans are focusing on giving tax breaks to those who need them the least. Currently, approximately 52 million Americans benefit from the Social Security program. According to the most recent statistics published by the AARP, one in six residents in New Jersey receives Social Security. In addition, statistics show that women rely more on Social Security than any other segment of our population.

Therefore, I urge my Republican colleagues to put aside their contempt for entitlement programs and to submit to doing what is best for the interests of the American people.

CLEAN ENERGY

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, if we are going to remain competitive in the global economy, we must invest in clean energy innovation.

San Diego has 767 clean energy companies, and has become an innovation hub, especially in solar power, energy storage and advanced biofuels. According to the San Diego Association of Governments, the algae energy section alone—one energy section—provides the region with 410 direct jobs and \$108 million in economic activity each year.

Unfortunately, the appropriations bill we're voting on this week cuts solar energy research by more than one-third; decreases biomass research by \$33 million; and cuts \$80 million from funding for breakthrough domestic clean energy innovators.

We can't hold back the companies that have come up with the answers to our serious energy problems. I hope my colleagues will join me in fighting for cleantech and biotech innovation by opposing this damaging bill.

PUTTING PARTISANSHIP ASIDE TO CREATE JOBS FOR THIS NATION

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

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, we are now on day 191 of the new Congress. Sadly, I must report to the people of my congressional district and to this Nation that we have done absolutely nothing with regard to creating jobs. Rather than spending time trying to blame George Bush and Barack Obama, I think we ought to utilize every moment we have to create opportunities to work.

We are in a crisis: 9.2 unemployment overall, 16.2 African American unemployment. If you add what the Labor Department does, which is something called U-6, African American unemployment is at 30 percent.

This Congress owes it to this Nation to move the partisanship aside and to create jobs for this Nation.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the further consideration of H.R. 2354 and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YODER). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 337 and rule

XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2354.

□ 1239

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2354) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes, with Mrs. BIGGERT (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Wednesday, July 13, 2011, the bill had been read through page 62, line 2.

Mr. OLVER. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Massachusetts is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OLVER. Madam Chairman, title V of the Energy and Water bill that is before us today robs Peter to pay Paul.

Title V takes funds which were appropriated 2½ years ago for transportation purposes and moves part of those funds to the Corps of Engineers in today's Energy and Water appropriations bill. Title V specifically rescinds all awarded but unobligated high-speed rail dollars from the Recovery and Reinvestment Act and moves those dollars to respond to the unprecedented flooding this spring in many States for work to be done as it is designed and executed by the Corps of Engineers.

Effectively this is a backhanded increase in allocation to the Energy and Water Subcommittee for this bill at the expense of transportation purposes.

I don't contend or even suggest that the Energy and Water bill is well-funded. In fact, the allocations for the Energy and Water Subcommittee and for the Transportation and HUD Subcommittee, of which I am the ranking member, are both totally inadequate. But I do object to killing projects in transportation that will create construction jobs in the severely depressed construction industry and provide a valuable transportation alternative in heavily congested corridors among our largest metropolitan areas all over the country. And I do absolutely support making the repairs to flood control systems as quickly as they can be designed and built. That's an obligation.

In my 20 years, 10½ years under Democratic Presidents, 9½ years under Republican Presidents and under the control in the Congress of either party—because it switched back and forth in those 20 years—we have dealt with natural disasters on a bipartisan basis, on an emergency basis, every single year. Most famously, that includes, in September '05, the Katrina disaster which resulted in \$15 billion for recovery of New Orleans and the gulf coast on an emergency and on a

totally bipartisan basis. But this section takes from projects planned, applied for and awarded but not yet obligated and kills those projects.

Roughly \$6 billion of the \$8 billion appropriated for intercity passenger rail and high-speed rail projects in the Recovery Act are already obligated, and half of those are already in construction. The Recovery Act itself allowed until the 30th of September of 2012, the end of the '12 fiscal year, to obligate those dollars. Of the roughly \$2 billion unobligated, 80 percent of those dollars arises from the single decision just 3 months ago of the Governor of Florida to refuse the \$1.6 billion previously applied for and awarded for a project to build true high-speed rail on a dedicated corridor between Orlando and Tampa.

Now, Orlando lies roughly equidistant from Jacksonville, Tampa and Miami. Those four, Jacksonville, Tampa, Miami and Orlando, are four of America's 40 largest metropolitan areas. All have over 1½ million people, all are growing by between 15 and 30 percent, and they are among our fastest growing metropolitan areas. They represent a prime example of the opportunity that high-speed rail offers in carefully selected high-population corridors around the country to reduce congestion and expedite travel.

When that money was refused by Florida, the Federal Rail Administration re-awarded the \$1.6 billion to projects in other States, including, as examples, in the Northeast Corridor, which carries half of all intercity rail passengers in America every day, nearly \$800 million for work in that Northeast Corridor, and that work would bring the speed up to 160 miles per hour in parts of New Jersey, and the work would be done in New York and New Jersey. So that is \$800 million.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. OLVER. I ask unanimous consent to be given 1 additional minute.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I object.

The Acting CHAIR. Objection is heard.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. OLVER. Secondly, in the high-speed corridors that are based on Chicago as their hub, to go to Detroit, to go to St. Louis, to go to Indianapolis, to go to Milwaukee, for equipment that will allow those high-speed corridors to function better.

Thirdly, in projects on the west coast as well. All of those projects are jeopardized by this provision in this bill.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Chair, I am opposed to the misguided cuts to high-speed rail funding in this bill that