

Nation's wealth; while the bottom 90 percent have 26 percent, the greatest income disparity ever. This is a manufactured crisis, Mr. Speaker. Do what Alan Greenspan recommended: Go back to the Clinton tax rates; balance the budget; pay for the wars; pay for tax cuts; pay for expansion of Medicare; meet your obligations; don't manufacture crises; and don't drive us to deadlines when the whole world is watching and wondering if we are serious about governing the world's strongest economy.

THE JOBS OUTSOURCERS' BILL OF RIGHTS

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, in just a few hours, my Republican colleagues will bring to the floor the Jobs Outsourcers' Bill of Rights. This piece of legislation is an open attack on workforce protections, a union-busting bill that will open loopholes for companies to ship our jobs, American jobs overseas, and will make historic changes to workers' rights, all to serve the well-connected special interests community. This bill will allow companies to fire workers, workers who think that they might have a better shot of supporting their families in these precarious times by banding together to negotiate with their employers. That right, the freedom of association, finds its origins in the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Whether or not you like unions, there is no sense in making it even easier to ship our jobs overseas. If this bill becomes law, a company faced with a few organizing workers trying to form a union could close an entire United States plant and move the work to China, where sweatshop laborers will work for less than even the lowest-paid, nonunion American workers. Actually, that's an assault on America's middle class. I would urge my colleagues to oppose this reactionary and poorly thought out legislation.

WEAKENING THE UNITED STATES PRESIDENCY

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I know my constituents and most Americans are trying to figure out exactly what this debt ceiling crisis is. It can't be about a desire to cut spending because both sides have already agreed to more cuts than are on the table in either the Senate or the House. No, this is a politically induced crisis that the Republicans have created in order to force votes on the debt ceiling next year during a Presidential campaign and weaken the President. But I hope they realize that if they weaken President Obama, they weaken the Presidency as

well. And if they succeed in defeating him next year, their candidate, their President, will face reduced stature in the world, just as our political system will face a reduced stature in the world.

We are the foundation of economic and political stability around the world, and this crisis is threatening our stature in that position. We cannot let the Republican politically induced default crisis succeed.

WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

(Ms. CLARKE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, our colleagues on the other side of the aisle have been in the majority for a full 29 weeks, and they still have not addressed the number one priority of the American people: jobs.

The Republican majority has, instead, used the time and energy that should have been focused on jobs to manufacture a crisis that could very well destroy the full faith and credit of our Nation. What makes this made-up crisis so undignified is that the other side has taken the American people hostage to their radical plan of placing the burden of deficit reduction on the backs of poor, working poor, and struggling middle class families while asking absolutely nothing of the most fortunate among us. Why, Mr. Speaker, have those who have done very well in America been asked to do so little for the country that made their success possible?

The Republican-led 112th Congress has totally ignored the jobs crisis and has actually managed to create another. The 112th Congress owes the American people an apology for continuing to waste their time. Where are the jobs? We owe the American people real job creation.

FAILURE TO PAY IS NOT AN OPTION

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

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell my colleagues what my constituents are saying, simply stop playing games.

Now, we all come to this job with certain ideas, values, and principles. But that doesn't mean we get to let our ideology dictate the facts. Failure to pay our bills will have a catastrophic effect on our still-recovering economy. It's as simple as that.

This isn't a question about enabling future deficits. The Federal Government needs to cover promises it has already made to our seniors, to our soldiers in the field, to our veterans, to our States, and to our creditors at home and abroad. We need to pay our bills.

The need to address our debt is every bit as serious as the need to avoid a de-

fault, but we need a balanced approach and shared sacrifice. We cannot balance the budget on the backs of working and middle class Americans while simply refusing to ask corporations and billionaires to pay one penny more. We cannot ignore the facts, and allowing our Nation to default is no way to fix our budget problems.

SPENDING-DRIVEN DEBT CRISIS

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, our record debt of \$14.3 trillion is growing, and it poses a direct threat to our national security, our economy, and our children's future. The American people deserve real leadership right now, not politics as usual.

The President's bipartisan deficit commission called the House-passed Path to Prosperity a "serious, honest, straightforward approach to addressing our Nation's enormous fiscal challenges." On the contrary, the Democratic cochair of the commission, Erskine Bowles, recently criticized the President's fiscal plan, introduced on April 13, by stating that "When you compare it to the Ryan plan and to the commission's plan, it really doesn't stabilize the debt. The debt, as a percentage of GDP, gets up to around 77 percent, and it never gets to primary balance."

If President Obama and the Democrat leaders of the Senate wish to take solving our spending-driven debt crisis seriously, the solution is simple: Washington must stop spending money it doesn't have.

FIGHT FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES AND DEFEAT H.R. 2587

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, America earned the name the Land of Opportunity because anyone willing to work hard and play by the rules can make it here. Well, our families still work hard, they still play by the rules, and yet so many are barely scraping by. So they send us to Washington to fight for them. They can't afford lobbyists. They only have us.

Today we will consider Republican legislation that is a textbook example of why too often, the special interests win out over the public interests. H.R. 2587 gives corporations a green light to send jobs overseas if their employees simply ask for a decent salary or better hours. This bill is based on the premise that executives can negotiate multimillion dollar bonuses for themselves, but if American workers exercise their rights, their jobs will be on the next plane to China. That's the majority's answer to outsourcing of American jobs. If the rights of American workers get in the way of corporate profits, then it's time to do away with those

rights. Let's stand up and fight to keep jobs here. Let's fight for American families. Let's defeat H.R. 2587.

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STUDENT LOAN DEBT FORGIVENESS

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

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, as we're on the verge of facing government default, there are several proposals on the table for us, as Members of Congress, to consider. And in my opinion, none of these proposals go far enough. Yes, they cut money in hopes of reducing our deficit and reducing our debt.

But here's what they don't do. They don't cut, they don't cap, and they don't forgive student loan debt.

Look, people. We want to create jobs. We want our families to have financial security. We need to help them get out of personal debt. And the most powerful way to get this economy moving again and to get our people the education they need is to help forgive certain student loan debt.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1938, NORTH AMERICAN- MADE ENERGY SECURITY ACT

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 370 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 370

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1938) to direct the President to expedite the consideration and approval of the construction and operation of the Keystone XL oil pipeline, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour, with 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order

except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YODER). The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. WEBSTER. For the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS)—who has a nice colorful Florida tie on today—pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support this rule and the underlying bill. House Resolution 370 provides for a structured rule for consideration of House Bill 1938, the North American-Made Energy Security Act.

The rule makes 11 of the 13 amendments submitted to the Rules Committee in order for robust debate here on the floor of the House of Representatives. All 11 amendments made in order are Democrat amendments, and this legislation passed out of Energy and Commerce with bipartisan support, gathering "yes" votes from six Democrats on the committee, including the former chairman, Mr. DINGELL.

This bill has moved through the committee process with bipartisan support because it does not require anything in the extraordinary to do. Distilled in its simplest form, it directs the President to make a decision. It does not prescribe his decision one way or another; it just simply asks him to act, say "yes" or say "no."

After nearly 3 years of review, study, and comment, the President would have to decide whether or not to issue a Presidential permit permitting the Keystone XL pipeline.

This bill does not allow any corners to be cut, any environmental consider-

ations to be glossed over. In fact, not only has it required an Environmental Impact Statement to be executed, but several supplemental statements have been performed as well.

Furthermore, upon receipt of the final Environmental Impact Statement, but not later than November 1, the President still has an additional 30 days to weigh the evidence and make up his mind. After nearly 3 years, he does not have to approve the project nor disapprove the project; he simply has to make a decision.

And what exactly is at stake? What hinges upon the approval or disapproval of this monumental infrastructure project? American job creation, overdue economic growth, and increased national energy security.

TransCanada believes that the approval of the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline will create about 20,000 shovel-ready construction and manufacturing jobs, adding about \$6.5 billion in personal income for those workers. It injects more than \$20 billion in private sector investment in the U.S. economy.

It generates more than \$585 million in new taxes for States and communities along the pipeline route. It pays more than \$5.2 billion in property taxes during the life of the pipeline; undeniably strengthens America's energy security by enabling expanded importation of 830,000 barrels of oil a day from our U.S. neighbor and ally instead of importing it from other unfriendly sources.

In fact, according to the United States Department of State, if the pipeline is not approved, "the U.S. would not receive a reliable and cost-efficient source of crude oil from Canada and would remain dependent upon unstable foreign oil supplies from the Middle East, Africa, Mexico, and South America."

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this rule and the underlying legislation. Relevant committees of jurisdiction have worked to provide us with a bipartisan bill which, at its core, is quite simple. It simply directs the administration to make a decision on America's energy and security and job creation.

I encourage my colleagues to vote "yes" on the rule and "yes" on the underlying bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. I thank my friend for yielding and compliment him on his sunshine tie, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the rule for H.R. 1938 and feel that, much like the majority's previous legislation attempts to increase offshore drilling, this backwards-looking dirty energy bill will not lower the price of gasoline for the average American today, tomorrow, or in the future.

It manages, this bill does, to completely ignore the pressing needs to develop clean, sustainable energy. In fact, only the large oil companies will