

URGING EXTENSION OF THE TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR WORKERS PROGRAM

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, my colleagues, the American people are watching. More than anything else, this Congress will be judged on what it does to help move this struggling economy forward.

One of our most important and effective programs to assist workers displaced by changes in the global economy has been the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Workers Act. Unfortunately, key provisions of this program are set to expire this week unless Congress takes action.

Last year, displaced workers in North Carolina received over \$56 million through TAA, the second largest amount given to a single State, to ensure that they had the support and training necessary to transition into an emerging sector of the economy.

This program is working. We must support the economy and these workers by immediately approving a long-term extension of the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Workers Program.

CLEAN AIR ACT

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

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, in 1970, our air was so polluted that breathing was literally a public health threat. Recognizing that need to give Americans clean air, Republican President Richard Nixon signed into law the Clean Air Act.

In its 40-year history, the Clean Air Act has saved the United States trillions of dollars by keeping Americans out of hospitals, in schools, and in the workforce.

The nonpartisan American Lung Association estimates that in 2010 alone it saved over 160,000 lives. But despite saving 160,000 lives and trillions of dollars in the last 40 years, the Republican majority claims this legislation is destroying the American economy. They believe that act must be repealed so Big Oil and corporate polluters can no longer be held responsible for destroying our air and endangering public health.

If Republican efforts to repeal the EPA's Clean Air Act authority are successful, we will return to a time when every breath you take will endanger your life. History disproves Republican claims and illustrates that the Clean Air Act saves lives, creates jobs, and saves the government tens of trillions of dollars. But, apparently, these facts that Richard Nixon understood do not matter.

GET OUR FISCAL HOUSE IN ORDER

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, one of the things that we are going to hear from our good friends on the Democrat side of the aisle day in and day out is how the Republicans are callous because we are cutting spending, and they can come to the floor and enumerate hundreds and hundreds of programs that are so good for America that they cannot be cut and, therefore, we shouldn't do anything to reduce our spending.

We have a \$14 trillion national debt. We are \$1.5 trillion short this coming fiscal year. If we don't do something, we are going to feel it; but our kids and our grandkids are going to have a lower quality of life because we cannot sustain this kind of spending.

So I would just like to say to my colleagues, I anticipate listening to you rant and rave about how we are cutting programs; but long term, unless we get our fiscal house in order, the future of America is really at risk. And I think the people across this country understand that it's time to take a scalpel to the budget.

PATRIOT ACT EXTENSION, H.R. 514

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

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, yesterday afternoon, 26 Republicans joined me and 121 of my Democratic colleagues in defeating a misguided attempt to extend, without badly needed changes, three soon-to-expire provisions of the Patriot Act.

We must remember that the powers of intelligence and enforcement are among the most important powers of government but also the most fearsome. They must be used very, very carefully.

Last year, I joined Representative CONYERS and other members in offering the USA PATRIOT Amendments Act. This bill would have revised the three controversial provisions we debated yesterday, and other provisions, to ensure that government agents would have to demonstrate a clear connection between the target of surveillance and terrorism investigation. It is that bill we should be voting on, and I ask the House leadership to schedule hearings and a vote on that bill.

□ 1210

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF GENERAL VANG PAO

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

Mr. DENHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of General Vang Pao. General Pao passed away on Thursday, January 6, 2011, and today marks the sixth and final day of the Hmong spiritual practices which are traditionally conducted

by the Hmong community after the passing of an individual. I stand here today to support the internment of General Vang Pao in Arlington National Cemetery.

The accomplishments and service that General Vang Pao has given to the United States are not only numerous, but are everlasting. Not only was General Vang Pao determined to protect his country, but he served to protect the lives of American soldiers. He fought to cut off the Ho Chi Minh Trail so that supplies could not be utilized to fuel the enemy's war efforts. He provided aid and support to downed American pilots, in addition to defending American outposts.

The leadership of General Vang Pao helped save thousands of U.S. servicemembers' lives and was an influential force during the Vietnam War. The dedication and service of the general not only earned him the title of Lord Protector of the country, but has also made him a hero in both the Hmong community and the United States of America.

PROTECTING HIGHER EDUCATION

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, as we look for ways to put our economy back on track, we have to be mindful of the quality of higher education that we are providing our future generations. I agree that difficult decisions must be made in order to guarantee this country's economic prosperity, but access to higher education should not be negotiable.

In California, we have seen tuition increased by as much as 10 percent on higher education, and Governor Brown has proposed a \$1.4 billion cut to higher education funding. We argue that sensible solutions to our economic difficulties are essential to prevent this burden from being passed on to the next generation. But let's look around. Our next generation is here. It is at higher education. Students are dropping out of colleges not because their GPA is too low, but because they can't afford the higher tuition costs.

Our future doctors, our engineers, our politicians, our educators, this is what we are talking about. We cannot rebuild our economy when we do so at the expense of our future generations and their American Dream.

TIME TO BEGIN THE DIALOGUE ABOUT JOBS

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

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, I spent this morning talking with people at the Good Jobs, Green Jobs Conference. This conference is dedicated to building jobs for Americans that are

sustainable, that are green, and that will help our country meet the needs of the future.

They talked about efficiency. They talked about saving money with weatherization and putting people back to work doing it. Manufacturing, windmills, solar, all these things are so vitally important, and also transit, all of these critically important things to make our employment grow and to help us stay green.

Unfortunately, however, Madam Speaker, we still have 14 million Americans who are unemployed; and in the time that we have spent in this new Congress, we have not spent any time talking about job creation, green or otherwise. The time is now to focus on jobs. I implore the majority caucus to begin the dialogue about jobs because we haven't talked about it at all.

WHERE IS THE JOB CREATION AGENDA?

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

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my Republican friends a simple question: Where is the job creation agenda? In the first month of the 112th Congress, this body has not taken up a single piece of legislation that will create jobs and put Americans back to work.

Let's look at what we have done: H.R. 2, repeal protections of health insurance reform. Created no jobs. H.R. 359, eliminating public financing for Presidential campaigns. Created no jobs. H.R. 38, establishing a budget with no numbers. Created no jobs. H.R. 519 is on the floor today, to reduce our annual payment to the United Nations and go back into arrears. Again, creates no jobs.

Madam Speaker, my Republican friends claimed that job creation was their number one priority. The American people said loud and clear that job creation should be their number one priority. During the previous Congress we made that priority, which is why we are in the midst of 12 consecutive months of private sector job growth.

I ask my Republican friends to put aside ideology and join with the Democrats in making job creation their number one priority.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, House Democratic Leader:

FEBRUARY 8, 2011.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House, U.S. Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: Pursuant to section 803(a) of the Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Act (2 U.S.C. 803 (a)), I am pleased to appoint the

Honorable SHEILA JACKSON LEE of Texas to the Congressional Award Board.

Thank you for your consideration of this appointment.

Sincerely,

NANCY PELOSI,
House Democratic Leader.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, House Democratic Leader:

FEBRUARY 8, 2011.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House, U.S. Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: Pursuant to section 4(b) of House Resolution 5, 112th Congress, I am pleased to re-appoint the Honorable JAMES P. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts as Co-Chair of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission.

Thank you for your attention to this appointment.

Sincerely,

NANCY PELOSI,
House Democratic Leader.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, House Democratic Leader:

FEBRUARY 8, 2011.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House, U.S. Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 2081, I am pleased to re-appoint the Honorable MARCY KAPTUR of Ohio to the United States Capitol Preservation Commission.

Thank you for your attention to this appointment.

Sincerely,

NANCY PELOSI,
House Democratic Leader.

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 later today.

JOHN M. ROLL UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. DENHAM. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 188) to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 98 West First Street, Yuma, Arizona, as the "John M. Roll United States Courthouse".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 188

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

SECTION 1. JOHN M. ROLL UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The United States courthouse under construction, as of the date of enactment of this Act, at 98 West First Street, Yuma, Arizona, shall be known and designated as the "John M. Roll United States Courthouse".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "John M. Roll United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. DENHAM) and the gentlewoman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DENHAM. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 188.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, Senate bill 188 would designate the Federal courthouse currently under construction in Yuma, Arizona, as the John M. Roll United States Courthouse.

On January 8, our Nation suffered a horrendous tragedy. One of our colleagues, the gentlewoman from California, Representative GIFFORDS, was carrying out her duties meeting with her constituents in Tucson, Arizona, when a gunman shot 19 people, killing six. Among those killed that day was Judge John Roll, who was simply stopping by on his way back from attending Mass to say hi to his Congresswoman.

Judge Roll was chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona and was first appointed to the Federal bench by President George H.W. Bush in 1991.

His commitment to serving the public predated his appointment to Federal court. For nearly 40 years, he dedicated his life to public service and the law. Before becoming a Federal judge, Judge Roll was a judge on the Arizona Court of Appeals, serving as presiding judge and vice-chief judge. Earlier in his career, he was an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona. He also served the citizens of Arizona at the local level, first as a Tucson assistant attorney and later as the deputy county attorney in Pima County. It is fitting to honor Judge Roll in this way, given his reputation as a respected jurist and his service to the law.

Although we are honoring the life of Judge Roll through naming a Federal courthouse after him, we must also honor and remember the others who were killed and wounded that tragic day. Among those killed was one of