

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, House Republicans today are seeking to empower parents through the Empowering Parents Through Quality Charter Schools Act.

Charter schools are public schools created through a contract with an authorized agency or local school district. This bipartisan legislation encourages states to support the expansion and development of charter schools. It allows for successful charter school models to be duplicated. Finally, it accounts for an evaluation of the impact charter schools have on students, families, and communities. More importantly, it encourages the sharing of best practices between charter and traditional public schools.

Charter schools enable parents to have a more active role in their children's education. They pave the way for teachers to introduce fresh teaching methods while providing a viable option for students to escape from underperforming schools. This legislation is important to the educational needs of our Nation's families and children.

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

JOBS

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, American families are profoundly worried. Many have lost their jobs. They've seen college tuition rise, and watched their nest egg shrink. Unemployment is stuck at 9.1 percent. You can feel the pain.

That is why a jobs bill is so critical. And yet, after 9 months of the Republicans taking over the House, they haven't passed a single jobs bill. Instead, they voted 10 times against job creation plans. They passed bills that gut millions of American jobs.

And Governor Perry even attacked one of the few programs still keeping Americans afloat, calling Social Security "a Ponzi scheme," blaming seniors for defrauding younger generations.

Americans need more than empty promises. Tonight we will hear a proposal from the President. Let's work together to finally provide real solutions that will put people back to work and give them hope for the future.

AN AUTUMN GROWTH AGENDA

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, over the last months I've had the privilege to travel across the 14th Congressional District in Illinois. I've met with hundreds of my constituents at town hall meetings, coffee shops, diners, and in their workplaces. Over and over I heard the same concern about our economy and our Nation.

We talked about how to get our economy moving again, and many of my constituents are convinced that we must get government out of the way, cut spending, cut redtape, keep taxes low. They know, as I do, that government itself cannot create jobs. They know that the best thing we can do to help our economy is to create a pro-growth environment, reasonable regulations, fiscal sanity, and a cleaner, fairer Tax Code.

I'm pleased that that will be our agenda here in the House this fall, and I look forward to serving my constituents by giving our job creators the certainty they need to expand, hire, and get our economy moving again.

RESTARTING OUR ECONOMY

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, tonight the President will try, once again, to restart this economy. But the problem is not with the President or his policies. It's here with the House majority who will oppose whatever he proposes. They will say that we tried the stimulus and it didn't work. But one of the reasons why the economy is slowing down is that stimulus dollars are drying up.

They will say that we need to cut corporate tax rates. But corporate after-tax profits are at an all-time high. They will say that we need to deregulate the financial markets, but it was that kind of deregulation that put us into this mess in the first place.

What we need is the faith to invest in this country's future. There are \$2.2 trillion of infrastructure projects that need to be funded. Every billion dollars that goes into this country's infrastructure creates 47,500 more jobs and, in fact, generates \$6.2 billion of additional economic activity.

That's what we need to do. That will work. That will make our country stronger, will reduce the deficit and will put people back to work.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE LATE SERGEANT DARRELL CURLEY

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the memory of the late Sergeant Darrell Curley of the Navajo Police Department who, after 26 years of dedicated service, lost his life in the line of duty on June 25, 2011.

Sergeant Curley was killed in the line of fire responding to a call in his community, Kaibeto, where he lived with his wife, Pauline, and three children, Arielle, Bronte, and Derrick.

Sergeant Curley was a dependable public servant and an outstanding family man whose smile is remembered

warmly by those who knew him. He also was recently appointed to a position of leadership within his faith community, as second counselor in the Bishopric of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Kaibeto.

Sergeant Curley was a kind man who was always willing to do for others, dedicating his life to improving the safety and security of the people of the Navajo Reservation, where he was raised and lived his life.

It is outstanding individuals like Sergeant Curley that have the experience and courage to serve and protect our communities, as well as put their lives in danger for the safety of others. My thoughts and prayers are with Sergeant Curley's family, the Navajo Nation, and the broader northern Arizona law enforcement community for such an outstanding individual.

□ 1210

MAKE IT IN AMERICA

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

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, this summer I heard one message over and over as I visited my district: We need to create a jobs program to get our people back to work.

I was sent to Washington to work with anybody and everybody who's willing to put aside the partisan bickering and get the job done for Americans. Yet we wasted a tremendous amount of time this summer fighting over the debt ceiling and issues that had nothing to do with creating jobs in this country. Starting today, let's get back to work.

I've got to tell you, folks, I was also very offended when I was at an Akron "Congress on Your Corner," when a Marine held up a cap that said "United States Marine Corps" on the top and it was made in China. I've got an amazing company right back in my district, New Era Cap, that could have made that.

Let's get people back to work working in America. Make it in America. Let's get the job done.

JOBS

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, while working in Florida during August, I hosted two small business roundtables because I wanted to hear from my constituents on how the Federal Government can best help the small business community. Their message was loud and clear: Washington needs to get out of the way so small businesses can innovate, grow, and create desperately needed jobs.

Burdensome regulations, the crippling costs of Federal health care reform, and uncertainty surrounding the

Tax Code are holding businesses back from making crucial decisions.

Jeff, a constituent who owns a moving company, told me, "Gus, I have money in the bank. I'd love to do something with it, but I can't when everything is so uncertain."

Reducing unnecessary regulations and simplifying the Tax Code would help provide the certainty that business owners like Jeff need to make the decisions that drive the economy forward.

WORDS OF JOHN ADAMS

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. "I fear that in every assembly, members will obtain an influence by noise, not sense. By meanness, not greatness. By contracted hearts, not large souls."

Mr. Speaker, John Adams wrote those words to his wife over 200 years ago, but the same fear lives today. Congress is back in town and all anyone wants to know is when, not if, we will tear each other apart. I think we are better than that.

As we move into September and tonight's address, let's remember how John ended that letter to Abigail: "There must be decency and respect, and veneration introduced for persons of authority of every rank, or we are undone. In a popular government," wrote Adams, "this is our only way."

PLAN FOR AMERICA'S JOB CREATORS

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the seasons may be changing but our Nation's jobs crisis is not. With unemployment still at 9.1 percent and no measurable job growth in August, I'm glad to hear that this administration is ready to find common ground with Republicans to help create jobs.

But before he addresses the Nation tonight, the President should take a close look at our Plan for America's Job Creators and know that House Republicans have already paved the path to job growth for him.

So far this year, House Republicans have passed more than a dozen bills that do exactly what countless employers around the country are asking of Washington: Get out of the way so that our private sector can begin creating jobs again.

This fall, we'll continue to roll back job-killing regulations and rebuild long-term confidence for job creators. We all hope the President will join us in this effort.

RELIEF FOR HURRICANE IRENE VICTIMS

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

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, the scene to my right is a typical scene in Vermont. It's the result of the fury of Hurricane Irene. The damage to homeowners, to businesses, to the State infrastructure is immense.

This scene inflicted itself on 47 districts represented by Members of this House of Representatives. The fury of Irene was indiscriminate in who was on the receiving end of a very bad storm. That was an act of God. The relief will come as a result of an act of Congress.

Republicans represent Democrats in their districts; Democrats represent Republicans in our districts. We have a mutual responsibility to work together to get the tools back to those first responders, to those municipalities, to those volunteer firefighters who are doing the very hard work in each and every one of our districts to recover from Hurricane Irene.

Mr. Speaker, we had a meeting this morning of a coalition to fight for relief for Hurricane Irene. We're going to get the funds back to our first responders, to our municipalities and States, to our families so that they can get the job done.

JOB AND IMMIGRATION

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

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Speaker, this morning a "jobs now" protest and chant reverberated through the Rayburn House Office Building.

Per a 2009 study by the Pew Hispanic Center, 7.8 million illegal aliens hold jobs in America.

Mr. Speaker, there is a surefire way to create jobs now for American citizens: Evict all illegal aliens from America and immediately open up millions of jobs for American citizens. That also forces blue-collar wages up, helping American families afford and pursue the American Dream.

Unfortunately, the White House chases a different dream, a nightmare that pits unemployed Americans against illegal aliens in a competition for scarce jobs. The DREAM Act gives amnesty for millions of illegal aliens, thereby legitimizing illegal conduct and depriving American citizens of job opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, Congress and the White House must create jobs now for American citizens. We must fight for American citizens, not for illegal aliens.

WE NEED TO GET TO WORK

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, this August I was home holding town hall meetings, meeting with chambers, senior centers. The message was the same: Congress should stop the bickering, get to work, and get some results.

Coming back here, we've got a lot of work to do. We've got a budget that's going to expire at the end of this month, transportation and infrastructure which will expire, Federal aviation, small business, research and development, disaster relief—and, by the way, the post office is about to go bankrupt. Yet with all of these to-do items and 21 days left in this month, the leadership of this House has only scheduled 5 full working days. That is a schedule that would make Homer Simpson blush.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the leadership of this House to scrap that schedule, get us to work, get these issues done, create some certainty in this country and some confidence that Washington can get the job done and stop the lackadaisical do-nothing schedule which is leading this country totally without trust and confidence about whether or not we as a Nation can address the challenges facing us.

SHOOTINGS IN CARSON CITY, NEVADA

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

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 11 victims of the shooting in Carson City, Nevada, including five of my fellow National Guardsmen.

As a member of the Mississippi Army National Guard, I have the utmost respect for what these men and women do on a daily basis and the trials and tribulations that go along with being a citizen soldier. They risk danger and loss of life every time they put on the uniform. They should not have to face danger in their own backyards.

Unfortunately, the sacrifices that many of these soldiers and their families make for our country go largely unnoticed by many Americans. I hope that my colleagues in the House will join me in commending the work our National Guard does every day both here and overseas.

I hope for a quick recovery for all of those injured, and my thoughts and prayers go out to the families of the members that were killed by this senseless act of violence.

□ 1220

THE SUPERCOMMITTEE AND ITS GOAL OF SOLVING AMERICA'S FISCAL CRISIS

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, the supercommittee begins its work this week with the goal of setting a course for fiscal stability. We absolutely need to reduce the debt and deficit, but we need to do it in a responsible and balanced manner that supports and rebuilds the middle class.

Nobody is more patriotic and nobody knows more about sacrifice than brave