

Some have been dealing with this issue for more than 2 years without relief. Many are severely financially strained as they continue to have to pay the mortgage on the first home and then go out and find a second residence to live in and pay for both. Some have had their homes foreclosed on. Some have gone into bankruptcy. I have been in these homes. These people are hurting, our fellow American citizens.

And because our legal system is flawed, the manufacturers of the contaminated drywall that is coming from China are not being held accountable for a defective, dangerous product. Even if a judgment is made in favor of the homeowners, it can't be enforced.

That is not right. Homeowners' insurance and builders' insurance is not covering the damages. At the end of the day, who is left holding the bag? It's the owner of the home. This is not the American way.

Their finances are devastated, their credit ratings are ruined. Now I am working with a bipartisan group with my colleagues doing everything we can on the Contaminated Drywall Caucus to forge a better path for our fellow citizens.

We have had hearings, we have met with the Consumer Product Safety Commission, we have written letters to the President. We have asked for assistance from the United States Trade Representative, but it's not enough. We must, we must hold the Chinese manufacturers accountable for the defective products they shipped to our Nation and that fill our American homes.

So I call on the committees of jurisdiction to hold hearings, to investigate and move forward some practical solutions to this problem that is hurting so many of our neighbors.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BROOKS) is recognized for the remainder of the hour.

Mr. BROOKS. Madam Speaker, according to a 2009 study by the Pew Hispanic Center, 7.8 million illegal aliens hold jobs in America. Madam Speaker, there is a sure-fire way to create jobs now for American citizens: evict all illegal aliens from America and immediately open up millions of jobs for unemployed Americans.

The eviction of illegal aliens from America has the side benefit of eliminating the abundance of cheap, illegal alien labor which, in turn, forces blue color wages up, thus helping American families afford and pursue the American Dream.

□ 1930

Unfortunately, Madam Speaker, there are those in Washington who chase a different dream, a class warfare

nightmare, that pits unemployed Americans against illegal aliens in a competition for scarce jobs.

The White House and too many Members of Congress seek amnesty for millions of illegal aliens, thereby legitimizing criminal conduct and depriving American citizens of job opportunities.

Madam Speaker, Congress and the White House must create jobs now for American citizens. We can and must fight for American citizens, not turn our heads the other way, which gives illegal aliens preference over American citizens.

But the issue of illegal aliens is greater than just jobs and better incomes for American citizens. Illegal aliens crowd our hospital emergency rooms, delaying treatment for Americans and driving up health care costs because too many illegal aliens don't pay their bills. Too often, illegal aliens get free health care on the backs of our already stressed American taxpayers. Illegal aliens also do not produce enough in tax revenue to pay for our schools; yet illegal alien children overcrowd our schools, thereby reducing the quality of education for American children.

Illegal aliens commit horrendous crimes against American citizens, crimes that strain State and Federal judicial systems, police and sheriff departments, and prisons that are already overcrowded and in a financial crisis.

Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, in one of her last Supreme Court opinions, wrote in 2005 in *Medellin v. Drake*, that: "In 2003, over 56,000 noncitizens were held in State prisons. Noncitizens accounted for over 10 percent of the prison populations in California, New York, and Arizona. As of February 2005, 119 noncitizens from 31 nations were on State death row."

Madam Speaker, so that I am clear, let me emphasize that death row is not just for any kind of murderer. Death row is for murders where victims are tortured or raped before killed. Death row is for murders where multiple citizens are killed. In sum, death row is reserved for only the most heinous of murderers.

Hundreds if not thousands of Americans are dead today because the United States Government has been derelict in its duty to protect American citizens from illegal aliens.

For example, in my home of Madison County, Alabama, population roughly 300,000 people, we have had more American citizens killed or murdered by illegal aliens than we have had lost in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan combined. Madam Speaker, let me share with you a personal story that happens to have happened in Huntsville, Alabama. But, the truth be told, similar events have likely happened throughout America.

On April 17, 2009, a 19-year-old man in my hometown of Huntsville by the name of Tad Mattle was needlessly killed by an illegal alien who has since

been convicted of murder and sentenced to 15 years in prison, at a cost to Alabama taxpayers well into the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

So that we are clear about the illegal alien's conduct, he was drunk. He was wanted for crimes in several States. When he murdered Tad Mattle, he was fleeing the scene of yet another crime. What had Tad Mattle done wrong? Absolutely nothing.

Tad Mattle was driving home from a church social with his girlfriend. He was lawfully stopped at an intersection not far from my own home. After everything was said and done, at the end of an illegal alien crime spree, both Tad Mattle and his girlfriend were subject to force trauma and burned beyond recognition. Both died.

Why did this needless crime occur? Why were these two young person's lives snuffed out? Because our American Government has steadfastly failed and refused to protect American citizens from illegal aliens.

Madam Speaker, please let me share with you information about Tad Mattle, told in the words of his grieving father, Dan Mattle:

Tad Mattle was the first child of Dan and Terri Mattle, born on November 8, 1989, in Florissant, Missouri. Tad was very curious and enjoyed figuring out how things worked. Shortly after his parents installed safety locks on all of the cupboards, he figured them out and then taught his little brother how to defeat them.

He loved to play outside in the dirt and loved the water. He enjoyed trying different sports. More than anything, however, he loved building and creating. To the frustration of his parents, he would scatter Legos all over the floor as he created ships, starships, and airplanes. On family vacations, he reveled in the sand as he built sand castles. When he was 8 years old, he helped his father rebuild an engine on the family truck.

At age 9, Tad Mattle and his family moved back to Huntsville, Alabama. Being very social, he quickly made new friends at church and school.

In Cub Scouts, he achieved the Arrow of Light award. In his last year, he won the Pack Pinewood Derby Contest. In middle school, Tad joined the Boy Scouts and joined the school band as a percussionist. Tad thoroughly enjoyed making music, and he kept switching between first and second chair with one of his friends.

During a scout trip in this period, Tad went caving with his father. By the time he was 13, he was a qualified vertical caver. By age 14, he had achieved a prestigious award among the caving community by completing his "Vertical 8."

In high school, Tad Mattle became heavily involved in the marching and symphonic bands. In his last 2 years, he served as the percussion section leader.

Tad also pursued an advanced diploma by taking advanced placement science and math classes. In addition

to these activities, he continued serving the community through Boy Scout and church youth group service projects. With his troop, in which he served as a leader, he participated in many different activities.

On a Boy Scout troop hike on the Appalachian Trail, Tad helped maintain morale with his goofy sense of humor. Tad is especially remembered for his Julie Andrews impersonation as he skipped down a meadow on Siler Bald, wearing a 40-pound backpack, while the troop sang "The Sound of Music."

Tad was very excited when he became old enough to drive. He wanted his own car, so he took a job to earn money for it. He bought a neglected Toyota Supra that cost only \$475. He spent the next few months restoring it to running condition. In his junior year of high school, Tad took an auto body collision repair course and completely restored the body of that car. He was so proud on the day he brought it home from the paint booth. He took meticulous care of that car and never abused it because he did not want to destroy all of his hard work.

During his senior year of high school, Tad achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. For his Eagle leadership service project, he chose to rebuild a boat dock at the Madison County Boat Harbor on the Tennessee River. The original dock was a hazard to users due to warped, splintered, and rotten boards. Tad's leadership resulted in 190 man-hours of volunteer labor that saved the county thousands of dollars.

In 2008, Tad graduated from high school with an advanced diploma. His dream was to work in an auto body collision repair and open his own shop. As he worked the following summer and winter, he realized that an education would be necessary to fulfill his dream. Tad applied to the University of Alabama in Huntsville, and with his excellent top 1 percent ACT score of 32, he was quickly accepted. On April 14, 2009, just 3 days before his murder, Tad received a letter awarding him the UAH Presidential Full Scholarship which covered all tuition for his mechanical engineering degree. Tad was so excited as he read this letter to his parents that night.

Three days later, on April 17, his father's birthday, Tad attended a church social with his family and girlfriend. After the social, he and his girlfriend headed to her cousin's house to watch a movie. While stopped at a traffic light, Tad's car was rammed by a truck driven by a drunk illegal immigrant who was fleeing from the police. Tad and his girlfriend were killed instantly, which was a blessing because the impact ruptured the gas tank of the car. Tad had so meticulously restored and burned the two beyond recognition.

There were no skid marks from the drunken driver's vehicle, and accident investigations indicated the truck impacted between 67 and 72 miles per hour, almost double the legal speed limit. The illegal immigrant respon-

sible for this crash had seven different aliases, had four different DUI arrests, and was wanted by at least four other States for misdemeanors and felonies.

□ 1940

According to police records, he was to have been deported in 2001. Let me reread that part for emphasis. The illegal immigrant responsible for this crash had seven different aliases, had four prior DUI arrests, and was wanted by at least four other States for misdemeanors and felonies. According to police records, he was to have been deported in 2001.

Tad left behind a family that still mourns his loss. His brother and sister have dealt with depression, nightmares, and guilt. His mother still deals with days of depression. This loss was completely unnecessary but occurred because of a failure by the Federal Government to perform its duty to protect legal citizens' rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. As Tad's father, all I ask is that the government perform its Constitutional obligations to its citizens to prevent other families from experiencing this same nightmare.

Madam Speaker, Tad Mattle's tragic story is one of many that I could tell here today, and his story illustrates so clearly why the Federal Government must stop being derelict in its duty to ensure the safety and security of American citizens.

There are many Tad Mattles in America, each and every one of them victims of crimes that could have been prevented. In that vein, I introduced the Jobs for Americans Act. It empowers State and local governments to help the Federal Government by passing laws that identify illegal aliens, deter illegal aliens from entering the United States, apprehend illegal aliens, or encourage or otherwise cause illegal aliens to leave the United States.

States aren't asking for another Federal handout. They're asking for freedom from Federal interference. They're asking for the freedom to protect their citizens' lives and livelihoods. This act ensures that the Federal Government will appreciate, not punish, States that do the hard work of enforcing our laws.

Madam Speaker, when States like Arizona, Alabama, Georgia, and many others act to stop illegal aliens, they should be given letters of appreciation from Washington leaders for doing Washington's job. Instead, they receive lawsuits from the President's Justice Department. That is wrong. And the Justice Department's conduct will only victimize more American citizens.

Madam Speaker, my Jobs for Americans Act prevents these wasteful Justice Department lawsuits against States that are only trying to protect their citizens from illegal aliens and the Federal Government's dereliction of its duties.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting American jobs. The Jobs for Americans Act does just what

it says. It returns jobs to the American people. Its premise is simple. If the Federal Government won't do its job, it should get out of the way for States and those who will.

At this point, I yield to my good colleague from Alabama.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate the gentleman from Alabama, my colleague in the Fifth Congressional District, for organizing this tonight. We are all here tonight to discuss what America is facing, and that is a self-imposed security crisis.

The main concern is that it appears that the administration is ignoring its responsibility to enforce our Nation's immigration laws. For our security, economic well-being, and safety, immigration enforcement does matter.

Since the beginning of the current administration, we have seen decisions and policies that have denigrated immigration enforcement. It started with the identification of "priorities" where the Department of Homeland Security announced it would focus largely on removing only those aliens convicted of serious crimes.

More recently, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, as it is referred to, issued guidance directing broad use of prosecutorial discretion. Let me explain how that works. ICE agents locate a fugitive who has been ordered to be removed. The fugitive is arrested in his apartment where four other people are present. ICE agents ascertain that all these individuals are illegal aliens, though they do not have an actual criminal conviction. Pursuant to ICE priorities, these individuals would not be arrested.

This process on whether to prosecute or not was intended to be exercised on a case-by-case basis, not by front-line officers directed to ignore the law, but by supervisors and attorneys looking at the law and the facts of a particular case and considering humanitarian concerns or national security interests. Now, front-line agents and officers in the middle of an encounter are being asked to essentially conduct an on-the-spot investigation.

Under the administration's policy, front-line officers and agents don't have much of a choice but to ignore the law and leave the illegal alien behind, unless the alien is a fugitive or has an actual criminal conviction.

Not only do we have memos directing front-line officers to ignore illegal aliens under the current administration, but we have committees second-guessing decisions officers, attorneys, and judges make. The Department of Homeland Security set up a task force of outsiders to tell the Secretary whether this policy should include ignoring illegal aliens encountered at traffic stops and those who would have drunk driving violations. The Department is also establishing a committee to review all 400,000 immigration proceedings, including for aliens with final removal orders, to decide whether

these illegal aliens should actually be removed.

This is the problem, and it leads to cases like the one that my colleague from Alabama just talked about, Tad Mattle. The new policy, in effect, refuses to enforce immigration law until, and let me stress that, until a serious, perhaps violent crime, has been committed. If immigration law had been enforced, Tad's life may have been spared.

Today, more than ever, our Nation's fiscal resources are constrained. Despite that fact, this body has made immigration enforcement and homeland security a priority. Congress, under both Republican and Democrat leadership, has consistently provided ICE with funds above those funds they have requested, and that's to ensure strong enforcement and security. Funds the Department of Homeland Security received at the hand of this Chamber should not be used to blatantly ignore the law or for the implementation of flawed and reckless policies that provide backdoor amnesty.

These memos and committees may allow millions of illegal immigrants to remain in the United States in violation of existing law and regulation and compete with unemployed Americans and legal immigrants working for scarce jobs.

While the Federal Government seems to find loopholes to keep illegal aliens who pose public safety threats in this country, States like my home State of Alabama are being prosecuted for attempting to take this problem into their own hands. Alabama and other States burdened with these issues shouldn't have to worry about Federal intervention. Alabama was the fifth State in this country to adopt laws addressing illegal immigration. The legislature of Alabama and the Governor have opted to act. Instead, the administration has filed a judicial action. The administration should take this as a wake-up call, a bold reminder of the Federal Government's duty to protect each and every American from being the victim of crimes that can so easily be prevented. The Federal Government should be working with States to ensure the safety of all Americans.

This is not a time for partisan politics. This is a time for a robust, coordinated effort to guarantee the security of our citizens and to protect our Nation's borders.

I thank the gentleman from Alabama for yielding.

Mr. BROOKS. Madam Speaker, I next recognize the gentlelady from Tennessee, Congresswoman DIANE BLACK.

Mrs. BLACK. I thank the gentleman from Alabama for yielding.

Madam Speaker, the tragic death of Tad Mattle that took place in Huntsville, Alabama, on April 17, 2009, serves as a sad reminder of the broken immigration system that we have here in the United States. We see stories like this in our local newspapers and on our local and national news. They're re-

mindings that we have a serious illegal immigration problem in our country and the need to take action to secure our borders. As a member of the Immigration Reform Caucus, I believe that while we are a nation of immigrants, we are first and foremost a nation of laws. I'm a cosponsor of a number of comprehensive bills that would help combat illegal immigration. One bill, the CLEAR Act, would authorize State and local law enforcement to assist in the enforcement of the U.S. immigration laws, which means that they can investigate, apprehend, and transfer over to ICE officials illegal aliens in the United States.

□ 1950

Another bill that I'm cosponsoring goes after sanctuary cities, denying State Criminal Alien Assistance Program funding for any State or local government that has in place any law, policy, or procedure that breaks Federal immigration law.

The SAVE Act is another great bill. The SAVE Act would increase Border Patrol and investigative personnel, encourage recruitment of former military personnel and use of Department of Defense equipment, calls on the administration to develop a national strategy to secure our borders and, finally, directs authorities to check against terrorist watch lists those persons suspected of alien smuggling and smuggled individuals.

Defense of our country and securing our borders is one of the primary responsibilities of government, and I believe that those who enter this country illegally are not only breaking the law, but risking the very security of this country.

I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. BROOKS. Madam Speaker, I next recognize the gentleman from Georgia, Congressman ROB WOODALL.

Mr. WOODALL. I appreciate my friend from Alabama for yielding.

Candidly, I can't say it much better than my freshman colleague from Tennessee just did. We are a Nation of immigrants, and we are a Nation of laws. And my question is, When did it become so clear to everyone else that those things were in conflict with one another? Because when I look at it, it's not in conflict at all; in fact, it's in concert, in concert with one another.

It was hard to listen to the story that my friend from Alabama was telling because it's not a story that you only hear once. It's a story that you hear heartbroken families tell over and over and over again. It's a family in Alabama, it's a family in Georgia, it's a mom in South Carolina, and it's a grandmother from Indiana, and on and on and on.

What I want to know is, Who is it who's coming to defend that story tonight? Because I hear it in town hall meetings all the time, and I know my friend from Alabama hears the same thing: ROB, I want you to go up there and I want you to fight for what's

right, and I don't want you to compromise. Well, I don't want to compromise on principle. There is absolutely no principle I have that I'm interested in compromising on. But what I tell folks back home is there's common ground. There's common ground where no matter where you sit on the political spectrum you can see your way clear to this path forward.

What I want to know from my colleagues—and I wish there were more of them in the Chamber tonight—and, again, I'm grateful to my friend from Alabama for putting this hour together—but where are the folks who oppose enforcing the laws? Where are the folks who believe that legal immigration is what we don't want and illegal immigration is what we do want?

Where are the folks who believe that when criminals commit crimes, they're not supposed to be prosecuted? Where are those folks defending that? Because what I see in my part of the world—and I'm there in the northeastern suburbs of Atlanta—what I see in my part of the world are people who are proud of our history as an immigrant Nation and proud of our future as an immigrant Nation.

I tell folks all the time I don't worry that people want to come to America. I worry about the one day people don't want to come to America. What happens when they want to take their big brain and their hard work ethic and their entrepreneurial ideas and take it to China or take it to India or take it to Brazil? I worry about that.

We have so many challenges, as my friend from Alabama knows, in terms of restructuring our legal immigration process. I am heartbroken that we spend even a moment arguing amongst ourselves about the necessity of shutting down illegal immigration now—not tomorrow, not a week from tomorrow, not after the next election cycle, today.

Of the few things that the United States Constitution empowers the Federal Government to do, requires that the Federal Government do, enforcing our border security is one; and we don't do that well. We have so many conversations down here, as the Speaker knows, about all the things the Federal Government should stick its nose into, as if we're going to do those well. What about the one the Constitution requires us to do, which is secure our borders?

For me, the untalked-about victim in the illegal immigration debate is the legal immigrant. Have you ever been to a naturalization ceremony? Do you have any friends who have been naturalized, who have earned the right to be a United States citizen? Wow. Wow. It's tears, but it's tears of joy. I wish we were teaching the same thing to our young people in schools that we're teaching to our immigrants in their citizenship classes, who are developing this deep and abiding respect for the rule of law and the American way of life.

And the victim, when we turn a blind eye to illegal immigration, is the legal immigrant who does it all right because they're the victim of the animus that comes out of this debate. They're a victim of the sadness. In fact, I will tell you, the angriest people—again, I come from the Deep South. A lot of folks have a lot of stereotypes about how it is in the Deep South. But I will tell you, the angriest people in my part of the world about illegal immigration are not the ninth generation white guy; it's the legal immigrants.

Somebody stopped me the other day and they said, ROB, if you ever pass an amnesty bill—which we never will do, just to be clear, never, ever going to happen, not while I'm here in Congress—give me my money back. You can't give me my life back; you can't give me back all the years and years and years I worked and I waited on the list and I waited patiently in my home country until my number came up, you can't give me that back, but I want my money back because it wasn't cheap. It's not. Being a United States citizen is advanced citizenship. It requires great commitments, as it is a great opportunity; and we treat it in this country as if it's a nothing.

As my friend from Alabama knows, there's another bill, introduced by my friend from Iowa (Mr. KING), called the Birthright Citizenship Act—and I'm a cosponsor of that act—that goes back to the 14th Amendment. It goes back to that time in this country when we were struggling with our national identity and says those born in the United States, under the jurisdiction thereof, shall be United States citizens.

As you tell the story, I say to my friend from Alabama, of someone who has been convicted of crime after crime after crime, of someone who has warrants out for their arrest across the United States, of someone who hasn't yet found a single American law that they have chosen to obey, I tell you that person is not under the jurisdiction of the United States, and births that are associated with that person do not give rise to citizenship in the United States.

But the courts have said Congress just won't decide on this; Congress won't take a stand on this. Well, STEVE KING of Iowa said, yes, we will. And I was proud to join him on that to define what is the greatest gift we have in this country, and that's the gift of American citizenship. I was born with it, and I'm grateful for it every day of the week, but we treat it like it's nothing. And I will say to folks who think that it's nothing, go to one of these naturalization ceremonies. Talk to your friends and neighbors who have worked for it and earned it, and they will tell you that it's something.

And in the army that we're developing across America to come and stand strong on the issue of illegal immigration, the army that's forming across America to say we are proud that we're a Nation of immigrants, but

we're even more proud that we're a Nation of laws, that army is composed of legal immigrants of every stripe from coast to coast, from north to south. It makes me so proud because I think that's what America is all about.

I want to go back and say to the gentleman from Alabama, thank you for introducing the American Jobs Act. For folks who look those things up on TV, it's H.R. 2670, I believe; is that correct?

Mr. BROOKS. Yes.

Mr. WOODALL. Again, where are those folks? We're not talking about compromising our principles; we're talking about pursuing those things that are common ground. In this era of 10 percent unemployment, who are those folks who think that hard-working, taxpaying American citizens don't deserve that job first if they're willing to work for it? Who is that?

I'm sure that there has been an editorial or two in your local newspapers—if your newspapers are anything like mine—that have not reacted all that kindly to your decision to stand up and do what is right. But doing what's right is not always easy, and it's rarely appreciated in its time. It's often appreciated as history writes it. But who is it who believes that folks who have paid their taxes for a decade, who have been laid off in the middle part of their life, who can't afford to send their kids to college, who can't afford to buy medicine for their wife? Who are those people who believe that those folks don't deserve first crack at that job? First crack.

□ 2000

We have a legal immigration process in place in this country that will allow you to come here the right way, get a green card the right way, and apply for jobs just like everybody else. Folks do it. Do it, and I welcome you.

But in this era of unemployment, who are those folks who defend this practice of illegal labor? I will tell you, it's not just the folks who go to work. It's the folks who employ those folks who go to work. This is not about illegal immigrants alone. This is about those businesses that hire those illegal immigrants.

A crime is a crime here in this country. They're not all the heartbreaking crimes that my friend from Alabama has described, but they are crimes that have consequences. These are not victimless crimes. Illegal immigration is not a victimless crime.

The victim could be that American who can't find a job to support his kids and his family. The victim could be that school district that can't afford to sort out how those classes are going to go, that can't afford all the teachers, but has an increasing workload because of the children associated with illegal immigration today.

The victim could be that health care system that can't treat folks as they'd like to treat them, doesn't have enough money to deal with the community as

it is, and the burden keeps growing and growing and growing. It is not a victimless crime.

In terms of finding common ground, I looked at my friend ROB BISHOP's bill. ROB BISHOP is from Utah, and he's introduced H.R. 1505, the National Security and Federal Lands Act.

Now, the preposterous things that we discuss here in Washington, this is one. Look it up for yourself. H.R. 1505, what it does is it changes the law, changes the law so that Border Patrol agents can access areas of the border. Hear that. There is a bill in this Congress to change the law so that Border Patrol agents can get access to the border. 4.3 million acres of border designated wilderness along our southern border, and in those areas the Border Patrol can't use motorized vehicles, can't construct roads, can't even install security and communication apparatus. Hear that. Hear that.

The law of the land in America today is that the Border Patrol agents cannot patrol the borders. H.R. 1505 will change that, and I hope we'll pass that here.

I want to say finally to my friend from Alabama, you and I are both new here. I've only been here 9 months, and I'm learning something every day here. I was more than a little bit surprised when the administration came out and said, no, it's really not whether or not you're illegal; it's whether or not you're illegal and when we make our decisions about whether or not to deport you.

But what I learned in that conversation is that we have a backlog of deportations in this country. When we talk about funding priorities in this country, for the last 9 months I've been focusing on funding the Border Patrol. I thought what we needed were more boots on the ground, and I still believe we do. But what I have learned from the administration is we also need more bottoms in the seats in immigration courtrooms across this country. We may need more immigration judges. If we don't have enough people to process all the deportations that are in line, what we need is not to stop the deportations; what we need is to hire more people to process those deportations.

I tell you, I'm a small government conservative. You're not going to find many government programs that I want to come down here and spend money on. But again, the Constitution has given to you and me the responsibility of enforcing this part of the law, has given us the responsibility of securing our borders; and if what it takes to be successful is spending more money to hire more immigration court judges to fill more buses to comply with more of the law that is, in fact, the law of the land, then I'm prepared to do that.

I appreciate the administration, again, for educating me in that way, because I had no idea that we were so successful at identifying folks and we

just weren't successful at finishing that deportation process.

So I say to my friend from Alabama, again, I so much appreciate his leadership on this issue. I am a proud supporter of the Jobs for Americans Act. I look forward to bipartisan support on that act because, again, we're not talking about asking anyone to compromise their principles. We're asking people to celebrate that we are an immigrant nation and that we are a nation of laws. And I tell you, I don't want to live in a nation that is willing to give up on either one of those, and we don't have to.

I thank my friend.

Mr. BROOKS. Madam Speaker, I want to express my thanks for the eloquence of Congressmen ROB WOODALL of Georgia, DIANE BLACK of Tennessee, and ROBERT ADERHOLT of the State of Alabama.

I pray that the American people and Washington, D.C., will be mindful of the loss of Tad Mattle, the suffering of his family, and the sufferings of hundreds, if not thousands, of other Americans under similar, yet difficult, circumstances, all brought about because our Federal Government is derelict in its duty to protect American citizens from the conduct of illegal aliens.

With that, Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

AMERICAN JOBS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to discuss employment, or lack of employment here in the United States.

We just listened to a discussion about the problem, and certainly immigration is a piece of the problem. But in the whole totality of the extraordinary unemployment in the United States, it is but one piece. The solutions to the crisis that faces America and Americans is way beyond just the immigration policy.

I would hope that my colleagues from the Republican side would work towards a comprehensive immigration reform program, one that certainly will deal with the border and security on the border, although I think much of what was said earlier is overblown.

And dealing with deportations, I would point out that the current Obama administration has deported more people in the last year than in the entire 8 years of the Bush administration.

Much needs to be done. A comprehensive immigration policy needs to be put in place. But if it were in place today, the unemployment in this Nation would not be solved by that alone.

There is a solution that's at hand. There's an opportunity for this Congress to act immediately to bring back

American jobs, to put Americans back to work. It's the American Jobs Act.

A week ago, a little more than a week ago now, the President stood before a joint session of Congress here in this Chamber filled with Democrats, Republicans, Senators and Members of Congress, and he presented to us a comprehensive program to put Americans back to work. I want to discuss that tonight and also pick up the issue that he raised yesterday about how we do that, how we put Americans back to work and, in the next several years, bring the deficit under control and put America's financing back in shape.

It's the American Jobs Act, a very comprehensive proposal, a very bold proposal, and one that would actually, not by his estimate but by the estimate of independent economists, employ some 1½ to 2 million Americans immediately. And I'd like to tell you how that might come about if this House were to pass the legislation.

□ 2010

We know that for America to succeed both in the short term and the long term, it's not only about going back to work, it's also about critical investments.

Over the weekend, back in my district in California, the East Bay area of San Francisco Bay and up into the Central Valley, I had the opportunity to talk to teachers, teachers who were very concerned that given the financial situation in California, that they were going to be laid off, and generally it's the new, the young teacher that has only been there a little while that's given the pink slip and sent on down the road.

This is a personal issue in my family. My daughter and son-in-law are teachers, and their class size has already grown from 20, 21 to 34, 35 in the second-grade class. A very difficult teaching situation. Yet, more layoffs are likely to occur.

One of the fundamental investments that needs to be made in any society that wants to grow, that wants to prosper, that wants to have social justice is the education of the young, and in the case of the United States, with the extraordinary number of unemployed, some 12 million to 14 million, and underemployed, perhaps another 10 million, it's the reeducation of those that have already been in the workforce. So a key investment is education. In the American Jobs Act, the President has proposed a very strong, vibrant, and necessary program to keep teachers in the classroom and to bring teachers back into the classroom. He's proposed that we fund 280,000 teaching positions across this Nation. Now, that's a huge number of teachers, many of whom have already been laid off and did not arrive for this fall school year. We can put them back into a classroom as soon as this Congress and the Senate passes the American Jobs Act. It's about \$30 billion, \$35 billion to do this.

Is it money well spent? Well, if you want to consider investments in the

most critical of all the things that a Nation does, it's the education of their children. This is an enormous and the important factor in building the future of America and simultaneously putting people back to work.

When these teachers go back to work, that cycles money into the community. So the grocery store, the arts store, programs that require books and pamphlets and so forth, all of those things will begin to be circulating in our community.

So this is one of the key programs that the President has proposed, the American Jobs Act—fixing our schools, putting teachers back to work. And that is a critical investment.

If I might just put up another way of describing this.

If you really care about America, and you want to have a better America, then we simply have to invest in America. There are numerous ways we can do it. We talked about the education programs, and that's certainly one.

This is another one here that relates to education. I don't know if you can see this, but that's a young technician in a laboratory, perhaps in a hospital or quite possibly in a program, a new business like I saw in Davis, California. It's a biotechnology firm that actually produces herbicides and pesticides that are taken out—well, first discovered in the environment. These may be bugs, these are a fungus, these are bacteria that exist naturally in our environment that in one way or another kill bugs or kill unwanted plants.

So they're discovering these, they are then understanding the chemical, the biological nature of it, and then mass producing these biological pesticides and herbicides.

Two things they need. They will eventually go out with an IPO so they'll need capital, and that's another piece of what the President is proposing. But they also need technicians in the laboratory. In going through this particular lab, I said, How is your employment? The owner of it said, Well, we're at 90 employees now. We're 2 years, 3 years old, and we need to grow, but I can't find the technicians.

In the President's program there is a specific reeducation program that's available for young men and older men and women that want to learn a new technology, a new trade, and that's the technicians here, so that they can fill those four immediate openings that exist in Davis, California, for lab technicians.

Similarly, the community colleges will be able to receive the Pell Grants and the grants and loans for the first time ever to provide money so that these people can go to work.

There is yet one other program, and we'll get to the construction here in a little while as we go through this.

One of the key aspects of the President's jobs program is the fact that we have about 3 million, almost 4 million men and women who have served in the Iraq and Afghanistan theaters. Many of