

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give a voice to the voiceless victims of domestic violence.

I want to tell the story of one woman from my State of Illinois who endured years of abuse and called our State's Domestic Violence Help Line for help.

In her call, the woman explained that over the years she had suffered black eyes, broken and knocked out teeth, and broken bones. She said she couldn't take it anymore, but she couldn't leave because she feared her abuser would find her and kill her. She was suicidal and said she just needed to end it with the pills she had been collecting. Luckily, this woman reached out for help. 911 was called, and the help line staff stayed on the line with her until the paramedics arrived.

But, sadly, most women never report their abuse. And even for those who do find the strength to report, many are denied services, such as shelter, due to scarce resources. I speak today for those who cannot speak for themselves to say: We can end domestic violence; all we need is the will to do so.

MALE BREAST CANCER

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

Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the end of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, I want to address an often overlooked but important part of breast cancer awareness.

One percent of all breast cancer patients are men. In 2010, almost 1,970 new male breast cancer cases were reported. Although the current survival rate for women diagnosed with breast cancer is about 87 percent, the rate for men drops to 79 percent. The discrepancy is because many men don't think breast cancer can affect them. As such, they are often diagnosed after the cancer has developed into more advanced stages.

One of my constituents in Florida's Fifth District, Herb Wagner, is a 6-year male breast cancer survivor. After his diagnosis in 2005, Herb and his family founded A Man's Pink. The goal of A Man's Pink is to bring awareness to male breast cancer.

Early detection is crucial in fighting any type of cancer, and men need to be reminded that breast cancer does not just affect women.

For more information on male breast cancer, I encourage folks to learn about A Man's Pink. In the meantime, anybody with concerns should contact their doctor.

□ 1220

AMERICAN JOBS ACT

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

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it's been 294 days since the Republicans took control of the House. The party of no still refuses to put forward a clear jobs plan. They have put politics ahead of what is right for the American people.

Unemployment is near 17 percent in my district, one of the highest rates of foreclosure in the country. The American people in my district are hurting, and throughout the country.

Yet, instead of acting on a bold plan to create new jobs, Republicans have decided to protect tax cuts for millionaires and companies that ship jobs overseas. Now the Republicans in the Senate have said "no" to the American Jobs Act, even though it includes the same proposals that they have supported in the past.

And the Republican leaders in the Senate just called the proposal to help teachers, firefighters, and police officers stay on the job a "bailout." These public servants educate, and I state, educate our children and keep our streets safe. They deserve our support. They don't deserve more gridlock in Congress.

We can't wait. Let's pass the American Jobs Act now.

HOUSE REPUBLICAN JOBS PLAN

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

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, as part of the House Republicans Plan for America's Job Creators, we are working hard every day to fix the Obama economy. Last week the Senate stopped a bipartisan bill to permanently repeal the job-killing 3 percent withholding requirement for Federal payments to government contractors. This week, however, the House plans to eliminate this requirement, representing House Republicans' continuing commitment to remove barriers to job creation and eliminate excessive burdens on small businesses. These Main Street businesses are the backbones of our economy and American job creation.

As a former job creator, I know firsthand about the negative impacts of burdensome taxes and overreaching regulations. Although this withholding requirement is not scheduled to go into effect for another 15 months, it is already causing uncertainty for small businesses' operations and hiring plans.

For these reasons, Congress must act now. Permanently repealing this unreasonable withholding provision is another real world Main Street solution to provide more certainty for small businesses to grow and to create jobs again. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 674.

JOB CREATION

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, my home State of Rhode Island, like the

rest of the country, is facing a jobs crisis. The President put forth a comprehensive jobs bill which puts teachers, first responders, and construction workers to work and puts money in the pockets of American workers and employers so businesses will grow and add jobs. It also creates jobs by investing in America's schools.

On a recent visit to the Henry J. Winters Elementary School in Pawtucket, I saw firsthand what this jobs bill could do. I saw a leaking roof, broken windows in kindergarten classrooms, exposed wires. These are the kinds of repairs that we could make if we passed the Fix America's Schools Today Act, which I'm cosponsoring. This Act, like the President's jobs bill, will provide critical funding for vital repairs and renovations to Winters Elementary School and schools all across Rhode Island and our country.

Under the FAST Act, Rhode Island stands to receive more than \$98 million to invest in modernizing existing K-12 public school buildings and facilities at community colleges, putting more than 1,000 Rhode Islanders back to work now.

The Jobs Act would create jobs now. It would put money into the pockets of working Americans now. It would give businesses job-creating tax breaks now, and it would provide a boost to the economy now. That's why we need to take action now.

RETIRING CHIEF JOURNAL CLERK
PATRICIA MADSON

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, as I listen to my colleagues on both sides of the talk about the imperative of job creation and economic growth, I'd like to recognize a job well done. Forty-four years, 7 months, and 5 days is a long period of time, but that's the tenure of public service provided by our friend, the now Chief Journal Clerk, Trish Madson. She has worked for the Voice of America, the Departments of Agriculture and Transportation. She worked in the Minority Counsel Office under our former minority leader Bob Michel.

She is someone I got to know because her late mother was one of my constituents.

I would like to ask all of our colleagues to join in giving a round of applause and ovation to Trish Madson, who, after 44 years, 7 months, and 5 days, will be retiring today.

Mr. Speaker, I think we've consumed the entire 1 minute just applauding Trish, as it should be.

JOB CREATION

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

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, America was founded on the principle that everyone should get a shot at the American Dream. But with so much unemployment, so many mortgages underwater, so many people struggling just to get by, it's not surprising that half of all Americans think the American Dream is dead.

This Congress should be making job creation our top priority. But what has the majority in the House done to create jobs? Nothing.

What's even worse, every job proposal that President Obama has sent to this House has been met with a resounding "no." And what's their alternative? To do nothing.

Democrats have been working to pass legislation to grow this economy and create new jobs. After 42 weeks of doing nothing, it's time for the Republican majority to join us in giving the American people the jobs they need and deserve.

HOUSE REPUBLICAN JOBS PLAN

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, our colleagues on the other side of the aisle are welcome to their own opinions but not welcome to create the facts.

When the Democrats took over the Congress 4 years ago, almost 5 years ago now, the unemployment rate was 4.5 percent. It went to over 9 percent since they were in control.

The reason the President's so-called jobs bill has not been passed in this House is because the Democrats did not support it. It was introduced by request.

What Republicans have done, though, is focus on the task of creating jobs since day one of this session. And I'm glad that President Obama's talking about it too. We will work with the President when he comes up with ideas that work. But so far his proposals have not worked. Notice the stimulus bill that he asked us to pass that would not raise unemployment above 8 percent.

He wants to raise taxes on job creators, and all it will do is destroy private sector jobs.

A SIMPLE JOBS PLAN

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

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to propose a plan that is as simple as one, two, three.

Number one is getting back to basics and helping to create badly needed jobs. This economy will not grow unless we stimulate private sector job growth. It's time to drop the partisan bickering and focus on creating jobs and creating them now. Pass the President's jobs bill.

Number two is building up our infrastructure. Work on our roads and

trains is desperately needed to help America compete, and this badly needed repair work creates jobs that cannot be outsourced. We need to pass the transportation bill now.

Number three is embracing a bold and balanced vision and crafting a true bipartisan agreement in the super committee, one that cuts our deficits by trillions, invests and raises revenues, and creates jobs. No one is pretending it will be easy, but if we get back to basics it could be as easy as one, two, three.

MAIN STREET BANK CLOSES THREE BRANCHES

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last week I met with over a dozen community bankers in my congressional district. They are concerned for "the tsunami of regulations" coming out of Washington, D.C.

Now, these are not Wall Street bankers, these are small town bankers. They told me, "Washington regulators have their feet on the throats of small community banks who did not cause this economic downturn."

The real life consequences of Dodd-Frank on our community banks impact our local small businesses, our communities' job creators. The reason is simple: Paying more money to comply with complicated, costly, meaningless regulations means fewer loans out the door for small businesses.

Higher costs for compliance is why Main Street Bank in Kingwood, Texas will close three branches this week. It simply costs too much money to stay in the community banking business these days.

When community banks close there are fewer opportunities for small business owners to access capital. I often hear small business owners say they can't get loans. This is why. These are the real consequences of burdensome, costly, ineffective Federal regulations.

And that's just the way it is.

□ 1230

REPUBLICANS' REFUSAL TO ACT ON AMERICAN JOBS ACT

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because it has been nearly 11 months that this Republican-led House of Representatives has pursued a no-jobs agenda and simply complains about the protections that the American citizens receive.

The American Jobs Act will put teachers, firefighters, police officers, and construction workers back on the job; it will create job opportunities for returning American veterans; it will cut taxes and create financial growth

incentives for American businesses as well as provide much-needed job training and hiring programs for Americans that are currently looking for work.

Many provisions of the American Jobs Act have been strongly supported by Republicans in the past, but now, suddenly, they are against these ideas because they are being proposed by a Democratic President. This is the opposite of negotiation and compromise, and the American people do not have the patience for these antics instead of action.

I urge both parties of this House to work together and pass the American Jobs Act for the American people.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTOR WITHHOLDING REPEAL ACT

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today again in support of small business owners and builders all across the United States who will be harmed by a new tax withholding requirement by the Federal Government.

With unemployment at 9.1 percent and holding, we desperately need to come together to do all that we can to get our economy growing. But our economic recovery will not come from government growth. It will come from entrepreneurs, innovators, and small business owners who take risk, expand, hire new workers and create economic growth the old-fashioned way—in the private sector through hard work and free enterprise.

The imposition of a 3 percent withholding tax increase is the cost of doing business for our small business owners and therefore hurts job growth and the economic recovery. We cannot create jobs while punishing job creators. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 674, legislation that will remove this burdensome new tax requirement on our small businesses.

Mr. Speaker, we must come together as a Congress and do all that we can to promote legislation like this that will remove barriers to economic growth and get America back to work again.

FIRST RESPONDERS

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, just this past week, the country of Turkey, an ally of ours, experienced a devastating earthquake. Nearly 400 people, they believe, have died, and there's been great damage to the countryside. We've seen these disasters now in Japan and South America and other places. We've seen them in our country, too. We had problems last year.

Who comes to the aid of the people in Turkey whom we look out for as well and are concerned about? First responders, policemen, and firepeople.