

JOBS CAN'T GROW WHEN CASH FLOW SLOWS

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a topic that concerns most Americans at this time, and that's jobs. The House has opposed the administration when they have proposed hitting job creators with new taxes or more regulatory burdens. So far this year, the House has passed a total of 17 job-creating bills. This week, the House will vote on two jobs bills that will enable small businesses and entrepreneurs to access more capital to create more jobs. Jobs can't grow when the cash doesn't flow. Smarter regulation and fewer roadblocks to capital will help job creators put more Americans back to work.

We in Congress have the responsibility to give entrepreneurs and small business owners the business environment they need to unleash America's economic potential. That's what we were sent here to do, and that's what our constituents deserve.

ASSISTANCE FOR OUR VETERANS

(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, earlier this morning, I spoke on how glad I was that the Representative from Michigan's First District was able to take a tour of the city of Detroit and visit Mercy Primary Care Center. But when I visited that center, I was also appalled. I was appalled by what I saw and what I heard—that our veterans from metro Detroit, our veterans, young men and women who risked their lives, their physical and mental health for our country, who went overseas and came back home to face only no prospect of employment, no income to even provide them with decent shelter, little access to mental health and substance abuse treatment. So as a result, folks that we should be revering as heroes ended up on the streets of Detroit, living like animals. No one deserves to live that way in this country.

So right now, I'm asking this Congress, instead of just focusing on cutting everything and cutting programs and funding initiatives, let's help put people back to work. Let's provide them with mental health and substance abuse treatment and give them the dignity that every American deserves.

FLOOD PROTECTION FOR THE MISSOURI RIVER BASIN

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

Mr. BERG. Mr. Speaker, North Dakota has experienced devastating and

unprecedented flooding this year. To provide additional flood control storage, our State requested that the Corps lower the water levels in Lake Sakakawea. This could help prevent a repeat of this year's flooding. Last night, the Corps denied our State's request. I strongly disagree with this decision.

The people of North Dakota are more than just frustrated. They have lost so much to flooding, and they deserve more say in the Corps management of the water levels. I have called on the Corps to testify before Congress on what went wrong this last spring, and I will continue to press for an honest conversation about the Missouri River Basin's flood protection. The Corps should do everything within its power to prevent another devastating flood next spring. Unfortunately, this recent decision suggests that the Corps is continuing forward with the same management plan that failed so badly this spring. Things need to change now before the people of North Dakota and other Missouri River States are faced with another devastating loss.

FINDING COMMON GROUND

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, this week at the University of Louisville's McConnell Center, the Speaker of the House gave a speech on the need to find common ground, but without compromise. We've been testing the wisdom of this approach all this year. Here's what we've gotten: stalemate, manufactured crises, and an inability to act on behalf of the American people.

In a government as polarized as this, insisting on common ground while refusing to compromise is maybe the best way to guarantee that 90 percent of our Nation's problems go unsolved. Not coincidentally, that's the same percentage of Americans who disapprove of this Congress and its ongoing search for a hidden, preexisting common ground.

I encourage the Speaker to hear the people out on this. They know the solutions which we've already agreed are the easy ones, and they didn't elect us to make easy decisions. They elected us to solve difficult problems. In other words, to lead. Real leaders don't just look for common ground. They create it. Our country was formed through compromise and has been strengthened by it for more than 200 years. Until Republicans provide leadership that values results over ideology and economic progress over antitax pledges, this Congress will continue to fail America.

REPUBLICAN NO-JOBS AGENDA

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

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, it has been 43 weeks since Republicans took con-

trol of the House, and we have had 817 recorded votes, yet they have failed to pass a single bill to create jobs. In turn, they have actually voted against, blocked, or ignored an array of job-creating proposals, including the American Jobs Act as well as segments of the American Jobs Act.

There are 14 million Americans out of work that are counting on Congress to pass legislation that creates jobs and improves the American economy. The American Jobs Act will create and preserve jobs now, put money back into the pockets of working Americans now, and give businesses job-creating tax breaks now. Unfortunately, the majority is continuing a no-jobs agenda by refusing to hold a vote on the American Jobs Act. The House majority will not even follow the Senate's lead by bringing job-creating components of the bill, like the provision that preserves jobs for teachers and first responders, up for a vote. Mr. Speaker, we must act now to establish confidence in our economy, and the American Jobs Act is one way to achieve that goal.

□ 1220

LATINO VETERANS

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 70th anniversary of World War II and to commemorate the service of Hispanic Americans who served in World War II and in all wars, and to commemorate our Latino veterans across America.

During World War II, 500,000 Americans of Hispanic ancestry courageously answered our Nation's call, including Latinos such as Ted Williams, Manuel Ortiz, Maria Dolores Hernandez, Jose Limon, Desi Arnaz, Cesar Chavez, and Guy Gabaldon.

The Hispanic American soldiers fought with integrity and bravery, earning 126 Distinguished Service Crosses, over 1,400 Silver Stars, and 2,807 Bronze Stars for valor. They earned these medals sacrificing their lives and blood to preserve the United States and freedom around the world. Through the war, over 12,000 Latinos were awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat; 2,561 Latinos were prisoners of war; and 9,831 Latinos were killed in action.

Because of their record of service, Mr. Speaker, I introduced H. Res. 404, which recognizes the service and the sacrifice of the members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are Latino; and I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

I wish to remember these war heroes and the stalwart and selfless service of Latinos in military history 70 years after World War II.

A NO-JOBS AGENDA FROM A NO-SHOW REPUBLICAN CONGRESS

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, here we are 43 weeks into the current Congress since the Republicans took control of the House, and yet we have failed to pass a single bill to create jobs. Fourteen million Americans without jobs, many millions more are underemployed, worried about where their next paycheck is coming from. And yet the majority has continued to block and ignore a number of job-creating proposals advanced by Democrats, including the American Jobs Act. I renew my call for Speaker BOEHNER to bring the American Jobs Act to the House floor and allow the House to work its will to create jobs for the American people.

The majority party will respond that there are a number of bills, but just by calling a bill a jobs bill doesn't make it one, such as bills that would increase childhood asthma and make people of all ages more ill by preventing our EPA from enforcing its clean water standards. The Dirty Water Act, again, instead of creating jobs, the bill undermines the Clean Water Act. It's not a zero sum game. And by damaging our environment and making people sick, we're not creating jobs.

I call upon the House of Representatives to pass jobs bills now.

AMERICAN JOBS ACT

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

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, across the country, 14 million Americans, I state, 14 million Americans are looking for work. And yet there are no jobs that have been created, and the Republicans still don't have a jobs plan.

In my congressional district in San Bernardino County, the unemployment rate is 17 percent. People throughout our country are hurting. They're hurting. They can't wait any longer for Congress to do the job. We must bring the American Jobs Act for a vote. It will provide an opportunity to put people to work.

It contains bipartisan ideas. It puts our teachers, firefighters, first responders, and cops back to work. It provides tax cuts that will help small businesses create new jobs. It puts our veterans and returning troops back to work with a tax credit and provides an immediate boost to our economy.

Republicans have supported all of these ideas in the past. It's time they support them again. We must work together and pass the American Jobs Act.

HOUSE REPUBLICAN JOBS PLAN

(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, our economy cannot recover without tapping into the unlimited creative talents of the American people. Innovators and entrepreneurs all across the country are primed to be the spark that ignites the economic engine of America, putting millions of Americans back to work. But these bright job creators face many government-made obstacles to success.

In our free enterprise system, access to private capital and investment is the lifeblood of our economy. With the threat of higher taxes on investment income and new financial regulations on community banks, it's no wonder that these small business owners aren't expanding or creating jobs. H.R. 2930 and H.R. 2940 are two bills that remove government barriers to economic growth by helping American businesses gain access to the vital investment capital they need to create jobs and grow the economy.

Mr. Speaker, together we can pass legislation that will unleash the energy and talents of the American people and restore the prosperity and promise of the United States of America.

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.

CIVILIAN SERVICE RECOGNITION ACT OF 2011

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2061) to authorize the presentation of a United States flag at the funeral of Federal civilian employees who are killed while performing official duties or because of their status as a Federal employee, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2061

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Civilian Service Recognition Act of 2011".

SEC. 2. PRESENTATION OF UNITED STATES FLAG ON BEHALF OF FEDERAL CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES WHO DIE OF INJURIES IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR EMPLOYMENT.

(a) *PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.*—Upon receipt of a request under subsection (b), the head of an executive agency may pay the expenses incident to the presentation of a flag of the United States for an individual who—

(1) *was an employee of the agency; and*
(2) *dies of injuries incurred in connection with such individual's employment with the Federal government.*

(b) *REQUEST FOR FLAG.*—The head of an executive agency may furnish a flag for a deceased employee described in subsection (a) upon the request of—

(1) *the employee's next of kin; or*

(2) *if no request is received from the next of kin, an individual other than the next of kin as determined by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management.*

(c) *CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.*—The head of an executive agency may disclose information necessary to show that a deceased individual is an employee described in subsection (a) to the extent that such information is not classified and to the extent that such disclosure does not endanger the national security of the United States.

(d) *EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION OF FLAG BENEFIT.*—The head of an executive agency shall provide appropriate notice to employees of the agency of the flag benefit provided for under this section.

(e) *REGULATIONS.*—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security, may prescribe regulations to implement this section. Any such regulations shall provide for the head of an executive agency to consider the conditions and circumstances surrounding the death of an employee and nature of the service of the employee.

(f) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

(1) *EMPLOYEE.*—The term "employee" has the meaning given that term in section 2105 of title 5, United States Code, and includes—

(A) *individuals who perform volunteer services at the discretion of the head of an executive agency; and*

(B) *an officer or employee of the United States Postal Service or of the Postal Regulatory Commission.*

(2) *EXECUTIVE AGENCY.*—The term "executive agency" has the meaning given that term in section 105 of title 5, United States Code, and includes the United States Postal Service and the Postal Regulatory Commission.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 2061, the Civilian Service Recognition Act of 2011, was introduced by the gentleman from New York (Mr. HANNA) on May 31 of this year. H.R. 2061 enjoys the support of 21 cosponsors on both sides of the aisle, and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform reported this bill by voice vote on June 22 of this year.

Mr. Speaker, each year a small number of Federal civilian employees tragically lose their lives as a result of the duties they pledged to fulfill. Sadly, nearly 3,000 Federal civilian workers have died on the job since 1992.

Many civilian employees are veterans and thus are entitled to military