

are destroyed by a lack of knowledge, if you turn that around, think about it, we're not destroyed with knowledge.

Then you go on in Hosea 4:6, God says He's going to ignore our children, He's going to reject our children. The future of this Nation depends upon we the people standing firm and saying we're not going to put up with this anymore. We're going to go back to the original intent. We're going to do the hard work of knowing what our Founding Fathers said. We're going to do the hard work of demanding of our elected representatives that they stand by the principles, the foundations that have made this country so great, so powerful, so successful.

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There are many Members of this body that need to feel the heat. There are many of the people in this body that need to see the door because they don't stand on the Constitution, they don't uphold the oath of office, they don't do what they have promised their constituents and the American people that they're going to do.

There are judges all over this country, Federal judges, that need to be impeached and removed from office because they're not upholding the Constitution. They're not defending the Constitution. They're not doing what they promised that they would do. They're violating their oath of office.

It has to stop, and the only way we're going to stop it is for we the people to stand up and say, no more. We're not going to elect anybody who's not going to uphold the Constitution in its original intent. We've got to get the hard work done of restoring those six principles, the six principles that have upheld that bright shining star of liberty over this country for so long.

And I'm excited because we see grass roots all over this country beginning to rise up. We see a sleeping giant that's beginning to wake up and stretch its arms and legs and beginning to walk. The press calls it the Tea Party. Well, there's not a Tea Party. There are many tea parties. There's FreedomWorks, there's Americans for Prosperity. There are groups, grass-roots groups like the NRA and Gun Owners of America and Right to Work and other groups that believe in the Constitution.

We're beginning to see the sleeping giant of we the people waking up. It's time to not only wake up and stretch our arms and legs and to walk, but we've got to run. We've got to do the hard work of re-establishing liberty in this country.

We're losing our liberty, friends, and we're going to lose it all. We're standing on that precipice staring down in that deep, dark chasm of socialism. Are we going to allow ourselves to be pushed off by courts, by Congresses, by Presidents, Democrats and Republicans alike?

Or are we going to turn around as a people and demand liberty and start

marching up that hill of liberty? It's going to be a mountain climb, but we can do it.

I'm excited because I see that great sleeping giant, the most powerful political force in America, embodied in those first three words of the U.S. Constitution, We the People. Our Founding Fathers believed in we the people. That's the reason, when they wrote the document they put the letters in such large script, much, much larger, probably four or five times larger than the rest of the text in the document, because we the people is the key, that force of we the people.

So the question I have to ask today, Are we going to jump or be forced down into that deep, dark chasm of socialism, or are we going to be a free people? Are we going to demand the liberty?

It's up to each and every freedom-loving citizen in this country today to demand a different kind of governance. I believe we can do it, I believe we will do it because we the people love liberty in America. And I'm trusting in we the people to do the right thing and demand constitutional limited government at all levels.

God bless you, and God bless America.

I yield back the balance of my time.

#### THE CRITICAL ROLE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN SUPPORTING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, last year, when I was chair of the Joint Economic Committee, we held a hearing on the pivotal role of government investment in basic research. We found that basic research spurs exactly the kind of innovations that business leaders, academics and policymakers have all identified as critical for our Nation's economic growth.

But we also found that the private sector tends to underfund basic research because it is undertaken with no specific commercial applications in mind. Businesses, understandably, concentrate their research and development spending on the development of products and processes that may have direct commercial value.

A report produced by the Joint Economic Committee showed that the Federal Government funds almost 60 percent of basic research in the U.S. and highlighted one study that estimated that actual R&D expenditures in the United States may be less than half of what the optimal levels would be.

We are now engaged in an important national debate about how much and where to cut Federal spending. And I wish to make the case for how reckless and shortsighted it would be to cut

into the budget lines that fund the kind of vital, basic research that led to discovery, innovation, and economic growth, because doing so would be, as that bit of old folk wisdom goes, like cutting off our nose to spite our face.

Take the budget for the National Institutes of Health, for example. The NIH strongly supports the kind of basic scientific research that may not be directly useful in creating practical products yet, but it's precisely this kind of research that can lead to the future development of new and undreamed of biotech and pharmaceutical advances. It is work that can lead to the kind of advances that will allow the establishment of new products, grow new businesses, and produce private sector jobs.

Studies have shown that the money we spend supporting such scientific research is one of the best investments our country can make. For instance, out in Los Angeles, UCLA generates almost \$15 in economic activity for every taxpayer dollar that it invests, resulting in a \$9.33 billion, with a B, impact on the Los Angeles region.

In Houston, Texas, the estimated economic impact of Baylor is more than \$358 million, generating more than 3,000 jobs.

In my own district in New York, Dr. Samie Jaffrey, a pharmacologist and faculty member at Weill Cornell Medical College, has just recently developed a promising new technology for studying RNA in cells and has just started a biotech company, all with NIH support.

Time and time again, basic research has been a game changer and an economic incubator. Take the biotechnology company Genentech as an example. It was founded on discoveries that were made within our universities, and those discoveries were made with financial support of grants from the National Institutes of Health. And those Federal funds proved to be a very good investment.

Genentech has created over 11,000 jobs, and the company created products that have had major effects on the health and economic well-being of our Nation. Genentech developed drugs that treat certain leukemias and arthritis and breast cancer.

NIH-funded research has also had a major impact on the lives of those suffering from multiple sclerosis. MS is a painful, painful disease that often strikes young women with children. Thanks to NIH research, drugs have been developed that are now in the marketplace that mean MS patients now live longer and have higher quality lives.

Since 1970, over 150 new FDA-approved drugs and vaccines or new indications for existing drugs have been discovered in university laboratories, most funded by NIH. And millions of Americans are hoping that somewhere, just over the horizon, there will be new discoveries and new breakthroughs leading to more effective treatments

for cancer, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, AIDS, autism, bacteria, ADHA, schizophrenia, depression and much more.

□ 1520

But treating these and other diseases will depend on discoveries yet to be made. Discoveries of basic science. Discoveries that can only be made with Federal funding and the work of agencies like the NIH. I suspect that to some this might just sound like pie in the sky.

But just think back into our not too distant past. Think back to the polio of the 1950s, to the children who were crippled and to the patients in iron lungs. Think about 30 years ago, when almost all the children who were diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma were not expected to live more than 5 years. Think back to the time when AIDS was the equivalent of a death sentence. Polio is now eradicated. The 5-year survival rate for NHL is over 84 percent, and AIDS is treatable, survivable.

This is all because of basic research, much of which was funded by the NIH. Because of the basic research we have funded and made possible. Because of our past investments in our Nation's future. The Founding Fathers had the wisdom and the foresight to write into the Constitution a role for the Federal Government in promoting the progress of science and useful arts. If we are to remain competitive in the global economy, if we hope to remain a leader in biotechnology, if we hope to continue to advance the world's understanding and treatment of diseases such as cancer and Alzheimer's disease, we must continue to invest in the basic research and in the dedicated young scientists who make it all possible.

I yield back the balance of my time.

#### THANKSGIVING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Even though this body is composed of a lot of people who have a lot of different political steadfast beliefs, it is still an honor and pleasure to serve with friends like CAROLYN MALONEY.

So it is an honor to serve, and even though we disagree sometimes on the way we get to the end, I know that, for example, Mrs. MALONEY's heart is always in the right place.

It is a pleasure to serve with her.

Mrs. MALONEY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GOHMERT. Certainly.

Mrs. MALONEY. I would like to thank you for that very kind statement, and I look forward to finding common ground on things we can agree on and work to help the economy and growth of this great Nation, and I hope you can help and support the funding

of NIH and basic research which has been so helpful to your great State and your great universities and scientists.

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you. I certainly appreciate my friend from New York.

There are some areas of research that if the Federal Government doesn't do it, it's not going to get done, and I'm sure there are areas we can certainly agree on.

#### BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. I wish I were coming to the floor just full of excitement because we had a vote today on the balanced budget amendment. I came to Congress nearly 7 years ago believing we needed a balanced budget amendment, knowing that Thomas Jefferson regretted not having one, that Ronald Reagan wished there had been one. But since I have been in this body, it has become abundantly clear that this body is more likely to have the will to raise taxes than it is to cut spending.

I came here not believing that that was the case. But after we added over 80 fantastic freshmen coming up here with the right motivation, wanting to get our fiscal House in order, knowing that we went from 2006, when we were last in the majority before this year, when we spent \$160 billion or so over what we took in, and then, because we didn't have our fiscal house in order as the Republican majority, it's my belief that's the reason, the biggest reason, actually, that the public turned over the reins to our Democratic friends. We haven't done a good job of avoiding overspending.

But also in 2006, November, when we lost the majority, I would never have believed that we would go from a time when we were spending \$160 billion more than we were bringing into the Treasury in just a few short years to spending a trillion dollars more than we were bringing into the Treasury. That was just unfathomable. And it appeared very clear that after a year ago, when the majority—we were in the minority at the time—made a pledge, we were going to return to pre-bailout, pre-stimulus spending, and in the first year, we pledged we would cut \$100 billion.

And here we are, we have just at the end of September finished the fiscal year of 2011, and we really didn't make any cuts. The jury's out. Initially we were told we may save \$27 billion over the year before. It is just chicken feed when you're bringing in \$2.2 trillion or \$2.3 trillion and you're spending about \$1.3 trillion more than that, \$3.6 trillion, \$3.7 trillion. And all we could find to cut was \$27 billion?

Then we have had more recent word that we may not even save that much. Some have told me that actually we may have spent just a hair more than we did.

So it became abundantly clear to me, and I know that my friend, Chairman PAUL RYAN, voted against the balanced budget amendment because he knew it ought to have more restraint on spend-

ing in there, a spending cap. And Mr. AMASH, I haven't talked to him about his reasons for voting no, and Mr. DREIER, who doesn't believe we should have one at all.

It's really not fun not voting with the people that you serve with, that you're in the same party with. You share so much in the way of common experiences. Because I am a strong advocate for a balanced budget amendment.

But the bill on the floor today did not have a spending cap. This past year, we had just witnessed the largest wave election since the 1930s. And all of the over 80 new freshmen came forward with one central charge: stop the wasteful government spending.

Following a pledge to make massive cuts in spending, it really appears that Congress finds it easier to talk about "new revenue" which is just code for more taxes, than to cut spending.

It doesn't live up to the pledge that we made.

We made a pledge to the American people to restrain government and to get our fiscal house in order. And we should be doing it. Eleven months into this majority, we should have made more progress than we have.

President Obama has ramped up spending with the help of former Speaker PELOSI, Leader REID, both majorities in the Houses when they were Democrats, by over an additional trillion dollars. It's far more than the Democratic Congress increased the debt under President Bush in 2007 and 2008.

□ 1530

It just is mind-boggling that we could not find enough Members to return even to the liberal Democratic spending of 2007 or 2008. It's clear that, if we had passed a balanced budget amendment without at least having a spending cap, then future Congresses would use the requirement of a balanced budget to increase taxes in order to balance the budget.

We are already at a point at which almost 50 percent of the American public is not paying income tax. We are on the threshold of arriving at that point beyond which no representative societies have ever been able to come back to greatness. When one more than half who is voting is receiving more from the government than they're putting in, you're done. You're doomed. It's over. All that's left is the slow walking and the low talking, but you're virtually at the end.

And we are getting close.

On Wednesday, the national debt exceeded \$15 trillion, which left the United States with one of the highest public debt-to-GDP ratios in the world. This \$15 trillion mark further enhances the uncertainty that is thwarting our economy from moving ahead. It's apparent America is on a route headed for ruin, and if we continue to spend more money that we don't have, we will arrive at that destination.