

and 4 months. Finding a job these days is just about impossible. I am writing to you to beg you to please sign on to the unemployment extension bill.

From Westford: I have been unemployed since January of 2010. I look for a job every waking hour. Cutting unemployment to millions of needy families at this time makes no sense.

From Haverhill: If my unemployment ends, I will be unable to make my mortgage payments. Then my home will go into foreclosure and my neighbors' home values will be depreciated. This is truly a ripple effect. Please don't be penny wise and pound foolish.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to work to pass this desperately needed extension.

#### HELP OUR ECONOMY GROW

(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, the American people are calling on government to help the economy grow, but apparently Washington still hasn't gotten the message. The onslaught of new government burdens on the economy have become unbearable; yet Federal regulators pile on more and more. So far this week alone, the Federal Register has over 1,799 pages of new rules and regulations facing our Nation's small business owners.

Mr. Speaker, complex and burdensome regulations drive up the cost of doing business and, therefore, drive up unemployment. A great example is the EPA's new Cross State Air Pollution Rule. This rule, to be imposed by January 1, will not only cause rolling brownouts in places like Kansas, but will dramatically drive up the cost of energy production, increasing the costs of doing business and, therefore, putting more people out of work.

Mr. Speaker, if both parties are serious about job creation in this country, then we must put a stop to the constant attacks on those who create jobs.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF DR. MILTON GORDON

(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, today I rise to honor the president of California State University at Fullerton, Dr. Milton Gordon, and to recognize his upcoming retirement.

For over two decades, Dr. Gordon's outstanding commitment to higher education has let California State University at Fullerton become one of the largest and one of the most inclusive institutions in our Nation. Because of Dr. Gordon's vision and commitment for greater cultural diversity in higher education, the university currently ranks ninth in the Nation in bachelor's

degrees awarded to minority students. And additionally, it ranks number one in California among colleges and universities awarding bachelor's degrees to Hispanics.

Dr. Gordon's caring, articulate, and collegial nature created a sense of pride among the faculty, the staff and students advocating for excellence in all aspects of university life.

It has been an honor for me to work with Dr. Gordon. He has been a mentor; he has been a shining light in Orange County. And I congratulate him on all his awards and distinctions, and I look forward to his next career. We hope to reel him in to continue to work on our community. Thank you, Dr. Gordon.

#### THE SILENT EPIDEMIC OF FOOD INSECURITY AND HUNGER

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring attention to a silent epidemic growing in our midst. Right alongside long-term unemployment, the increases in poverty and food prices, homelessness and the steep decline in household incomes is now the shocking rate of food insecurity and hunger.

According to the USDA, there are 46 million Americans surviving on food stamps. While Congress considers reductions to food stamp funding, the USDA predicts that the number of people requiring food assistance will substantially increase.

Last week, in my district in North Carolina, which ranks second in the country for food insecurity, I greeted thousands of people lined up outside of the Wilson OIC and the food bank of the Albemarle food distribution centers to collect bags of food for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Mr. Speaker, to help remedy the challenges to food security, I introduced H.R. 3437, the Eva Clayton Fellows Program Act. This legislation would enable the development of solutions to world hunger and confront food insecurity head on.

Food insecurity is not a partisan issue. I urge my colleagues to join me in this fight.

#### IN HONOR OF NANCY COOK'S SERVICE TO DELAWARE

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

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable woman and to honor her decades of service to the State of Delaware. Former State Senator Nancy Cook has been a leader in strengthening Delaware agriculture and our economy for the past 40 years.

Senator Cook has been an irreplaceable leader since becoming Delaware's first female Democratic senator in 1974. For 36 years, Senator Cook served with

distinction on the Senate Agriculture Committee, where she accomplished so much for Delaware farmers. Recently, a legislator remarked that agriculture had no better friend in the Delaware Senate than this lady, and I couldn't agree more.

In 1991 Senator Cook helped create the Aglands Preservation Program, which has preserved over 20 percent of Delaware's farm land. In 1999 she helped establish Delaware's landmark Nutrient Management Program. The program is now a role model for the entire region in the effort to manage animal waste responsibly and protect precious bays and waterways.

I would like to thank the Delaware Farm Bureau for its decision to honor Senator Cook with the Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award, and to join the bureau in celebrating an incredible leader for Delaware.

Congratulations to my good friend, Senator Cook.

#### STOP STALLING ON THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

(Mr. PRICE of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, opponents of financial regulatory reform in the Senate continue to prevent the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau from fulfilling its legislative mandate.

The CFPB has been open since July 21, but it's taken 3 months for the Senate Banking Committee to advance President Obama's nominee for the director of the bureau, Richard Cordray, to the full Senate. Now, continuing their strategy of partisan obstructionism, 44 Republican Senators have pledged to oppose any Presidential appointee for the CFPB, until the bureau's mandate is weakened.

Such naked obstructionism is a disservice to American consumers and the American economy, which is in bad need of certainty after a year of artificial crises fomented by the Tea Party-dominated Republican Party.

The American people are sick of a dysfunctional Congress. We need the CFPB at full strength to move our economy forward, protect borrowers and consumers, and promote the interests of Main Street over Wall Street.

I call on the Senate to confirm Richard Cordray as director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau now.

□ 1230

#### REPUBLICAN'S FEAR OF DR. BERWICK

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow's a sad day. Don Berwick, Dr.

Berwick, will step down as Administrator of Medicare. It's a bad day for seniors.

But the Senate Republicans are happy because they believe that getting rid of Don will end the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. When the Senate Republicans blocked a vote on Dr. Berwick, they made it possible only for a recess appointment for 18 months. Why do the Republicans fear Dr. Berwick so much? Hard to say.

His career has been spent improving the quality of health care. He believes that we can have good quality health care at low cost. They're synonymous. He put patients first, believing in evidence-based medicine, and collaborates with others in the public good.

His sin was that he once said a nice word about the British health care system, and therefore he has to go.

Dr. Berwick's a great public servant, and the Republicans demonized him. Republicans have cynically prevented America's seniors from having the benefit of Dr. Berwick's vision and experience, and they ought to be ashamed of themselves.

We will do the Affordable Care Act in spite of the fact that Dr. Berwick is gone.

#### MIDDLE CLASS PAYROLL TAX CUT

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I came down here on the floor, and I asked my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to work with us to move forward on a new middle class payroll tax cut, a tax cut that would put more money in families' pockets, creating more demand for our businesses, and resulting in more jobs.

But time and time again yesterday, even this morning we heard my friends on the other side of the aisle say the only obstacle to creating more jobs is regulations.

Unfortunately, the evidence does not support this. Last Saturday, November 26, was Small Business Saturday. I did my part by shopping all day in small businesses, and I talked to my small businesses, and I asked them what did they need from the Federal Government to help them in their businesses. And they told me, "We need customers. That's what will help our businesses. We need customers who have a little more money in their pockets this year to spend in our businesses."

It's not rocket science. And you know what? We don't have much time to wait. The longer we wait, the more likely it is that taxes will go up January 1. Let's work together to pass a new middle class payroll tax cut to put more money in the hands of Americans.

#### WORLD AIDS DAY

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

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today across the globe, people are marking World AIDS Day. It's an opportunity to reflect upon the progress we've made in the fight against HIV/AIDS, this pandemic, and to rededicate ourselves to ending the disease once and for all.

World AIDS Day is an occasion to remember friends, family members, loved ones, and millions of others lost to the disease. It is a solemn reminder of those still living with HIV/AIDS, whether in the cities of the United States, or the villages of Africa, Asia, or elsewhere. It is a reminder of the need to continue the fight to keep investing in research and medical advances, to stay focused on new treatments, care, prevention, and early intervention—a key element of quality of life; to expand housing opportunities to people with HIV/AIDS and end discrimination.

Yet it's also a reminder of how far we've traveled since the first World AIDS Day in 1988 and the first AIDS diagnosis, which we acknowledged recently on the 30-year anniversary of the first AIDS diagnosis.

In my hometown of San Francisco, we learned early on of the terrible toll of HIV/AIDS, the toll it could take on a community.

But that knowledge, as sad as it was, drove us to action, advocacy, and progress. Because we had suffered so much, we could also become a model for the country and indeed the world with our community-based solutions in regard to prevention, to care, and to research for a cure or vaccine.

This is something I'm very proud of, and really it found its way into legislation: the Ryan White Care Act; housing opportunities for people with HIV/AIDS; increased funding for NIH research; expanded investments in prevention, care, treatment; and an end to the ban on Federal funds for syringe exchange. Something very important if you're going to prevent AIDS.

Beyond our borders, we have extended care to millions in the developing world. Early on in our community, when we would have an AIDS mobilization day, right almost from the start—and Congresswoman WOOLSEY can attest to this—we understood if you're going to meet the challenge of HIV/AIDS at home, you have to have a mobilization that is global because AIDS knew no borders, but it had to be global.

So we would have these vigils of thousands of people walking in a great solemn way to talk about ending AIDS globally almost right from the start, although we were feeling it very personally, very locally in our community. Beyond our borders—that's why we extended care to millions in the developing world. We increased resources for PEPFAR and the Global Fund. And I commend President Bush for his leadership on PEPFAR and the commitment that he made there.

I congratulate President Obama for the statement that he made this morn-

ing which increased funding for the Ryan White Care Initiative that supports care provided by HIV medical clinics across the country and also added funding for the drug program initiative for people with HIV/AIDS, and his commitment to a new target of helping 6 million people around the world get treatment by the end of 2013. It's very important.

I commend Secretary Clinton for her strong leadership and her statement about ridding AIDS, especially among children, as soon as possible.

The challenges that we have faced over the years, some have disappeared. When I first came to Congress, I was sworn in in a special election, and they told me you're not allowed to speak. You just raise your hand and say, "Yes, I support and defend the Constitution."

But then the Speaker, Speaker Wright, said, "Would the gentle lady from California wish to address the House?" I had been told not to address the House, and if I did, to be very, very brief. So I stood up and acknowledged my father, Thomas D'Alesandro, had served as a Member of Congress, so he was on the floor of the Congress, and my family, and I thanked them all and my constituents. My one sentence was, "I came here to fight against HIV and AIDS." And that was about it.

Well, my colleagues who had told me to be brief then said, "Why would you even mention that?" This was 24 years ago. "Why would you even mention that? The first thing that you want to say to the Members of Congress when you get here is you're here to fight HIV/AIDS? Why did you say such a thing?"

I said, "Well, I said such a thing because that's why I came here."

But I never would have thought 24 years ago that we would project—really into another generation now—that we would not have a cure for HIV/AIDS. Never would have thought.

But in the meantime, we've reduced discrimination. We've expanded prevention, care, deepened our research, actually mobilized support. Some, like Bono on the outside, using his celebrity to attract attention to the issue. Public policy, whether it's President Bush, President Clinton. And now with this global initiative, and President Obama, we're at a completely different place than we were then when they wouldn't even have an AIDS ribbon in significant places in Washington, D.C. Today we all proudly wear that ribbon.

Again, it's a day of reminder, but it's also a day where we act upon those reminders of the work that needs to be done. And again, it's a global challenge, but it is a very personal issue.

The statistics are staggering, but we think of them one person at a time. And that is what we have to act upon. This Congress has been great on the subject. I hope that we will continue to honor our responsibility.

Again, on AIDS Day in San Francisco today we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of AIDS Memorial Grove.