

evictions and express solidarity with the Rapa Nui nation, especially in light of President Obama's planned visit to Chile next month and Assistant Secretary Valenzuela's recent testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee yesterday. I sincerely hope that even our international community will build pressure on President Pinera and the Government of Chile. Let's treat these poor people with justice and give them an opportunity to live in peace in this area. I ask that the good people of America make this appeal and that the Government of Chile be responsive to this request.

REGARDING THE REPUBLICAN CONTINUING RESOLUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this continuing resolution, a continuing resolution that I call the silly, the dangerous and the hypocritical. Budgets are more than just numbers. They are a statement of our values as a Nation.

As a Congress, we are faced with several serious challenges: growing our economy, putting people back to work, investing in the future, reducing the deficit, and ensuring the most vulnerable in our society are protected. Judging on that criteria alone, this CR doesn't pass the laugh test.

It would cut 300,000 private sector transportation jobs, ensuring our construction workers are receiving unemployment checks instead of paychecks. It would stifle our competition. It would stifle competitiveness by making Pell Grants less accessible to students and families. And it would run roughshod over women, children and the environment. With such an extreme proposal, I assume my good friends on the Republican side would be coming forward with ideas to improve it. But what we've gotten this week is a combination of the silly, the dangerous, and the hypocritical.

In the silly department, we have an amendment preventing funds from being used to repair the White House. Now ironically right now, going on in the Rayburn Building, are remodeling of hearing rooms that I guess the chairmen of these committees have found no need to halt. How much money is being spent there?

Or how about the amendment preventing funds from being used for President Obama's teleprompter. Oh, right. We're going to cut \$3,000 from the budget. That's really going to help us. I would expect this sort of hyperpartisanship on cable TV, but not in a budget debate.

Under dangerous, we have: several provisions gutting environmental protection, rolling back EPA regulations on clean air and clean water, and reducing our investment in clean energy, making America even more dependent on foreign oil. How many more solar

panels do we want manufactured in China?

How about the amendment undermining a third party testing requirement at the Consumer Product Safety Commission? Great. So let's have Chinese companies pour in more tainted toys, more lead- and cadmium-filled toys for our kids.

How about the reduction in funding for our first responders, meaning there will be less cops and less firefighters in every single neighborhood in this country?

Or how about the amendment preventing funding for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, meaning big banks can call the shots again? Have we learned nothing from the financial meltdown over the last 3 years?

Or how about the unprecedented attack on women's reproductive health which will result in more unplanned pregnancies and more abortions; not less.

And finally, the category my colleagues on the Republican side seem to relish the most—hypocritical. The party that ran on jobs has authored a budget that would increase the unemployment rolls. Asked about likely job losses in the CR, Speaker BOEHNER said, "Well, so be it." It's like Marie Antoinette saying, "Let them eat cake."

The party that ran on cutting spending didn't take a scalpel to the defense budget; they took a toothpick. In fact, there's another \$2.2 billion in the budget for the V-22 Osprey, which is basically obsolete; \$495 million for nine Joint Strike Fighters; and \$450 for a second engine that the military defense budget doesn't want.

And the party that ran on fiscal responsibility has offered a budget that will balloon the deficit by continuing tax cuts for the millionaires and billionaires that don't need them.

I agree with President Obama, that we must out-innovate, out-educate and out-build the rest of the world. While not perfect, the budget he released this week will take an important step in that direction. As for the silly, the dangerous and the hypocritical CR we are considering today, I urge my colleagues to vote "no."

Budgeting is a serious process, and what we're doing this week is unserious at least.

IMPARTIALITY AND THE SUPREME COURT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) for 3 minutes.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on a day that we're talking about the continuing resolution, I want to talk about a body that may someday be judging the continuing resolution—the Supreme Court. There is perhaps nothing more important to the preservation of our democracy than the continued guaranteed impartiality of our

Supreme Court. It's a uniquely American institution; it's been given enormous power to invalidate American laws; and it needs to be dispensed with complete blind justice, blind to outside influence.

However, this Nation's confidence in the blind justice of the Supreme Court has been badly shaken recently by a series of revelations regarding possible conflicts of interest by Justice Scalia and Justice Thomas in the Citizens United case. This landmark 5-4 decision overturned restrictions on corporate funding in elections that had been in place since 1947, and immediately thereafter, millions and millions of dollars in shadowy special interest group donations flowed into American campaigns. Two of the main benefactors of these groups were Charles and David Koch, billionaire brothers who operate a Kansas-based energy business. They spent about \$2.6 billion that we know about in the 2010 election cycle and likely a lot more in anonymous donations.

In addition to funding these outside groups, they also organize a lot of conferences in which they gather people of like mind to discuss their radical views and plot strategies to benefit their interests. Now if I were to ask somebody on a main street in my district if they would be comfortable with a Supreme Court justice attending a conference like this, having their plane flight and the hotel all paid for by the special interests, I know what their answer would be. They'd say, no way. Yet Justice Scalia and Justice Thomas did just that and they thought it was just fine. They didn't recuse themselves from the Citizens United decision at all.

But here's the real problem. This could be just an isolated problem to the Citizens United case. Or it could be much more widespread, with justices conflicted on several fronts, refusing to disclose their conflicts or recuse themselves when they have actual conflicts of interest. But we have no idea, because right now there is no law requiring Supreme Court justices to disclose their conflicts of interest as is required of all other Federal justices.

□ 1120

I don't believe we should be meddling in the day-to-day business of the Supreme Court. I get why there is great wisdom in separating legislative and judicial functions. But there's no undue burden in just requiring sunlight on Supreme Court proceedings.

So when we return to Washington after the recess, I will be introducing legislation to do just that, to implement a few reasonable reforms to add greater transparency and disclosure requirements on the Supreme Court. I hope my colleagues will join me.

My legislation will apply the Judicial Conference's Code of Conduct to the Supreme Court, which now applies to all other Federal judges. It will require the Justices to simply publicly disclose why they've recused themselves from a

particular case. And it will ask the Court to develop a simple process so that the parties to a case can request the Court to decide whether a particular Justice has a conflict of interest.

I think this is an important step forward for transparency of our democracy and of the Supreme Court, and I ask my colleagues to join me in this important legislation.

INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) for 2 minutes.

Ms. CHU. This Saturday, Japanese Americans will take a moment to remember the tragic events that imprisoned their community 69 years ago.

In 1942, President Roosevelt signed one of the strongest acts against American citizens, Executive Order 9066, imprisoning 120,000 Japanese Americans with the stroke of a pen. Half of those incarcerated were children posing no threat to our national security. But these concentration camps were labeled a military necessity, and so they, too, were rounded up and forced to live their childhood in bleak, remote camps surrounded by barbed wire and armed guards. Families were forced out of their homes, made to leave their jobs and abandon their positions. Families were torn apart.

This unconstitutional act was a blatant violation of Americans' civil rights. And all of this occurred at the hands of our government oppressing individual freedom for years without any factual basis and without due process. That is why I plan to introduce a bill tomorrow to institute a National Day of Remembrance to annually observe the signing of Executive Order 9066.

This brings back painful memories of a period in American history, but it is important for us to remember because it also provides an ongoing reminder about the value of protecting the civil rights of all people. The Day of Remembrance also honors all who fought and continued to fight for freedom and equality among all people.

So this Saturday, I will take a moment also to remember this time and to hope for a better future.

H.R. 1

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) for 2 minutes.

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on H.R. 1.

Access to an affordable, quality education is part of the American Dream. In our competitive global economy, a college degree is more important than ever. With annual tuition hikes outpacing inflation, the cost of attending college is increasing just as quickly as the importance of attending. Making college more affordable has been one of my top priorities and should be a top

priority for this Congress. Unfortunately, this bill sends the opposite message.

This bill threatens to cut Pell Grants by over \$5.6 billion, denying millions of Americans, including over 20,000 students in my district, the chance to attend and graduate from college. The number of my constituents receiving Pell Grants has increased by over 6,000 people over the last school year. This is possible, in large part, by efforts that have been supported in Congress to make college more affordable and provide our students with the skills needed to compete in a 21st century global economy.

Access to Pell Grants is often the deciding factor for a family when contemplating whether they can afford to send their son or daughter to college. It is often the deciding factor on whether or not a displaced worker can afford to go back to school to get retrained. It is often a deciding factor on whether or not a potential student will have access to the world of opportunities that come with a college education.

We need to do fiscal belt-tightening, but cutting over \$5.6 billion in financial aid for Americans seeking higher education so that they may better equip themselves for the jobs of tomorrow is a self-destructive act. Simply put, investing in education is an investment in our future. Cutting Pell Grants is detrimental to that future.

We need to stand up for America and make good financial decisions. We need to tighten our budgets, but Pell Grants should not be one of them.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 25 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Rev. Bill Shuler, Capital Life Church, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we bow our heads to worship You, for You are an awesome and personal God. Make us ever mindful of the words engraved over the Speaker's chair, "In God We Trust." We place our trust not in man or in political parties or in our own strength. It is in You we trust. You are the God who founded our Nation, the God who gave us liberty, and it is by turning to You that we are blessed.

Guide each Member of Congress by Your hand. Protect them. Refresh

them in body, mind, and spirit. Help them to love their families well, to serve their constituents with excellence, and to strengthen our Nation by their decisions.

We pray these things in the name of the one who taught us the true priorities of life when He called us to "seek first the kingdom of God, and all these things will be added to us."

In Jesus' name, amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REV. BILL SHULER

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Rev. Bill Shuler, who delivered this morning's invocation. He is the senior pastor of Capital Life Church in Arlington, Virginia.

He and his family moved to the Washington metropolitan area on September 1, 2001, just days before 9/11. And in response to the tragic events of 9/11, Rev. Shuler launched a prayer center near the Capitol out of which formed the Capital Life Church. He is the seventh generation in an unbroken line of ministers in the Shuler family. I think it might be interesting for the Members to know that Rev. Shuler has preached in 30 nations of the world. He served for 8 years as a university chaplain and a dean of spiritual affairs at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Dr. Billy Graham recently expressed his appreciation for the "godly heritage that continues through the Shuler family." In fact, Dr. Graham's biographer said that Rev. Shuler's father, evangelist Jack Shuler, was "at least as popular as Billy Graham" during the 1940s and 1950s. And, in fact, Rev. Shuler's grandfather, Robert Shuler, was the first of the great radio preachers. He was called Fighting Bob Shuler. He pastored the famous Trinity Methodist Church in the heart of Los Angeles, California.

He is joined today by a number of congregants as well as his three lovely daughters and beautiful wife.