

threatens another—which is why we join you in condemning Iran's nuclear program.

And we also strive for peace . . . a peace where Israel is secure and where Palestinians have a state of their own, which is why we join you in calling on all parties to negotiate in good faith.

Our Alliance was signed 60 years ago in the Cold War, and it lives in a new world today.

And as momentous as the changes in the Middle East are, I believe it is in the Asia-Pacific where the global order is changing the most: We admire India's example as a true democracy; we never forget Indonesia's transition to create the world's third largest democracy in the world's largest Islamic country; and we applaud China's lifting some 500 million people out of poverty.

The center of global strategic and economic weight is shifting to this region. The rise of the Asia-Pacific will define our times. Like you, our relationship with China is important and complex. We encourage China to engage as a good global citizen, and we are clear-eyed about where differences do lie.

My guiding principle is that prosperity can be shared. We can create wealth together. The global economy is not a zero-sum game. There is no reason for Chinese prosperity to detract from prosperity in Australia, the United States or anywhere in the world.

America has always understood this principle of the economy . . . that everyone can benefit when everyone competes.

And for 60 years, your leadership in the Asia-Pacific has showed this. Your commitment to free trade and investment fueled the growth. Your presence and network of allies ensured the stability. You were indispensable in the Cold War, and you are indispensable in the new world, too. So your growing engagement with key countries in the region—like Japan, India, South Korea, and Indonesia—is enormously welcome.

We will work closely with you to strengthen the fabric of these relationships and underpin regional stability, strengthening regional institutions so that the countries of the Asia-Pacific increasingly manage the frictions of a growing and changing Asia-Pacific.

That's why your Nation's decision to join the East Asia Summit is such good news. The summit brings the leaders of the region's major powers together and has a mandate to deal with the whole range of economic, political and security issues our countries face.

Our relationship is evolving to meet these new challenges: from defense and intelligence to diplomacy and trade. Australia in the south, with South Korea and Japan to the north, form real Asia-Pacific partnerships with the United States.

Anchors of regional stability.

An alliance which was strong in the Cold War . . . an alliance which is strong in the new world.

In both of our countries, true friends stick together. Our nations do this, and our people do this as well. Nothing better tells this truth than the story of two firefighters.

Many Australians and Americans worked together in the late 1990s to be ready to protect the 2000 Sydney Olympics from possible terrorist attack. One group of Australians spent 2 months in New York, training and working, including a long time with New York's Fire Department Rescue 1. They worked hard together and became more than colleagues . . . they became mates.

So, when it was time to go home, the Australian commander gave Rescue 1's chief his Australian Army "slouch hat," and the chief presented the Australians with a battle-scarred fire helmet, dated December 1998 and signed by members of the Rescue 1 crew, including Kevin Dowdell.

Three years later, Kevin Dowdell was one of the hundreds of New York firefighters killed when the towers came down. Kevin led his men in. His remains were never found, but that helmet was . . . in Australia. And Aussie firefighter Rob Frey found Kevin's sons.

James Dowdell is one of New York's bravest—a firefighter like his father before him. Patrick Dowdell is wearing his country's uniform in Afghanistan.

Rob came to America to give James the helmet his father signed: a precious possession, a last link to a father lost. And I give you their story: a precious possession, too.

These two men are here today.

Rob, James . . . good on you. Rob, James, we are so proud of what you represent. Your story says it all about the friendship between Australia and the United States: together in the hardest of times, friends for the future.

When our Alliance was signed 60 years ago, the challenges of the space age were still to come; the challenges of terrorism were still to come. For 60 years, leaders from Australia and the United States have looked inside themselves and found the courage to face those challenges; and after 60 years, we do the same today: to protect our peoples, to share our prosperity, to safeguard our future.

For ours is a friendship for the future. It has been from its founding, and it remains so today. You have a friend in Australia, and you have an ally—and we know what that means: In both our countries, true friends stick together. In both our countries, real mates talk straight.

So, as a friend, I urge you only this: Be worthy to your own best traditions. Be bold.

In 1942, John Curtin—my predecessor, my country's great wartime leader—looked to America. I still do.

This year, you have marked the centenary of President Reagan's birth. He remains a great symbol of American optimism. The only greater symbol of American optimism . . . is America, itself.

The eyes of the world are still upon you. Your city on a hill cannot be hidden. Your brave and free people have made you the masters of recovery and reinvention.

As I stand before you in this cradle of democracy, I see a nation that changed the world, a nation that has known remarkable days. I firmly believe you are the same people who amazed me . . . when I was a small girl . . . by landing on the Moon. On that great day, I believed Americans could do anything.

I believe that still. You can do anything.

Thank you.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 11 o'clock and 40 minutes a.m., The Honorable Julia Gillard, Prime Minister of Australia, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms escorted the Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps from the Chamber.

JOINT MEETING DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The purpose of the joint meeting having been completed, the Chair declares the joint meeting of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, (at 11 o'clock and 42 minutes a.m.), the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

The SPEAKER. The House will continue in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1203

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) at 12 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.

ELECTING A MEMBER TO A CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 155

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committee:

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS—Mr. Barletta.

Mr. HENSARLING (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING RECESS

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

STOP WRONG-HEADED ENERGY POLICIES

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

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, this country has never had an energy strategy. And the only thing worse than not having an energy strategy is having an energy policy that is actually hurting our country, hurting American energy production and American workers, and making us more dependent on foreign oil. That is what the Obama administration is doing right now.

Let's review the record. A moratorium on drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, hurting American energy production. A budget proposal that offers \$50 billion in new taxes on independent, small energy companies working throughout the United States. Also, tax policy that is going to hurt large U.S. companies trying to compete for limited reserves around the world to meet U.S. energy needs. And finally, an attack on horizontal drilling because we have now found large reserves of oil and gas in our shale formations, and this administration is looking to shut all of that down.

And then they come forward because the price of oil, the price of oil at \$105 a barrel today, they now want to open up the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, which is supposed to be used in severe shortages. That is not an energy policy; that actually hurts our country.

It is time to stop these wrong-headed policies that are hurting American energy production and hurting American workers.

INVEST IN TOMORROW TO CREATE JOBS

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

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, you'll get no argument in this House that this is a country that has to get a handle on our budget, be fiscally responsible, reduce our national debt, and grow the economy. We owe nothing less to our children and grandchildren.

But I will be honest, I am pretty shocked by the lack of business sense, if you will, from some of my Republican colleagues. What my small businesses know in southern Minnesota is that, in addition to tightening their

belts and getting efficiencies out of their businesses, they have to make smart investments for tomorrow.

So last week what did we do? We cut 41 percent of the NIH budget for research at the Mayo Clinic in my district that will lay off 68 researchers who equate into billions of dollars of medical research.

Republicans also want to cut funding for education. As a high school teacher I can tell you, where are the workers of tomorrow going to come from, and how are they going to compete to be the great innovators to win tomorrow?

We did all of that, at the same time protecting oil subsidies to the CEOs of the largest oil companies who made hundreds of billions. We have to be smart with taxpayer dollars, and we have to find ways to think like small, innovative businesses in places like the Mayo Clinic.

Save money, be efficient with our resources, invest in tomorrow to create jobs.

DRILLING MORATORIUM IS NONSENSE

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, gasoline is nearly \$4 a gallon. Meanwhile, the administration seems to have a deliberate crusade against the U.S. energy industry and domestic energy independence.

Even before Steven Chu became Energy Secretary he said: "Somehow we have to figure out a way to boost the price of gasoline to the levels in Europe."

Well, that plan is working.

The administration is stonewalling the safe development of a Canadian pipeline to my district in southeast Texas that will send crude oil and jobs to American refineries. The administration is using the out-of-control EPA to implement questionable scientific regulations that hammer domestic energy capability. This includes the expensive regulations of CO₂ and the EPA attempt to defy the will of Congress by implementing cap-and-trade regulations.

The offshore drilling moratorium by the administration is nonsense. A court ordered the moratorium lifted. Now that same court has held the administration in contempt for not in fact lifting that moratorium.

Each of these is evidence that the administration is at war with domestic energy and the will of the American people. Meanwhile, gasoline prices are getting near those in Europe.

And that's just the way it is.

ADDICTION TO FOREIGN OIL

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, as oil and gas prices continue to rise, American

consumers and businesses are facing sticker shock at the pump. The national average is \$3.49, and the average in New York's capital region that I represent is \$3.69. And yet, rather than take action to bring immediate gas price relief or create incentives to invest in clean energy alternatives that create jobs and grow our national security, the Republican budget would maintain our addiction to foreign oil.

The Republican spending bill ignores energy efficiency, clean energy, advanced vehicle technologies, and loan guarantees. What does it leave in place, though? Billions of dollars in subsidies for big oil companies that they have claimed they don't need, especially as they make record profits. And what do we get by throwing billions of hard-earned taxpayer dollars at these big oil companies? Less money in our pockets to get to work and around town.

Americans are better than the gasoline we put in our vehicles. It is time we wake up and realize it, and advance research and development.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, EBBY HALLIDAY

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, today is a very special day for not only me but many people who live in Dallas, Texas, because today is Ebby Halliday's 100th birthday. I have known Ebby for 22 years. This incredibly successful woman is one of the most generous and hardworking individuals I have ever known. Ebby has always been an entrepreneur, beginning her career selling hats. Today, she is the driving force for change in the real estate industry and a household name all across north Texas.

Ebby's incredible story is the embodiment of America's dream. Her dedication, work ethic, and vision have turned Ebby Halliday Realtors into one of the largest independently owned residential real estate companies in the Nation. Ebby is also well known as a respected community leader. Her active civic involvement and philanthropic efforts have inspired others to give back to those in need. Her name has become synonymous with ethics, class, and generosity.

Over the course of her lifetime, Ebby has witnessed many historic events and changes in our fast-paced world, yet her love for family, friends, community, and this Nation remains steadfast. I am proud to call her my friend, and I know she will be surrounded by many of those today in Dallas, Texas, as she celebrates her 100th birthday. May she be blessed with many more years of health and happiness.

Happy birthday, Ebby Halliday.

□ 1210

THE FORECLOSURE CRISIS

(Ms. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1