

Walz (MN)	Waters	Welch
Wasserman	Watt	Woolsey
Schultz	Waxman	Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—11

Andrews	Giffords	Lynch
Bachmann	Johnson, E. B.	Polis
Bass (CA)	Kingston	Wilson (FL)
Costello	Lummis	

□ 1417

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California changed her vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 4, 2011.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 4, 2011 at 11:50 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 83.

With best wishes I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Homeland Security:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MR. SPEAKER: To provide a committee assignment opening for newly elected Congressman Bob Turner, I hereby resign my assignment on the Homeland Security Committee.

Sincerely,

MO BROOKS,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

ELECTING CERTAIN MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 420

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the fol-

lowing standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS—Mr. Turner of New York.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY—Mr. Turner of New York.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY—Mr. Amodei.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS—Mr. Amodei and Mr. Turner of New York.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1420

JOBS, JOBS, JOBS

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

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about an issue that should be the top priority for every Member of the House and Senate: jobs, jobs, jobs.

Unfortunately, too many of my colleagues here in Washington just don't get it. Yesterday, the Senate courageously voted to stand up to the Chinese Government on behalf of the working families in Nevada and across the country. The Senate said no to China's unfair currency manipulation that has cost our Nation nearly 3 million jobs in the last 10 years, including over 14,000 in Nevada. However, 19 U.S. Senators voted to protect China's interests instead of the interests of the workers of the State of Nevada.

I have one thing to say to those Senators: Shame on you. Now is not the time to cower to the bullying tactics of the Chinese. We need leadership. We need to be creating jobs here in the United States of America, not in China.

From voting to kill Medicare by turning it over to private insurance companies to bowing to Chinese bullying tactics, the American people should start asking themselves: When will Washington Republicans start making job creation their top priority?

I know it is mine.

ISSUES FACING AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SOUTHERLAND). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HANABUSA) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, there are now about 11 of us who are considered freshmen to the Democratic side, and we are here today to share with everyone what we have learned. We hope, because we are freshmen, that we bring a different perspective on matters, that everyone might be able to see it from our eyes. And for that reason, we would like to share what we've learned in this last district work week and talking to our constituents about jobs, small business problems, and issues that face all of us.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin first by asking the gentle-

woman from District 36 of California to share with us what she has heard. And I would like to say that the gentlewoman from District 36 of California is the most recent addition to what was originally the noble nine, but we are now the exquisite 11.

I yield to the gentlewoman.

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring a perspective as a brand new Member of Congress. Last week while I was in my district, I met with over 50 businesses who wanted to talk to me about what they felt Congress was either doing or not doing. I met with them not to talk to them, but I met with them to listen to them. And I met with very small businesses, some that had two employees, to some other businesses who were considered small but had many more employees.

What they told me was this: These are tough times. They're having a tough time with our economy, but they still want to grow and they still want to hire people. We know that our small businesses in this country are the backbone of this economy. We know that they are the ones that will be hiring people. They are the ones that will be getting this economy back up and running. They're going to be part of this great recovery, but they need help from the Federal Government.

I asked them: What is it that you need? What is it that will keep you in business? What is it that helps you to grow and to hire people?

There was a common theme, and they told me it was their access to capital which was part of the problem they have. They believed that our small business loans took a small mountain of paperwork to apply for. They felt like the requirements for these loans were so burdensome that they were not able to access capital. And they said, if they could access this capital, they would grow. They would hire. And even in tough times, this is the American Dream. This is the American spirit. They wondered, frankly, why Congress had worked so hard to bail out the billionaires on Wall Street; and they wondered what was Congress doing to bail out the man and woman on Main Street that works so hard every day.

So I told them I wanted to stay in touch with them and I would urge my colleagues to do something else that they wanted, and that was to pass the President's Jobs Act. They love parts of this Jobs Act. They loved the fact that there is a tax credit there if they hired someone who had been unemployed for 6 months or longer.

They loved the idea that in this jobs bill there was a tax credit for hiring our returning veterans. They liked the fact that we even went further and said there would be a larger, I think it is a \$9,000 tax credit if you hire a veteran who's been wounded, because we know when our veterans come home that they have a very difficult time reentering society. They have a difficult time, frankly, reentering their families. They have a hard time relating

again to their husbands, to their wives, to their communities. This jobs bill actually speaks to the plight of the veteran. The woman veteran, by the way, has one of the highest unemployment rates in the country.

So colleagues, I think we should continue to fight for small businesses in this country. Let's give them what they need. Let's remove the barriers that are keeping them from growing and keeping them from hiring and keeping them from being the catalyst to getting this economy back on track.

Ms. HANABUSA. I thank the gentleman very much.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues will be coming in as they return from their respective offices, but I'd like to share part of what I found when I was in district this past week.

You know, I think the problem we all have is we are all creatures of the media, so we tend to think in 30-second sound bites. And I'm sure we all got trained by the best of them: When you run for office, keep it short, and you tell everybody what they want to hear so they can pick it up on the 6 o'clock news.

You know, Mr. Speaker, when we do that, we fail to recognize that people are not covered by one broad brush. The gentlewoman from California, District 36, said it best when she said when she talked to small business, they want certain things because small businesses are not all alike. But there are things that they do want. They want, for example, the finances. What about Main Street? What about the tax credits? How will that affect their respective businesses? That's what we all have to step back and think about. That's why this time when we can go on and not have to worry about whether there is a camera there to get a 30-second sound bite gives us the opportunity to tell our constituents that we hear them and we know what they're saying.

When I was in district, I met with one type of small business, and they were the construction industry. Quite honestly, when you talk about the construction industry, even that we just tend to say we need to rebuild construction. But construction isn't as simple as just simply saying they all build roads or they all build airports. That's not true.

When we do construction, we talk about construction, you have people, for example, who specialize in homes, and that's a definite kind of need. Their needs, for example, are regarding finances. Their need is how healthy is FHA going to be? What are you going to do with Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac? What are you going to do to help foreclosures? They have very specific concerns. Where we may think what they're just concerned about is the ability to be able to build again, that's not it. They understand that in order for us to have a healthy economy, in order for us to have the environment in which they can then create the jobs and they can then be able to build

those homes and people who have jobs can buy those homes, that we need to look at the total picture. And that's what we're referring to.

So when we talk to our constituents and we report back to other Members of Congress, we have to be very clear as to what we are hearing.

□ 1430

They don't talk to us in general sound bites to get on the 6 o'clock news. What they talk to us about is to say, you know, in our specific industry, we have this problem, and what can you do to help us on this particular problem? They want to know, even to the point of saying, will, for example, credit unions be able to issue different kinds of loans? We think of banks, we think of loans, but how many of us have stopped to listen to our constituencies and said, hey, why are you interested in what credit unions are allowed to do? Because to them, especially those who are in smaller businesses, that is their lifeline. So they want to be sure that they can affect them and they can help them. So they want to know what we are doing in that process.

And so when we talk to our constituencies and we listen to them, we must understand that they are not simply ones that we do with a broad brush. So in the construction group that I spoke to, many of them, of course, specialized in home building, and they were, of course, concerned about the whole gamut, the ability of people to buy a home, the ability of people to finance that home, the ability of people to then say, hey, we are going to have the jobs to qualify for the respective mortgages. Because very few people are out there who can actually buy a home for cash. Anymore than we, as government, can buy things for cash. People are borrowing. And in order for them to borrow, we must have a healthy financial institution that can lend that money out.

So, Mr. Speaker, let's also look at where we are in terms of the constituencies. Like I said, small business isn't just small business. You can't just say "small business" and cover everyone. You need to understand what kind of small business.

I sit on a panel that was created in HASC, and it's on acquisitions, and the focus there is small business. I am very honored to be part of that, and I am very proud of the fact that we, as a House, are looking at how, when military spending gets cut, we are able to preserve the small businesses. And the question was, how do we ensure them into the future? And we also have to recognize that the definition of small business differs for many of us. It's like a company that grosses no more than \$7 million or \$8 million a year. To some they probably hear that and say, wow, that's not a small business, that's a big business. But every segment of what creates businesses in our economy we have got to look at very seriously and

understand what their respective needs are, because if we fail to do that, if we fail to look at that, we are not going to be able to address this crisis.

So as tempting as it is for all of us to ignore, ignore what it is that we are looking to or speaking to, and when we vote on these bills that are before us, we have to understand that simply because one segment of a business community says it's good, it doesn't mean that it's good for everyone. And that is what makes the challenge of what we respectively do.

So back to construction. We said there are those who build homes, for example. There are also those who build commercial buildings, and they have a different challenge, because their financing is also tied to how healthy the economy is. It's also tied to the financial institutions and whether the financial institutions are out there lending the money, and that's all going to be tied to the whole issue of whether or not the economy is healthy. Many of those who build "commercial buildings," for example, they too are small businesses.

In addition to that, you have those major construction companies that do major infrastructure. And if you're going to talk about being able to get people back to work in large numbers, of course, of course, we need to talk about that level of construction. But what does that level of construction normally need? To do large infrastructure projects, it needs government. It is government that is able to build or contribute to a State's ability to build roads, to build airport modernization, to improve harbors or to basically look at highways and what we're going to do. You need government's role in that. And that is what the President has said, and that is what the President has emphasized: That he, in fact, is looking to infrastructure to be built and to say that will put people back to work.

In the long run, we as a country benefit the most from that. And you may say, well, what does that have to do with small business? It has a lot to do with small business because no one company can do it all. When you look at how construction, for example, is done, you have a general contractor, who usually serves in an administrative capacity, but all the respective work that may go into building whatever it may be—a freeway, a huge hotel or homes, the other company components of it are subcontractors who are small businesses, and each one of them hires a specific number of people, whether it be two or three or 20 or 30. If you have a huge port of some sort, they are there. And we need to recognize that, and we need to understand that it is through them, through the hiring of the respective subcontractors that are small businesses, that we are then able to move this economy along.

So it's like a situation of, we start on the top and to a large extent, government has that role, and it filters down

to the bottom line, which is to get people back to work. So when we start to talk about the Jobs Act, or how we're going to move our economy along and what are we going to do, we need to think about that. We need to think about how do we move forward.

It is on that note that I see my colleague from Detroit whom I would like to call upon, because he has a bill that I want him to speak about because he knows what it is going to take to get his people in Detroit back to work. And let's not forget, we are a great country built on manufacturing. That is what made us big. And do you know, it is also the city of Detroit that I believe really epitomizes what manufacturing is about.

So on that note, I would like to yield to my colleague, the Congressman from Detroit (Mr. CLARKE), to talk to us and share what he has learned from his district.

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Thank you. And I just want to thank the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HANABUSA) for her commitment to growing our economy not only here in this country but we can help the world by us in the United States manufacturing the best products and creating the best technologies.

I have introduced a bill called the Detroit Jobs Trust Fund. It will create jobs in Detroit. And Detroiters really need it because we've got the highest unemployment rate. We've lost more jobs than any metropolitan region in this country during the last 10 years. But as Ms. HANABUSA pointed out, investing in Detroit not only creates jobs for Detroiters, it will put Americans throughout this country back to work. And that's because in spite of Detroit's troubling economic situation and high unemployment rate, we still have the manufacturing know-how and we have the well trained workforce to put Americans back to work, especially in the area of advanced manufacturing.

So when Detroit makes its streets safer by hiring more police officers, more firefighters, and properly deploying them, when we improve and reform our public education system by opening more high quality schools, hiring more teachers who can go do the job, and when we reduce the cost of living and doing business in Detroit by cutting some very high municipal taxes, those factors—safe streets, good schools, and low taxes—that will attract investment back to the city.

If you take a look at the city of Detroit, you will see that we have a lot of vacant property. Well, that's land ready for a big plant to be located there. And by capturing the existing federal tax revenue that Detroit individuals and Detroit businesses already pay and having that money placed in a trust fund administered by the Department of the Treasury to be invested in Detroit to hire those police officers, hire and train those teachers and to cut taxes, we can bring employers back to Detroit to hire Detroiters. But also,

we can resurrect our manufacturing powerhouse in Detroit and create those jobs throughout the country the same way Detroit did back in World War II.

□ 1440

Detroiters built the arsenal of democracy that helped win World War II and saved this country and this world from fascism. It was metro Detroiters' manufacturing know-how that built some of the best cars in the world and that created millions of jobs worldwide, and especially in this country.

So in the same way, by investing in Detroit, in the Detroit workforce, in the Detroit winning spirit—exemplified by the Detroit Tigers and the Detroit Lions—we can put our people back to work. We can make this country even stronger in advanced manufacturing and help uplift the quality of life for everyone around the world.

I appreciate you giving me this time, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HANABUSA), for talking about an important issue, putting Detroiters back to work.

If I can just say as a final note—I mentioned this last night—getting a job is important. Many years ago, in this last big recession we had in the 1980s, I was without a job and I lost hope. And that can be devastating, not only devastating economically and financially to people, but it can be devastating to the spirit of a human being. So a job gives somebody a paycheck, but it gives a person self-worth and the dignity and the uplifting spirit that they need to keep marching on. And that's what this country is all about.

You know, we have to deal with obstacles; but as Americans, we can turn those obstacles into opportunities. That's why immigrants are so successful when they come here to this country because they see this country for all its richness, for all its opportunity, and they seize it. I'm just asking for that same opportunity to be available for Detroiters, to put our country back to work.

Ms. HANABUSA. Before you leave, I just wanted to extend this discussion because I think that we tend to think about things like, when we talk about Detroit and we think about manufacturing, which of course is what we are all focusing on, we tend to forget how that one industry then multiplies out and how it creates other jobs. The Congressman from Detroit is absolutely correct, that is what made our country great.

And let me share with you, I grew up working in my family's service station, which later became a situation where we sold auto parts. And one of the things that I will never, never forget is the fact that, when you think about the ability to build a car, many of those parts are not manufactured in Detroit. They come from other places in the United States, and they all are put together to make the car. But the subsidiary industry is what my family was in, which is, with wear and tear, it breaks down.

So you have a whole secondary market of used auto parts being remanufactured or original-equipment auto parts are being remanufactured that then creates yet another industry. And when we, unfortunately, get careless and sometimes, through no fault of our own, the flagpole or the streetlight jumps in front of our car and we hit it, there is that whole other industry of repair.

So with the good Congressman from Detroit, I want to elaborate that just investing in Detroit isn't only for Detroit, but I'm sure within Michigan and within all the neighboring States we probably have great examples of how small industries are going to just start to kick-start.

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. You are absolutely right, creating those jobs in Detroit will have a ripple effect throughout this country.

And I'm glad you mentioned about remanufacturing. That's the best way to have Make It in America jobs. Actually, I was able to visit a remanufacturing plant right outside the city of Detroit 2 weeks ago. It's fascinating what they do. These are not used units. These are totally remade. And, actually, these are better units and pieces of equipment than if you actually bought something new. So instead of U.S. manufacturers buying new products overseas that are made overseas, they can buy great remanufactured units right here at home, putting Americans back to work. So you're absolutely right about that.

Ms. HANABUSA. That is why I am a proud cosponsor of your bill because I think that you've hit it, that we start with someplace like Detroit where people clearly know that work ethic—that work ethic started in places like Detroit—and then from there we're going to build and we're going to rebuild this country because it has such a great impact all the way through. So thank you very much.

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. I really appreciate it. And thank you for supporting Detroit and supporting Americans going back to work. And we're going to make it in America.

Ms. HANABUSA. We are going to make it in America.

Mr. Speaker, I also note that we have a person who probably all the small business guys would love to get their hands on. And I know for my constituents, they would love to have the ability to talk to someone from the great State of Delaware because, of course, when we think of Delaware, we think of financial institutions, we think about how they control our money. But he also is a proud member of the original Noble Nine. And I'm asking him to speak to us and share with us what he knows from his great State. So the Congressman from Delaware—who I would like to add is the only person who, while there may be others, he is the only person dear to me who actually has fewer people in his congressional delegation than me.

Mr. CARNEY. I thank my colleague from Hawaii, one of the other small States. I know you're a delegation of two; we're a delegation of one. I represent the whole State of Delaware. I tell my constituents that we have two Senators and one Member of Congress. That means that I have to work twice as hard, Mr. Speaker, to serve the people in my State.

I'm pleased to join my freshman colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle this afternoon for our discussion about small business and job creation, and I'd like to talk for a little bit about the situation in my State, the State of Delaware.

All of us are coming off a district work week, where we spent our time, I'm sure, meeting with constituents, talking to business owners, small business owners, large business owners, and working our districts. And I did the same thing in Delaware, not too far from the Capitol here. I would like to highlight two meetings that I had in particular. One was a job fair that we held in Georgetown, Delaware, which is the county seat in the lower part of our State. Many people from the Washington, D.C. area know Georgetown as they pass through it to go to our lovely beaches during the summer time to enjoy time with their family at the beach.

This particular day we sponsored a job fair in Georgetown, along with Senator CARPER and Senator COONS. This was a program that Senator COONS championed in Wilmington initially, and we've moved it now to the other two counties of our State and had a job fair in Dover and a job fair in Georgetown this past week, really helping to connect those folks in our State who are unemployed or underemployed, people looking to move up with employers who are looking to hire. And even though we have over 9 percent unemployment nationally and a little bit over 8 percent unemployment in our State of Delaware, there are still a lot of jobs that go wanting, mostly because the employers are not able to find people that have the required skills for that particular enterprise.

So the good news about this job fair is that we had 55 employers there, many of whom were prepared to hire people and offer them jobs, certainly take resumes and interview people or set up interviews. But we had over 8,000 people who came seeking employment or seeking an upgrade in their current job situation. And that's a lot of people in the small State of Delaware in the least populous area of our State. So it tells us the very serious problem that we have with the lack of jobs and the lack of skills that people might have to do the jobs that are out there.

Later on in the week, I met at PATS Aircraft, which is an airplane manufacturing facility at Georgetown Airport. They've been hiring airplane mechanics over the last several years. In fact, when I was lieutenant governor, one of the biggest problems that they had was

finding workers that had the requisite skills to do the jobs that they had. Now, they have since lost some of that work; but they were looking ahead and anticipating, with some assistance from the FAA, to extend the runway there at Georgetown Airport—going back to your point about the need for infrastructure to stir business development, business growth and job creation. If we were able to extend the runway there at the airport, PATS would be able to hire more mechanics.

But there are a lot of people out there, while they might want those jobs, would not have the skills to do the work. And so Delaware Technical and Community College, with the help of the State government, has developed a training program specifically to prepare workers for that facility and other airplane manufacturing facilities in our region.

□ 1450

We have a Dassault Falcon plant, which does airplane maintenance and mechanics at the New Castle County Airport, as well as a large Boeing facility over the line in southeastern Pennsylvania. So these are jobs. They are highly skilled jobs. They are jobs that require mechanical ability. They are jobs that require training. And there are certainly lots of folks out there that are looking for employment, and these are the kinds of jobs that we need to prepare people for.

One of the press conferences we had this week was at Delaware Technical & Community College where we highlighted a Federal grant that was going to Delaware Tech to create training programs for businesses, basically to enable people to upgrade their skills to take the jobs that are available. One of the problems, obviously, that we have in our country—and the President's employment council has identified this problem—is that we have jobs that are out there, but we don't have people with the right kinds of skills for those jobs. So we need to have programs—and this is where the public sector comes into play, particularly technical and community colleges—to provide that training and those skills for those folks.

Later on in the week, I met and spoke with the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce; and the Georgetown Chamber, of course, is comprised mostly of very small businesses. They had a really simple message for me, as a Member of Congress, and that is that they see their businesses struggling because of a lack of confidence among consumers. And when you think about the U.S. economy at large, about 70 percent of economic activity is consumer driven. So when consumers don't have confidence either in their employment situation in the present—they may not be employed—or their future employment situation, they're not willing to spend money on small business services or products in the community and, therefore, these small businesses suffer.

So their message to me was really a simple one, twofold. One is: Do no harm in Washington, DC. Do the work of the people, solve the problems that we have, and inspire confidence. And I think one of the ways that we can do that—there's a lot of discussion. Most of the discussion that I hear from my constituents in the State of Delaware—and we've had town hall meetings. We're going to have a telephone town hall meeting tonight. I'm sure I will hear the same thing: Enough with the partisan bickering back and forth across the aisle. Let's focus on the challenges that we face—creating jobs and strengthening businesses, creating a business climate in the short term where businesses can thrive, where consumers can have confidence so they'll be willing to spend on small businesses and other procurement. And in the long term, address our deficits, our debt, and our budget imbalances.

If we're able to do that, we'll at least provide some confidence to the people that we represent that those that they send from Delaware, the Members of the House of Representatives here and our Senators across the Capitol, are doing their part, are working together, are focused on not the politics of where we all stand in relation to the next election but on solving the problems that face our country.

I think the vote that we have coming at the end of this year, which will be the result of the work of the Committee on the Budget, will be maybe one of the most important votes in a number of years. I have heard our majority whip STENY HOYER refer to it as the most important vote here in the last 30 years. And I think that's right in many respects, because people out there, my constituents, your constituents, Ms. HANABUSA, in Hawaii—I see our colleague from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) has joined us as well—our constituents are asking us, begging us to do our work to inspire confidence and to do the right thing for the country. And that involves giving people the skills they need to be able to do the jobs that are available out there, creating confidence so businesses can make investments, so people will be willing to spend money and consume so our economy will get back on its feet again. In the long term, we'll set up a fiscal situation with our government so that the economy can be strong and create jobs for my children and their children.

So I want to thank my colleague from Hawaii for leading our dialogue this afternoon on job creation, on small business development across our country in our respective districts, and I look forward to sitting here with you for a few more minutes and engaging in this dialogue. I just wanted to give a few words about how the people in Delaware are responding to the work that we are doing or are not doing here in the Congress.

Ms. HANABUSA. Thank you. And before the Congressman from Delaware

sits, I just wanted to explore one thing, because when I was in district, one of the comments I got was about the dysfunctional Congress. But one of the things that I asked them to really sit back and look at—and this is really our friends in the media, and they have to do something about the way they report. I told them that when they ask about our votes, they should really look at it seriously and say, okay, how many votes are really that controversial? How many times are we just adversaries, and how many times is it that there are just a handful of votes, relative to how many we pass in the House, that rise to the level that people would say that we are just cutting down partisan lines? Because I don't really think that that's the case. It's a minority of votes, but it's that which is played up. And when I tell my constituents that, they're sort of amazed. They think every single bill that we practically pass up here is controversial.

Did you get that sense from talking to your constituents?

Mr. CARNEY. Oh, I absolutely got that sense. And people that I talked to—Democrats, Republicans, it really didn't matter what party affiliation they had—were pretty fed up with what they had seen in the whole debt ceiling debacle, not so much the debate around it but the fact that we let it go to the brink and that we seem to want to, with every continuing resolution, every important vote, take it to the brink before coming together, however that might happen, whether it's one side of the aisle getting enough votes or whether it's coming across the aisle and having a bipartisan approach.

Frankly, the people in Delaware are more focused on having us address problems and solve those problems, and they're not really concerned at all, in fact, with the politics of it. What they tell me is: Cut it out. Cut it out. And they ask me: Is it so bad? And I tell them that I have been reading a lot of Civil War history of late.

I read a book about Abraham Lincoln about a year ago and, after that, started looking for other books to read. Of course just after we were sworn in, one of our leaders, Congressman LARSON from Connecticut, gave us a history of the House of Representatives. And because I had been doing so much reading about the Civil War, I decided to go first to those chapters just before the Civil War and during the Civil War and afterwards and to read about the history of the House of Representatives.

And I want to tell you, it might be hard for some of our constituents in Hawaii and Rhode Island and Delaware to believe it, but things were a lot worse during that period of time. One of the stories was related in the book that one Member almost caned another Member to death on the floor of the House. I tell my constituents, it's not nearly that bad. In fact, we have a lot of friends—frankly, I have a lot of friends, and I know you do—across the

aisle. I think the real problem is we have pretty significant differences of opinion on issues, and that's understandable. That's what makes our country so great, frankly, that we can come here. We can come from our respective areas of the country with different points of view.

As I look around this Chamber, you see America in this Chamber through the Representatives that are sent here by the people. But we need to understand that this country is greater than all the rest of us as individuals, and we need to live up to the greatness of our country by recognizing that we have got to put our differences behind us at the end of the day so that we can come to some resolution for the good of the people at large.

Ms. HANABUSA. That's a great message. The whole is greater than the parts. Thank you.

With that, I would also like to call on another colleague of ours, the Congressman from Rhode Island, who is actually my cosponsor of this time.

□ 1500

Mr. CICILLINE. I thank the gentlelady for convening this conversation and thank my friend from Delaware for his thoughtful remarks.

I think that what the American people want from us, and I think as freshmen, we were sent here to do our best to solve the problems, to meet the big challenges of our time. While that has been our responsibility, I think what the American people have seen, unfortunately, is really a lack of action by the Congress of the United States on the most urgent issue of our time, and that is jobs and getting this economy back on track.

We have some proposals before the Congress that are sound and that will really make important progress in our effort to get this economy back on track and create jobs. What I found when I was home in Rhode Island in listening to my constituents, I'm just reminded of how devastating this recession has been for American families and American businesses and how difficult it is right now for people who are out of work trying to find work, or people who are trying to hold onto a home and are facing foreclosure because of their inability to make ends meet, or people that are running a small business and are just trying to stay afloat and keep their business going.

I think our challenge is to first of all never lose sight of how devastating this recession has been for American families, American businesses; and then focus on what we can do, what are the practical solutions that we can find to meet this challenge. I think what people want is they want to see Congress, Republicans and Democrats, working together to find common ground, to find real solutions to these challenges.

I spent time in my district at a couple of things that I thought were particularly exciting examples of what

small businesses can do. I welcomed the SBA regional administrator, Jeanne Hulit, to Rhode Island and we visited a company called Wide World of Indoor Sports. Stephen Sangermano and Dan Fawcett are two Rhode Island entrepreneurs that brought this small business together and created jobs. They used the Small Business Administration loan program to do it, to start their business; and it allowed them to hire 80 full- and part-time employees, and they're looking at the opportunity to create another facility, another business in another part of the State which is likely to have the same number of employees.

It's really about how do we provide the needed capital to small businesses, to start-up companies so they can grow their businesses. At another event in my district, we announced along with our Governor and our entire congressional delegation—Senator WHITEHOUSE, Senator REED, Congressman LANGEVIN, and I—the launch of a new \$13 million loan fund, which is Federal funds again, to be administered by the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation to assist an organization called Betaspring and the Slater Fund. Both of these organizations are really designed to help start-up entrepreneurs access the capital they need to start a new business and to grow jobs.

I think one of the things I've heard repeatedly is that small businesses need access to capital, they need an environment in which they can start and grow their business, but the other thing that small businesses need that I hear about all the time is they need customers to buy the goods and services they produce. I think one of the things that is really important about the President's American Jobs Act is it really focuses on tax cuts for small businesses, tax credits for small businesses, particular attention to our returning veterans, our heroes, those who have been unemployed for a very long time, and our young people; but at the same time it puts money in the pockets of middle class families so that they can increase their demand for goods and services that ultimately will help small businesses grow and create jobs.

I think this is one of the important lessons that we should have learned over the last decade, that it's not enough, that it's unwise fiscal policy to simply ensure that people at the very top, the millionaires and billionaires, get to hold onto more of their money at the expense of the middle class; because in order to have a thriving, prosperous economy, you not only need entrepreneurs and innovators, you need hardworking middle class families who have the ability to buy the goods and services that businesses produce. I think that's what we need to do. We need to be looking at policies that will do both things, that provide access to capital, that will create an environment for small businesses to grow and at the same time give hardworking

middle class families the ability to buy more goods and services.

What's exciting about the American Jobs Act is it does all of those things: it provides tax cuts to help American small businesses hire and grow. It puts workers back on the job by rebuilding and modernizing America's infrastructure. It creates pathways back to work for Americans looking for jobs to be sure that they have the skills necessary for the jobs of the 21st century. It puts more money in the pockets of every working American family, every worker, that again will help to stimulate growth of our small businesses.

I think the President has really identified a very serious plan to put Americans back to work; and I really hope, as I know the gentlelady from Hawaii hopes, that our colleagues on the other side of the aisle will be part of this conversation. If they have different ideas, better ideas as to ways we can create jobs and get the American people back to work, they ought to be part of the discussion.

But I know one thing for sure: we cannot simply do nothing for the next 14 months. The American people expect us to take action, to not only talk about jobs but to do things that are going to create jobs and create conditions for job growth, private sector job growth, and to be able to demonstrate that what we're doing, the policies we're enacting, are helping to get our economy back on track and to stimulate jobs.

The other point I want to mention, I know the gentlelady from Hawaii has been a big supporter of this, and that is the whole Make It in America agenda. I have the privilege of visiting manufacturers in my district. Rhode Island has a very rich history of manufacturing. I think everyone recognizes that if we're going to continue to be a leading economic power in the world, we have got to make things again in this country. While we've lost some manufacturing, the low-end manufacturing that may be difficult to get back, there's a lot of new manufacturing, more highly skilled manufacturing that's growing in our country. What we need to do is to have policies put in place that will support American manufacturers, American workers here so that we can compete in this global economy.

We have a very ambitious, comprehensive agenda, making it in America, that begins with the development of a national manufacturing strategy so we can have benchmarks and compete successfully with other countries that are engaged in manufacturing; creating tax policies that support investments in manufacturing and job growth. One of the pieces of legislation will create what's equivalent to an IRA for manufacturers to reinvest in capital equipment so they can grow jobs; my Make It in America block grant that will help retrofit factories, retrain workers, increase exports, things that are necessary to ensure that American

manufacturing can be rebuilt in this country. This is an area where I think the public is way ahead of the policymakers in believing that we have to make things again in America.

I again thank the gentlelady for leading this conversation. I think we all know, particularly as members of the freshman class, that the single most urgent challenge, the single greatest crisis we face right now is job creation, is getting the American people back to work. When you think about all the other challenges that our country faces, if suddenly 14 million Americans were put back to work, it would go a long way to solving many of the other challenges we face. When people have a job and they have the ability to support themselves and their family and, of course, they're also contributing as productive taxpayers, that's a benefit to our whole society and certainly to our country.

I hope that what the President has outlined in the American Jobs Act, what we've outlined as part of the Make It in America agenda, the investments that are included in the American Jobs Act to rebuild the infrastructure of our country, to invest in roads and bridges and ports so that we can move the goods and services and information necessary to compete successfully in the 21st century, are those kinds of investments that ensure that we will do things today that will create jobs in the short term and in the long term deal in a responsible way with managing our debt and our deficit.

But we've got to do both things: we have to have a long-term strategy for fiscal responsibility that addresses the serious challenges that we face in terms of our debt, and at the same time we have to make the right investments that put people back to work and that ensure that we're investing in the things that are necessary to compete successfully and win in the 21st century: innovation, infrastructure, education, the things that are necessary to ensure that we rebuild the economy and that we not only put people back to work, that we position ourselves to continue to succeed and lead the world as an economic power.

I think that we can do it, the American people expect us to do it, and I know when I am home in my own district and I hear directly from my constituents, they are expecting Congress to take action that is going to get this economy back on track, that's going to create jobs, and that's going to allow every American to have a legitimate shot at realizing the American Dream.

I thank the gentlelady for the time.

□ 1510

Ms. HANABUSA. I thank the gentleman from Rhode Island. Before he leaves, I'd like to say this:

We have an opportunity as freshmen. We came here as a small number originally—the Noble Nine—and we have maintained our relationships. We hear each other all the time. Some of us sit

right in front of where the Congressman from Rhode Island is, and we shift in and out of those seats because we hear what each other has done and what our constituents are saying.

I can't tell you—and I'm sure he shares this with me—how great it is to hear, for example, the Congressman from Detroit talk about the Detroit plan and to hear the Congressman from Rhode Island speak about a type of block grant for his Make It in America part. Each and every one of them has done something where they're looking at and hearing their constituents. That's what we want to impress upon everyone, that we hear what our constituents are saying.

I think it was said very well by the Congressman from Delaware that we all have to put everything aside and build on the public's confidence. In Congress, we're just another body. The public has got to feel that confidence, not just in Congress, but in the United States of America, the greatest country in the world. They've got to feel that confidence. They've got to understand that other economies depend upon us. When we look like we're quibbling over things that are irrelevant to international matters, that's when their stock markets go crashing—based on how we act.

So wouldn't you say, Congressman CICILLINE, that what we need to do is set things aside and, as to anything we've got to do within the next 14 months, work together so that people begin to have confidence in us and then, by that, have confidence in this great Nation?

Mr. CICILLINE. I agree.

One of the important responsibilities that we have—and I think the work of the supercommittee is, obviously, first and foremost to all of us—is the opportunity to deal with the urgent responsibilities of our economic condition and our debt and our deficit and being sure that we are responsible in the way we cut spending. At the same time, if we do this right, we have an opportunity to restore the public's confidence in the operations of its national government.

I think people are going to look to this, and it will not only matter for the next fiscal year; it will matter for many generations. We will be able to demonstrate to the American people that we came together, Republicans and Democrats, and solved this hard set of questions and made the tough decisions to fix our economy in order to be sure that America continues to lead the world.

As freshmen on both sides of the aisle, we come here new to this experience and maybe without a lot of the history that so many other Members of Congress might have and some of the scar tissue that has maybe been built up over the years. I'm hoping, with the energy and the optimism of our freshman class and with our freshman colleagues on the other side of the aisle, it can help propel us into a new way of

working together, in a bipartisan way, to solve the real challenges that face our country.

Ms. HANABUSA. The one message that resonated at home is that people think we're going to do this time and time again—in other words, that we're going to have the CR issues, that we're going to have the debt ceiling issues. So I've impressed upon them, if the supercommittee does what it's supposed to do, that it's a plan for 10 years, and hopefully, it will give us stability.

The gentleman from Delaware said STENY HOYER, our minority whip, stated it's going to be the most critical vote we all take and one of the most critical votes that this Congress will take because, in this difficult time, that's what is going to render us stable if we're able to do it correctly. So I hope that on both sides of the aisle we're able to do that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 2608. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

JOB CREATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. GRIFFIN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I've been listening here on the floor today, and I heard some folks mention the need for action on the issue of jobs. I agree. Some of them said, hey, there hasn't been much action. There has been a lack of action, I think was the quote that I heard here on the floor earlier. I'd like to talk about that a little bit.

There has been a lot of action on the issue of jobs in the House. When folks talk about the Congress, they sort of group the House and the Senate together. I understand that, but the House and the Senate are two separate bodies, and the leadership in the House and the leadership in the Senate have two different visions of where this country ought to go.

As it relates to the House, there has been a lot of action. We've passed about 90 bills in the House this year. During that same timeframe, the Senate passed 20. A lot of those bills that we've passed here in the House directly relate to the issue of job creation and in helping our country get back on its feet.

Many of us understand that government is not the key job creator in this

country. The private sector creates jobs, and the government can make things better or make things worse for job creators. My hope is that we're working to make things better—to create an environment where the private sector can then flourish, can innovate, can advance, and create jobs.

Now let's talk about the action here in the House.

We've got a number of bills that we've passed that relate to job creation, bills that were then taken down to the other side of this building and given to the Senate. That's where they rest. They're just sitting there. A lot of us grew up in the seventies. We remember "Schoolhouse Rock." We remember that little bill sitting on Capitol Hill. That bill can't become a law unless it passes this House, the Senate, and then the President signs it. Well, that little bill was passed out of here. It's waiting on the Senate to do something about it, that little jobs bill, and there's a whole host of them down there with it. Let me mention a few of them.

First and foremost, when we got here in January, we voted to repeal ObamaCare, the health care law that recently passed. Why did we do that? Because it is a source of angst, uncertainty, out-of-control government spending, and excessive regulation the likes of which this country has never seen before. We voted to repeal that on the first day of the first week back. The first week we got here we sent that over to the Senate, and they didn't pass it.

We passed H.R. 872, the Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act. No Senate action.

We passed the Energy Tax Prevention Act to block some of the EPA's controversial excessive regulations. No action on that.

We passed H. Res. 72, asking our House committees to inventory regulations and look for places we can trim them back, reform them and save. No action like that in the Senate.

H.R. 1230, Restarting American Offshore Leasing Now Act, a bill, along with several others that we passed, to encourage energy exploration. No action in the Senate.

The Putting the Gulf of Mexico Back to Work Act. No action in the Senate.

Reversing President Obama's Offshore Moratorium Act. No action in the Senate.

We can go on and on and on.

One of those things that we passed here that the Senate hasn't passed is a budget—a fundamental document for managing one's finances. We passed one here. They haven't had a budget in the Senate for, I think, about 2 years now. For 888 days, no budget in the Senate.

So we've done a lot here in the House. Congress as a whole hasn't acted on a lot of this stuff, but we've done our part, and we've sent it down to the other side of the building, to the Senate. We're waiting for action on many pieces of critical legislation that

can help this country get back to job creation.

□ 1520

I would now like to yield to my friend from Illinois.

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Thank you.

This kind of reminds me of the story of the rogue cowboy. When you think of somebody, you know, sitting under the sun just taking it all in, doesn't really want to work with anybody.

That reminds me of the Senate, taking it easy. They haven't taken a lot of votes this year; more interested in, I guess, getting paid and letting the bills stack up, and they don't need to work with anybody.

But you know what we can do in that process? Let's blame one small lever of government. Let's blame the House Republicans. Let's blame them for the 9.1 percent unemployment. Let's do that. You know, that's what we can do. We don't actually have to govern.

I mean, when you look at it, they've had control of the House of Representatives and the Senate since 2006 and the Presidency since 2008, with the exception of a very brief period of time over the last year where Republicans have been blessed and fortunate enough to be in the majority in the House of Representatives. But yet this unemployment, according to them, is our fault.

We need jobs in this country. In my district, the 11th Congressional District in Illinois, you have cities like Joliet, like Ottawa, like Bloomington. A lot of places have seen their manufacturing base disappear. They've seen it over the last 20 or 30 years. And what's been our reaction? Well, typically the knee-jerk reaction in Washington, DC, is that we have to have some kind of a program. We have to pass more spending.

Well, if there's no jobs, I mean, obviously the problem, if there's no jobs, it's got to be because Washington, DC, hasn't done enough. And so we get in this perpetual cycle of let's spend more and spend more.

I remember a couple of years ago, almost a trillion dollar stimulus was passed out of this House of Representatives, and I think by everybody's measure would agree that it was ineffective. I have not seen many people with a straight face argue that the stimulus was effective. Even the Commander in Chief, the President himself said, well, you know, it wasn't quite as shovel ready as we expected.

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Reclaiming my time, I just want to point out that in Arkansas the President predicted that the stimulus would create 30,000 jobs. I think, in the end, the government funded about 4,800 jobs at a cost of around \$300,000 per job.

Now, if someone would've just given me the checkbook, I could have created more jobs writing people checks and could have saved people all the work. I mean, the idea that you create jobs at \$300,000 a job is just unbelievable.