

through waves of distress, the administration wants to deliver a tsunami in the form of tax increases. Taxing, taxing, taxing is about the only solution that it can come up with. But what it doesn't seem to realize is how it's failed all of us. It's shrinking the economy even more and is shrinking paychecks too. If the administration lets the Bush era tax cuts expire, 700,000 jobs will be destroyed. And out of those jobs, 56,800 will be in Texas.

The administration has had its chances to restore financial stability in this country without creating tax hikes. These tax increases not only target the wealthy. These taxes will actually take hard strikes at small businesses and the middle class. Contrary to what the administration believes, this is not fair.

Ernst & Young's latest study breaks it down just right. It examined the long-term impacts of increasing top tax rates. And let me tell you, they're not good. The long-run economic consequences are severe. Here it goes.

The administration proposes a one-year extension of the current tax rates for households making \$250,000 or less. Then, those making \$250,000 or more, including a lot of small businesses that file under the individual rate, will pay the tax rates prior to the Bush era. That means the top rate will go from 35 percent to 39.6 percent. Tax rates for the other top income tax bracket will go from 33 percent to 36 percent.

But this isn't all of them. The administration continues to tax. Medicare tax will go from 2.9 percent to 3.8 percent. A new 3.8 percent tax will be implemented on investment income. And last but not least, higher taxes on capital gains and dividends.

So, what does this total and how does it all play out? The combination of all these taxes will take the top individual income tax rate from 35 percent to 44.7 percent next year. And beware; this doesn't include all of the Obamacare taxes that will empty your wallet in 2013.

What does this do? Approximately 2 million businesses will be affected by these tax hikes. This will take capital out of the hands of business owners and reduced labor supply and the United States will lose \$200 billion in economic output. And extending the rates for families earning less than \$250,000 will cost us \$175 billion dollars next year. As bad as this sounds already, the tax hikes will likely force American employers to trim their workers' pay by 1.8 percent.

What will happen? Business firms will be hit hard. We will see patterns of less hiring, less investment in businesses, and retarded growth of these businesses in their sector. Sixty million Americans are small business employees. About two out of three jobs was created by a small business. And the administration is trying to take this away from us.

We've had enough of their fun with taxes. As someone who claims his focus to be "rebuilding the economy," he is doing quite the opposite. Our lives now revolve around taxes and this is all thanks to our nation's leader who thinks he can tax our way into economic prosperity. It doesn't take a math genius to figure out that these tax numbers are not the solution to a damaged economy. His idea that taxing the wealthy won't hurt this economy is false. If his job is to stifle job creation, create class warfare, and even further damage our market, then he's really done it well.

We can't afford to let this happen.

We can't afford to lose more than 700,000 jobs.

We can't afford to give more control to our government.

And that's just the way it is.

DESIGNATION OF AUGUST AS NATIONAL FUEL EFFICIENCY MONTH

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge President Obama to designate August as National Fuel Efficiency Month. It is critical that we help educate the American public that we can all contribute to energy independence and environmental sustainability if we undertake a few simple measures.

More fuel-efficient vehicles are being built and sold in the United States every day. But as we head into the major summer driving season, it's important to remember that we all can improve fuel efficiency right now, through a number of simple measures—even without buying a new car.

In my home state of Pennsylvania, there were nearly 7.9 million passenger vehicles on the roads last year. Armstrong, Butler, Crawford, Erie, Mercer, Vernango, and Warren counties accounted for almost 500,000 of those registrations. For all of the drivers in Pennsylvania's 3rd congressional district—and for all of the many drivers across the United States—we should be raising awareness about how to be more fuel efficient.

For example, simply using cruise control will help drivers maintain a steady speed and save fuel. Tuning your car and keeping tires inflated each can increase your fuel economy by 3 or 4%. Driving responsibly and at the speed limit also improve fuel economy.

AAA and many other organizations have tips for driving economically. EPA also has posted information on efficient driving at <http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/drive.shtml>. These techniques will save Americans fuel, decrease emissions and help us achieve energy independence.

Again, I urge the President to designate August as National Fuel Efficiency Month. Such a designation would provide the perfect opportunity for all of us to take a good look at our driving habits and see how easily we can improve fuel economy.

CONGRATULATING WILFRED COOPER, SR. FOR HIS INDUCTION INTO THE CALIFORNIA HOME-BUILDING FOUNDATION'S HALL OF FAME

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize Wilfred Cooper, Sr. for his service to the community and this nation. Mr. Cooper has recently been inducted into the California Homebuilding Foundation's Hall of Fame,

which honors individuals who are active in the home building industry and committed to improving the lives of others through service to civic, social, and philanthropic organizations.

Mr. Cooper has devoted his career to addressing the need for affordable and available housing at both the national and local level. He has served as senior life director of the National Association of Home Builders, chairman of NAHB's Multifamily Council, and as a member of NAHB's Low Income Housing Tax Credit Steering Group. Mr. Cooper also volunteers on the Board of Advisors for Jamboree Housing, the Board of Directors for Volunteers of America, and the Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance.

In addition to his advocacy and volunteer work, Mr. Cooper founded WNC & Associates, Inc. in 1971. It was one of the first affordable housing investors in the United States and has long been recognized as an industry leader in affordable housing. Today, his firm proudly serves more than 45,000 low and moderate income families in 42 states.

Mr. Cooper's tireless energy and passion, which is apparent in his business, advocacy, and volunteer work has bettered the lives of many and has produced positive change in neighborhoods across the nation. I cannot think of a more deserving candidate for this award. It is my privilege to congratulate Mr. Wilfred Cooper, Sr. on this recognition and for his lifetime of service to promote affordable housing in America.

IN HONORING OF THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF PLAST, THE UKRAINIAN SCOUTING ORGANIZATION

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of Plast, the Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

Plast was founded in 1911 by Dr. Oleksandr Tysovsky, and it is based on the principles of scouting started by Lord Baden Powell in Great Britain.

As a consequence of the country's absence of national independence through most of the 20th Century, Plast was forced to go underground when the occupying Soviet Union declared the organization illegal and banned its activities.

However, following World War II, when many Ukrainians emigrated to various countries of the Free World, including the United States, the plastun among the émigrés formed Plast organizations in the countries of their settlement. This included incorporating "Plast, Inc." in 1950 in the state of Michigan.

Additionally, after the Declaration of Independence of Ukraine in 1991, Plast was reconstituted in Ukraine with the help of plastun from the United States and other Free-World countries.

Today, Plast is an international organization of Ukrainian youth which fosters personal development, leadership and teamwork, as well as a love of Ukrainian culture and history while also raising youth to be conscientious, responsible and valuable citizens of their communities at the local, national and international

level. Former President of Ukraine, Victor Yushchenko, is an honorary plastun, and Liubomyr Cardinal Husar, a U.S. citizen and now Patriarch-emeritus of the Ukrainian Eastern Rite Catholic Church based in Ukraine is one of many distinguished plastuns.

Currently, Plast has 23 branches coast to coast in the United States, and Plast will be celebrating its Centennial with a Jamboree in Ukraine August 10 to 24, with the official opening of the Jamboree Celebration on August 19th in the city of L'viv.

As such, we should recognize August 19, 2012 as the Centennial Day of Plast, commend the Ukrainian Scouting Organization for its tremendous contributions, and celebrate the Centennial of Plast.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485 and 486 I was delayed and unable to vote. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 472, "aye" on rollcall No. 473, "no" on rollcall No. 474, "no" on rollcall No. 475, "aye" on rollcall No. 476, "no" on rollcall No. 477, "aye" on rollcall No. 478, "no" on rollcall No. 479, "no" on rollcall No. 480, "no" on rollcall No. 481, "no" on rollcall No. 482, "no" on rollcall No. 483, "no" on rollcall No. 484, "no" on rollcall No. 485, "aye" on rollcall No. 486.

A TRIBUTE TO JASON KENNETH WITTMUSS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jason Wittmuss of Wauke, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. Jason's project involved remodeling a gardening shed for Wildwood Hills Ranch, a summer camp program for low-income youth. The work ethic Jason has shown in his Eagle Project, and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank, speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Jason and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House

will join me in congratulating him in obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and will wish him continued success in his future education and career.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, on July 18, 2012, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall vote 481.

Had I been present for rollcall 481, on agreeing to the Woolsey amendment to reduce the total amount of appropriations made by the bill by \$181,000,000, I would have voted "no."

HONORING DANIEL A. SCHULTZ

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of the Seventh Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Daniel A. Schultz, who recently lost his battle with Sarcoma.

Daniel Schultz was an outspoken advocate for Sarcoma awareness. Sarcoma is a rare, highly aggressive, cancer which can present anywhere in the body and occurs in connective tissues, such as muscle, fat, fibrous tissue and blood vessels. As with most rare diseases, this cancer has a higher prevalence in children. Sarcoma represents approximately 15 percent of all children's cancers. Treatments for rare diseases, like Sarcoma, are difficult to achieve which is why I was happy to cosponsor the Creating Hope Act, introduced by my colleague from Texas, Congressman MICHAEL MCCAUL. This bill, which was signed into law last month, creates incentives for the development of treatments for rare diseases that disproportionately impact children. In honor of Daniel A. Schultz, I would like to recognize the importance of Sarcoma Awareness.

HONORING MRS. STELLA TOKAR

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Stella Tokar, an outstanding individual who has continuously supported the Miami community.

As a busy military spouse and dedicated mother of two, Mrs. Tokar has always found time to represent and lead her community. Although her family was constantly relocated around the nation to follow her husband who served in the military, this constant relocating did not stop her from giving back to her community. While living in Texas she was PTA President at four different schools in the area and served on a state appointed committee to institute media rating systems. While living in

Annapolis, MD she was offered a position as Special Assistant to the House Majority Leader of the State of Maryland, and shortly after was promoted to work in the Senate.

Upon her arrival in South Florida she returned to work in education, but quickly distinguished herself as a community leader and was asked to become the President/CEO of the Miramar Pembroke Pines Chamber of Commerce. During her tenure, she was able to transform a struggling establishment into what is now considered a fiscally sound and model Chamber of Commerce in the State of Florida. She has received numerous awards for her work including the 2011 Florida Association of Chamber Professionals "Professional of the Year" and has been recognized as one of "100 Most Influential Women in Broward County".

Always striving for excellence and new endeavors Mrs. Tokar started her own company, BOLD Consulting, LLC, which stands for Build, Organize, Lead, and Discover. Mrs. Tokar is an accomplished businesswoman and community representative, but she considers her greatest treasures in life to be her husband, children, and grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Mrs. Stella Tokar for her continued service to the Miami community and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this exemplary individual.

IN MEMORY OF REVEREND DR.

ROBERT E. PRICE, SR.

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Reverend Dr. Robert E. Price, Sr., the pastor of New Mount Zion Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Price passed away on Saturday, July 14, 2012.

Born in Smithville, Texas, Dr. Price grew up in a large family as the second youngest of eleven children. At an early age, he took a strong interest in ministry. He helped local pastors during his high school years and assisted chaplains during his tenure in the U.S. Army. After retiring from a successful career at a mortgage banking company, Dr. Price felt the call to ministry. He attended Bishop College for training in theology and later graduated from Saint Thomas Christian College with a Doctor of Divinity degree.

Dr. Price was a man with great vision who wholeheartedly dedicated himself to serving his community. Under his leadership, New Mount Zion Baptist Church grew from less than one hundred members to over 3,000 members. It also began to offer a variety of ministries, including educational, business, and technological ministries, to meet the needs of its congregation. His dreams of having a day care center and credit union for the church also came to fruition. To recognize Dr. Price and his dedicated service to our community, I sponsored legislation to have a local post office named in his honor. In March 2007, I had the privilege of attending the dedication ceremony, where I witnessed firsthand the countless elected officials, community leaders, and individuals that came out to show their support, love, and respect for Dr. Price. His legacy is one of faith, service, and charity.