

plan to rebuild our economy with proposals focused on manufacturing, innovation, investments in infrastructure and workforce training, proposals that I and many of my colleagues have been working hard to advance.

I urge my friends on the other side of the aisle to move forward on the Off-shore Prevention Act that would end tax breaks for companies that ship American jobs overseas. We should work together to strengthen American manufacturing by passing legislation such as my Make it in America Block Grant and the rest of the Make it in America agenda. I look forward to fighting hard for commonsense proposals like these that will benefit hard-working families in my State.

Rhode Islanders want Congress to move beyond ideological differences to get things done for our country. After so much unproductive partisanship this past year, let's send the President bills like these that will advance not just the interests of Democrats or Republicans, but of every American family.

SEQUESTRATION UNDERMINES PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Constitution gives Congress the responsibility of providing for a common defense. The defense cuts that occur in 2013 as a result of sequestration undermines this constitutional duty. General Ray Odierno, the Army Chief of Staff, has stated, "Cuts of this magnitude would be catastrophic for the military."

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta has said that under sequestration, "We would have to reduce the size of the military sharply. Rough estimates indicate after 10 years of these cuts, we would have the smallest ground forces since 1940, the smallest number of ships since 1915, and the smallest Air Force in our history."

With growing worldwide threats, the President last night praised our troops but actually is slashing the Army by 80,000 troops and cuts to Marines by 20,000.

I urge my colleagues to support Chairman BUD McKEON and vote in favor of the Down Payment on National Security Act. This bill provides certainty for the military to promote peace through strength.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

CONGRESS SHOULD WORK TOGETHER

(Ms. HOCHUL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, exactly 12 hours ago, those of us who sat in this

Chamber watched raw courage walk through that door when our colleague, GABBY GIFFORDS, came in here of her own accord. She overcame obstacles both physical and emotional that few of us can ever imagine. In this room, we often find similar challenges. I call on this body in the spirit of GABBY GIFFORDS to put aside our differences and work together and institute the parts of the President's plan we heard last night that we all agree on.

I sat over here on the so-called Republican side of the aisle, and I know there were times when my colleagues, all of them, got up and applauded and supported the President and issues, whether it was to bring back jobs from overseas, whether it was fairness in our Tax Code, or infrastructure for our roads and bridges that are crumbling, at least in my district.

We have much before us, just as our friend GABBY did. We can overcome it. She did it. We must. The American people are counting on us.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, last night in this very Chamber, I heard the President talk of an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy for our Nation. I couldn't agree more. But this is the same President who a few days ago rejected the Keystone XL pipeline project, a \$7 billion trifecta shovel-ready for America: jobs, energy security, and urgent logistical relief necessary to move oil to the gulf coast region.

Count me as one of the disappointed. At a time when we should be doing everything we can to be giving American workers a lift, instead we take to the bully pulpit and preach envy and division, simply a smokescreen for political convenience and expedience.

Mr. President, if you truly believe in an all-of-the-above strategy, if you're genuinely concerned about 8½ percent unemployment, and if you're looking for a bipartisan way to reverse this economic course we are on, say "yes" to Keystone XL.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind the Members that they are to address their remarks to the Chair.

FAIRNESS IS VITAL TO THE SURVIVAL OF OUR SOCIETY

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased last night to hear President Obama talk about the defining issue of our time, the great economic disparity that we face in this society and the need to have a fair taxation

system. Of course, what is fair is in the eye of the beholder, and the recent disclosure of Governor Mitt Romney's tax returns offers us a great laboratory to talk about that.

On \$21 million in income, he paid \$3 million in taxes. The question for us shouldn't be whether \$3 million is fair or whether a 13.9 percent rate is fair. The question is, did he deserve a preferential rate? Did that \$21 million of income educate anyone, did it create jobs, did it provide important research, did it build infrastructure? If it provided a broad societal benefit, then that preferential rate is justified. If not, then we can't explain to hard-working Americans how he pays a lower rate than they do.

Fairness is incredibly vital to the survival of our society, and we need to emphasize that always.

□ 0910

STATE OF THE UNION SPEECH

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

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, today is day 1,001 since the Senate has passed a budget. In addition to that, Mr. Speaker, the President has notified this body that his budget will also be late this year. Now, that may be a couple days, it may be a week—we don't know exactly how late that's going to be at this point. And last night, at the State of the Union Address, he spent exactly 3 percent of the speech talking about debt and deficits. We have \$15.3 trillion worth of debt right now in our Nation. It is a major issue for us. It slows down our economy.

I was very pleased to hear him talk about an all-of-the-above energy strategy though, and I'm very focused on that exact same thing. But I did have a couple things that need to be cleared up. He mentioned basically that hydraulic fracking and the process of recovering shale gas was a Federal project and a Federal invention. Well, I'd like to inform everyone that since 1949, we have done that in Oklahoma. And the chemicals that he mentioned, we need to get out there and stop concealing them. If you go to fracfocus.org, Mr. Speaker, you will already find all those hydraulic chemicals out there. So we need to clear those things up.

MOVE AMERICA FORWARD

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, last night was the State of the Union, but it was also the State of the American family, for family values were much on display like I have never seen before in this room. We had the President of the United States and his beautiful wife, Michelle, who have a beautiful family

and certainly exhibited family values. And we had GABBY GIFFORDS and her marvelous husband, Mark Kelly, who have shown family values. Two couples in America that are beautiful and have shown what vows mean and what for better or worse mean. They know a marriage is forever.

They also are great Americans who want to bring this country together. And the President properly said our country is great. We're doing better. We have improved since the Bush years in so many areas and are putting our country on a course toward economic employment, preservation of the middle class, shared responsibility, and fairness.

I urge everybody, in the spirit of family values that the President and Representative GIFFORDS and their families exhibit, to join together as an American family and move this country forward and keep America number one.

HOUSE-PASSED BILLS DEMAND ACTION

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last night, President Obama asked Congress to support his same failed policies that have kept unemployment above 8 percent. This administration has caused our economy to fail. The House has passed more than 30 bipartisan bills that will create American jobs, but the Democratic-controlled Senate has failed to move on 27 of them. It's time for the Senate and the President to get behind these commonsense bills that will boost job growth, cut spending, shrink the deficit, and get the government out of the way of small business.

Just last week, the President rejected the Keystone project, which would create tens of thousands of jobs, draw billions of dollars in new investment to the United States, and increase our domestic energy security. America's energy independence should be a top priority for the White House. Americans want, need, and deserve immediate action on these bills and the Keystone pipeline.

ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF EGYPTIAN REVOLUTION

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Egyptian people on their revolution 1 year ago today. Of course that revolution is still a work in progress, but it reminded us of what people can accomplish through non-violence and perseverance. It inspired my constituents and people around the world.

Egyptians disproved the myth that people in the region do not want de-

mocracy. Protesters in the streets were not asking for another dictator. The nonviolent protest was a stunning rejection of violence and extremism as exhibited by al Qaeda. They also were not blaming others for their problems. Their demands focused primarily on internal issues like the economy, corruption, and police brutality.

The United States must engage the new Egyptian Government. We can't advance our interests and values if we don't. If the new Parliament doesn't deliver, the Egyptian people will throw them out just like our people will throw us out. That's democracy. As they build theirs, we should remember that we're still perfecting our own.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on the postponed question will be taken later.

ULTRALIGHT AIRCRAFT SMUGGLING PREVENTION ACT OF 2012

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3801) to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to clarify the definition of aircraft and the offenses penalized under the aviation smuggling provisions under that Act, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3801

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Ultralight Aircraft Smuggling Prevention Act of 2012".

SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF AIRCRAFT AND OFFENSES UNDER AVIATION SMUGGLING PROVISIONS OF THE TARIFF ACT OF 1930.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 590 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1590) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (f) the following:

“(g) DEFINITION OF AIRCRAFT.—In this section, the term ‘aircraft’—

“(1) has the meaning given that term in section 40102 of title 49, United States Code; and

“(2) includes a vehicle described in section 103.1 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations.”.

(b) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—Subsection (d) of section 590 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1590(d)) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by inserting “, or attempts or conspires to commit,” after “commits”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section apply with respect to violations of any provision of section 590 of the Tariff Act of 1930 on or after the 30th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Department of Defense has worked collaboratively with the Department of Homeland Security to identify equipment, technology, and expertise used by the Department of Defense that could be leveraged by the Department of Homeland Security to help fulfill its missions.

(2) As part of that collaborative effort, the Department of Homeland Security has leveraged Department of Defense equipment, technology, and expertise to enhance the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to detect, track, and engage illicit trafficking across the international borders between the United States and Mexico and the United States and Canada.

(3) Leveraging Department of Defense equipment, technology, and expertise is a cost-effective inter-agency approach to enhancing the effectiveness of the Department of Homeland Security to protect the United States against a variety of threats and risks.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Defense should—

(1) continue the broad program of cooperation and collaboration with the Secretary of Homeland Security described in subsection (a); and

(2) ensure that the Department of Homeland Security is able to identify equipment and technology used by the Department of Defense that could also be used by U.S. Customs and Border Protection to enhance its efforts to combat illicit trafficking across the international borders between the United States and Mexico and the United States and Canada, including equipment and technology that could be used to detect and track the illicit use of ultralight aircraft.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. REICHERT) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, as a former sheriff, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3801 because it would address the increasing use of ultralight aircraft in the smuggling of contraband across our borders.

We also move this bill today in honor of Congresswoman GABRIELLE GIFFORDS, the sponsor of this bill. She ably represented Arizona's Eighth Congressional District since being elected to the United States House of Representatives in November of 2006. In fact, our offices were next door to each other when she first arrived in Congress, and we had an opportunity to walk and talk and share some stories, and I learned from her that she came to Congress for the right reasons—she is concerned about her constituents and cares and loves this country deeply. So we got to know each other just a little bit. And one of her foremost