

and their announcement will certainly be watched by all.

As the chairman of the Congressional Health Caucus, I've held a series of policy forums to discuss the future of health care in this country. Today we heard from Dr. John Goodman, president and CEO of the National Center for Policy Analysis in Dallas. Dr. Goodman has put a considerable amount of time into how to craft health care policy that will be beneficial to all Americans without the burdensome law that we currently have.

Additionally, doctors in Dallas convened with four Members of Congress earlier this month. They produced a set of principles that I will provide for the RECORD. I encourage people to spend some time and look at those, and understand that we have to have health care in this country that's patient-centered, doctor-led, and most of all, we keep the government out of the way.

ARIZONA IMMIGRATION RULING IS A HUGE VICTORY FOR AMERICAN JOBS

(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, yesterday, the Supreme Court upheld section 2(b), or the "Check Your Papers" provision, of the Arizona immigration law. This requires the police to check the immigration status of persons whom they detain before releasing. Upholding this provision represents a victory for States that are protecting their citizens to retain jobs.

Columbia business leader Chip Prezioso is correct: A country without borders is no longer a country.

The Obama administration has actively prevented States like Arizona and South Carolina from promoting their citizens to keep jobs from competing illegal aliens. The Federal Government has good immigration laws, but Attorney General Eric Holder has refused to enforce them.

As a former immigration attorney, I know we welcome legal immigration. Arizona and South Carolina took proactive steps to ensure that State law enforcement officials are empowered to keep jobs for Americans, instead of illegal aliens.

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

VOICE OF TEXAS, JAMES: MR. PRESIDENT, FOLLOW THE CONSTITUTION

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, like many Americans, my neighbors are concerned with the President's refusal to follow the Constitution.

James from Kingwood, Texas, wrote me this:

When, as an officer on activity duty, I took an oath to support and defend the Constitution. I honored and still honor that oath because I believe in this country and in the constitutional form of government.

As near as I can see, the President is not enforcing the laws he is required to do. If a military officer were found selectively performing his duty, he would be court-martialed, discharged, and dismissed from the service, as he should be.

Sir, how long does the President get to thumb his nose at the Constitution and at Congress? The Congress must take action now to support the Constitution, or we won't have a Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, James is correct. The President is not supposed to make law by Executive edict from the palace of the White House, nor is the President to willfully refuse to enforce laws. Both actions are a violation of the supreme law of the land, the Constitution.

And that's just the way it is.

HOUSE GOP JOBS PLAN

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the facts don't lie. President Obama's policies have failed the American people and are making the economy worse. Since the President took office, unemployment has been above 8 percent for 40 months, gas prices have doubled, and the number of Americans having to rely on food stamps has climbed to an all-time high while the number of new business startups has dropped to a 17-year low.

Our national debt has surpassed \$15 trillion, greater than our entire economy, and the CBO has projected that 2012 will bring the fourth \$1 trillion deficit in a row.

Because the President cannot run on his record, he has, regrettably, turned to the politics of envy and division. House Republicans, though, have a plan for America's job creators to help turn this economy around.

It's time for the President and Senate Democrats to stop blocking our jobs bills and help us put Americans back to work.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 2:45 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1448

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. FOXX) at 2 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.

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 motions 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.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

ENABLING ENERGY SAVING INNOVATIONS ACT

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4850) to allow for innovations and alternative technologies that meet or exceed desired energy efficiency goals.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4850

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 "Enabling Energy Saving Innovations Act".

SEC. 2. INNOVATIVE COMPONENT TECHNOLOGIES.

Section 342(f) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313(f)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "paragraphs (2) through (5)" and inserting "paragraphs (2) through (6)"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(6) INNOVATIVE COMPONENT TECHNOLOGIES.—Subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) shall not apply to a walk-in cooler or walk-in freezer component if the component manufacturer has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the component reduces energy consumption at least as much as if such subparagraph were to apply. In support of any demonstration under this paragraph, a manufacturer shall provide to the Secretary all data and technical information necessary to fully evaluate its application."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. WHITFIELD. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Enabling Energy Saving Innovations Act, H.R. 4850, which was introduced by Representative ADERHOLT of Alabama. This bill fixes a problem with section 312 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 relating to newly manufactured walk-in coolers and walk-in freezers. The legislation resolves a problem by providing the Secretary of Energy authority to waive certain component specifications of section 312, so long as the manufacturer demonstrates that that product meets or exceeds DOE energy-efficiency standards.

I would urge all Members to support this commonsense piece of legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1450

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee asked me to convey that he has no objection to the bill. Mr. ADERHOLT's bill provides the flexibility for walk-in coolers and walk-in freezers to meet the applicable energy-efficiency standards with technologies other than foam insulation. The bill ensures that the alternative technology reduces energy consumption at least as much as the insulation that is currently required. We think this is a reasonable approach, encourage Members to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, at this time I would like to yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT), who is the author of this legislation.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, when Congress passed the Energy Independence and Security Act in December 2007, it inadvertently did not allow a procedure for technologies which may provide greater energy efficiencies than even what is required in the bill. The legislation before us this afternoon simply makes a small change in relation to walk-in coolers and freezers.

Section 312 of the Energy Independence and Security Act regulates the efficiency standards of walk-in coolers and freezers. The section mandates that cooler and freezer doors meet a certain R-value as a measurement of their ability to retain temperature and use less energy. The problem is that an R-value is a measurement based primarily on the thickness of foam. Therefore, requiring products to meet an R-value prohibits technologies that are just as efficient, but utilize alternative materials or technologies.

These types of statutes typically provide the Department of Energy with a waiver authority. This bill simply provides the Department of Energy with the authority to waive the R-value requirement if they determine a product meets or exceeds the desired energy-efficiency goals. This bill is supported by the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy. Furthermore, we have spoken with officials at the Department of Energy who recognize the need to consider the energy savings of nonfoam products.

Madam Speaker, this situation offers a prime example of how making an adjustment in a government regulation can maintain standards and at the same time allow flexibility for businesses and retailers to purchase superior products to enable their businesses to use less energy and therefore save more money. The law as it currently stands is preventing this mutually beneficial transaction from taking place. Furthermore, without a waiver authority, the law will continue to limit fu-

ture innovations in this important sector. It would be, as if in the 1950s, Congress had mandated that the record industry only use a certain type of vinyl. Therefore, there would be no cassette tapes, CDs, or iPods.

With this simple bill, Congress can fix this oversight, allowing more eco-friendly innovations and a freer marketplace. This is one way we as Representatives can help continue to create an environment for economic growth. For those reasons, this bill enjoys wide bipartisan support, and I urge a "yes" vote on H.R. 4850.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, if the other side of the aisle has no further speakers, then I'm prepared to yield back.

Mr. WHITFIELD. We have no further speakers.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. I urge a "yes" vote on the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I just want to thank the gentlelady from Florida and the ranking member for working with us on this legislation. I urge its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4850.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COLLINSVILLE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROMOTION ACT

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5625) to reinstate and transfer certain hydroelectric licenses and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5625

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 "Collinsville Renewable Energy Promotion Act".

SEC. 2. REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED LICENSES AND EXTENSION OF TIME TO COMMENCE CONSTRUCTION OF PROJECTS.

Subject to section 4 of this Act and notwithstanding the time period under section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission projects numbered 10822 and 10823, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (referred to in this Act as the "Commission") may—

(1) reinstate the license for either or each of those projects; and

(2) extend for 2 years after the date on which either or each project is reinstated under paragraph (1) the time period during which the licensee is required to commence the construction of such projects.

Prior to reaching any final decision under this section, the Commission shall provide an opportunity for the submission of comments by interested persons, municipalities, and States and shall consider any such comment that is timely submitted.

SEC. 3. TRANSFER OF LICENSES TO THE TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT.

Notwithstanding section 8 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 801) or any other provision thereof, if the Commission reinstates the license for, and extends the time period during which the licensee is required to commence the construction of, a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project under section 2, the Commission shall transfer such license to the town of Canton, Connecticut.

SEC. 4. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.

(a) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term "environmental assessment" shall have the same meaning as is given such term in regulations prescribed by the Council on Environmental Quality that implement the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

(b) ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall complete an environmental assessment for Federal Energy Regulatory Commission projects numbered 10822 and 10823, updating, to the extent necessary, the environmental analysis performed during the process of licensing such projects.

(c) COMMENT PERIOD.—Upon issuance of the environmental assessment required under subsection (b), the Commission shall—

(1) initiate a 30-day public comment period; and

(2) before taking any action under section 2 or 3—

(A) consider any comments received during such 30-day period; and

(B) incorporate in the license for the projects involved, such terms and conditions as the Commission determines to be necessary, based on the environmental assessment performed and comments received under this section.

SEC. 5. DEADLINE.

Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall—

(1) make a final decision pursuant to paragraph (1) of section 2; and

(2) if the Commission decides to reinstate 1 or both of the licenses under such paragraph and extend the corresponding deadline for commencement of construction under paragraph (2) of such section, complete the action required under section 3.

SEC. 6. PROTECTION OF EXISTING RIGHTS.

Nothing in this Act shall affect any valid license issued by the Commission under section 4 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 797) on or before the date of enactment of this Act or diminish or extinguish any existing rights under any such license.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 5625, which was introduced by Representative MURPHY of Connecticut. This legislation would provide the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission with limited authority to reinstate two terminated hydroelectric licenses and transfer