

On Thursday, the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel will hold a hearing to investigate these issues in an effort to determine why the Department of Defense has failed to properly implement the legislation. As chairman of the subcommittee, I look forward to hearing witnesses explain and ensure that those serving in our Armed Forces are given the best available access to voter registration. Every reasonable effort should be made to enable a service-member's ability to vote.

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

Our sympathies to the families of Ambassador Christopher Stevens and our Foreign Service officers in Libya and Egypt.

ATTACKS ON OUR DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN LIBYA AND EGYPT

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply disturbed by the attacks on our diplomatic missions in Libya and Egypt. Four Americans have now been killed, including U.S. Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens. These Americans served bravely and with distinction, and this is a terrible, terrible tragedy. I have seen this amateurish and stupid video, and there is nothing in it, despite the fact that it is deliberately provocative, that could ever justify the murders of these innocent people.

The fact is this must be condemned in the strongest terms. These individuals who didn't like this video—and there is much to dislike about it—could have peacefully protested or could have written letters. They could have registered their disapproval in a number of ways, but they resorted to murder. This is morally objectionable, and the whole world must condemn it. Of course, it doesn't help to provoke people even if you have the right to do so, but it is always wrong to respond with violence and mayhem.

VOICE OF TEXAS, KELLY FROM CROSBY, TEXAS

(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, Texans have shared with me their stories about the businesses that they have built without the help of the Federal Government.

Kelly from Crosby, Texas, wrote me this:

Congressman, you are correct that small business owners carry the full load of government taxes.

On average, our small \$3 million-a-year business pays 35 percent in Federal taxes, pays Social Security of 7.45 percent, Federal unemployment tax, State franchise tax, school district and real estate property

taxes, and I am taxed on the computer used to send this email to you. And the President says I didn't build it? I beg to differ. During the first 3 years, my workweek was 80 hours a week. If the Federal Government's debt of \$16 trillion is not brought under control, it will not matter how hard I work, because the dollar's value will be worthless.

Federal Government, fix your spending problem, and put your House in order because small business is watching and thinking, If I ran my business like you run yours, the bank would foreclose.

Mr. Speaker, Kelly is correct. Big Government hasn't built America. American small business owners have built it—on their own.

And that's just the way it is.

THE WIND PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT

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

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition to talk about a critical issue for Massachusetts and our Nation: the wind production tax credit.

Providing a modest credit of 2.2 cents per kilowatt hour generated, it has encouraged over \$75 billion in private investment over the last 5 years. Now 60 percent of the average turbine is manufactured here in the United States. These companies hire a diversity of workers and provide good-paying jobs in a rapidly growing sector of our economy.

Bay Stater Nigel Greene worked for GE Wind as a wind farm parts runner. He says:

I can tell you honestly that nothing gave me more pride in my country than seeing a turbine go from "in-repair" status back to "on-line" and producing clean, renewable power. It is truly a sight to behold.

Last year alone, clean energy jobs in Massachusetts grew 11 percent. If it is allowed to expire, we will lose an important new manufacturing opportunity and too many good-paying American jobs.

IMPLEMENTING THE JOBS ACT

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

Ms. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, during our recess this past month, we held a small business roundtable in our Hudson Valley. Actually, everybody sat, transfixed—all the participants—for an hour and a half while talking about what our small businesses need to do and what we need to do to help our small businesses. One of the key considerations was to ease the climate for creating jobs and growing our businesses.

I am so proud to have supported the JOBS Act with our Democratic and Republican colleagues and with the Senate. It was signed into law, as we all know, in March by the President. To-

morrow, in the Financial Services Committee, we begin to review the implementation of the JOBS Act, and I hope that we can continue to work together to make true progress in growing our small businesses and in helping them by making sure that the path is clear for them to grow and thrive and prosper. This is a great example of how both parties can work together to achieve that goal.

EXTENDING THE PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, last month, our Nation reached a significant milestone in the growth of home-grown renewable energy. The United States surpassed 50 gigawatts of installed wind power capacity, which is enough to power over 13 million American households a year. This is a major accomplishment for an industry predicted to deliver only a quarter of that amount a decade ago.

We should be celebrating this success brought about by innovation, hard work, and smart policies. Sadly, the celebration may be a short one if Congress doesn't act swiftly to continue the bipartisan production tax credit, which is a key factor in wind power's expansion. My constituents who work at companies like Clipper Windpower and Infinity Wind Power have told me that letting the PTC lapse would devastate their industry and eliminate thousands of jobs.

It's time to give these companies certainty by taking up a multiyear extension of the PTC without delay. Our country cannot afford to pull the rug out from under a true American success story. Let's renew the production tax credit now and maintain our leadership in transitioning to cleaner, safer sources of energy.

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ATTACK ON U.S. CONSULATE

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, just 1 day after the 11th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States of America, sadly the American flag flies at half staff today at the U.S. Capitol once again following the senseless and tragic attack against our U.S. consulate in Libya, which left four patriotic Embassy workers laying dead.

Among those murdered include American Ambassador Christopher Stevens, marking one of the rare moments in U.S. history where a U.S. Ambassador is killed representing our Nation abroad. This type of cowardly and brutal attack is an outrage, and those responsible should be swiftly brought to justice.

The service of Ambassador Stevens and three other embassy staff will not be forgotten as their service represents everything that our country stands for in promoting peace and democracy and liberty for all peoples across the globe.

Mr. Speaker, God bless the brave men and women who serve our country everywhere, and God bless the United States of America.

IN RECOGNITION OF DELAWARE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE BOB GILLIGAN

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

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Delaware Speaker of the House Bob Gilligan.

In November, Speaker Gilligan will conclude a 40-year career as a member of Delaware's house of representatives, making him the longest-serving member in State history.

Throughout his career, Speaker Gilligan has been one of the most effective leaders in Delaware State government. Speaker Gilligan has been a trusted and compassionate leader during times when Delaware needed him most. He helped lead the State through some of its most difficult fiscal challenges. He championed open government legislation that gave Delawareans unprecedented access to their representatives and oversaw the passage of landmark civil rights reforms. And he did this while maintaining the friendship and respect of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

On a personal level, I will always appreciate Speaker Gilligan's friendship and support. He gave me my first job in public service as a legislative fellow, an experience that inspired my work in government and politics.

It has been a real privilege for me to work over the years with Bob, and I would like to congratulate Speaker Bob Gilligan on an outstanding career and wish him well in his retirement.

CONGRATULATING DR. JAMES J. LINKSZ

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Dr. James J. Links on the occasion of his retirement from his post as president of the Bucks County Community College in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

As its president for the last 20 years, Dr. Links has led the community college through some of its most ambitious expansions, including new investments in technology, the addition of distance-learning courses, and impressive updates to campus buildings and infrastructure.

William Arthur Wood once said the mediocre teacher tells, the good teacher explains, the superior teacher dem-

onstrates, and the great teacher inspires. During his time at Bucks County Community College, Dr. Links has inspired countless students through his leadership and dedication to providing men and women of all ages from Bucks County with a quality education.

On behalf of the people in Pennsylvania's Eighth Congressional District, I thank Dr. Links for his service to the community, and I wish him the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT AND INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT

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

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reiterate my support for the wind production tax credit and the investment tax credit for offshore wind.

The production tax credit has encouraged nearly \$20 billion in nationwide private investment annually over the last 5 years, while the ITC serves as the most fundamental Federal tax incentive for offshore wind development.

As we promote investments that will reduce our dependence on foreign oil and serve as a central part in our fight against climate change, it's essential to remember the spillover of job creation and specialized expertise that will follow.

In Massachusetts, we've witnessed firsthand the critical economic development opportunities of renewable energy projects provided to our States. Our region has undergone an economic regeneration with the development of Cape Wind, the Nation's first offshore wind fund. From the Port of New Bedford, which will serve as the staging area for turbine assembly, to the ferry captains who will provide eco-tours of the turbines, few communities will not be benefited by this.

Massachusetts is already recognized as one of the top three States for clean energy. We're home to nearly 5,000 individual clean energy companies, and nearly 2 percent of all Massachusetts jobs are now in this field.

It's important, as we go forward, that we not let this void occur, and we fill it with jobs made in America.

WIND PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the House Sustainable Energy and Environmental Coalition to call on Congress to renew the wind production tax credit.

The wind production tax credit provides a small tax incentive to wind companies to produce clean domestic energy. This tax incentive promotes investment, creates jobs, and encourages deployment of wind energy. At the end of this year, the wind production tax credit expires unless Congress acts.

This tax credit is essential to level the playing field for wind energy. For instance, the oil and gas industry gets around \$40 billion in subsidies over 10 years. If we can eliminate oil and gas subsidies, let's do it. If not, we need to renew the wind production tax credit. The tax credit supports 5,000 jobs in Colorado and 75,000 jobs nationally. We cannot afford to lose these jobs.

Both Democrats and Republicans, Senators and House Members agree we need to extend this commonsense tax credit. I urge my colleagues to work together to extend the wind production tax credit to protect and grow America's thriving wind industry.

EXTEND THE WIND CREDIT NOW

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

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in the Senate to highlight an important issue to Iowa, the wind production tax credit. It expires this year, as has been mentioned, and must be extended immediately.

Inaction has already led to job losses in Iowa and threatens thousands of more jobs in our State. The PTC actually has its roots in Iowa and bipartisanship. Senator GRASSLEY worked for its creation, and it has long had bipartisanship support. Last month, the Senate passed a bipartisanship package that included the wind credit. It's past time for the House to act.

Iowa is the second-largest producer of wind energy, and turbine manufacturing involves about 200 companies and 6,000 good paying jobs for Iowans. As we struggle to recover from the worst recession since the Great Depression, Congress cannot play games with people's jobs and pull the rug out from an industry employing thousands.

Congress must extend the wind credit now before more jobs are lost.

THE ENERGY FUTURE OF AMERICA

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today is a day of reflection and sadness, and also determination and resolve. The tragic killing of our Ambassador in Libya and his staff should remind us all of the dangers that exist around the world. So we offer our prayers to the families and to the survivors.

We also need to think about the future in America and about the necessity for developing alternative energy systems. The production tax credit for wind is absolutely essential. I represent two major wind farms, one in Solano and the other in Alameda County. Thousands of jobs across this Nation will be lost unless we extend the wind tax credit. Keep in mind that for a century we have subsidized the oil and gas industry. It's time for us to