

While the road ahead to a full recovery will be long, there is no doubt that the progress we have made over the past 2 weeks could not have been possible without the assistance of all of those people who came from around the country. I thank all of those people who came to assist the people of New Jersey.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, KADEN

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to be back here to work on some of the most pressing issues facing our Nation.

The first time I ran for office was as grade school vice president in the fifth grade. Back then, I'm not sure what the most pressing issue was for our classroom—maybe the option of getting chocolate milk for lunch. But today, I serve for a very different reason. I want to preserve the greatness of the United States for my kids, including for a very special fifth grader in my house.

Happy birthday, Kaden. I love you so much and I am so proud of you, and I'm sorry I can't be with you today. I want you to know how proud I am of you and how your mom and I are so grateful to God that He gave you to us. Happy birthday.

THE FISCAL CLIFF

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, left unresolved, the uncertainty of the fiscal cliff, with spending cuts and increased taxes, will exact real and permanent damage on the American people and on the American economy.

What we need is leadership—leadership that was lacking and that created the fiscal cliff in the first place—one that provides a balanced approach of spending cuts and increased revenues, one that is bipartisan and one that is aspirational.

Throughout the history of our Nation, we only experience job growth when we invest in our own people and in our own economy—in education, in scientific research, and in road and bridge building. To invest and to grow this economy and to grow jobs, we have to produce the kind of strategic investments that are required. We need to get to work now to avoid this catastrophe.

REFORM THE TAX CODE

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

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I agree that we must avoid this fiscal cliff, but let's come to an

agreement to reduce the deficit in a way that will make this country more competitive: let's reform the Tax Code to boost manufacturing; let's close those loopholes that send jobs overseas; and let's replace them with tax credits, which will relocate jobs back to the U.S.

Let's reform our Code in order to bring American jobs back home, and let's create more jobs by promoting U.S. manufacturing.

HURRICANE SANDY

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, on October 29, Hurricane Sandy—a 1,000-mile-wide storm—struck the northeastern portion of America, including the State of Connecticut. Ninety-mile-an-hour winds arrived at 9 o'clock that night, coinciding with high tide, flooding communities from Stonington all the way to Madison in eastern Connecticut, knocking out power, destroying property—leaving a wake of destruction in its path.

First responders from Stonington—like George Brennan, the fire chief in New London; like Ron Samuel, the fire marshal in Madison, Connecticut; like Sam DeBurra, and many, many others—rose to the challenge to save lives and to protect human life from one end to the other. There were first selectman and mayors—like Paul Formica from the town of East Lyme, where a regional emergency shelter was put into operation—who worked to restore power. Again, teamwork. The volunteers at the Red Cross and the Salvation Army came together and had one mission, which was to save lives and restore the region.

We need to follow that example here in Congress as we face the challenges that confront this Nation over the next 7 weeks. Thank you to all of those leaders who again rose to the challenge of a historic storm—bigger than in 1938. Let's follow their example to advance the interests of our Nation.

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EXTEND THE WIND CREDIT NOW

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

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise again to highlight an important issue to Iowa and the Nation, the wind production tax credit. It expires in a month and must be extended immediately. Inaction has already led to job losses in Iowa and threatens thousands more jobs in our State.

The wind credit has bipartisan roots and was an important issue in the Presidential and many congressional campaigns this year. The Senate already passed a bipartisan package that included the wind credit. It's past time for the House to act.

Iowa is the second-largest producer of wind energy in the country. Wind manufacturing involves about 200 companies and 6,000 good-paying jobs for Iowans. Congress should not play games with people's jobs and pull the rug out from an industry employing thousands in the middle of an economic downturn.

The wind credit is also critical for energy production and job creation. Congress must extend the wind credit now before more jobs are lost, especially at this time with unemployment and economic downturn that we still continue to suffer from.

OPERATION HONOR FLIGHT

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, on this week of Veterans Day, I rise to pay tribute to two noble Americans and a great organization, Honor Flight. Earl Morse of Ohio and Jeff Miller of North Carolina are two of the founding members of the Honor Flight Network.

The Honor Flight Network philanthropy is dedicated to bringing World War II veterans to their memorial here in Washington, D.C., the National World War II Memorial. That memorial is now the most visited on our Nation's Mall with over 4 million visitors a year. Imagine if every World War II veteran who wanted to come could.

These brave men and women served our country during World War II during the 20th century's most profound struggle of liberty over tyranny. Their sacrifices, with over 400,000 lost in those horrendous conflicts, ensured that our generation and those to follow could enjoy our freedoms in the 20th century, the 21st, and beyond.

Earl Morse started the Honor Flight Network. He led the inaugural flights to the World War II memorial starting in 2005, not long after the memorial opened. Jeff Miller began to serve those from rural areas.

Mr. Speaker, let me say that these two men's ennobling work has now allowed over 100,000 Americans of the World War II generation who fought to come and visit the memorial.

Let me thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank those veterans and Honor Flight and these men for what they are doing for our Nation.

NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, November is National Family Caregivers Awareness Month, a time to honor the work of over 65 million family members who sacrifice every day to care for their loved ones with special needs.

Whether they have a father with Alzheimer's or a mother with Parkinson's

disease or a child with autism, these caregivers provide approximately 80 percent of the long-term care for the chronically ill. Unfortunately, this 24-hour-a-day commitment can take a toll on the caregiver's emotional, physical, and financial well-being.

Respite care provides a temporary break for family members engaged in the full-time task of caregiving. In fact, it is the most frequently requested support service, yet nearly 90 percent of caregivers still go without needed assistance. That's why I've introduced the Lifespan Respite Care Reauthorization Act, and will continue to advocate for its passage and funding.

Mr. Speaker, family caregivers are our Nation's silent heroes, and they deserve our recognition and support not just in November but every day of the year. To all of them, I say a heartfelt "thank you."

LET'S TURN THE WHEEL TOGETHER

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, all along the east coast, families are struggling to recover from superstorm Sandy. That makes avoiding the fiscal cliff even more important.

Unless we come together in this body to reach across the aisle and compromise, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, which is helping thousands and thousands of people and small businesses recover from this disaster, could be cut as much as \$848 million. Cutting FEMA would be a manmade disaster that would cripple relief efforts in my home State of New York and in many other States.

I don't believe that anyone in this body campaigned on raising the unemployment rate or campaigned to see the U.S. economy fall back into a recession, which would happen if we went over this fiscal cliff. I hope that no one here wants to place a significant new tax burden on the middle class.

In these final days of Congress, let's reach across the aisle, let's reach to one another and work together on the critical problems we need to solve. We need to avoid the fiscal cliff.

FEMA'S HELP AND RESPONSIVENESS

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I just met with the FEMA director, Craig Fugate, and expressed some general concerns first about the need for temporary housing for those in my district. We talked about bringing in trailers, and he discussed that and said this was something that they were working on. We also talked about the need to have the Army Corps do emergency work on dunes and beaches that have been destroyed in the storm, and

he said he was going to follow up on that.

We also asked about the State and local match because many of my towns are very small, and they can't afford the 25 percent State and local match for long-term recovery work. So we're trying to get that reduced or eliminated.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, many of my homeowners have been asking if their homes can be bought out or raised up on stilts or pilings. This is another thing that we're following up on.

I just wanted to say that I felt that the FEMA director, Mr. Craig Fugate, was very responsive to our concerns, and we're going to follow up on these and other concerns of a general nature as we continue to work on the humanitarian concerns in the individual towns in the Sixth District and throughout the State of New Jersey.

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.

Recorded votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

NEW YORK CITY NATURAL GAS SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2606) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow the construction and operation of natural gas pipeline facilities in the Gateway National Recreation Area, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "New York City Natural Gas Supply Enhancement Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) *PERMITTEE.*—The term "permittee" means the Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company, LLC, (Transco), its successors or assigns.

(2) *SECRETARY.*—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION FOR PERMIT.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary may issue permits for rights-of-way or other necessary authorizations to allow the permittee to construct, operate, and maintain a natural gas pipeline and related facilities within the Gateway National Recreation Area in New York, as described in Federal Regulatory Commission Docket No. PF09-8.

(b) *TERMS AND CONDITIONS.*—A permit issued under this section shall be—

(1) *consistent with the laws and regulations generally applicable to utility rights-of-way within units of the National Park System; and*

(2) *subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems appropriate.*

(c) *FEES.*—The Secretary shall charge a fee for any permit issued under this section. The fee shall be based on fair market value and shall also provide for recovery of costs incurred by the National Park Service associated with the processing, issuance, and monitoring of the permit. The Secretary shall retain any fees associated with the recovery of costs.

(d) *TERM.*—Any permit issued under this section shall be for a term of 10 years. The permit may be renewed at the discretion of the Secretary in accordance with this section.

SEC. 4. LEASE OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS AT FLOYD BENNETT FIELD.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary may enter into a non-competitive lease with the permittee to allow the occupancy and use of buildings and associated property at Floyd Bennett Field within the Gateway National Recreation Area to house meter and regulating equipment and other equipment necessary to the operation of the natural gas pipeline described in section 3(a).

(b) *TERMS AND CONDITIONS.*—A lease entered into under this section shall—

(1) *be in accordance with section 3(k) of the National Park System General Authorities Act (16 U.S.C. 1a-2(k)), except that the proceeds from rental payments may be used for infrastructure needs, resource protection and restoration, and visitor services at Gateway National Recreation Area; and*

(2) *provide for the restoration and maintenance of the buildings and associated property in accordance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f) and applicable regulations and programmatic agreements.*

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT.

The Secretary may impose citations or fines, or suspend or revoke any authority under a permit or lease issued in accordance with this Act for failure to comply with, or a violation of any term or condition of such permit or lease.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. AMODEI) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 2606, introduced by Congressman MICHAEL GRIMM, authorizes construction of a lateral pipeline off the coast of New York City. The pipeline will pass under the Gateway National Recreation Area and deliver natural gas to residents of Brooklyn and Queens.

Under current law, the National Park Service does not have the authority to approve the pipeline. Therefore, Congressman GRIMM introduced H.R. 2606 to allow the project to move forward, benefiting not only New York residents but also visitors to the Gateway National Recreation Area.

H.R. 2606 has bipartisan support and is supported by the National Park Service. The House approved this legislation in February. It has passed the Senate with noncontroversial amendments, and we are now acting to send this to the President.