

The Democratic budget continues those investments and makes certain we will invest in the future of America.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET A BLUE-PRINT FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

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

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, currently we are experiencing one of the worst economic recoveries in the history of our Nation. It's a stagnant economy, and this should not be the new normal. Our budget is a blueprint for economic growth and job creation.

I can't stress the differences between our budget and the Senate Democrat budget. Their budget raises taxes by over \$1 trillion and never balances. This is totally irresponsible.

We cannot continue to borrow nearly \$4 billion every day. Current policies and the Senate Democrats' plan is suffocating our economy and job growth.

Our budget brings us to a balanced budget using tax dollars in a fiscally responsible manner, commonsense regulatory tax reforms, and an energy policy that results in economic growth and job creation.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET PLAN

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

Mr. CROWLEY. Good day, Mr. Speaker. Good day, my colleagues—or as my Republican colleagues would say, bonjour.

Today, we're considering the Republican budget, which is a plan modeled after European-style austerity measures. In plain English, it is bad.

The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office makes clear this budget will slow economic growth and kill over 2.5 million American jobs. It requires further sacrifices from our veterans, our seniors, students, small businesses, and hardworking middle class families. It ends Medicare as we know it. And it has no vision for how we're going to create jobs. It doesn't even include the phrase "job creation."

The American people rejected this budget in November 2012. The Congress should reject it today. It's time to say *au revoir*—good-bye—to this Republican budget and move forward with a plan focused on jobs and creating a better future for this country.

SENATE COMMENTS ON MARINE TRAGEDY

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was stunned to watch the senior Democrat leader of the other body implying that the blame for Monday's tragic

deaths of seven marines is the result of the recent automatic cuts to defense spending, also known as sequestration—"the sequester." His outrageous comments referring to the dead marines' training with explosives implied that the sequester which the President insisted upon was "going to cut back this stuff"—their training.

I'm appalled because this senior Democrat should know that the sequester cuts have not even been fully implemented. They could not have played a role in these marines' deaths.

As an American who has proudly worn the uniform of a naval officer, I am furious that a Member of Congress would play politics with such a tragedy. The families of these seven marines deserve an apology. I pray that they will get it.

Semper fi, Marines. Semper fi.

NEWBORN SCREENING SAVES LIVES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

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

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Newborn Screening Saves Lives Reauthorization Act.

In 2008, with strong bipartisan support, Congressman SIMPSON and I introduced the original bill that was signed into law that year. For the first time in history, a scientific method for adding newborn screenings to State programs was established.

Prior to enactment of this law, only 10 States and the District of Columbia required infants to be screened for all the recommended disorders. Today, 44 States and the District of Columbia require screening of at least 29 of the 31 core treatable conditions. Unfortunately, critical gaps and challenges remain.

The reauthorization bill establishes a grant program to assist States in developing followup and tracking programs and renews the Secretary's Advisory Committee for Heritable Disorders.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this vital legislation. No child should die or suffer from preventable disabilities which could have been detected at birth.

□ 1230

HOUSE REPUBLICAN BUDGET

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

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor today to voice my strong support for the House Republican fiscal year 2014 budget. And I want to commend my colleague, chairman of the Budget Committee, PAUL RYAN, for his ongoing leadership on this issue.

There is simply no denying it: the Federal Government has a spending problem, a problem that has led to nearly \$17 trillion of debt. For too long, Washington has shirked its responsibility in addressing this issue and punted the problem to future generations. As a father, I cannot in good conscience let this generational theft continue.

It is critical that we pass a budget that puts our country back on track through responsible cuts and reforms. The Oversight and Government Reform Committee, of which I am a member, has already identified numerous duplicative government programs. Yet rather than eliminating these programs, the government continues to pour more money into them.

Congressman RYAN's budget prioritizes our spending so that we protect important programs in the long-term by trimming the waste in government.

BAN ON KNIVES

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, 11 years ago our Nation experienced unimaginable loss caused by the terrorist attacks on September 11. Let us not forget that the terrorists overtook planes using simple box cutters, which were allowed on board at the time.

TSA's recent decision to now lift the ban on knives on aircraft is shockingly irresponsible and reckless. Why make this potentially deadly decision when this policy has been keeping our Nation safer for years? This is dangerous for passengers, flight attendants, and pilots. The airlines, flight attendants, pilots, and Federal air marshals have all expressed their strong opposition to this TSA policy that will compromise their safety and the safety of their passengers.

Americans can plainly see that it is commonsense to keep potential weapons off our airplanes. We have already witnessed the harm knives can cause. Knives took down four planes. Knives took down the World Trade Center. Knives struck at the heart of our Nation's defense. Knives took thousands of innocent lives.

This is a huge step backwards in protecting American security. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to stand with the American people and urge TSA to not implement this reckless strategy.

RYAN BUDGET

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

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the House budget proposal for the 2014 fiscal year. This proposal sets real practical goals that will stop spending money we don't have

by cutting wasteful spending, fix our broken Tax Code to create jobs and increase wages, protect and strengthen important priorities like Medicare and national security, reform welfare programs like Medicaid so that we can deliver on the promises that we have made for those who truly need it, and repeal the President's health care bill so that we can finally replace it with meaningful patient-centered health care.

Most importantly, it reduces the deficit and the debt that we have, and it becomes balanced in 10 years. I am continuously amazed by those on the other side of the aisle who say that this is just crazy talk that we would balance the Federal budget in 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, this addresses the issues and the goals that will create a pro-growth economy and which will affect every American family across this country.

REMEMBERING GOVERNOR HUGH L. CAREY OF NEW YORK

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished New Yorker and former Member of this body, who will be honored in a special ceremony in New York's 20th Congressional District on April 8. Hugh L. Carey was born in Brooklyn in 1919, enlisted in the Army in World War II, served in Europe where he helped liberate prisoners at a concentration camp, and eventually reached the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Upon returning home, Mr. Carey received a law degree from St. John's University. In 1960, he was elected to this Chamber and went on to serve seven terms before being elected Governor of New York in 1974, a position he held until 1981.

Governor Carey is widely remembered for his steady hand during New York City's economic crisis, during which he brought many competing interests together to forge compromise on difficult issues. He also instituted improvements for the mental health community of New York State. A born storyteller with a quick wit and boundless charm, Hugh Carey was a New Yorker to the core.

I am honored to have this opportunity to remember a former Member of this body, as well as New York's 51st Governor, who throughout his career led with distinction and compassion. I look forward to next month's ceremony recognizing his service in World War II.

PATH TO PROSPERITY

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

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, the Path to Prosperity budget on the floor

this week reaffirms once again that House Republicans are the only ones in Washington providing genuine, serious solutions to our country's spending-driven debt crisis.

We have released a budget that cuts government spending responsibly, enacts commonsense reforms, and, most importantly, balances the government's books within 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, what have we heard from the President? Well, nothing. The President hasn't even submitted his budget to Congress yet, and it is on track to be one of the latest budget submissions in history. And the Democratic-controlled Senate's budget, of course, raises taxes and never, ever breaks even.

That is not what America needs, Mr. Speaker. With our budget, House Republicans have provided a genuine blueprint for creating more jobs and opportunity in America today.

RESTORE THE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 1265, bipartisan legislation which would restore tuition assistance for men and women serving in the military.

Earlier this month, the Department of Defense announced that the Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard would all be suspending their tuition assistance programs due to sequestration.

I represent Fort Bliss and the 36,000 men and women in uniform who currently serve there. Many of them served in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the tuition assistance programs are critical to help them transition into civilian life and to find good-paying jobs.

This program represents 0.1 percent of the Pentagon's budget. As Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman General Martin Dempsey has said, "There's nothing more important in a democracy than education."

Let's stand up to ensure that those who have given so much for our Nation have access to education. Please join me in supporting H.R. 1265.

DEMOCRATIC BUDGETS

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

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, in a few minutes, we are going to start taking up debate on several budgets. I want to point out one important consistent thing about the budgets that my esteemed colleagues will be offering. Not a single one of them ever balances. I will say that again, Mr. Speaker: not a single Democrat budget that is being offered will ever balance.

If we do not have surpluses, we cannot pay down the debt. We will never be able to pay down the debt until we

have surpluses. If you offer a budget that never offers any surpluses, there is never any way to repay the debt.

And I respectfully suggest that if I come to you and ask you to lend me money and I have the intention of giving it back to you, that that is truly debt. But if I come to you and ask you to give me money and I have no intention of ever giving it back to you, that is theft. That is exactly what the opponents' budgets will offer us today. There is no way to ever repay any of this debt. It is wrong, and the American public deserve better.

WORLD WATER DAY

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

Mr. COSTA. As a third-generation family farmer, I know firsthand that water is the lifeblood of not only San Joaquin Valley, but our entire world. For decades, generations have had to fight tooth and nail for a reliable water supply. It grows our crops, drives our economic activity, and, more importantly, sustains human life. As the global population continues to grow, the demand on the world's water supply will continue to increase and create greater opportunities for conflict.

Friday is World Water Day when we focus on how we can meet the water needs of all people, regardless of where they live on this planet.

In our valley, we have learned much about ways to conserve water, convey it over long distances, and put it to use efficiently. Nonetheless, in California this year, we will have to deal with another partially caused regulatory drought that was unnecessary.

Water has and will continue to present both challenges and opportunities. We must choose the side of cooperation and collaboration if we are about to solve our world's long-term water needs.

□ 1240

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

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

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a proud member of the Congressional Hellenic Caucus to recognize Greek Independence Day.

Let us honor this date in memory of the beloved Andy Athens.

This holiday celebrates the 1821 victory in the Greek people's struggle for independence from the Ottoman Empire.

My grandfather, Arthur Costandinos Cathones, for whom I am named, instilled in me a great love for Greece and Greek culture. The Hellenic values he taught me have served me well as guiding principles throughout my career in public service.