

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, today I rise in strong support of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and against the proposed \$20 billion cut in SNAP funding under the House Republican farm bill.

Coming on the heels of a sequester-induced reduction, SNAP beneficiaries continue to feel the pain and the cruel pinch of this Congress' misguided priorities.

SNAP, better known as food stamps, helps millions of Americans living in poverty put food on the table. That may very well be the difference between a child or a family going hungry or not. In the wealthiest nation in human history, it is unconscionable that every American cannot afford life's basic necessities.

Eighty percent, Madam Speaker, of the households receiving SNAP earn below the Federal poverty line. That translates into millions of working families. With these cuts, make no mistake about it, millions will go hungry and be forced to make decisions between food and other vital needs that nobody should ever have to confront.

Madam Speaker, we can do better. I call on my colleagues to reject these cuts.

#### REPEAL OF OBAMACARE

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Madam Speaker, the President's health care law is full of broken promises, and these are only becoming more evident as the law begins to take effect.

His law promised affordable health insurance for all Americans, a fine goal. But since 2008, health care premiums have actually increased by over \$3,000.

His law promised universal health care coverage, but according to the Congressional Budget Office, the law will leave 30 million Americans without insurance.

His law promised to help Americans with preexisting conditions, but the program it set up to care for them is already turning qualified applicants away.

And the once promising future of medical innovation in America has been stifled by his new taxes and regulations, including its poorly conceived tax on medical devices, the repeal of which I have cosponsored here in the House.

Madam Speaker, we've also already seen that it's caused small businesses to cut back worker hours. And the uncertainty over pending regulation makes businesses, small and large, hesitate to hire new people or make new investments, slowing down our economic recovery.

It's time for repeal and real reform.

#### STOP CHILD ABUSE IN RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS FOR TEENS ACT

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, today I'm reintroducing the Stop Child Abuse in Residential Programs for Teens Act. This legislation will protect teenagers attending residential treatment programs from abuse by staff personnel.

These programs range from boot camps to behavior modification facilities. They are often a last resort for parents trying to help a child deal with behavioral or other issues. But investigations by our committee found that these programs are not always run in a safe manner.

Just last year, the Tampa Bay Times confirmed that problems continue, with stories of children being bruised, bloodied, and choked to unconsciousness at these programs, all in the name of discipline.

My bill would make it illegal for a residential facility to deny a child essential water, food, clothing, shelter, or medical care, whether under the guise of discipline or therapy.

It would also ensure that parents have the information needed to make safe choices for their children about these programs. When a parent turns to these programs for help, they should trust that their child will not suffer neglect, injury, or even death while undergoing therapy.

I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

#### ACCOUNTABILITY AND CONSEQUENCES FOR THE IRS

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

Mr. YODER. Madam Speaker, I stand today with Americans rightfully outraged and stunned that their government has admitted to harassing Americans with audits and paperwork simply based upon their political beliefs.

The American people expect the institutions of their government at their most basic, most simple levels to be fair. They expect not to be discriminated against or targeted based on their beliefs—religious, political, or otherwise.

But, Madam Speaker, we've learned over the past days about gross violations of our constitutional rights, an appalling overreach by the Internal Revenue Service which has admitted to targeting certain Americans for heightened tax scrutiny and additional burdensome and costly audits based solely on political affiliations. These anti-American violations strike at the heart of our free and democratic society and they confirm the worst fears that many Americans have about their

government. What makes matters worse is Congress was misled into believing that this wasn't happening.

Madam Speaker, we must get to the bottom of these very serious admissions by the IRS. There must be accountability and consequences for those involved, and we must ensure that this never happens again.

□ 1230

#### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today opposed to looming cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP. I urge the House Agriculture Committee and this Congress to refrain from slashing funding for this vital program.

SNAP is our Nation's most important antihunger program. It provides food assistance to approximately 46 million Americans and it kept 4.7 million people out of poverty in 2011, including 2.1 million children.

SNAP has cut the number of children living in extreme poverty in half. We should not be cutting the safety net for our most vulnerable while maintaining costly government subsidies for the well-off and the junk food, oil, and gas industries.

A Nevada child in my district who receives \$1.48 per meal is not the problem with the Federal budget. The problem is corporate welfare and the special interest giveaways that litter our Tax Code.

I urge my colleagues not to cut SNAP and to invest in our children and their nutrition safety.

#### DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF OBAMACARE

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

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, last week, I held a telephone townhall meeting with my constituents. Towards the end of that call, I heard from a constituent who had already seen her hours cut at the local grocery store from 36 hours down to 28.

As a result of ObamaCare, industries, corporations, and people are posed with this very tough challenge: either they pay for very expensive health care, cut people's hours, or lay people off. Unfortunately, her grocery store decided to limit hours and make more part-time workers.

Sadly, as a result of this, she lost \$140 a month. That prevented her from being able to pay for the very affordable health insurance plan she currently is on. Other coworkers could no longer afford car payments, for instance.

These devastating effects are a terrible result of bad public policy, and

that is why we must repeal ObamaCare.

#### NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Police Week. A month ago this very day, those of us from Massachusetts had every reason to be proud of our first responders and our police officers. Over the course of that week, I heard from so many of my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, who said how proud they were to be Americans because of the response that our law enforcement officials took in reaction to the marathon bombings.

It is not just in disasters, however, that our first responders and our police officers answer the call. I want to recognize Sergeant Michael Murphy from Brookline and Sergeant Jim Machado from Fall River, who are here this week.

As a former prosecutor, you realize every day that the routine is anything but. Every time a car is stopped, every call that a police officer responds to, they literally put their life on the line.

We need to only remember the acts of MIT Officer Sean Collier to recognize how dangerous the job is that they perform each and every day to enforce our laws and to keep us and our neighbors safe. And so, as a Member of the Fourth District of Massachusetts and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I want to take a brief moment to all of our police officers and say thank you.

#### ACTIONS OF TREASURY SECRETARY AND THE IRS COMMISSIONER FALL ON PRESIDENT'S SHOULDERS

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

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Madam Speaker, on Monday, President Obama claimed that the IRS was an "independent agency." Mr. President, that is not true. As your chart shows, the President can remove both the Treasury Secretary and the IRS Commissioner at will. They both serve at the pleasure of President Barack Obama.

In recent weeks, months, and perhaps years, President Obama has increasingly claimed little or no responsibility for the actions of his administration. Whether it is the Benghazi cover-ups, the ObamaCare failures, or this targeting of conservative groups by the IRS, President Obama has flipped the moniker of President Truman on its head. Instead of "the buck stops here," Obama's theme has become "the buck never stops here."

The evidence is clear. The IRS targeted Tea Party and other conservative

groups, and the IRS Commissioner knew about it. This gross misuse of political power is an absolute outrage.

Mr. President, the IRS Commissioner and the Treasury Secretary serve at your will, and thus, the responsibility for their outrageous actions falls squarely on your shoulders.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, are you kidding me? Taking food out of the mouths of hungry children—is that the reason that any of us would come to Congress? But that is exactly what the farm bill that's being considered today does. It takes food out of the mouths of hungry children.

Not only will 1 million children lose their SNAP funding—the money that puts food on the table—but 200,000 of them will also lose their school lunches. This in the richest country in the world? This in the name of deficit reduction? This in a country where already tens of millions of children go to sleep hungry?

There's not a district in this Nation, there's not a Member of Congress who doesn't have constituents who have to line up at a food pantry because otherwise they and their children would go to sleep hungry. This is the most incredibly mean-spirited piece of legislation.

I urge a "no" vote on the \$20 billion cut in SNAP.

#### ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

(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 to recognize Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and to celebrate the many contributions of this vibrant community to Nevada's First District and to the country at large.

Asian Pacific Americans comprise the fastest-growing minority group in Las Vegas, having doubled in size between 2000 and 2010. Along Spring Mountain Road, we find the Chinatown Plaza, built in 1995 by Mr. and Mrs. James Chen; Korea Town, developed by Mr. Hae Un Lee and Mr. James Yu; and hundreds of Thai, Chinese, Japanese, and Vietnamese restaurants, markets, and shops that enrich our society and enhance our economy.

Along Maryland Parkway is a flourishing Filipino district, and numerous cultural festivals are held across the valley throughout the year featuring music, dance, costumes, and food from the thriving Asian Pacific community.

As we celebrate APA Heritage Month, let us acknowledge the value immigrants bring to our lives every

day and recognize how much we all stand to gain by enacting immigration reform that honors our country's legacy as the "land of opportunity."

#### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I stand here today because the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program, SNAP, is not a form of government waste. There is nothing wasteful about a program that, through providing modest assistance to low-income families, has nearly eliminated severe hunger in the United States of America.

The average SNAP benefit provides only \$1.40 per meal. Already, this forces many seniors and families with young children to skip meals throughout the week or face a shortage in food by the end of the month. We already know that children who go hungry are more likely to struggle in school and face serious health problems and less likely to escape poverty as adults.

The GOP's proposed cuts to SNAP of \$20 billion amount to punishing children who struggle with hunger that is beyond their control. Don't we have a national interest in protecting families who are struggling to feed themselves?

Our budget is a moral document. And, Madam Speaker, there is nothing moral about abandoning America's families and American children who are struggling with hunger.

□ 1240

#### PASS THE AMERICAN JOBS ACT NOW

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

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, it has now been 864 days since I arrived in Congress, and the Republican leadership has still not allowed a single vote on serious legislation to address our unemployment crisis. We need to pass the American Jobs Act now. It deserves a vote.

Unemployment is now higher than the 7.5 percent we hear about in the news. Another full percent of the workforce can find only short-term, unreliable work. Another half percent has stopped looking because there is no opportunity. Another 5 percent is stuck working part-time when they want full-time work. So our real unemployment rate is closer to 14 percent.

Madam Speaker, these people are not lazy. It's this Congress that's lazy. We are doing nothing to create opportunity for Americans who are suffering. Our mantra should be: jobs, jobs, jobs.