

to this fact. The report shows that rents and royalties reported on Pennsylvania income tax returns from 2006 to 2010 have increased 61 percent statewide and 119 percent in counties with Marcellus shale activity.

Mr. Speaker, we must continue to responsibly develop this resource so that we ensure it offers future generations the same and greater economic opportunities.

□ 1920

A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE

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

Mr. BARBER. I rise tonight as the father of two strong and accomplished women and as the grandfather of three grandchildren in order to speak against H.R. 1797, which will come before the House tomorrow, in which we will be asked yet again to put government in charge of a woman's private medical decisions.

We must protect the right of every woman to make her health care decisions with her doctor without interference by politicians in Washington. Only she can decide what is best for her and her family. This is an issue of personal liberty. The Supreme Court ruled more than half a century ago that Americans had the right to make their own choices about reproductive health. Yet, once again, we will debate a new piece of legislation to limit the rights of women.

I will oppose H.R. 1797 tomorrow, and I strongly urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do the same—to stand up for women and to oppose the latest attempt to intrude into their most personal health care decisions.

OBAMACARE AND AMNESTY

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, what do you get when you add the Senate's amnesty immigration bill to ObamaCare?

More people losing their jobs.

ObamaCare mandates that employers with 50 or more full-time employees provide government-approved health insurance or pay a penalty. Many businesses with around 50 employees already say they'll cut some full-timers to part-time positions to avoid this penalty.

But that's not all.

The Senate immigration bill would give legal status to about 11 million people who have come here illegally, and employers could hire any of those 11 million without counting them toward the ObamaCare mandate. So employers who are trying to make ends meet and balance a budget are being told by their government that they can save money by unloading full-time, hardworking American citizens and by replacing them with immigrants who are here on a provisional status.

I know my colleagues on the other side will say we should just add all 11 million, but I think that's the wrong thing to do. Let's repeal ObamaCare.

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. This week marks the 50th annual National Small Business Week, where we recognize the importance of the entrepreneurs and small business owners who work hard to fulfill the promise of the American Dream.

I saw this firsthand as a Dublin planning commissioner and, later, as a city council member, which is that, when small businesses get off the ground and succeed, the entire community around them benefits and our economy grows. In fact, more than one half of all Americans either own or work for a small business, and they account for about two out of every three new jobs created every year.

This Saturday, I went from storefront to storefront in downtown Hayward to speak to local small business owners in my congressional district. To help address the problems that I heard about—not having enough capital to start up or not having enough business-to-business transactions or foot traffic—I introduced the Main Street Revival Act. My bill will allow certain small businesses to elect to defer paying Federal payroll taxes in the first year of operation in order to help offset their costs.

Small businesses form the backbone of our communities—opening new storefronts, training American workers and selling goods in our neighborhoods. It's through supporting them that we expand economic opportunity and help make the American Dream a reality.

CUTTING RED TAPE FOR U.S. SMALL BUSINESSES

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, recently, I held a telephone town hall meeting with 7,000 of my constituents, and a good part of our conversation centered on our economy's anemic economic job growth and lackluster job creation. One woman with whom I spoke, whose name was Gloria, is a small business owner in Chanhassen. She expressed her deep frustration with the growing weight of new regulations on her business and on small businesses.

Mr. Speaker, Americans are burdened with \$2 trillion nearly every year of new regulations—with the number only increasing. Since 2008, 156 new major regulations have been instituted, adding about \$90 billion in regulatory costs to the economy and stifling eco-

nomic growth and job creation. This needs to be fixed.

Congress should have more control over a growing bureaucracy by requiring that elected representatives sign off on those new rules and regulations that would have a major economic impact. Cutting red tape will help lower one more hurdle that is impeding opportunity for new jobs, job growers and creators, and entrepreneurs like Gloria.

FEDERAL PROBATION SYSTEM AFFECTED BY SEQUESTER

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

Mr. MAFFEI. On March 14, Lori Bresnahan, a school librarian who lived in my district, and a 10-year-old child were attacked in a shopping center parking lot.

The attacker was facing Federal child pornography charges and was out on bail and ordered to wear an electronic monitoring bracelet. He disabled the bracelet, stabbed Ms. Bresnahan to death and sexually assaulted the young girl.

It was later found that he had tampered with the bracelet 47 times, and each time, the Federal probation office in Syracuse did not respond. I wrote to the administrative office of the United States Courts, asking them to investigate this gross negligence. This is their response:

The Director says, "Nothing can excuse the deficiencies in the supervision of this case," but he also says, "Reduced resources due to the sequester is harming the efforts to keep it from happening again." He continued, "We are bracing for even larger reductions next year."

An innocent woman was stabbed to death, an innocent child was sexually assaulted, and the answer from the courts is that their ability to keep it from happening again is limited because their funding was cut. This is unacceptable. To Lori Bresnahan and that young girl, we owe a full investigation, not excuses.

Mr. Speaker, we owe them the guarantee that this cannot happen again. We owe them an end to the sequester cuts, which are affecting our Federal probation system.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE
UNITED STATES COURTS,
Washington, DC, June 14, 2013.

Hon. DAN MAFFEI,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC 20515.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE MAFFEI: I write in response to your letters to the Judicial Conference of the United States and to me as Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AO). We share your grave concern with the crimes attributed to David Renz, a defendant under pretrial supervision and electronic monitoring by the federal probation office in Syracuse, New York.

While nothing can diminish the severity of crimes attributed to David Renz or excuse

the deficiencies in supervision of his case, our view—based on our knowledge from regular program reviews in the field and other ongoing communication with field offices from around the country—is that David Renz was not supervised in a manner typical of federal probation and pretrial services practices. The vast majority of the 200,000 defendants and offenders supervised every year remain arrest-free and comply with the conditions imposed by their supervising court. In instances where they are returned to prison, it is most often for technical violations (such as refusing to participate in treatment or associating with a known felon) rather than for new crimes. Such success does not come easily when dealing with high-risk defendants and offenders, and reflects the hard work of many dedicated employees of the Judiciary.

Probation officers carry out their duties pursuant to statutes enacted by Congress and policies approved by the Judicial Conference. The AO is responsible for, among other things, investigating the work of probation and pretrial services offices and advising courts about Judicial Conference policies and best practices. As you know, the AO initiated an investigation into the handling of the Renz case shortly after learning of his rearrest. On April 9, 2013, a report based on that investigation—which included a number of findings that you cited in your letters—was submitted to the chief judge of the Northern District of New York, who directly supervises the probation office in that district. The chief judge has the authority to take personnel action and make other changes. We also re-submitted to the chief judge an earlier “program review” report, describing the work of the probation office in 2010. In the interest of transparency and public awareness, the court posted the report on their website.

We reported to the chief judge that the probation office failed to make desired changes following the 2010 program review but, in consultation with the chief judge and the AO, the probation office has made substantial changes in response to our findings and recommendations in the 2013 report. Those changes have included dismissing and demoting certain probation office personnel, reorganizing the office's location monitoring unit, retraining staff, and inviting in a technical assistance team from the AO for consultation and training. In addition, the probation office indicated that it will cooperate fully with cyclical reinvestigations to be conducted (as funding permits) by the AO.

Nonetheless, the AO is in the process of re-examining policy for and reviewing the operations of probation and pretrial services offices with respect to location monitoring. We appreciate your offer to introduce supportive legislation. At this time, the Judicial Conference does not have legislative recommendations related to the location monitoring program. After we complete our policy review, we may seek assistance from Congress. Of note, we will need to work within available funding. Funding for salaries and operations in the probation and pretrial services system has been reduced 14 percent this fiscal year, and resources for location monitoring, mental health and substance abuse treatment have been cut 20 percent. We are bracing for even larger reductions next year, and the vacancy rate in probation and pretrial services offices now stands at 25 percent. Your continued support of our appropriation request is much appreciated.

The AO remains committed to public safety, and we appreciate your interest in our federal probation and pretrial services functions. If we may be of additional assistance,

please do not hesitate to call our Office of Legislative Affairs at 202-502-1700.

Sincerely,

THOMAS F. HOGAN,
Director.

GITMO UNIVERSITY ON THE CARIBBEAN

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, “English as a second language,” “Pashto to English,” “Arabic to English,” “art,” “life skills,” “computers,” “personal health and wellness,” “finance and business”—sounds like courses at a swanky New England university, but these are just a few classes offered at Gitmo University on the Caribbean.

That's not all.

These terrorists get training in resume writing and interviewing. Are they going someplace? And what do they put on that resume—“professional bomb maker”?

If they get bored with classes, they can meander over to the “detainee library” with its 17,000 books, video games and CDs.

More still.

Terrorists have access to the fancy, new taxpayer-funded \$750,000 soccer field—play volleyball, basketball, table tennis, and even foosball. Lastly, they get cultural religious training—ironic since the radicals kill in the name of religion.

Mr. Speaker, why does the government spend millions to train and entertain those who kill Americans?

However, this is just another day for the 166 terrorist trainers, financiers and Osama bin Laden bodyguards at Gitmo University on the Caribbean.

And that's just the way it is.

NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

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

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, the national unemployment report was released for this past May.

While some Americans were able to find low-paying jobs, I remain extremely disappointed with this sluggish economic recovery. For example, parts of my district in the Central Valley are still suffering from 30 percent unemployment. This is simply unacceptable.

The economic downturn, caused by burdensome regulatory policies at the State and Federal levels, cannot continue. Our communities should be growing, our businesses should be expanding, and our families should be able to provide better lives for their children. This can be done by allowing safe oil and natural gas exploration and by providing a clean, reliable water supply for Central Valley farmers, farm workers and their communities.

My constituents have faced chronic unemployment for too long. It is time for Washington bureaucrats to get out of the way and to let America prosper.

JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY AND THE NSA

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I am very pleased today to say that Members have joined me in introducing H. Res. 268, which is observing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day, which is going to be this Wednesday, June 19.

I hope that all of those across America will understand the meaning of Juneteenth, which is to express a celebration for the freeing of the slaves, which did not come to the southwestern States, like Texas, until almost 2 years later. That was 1865 after 1863.

Mr. Speaker, I want to quickly change the topic and indicate that I believe it's important to get an understanding of the individual who has allegedly been providing the leaks from the NSA. I have been restrained as to call him anything until the laws determine who he is, but I do believe that we are now tipping the scales of fairness when more and more is coming out in a foreign country, and I do believe something has to be done.

I will be introducing legislation on the reduction of private-intel utilization, an explanation of FISA Court opinions and strengthening the FISA Court because I believe that it is extremely important in strengthening the public trust and in strengthening the rights of the American people. We have to do it, and we have to be able to find this gentleman quickly so that the intelligence that will protect Americans will be done.

□ 1930

ENTANGLING ALLIANCES

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I realize that there are many in schools that are not taught as much history as they should now because they're teaching to this ridiculous test, but it is important we learn from history.

Right now in Syria, we have rebels that are backed by al Qaeda. And this administration, and even some in this building, want to rush to the aid of the al Qaeda-backed rebels, while there are others that say, well, maybe we'd be better off if Assad stayed in power. It's a lose-lose situation for the United States, and when that's the case, it's time to stay out.

Maybe early on, before al Qaeda got so powerful, it would have been time to do something; but when it is a national security risk, when we get involved in