

He served his country in the Army from 1952 to 1954. He is survived by his wife, Willie Mae, his son, Rodd, his daughter, Patrice, his four grandchildren, and by millions of disks and CDs that people will be loving forever.

WAR ON COAL

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

Ms. FOXX. Allow me to quote from one of President Obama's climate change advisers, Dr. Daniel Schrag:

The one thing the President really needs to do now is to begin the process of shutting down the conventional coal plants . . . A war on coal is exactly what's needed.

My goodness. Where are the Obama administration's priorities? Not on jobs. Not on affordable energy.

President Obama's war on coal is already a threat to thousands of American jobs, many in my home State of North Carolina, where 17 coal units are already being shut down, in part, because of EPA policies.

Americans want energy independence, more affordable gas, and jobs. The Keystone pipeline, coal, and coal-fired plants have jobs to offer and can play a role in bringing our country closer to energy independence.

The President and his regulators should be less invested in declaring a war on American coal and more involved in supporting American energy producers and the jobs they already provide.

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION

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

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the majority's proposal to slash funding for the Nation's lead poisoning prevention efforts.

At a time when we should be working to eradicate lead poisoning, the majority's Transportation, Housing and Urban Development appropriations package cuts funding to the Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control by over 60 percent. We need to be focusing more on our efforts of ensuring that children live, play and learn in healthy environments free from the lead hazard and not less.

The number of children in the United States who are suffering from lead poisoning remains unacceptably high. A recent report by the Centers for Disease Control found that 1 in every 38 children has dangerous blood levels. Those levels lead to cognitive and behavioral problems, a loss of IQ points, and a lifetime of adverse health effects. It is estimated that lead exposure costs the Nation more than \$50 billion in lifetime productivity losses.

Over the past two decades, HUD's Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control has successfully treated 168,000

units for lead hazards and has improved the lead safety. This is no time to backtrack.

THE PRESIDENT'S HEALTH CARE TAKEOVER TO RESULT IN LOSS OF JOBS

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

Mr. BURGESS. We are 6 months and 6 days away from the full weight of the President's takeover of American health care. It's like a train that's careening down the tracks on a collision course with the American economy. Last week, Gallup released a survey of small business owners, and it's even worse than it looks:

Almost half of small business owners reported that they have frozen hiring because of the Affordable Care Act. Another 20 percent said that they have already had to lay off workers because of this law. So that's one out of every five small businesses laying off people because of legislation the administration has forced on hardworking Americans. That's a staggering number of people who are going to have to suffer because of the administration's shortsighted policy.

The President and his allies are under the faulty impression that educating people about the Affordable Care Act will suddenly make it popular and make it work. The truth is that people are already finding out far too much about this law as it costs them and their family members jobs. We have to continue highlighting the destructive parts of this law before it destroys an already weak economy.

□ 1410

OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF TRANSBOUNDARY HYDROCARBON AGREEMENTS AUTHORIZATION ACT

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

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1613, the Outer Continental Shelf Transboundary Hydrocarbon Agreements Authorization Act.

Over 3 years have passed since President Obama and then-President Calderon agreed on the need to finalize a transboundary hydrocarbon agreement which now needs to be approved by Congress. This agreement would establish a cooperative process for managing the Gulf of Mexico to promote joint utilization of transboundary reservoirs.

The transboundary hydrocarbon agreement set to be enacted after decades of indecision between the Republic of Mexico and the United States allows oil and natural gas production on 1.5 million acres that was previously

off limits because of border issues. The Mexican Legislature has already acted on this agreement, and we are now waiting on Congress to act.

The transboundary agreement is good for the United States and is good for our relationship with the Republic of Mexico and is good for economic growth and good for environmental protection.

This agreement would allow the American industry to work directly with PEMEX, instituting cutting-edge technologies.

I ask Congress to approve this.

JOBS AND ENERGY

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

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, after over 4 years with unemployment at or above 7.5 percent, it is no wonder that the American people do not have faith in this administration's ability to lead.

Of the nine counties I represent in North Carolina, seven have unemployment rates above the national average. And in several of those counties, the unemployment rate is above 10 percent.

Madam Speaker, North Carolinians, like all Americans, deserve better. We need to seize opportunities for economic growth and job creation, and one of those focus areas should be energy independence.

More domestic production would not only increase our country's competitiveness in the energy field, but would create jobs, Madam Speaker. It would also lower prices at the pump for American families who should not have to worry about busting their budgets to fill their gas tanks. Unfortunately, the President's energy plan will only make American energy more expensive and hinder job growth.

Madam Speaker, the American people are focused on jobs and the economy, and this administration needs to do the same.

LISTEN TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, two-thirds of the American people want the border secured before other immigration reforms are implemented.

The Senate bill ignores them.

Most Americans feel that legalizing millions of illegal workers would take jobs away from U.S. citizens.

The Senate bill ignores them.

Most Americans want to stop illegal immigration.

The Senate bill only reduces illegal immigration by 25 percent.

Most Americans feel that legalizing millions of illegal immigrants would be a drain on government services.

The Senate bill ignores them.

Most Americans don't want to increase the number of immigrants beyond the very generous 1 million admitted every year.

The Senate bill doubles that number. Those considering the Senate bill should stop, look, and listen to the American people.

SOLUTIONS FOR ENERGY AND JOBS

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Our economy continues to struggle. Nearly 12 million of our fellow Americans remain out of work. Why then does the President still insist on standing in the way of creating new jobs by expanding America's energy sector using all of our valuable resources: water, wind, solar, gas, and oil?

An all-of-the-above energy strategy is what America needs to grow our economy, to create real American jobs, and to strengthen our national security. What we don't need is more government regulation and other interference from Washington. It looks like that is all this administration is prepared to offer.

House Republicans have a plan to make the most of all of America's energy resources. We already passed legislation to approve the Keystone XL pipeline, and this week our Offshore Energy and Jobs Act is another part of that plan. It's a commonsense solution, and it's what the American people deserve.

SMARTER SOLUTIONS FOR STUDENTS ACT

(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, I rise today to address the mounting financial challenges facing our college students.

With student loan debt over \$1 trillion, even larger than the credit card debt in our Nation, students are taking on a significant financial burden in order to realize their dreams. Soon that burden may grow as interest rates are set to go up significantly on these loans that students hold, thereby increasing the cost of college dramatically in our country.

Congress must act, and the House already has. A month ago the House proactively took action to ensure America's college students and their families continue to have the Nation's support in pursuing their collegiate aspirations. In passing the Smarter Solutions for Students Act, the House would keep rates low for college students and create a permanent solution to this annual problem, getting Congress out of the business of setting interest rates.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the Senate will take up the Smarter Solutions for Stu-

dents Act to create certainty for today's college students so that they, too, may have a chance to realize the American Dream.

OUR COUNTRY'S ENERGY POLICIES

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

Mrs. WAGNER. As I stand before you, President Obama is down the street at this moment outlining his proposal to tackle climate change, with the centerpiece of his plan aimed at attacking the backbone of affordable energy in America.

While he will not explicitly say it, this is the next step in this administration's war on coal that they have been waging for the past 5 years and which will not stop until all coal-fired power plants in this country have been shut down by the EPA.

I, on the other hand, believe that producing affordable energy and being environmentally sound are not mutually exclusive, and I truly support an all-of-the-above policy that utilizes renewable and clean technology without eliminating our most reliable source of energy.

Instead, the President's current course of action is a direct attack on the middle class who are affected more by rising energy costs, all under the deception of pursuing climate change.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly suggest that the President consider the American people first when making these decisions on our country's energy policies.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 5 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1700

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York) at 5 p.m.

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.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

STAN MUSIAL VETERANS MEMORIAL BRIDGE

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules

and pass the bill (H.R. 2383) to designate the new Interstate Route 70 bridge over the Mississippi River connecting St. Louis, Missouri, and southwestern Illinois as the "Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2383

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. STAN MUSIAL VETERANS MEMORIAL BRIDGE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The new Interstate Route 70 bridge over the Mississippi River that connects St. Louis, Missouri, to southwestern Illinois shall be known and designated as the "Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the bridge referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BUSTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 2383.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 2383, to name the new I-70 bridge that connects St. Louis and southwestern Illinois as the "Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge." I introduced this legislation, along with my colleague BILL ENYART, as well as ANN WAGNER, JOHN SHIMKUS, LACY CLAY, DAN LIPINSKI, AARON SCHOCK, EMANUEL CLEAVER, SAM GRAVES, VICKY HARTZLER, RANDY HULTGREN, ADAM KINZINGER, BILLY LONG, BLAINE LUETKEMEYER, and JASON SMITH.

Today marks a bipartisan opportunity to honor all of America's heroes as well as a legend of America's national pastime. Nearly 1.3 million of America's 21 million veterans live in Illinois and Missouri. Naming this bridge that links these two States is another way we can honor the brave men and the brave women who have served our country.

Whether it's coming together to pass critical veterans funding measures, just like 420 of my colleagues and I did earlier this month on this very floor, or recognizing our veterans by naming this bridge, this body has shown it can come together in support of our veterans.

This bill would also honor the legacy of Stan Musial. Mr. Speaker, the St.