

gun violence legislation that could save lives; don't pass equal pay for women that could boost family incomes; don't help homeowners refinancing, which could save families money; don't pass immigration reform that could grow our economy; don't create a national infrastructure bank that could create new jobs; and don't pass a green energy bill that could finally tackle climate change.

It doesn't have to be this way, but when your agenda is to do nothing, it's easy to get nothing done when you operate off of a "to don't" list. Solving problems and reaching compromise may be hard work, but it's the work the American people sent us here to do.

#### FIGHTING FOR AMERICAN JOBS

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

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, later today, the President will once again refocus his efforts on jobs. Well, House Republicans never lost our focus on jobs.

We have a plan to create jobs, grow our economy, and to secure our future for all Americans by expanding opportunity, not expanding government.

Our plan holds government accountable to hardworking taxpayers; our plan reins in runaway government spending; our plan combats waste and abuse in government; our plan promotes an all-of-the-above all-American energy strategy that will create jobs, lower energy costs, and strengthen our national security.

These are commonsense solutions that the American people deserve. It is not fair that Washington liberals keep offering up only more spending and political games. Real solutions to real problems, that's the American commitment.

#### WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, did you know that last Sunday marked the anniversary of the day in 1917 when 16 women demanded the right to vote in front of the White House? They were sentenced to 60 days in the workhouse for demanding universal suffrage for women.

Did you know that tomorrow is the day when in 1892 Doris Fleischman Bernays was born? She was to become the first married woman to get a passport in her own name and to get her name on her daughter's birth certificate.

Or did you know that the famous Ginger Rogers-Fred Astaire partnership ended in part because she was angry over gender pay standards? She grew tired of being paid half of what her male colleagues were paid in films in which she was starring.

These are the sorts of things that one day visitors will learn about at the National Women's History Museum when it opens its doors—with a goal of educating, inspiring, and empowering women.

After all, American history is her story too. That is why I have introduced with MARSHA BLACKBURN H.R. 863, a bill to create such a museum. Join it and make your mother proud.

#### REPRESENTATIVE STEVE KING'S IGNORANT COMMENTS

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, Representative KING's recent comments about children of immigrants are a disgrace to this institution. These comments are unacceptable and just plain wrong on so many levels.

We may not all agree on the best way to fix our Nation's broken immigration system, but we can all agree that it's broken.

Comments like Representative KING's don't do anything to solve problems or bring us closer to a true bipartisan solution on immigration. They only exacerbate the problem of extreme partisanship and inject needless divisiveness into the conversation on how to best reform our immigration system.

This sort of ideologically driven and hateful rhetoric has no place in this institution, and it must stop. It is time for both parties to put down the partisan talking points and make a good faith effort to work together to have a conversation and not a confrontation.

We need to act, and we need to act now. We don't have time for this partisan gamesmanship. We must reduce our deficit by passing this comprehensive immigration reform.

#### CREATE JOBS AND GROW THE ECONOMY

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

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on the floor today we've heard some of our colleagues in the majority, starting with the Speaker of the House, demand the President work with Congress to create jobs and grow the economy. If Republicans were willing to spend time on these issues, that would really be good news.

I think it is necessary for us to have a reality check. In the 6 months of this Congress, with the Republicans in the majority, there has been no jobs bill brought to the floor; there has been no budget bill brought to the floor. The budget is the blueprint for job creation, for deficit reduction, for growing the economy, for creating jobs, for keeping America competitive, for making sure that America is number one.

At the beginning of the year, the Republicans said, we want regular order,

we want to pass a budget bill—and we did—and then the Senate will pass a budget that is not a good budget and not a statement of our values, but nonetheless, a bill passed the House. They said, we want regular order, we want the Senate to pass a budget bill before we can proceed with any jobs legislation.

□ 1245

Over 3 months ago—I think nearly 4 months ago—the Senate passed a budget bill—again, a blueprint for job creation, deficit reduction, growth in the economy. The minute the Senate passed the bill, the Republicans said, Never mind.

Never mind? No. It is our business to mind, to mind this Congress to make sure that we create solutions, that we get results, that we are in the business of job creation in the public and private sectors with public and private partnerships. With no budget and with no jobs bill, that cannot happen.

So when the Speaker of the House comes to the floor and makes demands on the President—and the President has made offer, after offer, after offer. He has extended the hand of cooperation so many times that I want to count his fingers to see how intact his hand is because of the reaction from the Republicans. The Republicans' response to the President's offer of cooperation? Nothing.

"Nothing" is our agenda.

Does "nothing" work for you, Mr. President?

Our timetable: "Never."

Does "never" work for you? Because that's the only time that we are going to work together with you to pass a jobs bill.

Previous speakers talked about jobs being created. Why? By giving tax cuts to the wealthiest people in our country?

I am so glad that the President is out there today, saying that we are going to build jobs and build our economy from the middle class out. It's really important that the prosperity of our country is enjoyed by many more people and, in fact, is inspired by their ingenuity, by their creativity, by their entrepreneurship; and we have to have policies that incentivize that.

Today, the President will put more ideas on the table to grow our economy. He recognizes—and I think we on the Democratic side all agree—that the economy best works when it grows from the middle out, not by the trickle down, top down.

Our friends on the Republican side said, Trickle down, what's wrong with that? If it trickles down, it could create jobs. If that happens, that's great. If it doesn't, that's the free market. If it doesn't create jobs, in their words, so be it.

So be it? No, I don't think so.

Our country has come a long way since the depths of the Great Recession, which was caused by these very same trickle-down policies. Tax cuts

for the rich, that is the Republican jobs program.

Do you know what is interesting to me? Coming up in September is the 5-year anniversary of the meltdown, of the announcement of the meltdown during the Bush administration. Under the trickle-down policies and the laissez, laissez, laissez, laissez, laissez-faire attitudes of the Republicans in Congress and in the White House, we were facing a great meltdown of our financial institutions, a great recklessness by some—not all—on Wall Street, causing joblessness on Main Street.

And what's interesting about it is, when we were notified finally—when we asked, what's going on here? and they finally told us what was happening—no less a person than the Chairman of the Fed said, in response to a description given by the Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary Paulson, about the seriousness of the meltdown that was occurring—and this was Thursday night—that we could, by Monday, have no economy.

Have no economy? That is the place that these trickle-down policies—this laissez-faire attitude toward no regulation and no supervision—took us in our economy coming up 5 years ago in September.

That's why it's really important for the President to be out there and for the public to understand, not so that we can create divisions between Democrats and Republicans, but so that we can come together as a people and make the decisions here about a budget that does grow the economy by creating jobs while reducing the deficit at the same time, keeping America number one—that we build the infrastructure of America, that we make it in America by giving incentives for jobs to stay here rather than, as the Republicans suggest, to give tax breaks to businesses that send jobs overseas. Building the infrastructure of America. Make It In America. Have our communities suggest how they would like to grow with the proper education of our children, with the safety of our neighborhoods, with the security of our people.

So, really, it's almost like another universe to listen to the Republicans talk about the economy when they have had a complete “never, nothing” agenda and timetable for bringing a jobs bill to the floor that really does address the challenges that working families in our country face.

On the positive side, I am very pleased that the President's strategy for growth, of course, which is centered around the middle class, ensures that every American has the opportunity to have a good job that pays enough to support a middle-income life, a strong education that equips our youth for the job market, a home that is not at risk of being taken away as it was 5 years ago, a retirement free of financial anxiety, secure health care with decent benefits, a higher minimum wage.

And when I talk about what happened 5 years ago, what's interesting to me is that the Republicans still have the nerve to be asking the question: Are you better off now than you were 5 years ago?

Five years ago, we weren't going to have an economy by Monday. We weren't going to have an economy by Monday under their policies. The President has led us out of that Great Recession. He did so in the first 2 years with a Democratic Congress that had a recovery package and initiatives to grow the economy. Since then, it has been, again, the “never, nothing” timetable and agenda of the Republicans. How much faster our economy could be growing if the Republicans would cooperate with their ideas and the President's, working together in a bipartisan way to get the job done for the American people.

While I'm at it, I want to put in a word for our agenda for America's women and families.

When women succeed, America succeeds. It's an agenda that recognizes and values the work of women in the workplace by having pay equity, by raising the minimum wage, by rewarding work. It's an agenda that helps women balance home and work by saying—and we will be celebrating the 20-year anniversary of the implementation of family medical leave—that we need some paid sick leave as well and paid maternity leave as well. Third is the need—and a bigger issue that will take a longer time in facing the challenge—for affordable quality child care for all of America's families so that our children can be learning while their parents are earning. An important component of it is the entrepreneurship of women in the workplace. Women's business ownership is the fastest growing rate of small business growth in our country, minority women-owned businesses as well.

So we do believe that our economy will grow, that our families will prosper, that our Nation will continue to be number one to the extent that we invest in the middle class and in those aspiring to it, and that we should place a special emphasis on women in the workplace, because, again, when American women succeed, America succeeds.

That's how we want to ignite the American Dream—to build ladders of opportunity for all who want to work hard, play by the rules, and take responsibility.

We have work to do. Let's do it instead of living in a world of illusion in which the leadership won't bring a real jobs bill to the floor that can be enacted into law. The Speaker has said that it isn't a measure of success as to how many bills you can enact; it's about how much law you can repeal.

You haven't even succeeded in that. You haven't repealed anything. So let's get to work on the positive side to create jobs. That's the best thing that we can do for the American people, and let's do it soon.

“Never” doesn't work for us.

#### REVISIONIST HISTORY

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

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I will be happy to address some of the revisionist history.

If we want to talk about reality testing, how about the fact that, in September of 2008, Democrats had controlled every level of power in the United States Congress for some 20 months, but we didn't hear a peep out of them until Lehman Brothers failed?

And, oh, by the way, who was on watch at the New York Fed when that happened? Timothy Geithner. He was rewarded by becoming President Obama's Treasury Secretary.

For the first 2 years of the Obama administration, it was so anti-employer that no wonder the recovery was, indeed, a jobless recovery and that it has continued in that mode until today.

And don't get me started about the Affordable Care Act. That has been a wet blanket on job creation in this economy. The President knows it, which is why he revised things last week.

And, oh, by the way, if he wants to reach out his hand to us, how about sending people from the agencies to our committees who at least will stop the propensity for prevarication when they will not admit to the fact that they have contingency plans in place for delaying and downsizing the implementation of the Affordable Care Act as they were, in fact, planning that very measure when those people came to the committee and spoke under oath.

#### WE MUST ACT NOW ON IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. DENHAM. Madam Speaker, first, I would like to extend some thanks to Chairman GOWDY and Ranking Member LOFGREN, not only for giving me the privilege and the honor to speak before their Subcommittee on Immigration yesterday, but as well to have conversations in my district and to have conversations in my State with a number of constituents that are affected by our immigration policy.

This is something we have to act on now. This is something for which we need to make sure we've got a top-to-bottom approach. It is an issue on which Republicans and Democrats can actually come together that is vitally important to our economy and to the greatness of our country: making sure that our border security is actually secure, not only with a fence and greater law enforcement, but by actually redeploying the security technology and surveillance equipment from Afghanistan; making sure that we've got the