

Rollcall No. 446: Motion to Recommit with Instructions for HR 2009, "aye";

Rollcall No. 447: Final Passage of HR 2009, "no";

BENEFITS OF NATURAL GAS DEVELOPMENT FOR PENNSYLVANIANS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week, I have shared multiple accounts of testimony delivered before the bipartisan Natural Gas Caucus during a field hearing last week in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. While I have discussed the extensive job growth and revenue increases for the Commonwealth, today I rise to share the benefits to property owners who have leases above the vast Marcellus natural gas play.

Between 2008 and 2010, landowners in two rural, northern tier counties in Pennsylvania earned over \$550 million. As of July 2013, the lifetime royalties for wells already drilled in these counties are projected to exceed \$7 billion. Property values in these counties have increased to a level greater than 47 percent of the national average increase between 2006 and 2012, which was during the height of the recession.

Perhaps most importantly, there are now, more than ever, greater prospects for future generations of Pennsylvanians. Natural gas development has allowed Pennsylvania's young workers to find high-paying, family sustaining jobs in the Keystone State, where they can continue to live and build stronger communities.

□ 1230

CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Safe Climate Caucus to once again direct our attention to the serious threat of climate change. Republicans continue to ignore this issue and instead waste our valuable time once again attempting to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

Yesterday, our Interior appropriations markup ended up with no real timetable for when we can finish this bill. Worse yet, the funding levels in the Interior bill were absolutely irresponsible. The Republican bill would abandon our commitment to the environment, to our national parks, to the public health and safety, and most important to climate change mitigation programs.

It is sad and shameful that we are about to adjourn for a 5-week district work period leaving critical business to create jobs, pass comprehensive immigration reform, and fight climate change.

The time to act is now. I encourage my colleagues to begin to address this issue right away.

PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION

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

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, during my time in the military, I had the privilege of serving as an assistant professor of American Government at the United States Military Academy at West Point. The opportunity to educate young minds about our democracy, our Constitution, our exceptional way of life was one of the greatest privileges I ever had.

The continuation of our Nation relies upon the engagement of an informed citizenry. In a time when education funding is being stretched thin at the Federal, State, and local levels, civics and history are often among the first subjects to be pared down or even eliminated.

I'm proud of the work of my colleagues such as Representative HONDA and Representative COLE and what they're doing to promote civic education. One of my own constituents, Jonathan Estrin from Columbia County, has been helping them. I'm proud of him, as well.

Though it is the role of the State and local governments to establish curricula, I support Federal efforts to assist States and localities who wish to empower their students by civic education.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure future generations come to learn about our Nation's history and remain engaged as citizens.

GIVE ME A BREAK

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, reportedly the Republican leadership has drafted a bill that doubles the level of cuts to food stamps over what was included in the farm bill that failed to pass this House in June.

That's right: it doubles the cuts. More than 50 million people are hungry in America, 17 million are kids, and the Republicans think cutting \$40 billion from the most important program that prevents mass hunger in America is somehow a good thing? Give me a break.

They have already tried to cut \$20 billion from food stamps. They failed. Any rational person would say they went too far, we need to compromise. Instead, the Republican leadership decided to double down on the crazy.

If House Republicans insist on moving forward with this awful proposal, I will fight it with every ounce of energy I can muster. We should not, we must not, we cannot allow this mean-spirited, cold-hearted proposal to pass.

REINS ACT

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

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I held a tele-townhall meeting and had the opportunity to talk with several thousand Montanans about the House's efforts to bring needed accountability to Washington and the regulatory burdens that are hurting Montana families and job creators.

Montanans are tired and frustrated by the EPA's ever-changing rules and unreasonable compliance costs. The status quo is not acceptable. That's why I'm proud to have voted in support of the REINS Act, which will bring much needed accountability to the regulatory process.

This isn't a Republican issue or a Democrat issue. This is about doing the right thing for the American people and the future of our country.

It's time to rein in Washington's overbearing, costly regulations and provide Montana families, business owners, and hardworking taxpayers with the relief they deserve.

CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, in an op-ed in The New York Times this morning, four former EPA administrators appeal for action on climate change, stating:

The United States must move now on substantive steps to curb climate change.

I think this House could learn a thing or two from the authors of this article.

These former EPA administrators worked for four Republican Presidents: Nixon, Reagan, George Bush, and George W. Bush. They say that "there is no longer any credible scientific debate" about climate change, and they also point out that our window for action is shrinking.

They say they support the actions that the President is now taking under the Clean Air Act to reduce carbon pollution, and they call on Congress to start the overdue debate about what bigger steps are needed domestically and internationally.

They conclude with this very powerful statement:

The only uncertainty about our warming world is how bad the changes will get, and how soon. What is most clear is that there is no time to waste.

HOLDING ATTORNEY GENERAL HOLDER ACCOUNTABLE

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address Attorney General

Holder's misinterpretation of federalism and his disregard for our system of checks and balances.

The Supreme Court was clear in *Shelby v. Holder* that States have the ability to run fair elections. Did anybody tell Attorney General Holder?

I can't say it better than Texas Governor Rick Perry, whose efforts to implement commonsense election standards are under attack from Mr. Holder:

Once again, the Obama administration is demonstrating utter contempt for our country's system of checks and balances, not to mention the U.S. Constitution.

If Holder continues to go unchecked and if he is not held accountable, what sort of precedent does that set? As Supreme Court Justice Brandeis said:

In a government of laws, the existence of the government will be imperiled if it fails to observe the law scrupulously. If government becomes a lawbreaker, it breeds contempt for law; it invites every man to become a law unto himself. It invites anarchy.

So I ask you, has the Attorney General invited anarchy? I will continue to make my case here in the people's House at the people's pulpit.

I will be back.

LET THE PEOPLE DRAW THE LINES ACT

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor today to introduce my first bill as a Member of Congress. It's Let the People Draw the Lines Act, or H.R. 2978.

My bill does exactly what that title says: it lets people, not politicians, draw the district lines for the United States House of Representatives. My bill empowers the States to create independent redistricting commissions, much like we have in my home State of California.

The Let the People Draw the Lines Act will remove redistricting from the political process. It will provide clear and uniform redistricting criteria that give all communities a fair and equal voice in the political process. This entire process will be transparent and open to the public, the way it should be.

If my bill becomes law, Mr. Speaker, political gerrymandering will finally become a closed chapter in our Nation's journey towards a more perfect democracy.

Let the people draw the lines, Mr. Speaker. America deserves true representation.

DEFUNDING OBAMACARE

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

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I'm not a fan of government mandates, and neither are my constituents in Mis-

issippi. There is one mandate that the people of Mississippi sent me to Washington with: to repeal, replace, dismantle, delay, and defund ObamaCare.

I've heard from families, small businesses, and hardworking Americans across my district who all have the same message—this law is a train wreck.

That is why one of my very first votes in Congress was to repeal ObamaCare. That's why I've voted to repeal it nearly 40 times over the last 3 years. That is why I introduced a constitutional amendment to restore the right of the American people to refuse this bad law. That is also why I firmly believe we must defund ObamaCare in a continuing resolution this body will take up later this year.

I believe this is a fight worth fighting for Mississippi, and I believe it's a fight worth fighting for the American people.

I'm calling on my colleagues to join me in this fight to stand strong, to stand together, and let's defund ObamaCare.

CONGRESS SHOULD NOT ADJOURN

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

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Mr. Speaker, here we are Friday afternoon. We have a lot of people around the country who are going home for the weekend, but expecting to go back to their workplace on Monday. Congress is not coming back until September.

Did we get everything done? No, we did not. We did manage to vote against ObamaCare 40 times, and basically that means we have voted against the people of this country and their right to health insurance 40 times.

We did not cancel the sequester, which is hurting people. I delivered meals last week to a 101-year-old man who has had his meals cut because of sequester. We didn't pass any jobs bill, not one, not a single jobs bill. All we've managed to do in this body is to try to take health care away from American citizens.

I urge Congress to stay here. I urge the Speaker to call us back and make us do the job the American public sent us here to do.

IRS: LAWS FOR THEE, BUT NOT FOR ME

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, every year, millions of Americans across the fruited plains send their tax returns to the IRS. Some claim exemptions so they can keep more of their money; now the IRS wants an exemption of its own.

IRS employees want an exemption from participating in—guess what—

ObamaCare. That's right. The IRS workers have asked for an exemption from ObamaCare. They like their current health plan, and they just want to keep it.

These are the same people in charge of enforcing ObamaCare and penalizing Americans that are forced to be under ObamaCare. This is the same abusive, scandalous IRS that uses power to punish political opponents.

The IRS taxocrats don't want the law to apply to them; they want it to apply to us. More arrogance of power. Their policy is: laws for thee, but not for me. Ironic, don't you think?

The real truth, to be clear, Mr. Speaker, is the IRS wants to be exempted from ObamaCare and so do Americans.

And that's just the way it is.

CALLING FOR THE RESIGNATION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER AND DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE JAMES CLAPPER

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

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the delicate yet much-needed balance between our national security and the constitutionally protected liberties of our citizens. In order to maintain those liberties, I call for the immediate terminations of Director of National Intelligence James Clapper and Attorney General Eric Holder. To that extent, I am sending a letter to President Obama asking that he immediately call for their terminations and/or resignations.

Mr. Speaker, I do believe that our Nation's surveillance programs have helped thwart terrorist attacks because of the NSA and FBI personnel that work on these security activities every day and who are working hard to comply with the law to protect our constitutional liberties and to keep America safe.

In contrast to the efforts of those hardworking, law-abiding personnel, Americans have serious reservations about Attorney General Holder and DNI Clapper, who are ultimately responsible for the management of these programs. We remain gravely concerned about their lack of commitment to follow the law, to be forthright with the American people and with Congress, and their commitment to protect our constitutionally guaranteed liberties.

Continued congressional oversight coupled with the terminations of Clapper and Holder will help restore trust in these important programs to fight terrorism without compromising our liberties or creating gaps in our intelligence structure. In addition, their removal may start the healing process to restore American trust in our Federal Government.