

continue to enrich our Nation through their outstanding service.

Mr. Speaker, it is particularly poignant for me because my father-in-law and my mother both worked at the Navy Yard during the course of their careers. I've been on the Navy Yard numerous times. It should be—and we thought was—well protected. Twelve people found that it was not protected enough.

My thoughts and prayers are with the families of those who lost their lives and with all who are recovering from their injuries.

MADE IN THE USA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the importance of manufacturing to our Nation cannot be overstated. Creating products domestically supports local economies and creates family-sustaining jobs. But so many domestic companies also serve as a source of pride for towns, cities, and regions of the country.

The Zippo Manufacturing Company and their iconic lighter are headquartered and manufactured in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District, which I have the honor of representing. It is McKean County's largest employer, with 900 hardworking men and women in a city of 8,000. Zippo has been making lighters since 1895; and today, 160 countries around the world buy Zippo products.

Zippo is a part of Bradford's community identity. Part of this identity comes from the fact that American companies were once renowned for building things to last. Zippo backs its lighters with a "forever guarantee."

Parade Magazine, a national publication, made note of this fact in a recent article titled, "Putting America Back to Work: 5 Ways 'Made in the USA' is Staging a Comeback." It's companies like Zippo that give "American made" a great name, that keep the world buying U.S.-made products and ultimately keeps jobs in America and expands the American workforce.

The key to our economic recovery is tapping into these gems, utilizing domestic energy, technology, and innovation, as well as a homegrown workforce to revitalize American manufacturing.

SNAP CUTS VERSUS CROP INSURANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) for 5 minutes.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, later today, this body will vote on the House majority leadership's plan to cut \$40 billion from food stamps and force over 4 million low-income Americans—citizens, veterans, seniors, and children—to go hungry.

This bill is immoral. It is wrong to take food from the mouths of hungry people. It is especially cruel when, at the same time, the House majority continues to support crop insurance subsidies for wealthy farms and agribusinesses.

Let us be clear about this so-called "nutrition bill" we are voting on today. The majority's leadership is making an explicit choice. They want us to force the poorest families in America to go hungry at a time of great need, while continuing to support and even expand giant government subsidies to the wealthy. This is reverse Robin Hood.

This makes no economic sense. Even as it left anti-hunger programs in limbo, the farm bill passed in July by the majority expanded crop insurance subsidies. According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, these crop insurance subsidies will cost taxpayers \$90 billion over the next decade. USDA, the United States Department of Agriculture, reports it spent \$14 billion on crop insurance last year alone. Keep in mind that means we will spend over twice as much on these subsidies as this proposed cut to food stamps will save us.

Some Members of the majority like to argue that these deep cuts to food stamps are necessary and that we, the richest Nation on Earth, cannot afford to help feed the most vulnerable members of our society. This is untrue. A decision is being made to cut \$40 billion in food aid to the poor while giving \$90 billion in subsidies to the wealthy.

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That is not right.

So who exactly are receiving these subsidies?

That is a good question. Right now, U.S. taxpayers pay, on average, almost two-thirds of crop insurance premiums for high-income farmers; 62 percent, we pay, for these crop insurance premiums. And according to the Congressional Budget Office, the Federal Government paid \$1.4 billion in crop insurance administrative costs to financial and insurance companies, including a bank in Switzerland.

Last year, over 10,000 farmers each received over \$100,000 in crop insurance subsidies. And because the program is not means tested or capped, 26 farmers made over \$1 million from the Federal Government; 26 wealthy farm owners whom we are prevented from identifying, and they could even be Members of Congress. We can't get their names. They are statutorily protected. And as I stand here, we are going to fight every day to get the names of these 26 individuals.

Meanwhile, the bill that we considered today would deny SNAP benefits to jobless adults without children whose incomes average only about one-fifth of the poverty line; and that, my friends, is \$2,500 a year. Let's say "no" to them for food on their tables.

We also know that crop insurance subsidies have a higher error rate,

meaning more waste, fraud, and abuse, than the food stamp program, one of the most efficient programs the Federal Government undertakes. And sadly, we know that there are Members of the majority arguing strenuously for these deep cuts to food aid who, at the same time, are pocketing millions themselves in crop insurance subsidies. They should be ashamed.

Families on food stamps are struggling. We hear about seniors who have to choose between buying food and medicine, veterans trying to get back on their feet after serving their country, students in the classroom who can't even concentrate when others are eating because they're actually going hungry. These are the Americans this bill would see go hungry, even as we subsidize handouts to wealthy farmers.

This is immoral. If this is not wrong, nothing is wrong.

But even if that doesn't sway you, consider the math. This bill would cut \$40 billion from food aid, while the majority in this body voted to keep \$90 billion in crop insurance subsidies. It would deny over 4 million low-income individuals a chance to eat, even as we are giving 26 faceless individuals \$1 million each. I cannot support a bill that hurts millions of low-income citizens, children, seniors, veterans, as the majority continues to subsidize wealthy agribusiness.

Historically, addressing hunger in America has been a bipartisan effort, Democrats and Republicans who come together to say we have a serious problem of hunger in America; let's work to eradicate it. That was McGovern and Dole, Javits, Kennedy, and so many others.

I urge my colleagues in both parties to vote this heartless bill down.

OBAMACARE FAILS TO LIVE UP TO ITS GUARANTEES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ROTHFUS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, when President Obama sold his health care law to the American people, he made many promises. He promised—he guaranteed—that if you like your doctor or your health care plan, you could keep it. He promised that his law would not raise your health insurance costs.

My constituents will tell you that the health care law has broken these promises, that these guarantees are no good. Nearly every day I hear from folks, moms and dads, teachers, bus drivers, small business owners, health care providers, who are being hurt by the health care law.

A woman I met recently, who had just started a new job, making \$8.50, learned that her hours would be cut from 35 to 29. If you do the math, that's about \$50 a week, \$200 a month, \$2,500 a year. That may not sound like a lot of money to the elites here in Washington, D.C., but for a working person

in western Pennsylvania, that can make a big difference with gas, groceries, or helping to pay the rent.

A chemistry teacher recently called my office in Beaver County to share her story about the health care law hurting her coworkers. The special needs teachers' aides in her school recently had their hours cut from 37½ hours to 28. That's a loss of \$180 per paycheck. Many of these aides depend on this job to provide health insurance for their families. Thanks to the health care law, these teachers' aides and their families will lose their health care coverage.

A mom from the North Hills of Pittsburgh recently got in touch with me to tell me about the impact of the health care law on her family's small business. Kathy and her husband recently learned that their health care plan will be discontinued December 31. Kathy told me that since ObamaCare was voted into law, we have watched our deductible soar, our premiums soar, and our blood pressures soar. Enough already.

Kathy's sentiment is shared by many of the western Pennsylvanians who called the office and whom I've talked to at small business and constituent gatherings around the district. In the real world, when you buy a product that comes with a guarantee, if the guarantee is not met, you get your money back and you look for a new product.

With only 13 days until the law begins to take full effect, more and more flaws are increasingly evident, and the President continues to delay, arbitrarily, major provisions of his health care law. We need to delay and dismantle the entire law so that a process of bipartisan health care reform can finally begin.

It's time for a new beginning. It's time for a government that looks to the American people and our doctors and health care providers, not as subjects to be managed, but as partners who can help solve problems.

It's time for a new beginning that brings Republicans and Democrats together. As President Kennedy once said, let us not seek the Republican answer, let us not seek the Democratic answer, but the right answer.

HONORING MEXICAN GUEST WORKERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE BRACERO PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. McNERNEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the millions of Mexican guest workers who came to the United States under the Bracero program from 1942 to 1964. The Bracero program is being highlighted by the Smithsonian exhibit, Bittersweet Harvest, and is being shown throughout the country.

At a time when our Nation was at war and laborers were scarce, President

Franklin Roosevelt and Mexican President Manuel Camacho created a guest worker program known as the Bracero program. In September of 1942, the first Braceros, under this agreement, arrived in Stockton, California, the heart of my district. These individuals embodied the American Dream by searching for a better life for themselves and their families, and worked hard to make it come true.

The Smithsonian exhibit uses personal stories from the Braceros to highlight their experiences in this program and what they endured while adjusting to a new life in the United States.

The San Joaquin Valley remains home to a strong and vibrant Mexican population, and the region's heritage and history has been enriched due to its diversity.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of the people who came to this country through the Bracero program.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FLORA ARCA MATA

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I also wish to honor the life of an education pioneer in my district, Flora Arca Mata. Ms. Mata was the first Asian American, specifically, the first Filipina teacher in the Stockton Unified School District, breaking barriers of stereotypes that Asian Americans faced immediately after World War II, thereby helping numerous minority teachers join the education field.

Ms. Mata retired from teaching in 1978 and passed away last Wednesday, at the age of 95.

Ms. Mata was born in Honolulu and moved to Stockton in the 1920s. Her family settled in the Little Manila section of Stockton. She attended the University of California at Los Angeles, where she met, and later married, her husband, Vidal Mata.

Upon graduating from UCLA, neither Flora nor Vidal could find teaching jobs, so they traveled to the Philippines to teach. Returning to Stockton in the aftermath of World War II, Ms. Mata responded to a Stockton Unified ad seeking substitute teachers. A year later, she was hired to teach kindergarten full-time in the south Stockton school area.

A steadfast public servant, Ms. Mata remained involved in the education system until her eighties, working as a substitute teacher and volunteering in her granddaughter's kindergarten class.

Ms. Mata's commitment to the success of our students is an inspiration for our entire community. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the barriers Ms. Mata shattered and the road she paved for other individuals to enter the teaching profession.

POTENTIAL CUTS TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today opposed to the potential cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, an important food program that lifts families, children, and seniors out of poverty and provides an important safety net for those in need.

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 over 2 million children. This food program has cut the number of children living in extreme poverty in America in half.

Now, earlier this year, my colleagues on the other side approved a farm bill, but left the food for America's families behind. They passed special subsidies for Big Ag but, for the first time in decades, excluded funding for food assistance for America's families in need.

And now, months after providing special subsidies for Big Ag, House Republicans are bringing forward a bill to cut food assistance by \$40 billion. Apparently, the first attempt at \$20 billion was not deep enough. So they pass a farm bill that provides corporate subsidies, but they leave food for America's families behind.

In my district and in the State of Nevada, more than 71 percent of SNAP participants are families with children. Almost 26 percent of all SNAP participants are in families with elderly and disabled members, and nearly 42 percent of all SNAP families are in working families.

So House Republicans support corporate welfare for Big Ag and big business, but cut food assistance for the elderly, for disabled, and, yes, even our veterans.

We should not be cutting the safety net for our most vulnerable while maintaining costly government subsidies for the well-off junk food, oil, and gas industries.

SNAP benefits, Mr. Speaker, average less than \$1.50 per person per meal. That amount is set to drop to about \$1.40 this fall, when the 2009 Recovery Act's temporary benefit boost ends.

Now, the person who receives \$1.50 per meal in Nevada is not the problem with the budget. The problem is corporate welfare and the special interest giveaways that litter our Tax Code.

I recently held a telephone town hall the last time the Republicans tried to gut food assistance for America's families and my constituents. I heard from families who are doing everything they can to provide for their families. I heard from seniors who are doing their best to keep their heads above water and moms who are doing their best to escape poverty. If we cut SNAP even further, we are cutting a lifeline for these families.

Now, another important constituency that is affected by this cut is our veterans. Census data indicate that nationwide, approximately 900,000 veterans receive SNAP assistance each