

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the current administration has dictated that the Environmental Protection Agency is to unilaterally institute regulations without seeking congressional approval. South Carolina energy producers have been forced to expedite the closing of 12 coal facilities, which has driven up energy costs for consumers, has destroyed jobs, and has made our workers less competitive. Earlier this month, the EPA acted alone again by proposing new regulations.

This week, I spearheaded a letter to the President and EPA Administrator, which was signed by other members of the South Carolina delegation, that supported legislative review. The American people deserve to have a voice in these new policies to promote jobs and lower energy costs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

My sympathy to Sarah Clarkson and her family of Columbia, South Carolina, on the death yesterday of her husband, A. Crawford Clarkson, Jr.—a true southern gentleman of Scottish heritage, a naval officer awarded the Order of the Palmetto by Governor Carroll Campbell.

#### A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, yet again, House Republicans have taken us down to the wire—refusing to pass a budget or to pay our bills on time.

As The Wall Street Journal asked recently of the GOP: “Are you nuts?”

If their antics force the government to shut down, our military, including people serving overseas right now, will not be paid on time. If they default on our bills, 10 million Americans won't receive their Social Security checks on time, and families will pay higher interest rates on their mortgages, loans, and credit cards. The last time Republicans took us to the brink, the S&P downgraded our credit rating. If the GOP doesn't compromise, they could trigger a worldwide financial crisis and cause long-term economic damage.

Since when have these cutthroat tactics been an acceptable way to govern? The answer is: they are not.

#### DELAY, DEFUND, REPEAL, AND REPLACE OBAMACARE

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it's interesting what brings us here to the House floor this Saturday morning as we are looking at a continuing resolution to fund the government and as we are looking at ways to address what is happening with ObamaCare—where 17 percent of our Nation's economy is being nationalized and federalized.

Those are concerns that we are hearing from our constituents. They do not want ObamaCare to be put into action, and they do not want these insurance exchanges to be stood up and put into action. There are a lot of good reasons why.

First of all, they are not ready. That's why we need to delay this for 1 year. Delay it. We know that there are problems with the exchanges. We know that there are problems with all of the interactive technologies. We know that ObamaCare has already missed over half of its deadlines.

Why would you move forward on a program that is not ready for prime time?

Delay, defund, repeal, replace. That is what we need to do with ObamaCare.

#### THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT COMPROMISE

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, Republican extremists have put the Federal Government on the brink of a shutdown in less than 3 days. On yesterday, the Senate sent over a resolution that funds the government through November 15 using the sequester level of \$986 billion.

What is the Republican leadership going to do with this resolution that will keep the lights on through November 15?

Are you going to continue to listen to the 40–50 ultraconservatives in your Conference whose agenda is to disparage President Obama and hold us hostage until we gut the Affordable Care Act, as the gentlelady from Tennessee just made reference to, and make deeper cuts that hurt the American people?

Is this where we are headed?

I pray for reasonableness on the part of my Republican colleagues. I know it's not all Republicans who are swinging the wrecking ball, but it's a critical mass within the Republican ranks that is beyond reason.

A very sad day in American history is upon us.

I urge Speaker BOEHNER to listen to voices of reason in his Conference and to pull together like-minded Republicans who can join with like-minded Democrats and get this done. The American people want compromise. They want it today.

#### THE PRESIDENT WILL NOT NEGOTIATE OR COMPROMISE

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, a “compromise” is an “agreement reached by each side making concessions,” but how can we reach a compromise if President Obama isn't even willing to negotiate?

The President has said he will not negotiate raising the debt ceiling even

though every major attempt to deal with the deficit over the last 30 years has been tied to the debt limit. He will not negotiate delaying the individual mandate even though he delayed the employer mandate until 2015. He will not negotiate repealing the medical device tax even though 33 Democrats voted to do precisely that.

However, he is willing to negotiate with labor unions and special interests over their objections to ObamaCare. He is willing to negotiate with dictators who use chemical weapons against their own citizens. He is willing to negotiate with Iran.

He is just not willing to negotiate with Congress, and he is not willing to listen to the American people, who are demanding a reprieve from his half-baked health care law and real solutions to America's debt and deficit problems.

#### COMPROMISE, NOT A SHUTDOWN

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

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, Congress is faced with much unfinished business—a budget that needs to be passed, a sequester that needs to be repealed, and a debt limit that needs to be lifted.

I remind my Republican colleagues that citizens want us united. They want compromise, not to be shut down.

If the United States defaults on its debt, the results could be devastating. A default could mean 3.4 million veterans not receiving disability benefits; drug reimbursements for Medicare could stop; and in the first week, 10 million Americans would not receive their Social Security—but in these frightening times, all hope is not lost.

John Hogan, founder of TeenForce, which is an enterprise dedicated to solving the youth employment crisis in America, recently received the White House Champions of Change award—from the President of these United States—for contributions to the administration's Youth Jobs program.

John and his family are here today. Let John and other “champions of change” serve as an example to us all—that in hard times, if we work together, if we compromise, we can make a difference.

#### OBAMACARE

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we are just 3 days away from October 1—the day ObamaCare's health care exchanges are scheduled to open. Yet every constituent phone call, news headline, and report I come across further proves that this law is simply unaffordable and unworkable.

On Thursday, at 11:22 a.m., President Obama said:

Most of the stories you'll hear about how ObamaCare can't work is just not based on facts . . . We're only 5 days from finishing the job.

Exactly 23 minutes later, I received a news alert, saying the White House postponed another portion of ObamaCare—the sixth unilateral delay.

Worse, in my home State of Texas, premiums will increase by 53 percent for young males and by 11 percent for females.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard the personal stories, and I have seen the facts. ObamaCare is unaffordable and unworkable. Americans want, need, and deserve patient-centered reforms, not this "government knows best" health care law.

#### DAMAGING THE NATION'S ECONOMY

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I remember being in this House not that long ago—August 2011—when we were told that we've got to threaten the breaking of the debt ceiling of the United States because of debt and deficit. The deficit has come down. So here we are again, threatening to harm the economic fortunes of Americans with a shutdown and even the debt ceiling, but we are not talking debt and deficit anymore—now we are talking ObamaCare.

My advice to my Republican colleagues is to try to overturn the Affordable Care Act at the ballot box. Oh, that didn't work. Here is another piece of advice: go to court and try to have it found unconstitutional. Oh, boy, that didn't work out either. Okay. Try to go through the regular legislative process. Well, 43 times later, that didn't work. So now we are going to literally damage the economy of this Nation?

The fact is that this is wrong. It is going to hurt veterans, seniors. It is going to hurt children, and it is going to hurt our parks. It is going to hurt our whole country. So I pray that my colleagues stop this.

#### COMPROMISE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, again, we hear about compromise. Yet, the President says he is unwilling to talk to us, that he is unwilling to negotiate. How is that compromise?

We hear more and more talk about shutdowns. Now, if the Republicans talk about shutdowns, they talk about offering solutions, including the Full Faith and Credit Act, in order to keep the government open and operating for the American people.

Finally, in this debate, in this drama, we hear deception or that people are using tactics to threaten the American

people and scare them, Mr. Speaker, by saying that their Social Security is going to be taken away, which it would not be, if the Democrats actually pushed this thing to a shutdown.

Let's stop the deception and, once again, stop the drama so that maybe my daughter would actually watch us on TV—because she is sick of the drama at school. We are sick of the drama here, so let's get together and get this stuff done. We've got 48 hours or less to get this out. Let's work together and compromise. Let's work with the President, work with the Senate, and work amongst ourselves.

#### MR. SPEAKER, IT IS TIME TO LISTEN AND TIME TO TALK

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

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, can you just tell me what's going on so I can tell my constituents?

I can't believe we are here on Saturday morning, 3 days away from a potential government shutdown, with no plan from you. I can't believe that we are about 20 days away from the greatest Nation on this Earth—the United States—defaulting on our obligation, with no plan from you.

Mr. Speaker, being "Speaker" means leading. The majority party—your party—has an obligation to all of the people of this great Nation to lead. Instead, you choose to play games with people's livelihoods and with the full faith and credit of our Nation—the greatest Nation on this Earth.

It is our Nation, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for you to listen to the people—don't shut down government; don't play with the debt ceiling. It is time to listen, time to talk.

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#### GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, we are faced with the threat of a government shutdown on Tuesday due to the Republican Party/Tea Party extremists' inability to compromise and pass a spending bill for fiscal year 2014.

Once again, we've been pushed to the brink of a government shutdown by fringe Tea Party members whose only goal seems to be to deny hardworking taxpayers the right to insurance.

While the Republican-led House has voted 42 times to sabotage uninsured Americans gaining health care coverage, not once have they allowed a vote to repeal and replace the sequester. Over 400 hardworking taxpayers in Fort Worth, Texas, have lost their jobs at Bell Helicopter due to the sequester. To make matters worse, once again Republicans are placing the livelihoods of American families at risk by threatening to furlough government employ-

ees. The bottom line here is that Congress has a lot of work to do this weekend and in the weeks and months to follow.

This is the work that we as Members of Congress were elected to do. I take this responsibility very seriously and expect my colleagues to as well.

#### GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, once again, the clock is ticking. And with another deadline looming before Congress, Republicans are bullying this Nation with the threat of a government shutdown unless we get rid of the Affordable Care Act.

The Republicans have tried over 40 times to repeal the Affordable Care Act, and it hasn't gotten them anywhere. Now they've found themselves a hostage and they're saying, Give us what we want, or we're going to blow up the economy and shut down this government. That will cause critical services to be stopped for the American people, which could mean that over 3 million veterans will not receive their disability benefits, 10 million Americans may not receive their Social Security checks on time, and the SEC and EPA will be closed for business.

Careening from one fiscal crisis to the next is no way to run this country. That's not how we're supposed to do business. There are enough problems in this Nation without Congress manufacturing new ones. Let's end this man-made crisis and get to the business of not hurting the American people.

#### GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, once again Congress is set to play politics by threatening to shut down the government, rather than work toward a compromise.

Just last month, we marked a disgraceful anniversary of our Nation, the S&P's downgrading of the full faith and credit of the United States.

Gridlock and extremism did what wars, natural disasters, and other natural crises could not do: cause credit rating agencies to question whether or not America had the political will to pay its debts as they come due.

Now we're faced with another deadline with the end of the fiscal year fast approaching, a budget that needs to be passed and a debt limit that needs to be lifted so we can continue to do business.

Congress has a lot of work to do. We need to do it fast. This is the work we were elected to do. Let's stop holding blame-game press conferences and get the job done.