

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WOMACK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

WASHINGTON DEMOCRATS SHOULD NEGOTIATE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, President John F. Kennedy once said, "Let us never negotiate out of fear, but let us never fear to negotiate."

House Republicans are willing to negotiate. House Republicans have been proactive in preventing a shutdown by passing four different pieces of legislation that keep the government functioning.

Unfortunately, the President and Senate Democrats have slammed the door and have refused to come to the table and negotiate until—just announced—tonight.

This sentiment is shared outside of Washington. Yesterday, I received a letter from a constituent saying:

Refusing to come to the table, Obama and Reid are counting on the media lapdogs to blame Republicans. I understand that. Washington is putting incredible pressure on the House to cave, but the American people feel differently.

We are now on Day 2 of a government shutdown. It's past time for Washington Democrats to join House Republicans and work together to find a solution.

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

SCIENCE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans have forced the government to shut down, and it's a disservice to the hard-working professionals in the Federal Government and to the American people.

Our Federal agencies have a long history of working hard on research and education programs that return huge payoffs to the American people, both in economic growth and societal benefits.

Unfortunately, 97 percent of NASA employees are being furloughed, and all public NASA events and activities will be ended.

The National Science Foundation will make no payments for the duration of this shutdown.

The Department of Energy will furlough nearly 7 percent of their employees, jeopardizing research done all over our national laboratories.

Most research activities at the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration will be suspended. Weather research and United States Geological Survey studies will also shut down.

As ranking member of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, I want to highlight that our competitors in other countries surge ahead in their R&D as we shut ours down. We are closing the door to our future.

KEEP OUR MEMORIALS OPEN

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I think the American people have got to be wondering, from maybe seeing some of the news reports today or yesterday, why we are closing some of these open air attractions to the American people that are coming to Washington.

The World War II Memorial is open every day, all day long, 24/7, 365. Now it's got barriers up. And because some Members of our side of the aisle went down there yesterday to allow some of the same people that landed on the beach of Normandy to go in and to see their memorial, today they were back putting up wire against those barriers.

If you go down Rock Creek Parkway, where many people in D.C. come to exercise, to ride their bikes, to walk their dogs, every mile or so there's six or seven parking spots where people can park their car, get out, exercise, walk. They've got barricades in front of them.

Are we nuts?

They've got barricades where people can't even park to go ride.

This is amazing, and I hope that whoever has given these orders will come forward and give the American people reasons why they cannot enjoy things open.

WE NEED A CLEAN CR TO GET OUR GOVERNMENT BACK TO WORK

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

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, lawmakers should be the first to up-

hold and respect the laws of our land, and the Affordable Care Act is a very important law for over 30 million people in every one of our districts, for our entire country.

There are almost 700 Federal employees in my small district. Traveling yesterday, it was hard to see the CBP and TSA folks working as usual, not knowing if and when they'll be paid.

My employees, like all congressional employees, are under the same cloud and the stress that comes with it.

Complaints began early about our Virgin Islands park closures. This not only affects NPS employees, but all of our small businesses, from wedding planners to shop and concession owners to taxi drivers, the entire St. John economy. And despite our "Open Beach" laws, the beaches in the park are closed to Virgin Islanders.

In my district, already reeling from the shutdown of our largest private employer, the highest energy costs in the country, and reduced government revenues, this shutdown, if it continues any longer, can be the final nail in our economic coffin.

The negative impact of this shutdown will only hurt more people and hurt our national economy, if it continues.

The President and Democrats are willing to negotiate, but we, and the American people, say not like this. No fake, piecemeal fixes. We must have a clean CR now and get our entire government back to work.

THE MISSING ELEMENT: COMPROMISE

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, at the center of our government is a bicameral legislative branch, two separate houses specifically designed to have a different perspective on issues.

Those two houses are supposed to disagree, and yet, ultimately, they have to pass the same legislation to the President to get anything done.

Well, how does that happen?

It is because, once the House and the Senate individually exercise their best judgment, they are supposed to meet to then resolve any differences. That is the only possible way that our bicameral system can function. Without this mechanism, it's doomed to gridlock.

And yet, the current leader of the Senate, and those in his thrall, have refused to do precisely that, to sit down and resolve the differences between the two houses through negotiation and compromise. Their refusal to do so is at the heart of this impasse that's now shut down the government.

It is time for HARRY REID to meet his constitutional responsibility, or for the Senate to find somebody who will.

A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN IS AN ABANDONMENT OF CONGRESS' DUTY

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

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, a government shutdown is an abandonment of Congress' duty, and it's irresponsible. We must focus solely on creating a commonsense solution that ends this shutdown.

I believe Members of Congress need to talk to and listen to one another, even when we don't agree. I listen to my Republican colleagues and, while I don't agree with them all the time, I'm open to hearing their ideas because this country deserves a Congress that finds commonsense solutions.

I voted, over the past week, to keep the process moving forward, but the process and Washington are clearly broken. Nine months of cynical posturing has led to this shutdown, which is hurting hardworking Arizonans in my district.

Mr. Speaker, there is no more time for games or gimmicks. We have to find a reasonable, bipartisan solution. We cannot end this shutdown without House Democrats and Republicans voting together.

Let's get to work now.

HISTORY IS MUCH DIFFERENT

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

Mr. LABRADOR. Mr. Speaker, over the last few days we keep hearing about how Republicans are terrorists, Republicans have guns to everybody's head. And it's been, actually, really sad to hear the other side talk about these things.

At this point in Ronald Reagan's second term, for example, the government had already shut down the government six times, according to The Washington Post and according to many other articles. And this happened under the leadership of Democratic leader Tip O'Neill, precisely the opposite of the political dynamic that exists today.

Former O'Neill staffer and MSNBC pundit Chris Matthews has written an entire book extolling the era as a time when politics actually worked. You can probably guess how he feels today about this.

But the problem is that, during Tip O'Neill's career, there were seven different shutdowns with the Democrats. The final shutdown of O'Neill's career, according to Andrew Stiles of the National Review, happened in October of 1986. House Democrats had picked a fight with Reagan on a number of issues, including labor, energy, and welfare policy.

Today, Democrats insist that this has never happened in history, and the reality is that the history is much different.

SHAMEFUL IDEOLOGICAL TANTRUMS

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

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it has been 2 days since an extreme few in Congress put politics ahead of country and allowed a government shutdown. It's shameful that some will allow ideological tantrums to take the place of civility and a real legislative agenda.

This partisan paralysis has put us on pace to be the least productive Congress in history. We voted nearly 50 times to repeal the Affordable Care Act, even though it's been upheld by the highest court and reaffirmed by the reelection of our President.

Yes, I said the reelection of our President. Some of my colleagues still seem to be having a hard time with the fact that he won. It's time to get over it and move on because the most important issue for Americans is the economy. And this Congress hasn't even come close to passing a jobs bill.

The individuals holding America hostage with their political games claim they're doing so because they want their voices to be heard.

Well, my constituents also want to be heard. Their message is loud and clear: End this irresponsible shutdown and get back to the business of rebuilding our economy, restoring the American Dream, and rehabilitating our reputation with the American people.

Let's act now and end this shutdown today.

WE NEED A REASONABLE PROPOSAL

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

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, I hear from folks all the time—we need to have a reasonable proposal to be able to end this. Well, how about this for a reasonable proposal.

There are lot of people that are concerned about the penalties and the effects that are coming down on them in the next year. People have reasonable questions about how this is going to happen.

Am I going to sign up right?

Am I going to have a problem?

So let's do this. Let's take, for the first year, just take the penalties away from individuals; that if you make a mistake on filing of your ObamaCare, or if you have real problems with it, for the first year you won't have to pay those penalties. Just for the first year.

And then also, here's something else reasonable: How about Members of Congress and the White House have to live under the same rules that every American does dealing with ObamaCare?

Is that a reasonable proposal?

Well, that happens to be the proposal that we have on the table right now—

that if someone makes a mistake on their filing of ObamaCare, or they don't want to do it this first year, they won't face penalties the first year.

Every Member of Congress and all of the White House will have to be in the exchanges, just like every other American that's out there that's required to be in that. We think that's a reasonable proposal.

For my colleagues that support ObamaCare, I am amazed they're fighting like crazy to not be in it.

At this point, we should meet face-to-face. I was pleased to see the President say he wants to meet, was disappointed to see he wants to meet to say he won't negotiate.

Let's meet face-to-face and solve this.

□ 1215

NO NEW PATIENTS, NO NEW CLINICAL TRIALS

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, instead of waging a war on cancer, the Republican Tea Party is waging a war on cancer patients.

The Tea Party shutdown will deny 200 patients a week—30 of them kids—treatment at the largest research hospital in the world, the National Institutes of Health. These are often last-chance cancer treatments that offer the only hope for kids who are stuck with cancer.

And why did the Tea Party shut down the government? Because they oppose the Affordable Care Act. This is a law that says that never again can insurance companies deny coverage for a family with a kid who is stuck with cancer. Under the Affordable Care Act, no family will go bankrupt because of cancer. And this is the bill the Tea Party is so furious about.

What's more, the Tea Party budgets have decimated cancer research. NIH used to fund 33 percent of applications for promising research; today, it's 16 percent. The shutdown is stopping cancer research at Roswell Park and across the country.

I hear we may take another fake vote tonight to restore funding to the National Institutes of Health. This is disgusting. This bill will continue the sequester assault on cancer research.

I would remind my colleagues that for families and kids fighting cancer, the only failure in cancer research is when you are forced to quit because of a Tea Party Federal Government shutdown.

TIME FOR SENATE TO EMBRACE #FAIRNESSFORALL, TIME TO RE-OPEN GOVERNMENT

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