

plant, the Barnett shale, the dairy farms in great Texas, and the largest military installation in the country, Fort Hood, Texas.

It's a shame that the level of discourse in our Nation has come to this—that my district office in Cleburne, Texas, would be the victim of hateful anti-Republican vandalism by anonymous individuals.

House Republicans have been called extortionists, terrorists, drunks, kidnappers, anarchists, and the list goes on.

I understand that this government shutdown has caused uncertainty and tension for hundreds of thousands of Americans, but this type of behavior cannot and will not be tolerated.

We are the United States of America, and it's time for the Senate, the White House and the House to come to the negotiating table, unite and figure out this problem we have for all Americans. The sooner the better.

In God we trust.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, we're now in our 37th hour of the House Republican shutdown; 800,000 Federal employees have been furloughed from their jobs; 800,000 Americans don't know how they'll be able to pay their bills and provide for their families because Speaker BOEHNER refuses to stand up to the extremists in his own party.

I keep hearing people say the Speaker is just doing what he has to do because of the Tea Party, but the fact is that a real leader wouldn't jeopardize the jobs and livelihoods of 800,000 Americans to save his own.

That's what this is all about. This is about one man standing in the way of ending the shutdown.

It's time for Speaker BOEHNER to find the courage to end the Republican crusade against health care reform and Federal workers by bringing a clean funding bill to the floor, which will pass with bipartisan support, and demonstrate to the American people we can work together to get things done.

It's time for the Speaker to do what's right for our country: reopen the government and be the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, not simply the Speaker of the Republican Party.

VETERANS

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, right now we have wounded warriors and veterans needing medical care, wondering whether they will receive all the care they're entitled to. These are men and women who have suffered for our Nation to keep us free and safe.

It is a shame that last night we could not agree to fully fund operations for Veterans Affairs. The House passed a full Veterans appropriations bill in June, with a vote of 421-4. That bill was never taken up in the Senate.

If we cannot have our conferees negotiate on a full bill to open back up the government, we will act to protect the most vulnerable.

Today, we will again consider this bill. I hope that the dozens of my Democratic colleagues who supported this sensible measure last night will continue to stand with us. We have to make sure that we are serving those who served us on the field of battle. Wounded warriors should not be used as pawns in this political bickering.

BIPARTISAN APPROACH TO GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, instead of working with Democrats and Republicans to find a bipartisan budget solution, Monday night the Speaker made the reckless and irresponsible decision to shut down the government. This did not have to happen.

There is bipartisan support in the House for the Senate-passed legislation. Let's come together and solve this crisis now. Every moment we wait, it hurts small businesses trying to apply for startup loans; it hurts our veterans applying for pension, disability, education, and job training benefits; and it could send our very fragile economy back into a recession.

I came to Congress to create jobs, to grow our economy, and to move my county, Ventura County, and my country forward.

The Speaker must allow the House to simply vote on the responsible Senate-passed plan to get the government working again for the American people.

□ 1230

GOVERNMENT CAN OPEN TODAY

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

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, better than a day ago this House acted in a bipartisan manner to be able to fund government, to make sure that Members of Congress have to abide by the same laws that they pass, to make sure that individuals, just like big businesses, are going to be treated fairly under the Affordable Care Act, and to fully fund government. This passed with bipartisan support out of the House of Representatives.

The offer is there. Government can open today. Senator REID just needs to pick up the phone and answer the call to make sure that we're working together in that bipartisan fashion, as we

demonstrated in the House of Representatives, to work for the American people.

Government can open today. Senator REID just needs to pick up the phone and listen to the voice of the House of Representatives. Let's make sure that the laws that we pass apply to Congress and that all Americans are treated fairly.

THE TEA PARTY IS WORRIED

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, so the Tea Party has successfully shut down the operations of the Federal Government. And why have they done it? Well, they've done it because they're worried:

They're worried about the danger that the Affordable Care Act is going to work and people are going to like it;

They're worried about the danger that people with preexisting conditions are going to be covered;

They're worried about the danger that women are going to qualify for preventative health care services;

They're worried about the danger that children living at home up to age 26 are going to be covered under their parents' insurance policies;

They're worried about the danger that seniors are going to save money on their prescription drugs as the Medicare part D doughnut hole closes.

What they're worried about is that the Affordable Care Act is going to work and people are going to like it.

Mr. Speaker, the Tea Party thinks these things are dangerous, so they shut down the government. But with all respect, I say to you, it is the Tea Party—it is the Tea Party, itself. They are the danger.

THE HOUSE WILL CONTINUE TO LEAD TO FIX PROBLEMS

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, last night I voted to stop shutdown policies that are delaying veteran benefit applications and shuttering national parks and memorials. But those measures failed to pass because the President threatened a veto and more than 160 Democrats voted to stop them. That dumbfounds me.

Days ago, the President signed similar legislation to protect pay for Active Duty military members throughout any shutdown, why not now?

Surprise. Republicans and Democrats have policy differences, but we shouldn't differ here. Correcting problems for veterans, military families, the National Institutes of Health, and visitors to national parks—including the World War II Memorial and North Carolina's Blue Ridge Parkway—is common sense and provides common

ground for Democrats and Republicans to make some progress toward solving this shutdown.

The President's and Senate's refusal to work with us to reopen the government has consequences well beyond Washington. If they won't contribute to a bipartisan solution to stop the pain, we'll continue to take the lead to fix problems for the American people.

GOP SHUTDOWN

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

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, well, here we are, the day my Republican colleagues have warned about for years, the day after ObamaCare. So what happened? Did the sky fall? Did insurance markets crash? No, of course not. Instead, health care marketplaces across the Nation went live. Millions of Americans logged on to learn about affordable health care plans. They gathered information to make decisions about what plan best meets their health care needs.

Yes, some glitches need to be fixed, and we knew that would happen, but yesterday was not the end of the world. It was the beginning. It was the first step.

The Tea Party, 46 times they attempted to shut down the Affordable Care Act. They stopped no one from being able to make good decisions on health care plans.

So I urge my colleagues, common-sense Republicans and Democrats can still come together to stop this reckless GOP—the Grand Ole Party—from shutting down our government. Let's pass a clean CR.

FORT BRAGG SUFFERING DUE TO PRESIDENT'S INACTION ON LAW

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

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct honor and privilege to represent Fort Bragg in my district; and I found out yesterday evening that, despite passing funding to keep our military paid and to keep our military civilians paid, there have been over 7,000 Fort Bragg civilian employees furloughed. Now, I find this very interesting there again because the President signed this very bill into law Monday, and here we have a situation where I have needless—needless—suffering happening in my district.

I have a letter from Chairman BUCK McKEON, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, to the Department of Defense on clarification of this, that I would like to read:

The text does not limit the provision of pay to civilians who were previously categorized by the administration as “excepted” or “essential” for the purposes of Department of Defense operations in the event of a government shutdown.

We passed H.R. 3210, the Pay Our Military Act, sponsored by my colleague from Colorado (Mr. COFFMAN).

MAJORITY CR AND WOMEN'S HEALTH

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, not only has the majority chosen to shut down vital government functions that all Americans depend on, but they have specifically and unabashedly targeted women.

Some of my colleagues are willing to gamble with the livelihoods of millions of public servants simply to ensure that women do not have access to affordable contraception and preventative health care. They are willing to sabotage our government to prevent prenatal checkups and cancer screenings. They would risk our economic recovery to make sure that women will pay more for health care than men.

The government shutdown has already taken a toll on women and children by slashing funding for vital nutritional and clinical services. We cannot allow this shutdown to be used to strip away all of the gains the ACA made for women's health. Do they really want pregnancy to be a preexisting condition again? And are they willing to shut the place down to stop women from being able to pay for health care?

Enough, Mr. Speaker. Bring on a clean funding bill, open the government, and let it pass for all of our sakes.

REPUBLICAN MAJORITY HAS ABDICATED THEIR RESPONSIBILITY

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority has abdicated their responsibility. Make no mistake: a small faction of the Republican Party is holding our economy hostage to get their way.

Just 36 hours into this shutdown and the American people are already feeling the consequences. Hundreds of thousands of Federal workers across the country are being furloughed without pay. Soon, women who rely on WIC will begin losing benefits. Our national parks are closed. Important biomedical research and environmental work is being delayed.

Make no mistake: this could all end today. If leadership would allow a sim-

ple up-or-down vote on the Senate-passed CR, this would all be over.

But this has never been about budgeting. This is about a single-minded obsession with repealing a law Congress passed, the Supreme Court upheld, and that was reaffirmed by the American people in the last Presidential election.

That fight is over. Even with the government closed yesterday, health exchanges were open and uninsured Americans began purchasing coverage.

PASS SENATE CR TODAY

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, the path to ending this shutdown right now is clear: bring up the clean Senate-passed CR for a vote. That would end this manufactured, self-inflicted crisis immediately.

These piecemeal attempts at deflection offered by my friends on the other side of the aisle are wretched governance.

Compromise is built into our Constitution, and the Senate-passed CR is itself a compromise. It accepts the annual spending level of \$986 billion, roughly \$70 billion less than what the Senate endorsed in its budget plan earlier this year.

Again, this manufactured crisis could end right now by voting on the clean Senate continuing resolution today.

According to Moody's, a shutdown that lasts even 3 or 4 days will cost the economy approximately 0.2 percentage points of the annual GDP growth in the fourth quarter. And the consequences only get worse, as the shutdown continues, on our economy. This completely avoidable contraction is the opposite of policies we need to create jobs and strengthen and grow our economy.

We need to pass a clean CR today.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1340

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YODER) at 1 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.