

reduced, or losing their jobs. Other western Pennsylvanians are seeing their health care premiums go up, or losing coverage altogether.

A woman recently got in touch with me and told me that her family recently received a letter from their insurance company, and they will lose the health insurance they have had for more than 25 years on December 31. The alternatives they have been able to find will cost them three times what they pay today.

Mr. Speaker, it is a time for solutions. We do have a new solution that we are proposing, The American Health Care Reform Act, which will actually lower costs, and I encourage our colleagues across the aisle and in our conference to take a look at that.

I thank the gentlelady for the time.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Thank you very much, KERTH. Good point there.

Now I yield to a friend from Kentucky, ANDY BARR.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlelady from Missouri for her leadership in leading this Special Order.

Many Americans watching on TV right now are frustrated. They are angry with what they are seeing in Washington. They don't understand why political conflict has to get in the way of solutions.

They are saying, and they are saying to all of us, why are the politicians putting their political agendas ahead of what is good for the country?

I share that frustration and anger, and I understand what they are saying. They are saying, why can't the politicians get their act together?

Why can't they reopen the government and avert default?

But you know, as important as it is to reopen the government, and as important as it is to avert a short-term default, and those are very critical, it is equally important that we stop business as usual in Washington.

It is important that Members of Congress do what they were elected to do, which is exercise leadership, stand up for what is right and what is in the long-term best interest of the Nation.

What is in the long-term best interest of the Nation is to stop spending money we don't have. It is to stop racking up mounds of debt to end the reckless practices in Washington that are literally mortgaging the future of our children and our grandchildren and pushing this country to the brink of national bankruptcy.

Now, some have accused House Republicans of holding the country hostage solely for the purpose of repealing or defunding the President's signature legislative achievement, ObamaCare.

Why is this relevant?

The President says ObamaCare should not be part of any negotiations to fund the government or raise the debt limit. But my constituents in Kentucky recognize the President's health care law for what it actually is, which is a massive increase in Federal spending.

Its projected cost has more than doubled since the President originally claimed it would reduce the deficit. It will cost American taxpayers \$2 trillion over the next decade, and its true cost will continue to grow.

ObamaCare was rammed through Congress on a partisan basis through a process that was specifically reserved for budget-related bills, the reconciliation process. So for anyone to suggest that ObamaCare is unrelated to the budget is both cynical and inconsistent with Congress' ongoing responsibility to scrutinize Federal spending.

After racking up \$7 trillion in debt in just 5 years, the President stubbornly refuses to negotiate over ObamaCare. But make no mistake: Congress would not be doing its job if it ignored ObamaCare and its massive cost in the ongoing debate about how to save America from bankruptcy.

□ 2030

So, Mr. Speaker, let me just conclude by saying this. It would be unfair for young people and the next generation if we simply raised the debt limit without also addressing the underlying cause of our problems, without also addressing the cause of our fiscal situation, and that is runaway government spending. This is our opportunity. This is our moment. Let's seize this opportunity on a bipartisan basis. It is time for solutions.

I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership in this Special Order.

Let's not just raise the debt limit and keep kicking the can down the road. Let's solve America's problem and finally force the government to live within its means.

Mrs. HARTZLER. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and my privilege today to stand in the House of Representatives, along with my distinguished colleague from the Silver State, Representative STEVEN HORSFORD, to coanchor the CBC Special Order, the hour of power, where, for the next 60 minutes, members of the Congressional Black Caucus have an opportunity to talk directly to the American people about the situation that we face in this country right

now related to both the government shutdown and the impending debt ceiling crisis that we confront.

Mr. Speaker, this is day 14 of a government shutdown brought to us by reckless, irresponsible, and unreasonable behavior by our friends on the other side of the aisle. It is a government shutdown that is hurting the American people. It is hurting children, placing their Head Start programming at risk. It is hurting seniors who rely on the Meals on Wheels program. It is hurting expectant mothers who may be unable to receive the nutritional assistance that they are otherwise qualified for. It is hurting the more than 800,000 hardworking civil servants who have been unceremoniously cast out of their jobs, uncertain as to when they may be able to return. It is hurting America.

But as bad as this government shutdown has been, we are also faced with a crisis that might be even worse if we are unable in this House to raise the debt ceiling within the next several days. The Treasury Secretary has indicated that the United States effectively will run out of the capacity to pay all of its bills and its creditors if we do not raise the debt ceiling by Thursday, October 17, just a few days from now.

Now, the debt ceiling has been a vehicle that all too often has been mischaracterized, perhaps intentionally, perhaps out of ignorance. I am not certain. But let's just clear the record as to what the debt ceiling actually represents. It is a backward-looking vehicle, not a forward-looking vehicle designed to give the President the ability to spend more. That is a gross mischaracterization. The debt ceiling is a backward-looking vehicle designed to give the President and this administration the capacity to pay bills that this Congress has already incurred.

We just want the Congress to undertake its constitutional responsibility pursuant to the 14th Amendment, where, in section 4, it makes clear the validity of the public debt authorized by law shall not be questioned. And it is Congress, in section 5 of the 14th Amendment, that has the responsibility to adhere to that constitutional requirement.

We are going to explore this theme and the consequences of a debt ceiling default during this Special Order. And I am very pleased that we have been joined by the dynamic leader of the Congressional Black Caucus, the distinguished chairperson from the great State of Ohio, Representative MARCIA FUDGE.

Ms. FUDGE. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I would like to thank my colleagues, Congressmen JEFFRIES and HORSFORD, for once again leading the Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, here we stand, nearly 72 hours before the United States Treasury reaches the debt limit. We are 72 hours away from compromising our

ability to make Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and veterans benefits payments. We are 72 hours away from risking default on our international debt obligations; 72 hours away from the potential of stocks plummeting and interest rates soaring, reversing recent gains in the housing, automobile, and banking markets. Our Nation is 72 hours away from the possibility of a severe economic disaster both at home and abroad.

Unfortunately, the House majority's inability to move beyond partisan politics has created one economic crisis after another. Our country is still feeling the effects of the economic downturn and subsequent recession that began in 2007. Communities around the country continue to struggle with high unemployment, less access to loans for small businesses, and a fragile housing market. It is irresponsible to do further damage to our economy by even threatening to allow America to default on its bills.

We must first do no harm, Mr. Speaker. Yet that is exactly the position we are in because of House Republicans.

Now, don't be misled by Republican talking points that would lead you to believe that raising the debt limit leads to more spending. This only allows us to pay debts that have already been accrued, debts that have already been authorized by this Congress.

While both parties have politicized the debt limits in the past, we have never—and I repeat, never—seen this degree of brinkmanship. Prior to this dysfunctional Congress, the debt limit debates never contemplated an actual default. Members of Congress never faced the impact of crossing that threshold and artificially forcing the Nation into the depths of economic disaster. And ultimately, when legislative language was attached to the debt limit, it was a part of a package that passed with strong bipartisan support.

We simply cannot afford the catastrophic consequences of a government default. It is time for Congress to put the American people first, work together to find a solution, and put partisan bickering behind us. Our Nation has worked too hard to put us on the path to recovery.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to move forward. The American people expect Congress to do its job. The CBC stands ready—ready to work with our colleagues to raise the debt ceiling, reject the politics of brinkmanship, and get our economic house in order.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished chairwoman for her insightful, thorough remarks.

I now yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from the great State of Texas, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE, who has joined us today to share her remarks and observations as to this debt ceiling crisis that we are confronting right now.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Let me thank the gentleman for his courtesies and look at this in a somewhat unique fash-

ion to speak to the pending crisis and to join with my colleagues, and particularly in following the chairwoman, Congresswoman FUDGE, and thanking her for setting the tone of the interests of the Congressional Black Caucus to be collaborative and to be problem solvers.

Let me thank the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) for his timeliness in bringing us to the floor tonight and the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD) for recognizing the vital importance of speaking to the American people and certainly to our colleagues.

I do want to offer to my colleagues a legislative initiative that I hope all of my friends—Republicans and Democrats—will join in sponsoring, H. Res. 375, which commits this House to refraining from conditioning the resolution of fiscal and budgetary disputes on the taking of action related to non-germane legislative matters.

As I listened to my friends on the other side of the aisle, one person sought to refute the representation that all of us have made, which is that we have never been in a position to hold hostage the whole budgeting process through the idea of a legislative fight, and I would beg to differ on the interpretation of my Republican friends that that has occurred. It did not occur during the shutdown dealing with President Clinton and the Speaker of the House, then-Speaker Gingrich; and, in fact, we had passed a number of appropriation bills that had already been passed. So even though the government was shut down, there was not this dire, complete collapse of the government that we are facing now.

In addition, there is a representation that we have passed any number of pointed appropriations during this shutdown. Mr. Speaker, those were only political votes. The reason why they were ineffective and members of our party voted against them was because they were political votes. They were meant entirely to get Democrats on the record for half-funding Health and Human Services, half-funding Indian Services, half-funding Homeland Security, half-funding any number of departments that, in fact, did not make sense.

So let me give you the real cost, if you will, of where we are today and give it from the perspective of my committee, and that is, the Judiciary Committee. And one of our major agencies, the FBI, that clearly has focused on the security, domestic security of this Nation, very vital work of field agents that I work with every day, just about 72 hours ago, FBI agents joined with my local officials in Houston and busted a heinous and horrific human trafficking operation, little girls sexually used and abused and manipulated, if you will—the FBI.

Well, here is a quote from the FBI:

The impact of sequestration, which is part of the budgeting process, puts us further behind enemies and criminals that pose threats to national security and public safety.

And they list a whole litany of issues that are impacted. Let me just read a few: undermining counterterrorism investigations, exposing vulnerable populations to greater risk, halting counterintelligence cases, closing white collar cases has been delayed, limiting mortgage and financial fraud cases, constraining use of official vehicles, losing informants, impeding surveillance, harming local cooperation, reducing field time, increasing retirements.

All of this impacts on the very basic responsibilities that we give to them; and it seems sad that we are putting these individuals who are putting themselves on the front lines of criminal enforcement, that we are, in fact, causing that to be halted.

Lastly, on the FBI, Quantico, we all know, is a training ground for agents and others all across America:

Quantico is quiet. I have no new agent classes going through there. I can't afford it.

There are any number of other issues, of course, that we could comment on, but let me continue by moving to my State, the State of Texas.

But before I do that, here is a document from the administrative Office of the United States Courts. Again, something that the Judiciary has concern for. And we are told, as of tomorrow, possibly, that judicial matters may be shut down, may be stopped because of the restraints on our article III judges, and that is shameful.

That means justice is stopping. That means public defenders are not being paid. Although all of those folks are continuing to come, in some instances, there may be major impacts in the court system.

But I would like to turn our attention to the discourse that is occurring here; and as I do that, let me make mention for my friends of one answer to why we should not be holding ObamaCare and the American people hostage.

First I want to say, coming from my district, I met with over 40 navigators. They have concerns. We all want to make sure this works right, which is what I wished my Republican friends would do. But they had smiles on their faces because what they are saying is the people are eager. They are eager in Texas, a State where we have denied the expanded Medicaid. We don't have our State exchange. We have done damage to those who need insurance. It is a shame what we have done in Texas.

But those who have been assigned to get an outreach are smiling, not because they get paid a whole lot of money, but because they are reaching people who are desperate and who want to be insured.

□ 2045

And so I will put in the RECORD an article called, "ObamaCare Saved My Family From Financial Ruin." It talks about a young boy with a brain tumor and leading up to the point of losing all of his insurance. He might have been

born with this tumor, but he was only diagnosed at about 6 years old. Mason is his name. He played basketball and did a lot of things until they determined in later years—I think he was age 14—that he had this horrific brain tumor. It is only because of ObamaCare that his life now will have the kind of coverage of insurance that we are all desirous of.

But I want to sort of finish my remarks. There is a lot I can say about Texas, and I may offer one point if I might, Mr. JEFFRIES, to make sure that I have that in the RECORD. We all are concerned about our individual States. And so for my friends back home, this is a State that has some 36 Members of Congress, two Senators, and I am on the floor fighting against this shutdown.

The reason that Texans need to be aware that it is important that you fight against this shutdown and put out a clean CR is that this will cost 582,829 Texas residents who took out a home mortgage or refinanced an existing mortgage last year \$36,000 over the life of a typical 30-year loan. And I am jumping to if we go into default over the next 2 days.

The Republican debt default will put at risk the retirement plans of 4.473 million Texans, and 300,000 vets would have a concern about their disability compensation for November 1; and 24,000 or 25,000 poor and disabled vets would be questionable about the pension they live on.

But I want to close with something that has disturbed me as we have watched the rhetoric. I have pages and pages. We all are emotional. We all have the talent of rhetoric. We all have, if you will, the affection for the use of words—hyperbole, metaphors, using examples, and making our point. Mr. Speaker, I respect that. I am not a thin-skinned person. I am as much engaged in the debate on this floor as many of my friends, but all of us should be sensitive to the words that suggest that we have other motives.

So I come to the floor today to raise issue with what is perceived in many communities of the different treatment of Barack Obama. You can read between the words why he is treated so differently and why he is cast about with such utterly ugly and demeaning suggestions. And in demeaning him, you are demeaning a whole body of other folks. I take issue with that.

And so let me see if maybe Larry Klayman of Freedom Watch will call us back and give us a response to his words uttered yesterday that I find totally out of order. Protected by the First Amendment, absolutely—I have no quarrel with that. But I believe it is important to put this in the RECORD as we talk about this government shutdown because if we are going to get where we need to go, we need to all realize that we have a greater cause—and that is America's cause.

So I finish on these words.

Apparently, he was moved yesterday in front of the Vietnam Veterans Me-

morial—which many in the Million Vets movement denounced yesterday, and he said:

We are ruled by a President that bows down to Allah.

I am already insulted because I believe in the freedom of religion. I respect the dignity of all religions.

He is not a President of we the people, says Mr. Klayman of Freedom Watch, but a President of his people.

I don't know who that is. All I know is that the President was elected to be President of all of the people of the United States of America.

He goes on to say:

We should wage a nonviolent revolution.

I have never been ashamed of the nonviolent civil rights movement. We didn't call it a revolution. We called it a movement to give dignity to people and move them from second-class citizenship.

But he says:

We should wage a nonviolent revolution. This President should get the Koran out of his hands.

This is denigrating a religion that I believe is absolutely appalling.

Get off his knees—

Is there some documentation about the President's private prayer allegiances or responsibilities or desires that this gentleman knows what he is talking about?

—and get out of town.

That is, I believe, one of the most appalling statements that we have heard charged against a President of the United States in a time of crisis, when the American people are looking for hope, looking for serious response.

I would hope that there will be Members of the Republican Conference that will come to the floor tomorrow and join in with the solution that may be offered as it is being discussed in the Senate; and I hope they will denounce these words, as I am denouncing them tonight. For we will never get a solution to move this Nation forward if we are to denounce religions that are respected and given the privilege of being worshipped by those who worship—by the First Amendment—and to try to denigrate a President by denigrating a religion and going in the circle of diminishing all of us.

I want to thank the gentleman for giving me this opportunity. I may ask for some more time if I am able to stay around, as we go forward, because there is a long list of what I think we are being deprived of.

But I do want to let everyone know that when I was home in the district for the short period I was, I know that those in Texas who are suffering are happy about Barack Obama. They want us to get it together right like we did with Medicare part D, which did not work when it was first put in place, but they are happy.

I would hope that, as I indicated these words on the floor, that we would take the words of Chaplain Barry Black and “stop sowing in the wind”

and stop, in essence, doing things that undermine our very leadership. Thank you, Chaplain Black, for giving us these words of inspiration. Maybe we will take notice. And when words are said that are ugly, inappropriate, and without any truth, I am looking for my friends tomorrow to come on the floor and denounce these ugly words that were said by this gentleman that have no bearing in truth and have the audacity to denigrate faiths that are, in essence, respected and show their love for a higher power.

We should all be grateful that the different faiths we grant in this Nation under the First Amendment of freedom of religion can pray to their God—pray to God—and ask for the blessings of God on this Nation.

With that, I thank the gentleman for his courtesies.

[From the Washington Post, Oct. 9, 2013]

OBAMACARE SAVED MY FAMILY FROM FINANCIAL RUIN

(By Janine Urbaniak Reid)

House Speaker John Boehner and his tea party friends shut down the U.S. government because of people like me. I am the mother of an insurance hog, someone who could have blown through his lifetime limit of health coverage by the time he was 14. My son has managed to survive despite seemingly insurmountable challenges, and he wears his pre-existing condition like a Super Bowl ring.

Mason, now 16, was probably born with his brain tumor. We discovered it six years ago. Biopsies showed a slow-growing mass, which was the good news. The bad news was that the tumor could not be removed because it had grown around essential structures in his brain. Under the care of some of the country's finest specialists, Mason had frequent scans. There was little we could do between tests but hope for the best. Like other children his age, Mason played basketball, argued with his siblings and avoided cleaning his bedroom. He managed to undergo chemotherapy for eight months without getting too sick. He insisted on finding ways to laugh, saying things like: “I have brain cancer. What's your problem?” It was an uneasy peace—until the tumor ruptured in December 2010, three years after his initial diagnosis, and Mason suffered a massive cerebral hemorrhage.

Mason spent most of eighth grade in the hospital. In the six months he was hospitalized, he spent 65 days in the pediatric intensive care unit. He underwent four brain surgeries. Halfway through his hospitalization, the Affordable Care Act was passed, alleviating lifetime limits on coverage and saving us from the financial abyss. Mason moved to a rehabilitation hospital where he was retaught the most basic skills—sitting up, eating and standing. We faithfully paid the premiums on the employer-sponsored plan through which our family is covered, along with the rest of our bills, thanking God and whoever else would listen for our good fortune to have coverage.

The biggest fear for families such as mine is that we will lose our health insurance and be rendered uninsurable because one of us has been sick. The Affordable Care Act does away with dreaded clauses barring pre-existing conditions. It also enables us to keep Mason on our insurance until he is 26; then, he will be able to purchase his own coverage on an insurance exchange. At least, that was the plan until last Tuesday, when the government was shut down in protest of such excesses.

As far as the brain tumor goes, our family might have drawn the short straw. Maybe our story lacks a certain universal appeal. People might thinking to themselves, "I'm so sorry that happened to you, but odds are it won't happen to me." I hope it doesn't, really.

But having lived in hospitals with Mason for months, I have seen that bad things—accidents, freak illnesses—happen to smart, cautious and otherwise undeserving people. It's one thing we all have in common. We are fragile beings. So what is wrong with allowing us to purchase a financial safety net? What's so un-American about that?

If I could get John Boehner and Ted Cruz on a conference call, I would explain this to them. I would tell them that, while they were busy trying to derail the Affordable Care Act over the past two years, Mason has again learned to walk, talk, eat and shoot a three-point basket.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentlelady from the great State of Texas for her observations and certainly hope that all people of decency on both sides of the aisle will denounce the hateful words that we saw on display here in the Nation's Capital this weekend.

We are pleased to have been joined by the distinguished Representative from the great State of Virginia, Representative BOBBY SCOTT.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. I thank the gentleman from New York and the gentleman from Nevada for organizing this Special Order, and the gentlelady from Ohio for her leadership in the Black Caucus, and the other Members who are participating tonight.

Mr. Speaker, our economy has been improving very slowly over the last few years, and we need to do everything we can to make sure that we create as many jobs as possible.

Thursday, the United States faces a crisis, and that is whether we will pay our debts or whether we will, for the first time in our history, default on our debts. The debate on the debt ceiling really isn't much of a debate because every credible economist has already concluded that failure to adjust the debt ceiling will cause serious adverse consequences to the domestic economy, and even the global economy. That conclusion really ought to end the debate.

For those who want a little more information, you only have to look back a couple of years. The Republicans made a credible threat on the debt ceiling, and the S&P, just based on the credible threat—although we raised it in time—downgraded the creditworthiness of the United States for the first time in history.

So we really don't know exactly what would happen. We know none of it is going to be good, but we would be looking at possible increases in interest rates, lost jobs, stock market collapse and people's pensions at stake, government checks like Social Security and veterans benefits, and doctors not being paid under Medicare. All are adverse consequences for failing to adjust the debt ceiling.

My Republican colleagues have threatened to use this crisis as an op-

portunity to gain legislative advantage to pass legislation that they can't pass through the normal process. Unfortunately for them, the Nation Magazine published their wish list. It starts, of course, with undermining ObamaCare, but then it goes on to entitlement reform, better known as cutting Social Security and Medicare; Keystone pipeline; corporate tax cuts; sabotage EPA clean air regulations; offshore drilling. It goes on and on. They published the list.

But the full faith and credit of the United States should not be a bargaining chip held hostage unless some legislative ransom is paid.

Suppose the Democrats played the same game and put on the table immigration reform, gay rights, a jobs bill, or gun safety, and we are going to shut down the government or mess with the debt ceiling unless we get our way on that legislation. How dysfunctional a government would we have then?

In the past, there have been debt ceilings; and people have referred to the fact that in the past, there have been negotiations over the debt ceiling. But those are different negotiations. Those are negotiations on the debt ceiling in the context of, Of course we are going to adjust the debt ceiling. And then you put things on the bill. So if you can get your amendment on the bill, you know you are in good shape because that bill is going to pass. You will get over the line.

It has never been in the context of, If I don't get my way, we will explode the economy—until 2 years ago when the Republicans pulled a stunt and the S&P downgraded our credit rating. About 45 times since the 1980s we have increased the debt ceiling. It has always been in the context of, Of course, the debt ceiling will be increased.

This isn't like a credit card where you increase your credit limit so that you can spend more. We have already spent it. We have passed the spending bills. We have already spent the money. The question is whether we are going to pay the bills; and if you are going to discuss fiscal responsibility, it ought to be at a time when you are deciding whether to spend the money, not after you spend it and then decide whether you are going to pay the bills that you have already incurred.

We are discussing this debt ceiling while the government is shut down. And shut down for what reason? It started off on ObamaCare. Many Republican Senators have already said that this wasn't going to happen, and it wasn't a good idea to shut down the government over ObamaCare. Apparently, they have pretty much given on that and some have said, Well, we have shut down the government; we have got to get something.

The problem with giving something for shutting down the government is that there is apparently a fundamental concept in psychology of positive reinforcement. If you reward somebody for doing something, they will probably do

it again. If they get a reward for shutting down the government, this will become part and parcel of the legislative process that if you can't get a bill passed, you will shut down the government until you get it passed.

Several Republican legislators have praised the fact that we passed some piecemeal bills to reopen government one little agency at a time. It looks to me like every morning they read the newspaper and find out the latest disaster caused by their shutdown and then some things like servicemen not getting death benefits, the World War II Memorial, cancer patients not being treated at the National Institutes of Health, Head Start.

Every morning, they read the tragic effects of their shutdown and then run to the House to address the disaster of the day and try to get some 30-second sound bite to cover up the fact all they are doing is cleaning up part of the mess that they already caused.

Passage of these little piecemeal bills only serves to elongate the shutdown. We need to reopen the government and put an end to all this; and while some of us are working hard to produce jobs, this shutdown is costing hundreds of thousands of jobs.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the Republicans have criticized Democrats for not negotiating. I just want to remind everybody we are talking about the budget. The Democrats started with one number, the Republicans with another number. The Democrats didn't come halfway or two-thirds of the way. They just agreed to the Republican number on a short-term basis so we can continue to negotiate without shutting down the government.

So we need to reopen all of the government and stop losing jobs. Let's pay our debts, and then we can get to the real serious negotiations on the budget.

I thank the gentleman for yielding and look forward to reopening government, paying our bills, and then getting into the tough negotiations.

□ 2100

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentleman from Virginia for his observations and for reminding the American people that the President, the Senate majority, Democrats in the House of Representatives have always been prepared to sit down and attempt to find common ground as it relates to the challenges that we confront here in the country. We have been asking for a conference committee to be put into place so we can discuss the budget passed by the House and passed by the Senate and figure out how we can negotiate around those differences since March; but the House majority has refused to appoint Members to negotiate the budget differences.

But we are not going to be put into a position where essentially you say, Give us everything we want—the right-wing Republican agenda for this country rejected by the American people on

November 6, 2012. But notwithstanding that fact, give us everything we want or we are going to shut down the government or force a default that plunges this country and the world into a painful recession. We are not interested in negotiating on those terms because it is not in the best interest of the American people.

I am pleased that we have been joined by the distinguished Representative from the great State of California.

I yield to Representative BARBARA LEE.

Ms. LEE of California. First let me thank you both, Congressman JEFFRIES and Congressman HORSFORD, for your tremendous leadership, your vigilance, and your diligence. We appreciate your conducting these Special Orders to make sure that the American people know the truth about what is taking place here in Washington, D.C.

Also, I have to salute our chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, the gentle lady from Ohio, Congresswoman Marsha Fudge, for her leadership and ensuring that the entire Congressional Black Caucus continues to be the conscience of the Congress.

Here we are 14 days into the Tea Party Republican shutdown and 3 days away from the Tea Party Republican government default, which would be the first in American history. Since taking control of the House of Representatives 2 years ago, the Tea Party has governed by brinksmanship. First, they were unable to accomplish their goals of decimating the government through legislation, so they have resorted to the type of tactics that eventually led to the sequester and to the shutdown of the Federal Government.

Now, the last time that the Republicans refused to lift the debt ceiling and relied on brinksmanship to get their way, a supercommittee was formed as a way to reach compromise—which of course didn't work and led to the sequester, which has caused devastating, across-the-board cuts to programs that the American people rely on, including 57,000 slots which were cut from Head Start already, and services such as Meals on Wheels that our seniors depend on for a nutritious diet.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee and the Budget Committee, I have joined Democrats in demanding an end to sequester and fought to restore the cuts to these vital programs. Yet even though we disagree with the funding level that these reckless cuts enacted—the sequester was a horrific action that we took, unfortunately. It has wreaked havoc on the lives of so many people. Even though we oppose that, we have agreed to vote for this budget, to reopen the government, and to put people back to work, and to provide the desperate services that people need.

Then, of course, to add insult to injury, Republicans insisted on shutting down the government all because of an obsession with repealing and destroying the Affordable Care Act. Now, the

Affordable Care Act is the law of the land. It has been upheld by the Supreme Court, and Americans are finally enrolling in coverage that they have been waiting for for years just to gain access to affordable health care. In fact, in its first week, the Covered California exchange in my home State had nearly 1 million visits to its Web site; and Californians have begun filling out nearly 44,000 applications for coverage.

The only thing that the Tea Party Republicans have accomplished with this shutdown is the loss of nearly \$4 billion in economic activity and misery and pain for the American people. They continue to deny Federal workers, the National Park Service, lifesaving cancer research, pregnant women, mothers, young children, seniors and veterans who have risked their lives for the Nation; they have denied them a fully functioning government. It is a shame and disgrace.

In my own county, funds for the Women, Infant and Children nutrition program and funds for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, these funds will run out at the end of the month.

Now, the consequences of the default: Republicans have simply refused to listen to what the vast majority of Americans are saying, and now the Tea Party Republicans are willing to risk the Nation's credit rating and the world economy to achieve their goal. If the Tea Party refuses to raise the debt ceiling and forces a default on this Nation's debt—which, mind you, are bills that we have already agreed to pay—every American household will feel the impact. Retirement savings will be lost; mortgages will be harder to get.

The full faith and credit of the United States is nonnegotiable. We are not a deadbeat Nation and should pay our bills. It is time for the Tea Party Republicans to end the brinksmanship, open the government up, put people back to work, pay our bills, and let's begin to negotiate on a real budget that will ensure the American Dream for millions of Americans for whom this dream now, quite frankly, is turning into a nightmare.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Congresswoman LEE, thank you for continuing to be an unyielding advocate for the downtrodden, the disaffected, and the disenfranchised in such a tremendous way.

I now yield to a distinguished member of the freshman class, also joining us from the great State of Texas, my good friend, Representative MARK VEASEY.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the time to thank my friend from New York and the gentleman from Nevada for helping to put together this special hour on what is really important in this country. We know just how vital and vibrant we want our economy to be, and it is hard to do that if we are not taking care of our credit. I appreciate both of these gentlemen for taking this hour to talk about this.

I would also like to thank my colleague from Texas, SHEILA JACKSON LEE, who spoke so eloquently on so many different areas in government that would be affected if we were to have a shutdown and how the Affordable Care Act is helping Americans—helping working Americans do better.

Whether you are from Houston, where she lives, or the north Texas area where I am from, in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, people are concerned. People are starting to get very worried about the very dangerous prospect of approaching the legal debt limit since we are only 3 days away from default.

In 2011, the credit agency Standard & Poor's downgraded the U.S. credit rating for the first time in history. S&P said this back then:

The political brinksmanship of recent months highlights what we see as America's governance and policymaking becoming less stable, less effective, and less predictable than what we previously believed. The statutory debt ceiling and the threat of default have become political bargaining chips in the debate over fiscal policy.

Now, following that particular downgrade, it is estimated that job growth took a 28 percent nosedive. Can we afford a 28 percent nosedive right now? I think not.

This also cost Americans more than 200,000 jobs right when we are starting to do better. The economy is starting to be kicked into motion from what was a very bad period over the last several years. We can't afford 200,000 jobs right now. We have to do everything we can to get ourselves out of the situation that we are in right now.

Also important is that consumer confidence dropped to levels mirroring those during the Great Recession, which had a negative impact on economic activity. The GAO found that taxpayers paid \$1.3 billion in additional interest. Let me repeat that: the GAO found that hardworking taxpayers paid \$1.3 billion in additional interest costs because of the delayed 2011 debt limit increase. Is that what we want, the hardworking taxpayers of our country to have to pay additional taxes because we can't get our act together, because Republicans can't get their act together on the debt ceiling?

Two years after S&P's bleak assessment and the clear economic data, here we are again brought to the brink. We must be clear on what exactly the debt limit is and what it is not. Increasing the debt limit does not increase the Federal debt. It does not give a blank check to our government to spend all it wants. Increasing the debt limit will simply allow the Federal Government to pay bills that Congress has already accrued.

Some of the payments that the Federal Government must make are interest payments on Treasury bonds, Social Security and Medicare benefits, military Active Duty pay, retirement and VA benefits. If the Tea Party refuses to allow the government to honor these financial obligations that are so

dear to many Americans, to our family members, to people in our communities, then investors will likely lose faith in the government and demand higher interest rates for Treasury bonds. We cannot allow our country to become a deadbeat Nation that doesn't pay its bills.

Let's move beyond these silly, partisan games. We have the American economy at stake here. And more importantly, we have the economic livelihood of every American in our hand. The full faith and credit of the United States should not be up for negotiation. It is time for Congress to raise the debt limit—like they have in the past so many times before—and for Republicans to end their losing game of brinkmanship and realize that they are damaging American lives every day.

Let's do more for the hardworking taxpayers in our country that make our country great.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentleman from Texas for his observations and for his historical analysis, pointing out that raising the debt ceiling is something that has consistently occurred throughout the last century here in America.

I want to enter into the RECORD a White House correspondence that reads, in part, as follows:

This country now possesses the strongest credit in the world. The full consequences of a default—or even the serious prospect of default—by the United States are impossible to predict and awesome to contemplate. Denigration of the full faith and credit of the United States would have substantial effects on the domestic financial markets and on the value of the dollar in exchange markets. The Nation can ill afford to allow such a result.

Mr. Speaker, this letter is dated November 16, 1983, and those words were written by then-President Ronald Reagan to Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker: The Nation can ill afford to allow such a result.

Ronald Reagan raised the debt ceiling 18 times during his two terms; and yet our good friends on the other side of the aisle want to come here and lecture President Obama as if he is being irresponsible, when the paragon of conservative Presidential leadership recognized the necessity on 18 occasions—and as memorialized in this correspondence—of raising the debt ceiling.

THE WHITE HOUSE,

WASHINGTON, DC, NOVEMBER 16, 1983.

Hon. HOWARD H. BAKER, JR.,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR HOWARD: This letter is to ask for your help and support, and that of your colleagues, in the passage of an increase in the limit on the public debt.

As Secretary Regan has told you, the Treasury's cash balances have reached a dangerously low point. Henceforth, the Treasury Department cannot guarantee that the Federal Government will have sufficient cash on any one day to meet all of its mandated expenses, and thus the United States could be forced to default on its obligations for the first time in its history.

This country now possesses the strongest credit in the world. The full consequences of a default—or even the serious prospect of default—by the United States are impossible to predict and awesome to contemplate. Denigration of the full faith and credit of the United States would have substantial effects on the domestic financial markets and on the value of the dollar in exchange markets. The Nation can ill afford to allow such a result. The risks, the costs, the disruptions, and the incalculable damage lead me to but one conclusion: the Senate must pass this legislation before the Congress adjourns.

I want to thank you for your immediate attention to this urgent problem and for your assistance in passing an extension of the debt ceiling.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN.

We are pleased that we have been joined by the distinguished gentlelady from Columbus, Ohio, who has conducted herself with such intelligence and grace in her 10 months here in the United States Congress, and we are proud to call her a member of this freshman class.

I yield now to Representative JOYCE BEATTY.

Mrs. BEATTY. Thank you, Mr. JEFFRIES, and to Mr. HORSFORD.

It is an honor for me to stand here on this floor with you as a colleague in our freshman class. But first let me thank you for your leadership, and also to Congresswoman MARSHA FUDGE from my great State of Ohio, as president of the Congressional Black Caucus.

As I stand here tonight, I am reminded of the words of Martin Luther King when he said:

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in a time of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.

□ 2115

Mr. Speaker, I rise today during this time of challenge and controversy to express my strong concern over Republicans' failure to immediately raise our country's debt limit. The failure to act is threatening an imminent default on our Nation's financial obligation.

Raising the debt limit does not grow our deficit. Instead, it allows the Treasury to pay for what this Congress has already spent.

What are the facts? Since 1917, the debt limit has been raised 103 times. In recent history, it has been raised 45 times. As you have heard my colleague state, 18 times during Ronald Reagan's Presidency.

In 273 years since our country's founding we have never defaulted on our financial obligation. Yes, never. But if Republicans refuse to increase the debt limit by October 17, the Secretary of the Treasury has indicated very clearly that we won't be able to pay our outstanding debts on time. Quite frankly, this is unthinkable.

The "full faith and credit" clause of the United States Constitution directs that the United States will pay all its debts in full and on time every time.

America's full faith and credit has been the basis for our global economic

superiority for at least 100 years. Like ordinary Americans, if the Federal Government does not pay its bills on time, then when it comes time to borrow in the future, the interest rates we pay will be much higher. If the debt limit is not raised, Americans will feel the impact immediately, both directly and indirectly.

Who loses? Payments owed to our soldiers and veterans for their services will be delayed. Nearly 4 million disabled veterans receive monthly payments in recognition of their sacrifice. If we default, they will not receive their benefits on November 1. In my home, the great State of Ohio, 1,183 veterans receive disability compensation. It would be unthinkable for us to fail to pay them, and the benefits that they have earned for their services.

Who loses? If the debt ceiling is not raised more than \$36 million, Social Security recipients will not receive their earned benefits. In Ohio, over 2 million residents rely on Social Security to make ends meet. A default in our obligations would force them to choose between paying their rent or buying groceries. It is not a choice that Congress should force on our constituents to make.

Americans will also see a sharp spike in interest rates offered on home mortgages, credit cards, car payments, and student loans. The spike will have an immediate, devastating negative impact on our Nation's housing recovery, which has been a driving force in recent economic growth.

If Americans default, the average homeowner will pay an extra \$100 a month in increased interest rates. This will cost families \$36,000 over the life of a typically 30-year home loan.

As the stock market reacts to the most significant defaults in modern history, you can expect steep drops in your IRAs and your 401Ks.

Just last week, the Secretary of the Treasury reported that if our Nation were to default on our debts, the consequences would be "catastrophic"—yes, catastrophic—"with many private sector analysts believing that it would lead to events of the magnitude of late 2008 or worse."

We are still recovering from the worst recession in 80 years. We simply cannot afford to go backward, to go to double-digit unemployment, declining housing values, the financial markets declining, and a climate of economic uncertainty for businesses.

Americans deserve swift action. I implore House Republican leadership to bring to the floor a bill which will raise the debt limit so the Treasury can continue to pay all of its bills on time.

And lastly, I turn to the other imminent crisis: reopening the Federal Government.

Throughout this hour, you have heard my colleagues talk about the choices that you force Americans to make when you try to piecemeal our funding. It is worth me repeating to say: it is like having a family and having parents having seven children, and

decide that you are only going to feed three of them and watch the other four children starve before your eyes.

We stand on this floor as Democrats and Republicans every day and we talk about how we care for this America, how we want to provide services, but yet we are making Americans make a choice between NIH funding for children who are cancer patients, who need to be in clinical trial, and we make a decision to pull the funding, Federal funding, in 11 States that they are losing their Head Start grants. The list goes on and on.

This is not the America I know, this is not the America I love. Americans deserve better.

Let's reopen the doors of government, and let's raise our debt ceiling.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentlelady from Ohio for her very eloquent remarks.

Mr. Speaker, how much time is remaining on the Special Order?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York has 9 minutes remaining.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

We have also been joined by another distinguished Member of the freshman class, the always nattily dressed representative from the great State of New Jersey, my good friend, Congressman Donald Payne.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from New York and the gentleman from Nevada for having this Special Order tonight, and also our tireless and fearless leader, the Honorable MARCIA FUDGE, chairwoman of the CBC.

"Insane," "catastrophic," "chaotic," "a nuclear bomb"—these are just some of the words our top economists and business leaders have used to describe what will happen to our economy if Congress chooses not to pay our bills on time.

The last time we flirted with not paying our bills on time, the economy flew into a tailspin, the markets plummeted, consumer confidence took a nosedive, our credit rating was downgraded, and our economic recovery came to a screeching halt. That was when we only got close to a default. If we actually defaulted, the short-and long-term consequences would be unimaginable.

So, if this is the case, then how did we even get ourselves here again? The answer is simple. An extreme group of the Republican Party, the Tea Party, is so obsessed with defunding the Affordable Care Act that they are even willing to shut down the government and hold the full faith and credit of the United States hostage.

Now, what does that mean, the "full faith and credit?" Mr. Speaker, when I hear that, it makes me think about what this Nation has meant to the world, about what this Nation has done for its people—the full faith and credit of the United States. I wouldn't want that on my conscience, that I was part

of this body when it defaulted, because that is what you will be remembered for. You were here during the darkest time in this Nation's history.

It is irresponsible that a small group would hold the American economy hostage simply because they don't like one Presidential policy, or the man.

The Affordable Care Act is already the law. Even now that the government is closed because of the Republican shutdown, the law is going into effect as we speak.

So I urge my reasonable colleagues on the other side to listen to the American people, because the people in my district are still hurting from the economic recession. They don't need a manufactured crisis on top of it.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, let me now yield to the gentleman from the great State of Nevada, Representative STEVEN HORSFORD, my good friend from the silver State, my co-anchor on the CBC Special Order Hour of Power, to close us out for the evening.

Mr. HORSFORD. Let me thank my good friend. I am proud to co-anchor this Special Order hour each week with you, my good friend from the great State of New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), and to all of my colleagues who came out tonight to put a real face to the real issues that are affecting America this day. To our leader, the chairlady of the American Black Caucus, thank you for your steadfast leadership in making sure that all issues are addressed on this floor.

I listened to the other side of the aisle for more than an hour before coming to our Special Order. I tried to make sense of the arguments that they were making tonight. But do you know what? Their piecemeal approach to funding the government makes no sense.

This chart signifies just what a piecemeal approach to government looks like. This chart makes it look like the GOP has approached funding our government like a game of Pac-Man. Well, this isn't a game. There are real lives at stake. It is time for Speaker BOEHNER and the House Republicans to realize it is game over and to work with those of us on the Democratic side in the House and our leadership in the Senate and the President to reopen government.

Americans across the country are already hurting from this Republican-led government shutdown. In my district alone, 11,000 Nevadans have been furloughed, leaving families struggling to pay their bills on time while putting food on the table.

I recently returned from my district and had a town hall with constituents to hear the effects that this government shutdown and the impending debt ceiling would have on the constituents of my district.

One constituent, Fred Waggar, shared his story with me. He is a veteran who now works for the VA. He is

worried that on October 25 he will not get his paycheck as a medical services coordinator for the VA. Then on November 1, he may not get his check and the benefits that he is entitled to as a veteran.

Fred said he is living paycheck to paycheck, so what is he going to do come November 1 when the rent is due, when the utility bills come due, when it is time to put food on his table, because Republicans are now determined to hold the full faith and credit of the United States hostage because Speaker BOEHNER is too busy catering to a fringe of radicals in his caucus?

□ 2130

I also have received tweets from our #cbctalks from constituents in my district. Kevin Hooks, who is the president of the Las Vegas Urban League, says that with the impending debt ceiling not being lifted, if the Women, Infants, and Children program that the Urban League administers closes, 200 families per day will lose health services and 15 employees will be furloughed. He goes on to say that the child care subsidy would affect upwards of 225 children per day, and some 60 employees will be furloughed.

Shaundell Newsome with the Urban Chamber says that Nevada businesses are being impacted by the government shutdown. It is killing small businesses. Open it.

The fear is real.

And then I got a question from the Clark County Black Caucus asking—or saying that their members are nervous that they won't receive Social Security or unemployment checks on the first of the month; what should I tell them?

Well, I stand here, my colleagues and I, along with 196 House Democrats, in support of a clean debt ceiling increase that insures that the full faith and credit of the United States of America is protected and avoids a Republican default. Our constituents have already suffered enough from this shutdown. We need to be representing the people's interest, not punishing them. Refusing to raise the debt ceiling carries serious implications, as all of my colleagues have discussed tonight.

For an already fragile economy, if we allow the Republicans to default on our debt, middle class American families and the poor would be forced to pay higher interest rates for mortgages, auto loans, student loans, and credit cards. Veterans will be affected; disability benefits will not come on time. Is this any way to send a message to our veterans?

So we call on our colleagues tonight, you have left the building, but we are here and we will stay and work as long as it takes to ensure that our obligations are met, that the government is reopened, and that we meet our obligations to pay our bills.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, let's reopen the government, raise the debt ceiling, and get back to doing the business of the American people.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, brinkmanship makes for poor politics, and defaulting on America's debts will make for a poor national economy and a poor global image. It should not be understated how devastating defaulting on the debt ceiling would be for America's growing economy. A default as a result of political games would be even more embarrassing.

Most games have winners and losers, but if the political games being employed by the Republican party cause a default on America's financial obligations, everyone loses. To be clear, this is not a game. The consequences on the American economy, our country's global image, and the lives of all Americans will be very real.

The Republican government shutdown has illuminated the party's willingness to put politics before people. If the Republican political brinkmanship causes a default on America's obligations, it will demonstrate their willingness to torpedo a growing American economy. This brinkmanship must end and we must raise the debt ceiling and continue advancing policies that have and will continue to allow our economy to grow.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of illness.

Mr. FATTAH (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official foreign travel.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official business in district.

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official business in district.

JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on October 10, 2013, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 91: Making continuing appropriations for death gratuities and related survivor benefits for survivors of deceased military service members of the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2014, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, October 15, 2013, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3291. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting a draft bill entitled, "To provide for the issuance of coins to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the National Park Service, and for other purposes"; to the Committee on Financial Services.

3292. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Cathay Pacific Airways Limited (Cathay Limited) of Hong Kong, pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

3293. A letter from the Delegated Authority of the Assistant Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting a report on for-profit institution's revenues from Title IV and non-Title IV sources as provided by the institution in its audited financial statements in the July 1, 2011, to the June 30, 2012 reporting period; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

3294. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Regulatory Guide 2.4, Review of Experiments for Research Reactors received September 25, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3295. A letter from the Speaker, Parliament of Albania, transmitting a letter wishing the United States a Happy Independence Day from the Parliament of Albania; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3296. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; America's Cup Aerobic Box, San Francisco Bay, San Francisco, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2013-0741] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received September 19, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3297. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Grain-Shipments and Grain-Shipments Assist Vessels, Columbia and Willamette Rivers [Docket Number: USCG-2013-0010] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received September 25, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3298. A letter from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting

the Board's final rule — Rules of Practice in Air Safety Proceedings [Docket No.: NTSB-GC-2011-0001] received September 20, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3299. A letter from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — VA Acquisition Regulation: Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned and Veteran-Owned Small Business Status Protests (RIN: 2900-AM92) received September 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

3300. A letter from the Acting Commissioner, Social Security Administration, transmitting the annual report of the Administration's processing of continuing disability reviews for FY 2011; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII,

Mr. HUNTER (for himself and Mr. RUPERSBERGER) introduced a resolution (H. Res. 382) supporting the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week, October 23, 2013 through October 31, 2013; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 and resolutions of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 523: Mr. RAHALL.
 H.R. 685: Mr. LEWIS and Mr. HUNTER.
 H.R. 1173: Mr. HOLT, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
 H.R. 1695: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
 H.R. 1750: Mr. THORNBERY.
 H.R. 1803: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
 H.R. 1992: Mr. GALLEGRO.
 H.R. 2101: Mr. POCAN.
 H.R. 2695: Mr. FOSTER and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
 H.R. 2720: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
 H.R. 2925: Mr. YOUNG of Indiana.
 H.R. 3040: Ms. TSONGAS.
 H.R. 3111: Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, and Mr. GIBSON.
 H.R. 3121: Mr. HOLDING.
 H.R. 3154: Mr. MESSER and Mr. ADERHOLT.
 H.R. 3169: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.
 H.R. 3179: Mr. FALLONE.
 H.R. 3181: Mrs. BEATTY.
 H.R. 3211: Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. DUFFY, and Mr. ROE of Tennessee.
 H.R. 3229: Ms. MOORE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. RUIZ, and Mr. RANGEL.
 H.R. 3279: Mr. BARTON, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. DUFFY, and Mrs. WALORSKI.
 H.R. 3284: Mr. DOGGETT.