

The Training Highly Skilled Americans Act would use revenue from H-1B visas to promote STEM education at minority-serving colleges and universities and provide scholarships to minority students who are going into STEM fields.

Science and technology companies are already paying our government to bring foreign workers to the U.S. to fill STEM jobs, so why not use some of these funds to train our own folks to have these skills to fill these jobs in the future? This is particularly critical for minority students, who are significantly underrepresented in these fields. By opening our doors to STEM education, we will strengthen our education system and our economy.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT WEB SITE PROBLEMS

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, earlier this fall the President said the Affordable Care Act is more than just a Web site and that the problems with the Web site will soon be fixed. While I don't disagree with either of those two statements, I don't understand the timeline involved because yesterday in the Oversight and Investigation Subcommittee of the Energy and Commerce Committee, the deputy chief information officer for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services told us that the Web site was launched, but it wasn't finished upon launch.

I have to ask: Why in the world would they proceed with this if they knew it wasn't finished? When asked to give a percentage completion, it was confusing. His answer was either 40 or 60 percent; no one really knows, and here is the kicker. When you get to January and providers, doctors, and hospitals are seeing patients who think they have coverage under the Affordable Care Act, part of the problem with the unfinished Web site is there may be difficulty in delivering provider payments. That is an intolerable situation that must be resolved and must be resolved quickly. It could start with the administration being honest with the committee about where they are in the development of the Web site.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, today world leaders are meeting in Geneva to negotiate an agreement that could lead to the elimination or reduction in the threat of nuclear weapons in the Middle East. This is a good thing. The goal of the negotiations is to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, particularly those in the possession of or that could

potentially be developed by Iran. We don't want Iran to have a nuclear weapon. We ourselves are trying to reduce stockpiles, so negotiations to prevent that are squarely within the United States national security interests.

The American people support these negotiations. A new Washington Post poll shows that Americans want a negotiated deal with Iran by a 2-1 margin. The alternative to negotiation is not good. In fact, it could lead to war. Americans do not want another war. Therefore, negotiations are the right way to handle this particular problem with regard to preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon. Support negotiations. We support them, and hope they succeed.

AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

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

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, recently, I received an email from a woman in my district named Shannon. Shannon received a letter from her health care provider stating that her current health care policy did not meet the requirements of the Affordable Care Act and that she would have to choose a new plan or go to the health care marketplace and find coverage.

She went to the health care marketplace and found a comparable plan that cost \$400 a month more. This is outrageous. More than 300,000 Floridians, like Shannon, received letters that their current health care plans were canceled. Premiums and deductibles are increasing for countless Americans. So many people received notices that their plans were canceled. We have only begun to experience the devastating effects of this law.

I submit that the next concern of my constituents will be not only that they can't keep their health care plan, but they won't be able to keep their doctors. We need to get rid of this law, and we need to replace it with one that is consumer-focused and market-driven so that Americans like Shannon can get affordable health care coverage and keep their doctors.

□ 1230

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, many of my colleagues have highlighted the challenges of implementing the Affordable Care Act at the Federal level. While these must be addressed, I would like to take a minute to highlight the successes we have seen at the State level in Rhode Island. Although a majority of States opted not to operate an exchange of their own, Rhode Island

chose to be a leader in creating a State-driven, integrated marketplace to provide quality, affordable health insurance for its citizens.

On October 1, Health Source RI, the Ocean State's online portal and health insurance marketplace, opened for business. It has successfully enrolled over 5,000 residents to date without many of the issues plaguing the Federal Web site. Of course, we are still at the beginning stages of this process, and efforts are under way to improve and expand the successful rollout with many of our State partners.

This has been a highly collaborative effort, and I look forward to continuing our work together so that individuals, families, and small businesses can shop for insurance that meets their needs based on transparent, competitive pricing and robust coverage.

PRO-GROWTH ENERGY POLICY

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, Americans are working hard to make ends meet during this sluggish economy, and a clear and predictable pro-growth energy policy will help to alleviate financial stress on American families as energy costs rise. But most of all, pro-growth energy policies will create jobs and put Americans back to work.

If you are looking for legislation that will create jobs across America, there are several opportunities to vote "yes" this week in the United States House.

The Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act, Federal Lands Jobs and Energy Security Act, and the Protecting States' Rights to Promote American Energy Security Act are all pro-growth, pro-energy policies that the House will consider this week and will give all my colleagues an opportunity to show whether they are pro-jobs or not.

These bills will promote natural gas pipeline infrastructure construction projects, expand onshore American energy production, and create jobs by passing these bills that will streamline government red tape and eliminate duplicative and costly regulations that only delay safe energy production on American soil.

Mr. Speaker, let's unite on behalf of the American people and support these pro-energy growth, pro-job creation bills.

CONGRATULATING TEACHER OF THE YEAR, ART ALMQUIST

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tucson High Magnet School's teacher, Art Almquist, as being named Teacher of the Year by People Magazine.

For the past 17 years, Mr. Almqvist has been Tucson Magnet's drama teacher. He has built a phenomenal theater program rarely seen on any high school level. His programs and plays have won numerous awards from universities, as well as regularly being named one of the best high school theaters in America by the American High School Theater Festival.

Mr. Almqvist is known for staging productions on topics such as AIDS, environmental activism, and immigration. He believes the theater offers each student an opportunity to learn new skills and enhance his skills.

As an educator, he has influenced thousands of students to pursue a career that both challenges them, but also brings them joy.

I give my most sincere thanks and congratulations to Mr. Art Almqvist for representing Tucson as a leader in the field of education. Mr. Almqvist exemplifies how a role model can effect change and educate the next generation.

THANKSGIVING AND SNAP

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, next week we celebrate Thanksgiving, a holiday in which we express our gratitude for all that life in this land has given us. We celebrate our good fortune with family, friends, and foods.

One of the most iconic portrayals of this day is Norman Rockwell's 1941 painting, "Freedom from Want," which shows a large family seated around a dinner table waiting to carve up a turkey. This painting was created to depict what Franklin Roosevelt called one of the "four essential human freedoms," the freedoms that millions of Americans would fight and die to protect in World War II.

Roosevelt reminded us as Americans that "we cannot be content . . . if some fraction of our people, whether it be one-third or one-fifth or one-tenth, is ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill-housed, and insecure." Instead, "after this war is won, we must be prepared to move forward . . . to new goals of human happiness and well-being."

Mr. Speaker, we are moving in the wrong direction. Right now in America, 49 million Americans, one out of every seven households in our country, are struggling with hunger, including 16 million kids. At this time of great need, this body proposes to cut \$40 billion from food stamps, forcing 4 million low-income Americans to go hungry. It is immoral.

HOMES ACT

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

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, energy efficiency investments work. A recent

study by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory found that improving the airtightness in homes would achieve \$33 billion in annual energy savings.

Across the country, 113 million homes use 23 percent of U.S. source energy, and the largest potential is in the hottest and the coldest climates.

In Vermont, we are leading the country on energy efficiency, demonstrating the potential these home improvements can have for saving money and protecting the environment.

I have introduced bipartisan legislation with my good friend and Republican colleague, Representative MCKINLEY, that would provide homeowners with an incentive to install precisely these kinds of efficiency measures in their own homes.

Whatever your preferred source of energy, we can all agree that using less energy is good for the taxpayer and the environment. This is something we can and should work together on accomplishing.

I encourage everyone to read Lawrence Berkeley's article in the science digest Energy and Buildings. It can be found at www.elsevier.com/locate/enbuild.

HONORING NATIVE AMERICAN CODE TALKERS

(Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, November is Native American Heritage Month, and I rise today to honor the many contributions that Native Americans have made and continue to make to our Nation's proud history and culture.

Earlier today, we awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to 26 tribes whose members served as code talkers during World War II and World War I, including the Pueblo of Acoma, which is one of 22 Native tribes that call New Mexico home. At a later date, we will honor seven more code talker tribes, including another from New Mexico, the Pueblo of Laguna.

The code talkers proudly served our country with great honor and distinction. They transmitted vital information during some of the most dangerous battles, including every assault the marines conducted in the Pacific from 1942 to 1945. Without the code talkers, the world wars would have lasted longer and America would have suffered many more casualties.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that the Pueblos of Acoma and Laguna and the other code talker tribes are officially getting the thanks and recognition they deserve from a very grateful Nation.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1900, NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PERMITTING REFORM ACT

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 420 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 420

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1900) to provide for the timely consideration of all licenses, permits, and approvals required under Federal law with respect to the siting, construction, expansion, or operation of any natural gas pipeline projects. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 113-25. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. On any legislative day during the period from November 22, 2013, through November 29, 2013—

(a) the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and

(b) the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time, within the limits of clause 4, section 5, article I of the Constitution, to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment.

SEC. 3. The Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the period addressed by section 2 of