

are experiencing the driest year on record, and that is why we need to start getting serious about our response to climate change.

We need to adopt new policies and adapt to the changes that are happening. And one place to start is how we operate our reservoirs. Instead of relying on old-school water manuals that are decades out of date, we should be using modern science and modern weather forecasting.

Our water supply, our food supply and our future will be impacted by climate change, so let's lead.

MEMORIALIZING HILTON "HANK" REYNOLDS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, during the month of December, we oftentimes take time to memorialize what happened on December 7, 1941. Unfortunately, the survivors of Pearl Harbor, we are losing them more and more each year.

Today I would like to memorialize a friend from the Shasta County area of Northern California, Hank Reynolds, who we lost just recently. He was a gentleman who faithfully turned out each year to memorialize Pearl Harbor on the courthouse steps in Redding, California.

He was, at one time, the chairman of the California Pearl Harbor Survivors Association and always was there with a sharp salute. Even though these gentlemen are in their late eighties and early nineties now, they always would turn out and encourage us, encourage the youth that day to memorialize and remember that.

Hank served on the USS *Detroit* and was right in the middle of it there, ships on either side of him being attacked. They were about to go out on leave that Sunday morning, and he returned back to his post and helped fight that battle that day.

So I will miss Hank. I really enjoyed his company and seeing him at those events. I know our country is greater for having had them serve for us at that time, and we memorialize them here today.

□ 1645

GENERAL MOTORS' COMEBACK

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, critics said it couldn't be done. They said the Federal Government "refinancing" of the American automobile industry couldn't work. Thankfully, for the economy of our country, they were wrong, wrong to denounce President Obama for his courageous decision to save America's auto sector. Yesterday, Treasury announced it was selling its

last stake in General Motors, the same General Motors that critics derisively called "Government Motors."

Now the verdict is in: the automotive rescue was a huge success. Led by House Democrats, 237 out of 435 Members of this House voted to save America's auto industry. The President and Democrats made a bet on the auto communities, and it paid off with dividends.

Today, the auto sector supports one in 17 private sector jobs in this country and one in eight jobs in Ohio. The workers at the Toledo Transmission Plant and the Parma Metal Center thank President Obama and the Members of Congress who were willing to take the heat and do the right thing. The U.S. auto industry is back thanks to the President's leadership and those 237 Members of this House.

Onward, USA.

JOBS

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, we come here about every week to talk about jobs in America. This last Friday, we held a jobs fair in my district in Fairfield, California, and it was a remarkable event. I have been around a long time. I have seen many, many things. As remarkable as it was, it was also one of the saddest events I have been to. I have been to a lot of funerals and a lot of tragedies over the years, but this one ranks very high.

I put this picture up here because this is a picture of the second hour after that job fair had begun. The line outside the building, where we had some 40 employers that were offering to hire people, stretched over 200 yards. The temperature was about 37, 38 degrees. It was one of those cold mornings, and these people were determined to get a job. They were willing to stand in that line for up to an hour and a half, some of them perhaps even 2 hours, just to have a shot, just to be able to talk to an employer, to have the opportunity to look face-to-face at an employer and say, "I want to work." The stories were incredible. I spent about an hour, maybe an hour and 20 minutes, talking to the men and women that were in this line.

I remember one gentleman who had served several tours in Afghanistan and Iraq. He said he was with the Army Rangers, said he had four Purple Hearts. He left the military and is now unemployed. In fact, in this line were 141 veterans, unemployed, looking for work. They have skills, know when to get up in the morning, know what it takes to go to work, to put in a full day or more—unemployed.

A young woman, fresh out of school, a child at home, she wanted to go to

work. She had an associate's degree in social welfare programs, human relations, anything in that area. She said: I will take any job. I just want to go to work. I want to take care of my child.

Another woman, 50, 55, divorced, had an 18-year-old child. Her alimony is over: I have got to go to work. I have got to support myself.

The stories of life, the stories of America, the stories of 971 people that stood in line just to have a shot at a job.

There are 435 of us in this room on a full day. We have a job. We are employed, and we have a good wage. We have a very good wage, and we have health care. And we are not doing our job. We are not doing the job that America sent us here for. America sent us here to put America back to work. That is our job. We are not living up to that.

Two years ago, the President of the United States put forth in his State of the Union message an American jobs plan, an American jobs plan to put people in this Nation back to work. It was complete: education, retraining, a research component for the next sector of this economy for the future, a transportation infrastructure sector, a way to finance it—2 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, 971 people were standing in the cold in Fairfield, California, just wanting a shot at a job; and here we are, 2 years after the President of the United States put forward a jobs plan for America, and it has not been done. The majority in this House has refused to bring up even one of those programs.

I am going to talk about those things tonight, those things that we can do here in America, that we can do so that when 971 of my constituents are willing to line up to get a job, they will have one. They will have that opportunity. They will have a shot at the future.

It is a disgrace that after 2 years with a complete plan that would put people back to work, the majority has refused to bring forward any part of that legislation. It is a disgrace. It is time for this country to go back to work. It is time for this House to go back to work to put Americans back on the job.

You want to deal with the deficit? Put people to work. They will become taxpayers. You want to deal with food stamps? You want to cut food stamps? Put people to work. Build the infrastructure. Put the teachers back in the classroom. But no, you are going to slash the benefits.

These people, searching for a job, know that unless this Congress—and I see our esteemed leadership and the Republicans leaving this House, this floor. These people want to go to work. They are losing, in the next 2 weeks, their unemployment benefits. What will become of them? What will become of those 971 people, including 141 veterans who have fought, who have been wounded? What is going to become of them?

Joining me today are my colleagues on the Democratic side. I would like to start with my colleague from Illinois, General BILL ENYART, who is now a Member of the House of Representatives.

BILL, please join us.

Mr. ENYART. Thank you, Mr. GARAMENDI.

I am privileged to represent the people of southwestern Illinois, that swath of the great State running along the Mississippi River from just north of St. Louis, from Alton, Illinois, all the way south to Cairo. And those 12 counties of southern Illinois, southwestern Illinois, were once an industrial powerhouse.

It was said four decades ago, five decades ago, if you wanted to work, go to East St. Louis, Illinois, and there will be a job for you there. There were jobs in the steel mills. There were jobs in the packing houses. There were jobs in the stove foundries in Belleville. There were jobs in the coal mines of southern Illinois. Those jobs are, by and large, gone today.

There are a few bright spots. U.S. Steel has a plant in Granite City that is still pouring steel. Alton Steel in Alton, Illinois, has reopened. A local entrepreneur bought it, and they are pouring steel in Alton again.

But, you know, those jobs in the packing houses are gone. The jobs in the aluminum industry, those jobs are gone. And that is why they call it the rust belt, because so many of those factories are closing and rusting away.

Technology has changed a lot of that, and we need to adapt to that technology. And to that end, the assistant minority leader, Mr. STENY HOYER, along with Mr. GARAMENDI and myself, introduced the JOBS Act. The JOBS Act is sitting here. It needs to be acted upon. We can't get the leadership to act upon it. But we introduced this JOBS Act, and we introduced it because there are really four priority areas that are central to achieving manufacturing growth in this country again:

First of all, we need to have a national manufacturing strategy. Other countries have it. We need to have one. We need to have a strategy that pushes our manufacturing;

Secondly, we need to promote the export of U.S.-made goods;

Thirdly, we need to encourage businesses to bring jobs and bring innovation back to the shores of our country; and

Lastly, we need to train and secure a 21st century workforce.

And that is really what the JOBS Act does. That act invests in our future. It invests in our infrastructure, our human infrastructure, the people who drive those machines and the people who drive our economy.

And it was interesting that Mr. GARAMENDI mentioned food stamps. I want to talk about food stamps for just a minute because far too many people in my district survive on food stamps.

Something like over 60 percent of the people on food stamps are children. It is not people who aren't working because they don't want to be working. Sixty percent are children who are in low-income families. And the bulk of the adults who are on food stamps are working adults, and they are working in minimum wage jobs. They are working in fast-food restaurants. They are working in other minimum wage jobs. And you can't raise a family in southern Illinois on a minimum wage job.

We need to have jobs that pay a living wage with good health insurance, with good fringe benefits that provide a living wage for families. When you do that, what happens? You don't have people on food stamps. You don't have people on unemployment. You, instead, have people who are paying taxes. You have people who are spurring the economy. You have people who are buying new pickup trucks and new curtains for the living room and so on and so forth, and that generates an economy that generates good jobs.

Now, to talk about the JOBS Act that Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. HOYER, and I introduced, what does it do? It is designed to support advanced manufacturing. Now, why do we want to support advanced manufacturing? We want to support advanced manufacturing because—there was an article in *The Wall Street Journal* just the other day. I have it right here, *The Wall Street Journal*, the journal of American business. Manufacturing jobs pay nearly 40 percent more than other jobs in our Nation's economy. That is why we need advanced manufacturing.

So our bill—Mr. GARAMENDI's bill, my bill, Mr. HOYER's bill—would amend the Workforce Investment Act to provide targeted investment to partnerships with community colleges, local workforce investment boards, and advanced manufacturing firms to design and implement education and training programs for current and prospective workers.

Now, currently, the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College program does provide some funding for that type of thing; but, unfortunately, there is no assurance for investments in advanced manufacturing, and that is where we need to go in this Nation. What we need to do is to align the training opportunities for those advanced manufacturing firms, for their needs, for adaptability in the training of workers.

I toured the Anheuser-Busch brewery in St. Louis.

Mr. GARAMENDI. I have one of those in my district, too.

Mr. ENYART. I toured that brewery a couple of weeks ago, and the brewery manager told me that, in 1999, they had 3,500 hourly employees. And those were good jobs. Those are good jobs. Anybody can tell you that if you work union work, a brewery job working for Anheuser-Busch, that was a job you would have for your entire life. That would be a great career for a working man.

□ 1700

That would be a great career for a working man. Today, they are down from 3,500 to 785 jobs. Now that is due largely due to improved technology, and they simply didn't need that many workers anymore. But that displacement of workers has happened throughout our economy, and it has happened in other areas of our economy, in addition to breweries.

So we need to grow the kind of advanced manufacturing jobs, and we need to have the workers who have the skill to move up so they are not working in those minimum-wage jobs and getting food stamps and Medicaid and those other government programs. Instead, we need people who are paying money in, and that is what our jobs bills does.

I know that Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. HOYER, and I want that bill to come to a vote. We believe that bill would pass with a resounding bipartisan vote if simply the leadership would allow it to be brought to the floor for a vote.

Advanced manufacturing is growing in this country. It is increasing, but the problem is it is not growing fast enough.

When we look at our economy over the last 5 years since President Obama won election the first time, we lost 5 million jobs when he was first elected, virtually immediately, and we have been growing those jobs back at 200,000 a month, 200,000 a month, 195,000 a month. We need to grow them back faster, and we can do that with this JOBS Act.

With that, I yield back to my partner and friend here, Mr. GARAMENDI.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Thank you very much, General ENYART.

Joining us also is another Representative from the Midwest who has considerable experience here in the House of Representatives—Ohio, in this case—MARCY KAPTUR.

Welcome. I am delighted you are with us. You talked about making it in America and about American jobs many times, and we have shared this floor on that subject in the past.

Welcome.

Ms. KAPTUR. Congressman GARAMENDI, I would like to commend you for the leadership that you have shown on the jobs front here. Your coming from California, that vast, vast State, I think brings such a perspective to all of us. And Congressman ENYART comes from a rough and tumble region of Illinois. We in northern Ohio identify with your cause and are one with you in your cause.

If there is an ad in our district for a job—or for maybe 10, 20, or 30 jobs—thousands of people apply. It is incredible to see.

And you mentioned in your earlier remarks how many veterans are unemployed. About a week ago, at one of the food banks that I represent, 1,050 veterans showed up to get a bag of food to keep it together for another week.

If you look across this country, there are many whose glass is only half full,

and it is not for lack of effort or service to this country. It is still a lack of jobs.

During the Bush years, we hemorrhaged over 8 million jobs as a result of the recession. We have gained over 7 million of those now, but we still haven't come back to the 8 million, even though we have had 44 months of consecutive job creation, as Congressman ENYART mentioned, at about 200,000 a month. But that is not enough to employ all those who remain unemployed and those who are underemployed, those who literally have to apply for SNAP coupons to help their family afford food because they are not paid enough.

And what I see happening over the last quarter century is that even though those who have capital—big resources—and they invest money and they make a lot of money for their shareholders and themselves, the people that they hire are falling further and further behind. And they expect the government to compensate for low wages.

And so if we have SNAP coupons, there are millions of people who receive them who are working for minimum wage. They don't make a living wage.

If you look at health benefits, it used to be that you got your health insurance through your place of employment. But guess what, that is all turned upside down. Now the companies are saying, Let the government pay for it. We have to do this because they do not make access to health insurance as a part of the employment package that is offered to their employees. Some still do; but my goodness, how much has changed.

The same is true with retirement: defined benefit as opposed to defined contribution plans. People used to get a benefit in their retirement that the corporation provided. They just didn't hog everything to those at the top, but the pyramid has gotten very pointed; and the money flows up, and it isn't flowing down. We have an attrition in the middle class. Every single American knows it.

Now, if you look at the Congress and the very worthy legislation that you have introduced, I say to myself, What has happened here?

I read one magazine that said for the new Members that were elected—and it was quite a sizeable class—the average worth of those new Members was about a million and a half dollars.

Think about that. The pyramid we see in the corporate sector is reflected right in here. Fewer and fewer people are getting elected from the middle class. And I don't come from the middle class. I came from the working class. We looked up to the middle class. So I know what part of America I came from.

So many people here, honest to God, are good people, but they are so privileged. They have myopia. They can't help it. They really can't identify with

the struggle of ordinary families, and the other part of it is they look down because they have never walked in the shoes of those who have gotten an unemployment slip or a pink slip.

I remember when our dad came home with those. I used to have to sit by our dining room table and figure out how much would we spend on food, how much would that be worth, how long would he be unemployed. It was a very hard thing for our family. He actually had to sell his little store because he didn't have health insurance, and he went to work in a company on the line in a factory for one reason: to get health insurance for his family. Not for himself, but for his wife and two children.

There are so few here who actually have walked in those shoes.

So we do have a problem here. That same pyramid is operating.

If I could just finally mention the value-added investment in manufacturing. Manufacturing now comprises about 13 percent of our economy—the jobs—but it packs a much larger wallop for what it provides because it really does create something that didn't exist before. It isn't just shifting product around. It is actually creating something.

The decline in manufacturing as a percent of our total economy has declined so much in the last 25 years. We are now trying to pick it up, with the President's help; and we are seeing that in the automotive industry. Just this week, General Motors paid back and is flying on its own now again. All of us who supported that refinancing of General Motors are cheering and cheering and cheering wherever we can—certainly in the communities that we represent.

But I can remember when the other side didn't vote for it; and they would have killed all those jobs in our country, the community, the people that work in them.

So I say to the gentleman, I thank you so very much for standing up for job growth in this country. Thank you for standing up for manufacturing, because for every one of those jobs added, we create new wealth for our country, and we help America to come out of the slump in manufacturing that she has experienced over the last quarter century.

I just hope that in the new trade bills that come before us we will have jobs as our first priority and market opening abroad that keeps our products out.

Again, I want to thank the gentleman. I support your legislation and I support your efforts for investment to create wealth, whether it is infrastructure on the public side or whether it is infrastructure on the private side. Those are the jobs that really create the new wealth and expansion of jobs for America.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Representative KAPTUR, you have been at this for a long time. You come from an area in this Nation that in recent decades has

been called the Rust Belt. I think that is not the situation, with your leadership.

We have seen a resurgence in American manufacturing; and 20, 25 years ago, we had just under 20 million Americans working in manufacturing with those middle-income jobs. This is the middle class. They were able to support their family, educate, get a boat, go on vacation, buy a house, provide the food, and take care of their family, just as you described.

And then we have seen in the last 20 years an enormous decline—from 20 million down to just under 11 million manufacturing jobs, and a lot of that decline had to do with American policies.

You mentioned trade programs. Clearly, that had a lot to do with offshoring tax policies that encouraged corporations to send jobs offshore rather than keeping jobs here. And there are other labor policies and the like that made it difficult for the American family to earn that living.

Our challenge is to reinvigorate the working American families' opportunity. And to address that, I will say that I heard a remarkable speech by a freshman. And it is not that I have been here so long. STEVE HORSFORD from Las Vegas gave a speech on the floor here about a week ago, talking about these issues and talking about the challenge that American families face. I asked him to join us. I was impressed by his grasp of the issue and the passion with which he spoke.

Representative HORSFORD, welcome to the one hour of what we call Make It in America, the American Jobs Program.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) for yielding time. I appreciate your leadership, as well as the work that you and our whip, Mr. HOYER; General ENYART; the gentlelady from Ohio; the gentlelady from Maryland; and many of my other colleagues, who have been working for so long to bring the focus to jobs, job creation, and growing the economy in America.

We are here today to talk about the American Dream, and that is having a good job—a family-sustaining job that can provide for yourself and your loved ones. We are talking about expanding economic opportunity not just for a select few at the top, but for those who are in the middle class who are striving to become a part of it. We are talking about the basics of job creation.

And, yes, I am a freshman. I have been here for just under a year. I am amazed and quite humbly frustrated by the fact that in 1 year not one comprehensive jobs bill has been brought to this floor for a vote by the majority on the other side; and yet we have example upon example of good job-creating legislation. The package of bills that is under the umbrella of the Make It in America proposal are good, commonsense proposals that would help every region of our country.

Now, I am from Nevada. At 9.3 percent, my State, though, has the highest unemployment in the country right now. It is nothing that we are proud of. It is stubbornly high, in large part because we experienced the hardest impact during the recession. When people aren't doing well in other regions of the country, they are not making money. That means they can't come to Nevada to spend money.

While our economy is largely dependent upon hospitality and the service industry, my district, which encompasses some 51,000 square miles throughout every corner of Nevada, has mining, agriculture, and four military installations, including many, many private small business contractors who are doing work at our Air Force bases and the Army depot. It has other small businesses who are ancillary to the hospitality industry. And so they have all been impacted by this decline in the economy, and so we have an unemployment rate that is currently at about 9.3 percent.

I am glad that my colleague from California showed those pictures from the job fair that you conducted. I want to commend you for doing that because it puts a face on these numbers. It is not about a percentage point here or there. It is about the faces of the people who are standing in line looking for work.

Right now in this body at this time it is incredibly important for us to focus on the lives of the people who are impacted because of this Congress's inability to get something done as important as jobs legislation for this country.

Now I would like to touch just on two major points, if I could. The first is the fact that, again, in my State, we have had a prolonged recession. So many of the people who have been unemployed have been unemployed for going on a year or longer. Some of them actually are from the construction sector, which was our number two industry in Nevada. But because of the burst in the housing market, the fact that we are not building as much in the commercial sector, the lion's share of the people who are unemployed actually come from the construction sector.

They also come from engineering companies. They also come from architecture companies. I have talked to small business owners who run architecture firms who have had to lay off more than 40 to 50 percent of their staff over the last few years.

□ 1715

These are good-paying jobs as well, jobs that provide good wages for families to provide for themselves.

But the points I want to make include the fact that on December 28, if this Congress doesn't do something in the next few days, some 20,000 individuals in Nevada who currently are receiving emergency unemployment compensation are at risk of losing that safety net, if this Congress fails to act.

Now, I don't see how in good conscience we as Members of Congress who, as you say, get paid a good wage—the best wage I have ever had as a poor person growing up in Nevada who has had to work two jobs virtually since I was 14, 15 years of age, to now be a Member of Congress, is a great honor. But I do not see how in good conscience we could leave here on Friday and fail to extend unemployment benefits for millions of Americans who need this safety net, especially at the holiday season.

Now, a lot of people who were standing in that line have children. They have families that are relying on them to put food on the table. There are people in my district who I have talked to who say that they are going to go without having a holiday this December because the only thing they can do is to provide enough money to keep a roof over their head, food on the table, and gas in the car so that they can keep looking for a job.

So I would encourage the leadership here to do everything that they can to allow us to vote to extend the unemployment emergency compensation that is set to expire on December 28; 20,000 Nevadans in my home State are relying on it, and I know millions of other Americans are as well.

Let me just close to my colleague from California by also offering one more suggestion of ways in which we can get America working again. I introduced legislation, Putting Our Veterans Back to Work Act of 2013.

One other interesting fact about Nevada, about a third of our constituents are veterans. These are people who have given their all to protect our country's freedom in a time of combat; and now all they ask for when they come home is an opportunity for a job, an opportunity for decent housing, for quality health care, access to education for themselves and their kids.

So, with my colleagues, I have introduced H.R. 3454, the Putting Our Veterans Back to Work Act. It renews our vow to hire our heroes by reauthorizing the transition, retraining, and employment services that have been created. It expands our vow to veteran small business owners to ensure that they have access to capital that they need for the veteran-owned small businesses that we are encouraging to grow.

It builds on our vow to hire heroes by basically committing additional resources through job training, the Workforce Investment Act system, to ensure that our veterans are given priority for hiring.

Finally, it ensures that our veterans are not being discriminated against in the workplace. So this is an important contribution I think to the Make It in America proposal, and I think it speaks to the other opportunities that we have here today to grow our economy.

I just want to close by saying to Mr. GARAMENDI that it is great that we can have a focus on what we can do in this Congress. Again, I have only been here

a year, and it is frustrating to hear what we can't do: the fact that we haven't been able to pass comprehensive immigration reform or employment protections for individuals regardless of who they love, the fact that there are infrastructure bills that have been proposed by the Make It in America proposal that have bipartisan support so we can revitalize our country.

We can do great things if this body, if the Members on the other side who have refused to allow these bills to come to a vote, if they could meet us halfway. We can meet the needs of the American public. We can provide equal pay for equal work and make sure that women are paid the wages that they deserve. We can invest in education and make sure that our schools are adequately funded. We can replace the sequester and make sure that our kids have a head start at a bright future, and we can strengthen our social safety net for seniors and the poor and those who are in the middle class.

Mr. Speaker, there is no shortage of what we can do to increase opportunity, to grow the economy and to create jobs. This Congress just needs to show the willingness to work, to put the American people back to work.

I want to commend, again, my colleague, Mr. GARAMENDI, and the others who have spoken this evening for putting this issue front and center. This is the priority that the American people want us to focus on: jobs, jobs, jobs. Thank you.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Thank you so very much, Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you for your passion, for your knowledge, for your concern about your constituents, and particularly about those men and women that are from the military.

I also have two major Air Force bases in my district with a very large population of veterans, both young and old, from the various wars and conflicts of the past. And they need a shot. Your legislation ought to be the law. It simply should be the law of the land. We should put these people back to work. We showed the picture earlier of the people lined up; 147 of those were veterans. I think about 14 were actually hired that day and given a chance.

I often put this up when we have these opportunities to speak on the floor about jobs and putting men and women back to work, because this is kind of a compass that I like to use when I think about legislation, when I think about what we ought to be doing here.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, FDR, talking about a New Deal, he said this:

A test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much, it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

We need to think about that often here on the floor. The issues that we have talked about today—putting people back to working, the minimum wage, and unemployment insurance, and food stamps or the SNAP program—all speak to this fundamental

test of America's moral compass. A test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much. It is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

December 28—Representative HORSFORD laid out that date—December 28, millions upon millions of Americans will lose their unemployment insurance, not because they are lazy, not because they don't want to work. These people, 971 of them last Friday in my district at my jobs fair, they want to go to work. Many of them will lose their unemployment insurance on December 28.

Joining us today is a remarkable woman, incredible background in caring about the people of America, working on a national program to make sure that women have a good shot. Incidentally, let me put this up there just before I introduce Representative EDWARDS. Today is a remarkable day for women. The new CEO of General Motors is a woman. She is not going to be on the unemployment line. She has spent 30-some years with General Motors, has visited the very, very top. I understand coming from the factory floor, all the way to the top. That is your story too, DONNA EDWARDS, incredible Representative from the State of Maryland. I think you wanted to talk to us about your citizens, your constituents.

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from California because every week you are here talking about what we can do and what we should be doing to create jobs in this country.

Now, I have heard it said by some that there is nothing that the Congress can or should do to try to create jobs. Well, that is just a bunch of hooley. We know that the Federal Government, Mr. Speaker, has a lot of capacity to help spur private sector job creation, but we haven't done it in this Congress. We have had an opportunity, but we haven't done it in this Congress.

I thought as you put that quote up there by Franklin Roosevelt, when I think of all the memorials there are here in Washington, D.C.—and there are plenty of them, free to the public, paid by the taxpayers. One of my favorite is the FDR memorial, and the reason is because as you are walking through that memorial, you have there, in bronze, replicas of people standing in line: standing in line waiting for assistance, standing in line waiting for a job.

When President Franklin Roosevelt saw what was happening in this country, try to come out of that Great Depression, he didn't say, oh, well, there is nothing we can do. Now, it is true, he did have some Members of Congress who were fighting him every step of the way, who didn't want to do what it would take to wholesale the Federal Government all in, investing in the American public, investing in job training, investing in rebuilding this

country. Franklin Roosevelt knew the difference, and he pushed for that so that all of those people standing in that line would have jobs. And that is what I see when I go to the memorial.

Now, if you take the trail along from the FDR memorial, you can walk along the pathway and it brings you to the new Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial—another great man who stood at the foot of the Lincoln Memorial, calling for us to put people to work for equality, right on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.

Each man, including Lincoln, in their time calling on the Congress: do the right thing. Well, now, Mr. GARAMENDI, it is our time. It is our time to invest in our infrastructure that by all accounts is crumbling. And you know what, we don't even need experts to see that our roads, our bridges, our railways are crumbling. We don't need those experts because we can see that for ourselves. I see it when I drive over some of our bridges in Maryland. I see it across our roads. I see the crumbling bridges.

Now we wait. When a bridge does in fact fall, potentially injuring or even killing people, and certainly killing the economy around it, oh, we are all in. The Congress is right there, injecting the Federal resources that it takes, but why do we have to wait until a bridge falls for the Congress to do the right thing to invest in our infrastructure, knowing that every investment of a billion dollars creates 35,000 new jobs in the economy?

If we were doing what it would take just to keep up, we would be investing about \$200 billion. Think of the millions of jobs we could create by making those investments.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Excuse me for interrupting.

Ms. EDWARDS. Go right ahead.

Mr. GARAMENDI. You are talking about some really, really important issues here. Bridges falling down?

Ms. EDWARDS. Bridges falling down.

□ 1730

Mr. GARAMENDI. One of the reasons is this: this is the infrastructure investment from 2002 to 10 years later. That is about an \$85 billion reduction in infrastructure investment.

I wanted just to drive home the point that you have made about putting people to work and about what happens when you bring down the infrastructure investment. People are unemployed, construction workers and beyond.

Ms. EDWARDS. I thank the gentleman for pointing that out. Because what we can see is that with that decades-long disinvestment in our infrastructure, not only do we have new needs, but we have the old ones, the old repairs stacking up.

I am glad that you mentioned unemployment, because as the gentleman from Nevada mentioned, unemployment in so many areas is still up there. Now, across the country, I am proud to

say that last week unemployment numbers were reported 7 percent—the lowest since November 2008, the lowest since when I first came into this Congress. In some ways, it has been despite us. I think the President, the administration, have done all of the things that they can do, the private sector that they can do.

But think if we had those infrastructure investments. We could tick off 2 more percentage points on unemployment with a robust investment in this Nation's infrastructure. That is about building for the future; that is about building for the 21st-century economy. Yet here we are—and as the gentleman from Nevada pointed out—unemployment benefits end for about 1.3 million people; 1.9 million Americans' unemployment will end December 28.

Now, here we are in Congress—and we have taken a lot of breaks this year without creating any jobs, and we are about to take another one, another really long one—and on December 28 some of our Members will be finishing up their holiday leftovers. Some people will be sitting with their children looking through their toys and the goodies that they have gotten over the holiday season, and then there will be 1.9 million Americans who will lose their unemployment benefits in the first half of 2014, 1.3 million who will lose those benefits on December 28, and we will be opening up gifts. That is an embarrassment; it is an absolute embarrassment.

So while we could be doing things that create jobs and opportunity for the American people, instead we are doing something that is actually going to cost jobs. Not extending unemployment benefits, not only is it bad for all of those people who will lose their benefits; it also is going to cost the economy another 200,000 jobs. So what we are doing in our inaction in Congress is actually counterproductive to putting the American people back to work.

Do you know what? I would like to say that it is the responsibility of all of us as Members of Congress; but the fact is, much to our chagrin, Democrats don't control the gavel in this House; the Republicans control it. And tomorrow, and certainly within the next 72 hours before we leave town for vacation, Republicans could put a bill on the floor that would extend unemployment benefits that would expire on December 28 for the American people so that those unemployed persons can afford to have a Christmas, a holiday, for their families. But I don't see it in the offing. I can tell you this right now: if Democrats controlled that gavel, Mr. Speaker, we would be extending unemployment benefits, but we are not doing that.

I want to close very quickly and have a little bit of a dialogue, because I want to tell you what unemployment means. It means 37 percent of the unemployed workers in this country have been unemployed for more than 6 months. So it is true, our unemployment numbers have ticked down; but

for 37 percent of those unemployed workers, it has been a long time. These are skilled workers. They are laborers who because the construction jobs are not quite up to par they are not working the way that they were. They are people who have scientific and technical skills. Because we are not making the kinds of investments we need in research and development, and I know that has been of particular importance to the gentleman, those workers are unemployed.

The gentleman put up the picture there of the people who were standing in line in his district at a job fair. Well, I held a job fair in my district. Over 2,000 people, 100 employers, job seekers, people who want to work, who are unemployed now but who want to work. What is the harm in providing unemployment benefits for those workers?

Now, I have heard some on the other side of the aisle say things like, well, if you provide unemployment benefits, then it will make people less likely to go out and find a job. Well, clearly that is somebody who has never received unemployment benefits. I had the misfortune of having to apply for unemployment at one point in my life. I didn't want to be unemployed, but I sure needed that benefit to get me to the point where I could then find a job.

That is what our job seekers do—1.3 million of them who will not have unemployment benefits come December 28, who will not be able to provide. Forget providing for a holiday or a Christmas celebration. How about putting food on the table?

And this, Mr. GARAMENDI, at the same time that there are some who are contemplating taking away \$40 billion from food stamps. So take away unemployment benefits, take away food stamps, the nutrition program that also supplies our food pantries, and then say, do you know what, unemployed Americans, you are on your own.

Well, that is not the kind of America, Mr. GARAMENDI, that you and I believe in. We believe in the kind of America where as a Congress we make a decision about investing in our infrastructure, supporting research and development so that all of those innovators and creators out there can create more jobs, making sure that we have a manufacturing sector that really works in this country, and putting people back to work.

I will just close by saying I don't really get this. But I tell you what, the Grinch is in full force right now. The Grinch is out there saying, I am taking your unemployment, I am taking away your food stamps, I am not going to create any jobs. Do you know what? That is not good for America. But we are saying, Happy Holidays, and in 72 hours the Congress goes home and people who are on unemployment lose their benefits.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Congresswoman EDWARDS, thank you very much. I have known you for the almost 4 years that

I have been here. The passion that you have for the American people is unmatched. Your willingness to stand for them has been seen in many pieces of legislation and votes and also on the floor of the House of Representatives. I thank you for that.

How correct you are. We are going to leave here Friday, probably around noontime. The question Americans ought to ask us is: So what have you done for America? Tell us what you have done, Congress, for America.

I will tell you what we want to do. We want to put people back to work. This ought not be America. This is the inside of the hall where we had the 40 employers that were looking to hire a few people. The outside of the hall, that was 200 yards in 35 degree weather, people standing there well over an hour, some an hour and a half, two hours, waiting to at least get a shot at a job.

Have we forgotten, have we forgotten about Franklin Delano Roosevelt's moral compass, the moral compass that we ought to be employing here? I am going to put up something. Ms. EDWARDS, if you will just stick around just a few moments.

America has gone back to work, at least some Americans have gone back to work. This is the recovery; this is the reduction in the unemployment. The moral compass of America. Are we doing more for those who have much or are we doing for those who have little?

This is the fact of the growth of the American economy, the creation of wealth, the creation of wealth in America. Billions of dollars. New wealth created. Where did it go? Where did that wealth go? Where did all the labor, all the hard work, all the men and women that got up in the morning and went to work, put in their 8 hours or 12 hours, their 40 hours a week or more, where did that labor, where did it go, what was the result of it?

Here it is. Here is the fact. The tale of two Americans: 95 percent of the wealth created in America from 2009 to 2012 went to the top 1 percent of Americans. So all those people out there, all the 99 percenters that worked day in and day out, that struggled for a job, that stood in line to get a job, what did they get? They got 5 percent of the new wealth of the wealth created in this Nation.

This is an indictment of the fundamental policies of this Nation. It wasn't always that way. During the Clinton period, the top 1 percent did very well. They got 45 percent of the wealth. The top 1 percent took 45 percent home. They did leave 55 percent for the 99 percent.

This isn't just happening because the Sun comes up in the morning and sets in the evening. This happens because of public policy, tax policy, employment policy, social welfare policies, food programs, unemployment programs, and the crash of the American economy caused by greed, Wall Street greed principally, and greed of others to be sure.

Keep in mind, America, this is our Nation today. Work hard? No, you may not get ahead. Keep in mind the moral compass of Franklin Delano Roosevelt:

The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is rather whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

December 28 is coming. Today is the 10th of December. Eighteen days. Just after Christmas, 3 days after Christmas, days after the holidays, 1.7 million Americans are going to lose their unemployment insurance and, since the farm bill hasn't been brought to the floor, the question of what kind of cuts will be made in the farm programs specifically for the food programs.

It is not the loafers that are out there, although there are some. It is the men and women that stood in line waiting for a job in my district last Friday, stood in line at Representative EDWARDS' job fair here in Maryland in the past days, those people, unemployed, depending upon the supplemental food program, the senior citizens who are trying to make it with the meager benefits of Social Security. They are the ones that are receiving the supplemental food program, the food stamps. \$40 billion over the next 5 to 10 years taken away, away from farmers' income, yes, and away from the men and women that are hungry.

One more thing. I am going to put this up. I have seen this so many times. You want to take \$40 billion away from the children of America? Is that what our Republican leadership wants to do? This is the face of America's children right there. One out of every four children in this Nation wondering where their next meal is coming from. Jobs? Absolutely. Unemployment benefits? Essential, unless you want this to be the American story. Food stamps? That is where he gets his food; that is where these American children are able to get their food during these hard times. They want to cut it. Where is the moral compass in that? Where is the fundamental moral compass when one out of four children in this Nation goes to bed hungry?

□ 1745

Where is the moral compass that takes 95 percent of the wealth created in this Nation and gives it to the 1 percent who have millions and, indeed, billions? Something is wrong here.

Ms. EDWARDS. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GARAMENDI. I yield to the gentleman.

Ms. EDWARDS. As the gentleman was speaking, I thought to myself: What could the American people do if they learned that on December 28 unemployment benefits will end for 1.3 million of their fellow Americans? Is there something they could do?

Well, I always thought when I wasn't in Congress that the one thing people can do to stop this atrocity so that we can fix it before we leave town in 72 hours, they can call their Members of

Congress. They can use social media and reach out to their Members of Congress. That is what they can do because this should not be allowed to happen. We can create jobs so that, come the spring construction season, workers go back to work. But in the meantime, people can call their Member of Congress and say: Extend unemployment benefits, or don't go home for Christmas.

Mr. GARAMENDI. We will go home for Christmas, and how many hungry will there be? How many unemployed will there be? We have work to do.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. JACKSON LEE (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and December 11.

Mr. DOYLE (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and December 11 on account of a death in the family.

Mr. RUSH (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of attending to family acute medical care and hospitalization.

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

Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today and the balance of the week on account of the birth of her daughter.

Mr. CONAWAY (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of inclement weather.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. DENHAM, on Monday, December 9, 2013.

H.R. 3626. An act to extend the Undetectable Firearms Act of 1988 for 10 years.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, December 11, 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:

4038. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Food Additive Regulations; Incorporation by Reference of the Food chemicals Codex, 7th Edition [Docket No.: FDA-2010-F-0320] received

December 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4039. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the fiscal year 2012 report entitled, "Operation and Financial Support of Military Museums"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

4040. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Priority; Rehabilitation Training: Rehabilitation Long-Term Training Program—Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling [CFDA Number: 84.129B] received November 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

4041. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Program Integrity Issues [Docket ID: ED-2010-OPE-0004] (RIN: 1840-AD02) received November 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

4042. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Student Assistance General Provisions, Federal Perkins Loan Program, Federal Family Education Loan Program, and William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program [Docket ID: ED-2013-OPE-0063] (RIN: 1840-AD12) received November 22, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

4043. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Advisory Committee; Veterinary Medicine Advisory Committee; Termination [Docket No.: FDA-2013-N-1380] received December 2, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4044. A letter from the Associate Bureau Chief, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Special Access for Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers; AT&T Corporation Petition for Rulemaking to Reform Regulation of Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier Rates for Interstate Special Access Services WC [Docket No.: 05-25] [RM-10593] received November 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4045. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Communication of Operational Information Between Natural Gas Pipelines and Electric Transmission Operators [Docket No.: RM13-17-000; Order No. 787] received November 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4046. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Guides for Private Vocational and Distance Education Schools received November 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4047. A letter from the Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs, Agency for International Development, transmitting a formal response to the GAO report "Global Food Security: USAID is Improving Coordination but Needs to Require Systematic Assessments of Country-Level Risks"; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4048. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 13-66, Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer and Acceptance,

pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4049. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter regarding a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Defense and Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4050. A letter from the Administrator, Agency for International Development, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1, 2013, through September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4051. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4052. A letter from the Senior Deputy Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts, transmitting the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Semiannual Report on Final Action Resulting from Audit Reports, Inspection Reports, and Evaluation Reports for the period April 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4053. A letter from the Chair, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and a separate management report for the period April 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4054. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's quarterly report from the Office of Privacy and Civil Liberties for the third quarter of fiscal year 2013 April 1, 2013 — June 30, 2013; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4055. A letter from the Administrator, Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Corporation's annual financial audit and management report for the fiscal year 2013, in accordance with OMB Circular A-136; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4056. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Dividend Equivalents from Sources within the United States [TD 9648] (RIN: 1545-BK53) received December 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4057. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — User Fees for Processing Installment Agreements and Offers in Compromise [TD 9647] (RIN: 1545-BL37) received December 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4058. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Voluntary Withholding on Dividends and Other Distributions by Alaska Native Corporations [Notice 2013-77] received December 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4059. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — 2013 Base Period T-Bill Rate (Rev. Rul. 2013-24) received December 5, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.