

food on the table. Congress has failed to act.

What is particularly concerning to me is some of the rhetoric that I hear would imply that those unemployed Americans are seeking benefits because they don't want to work. And, in fact, yesterday, I read a quote from the Budget Committee chairman—and I will try to get this correct—saying that, in America, there is a culture in our inner cities of men not even thinking about working or learning the value and the culture of work.

That is not the problem. The problem is a lack of opportunity. So I will take the chairman at his word that he was intending to say: so, therefore, we need to fully fund after-school programs, we need to fully fund pre-K programs, and we need to fully fund summer youth employment so that those young people do have a chance to experience the benefit and value of work, and that we provide a safety net to make sure that when they are not working, they don't lose their house, their car, and their family.

RECOGNIZING THE COLORADO FLOOD RESPONDERS

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

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedicated men and women who have assisted the State of Colorado in our effort to recover from the devastating floods last September.

On September 11, Colorado experienced a major flood event which took the lives of beloved neighbors, destroyed over 2,000 homes and damaged 17,000 others. Our communities, friends, and neighbors had their lives changed forever and are still putting the pieces back together and rebuilding.

In the wake of the flood, local and State officials, private businesses and individuals, first responders, National Guard, FEMA personnel, and dedicated volunteers worked tirelessly to help Coloradans get life back to normal. While the recovery effort remains unfinished and won't be complete for some time, we are on a positive path forward. If it hadn't been for the committed and devoted people on the ground, Colorado would not be on that path today.

As with all natural disasters and tragedies of this magnitude, Coloradans rallied together and helped in the recovery effort. We still have more work to do. But I want to recognize on the House floor all those who joined together in these recovery efforts and helped Colorado in a desperate time of need.

As a fifth-generation Coloradan, I offer my deep appreciation on behalf of the State.

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HONORING OFFICER NICHOLAS CHOUNG LEE

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

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Nicholas Choung Lee, a Los Angeles police officer who selflessly served his community.

Nicholas served for years in the LAPD, first in the Van Nuys division and later in the Hollywood division, assigned to a patrol car. He had worked as both a field training officer and vice officer in Wilshire before returning to patrol in the Hollywood division in 2008. In his 16 years of service he received more than 70 commendations.

Even as a police officer, family came first for Nicholas, who had a wife, Cathy, and two young daughters, Jalen and Kendall.

Tragically, and much too soon, Nicholas passed away on April 6 when a truck hit his patrol car in Beverly Hills.

We depend upon the bravery and dedication of police officers every moment of every day, and we often forget the dangers and challenges they face on our behalf. I ask all members to join me in expressing our condolences to the Lee family and the entire LAPD.

HONORING AMOS ROJAS, JR.

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, Amos Rojas, Jr., was sworn in yesterday as the U.S. Marshal for our southern district of Florida.

A consummate public servant, Marshal Rojas served 24 years of his career with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, including 8 years as a special agent in charge of the Miami region's operations center.

Marshal Rojas was most recently deputy director of the South Florida Money Laundering Strike Force within the Miami-Dade County State Attorney's Office.

The U.S. Marshal Service traces its roots back to the Judiciary Act of 1789 under President George Washington and has played many important roles throughout our Nation's history.

I am proud to see Marshal Rojas join this elite and storied law enforcement agency.

Congratulations, again, to south Florida's new top cop.

HOBBY LOBBY V. SEBELIUS

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

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court will soon hear oral arguments in the case commonly referred to as Hobby Lobby v. Sebelius. The

outcome of this case will determine whether or not a for-profit company has the right to limit a female employee's access to health care under the guise of religious freedom.

Already the Supreme Court has wrongly declared that corporations have a right to "freedom of speech," as determined in the case of Citizens United. In just a few short years, this ruling has led to a flood of undisclosed money into our elections and corrupted our political system. Corporations' latest attempts to secure the constitutionally-protected rights of citizens is equally as dangerous.

Only a living, breathing woman should have the right to decide how and when she wants to have a family. Regardless of her decision, that choice belongs to her and not to the corporation for which she works.

Millions of women depend upon birth control pills for reasons beyond preventing unintended pregnancies, including a 13-year-old girl in my district, who would rather be in her classroom learning but who spends lots of time in a doctor's office trying to control uncontrollable bleeding. Yet, through no fault of her own, she finds herself at her doctor's office often, and then just recently had to have a blood transfusion.

This young woman relies upon birth control medication to control her bleeding, a medication that her family can only afford because her mother's access to contraceptive care is not violated by her employer.

If the Supreme Court once again interprets our Federal law to grant citizen freedoms to a corporation, it will directly threaten the rights of this young girl and millions of women around the country. We cannot allow that to happen.

HONORING LIEUTENANT NATE KING

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

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lieutenant Nate King of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department.

Just a few days ago, Lieutenant King was conducting routine police business when a frantic mother drove up and placed a seemingly lifeless baby into his arms. Six-month-old Lily was choking to death. Without losing his cool, Lieutenant King quickly began life-saving measures, and soon little Lily started screaming and crying. Thanks to Lieutenant King's efforts, little Lily is alive today.

Even better, the doctors who examined Lily that day at the hospital determined she was fine and had made a full recovery.

On behalf of Congress and the people of North Carolina's Ninth Congressional District, thank you to Lieutenant King for your exceptional service. You make us all proud.

Thank you to all the brave men and women of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department who face diverse difficult challenges, even placing their lives on the line to serve us each day.

CONGRESSIONAL DIGITAL DAY OF ACTION

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the millions of women who now have access to essential preventive health services, including birth control, without financial barriers.

Nearly every American woman will choose to use birth control at some time in her life. It helps women plan for the time they are healthy enough and financially ready to start a family. That is better for her and for her family.

That is why the Institute of Medicine deemed it an essential preventive health service for women. Women across the Nation support it being available to them with no copay.

Now, some women have found that their bosses think they know better than they do, that their CEO has more at stake in her health care decisions than her doctor. This is not right. Every woman has the right to be in charge of her body and her health. Suggesting otherwise is offensive, out of touch, and out of bounds.

KEYSTONE XL

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to voice my support for the approval of the Keystone XL pipeline.

As many Americans know, this pipeline will provide an immediate boost to our economy and strengthen national security. That is important. Ask the Ukrainians. This pipeline will create over 40,000 jobs, foster a more energy independent North America, bolster our Nation's weakened infrastructure system, contribute approximately \$3.4 billion to our GDP, and generate needed tax revenues in several States.

After a thorough review of the pipeline proposal, the State Department determined it would have no significant negative environmental impact.

The Department's inspector general also concluded that the pipeline's environmental impact study was sound. This is the latest in a slew of reports rejecting the administration's excuses on Keystone.

Mr. Speaker, this President has vowed that this will be a year of action. House Republicans urge him to act. He should immediately approve the Keystone XL pipeline and put Americans back to work.

I am RANDY WEBER, and there you have it.

INSURANCE-COVERED CONTRACEPTION

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

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the congressional digital day of action on the Hobby Lobby Supreme Court case. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, 27 million women have access to insurance-covered contraceptives. Nearly 2 million of those women come from my home State of Texas.

Unfortunately, Hobby Lobby, the largest importer in my district, asserts that employers should control the choices of women to have access to contraception and preventive care. However, 70 percent of Americans disagree with that heinous assertion.

While individuals have their own religious beliefs and consciences, businesses that employ thousands of hardworking Americans do not. The implication that a boss could potentially decide what health care treatments any employee can receive are more far-reaching than just contraceptive care.

What can be next? An employer denying coverage of routine immunizations or vaccinations because of religious belief?

It is offensive that an employer believes they have the right to make these personal decisions for their employees. I urge my colleagues to stand up and fight against this discriminatory action taken by Hobby Lobby.

THE IMPERIAL PRESIDENCY

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

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, a headline in today's Roll Call reads:

White House, Democrats cry foul over GOP push to enforce immigration and other laws.

Really? The Constitution is clear about how our government is supposed to work. Congress makes the laws; the President enforces them. President Obama should know that, since he used to lecture about constitutional law.

The President isn't the first to stretch the bounds of executive authority, but the proper constitutional limits on the President's power are long in this administration's rearview mirror. He has disregarded laws that he disagrees with, even when they are his own.

The American people are demanding respect for the rule of law. They want our system of checks and balances restored so that their government reflects the will of all, not just one. That is why we passed the ENFORCE the Law Act yesterday, and that is why we will continue to demand the President do his job, not ours.

FALLING UNEMPLOYMENT AND FAIR PAY

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight an issue impacting constituents in my district and all across the Nation. Recently, statistics were published lauding Texas' falling unemployment rate. Articles say that Texans are finding good jobs.

I want to rise today to speak on behalf of those that have a hard time making it each month. Many of these so-called good paying jobs, after working 40 hours a week, pay about \$15,000 a year. Sometimes these hardworking Americans have to work two or three jobs just to make it at the end of the month.

Mr. Speaker, the truth is that Texas families are hurting and struggling every day just to put food on the table and to put clothes on their kids' backs.

I was talking to a lady at Luby's just the other day that asked me, What are we going to do about the minimum wage? We need to vote on the minimum wage—H.R. 1010, that would raise the minimum wage and bring over 5 million Americans out of poverty.

I have signed the discharge petition and urge you to bring this bill up for a vote.

REMEMBERING PHILIP WOOD

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, last weekend 239 passengers on a Malaysian airplane were lost. As of this morning, I don't think we yet know their fate. According to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, one of those residents used to call Keller, Texas, home. I want to share with the body what his family had put out as a public statement:

Philip Wood was a man of God, a man of honor and integrity. His word was gold. Incredibly generous, creative, and intelligent, Phil cared about people, his family, and above all, Christ. Though our hearts are hurting, we know so many families around the world are affected, just as much as us, by this terrible tragedy. We ask for your prayers, not only for ourselves but for all involved during this difficult time.

As a family, we are sticking together through Christ to get through this. Thank you for your understanding.

Words I think we can all take to heart while we ponder the fate of those individuals lost on that plane.

EXTENDING EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart. I ran for Congress to help people. It is