

quo. In the business community, if you don't grow, you die. So why would we want to keep our country at the status quo?

If we only focus on maintaining our current unemployment structure and we don't focus on job creation, we simply are admitting we don't want to grow. The goal should be to provide a way forward for people, not keep them on government assistance even longer. We need to focus on ways to combat joblessness.

Let's rein in overreaching regulations that are killing jobs. Let's grow the private sector. Let's grow the energy sector, and let's approve the Keystone pipeline. The result will be the creation of private sector jobs and living above the status quo.

CELEBRATING OFFICER MORGAN DAY

(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. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of 5-year-old Morgan Steward, who, despite suffering from spinal muscular atrophy that affects his muscle movement and leaves him in a wheelchair, has been an inspiration to us all.

Some may question whether bipartisanship is real, and I say it is alive and getting better. Take, for instance, the recent joint venture by myself and my neighbor, Dr. PAUL Broun, to bring cheer to a young man and his community. This young 5-year-old dreamed of being a policeman. I am proud to say that the Covington Police Department, which is split between Dr. BROUN's district and my district, made this happen.

Young Morgan always wanted to be a police officer. In conjunction with honoring him, 11Alive TV and we held an Officer Morgan Day. He was sworn in as the newest member of the Covington Police Department. And just hours after he was sworn in, he was able to solve a bank robbery, an art heist, and he secured the freedom of a kidnapped mascot. It was a great day in Covington, and his unwavering bravery grabbed all of our hearts and raised our spirits.

I thank Dr. BROUN for his involvement.

CELEBRATING OFFICER MORGAN DAY

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of Morgan Steward, a 5-year-old boy from Covington, Georgia.

Morgan was born with a genetic condition that affects his muscle movement and confines him to a wheelchair.

However, Morgan's physical limitations have in no way hindered his goal of becoming a police officer.

When the Covington Georgia Police Department heard of Morgan's dreams, they sprang into action, swearing him in as a police officer. And on December 17, 2013, the town of Covington celebrated Officer Morgan Day, and Morgan Steward was cheered on as he fought crime and captured the "bad guys" during Covington's annual Christmas parade. Morgan even teamed up with basketball star Shaquille O'Neal to rescue a cat from a tree.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I commend Officer Morgan for his service as a police officer, and thank him for the strong example that he sets for all those who face medical and physical hardships.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

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

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge our Republican leadership to immediately renew the emergency unemployment insurance that expired December 28. It affects 1.3 million families. Failing to extend the emergency unemployment insurance will cost the economy some 240,000 jobs this month.

You see, I believe you can extend the emergency unemployment insurance and grow the economy at the same time. These families depend on it to put a roof over their head, to feed and take care of their families.

In my district in Ohio, there are 26,000 individuals unemployed. I say let's work together as Democrats and Republicans and make a difference for the families who count on us.

DEMOCRATS ARE THREATENING THE AMERICAN DREAM

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, in a recent Washington Times op-ed, David Keene writes:

Lengthy unemployment benefits that actually encourage people to drop out of the workforce and minimum-wage laws that make it difficult for the young and poor to reach for the first step on the ladder of success are, like the rhetoric of progressive populists, attacks on the American Dream.

The most recent jobs report provides no certainty that our economy is on its way to a full, healthy recovery. The unemployment rate continues to drop simply because people are discouraged and have given up the search for a job.

The American people are resilient, hardworking, and need limited government. The President and Washington Democrats continually support Big Government, which destroys jobs and undermines the ability of small businesses to grow.

House Republicans have a clear path forward to put the American people back to work. I urge the President and Senate Democrats to change course and support plans to create jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

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PROTECTING WORKING AMERICAN FAMILIES

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of tens of thousands of my fellow Texans, the working poor and the unemployed, whom our economic recovery is leaving behind.

Blessed with ample resources, many of our Nation's leading companies and universities, and a "can do" attitude, Texas has been America's leader in job creation and economic growth for the past decade.

Unfortunately, this economic success has not reached all Texans. Last year, the Labor Department announced that over 450,000 Texans earn at or below the Federal minimum wage, more than any other State in the country.

Nationwide, 3.6 million Americans earn at or below minimum wage at \$7.25 an hour. This is just over \$15,000 for someone working 40 hours a week for a full year, or more than \$4,400 below the poverty line for a family of three.

These aren't just kids in high school or college earning minimum wage. Less than a quarter of the minimum wage workers are teenagers and nearly 40 percent are over the age of 30. This is simply not right. Nobody, no matter the city or State, can survive, let alone raise a family, on \$15,000.

Madam Speaker, it is time for the economic recovery to benefit all Americans, not just the fortunate. Too many of our friends and neighbors are being left behind, and I call on this Chamber to bring up legislation that would increase the minimum wage and renew critical emergency unemployment benefits.

MARCH FOR LIFE

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

Mr. POMPEO. Madam Speaker, I serve on the House Intelligence Committee, where I spend time trying to figure out how to keep America safe, and on the Energy and Commerce Committee, where I think about how to keep America free.

But today, I want to talk about how American law and our Constitution treats the least amongst us—the unborn.

Ultimately, our Nation will be judged not by how we treat the most powerful, but by the most powerless. The 41st anniversary of *ROE v. WADE* will be marked next week. There will be a big march here in Washington, D.C. Since 1973, when *ROE v. WADE* came down, over 400,000 Kansans have been killed. That is more than the largest city in my district, my hometown—Wichita, Kansas.

This national tragedy is why next week thousands of people will come from Kansas, hundreds from south central Kansas alone, for the March for Life. They will come from all walks of life, and they will speak about this violence that is being done upon our Nation.

Hundreds of people will get on buses next Saturday. I hope to greet them there. After the walk, I hope they will come to Cannon House Office Building, where we can talk about the importance of this issue to our community and Kansas and to our Nation.

I look forward to seeing them. I encourage everyone to come to Washington, D.C., and act on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves.

EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

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

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, it has been more than 3 weeks since Congress left for a December recess, leaving far too many Americans, including thousands of Oregonians, without access to emergency unemployment benefits.

That is a long time for our constituents who are trying to pay their rent, purchase groceries, care for their families, and fill their cars with gas so they can get to job interviews. Now we are planning to leave town again tomorrow for 10 days without addressing this urgent need.

My constituents are contacting me, pleading with Congress to understand the challenges they face in this recovering economy. I heard from a college graduate. She previously owned her own business but lost her job in May. Since then, she has been retraining to get the skills she will need. She is ready and willing to work in a new industry. Unemployment benefits, which she is now without, were helping. She is one of too many.

Madam Speaker, we must extend emergency unemployment benefits, and we need to do it now. Our constituents can't wait any longer.

PAIN-CAPABLE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT

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

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, next week marks 41 years since the Supreme Court's *ROE v. WADE* decision. Nearly

57 million children have lost their lives since then. This genocide of unborn Americans must stop. Congress should respect and defend innocent human life.

An increasing majority of Americans do not believe abortion should be legal for any reason at any time during pregnancy. Yet, the U.S. stands with the governments of North Korea and China in refusing to restrict abortion, even up to the moment of birth.

This House, on a bipartisan vote last year, voted to acknowledge the overwhelming scientific evidence that an unborn child, being aborted after 20 weeks in the womb, experiences pain. It is past time for our colleagues in the Senate to join us in standing up for the innocent by passing the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act.

NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION ACT

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

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Madam Speaker, it has been over 40 years since the Supreme Court decided *ROE v. WADE*, affirming a woman's constitutional right to make her own health care decisions.

In 2012, campaigns across the country, including mine and that of the Presidency, were fought and won on this issue. Yet, here we are again.

H.R. 7, a bill being considered by the Republicans on the Judiciary Committee, is a shameful attempt to deny a woman a right given to her under our Constitution in pursuit of an ideology that has been repeatedly rejected by the American people.

Madam Speaker, that this House would even consider a bill that would require a woman to prove to the IRS that she was raped or the victim of incest in order to have access to affordable health care is beneath the dignity of this body, it is beyond my comprehension, it is reprehensible.

RECLAIM THE AMERICAN DREAM

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

Mr. STEWART. Madam Speaker, here we are, entering the sixth year of the Obama Administration, and we have reached a new milestone. It is a shameful and discouraging milestone that directly affects the lives of every working American family.

After 7 straight years of decline, this great Nation has fallen out of the top 10 most economically free nations.

The United States of America, the Nation that invented and created the world's greatest middle class, the Nation that taught the world the meaning of free enterprise, the Nation that figured out more than 200 years ago that greater economic freedom leads to greater individual growth, economic growth, social stability, personal op-

portunity, has now fallen behind such economic powerhouses as Denmark and Chile and Estonia in economic freedom.

We all pay the price. Every American family.

Why are we doing this to our children?

I hope and I pray that we can reclaim the American Dream before it is too late.

EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, extending Federal unemployment insurance will create between 200,000 and 250,000 jobs this year alone and boost GDP by 0.2 percentage points, according to a new report just issued by the Joint Economic Committee Democrats.

For every dollar we invest in unemployment insurance, we get back almost \$2 in economic activity. That is a great return everyone from Main Street to Wall Street should be able to agree on.

The JEC Democrats' report also found that unemployment insurance is one of the most effective tools that we have to keep families out of poverty. Last year alone, the program kept nearly 2.5 million people, including 600,000 children, out of poverty.

Allowing Federal unemployment insurance to expire is not only wrong on a moral level because it pulls the rug out from under some of our neediest people, it is also an absolutely terrible investment decision for our country's economy.

I urge my fellow Democrats and Republicans to extend unemployment insurance.

OBAMACARE DATA

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, the administration reported this week that they have fallen far short of their goal for signing young, healthy Americans up for new ObamaCare plans.

Ever since the failure of healthcare.gov to launch properly, the administration has downplayed the importance of enrolling their goal of 7 million Americans in exchange plans. All the recent talk has been about how much more important it is to have a mix of older, sicker Americans than younger, healthier Americans.

Now we come to find out that this younger cohort only makes up 24 percent of enrollees. That is 15 percentage points below their goal.

The definition of success keeps changing. That is exactly why we need Representative TERRY's bill to require HHS to give Congress and the American people solid data. We cannot trust