

Ms. HAHN. Madam Speaker, we know that when women succeed, America succeeds; but, unfortunately, our mothers, daughters, and sisters are not succeeding when women, on average, earn just 77 cents to every dollar that a man makes, and one in three women and their families are living on the brink of poverty.

Across the Nation, women are facing unprecedented economic insecurity. Pay inequity, combined with the lack of affordable child care or paid family leave, means women are burdened with an unfair disadvantage and struggle to support their families.

Pay discrimination means that African American women are expected to earn just 64 cents to every dollar earned by a White man, while Latinas earn just 54 cents.

Yesterday, I was proud to join President Obama and Lilly Ledbetter at the White House to mark Equal Pay Day. We witnessed the President sign two critical executive orders that will empower women to fight pay discrimination. It is a simple principle: equal pay for equal work.

I was disappointed that our Senate colleagues failed to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act and address this situation. I urge them to reconsider addressing the injustice of paycheck discrimination.

MILITARY MENTAL WELLNESS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the timely issue of behavioral health in our military.

Currently, our soldiers undergo comprehensive medical and physical examinations during recruitment to ensure that they are fully fit and capable of performing their military duties; however, currently, no similar examination for mental health competency exists. This is a serious information gap as our military continues to address issues such as posttraumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and suicide.

Madam Speaker, the issue of military mental wellness should be on the mind of every Member of Congress—and not just when this issue is back in the news.

Prior to the Fort Hood shootings, I introduced H.R. 4305, the Medical Evaluation Parity for Servicemembers Act, which will institute a preliminary mental health assessment at the time recruits are first joining the military.

The bill, which was reported on today by the Pittsburgh Tribune Review, is not an end-all solution when it comes to addressing this issue, but it is an important step in tackling a well-established information gap in the realm of servicemember behavioral health.

I encourage Members to join in co-sponsoring H.R. 4305.

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

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

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, this week is National Crime Victims' Rights Week; therefore, it is appropriate that we raise the awareness of survivors' challenges and the advocates who help rebuild their lives.

In the face of a victim's trauma, there are countless individuals across the Nation committed to making things right, such as the incredible staff at the Community Action Partnership of Madera County, which I represent.

As cochair of the Victims' Rights Caucus, I will have the honor tomorrow of presenting the Ed Stout Memorial Award for Outstanding Victim Advocacy.

Programs operated by the Community Action Partnership have met all types of crime victims' needs and reduced the barriers that sometimes prevent victims from accessing services that are so important.

In addition, individuals like Darius Assemi and his family have shared time and treasure to construct the Marjaree Mason Center in Clovis, which is a 24-hour safe haven for women and children.

Each of us has a voice that can speak out against violence and listen to those who have suffered as a result of violence. We can all do our part—and we all should. Until the day when there are no more victims, we will all be with those who have suffered.

25TH ANNUAL NATIONAL SERVICE-LEARNING CONFERENCE

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in grateful recognition of the youth leaders who are taking action in their communities to make our world a better place and those who help them get involved.

This week, right here in our Nation's capital, thousands of students have gathered for the 25th Annual National Service-Learning Conference. Their time on the Hill will be used to visit with their elected officials and share how important service is to their district and our country, as well as the personal impact of service learning on their lives.

A group from my district will be led by Joan Liptrot, a tireless leader for positive change and a woman whose commitment to service learning and societal advancement is without question. At this week's conference, she will be presented with the Service-Learning Practitioner Leadership Award, which recognizes those who have equipped young people to lead and

serve, both through their direct work with youth and by nurturing other practitioners.

I have been proud to speak at this conference in the past and to work closely with Joan's Youth Action Council on projects that advance awareness and involvement among teens.

The work of people like Joan and countless young people around the country who are ready to make the world a better place is nothing short of commendable. I wish them the best at this week's conference, and I look forward to working with them in Pennsylvania's Eighth District.

RYAN BUDGET

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

Mr. BARBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Ryan budget proposal, which would balance the budget on the backs of seniors, middle class families, and students. We must balance the budget, but this is the wrong way to do it.

The Ryan budget would destroy the Medicare guarantee for Arizona seniors I work for and for seniors across this great country. It would implement a voucher system and ask seniors and future retirees to pay more. Prescription drug costs would increase by nearly \$1,200 a year, and Medicare premiums would soar. This is just plain wrong, Madam Speaker.

I stand today against the reckless Ryan budget plan because it undermines the promises we have made to our seniors, it hurts middle class families, and it would slash funding for students who want to go to college. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to stand with me in opposition to this irresponsible budget.

WORKING TO GET AMERICANS BACK TO WORK

(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, Kansans and Americans across the country are exhausted by a job market that is failing them. The most recent report in March showed absolutely no improvement in employment. In fact, for women, we saw an increase in unemployment.

Madam Speaker, the President's latest attempt to redefine the workweek from 40 hours to 29 has already proved detrimental to millions of Americans. There are 7.2 million Americans working part-time for economic reasons. This will leave them with less money to take care of their families.

The President's policies have hit Kansans hard—things like identifying the lesser prairie-chicken as an endangered species or redefining navigable waterways such that puddles will come

under EPA's control. These policies have hit pocketbooks, paychecks, and families.

House Republicans have advanced hundreds of solutions that will help get America back to work.

Madam Speaker, we are 5 years into this administration, and it is no longer anything but a joke to blame President Bush for these challenges in our economic workplace. We need the Senate and the President to join us in providing solutions so we can create freedom so Americans can get back to work.

HOUSE REPUBLICAN BUDGET

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

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, every American family has to live within its means. It is time for Washington to do the same.

The House Republican budget deals with our debts and builds an economy that rewards Americans who work hard and want to get ahead.

I support the conservative budget for three simple reasons: the plan balances the budget within 10 years, cuts wasteful government spending over 10 years by \$5.1 trillion, and pays down the national debt.

In addition, the Republican budget proposal grows the economy, repeals ObamaCare, strengthens Medicare, secures Social Security for the long term, simplifies the broken Tax Code, promotes American energy production, and enhances national and diplomatic security.

In contrast, President Obama's budget never balances, hikes taxes by \$1.8 trillion, and adds \$8.3 trillion more to the national debt of \$17.5 trillion.

My constituents know that we can't afford more of the same Big Government spending that has buried our economy and our country in debt.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting the House Republican budget and getting our Nation's fiscal house in order.

BUDGETING FOR MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGHS

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, budgets don't heal the sick or solve centuries-long medical challenges, but the programs budgets prioritize can.

In my district in Louisville, Kentucky, medical researchers at the University of Louisville and the Frazier Rehab Institute have made an incredible breakthrough. Thanks to an electronic implant that stimulates the spinal cord, four paralyzed men are now moving their legs on command. With continued therapy, they are confident they will walk again.

The Human Locomotor Research Center in Louisville is funded in part

through investments made by the National Institutes of Health. More than 80 percent of NIH funding goes to the broader research community, fueling the innovation that makes breakthroughs like those in Louisville possible.

The Republican budget reduces the number of new NIH grants by 1,400, on top of hundreds of projects NIH has already had to turn down because of last year's reckless, across-the-board spending cuts.

Madam Speaker, when you see a man paralyzed for years lift his legs, you can't help but share in the enthusiasm for breaking boundaries we once thought impassible. But if we approve this Republican budget and these cuts, we extinguish that enthusiasm and the hopes of millions of families waiting for the next medical breakthrough.

□ 1230

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAMS FOR THEIR NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORIES

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, the State of Connecticut is bursting with Huskie pride this morning as the UConn men and the UConn women basketball teams did what was, I think, almost unimaginable: they both won a national championship.

It would be great to stand here today and talk about how the women accomplished a perfect season and beat a team that was undefeated until last night, or the men, who defied every pundit, every odds-maker, every NCAA know-it-all and again won the national championship against all odds.

But I want to really focus for a second on the fact that Geno Auriemma, his women's program over the years has almost a perfect graduation rate in terms of the women who have played in that program.

And Kevin Ollie has three dean's list players on the starting five. His all-star, Shabazz Napier, is going to graduate with a full degree. He is an amazing person, and I am glad the country got a chance to see him.

I want to conclude by reading his final comment that he said to the press the other night:

Basketball is second to me. I want them to be better people once they leave Storrs campus. If I did that, forget about the wins and losses, national championships, all that stuff, I think I've done my job.

Coach Ollie, Coach Auriemma, you have done your job. We are so proud of you.

Go, Huskies.

WOMEN DESERVE EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

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

Ms. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge as a simple fact that women deserve equal pay for equal work. Same job, same experience, same pay. But that is not happening.

On the aggregate, women earn just 77 cents on the dollar. For African American women, it is only 64 cents, and for Latinas, it is a staggering 54 cents on the dollar for every dollar earned by white men, white non-Hispanic men doing the same job.

As we know, the consequences are great. These pay gaps translate into a loss for African American women of more than \$18,000 a year, and for Latinas, more than \$24,000 a year that they lose to this pay gap.

Families increasingly rely on women's wages to make ends meet. The pay gap is about our Nation's overall economy, and it is about women's retirement security.

The fact is that when women succeed, America succeeds, and it is time to address the pay and work-family balance disparities that affect women.

Some have said that the argument for equal pay for equal work is politics.

Well, Madam Speaker, it is not. It is about pay.

It is time for 25 courageous Republicans to step up and join 197 Democrats to end wage discrimination and give women what women have earned: equal pay for equal work.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 9, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 9, 2014 at 9:48 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment. H. Con. Res. 90.

Appointments:
International conferences.
With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which