

That is why Mr. PITTS' bill, along with H.R. 781, the Medicare Identity Theft Prevention Act, which I introduced with my Democrat colleague, LLOYD DOGGETT, are two simple yet effective ways we can protect Americans and keep their private information just that—private.

I urge my colleagues to join our efforts. We must do what is right for Americans.

EXTEND EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

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

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, as Congress begins a new session, House Republican leadership must not ignore last year's urgent, unfinished business.

Right after Christmas, 1.3 million Americans had their unemployment benefits terminated. The Republican refusal to extend unemployment insurance has created a state of emergency for struggling families across this Nation, including thousands in Minnesota.

Earned unemployment benefits are a lifeline for Americans seeking work. Extending this critical safety net will help our neighbors meet basic needs: paying rent, buying food, and providing warmth in this very frigid winter.

Long-term unemployment is at a record high. There are three job seekers for every job available. It is wrong for this Republican majority to turn their back on unemployed Americans.

Fifty years ago, President Lyndon Johnson launched a war on poverty. Today, this fight means extending emergency unemployment insurance and preventing more Americans and their children from falling into poverty.

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2014

(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. Mr. Speaker, in 2013, we witnessed the disastrous impacts of Big Government. From the administration's failed roll-out of ObamaCare—destroying jobs—to the undermining of our national security by military sequestration, we know this harms our families, our economy, and our safety.

Last week, I had the opportunity to travel across South Carolina's Second Congressional District to unveil legislative priorities for 2014. My constituents shared my concerns that Congress must focus on legislation to create jobs through economic growth.

We must also reduce our spending so that our children and grandchildren will not be faced with the burden of out-of-control debt. Encouraging energy dependence through the completion of the Keystone XL pipeline will

also create jobs at Michelin and MTU in South Carolina.

Additionally, promoting our brave men and women in uniform, military families, and veterans must remain at the top of our priority list. We must protect our heroes who risk their lives to protect us.

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

WAR ON POVERTY

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, as cochair of the Congressional Black Caucus' Taskforce on Poverty and the Economy and chair of the Democratic whip's Task Force on Poverty, Income Inequality, and Opportunity, I join my colleagues today in marking President Lyndon Baines Johnson's 1964 State of the Union address.

Fifty years ago, President Johnson boldly declared an unconditional war on poverty. For the next 50 days, Members will be giving 50 speeches on the floor in continuing this war for economic justice.

I am so pleased and honored that President and Lady Bird Johnson's eldest daughter, Mrs. Lynda Johnson Robb, accepted our invitation to join us here today. She is here in the gallery. I just want to say to her that she exemplifies President and Mrs. Johnson's commitment and the leadership required to fight poverty and build a great society. She visited Appalachia with her daddy, as she told us earlier, and reminded us today that this was a bipartisan and bicameral effort requiring leadership from the White House.

President Johnson's war on poverty created critical antipoverty programs such as Head Start, Job Corps, food stamps, Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.

As President Johnson said 50 years ago:

It will not be a short or easy struggle, no single weapon or strategy will suffice, but we shall not rest until the war is won.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas). Members are reminded not to refer to attendees in the gallery.

CONGRATULATING WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY ON ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked the 125th anniversary of one of Utah's premier academic institutions, Weber State University.

Originally Weber State Academy, a religious school with 200 students, today it is a full university with over 25,000 students. It is a great addition to its home city of Ogden, as well as its satellite campus in Davis County.

I am very proud of my association with Weber State University. My father-in-law played football there. My wife and daughter are graduates. Even one of our colleagues, Representative JENKINS of Kansas, is a graduate of Weber State. My son worked for the administration, as well.

Its first president was a renaissance immigrant from Germany, Louis Moench, who composed my favorite hymn. Its second principal, David O. McKay, became a leader of my church. The most recent president, Dr. Millner, was the first female leader of the university in the State of Utah. Under its current leadership with President Wight, I expect another 125 years of great research, innovation, and education taking place at Weber State.

Everyone in Utah wore purple yesterday in honor of this event. As cold as it was here, I am also proud to say I was wearing a Weber State hoodie and sweats all night long—obviously, in honor of Weber State and to try to stay warm back here in Washington.

WAR ON POVERTY

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the leadership of President Lyndon Baines Johnson, represented by his wonderful family: his late wife; Luci Baines Johnson; and our dear friend here in Washington, the former first lady of Virginia, Lynda Johnson Robb.

They understand the words that our President gave us. Unfortunately, many Americans live on the outskirts of hope, and some on the outskirts of health.

I join my colleague, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, to say to you that the war on poverty is not over. As we look at the red on this paper, every single State has someone living in poverty. Those individuals are represented in 16 million children, and 20,000 military veterans are also included in those 1.3 million Americans who are not getting unemployment benefits.

So as we look at those who need Head Start, a program that was a generational result of President Johnson's effort, we must fight to extend unemployment insurance, and we must ensure the war on poverty remains our cause, our hope. It is important to give hope to Americans.

OVERSIGHT ON OBAMACARE SECURITY RISKS

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

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, during a recent Homeland Security Oversight Committee hearing, we learned just how deeply flawed the ObamaCare Web site was upon its launch. The problems with this Web site went well beyond

error messages and Americans being unable to successfully purchase insurance. We have learned that security risks to the ObamaCare Web site were "limitless" long before the Web site's official launch.

Worse, the Obama administration knew of these risks before the October 1 planned launch. Rather than fixing the problem, they consciously allowed Americans to put their personal information at risk by using this deeply flawed Web site.

As someone who has worked in the technology sector, I know that if a private company launched a Web site with these kinds of issues, the company might have gone under, or at least people would have been fired.

The administration's failure to secure this Web site in advance of its launch is wholly unacceptable. That is why I am proud to support the Health Exchange Security and Transparency Act, which requires HHS to notify Americans if their personal information has been stolen or unlawfully accessed through an ObamaCare exchange.

The American people deserve to know if the ObamaCare Web site jeopardized their privacy. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in support of this bill.

□ 1230

THE CONTINUING WAR ON POVERTY

(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 to join my colleagues in marking the 50th anniversary of President Johnson's declaration of a war on poverty. This war was being won for 16 years, but since President Reagan's election 34 years ago, the free-marketeers and their Republican Party proponents have pressed the war on the war on poverty. The results are heart-wrenching. The rich are getting richer, while millions of middle-income families have been thrown into poverty.

In my State of Georgia alone, almost 17 percent of households are food insecure, according to the Half in Ten Education Fund. Eighteen percent of people in Georgia earn less than \$23,492 for a family of four.

Republicans blame the poor for being poor, and even worse, Mr. Speaker, they blame the 27.2 percent of children, Mr. Speaker, who are living below the poverty line in Georgia.

Republicans who ignore the desperate pleas to extend SNAP and unemployment insurance programs are hurting the people I represent in Georgia and millions more throughout this great Nation. It is a shame.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SERGEANT GALE STAUFFER

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

Mr. NUNNELEE. Mr. Speaker, on December 23, in my hometown of Tupelo, Mississippi, two of our police officers, Sergeant Gale Stauffer and Patrol Officer Joseph Maher, were shot while attempting to apprehend a bank robber.

Thankfully, Officer Maher survived very serious wounds, and he is currently recovering.

Tragically, Sergeant Stauffer died of those wounds. Gale, as he was known to his friends and family, spent his entire adult life in service to his country. He joined the U.S. military and bravely served his tour of duty in Iraq as a Sergeant in the Louisiana Army National Guard.

After returning home, he settled with his family in Tupelo, where he is known for his Cajun cooking, his love of the outdoors, and his passionate support for LSU Tiger football.

Above all, those who knew Sergeant Stauffer knew him as a man completely devoted to his wife and two children.

I will be submitting letters of support for both of these brave men's nomination for the Congressional Badge of Bravery.

Ronald Reagan once said: "Those who say that we are in a time where there are no heroes, they just don't know where to look."

By their actions, Sergeant Stauffer and Officer Maher have showed there are still heroes among us.

EXTEND EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

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

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on Speaker BOEHNER to allow the House to vote to extend emergency unemployment compensation, a program that is critical to thousands of my constituents in Ventura County struggling to find work.

We also need to extend unemployment insurance for the more than 20,000 veterans who were cut off while they make their transition to the civilian work force. We need to extend unemployment insurance for the nearly 2 million children whose families need it for food, clothing, and shelter.

Mr. Speaker, it is also an economic imperative. Extending unemployment insurance to nearly 214,000 unemployed Californians who will use it to buy groceries, put gas in their cars, or keep the lights on, would save over 46,000 jobs in my State.

Mr. Speaker, it is both a moral and economic imperative that we extend unemployment insurance, and that we do so without delay.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR CONGRESS

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

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, as Americans are making their New Year's resolutions, I think it is time that Congress makes a few New Year's resolutions of its own.

Congress will resolve itself to stop asking for money and higher taxes from the American people to pay for more bureaucracy and more bloated Federal programs.

Congress will actually try to balance its budget, something the rest of the American people have to do.

Congress will resolve itself to stop the onslaught of rules, regulations, and mandates on our constituents that slow down the economy and kill jobs.

Congress will focus more on programs that create jobs and less on programs that create government dependency.

Congress will stop allowing the Federal Government to spy and read the emails of innocent Americans.

Congress will resolve itself to live under the same laws it passes for everyone else with no special health care or retirement benefits.

Lastly, Congress will resolve itself to spend more time listening to the American people and working together, Republicans and Democrats, to solve the problems our Nation faces.

Mr. Speaker, these are a few New Year's resolutions for Congress that we would be well-served to follow.

HIPPOCRATIC OATH FOR CONGRESS

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

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, if there were a Hippocratic oath of legislating, it would prescribe that we, above all else, should do no harm, but we have a habit of violating that foundational precept.

We have allowed unemployment insurance to 1.3 million Americans to expire, and that will not help our economy and will cost 200,000 jobs.

In 1 month we face the recurring hostage-taking ritual that has become raising the debt limit. These debt limit showdowns have a real cost to our economy.

The Government Accountability Office found that delayed action in 2011 resulted in \$1.3 billion in higher borrowing costs. We can avoid that cost by enacting permanent reforms to the process like the ones employed in the recent debt limit adjustments.

I introduced last year H.R. 233, which would permanently shift the role of Congress to disapproving debt ceiling increases instead of approving them and allows the debt limit to be raised