

States to help meet Americans' energy needs, to help us truly become energy independent, to do all of the things that we have talked about here this evening.

You know, people back home may say: What have y'all done in Congress? What have you done in the House to address these issues?

We have sent numerous bills over to the Senate, where they languish in HARRY REID's office. The majority leader fails to bring the bills that the House has passed—even if you differ with the elements in those bills, bring them up. Bring them into a committee hearing, and let's have a markup.

Let's change those bills and pass whatever meets your desires for American energy independence or a lack thereof in the Senate. How about change the bills and send them back? We will go to conference, and we will work something out.

Instead, we have got a logjam. All these bills are right behind the dam, and then we could unleash all that power behind the dam by unleashing the American energy independence potential that you have heard talked about here tonight.

We just recently passed an offshore energy jobs bill, Lowering Gasoline Prices to Fuel an America That Works Act, to open up these areas.

I want to commend Chairman Doc HASTINGS for his work on the Natural Resources Committee to really open up those Federal areas where we talk about those resources. I would like to give a moment of praise to my Senator TIM SCOTT who has got the SEA Jobs Act that would address a lot of the all-of-the-above energy issues that I have got in the EXPAND Act, to expand Americans' opportunities to pursue their resources and become energy independent, and it provides resources back to the State and revenue sharing and jobs. It works, America.

Energy is a segue to job creation, and that is what we are here to talk about tonight, putting Americans to work, meeting our energy needs, using those geopolitical levers that we may have to influence politics around the world, to help our friends and allies in Ukraine and in Europe that need America's energy resources, that want America's energy resources.

□ 2130

So as we wind down our time here tonight, energy production in the United States means lower energy costs for Americans.

I started out with a very simple question: Americans, how much more is your regular travel costing you? How much more does it cost you to drive from your home to work and back, from your home to school and back, from your home to church and back, and how much less do you have in your wallet at the end of the day because of the amount of money it has taken you to meet the energy needs of just transportation and electricity costs because of EP regulations?

You heard the gentlewoman from Wyoming talk about it and others. We could do something about it. We could solve it here today by meeting our energy needs with energy production. That is why the House energy action team is leading on this issue.

I appreciate the other colleagues being here tonight, and with that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

THE CRISIS AT OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BYRNE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized until 10 p.m.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my friend from South Carolina. He understands what is at stake here. I would like to ask him a question if he has got time to answer one question, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to ask my friend from South Carolina what it would mean to the people of South Carolina if we could get back to \$2 a gallon gasoline or less.

Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina. I thought the gentleman from Texas wanted to talk about energy because I have had the conversation with the gentleman from Texas. I understand it is a passion of his.

Mr. GOHMERT. It is.

Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina. But I know the issue you are going to talk about tonight, and that is on that southern border. I know that is on that gentleman's mind because that southern border is porous, and we have no idea, America, who is coming in our country. You are only seeing the 1 to 2 percent of the folks that have actually violated our national sovereignty by crossing our border illegally, and that is the children. But the other 98 percent of the people are not children, and they are not all Hispanics. Some are African and some are Middle Eastern.

I just got a notice a little while ago from RANDY WEBER from Texas. He showed me on his phone. He was with the Border Patrol this weekend, and they caught someone from Asia who couldn't speak Spanish and couldn't speak American. What is he coming for? Is he coming because there is violence in Guatemala or Honduras? I don't think so. What is he coming to this country for?

I want to thank the gentleman from Texas for his leadership on focusing on this border. Let's keep America secure. Let's secure our border. God bless Texas and Governor Rick Perry for putting the National Guard down there and taking matters into his own hands, because the guy at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue has failed America and failed us in securing our border.

So I want to thank the gentleman for his time, and I want to encourage him to keep pounding that rock because you crack a rock—a big rock—by hit-

ting it in the same spot over and over and over. Eventually, it will crack. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. GOHMERT. I thank my friend from South Carolina (Mr. DUNCAN), and I do appreciate the hour spent on talking about energy, because if you hit a big rock in the right way, you just might get oil or gas out of it, and it would bring the price down in no time.

I do wish to talk about our southern border, but I was inspired by my friend, Mr. DUNCAN, and it brought back a history lesson from east Texas where I live.

In 1930, a man named Dad Joiner—"Dad" was not his given name. His parents didn't give it to him. But, anyway, that is what he went by, Dad Joiner. He just knew there had to be oil in east Texas. He tried and he tried and he tried. He ran out of money. He had no more money, and he had the men. He could drill one more well. He thought he knew geology. He thought he had figured out there had to be an east Texas oilfield, and since he knew he could only drill one more time, Dad Joiner set his sights on the one place there had to be oil because he knew if he didn't strike it there—he was broke—he probably would never have another chance to do anything and be broke rest of his life.

This big old rig was on wooden skids, and they were dragging it toward the spot where he knew there had to be oil. The people in my district there in east Texas, they are praying people. They were praying people back in the 1920s and the 1930s. The Depression had just begun, and here you had Dad Joiner just sure there had to be oil.

Well, one of the skids broke. He didn't have money to fix it. He knew he couldn't get to the perfect spot there had to be oil for his last attempt, so he didn't have any choice. He had to drill where the rig broke, where the skid broke, broke down, so he drilled there and he struck oil. He found the East Texas Oil Field that, until North Dakota and west Texas got so productive, for a while during World War I, it was the largest known oilfield in the world, and then the second largest for a long time after that. But it turned out if he had gotten to that spot he thought there was sure oil, he would have missed it, would have missed the big East Texas Oil Field. It would have been American tanks and vehicles running out of gasoline in Europe during the Battle of the Bulge instead of German. But we had gasoline, and we had the oil we needed because east Texas was producing.

But if that skid hadn't broken where it did, none of that would have happened. And so as it turned out, all through the 1930s, when people were looking for jobs, many people were told, well, they found oil down in east Texas. There have got to be jobs there.

People flooded down to east Texas, and they got jobs. They didn't go to the government. They didn't look for government to dictate what to do in their

lives. Many people went to east Texas, and they found jobs.

The sad thing is there are areas all over the country that could be doing the same thing, including New York upstate where they have got some of the same gas formations in Pennsylvania where things are going much better than their areas of New York, because New York doesn't allow that drilling and, therefore, they have condemned people to suffer a desperate economy instead of allowing it to thrive and flourish.

In the meantime, you look across our border at our neighbor Mexico. Mexico has tremendous natural resources. We import a good bit of their oil. Canada has oil. We import oil from there—not as much as we would if the XL pipeline had been constructed giving more people jobs, giving more in the world a chance to have North American oil, but the President stands in the way for political gain, it would appear, because what else is there? What else is he gaining from keeping people from having jobs and cheaper oil and gas?

But in Mexico, we also know they have got hardworking people. We know because I am told constantly, if you want somebody that is really willing to work hard, long hours, do whatever it takes to finish the job, then you do well to hire a Hispanic. Generally speaking, some people say, oh, you are a Hispanophobe or whatever they say. I look at the Hispanic culture, generally one that loves God, is devoted to family, and has a hard work ethic. That is what America used to be. That is what America used to be. It is what I would love to see America doing again, back loving family and not saying that fathers are unneeded, unnecessary, and unwanted, not saying that the village is a better family than the foundational family of father, mother, and children that nature designed—and some of us believe nature is God.

But there are, in Mexico, incredible natural resources. So why is Mexico not one of the top economies in the world? Or at least it could be top 10, if not top 5, because they have got hardworking people and they have natural resources. Well, the answer is pretty clear. It is because the law is not enforced fairly across the board. There is graft and corruption. Capital, as it is said—that is money that is being invested—capital is a coward. It goes to where it feels safest.

There is money being invested in Mexico, but because of the drug cartels, because of graft and corruption, and because of the way people are seeing mistreatment even of police, capital is not flowing like it should to Mexico. The jobs are not in Mexico as they should be.

Mexico ought to be one of those shining lights on a hill where people are struggling all over the world wanting to get in. Of course, if you try to get into Mexico illegally, unless, of course, you are coming to the United States, you certainly don't get treated very

well. If you try to buy land in your own name as a foreigner in Mexico, you are not going to be treated very well. You have got to have someone from Mexico buying with you. There are a lot of things in Mexican law that, if we placed it in American law, many Mexicans would be just insanely furious because we dared to put in our laws what Mexico has in its laws.

So, Mr. Speaker, I pose the question: Who is the better governmental neighbor? A government that forces lawful gun dealers to sell 2,000 or so guns—weapons—to people that they know will have them in criminal hands in no time in Mexico? Who is the better neighbor? One that is a government neighbor who throws a little money here and there but never really comes in and helps deal with the drug cartels that are a threat to its own existence as well as Mexico's?

Mr. Speaker, I heard Bill O'Reilly just before I came over here tonight debating with an individual who was saying that we should let everyone in that wants to come, basically. As Bill O'Reilly properly pointed out, there are children all over the world—South America, Africa, Asia, islands all over the world—who are in poor conditions, even squalor, and would love to come to this country.

We had a rally just out here on the west side last week by hundreds of North Koreans. They didn't come over here and say: We demand that you allow us to come into your country illegally because we have it so bad in North Korea. No. What they were saying is that America can bring great pressure to bear on an evil government in a place like North Korea. They are begging that, since there is not room in the United States for every child living in difficult circumstances to flood into America, they are asking an appropriate thing: put pressure on North Korea's Government so that we can help them make a more free North Korea. Help them by putting pressure.

But if you look at the record of this administration around the world, what has happened? It broke my heart to see, in the last few days, Mosul there in Iraq, where so many Americans gave their lives fighting for the freedom of the Iraqi people, fighting for freedom in that area, now the last known Christian in Mosul after nearly 2,000 years, going back nearly to the time of Jesus Himself, has had to leave.

The country that we, Americans, freed at the price of great treasure and American lives and limbs because of the poor foreign policy handling, the bungling of this administration, the failure to reach a status of forces agreement which was basically teed up and handed to it by the last administration, was fumbled, and now, as a result of this administration's ineptness, Christians around the world are being persecuted in greater numbers than ever before.

□ 2145

It was once thought that it may be the U.S. legacy. Mr. Speaker, just down the hall, you have seen it many times, the massive mural, the painting of the famous prayer meeting that the Pilgrims had in Holland before they went to England, and then from England came to America. You see the word "Speedwell" on the ship where the prayer meeting is being held, an open Bible where you can see the page is open to the New Testament of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. You can read that on the page. It is exactly as that particular type of Bible read, the same print, and they were having this prayer meeting, asking for God's guidance and God's deliverance. They went to England. The Speedwell began taking on water, and so it didn't get to make the trip to America. It was a much smaller ship, the Mayflower, that ended up bringing Pilgrims to America.

But even back then they were praying that this country to which the Pilgrims were coming would be a country where Christians would have the freedom to worship without persecution, and that Christians in this new country to which the Pilgrims were coming would be able to spread freedom, the freedom that our Creator, as the Declaration of Independence says, the Divine Providence, as it says, that blessing that was given to us by God as an opportunity to spread freedom and with freedom the chance to freely acknowledge God or reject him, not at the point of a sword, not at the end of a gun, but either freely accept or reject the promises of Jesus, because in true Christianity, it reflects the freedom that God has given each one of us. It can't be forced on anyone. It is a free choice. But with free choice comes great responsibility, and that is why in George Washington's resignation that he sent to the 13 governors, the last part has a prayer, and the prayer ends with the words from Washington that he hopes that we will follow the example of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, without a humble imitation of in these things, we can never hope to be a happy Nation. He signs it "the humble servant." What an extraordinary man.

This country has been so richly blessed that a good neighbor would make sure that in Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, all through Central America, South America, we would help any nation to help themselves, that we would help them to have that freedom. That is what America used to be about, although there are some who would say America has always been about being divisive, derisive, dismissive. Look, America has been an exceptional country because of the freedom that people recognize came from the Divine Author of our blessed religion, that came from our Creator, that came from Divine Providence, which is why our Constitution itself was dated in the year of our Lord 1787.

This country is at a crossroads, and it is not a pretty one. Yes, I have spent

a lot of time on our southern border in the last couple of months. I have seen these beautiful children that break your heart, and I wonder why this administration will not help us by helping our neighbor rather than just throwing our borders open. And then this administration has the nerve to say, well, you know, the numbers are down in recent weeks.

Well, gee, do you think, Mr. Speaker, it might be because Texans have realized they are going to have to pick up the slack that this administration refuses to do? Our Border Patrol is overwhelmed in some ways. And yet we read an article here from Ryan Lovelace that says—and it is dated July 21, National Review Online—that:

President Obama is encouraging Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers to slack off on the job, former border cops tell National Review Online. Some ICE officials think the Obama administration has intentionally neglected to give them orders to support efforts to resolve the crisis on America's southwestern border, says Ronald Colburn, former national deputy chief of the U.S. Border Patrol. As a result, the wave of unaccompanied children from Central America is unfolding while ICE officials cool their heels.

"They are sitting still at their desks—reading newspapers, playing video games on their government computers—because they are not being tasked with work, and they feel like it is coming all of the way down from the top," Colburn tells NRO. "These are guys that do want to go out more, but basically they are not."

Well, I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, down on the border, they needed help. They still need help. The Border Patrol a few weeks ago, driving on those dirt roads, as I was honored to take Glenn Beck down in the dark with some of his staff, people from Mercury One, as I told his staff: Unless you let me take him in the dark down these roads, you never really understand what is going on.

One night some of us for an hour and a half we didn't run into Border Patrol, and we finally found out why. The drug cartels were told, the drug lords control different parts of the borders, and you don't cross without making sure that they get paid, or they will seek you out in America. So you make sure that you do things in accordance with what you are told, and that means making sure that the drug cartels get their money. And it means, as a border patrolman told me this past weekend—as a Hispanic, he speaks good Spanish—he is constantly being told: Well, we left Central America to get away from gangs.

And as he said: I tell them, You may tell that to some people and have them buy it, but you and I know that is not true. You and I know that it was the gangs that brought you up here. The gangs got paid to bring you to the United States, so don't tell me that you fled Central America to get away from gangs when the gangs brought you here. He said 90 percent of the time the people acknowledge that is true, but say we were told to say when we

got here that we were fleeing gang violence.

Well, not everybody in this government is ignorant of what is happening. The fact is there was not a spike in violence before the huge spike of people coming to America, to the United States. There was not a huge spike in violence in Central America, but they came because the President began promising, you get to stay if you come. The government should leave charity to the people. And in this country, the people are the most charitable of any nation in the history of the world. The government doesn't do charity very well. Look at what is happening in our Veterans Administration hospitals. That is not charity. That is medical assistance that was earned. It is not even charity. This is what was promised to our military. We will provide you good medical help if you need it, if you serve in this manner. And this government can't even keep our promises to those who have earned good medical care.

So how much worse do you think it gets if we are trying to keep promises that were not even actually made, just one administration thinking they can turn Texas blue and the country blue if they bring enough people in here, promise them that they are the party that likes to give away things, and as a result get them voting their direction until they realize that is the kind of philosophy that wrecks a country.

It is time Americans woke up. There is so much suffering in this world in Central America and South America, and a good neighbor would help them stop the violence where it is, help stop the violence in Nigeria, radical Islam, help stop the violence of radical Islam around the world. This President was perfectly willing to blow up al-Awlaki, an American citizen, in Yemen. How was he an American citizen? Well, his parents came over on a visa and had him while he was here. That made him an American citizen. They took him back home, taught him to hate America, and even though both the Bush and Obama administration tried to work with him, he was still radicalizing people, so they blew him up. Wouldn't it be just as well to blow up people who have sworn they are going to destroy America? Wouldn't it be just as well to blow up the nuclear technology being developed in Iran by people who have promised in effect it will be the new gas chambers; instead of at Auschwitz they will be in Iran, and they will be delivered to a theater near you.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for Americans to wake up. We must secure our borders. I never said I want them closed. They should be secure so people come legally.

And all this stuff that we have to fix the Wilberforce bill or we can't secure our borders is baloney. This administration can secure our border without any change in the Wilberforce bill. They have to provide additional hearings, but they can do that. But, Mr. Speaker, I want to finish tonight by di-

recting your attention to an estimate from a group I am not always pleased with, but this administration generally is very pleased with them, and that is the Congressional Budget Office. I don't put a lot of stock in their estimates. And especially their estimates of what things are going to cost over time, but when they tell you how much a bill allocates to be spent this year, that is something you can trust. And so with all the talk about how important it is, we have got to have the House and the Senate pass our bill, it is an emergency, we have got to get this bill passed, oh, Mr. Speaker, you have to do this to help fix our problem at our border.

Well, you know why that is all lies? It is right here in the CBO study, the estimate. It tells you exactly what this administration is saying it needs to spend between now and September 30, the end of the fiscal year. It says the budget allocation that is already done, it has already been appropriated, was \$1.83 billion, but what it wants additionally to be spent this year by the end of this fiscal year is not the 3.7, is not the \$4.3 billion that it is asking for, this incredible emergency this administration is saying it has to have to get this big bill that will save our border, it is asking for \$25 million, with an m, for this year. That is it. And it doesn't go to the border—it goes to Health and Human Services.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that all of this is a ruse. They don't need this bill and the \$25 million for Health and Human Services. They don't need all of the money that they are asking for in 2015, 2016, 2017 to go to groups that no doubt will be the new ACORNs of the future. They say we don't need anything other than \$25 million, and we are not giving a dime of it to Homeland Security. They have all they need.

Mr. Speaker, this is a ruse. This administration can secure the border without this ridiculous claim for money. And if the administration needs help, we will get it. But in the meantime, they need to secure the border.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of a death in the family.

Mr. HONDA (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and the balance of the week on account of family medical issues.

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:

H.R. 1528. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to allow a veterinarian to