

Well, what happens if a President is unhappy with the House or with the Senate? Could she just allege a constitutional violation and have the courts settle the dispute? If this precedent is established, will the House be able to sue the Senate or the Senate sue the House? Where does this end?

I call on my Republican friends to talk to objective legal scholars and read the literature and prior court decisions, protect the integrity of our Federal system, and reject this resolution.

Finally, I ask the proponents of this legislation to tell me two things:

Tell me, what relief are you asking the court to impose? I suppose your answer would be, well, we want the court to tell President Obama that he lacked authority to extend the employer mandate.

Why are you upset about that? I thought you didn't like the employer mandate.

Well, tell me, how do you plan to pay for this frivolous litigation? Under this resolution, Mr. Speaker, the Speaker of the House will have unbridled discretion to pay legal costs and expert costs. I did not know that the House of Representatives has the authority to pass a bill that will require unbudgeted spending that will add to the deficit that you constantly bemoan. How much will this litigation cost the taxpayers?

Mr. Speaker, this is a very sad day in this House. I know what you are doing, and the American people know what you are doing. You are using this legislation in your constant effort to discredit President Obama and set the stage for a despicable impeachment proceeding should you hold the majority in the House and gain the majority in the Senate.

Shame on House Republicans. Shame on you for this type of politics.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind the Members that remarks in debate must be addressed to the Chair and not to others in the second person.

#### HOUSE PASSAGE OF ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT BILLS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week, the House will be advancing solutions to some significant issues that are facing this Nation.

Among those, I rise today to discuss one of those, a piece of legislation set for consideration by the House later this week, H.R. 4315, the Endangered Species Transparency and Reasonableness Act. It is a package of reform bills that will modernize and improve the Endangered Species Act.

In 1973, the Endangered Species Act was first enacted to protect and recover key domestic species that are under threat of distinction. Although

the ESA was written with the best of intentions, areas of the law hinder, rather than enhance, our ability to effectively manage ecosystems and conserve species as initially intended. Today, the law is failing, failing to achieve its primary purpose of species recovery and has only a 2 percent recovery rate.

In April, the House Natural Resources Committee advanced this package of bills through committee with support from both sides of the aisle.

As a member of the House Endangered Species Act Working Group, which developed the findings and recommendations for these proposals, I encourage my colleagues to support these reforms that promote greater transparency and accountability under the Endangered Species Act, while ensuring the ecological and economic needs of our local communities are being met.

#### HOUSE REPUBLICANS' SHAMEFUL DIVERSION TECHNIQUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, 6 years ago, President Obama and the Democratic Congress took office. When they took office in January of 2009, the economy was in free fall, and we were losing 800,000 jobs a month—losing 800,000 jobs a month, but the Congress went to work, and under the guidance of President Obama, we passed the American Recovery Act, we saved the American automobile industry, and within 14 months, we were gaining 250,000 jobs a month. We turned around over 1 million jobs a month, from losing 800,000 to gaining 250,000 in 14 months.

The President knew that that wasn't sufficient to continue the progress, so he proposed the American Jobs Act, and he proposed a major investment in American infrastructure. But the newly-elected Republican Congress—the obstructionist Republican Congress—stopped the American Jobs Act, wouldn't pass the infrastructure bill, and stopped every job initiative the President and Democrats proposed, and we have had a slow recovery from that recession.

We are gaining about 200,000 to 250,000 jobs a month. It is up a little, and that is good, but our economy is about \$2 trillion below its productive capacity, below what it should be because every proposal from the President has been stopped by the Republican Congress, which shouldn't have time for it, but they had time for other things.

We had plenty of time to take 50 votes on repealing the Affordable Care Act at a cost to the taxpayers of about \$79 million to repeat that vote 50 times. We had time for the Republicans to shut down the government. That cost the economy about \$24 billion.

We had time when the administration knew that the Defense of Marriage

Act could not be defended in court, the House of Representatives wasted \$3.5 million trying to defend the indefensible in court and lost in front of the Supreme Court. We have had, in that time, no minimum wage increase, no extended unemployment insurance, and no pay equity for women because it costs too much money. This House has passed \$850 billion in unpaid-for tax loopholes for large corporations—unpaid for.

Now, they want to waste more money. The Speaker wants to waste more money on a meritless lawsuit against the President for not taking care that the law be faithfully executed.

What did he do? In implementing the Affordable Care Act—which the Republicans have tried to repeal 50 times—he postponed implementation of one provision by a year—a provision the Republicans opposed, so they now want to waste money to go into court and sue the President to say he had no power to postpone this for a year, even though no one opposed President Bush when he postponed for a year a provision of the Medicare drug act when he was President.

It is well within the discretion of Presidents, in implementing a law, to postpone parts of it in order to get it done right. That has been very clear, and it becomes another question. Let's assume the Republicans went into court and overturned the standing question that Mr. BUTTERFIELD talked about—which they will not—what is the remedy they seek?

By the time it got to court, that provision will have been implemented, so the Republicans want to waste \$5 million or \$6 million of taxpayers' money to go into court and say, Judge, order the President to implement what has been already implemented—totally ridiculous.

So what have we got? We have got a Congress with no highway bill, no minimum wage bill, no unemployment extension bill, no pay equity for women bill, no action on campaign finance reform, no action to reduce the burdens of student loans, no action to make sure that women continue to have access to contraceptive services—despite the Supreme Court's Hobby Lobby decisions—no action on all the emergencies that face the American people, but we are going to waste money on a meritless lawsuit that will go nowhere, but simply will serve the single function of diverting attention from all the real problems the House Republicans want to continue to ignore.

That is not a proper use of the taxpayers' money, more wasted money for political purposes—for shame.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF WALDWICK, NEW JERSEY, POLICE OFFICER CHRISTOPHER GOODELL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from

New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Waldwick, New Jersey, Police Officer Christopher Goodell. Officer Goodell was killed in the line of duty on July 17, 2014, when a truck hit his police cruiser. He was just 32 years old.

Although Officer Goodell's life was tragically cut short, he lived a life of purpose, serving both his community and his country as well.

Officer Goodell was raised up in Waldwick and graduated from Waldwick High School, just back in the year 2000. Shortly after September 11, Officer Goodell enlisted in the U.S. Marines. Officer Goodell served in the military for 5 years, even including a tour of duty over in Iraq.

After his military service, Officer Goodell returned back to his hometown of Waldwick, New Jersey, and joined the Waldwick Police Department. He took a special interest, if you will, in discouraging teens from drinking and driving.

He spoke about the dangers of drunk driving back at Waldwick High School, and he also ran an annual DWI prevention course.

It was on June 11 of this year that Officer Goodell was recognized in the State by the State chapters of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, doing this for all of his good service.

Thinking about it, Officer Goodell truly had a bright future ahead of him. Just last month, he had proposed to his girlfriend, and they had plans to get married in 2016, but now, he is survived by his fiancée, a loving family, and an endless number of friends.

Officer Goodell was truly a hometown hero. He lived a life of purpose, and he died serving and protecting the community where he grew up. So I come here today and I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me today in paying tribute to Officer Goodell.

We recognize, as we do this, that words alone may be of little comfort to the family and the friends of Christopher Goodell. It is my hope that they may find some solace, knowing that our thoughts and our prayers will be with them.

#### JOURNEYING THROUGH THE 23RD DISTRICT OF TEXAS, THE TOWN OF COTULLA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GALLEG0) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GALLEG0. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to continue the journey through the vastness of the 23rd District of Texas and pass through a Texas town with an early reputation for infamy. "Cotulla! Everybody get your guns ready," that is what train conductors would yell as they approached the town of Cotulla, which was established in 1881.

In spite of its infamous start, Cotulla emerged from the roughness that is

common to early Texas towns and became an early indicator of the social change that was to come to America, taking on issues such as civil rights and women's education.

Life in Cotulla inspired a very young teacher, a man by the name of Lyndon B. Johnson, who went on to serve as our country's 36th President, and inspired him to lead the fight for change. President Johnson taught Mexican Americans in Cotulla's segregated public schools.

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Early on, he understood how education could pull a family out of generations of poverty and push them into the middle class. LBJ, after his experience in Cotulla, once said:

This Nation could never rest while the door to knowledge remained closed to any American.

Education, the key that opens the locks of success, found an early ally in Cotulla. The town itself was founded by a young entrepreneur by the name of Joseph Cotulla, who was a Polish immigrant and a veteran of the Union Army. He was willing to take the risk of establishing a town after learning that the International-Great Northern Railroad intended to expand into La Salle County. This willingness to risk is still what makes our country great today.

The town grew from an early farming and ranching community into an energy boomtown in the 1950s. That still continues today in the Eagle Ford Shale area. Today, as in the past, the folks in Cotulla work to secure America's energy future, and by 2035, our energy deficit will be reduced to 4 percent.

Today, many of the descendants of Joseph Cotulla still live in the town. The town has seen tremendous change since its founding and its infamous early reputation. In truth, we find a small reflection of America in Cotulla: a willingness to overcome adversity and take risks to find success and to achieve. Cotulla's history also points out that the fabric of American society doesn't always match our founding values, but in Cotulla, it set in place a desire to change that.

I invite anyone who is visiting south Texas to stop by Cotulla, to learn its history, and to enjoy its hospitality.

#### PREVENTING EXPANSION OF DACA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of a bill I introduced to prevent the expansion of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program that was unlawfully created by executive memo on August 15, 2012. H.R. 5160 is the House companion to legislation introduced by Senator TED CRUZ of Texas and would freeze DACA by defunding it.

DACA promotes amnesty by using prosecutorial discretion to allow illegal immigrant children and those who came here illegally as children a deportation deferral to remain in the country for up to 2 years. The deferral period is subject to renewal.

DACA also permits illegal aliens to obtain work authorization, despite the fact that they are not in the country legally. This takes jobs away from hardworking American taxpayers and hurts our economy. According to ICE, remittances from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras are estimated to cost the U.S. taxpayer \$10 billion a year.

Last month, DHS Secretary Johnson announced that DACA would be extended and that those who have been protected from deportation would have a chance to renew their applications.

Democrats say that DACA is irrelevant because it only applies to illegal immigrants who have been here since 2007, but let me tell you why DACA reform does matter.

First, the administration will expand DACA. President Obama has instructed DHS Secretary Johnson and Attorney General Holder to come up with a list of executive actions to address immigration reform. DACA is going to be on that list.

Second, DACA has given Central American children false hope that they will be able to obtain amnesty as those before them have done.

DACA began in 2012, and the numbers tell the story. In fiscal year 2013, there was a 305 percent increase in the number of unaccompanied alien children that came to the U.S. That figure is expected to increase by 1,381 percent in fiscal year 2014. Yes, you heard me right: 305 percent in 2013; 1,381 percent in 2014. Those numbers are evidence of the correlation between DACA and the influx of unaccompanied alien children coming to the U.S.

Just recently, I learned that the administration secretly placed 760 unaccompanied alien children into Tennessee. This was done despite assurances I had received from the administration that alien children were not in Tennessee. Indeed, the administration appears extremely organized and eager when it comes to resettling the illegal immigrants in this country. I wish they were as eager and organized about addressing the concerns of our veterans, some who have died while on the VA waiting list.

Sadly, the President and the Democrats have moved from the party of "yes, we can" to the party of "because we can." DACA provides another example of how the President is using executive action to circumvent Congress.

Soon, if he continues on this path, we won't need legislators or the courts. The President will make the law, interpret the law, and then, if he chooses, enforce the law. The Obama doctrine of lawlessness is cracking the foundation of our democracy. It is shredding the Constitution and consolidating power within the executive branch.